ASHLAND SCHOOL BOARD REGULAR MEETING

Ashland Elementary School – Heffernan Media Center
Tuesday, October 6, 2026
6:00 p.m. Regular School Board Meeting
School Board Work Session *(Immediately following Regular School Board Meeting)*

AGENDA

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. RECORD ROLL

Members Present:

Members Absent:

Others Present:

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT – *Opened at _____p.m.*

V. PUBLIC HEARING DONATION $100,000, CMF KIDS *(Attachment #1)*

Chair will call the Public Hearing to Order Time: _____

Public Input/Comment

Chair will close the Public Hearing Time: _____

VI. Donation (Action Item) Mrs. Moriarty

- CMF Kids in the amount of $100,000

Motion to accept with gratitude the donation as presented.

Moved by: _____ Second: _____

Vote: _____

VII. OLD BUSINESS

A. Data Security and Governance Policy (Action Item) Mr. Mock and Mrs. Moriarty

Motion to approve the Data Security and Governance Policy as presented.

Moved by: _____ Second: _____

Vote: _____

B. Net Zero Project Update (Information Item) Mrs. Moriarty and Mr. Bemis

C. Legislative Update HB 1300 (Information Item) Mrs. Dolloff (*Attachment #2)*

VIII. MINUTES

A. Regular School Board Meeting of September 14, 2026 (Action Item) Mrs. Moriarty (*Attachment #3)*

Motion to approve the minutes of the Regular School Board Meeting of September 14, 2026, meeting.

Moved by: _____ Second: _____

Vote: _____

IX. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

A. Enrollment/Principal's Report (Information Item) Mrs. Sanborn *(Attachment #4)*

B. Facilities Committee Update (Information Item) Mrs. Sanborn (*Attachment #5)*

C. NH DOE 25 and Year End Report – June 30, 2026 (Information Item) Mrs. Dolloff *(Attachment #6)*

D. Department of Environmental Services Drinking Water Program (Information Item) Mrs. Moriarty *(Attachment #7)*

X. CURRENT BILLS PAYABLE

A. General Operating Expenses (Action Item) Mrs. Dolloff *(Attachment #8)*

Motion to approve the payment of bills, manifest #2006.

Moved by: _____ Second: _____

Vote: _____

XI. NEW BUSINESS

A. 2027-2028 Budget Process Calendar (Information Item) Mrs. Dolloff *(Attachment #9)*

B. New Hampshire School Board Association (NHSBA) – Resolutions – Board Consensus for Delegate Assembly (Discussion Item) Mrs. Moriarty *(Attachment #10)*

XII. PUBLIC COMMENT – *Closed at _____p.m.*

XIII. NON-PUBLIC SESSION

A. Non-public Session (Action Item) Mrs. Moriarty

RSA 91-A:3, II(i): Consideration of matters relating to the preparation for and the carrying out of emergency functions, including training to carry out such functions, developed by local or state safety officials that are directly intended to thwart a deliberate act that is intended to result in widespread or severe

damage to property or widespread injury or loss of life.
R.S.A. 91-A:3 II(c): This includes matters which, if discussed in public, would likely affect adversely the reputation of any person, other than a member of this Board, unless such a person requests an open meeting.

Motion to enter non-public session at _____ p.m.

Moved by: _____ Second: _____

Vote: _____

B. Public Session (Action Item) Mrs. Moriarty

Motion to enter public session at _____ p.m.

Moved by: _____ Second: _____

Vote: _____

XIV. ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. **Tuesday, November 3, 2026**
Ashland School Board Meeting @ Ashland Elementary School
Heffernan Media Center
Regular School Board Meeting – **6:00 p.m.**

XV. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn meeting at _____ p.m.

Moved by: _____ Second: _____

Vote: _____

CROTCHED MOUNTAIN FOUNDATION

CMFkids
A program of Crotched Mountain Foundation

September 23, 2026

Ashland School District
Mary Moriarty, Superintendent
SAU #2 Inter-Lakes Cooperative SAU Office
103 Main St. Suite 2
Meredith, NH 03253-5857

Dear Mary,

On behalf of Crotched Mountain Foundation, I am pleased to share that the Foundation has received a generous gift from the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation's Katherine Wells Macmillan Fund for Youth Enrichment. This funding will support CMF Kids' school-based partnership with the Ashland School District, including the purchase and installation of Phase II playground equipment, as well as other District needs that benefit youth, including those with disabilities.

The current balance of the designated fund is **$100,000.** The completion of the Phase II playground project is the primary purpose and priority for these funds. Funds are available to the Ashland School District through a request process to support the purchase and installation of the playground equipment. Once the playground project has been completed, any remaining funds may be considered for other District needs that enhance educational opportunities for students, particularly those that support inclusive learning environments.

Examples of eligible uses for any remaining funds after the completion of the playground project include:

- **Infrastructure improvements** that modify or create environments to meet the developmental and educational needs of learners
- **Acquisition of equipment**, including specialized and necessary items such as augmentative and alternative communication devices, adaptive seating (e.g., specialized tables, chairs, swings, bikes, play and sensory equipment) that advance student engagement in learning and school activities
- **Educational technologies** such as computers, tablets, software, and curriculum materials that support current and effective teaching practices

CROTCHED MOUNTAIN FOUNDATION

CMFkids
A program of Crotched Mountain Foundation

To request support from the fund, the Ashland School District may submit a written request to:

Melissa H. White, MPA, HS-BCP
Executive Director, CMF Kids
Crotched Mountain Foundation
Email: melissa.white@crotchedmountain.org

Please include the following in written request:

- Requests for playground equipment and installation must include vendor quotes and an itemized line-item budget.
- All other requests must include a description of the identified need and a clear rationale for the request.
- The specific amount of funding requested.
- An explanation of how the request aligns with the goals of advancing programs, services, and resources for youth, including students with disabilities.

Crotched Mountain Foundation and CMF Kids value our ongoing relationship with the Ashland School District. We are especially excited to see the playground come to fruition and to continue supporting the District's efforts to create inclusive, supportive, and high-quality learning environments for all students.

If you have any questions or need assistance with the request process, please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

Best,

Melissa H. White

Melissa H. White, MPA, HS-BCP
Executive Director of CMF Kids

CC: Guy Donnelly, Principal
Lisa Holiday, Director of Student Services

Ashland School Board Regular Meeting

Ashland Elementary School – Heffernan Media Center
Monday, September 14, 2026
Policy Review Committee – 5:30 p.m.
School Board Meeting – 6:00 p.m.

MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER
Chair Farris called the meeting to order at 6:08 p.m.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. RECORD ROLL

Members Present:
Mr. Jesse Farris, Chair
Mrs. Sandra Coleman, Vice-Chair
Mrs. Alicia Gillis
Mrs. Jennifer Foote

Members Absent with Notice:
Mr. Stephen Heath

Administrators Present:
Mrs. Mary Moriarty, Superintendent
Mrs. Ashley Dolloff, Business Administrator
Mrs. Carrie Sanborn, Principal

Others Present:
Mr. Cole Mock, Technology Coordinator
Mr. David Ruell, Press
Michelle Roloff, Ashland Budget Committee

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT – *Opened at 6:41 p.m.*

V. NON-PUBLIC SESSION

A. Non-Public Session

R.S.A. 91-A:3, II(c): This includes matters which, if discussed in public, would likely affect adversely the reputation of any person, other than a member of this Board, unless such a person requests an open meeting.

Mrs. Foote moved, seconded by Mrs. Gillis, to enter Non-Public Session at 6:09 p.m. Mrs. Coleman called the roll.

YES: Chair Farris, Mrs. Coleman, Mrs. Foote, Mrs. Gillis
NO: --

The motion passed unanimously. The Board entered Non-Public Session at 6:09 p.m.

B. Public Session

Mrs. Foote moved, seconded by Mrs. Coleman, to re-enter Public Session at 6:41p.m. Mrs. Coleman called the roll.

YES: Chair Farris, Mrs. Coleman, Mrs. Foote, Mrs. Gillis,
NO: --

The motion passed unanimously. The Board re-entered Public Session at 6:41 p.m.

VI. MINUTES

A. Regular School Board Meeting of August 4, 2026

Mrs. Foote moved, seconded by Mrs. Gillis, to approve the minutes of the regular School Board meeting of August 4, 2026.

The motion carried 4 – 0.

VII. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

A. Enrollment/Principals Report

Mrs. Sanborn presented the Principal Report and reported a total enrollment of 136 students as of September 14, 2026. She shared that the first day of school on August 31st went very smoothly and that it was wonderful to welcome students and staff back for the new school year. As the school year gets underway, fall athletics are also in full swing, with 16 students participating in volleyball and 21 students participating in soccer. The soccer team has 15 games scheduled and is currently 1-1, with a 6-2 loss to HCS and a 7-1 victory over Thornton. Mrs. Sanborn noted that this is Mr. Tim Lindberg's second season coaching soccer and commended him for his leadership and efforts to motivate the players. The volleyball team has eight games scheduled, with its first game against Rumney on September 16th. Faith Francis and Hannah Coleman are serving as the team's new volleyball coaches and have done a great job preparing the team for the season.

In addition to athletics, the school has been active with several community-building events. The Open House and Welcome Back BBQ was held on September 9th, with the PTO sponsoring the BBQ again this year. Mrs. Sanborn expressed her appreciation for the PTO's continued support. The first SAU 48 middle school dance of the school year was also held on September 11th at Thornton Central School and was well attended by students.

Looking ahead, Mrs. Sanborn announced that the school is bringing back the tradition of monthly All School Morning Meetings. The first meeting will take place on September 18th and will be hosted by Grade 6 with support from class advisors Ms. King and Mrs. Merrifield. She explained that the purpose of the meetings is to build community, celebrate learning, reinforce the school's core values, and strengthen connections among students and staff. Each month, a different class will host the meeting.

Mrs. Sanborn also shared several upcoming fundraising opportunities to support Ashland students. The Common Man is hosting a fundraiser to benefit the student meal fund on September 27th from 2:00–4:00 p.m. at the Squam Scoops Outdoor Courtyard. Local author and illustrator Ashley Crosbie will lead a story time and bubble-filled barn dance, and signed copies of The Common Man Kitty Band will be available for purchase. Additionally, the Burger Barn, located at the Ashland Owl's Nest, has reached out to

coordinate a fundraising event to benefit Ashland students. Student artwork will be auctioned as part of the event, and Mrs. Merrifield is working with the Burger Barn team to finalize the details.

VIII. CURRENT BILLS PAYABLE

A. General Operating Expenses

Mrs. Dolloff presented to the School Board Manifest number 2004

Mrs. Foote moved, seconded by Mrs. Gillis, to approve the payment of bills, manifest number 2004.

The motion carried 4 – 0.

IX. OLD BUSINESS

A. Legislative Update

Mrs. Dolloff provided the School Board with a legislative update regarding HB 1300. She reported that an emergency injunction has been filed seeking to prevent the legislation from moving forward and that a decision from the judge is pending. The filing asserts that the ballot question is misleading to voters and argues that the question incorrectly states that there will be no impact on classroom instruction.

X. NEW BUSINESS

A. Data Security and Governance Policy

The School Board reached a consensus to allow additional time to review the Data Security and Governance Policy. The policy will be brought back to the next month's meeting for consideration and a vote.

B. Suicide Prevention Plan

Mrs. Moriarty and Mrs. Chase presented to the School Board the Suicide Prevention Plan. The School Board made an edit for page 22.

Mrs. Foote moved, seconded by Mrs. Coleman, to approve the Suicide Prevention Plan as presented with edit to page 22.

The motion carried 4 – 0.

C. Long-Range Planning Session

Mrs. Moriarty presented to the School Board a Long-Range Planning session.

XI. POLICY

A. Policy EFAA

Mrs. Moriarty reviewed Policy EFAA – School Lunch Program Meal Charge for its second and final reading.

The School Board reached a consensus to allow deposits of less than $5.00 to be applied to the meal fund to help offset negative meal account balances.

Mrs. Foote moved, seconded by Mrs. Gillis, to approve Policy EFAA – School Lunch Program Meal Charge as a second and final reading.

The motion carried 4 – 0.

B. Policy JICK

Mrs. Moriarty reviewed Policy JICK – Bullying and Cyberbullying, Pupil Safety, and Violence Prevention as a first and final reading.

Mrs. Foote moved, seconded by Mrs. Gillis, to approve Policy JICK – Bullying and Cyberbullying, Pupil Safety, and Violence Prevention as a first and final reading.

The motion carried 4 – 0.

XII. PUBLIC COMMENT – *Closed at 7:39 p.m.*

XIII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. Sunday September 27, 2026
A fundraiser for Ashland Elementary's Student Meal Fund
Scoops and Story Time @ Squam Scoops Outdoor Courtyard – Ashland
2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

B. Tuesday, October 6, 2026
Ashland School Board Regular Meeting and Work Session – Ashland Elementary, Heffernan Media Center.

- **5:30 p.m.** Policy Review Committee
- **6:00 p.m.** Regular School Board Meeting

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

Mrs. Foote moved, seconded by Mrs. Gillis, to adjourn meeting at 7:41 p.m.

The motion carried 4 – 0.

The meeting adjourned at 7:41 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Sarah Briggs, Recording Secretary

CONFIDENTIAL

NONPUBLIC SESSION

Monday, September 14, 2026

R.S.A. 91-A:3 II(c): This includes matters which, if discussed in public, would likely affect adversely the reputation of any person, other than a member of this Board, unless such a person requests an open meeting.

Members Present:
Mr. Jesse Farris, Chair
Mrs. Sandra Coleman, Vice-Chair
Mrs. Alicia Gillis
Mrs. Jennifer Foote

Administrators Present:
Mrs. Mary Moriarty, Superintendent
Mrs. Ashley Dolloff, Business Administrator
Mrs. Carrie Sanborn, Principal

Members Absent:
Mr. Stephen Heath (with notice)

Others Present:

I. NEW BUSINESS *(6:08 p.m. to 6:24 p.m.)*

A. Data Security and Governance Policy

Mr. Cole Mock, Technology Coordinator, presented a summary of the Data Security and Governance Policy. The policy will be brought back to the October meeting to allow the School Board additional time for review.

Ashland Elementary School Enrollment Report
October 6, 2026 Meeting

MONTHLY ENROLLMENTS	K	1	2	3*	4*	5	K - 5 Total	6	7	8	6-8 Total	TOTAL K- 8
August 2026	13	11	12	9	13	21	**79**	19	19	29	**67**	**146**
September 2026	13	12	12	9	11	21	**78**	17	18	26	**61**	**139**
October 2026	13	11	11	9	11	21	**76**	17	18	26	**61**	**137**

COMPARISONS (*FROM JUNE*)	K	1	2	3	4	5	S-TOT K - 5	6	7	8	S-TOT 6-8	TOTAL K-8
2020-2021	20	23	27	14	24	17	**125**	18	12	17	**47**	**172**
2021-2022	19	17	20	20	24	21	**125**	17	17	13	**47**	**172**
2022-2023	13	16	19	19	24	16	**107**	23	13	16	**52**	**159**
2023-2024	6	12	18	18	24	25	**103**	16	24	12	**52**	**155**
2024-2025	12	5	13	22	15	25	**92**	27	15	22	**64**	**156**
2025-2026	11	12	9	13	21	19	**85**	19	29	16	**64**	**149**

**** Grades 3 and 4 are one multi-age classroom.***

Ashland School District Memorandum

TO: School Board Members
FROM: Carrie Sanborn, Principal
SUBJECT: Facilities Committee Meeting Summary / Facilities Updates
DATE: October 1, 2026

The Facilities Committee held its first meeting of the 2026 - 2027 school year on September 15. The committee began by reviewing current and upcoming facilities projects and establishing priorities for continued short and long term facilities planning.

The committee reviewed the working Facilities Project Tracking Spreadsheet, which includes both pending and completed projects. Several items were added or updated, including improvements to the early childhood playground area, exterior entrance posts, a roof assessment, seasonal landscaping, gutter and drainage needs, and replacement of the boiler oil pumps. The new facilities ticket system is also in place and working well, providing staff with a consistent process for submitting maintenance and repair requests.

Planning for the early childhood playground continues. Ultiplay will reevaluate the space due to size constraints and overhead power lines and will provide revised recommendations and costs. The committee also discussed removal and replacement of the spinners on the main playground.

The committee reviewed a draft of the Capital Improvement Plan and discussed updates for 2027 - 2028, including the gym roof, exterior door landings, and additional landscaping. The plan will also be updated to more clearly identify grant funding and donations being used to support facilities projects.

Water testing results were still pending at the time of the meeting. The Turner Group assessment was distributed to committee members and will be reviewed at the next Facilities Committee meeting.

The next Facilities Committee meeting is scheduled for October 20 at 8:00 a.m.

Facilities Project Highlights

Project/Area	Current Status	Next Step/Update
Boiler Oil Pumps	Scheduled	Repairs are scheduled for October.
Roof Assessment	Planning	An assessment will be completed to evaluate holes and seams around ventilation units. Cost information will be obtained following the assessment.
Early Childhood Playground Planning	Planning	The space will be evaluated due to size constraints and overhead power lines. Revised recommendations and associated costs will be obtained.
Gutter Drainage Improvements	Planning	Options are being explored for the cafeteria entrance and playground entrance to address water and ice buildup. Cost estimates will be obtained.
Fencing around the ballfield	Planning	Installation timeline and next steps are being determined.
Landscaping	Planning	Fall and spring landscaping needs have been identified and quotes have been obtained.
Spinning seat/playground equipment removed	Complete	
Weeding/mowing around and under the bleachers in the back field	Complete	

ASHLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT

Fiscal Year Ending
June 30, 2026
Report

Prepared for:
Ashland School Board
Ashland Budget Committee

School Administrative Unit #2
Humiston Building
103 Main Street
Meredith, NH 03253

Overview of Fiscal Year 2025/2026
Ashland School District

The Ashland School District concluded the 2025/2026 fiscal year in a good financial position with an unassigned fund balance of $37,783. The surplus will be utilized to reduce the amount of taxes raised for the assessment for the 2026/2027 fiscal year. During the budget development process for 2026/2027, an estimated fund balance of $5,000 was projected.

General Fund revenues exceeded estimates specifically related to additional Medicaid reimbursements totaling $18,750.

Detailed below are areas of note within general fund expenditures.
Significant Overages

Special Education	$	(104,807.00)	Shifted 1 Classroom Teacher to Special Education Teacher
Psychology Services	$	(15,415.00)	
Library & Media Services	$	(36,892.00)	Recognition of Service (EOY Board Approved Encumbrance)
Buildings and Equipment	$	(24,840.00)	EOY Board Approved Encumbrance
Total	$	(181,954.00)	

Significant Savings

Regular Education Salary & Benefits	$	159,452.00	Shifted 1 Classroom Teacher to Special Education Teacher
Physical and Occupational Therapy Services	$	14,958.00	
Operation of Plant	$	32,036.00	Propane and Fuel Oil
Total	$	206,446.00	

Ashland School District
Year End Financial Report
Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2026

General Fund Equity Balance		
Fund Balance Beginning of Year (Total Equity)	$	278,862
Revenues	$	4,538,538
Expenditures	$	(4,479,963)
Total Fund Equity	$	337,437
Board Voted Encumbrances	$	(141,253)
Open Purchase Orders	$	(158,401)
Reserve for Amounts Voted from Fund Balance	$	-
Unassigned Fund Balance	$	37,783

"Unassigned Fund Balance" is the amount that is used to offset the amount of taxes raised in the following fiscal year. For example, **$37,783** will be used to reduce the tax dollars raised for the 2026/27 school year.

Voted from Fund Balance is the amount voters authorized to be transferred to Expendable Trust Funds.
There were no articles included on the March 2026 ballot to fund Expendable Trusts in the 2026/27 school year.

Ashland School District
General Fund Revenue
Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2026

Source	Budget Estimates MS 27	Revised Estimates MS 24 Tax Rate	Actuals Received	Difference Between MS 24 and Actuals
General Fund:				
Revenue from State Sources				
Adequate Education Grant	$ 792,204	$ 827,227	$ 827,227	$ -
Building Aid	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Special Education Aid	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Other State Aid	$ -	$ 5,355	$ 6,572	$ 1,217
Revenue from Federal Sources				
Medicaid Reimbursement	$ 10,000	$ 10,000	$ 28,750	$ 18,750
Federal Forest	$ 359	$ 410	$ 430	$ 20
Local Revenue Other than Taxes				
Tuition	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Earnings on Investments	$ 1,000	$ 1,000	$ 1,308	$ 308
Miscellaneous	$ 500	$ 500	$ 3,093	$ 2,593
Voted From Fund Balance	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Fund Balance to Reduce Taxes	$ 5,000	$ 39,971	$ 39,971	$ -
Total Revenues and Credits	$ 809,063	$ 884,463	$ 907,351	$ 22,888
District Assessment	$ 3,746,558	$ 3,671,158	$ 3,671,158	$ -
Total General Fund	$ 4,555,621	$ 4,555,621	$ 4,578,509	$ 22,888

Ashland School District
General Fund Expenditures
Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2026

Function	Description	Budget	FY25 Encumbrances	Budget Transfers	Adjusted Budget	Y-T-D	FY26 Encumbrances	Budget Balance
1100	REGULAR EDUCATION TOTALS:	1,983,206	5,172	76,425	2,064,803	1,900,443	4,908	159,452
1210	SPECIAL EDUCATION TOTALS:	542,794	173,755	(23,320)	693,229	614,741	183,295	(104,807)
1215	EXTENDED SCHOOL YEAR TOTALS:	24,592	-	-	24,592	16,687	-	7,905
1260	BILINGUAL TOTALS:	41,998	-	-	41,998	50,195	-	(8,197)
1410	CO-CURRICULAR TOTALS:	49,481	-	390	49,871	44,723	-	5,149
1420	ATHLETICS TOTALS:	4,700	-	-	4,700	4,520	-	180
2110	ATTENDANCE TOTALS:	1	-	-	1	-	-	1
2120	GUIDANCE SERVICES TOTALS:	121,075	-	2,845	123,920	122,534	1,915	(530)
2130	HEALTH SERVICES TOTALS:	134,545	-	2,808	137,353	136,230	-	1,123
2140	PSYCHOLOGY TOTALS:	1,220	-	-	1,220	16,635	-	(15,415)
2150	SPEECH SERVICES TOTALS:	94,032	-	11,073	105,105	120,006	-	(14,901)
2160	PHYSICAL & OCCUPATIONAL THER TOTALS:	66,020	6,532	27,900	100,452	85,494	-	14,958
2210	TECHNOLOGY TOTALS:	172,502	4,480	2,987	179,969	188,413	-	(8,444)
2212	CURRICULUM & DEVELOPMENT TOTALS:	39,564	1,958	(5,500)	36,022	28,660	-	7,362
2222	LIBRARY & MEDIA SERVICES TOTALS:	66,024	-	1,513	67,537	67,293	37,136	(36,892)
2310	SCHOOL BOARD SERVICES TOTALS:	13,542	-	-	13,542	12,924	-	618
2317	AUDIT SERVICES TOTALS:	16,250	11,300	-	27,550	20,300	-	7,250
2318	LEGAL SERVICES TOTALS:	5,000	-	-	5,000	10,023	-	(5,023)
2320	SAU ADMINISTRATION TOTALS:	147,730	-	-	147,730	147,730	-	-
2410	OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL TOTALS:	319,197	-	9,061	328,258	328,478	-	(220)
2610	OPERATION OF PLANT TOTALS:	395,579	-	5,165	400,744	368,708	-	32,036
2620	BUILDING & EQUIPMENT TOTALS:	67,700	30,573	-	98,273	60,713	62,400	(24,840)
2630	CARE OF GROUNDS TOTALS:	10,501	5,120	-	15,621	9,203	-	6,418
2721	REGULAR TRANSPORTATION TOTALS:	70,114	-	-	70,114	70,114	-	0
2722	SPED TRANSPORTATION TOTALS:	4,675	-	-	4,675	4,674	-	1
2724	ATHLETIC TRANSPORTATION TOTALS:	5,500	-	-	5,500	5,609	-	(109)
2725	CO-CURRICULAR TRANS TOTALS:	8,000	-	902	8,902	6,114	-	2,788
2727	HOMELESS TRANSPORTATION TOTALS:	1	-	-	1	861	-	(860)
2900	COSTS TO DISTRIBUTE TOTALS:	120,078	-	(112,249)	7,829	7,938	-	(109)
3100	TRANSFER TO FOOD SERVICE TOTALS:	30,000	-	-	30,000	30,000	10,000	(10,000)
5230	TRANSFER TO CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND:	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5251	TRANSFER TO EXPENDABLE TRUST FUNDS:	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	TOTAL	**4,555,621**	**238,890**	**-**	**4,794,511**	**4,479,963**	**299,654**	**14,894**

FOOD SERVICE FUNDS	100,000
FEDERAL FUNDS	150,000
TOTAL VOTED APPROPRIATIONS	**4,805,621**

Ashland School District
RSA 32:11-a Actual Expenditures for Special Education Programs and Services
Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2026

	Fiscal Year 2024/2025	Fiscal Year 2025/2026
Expenditures		
General Fund		
Instructional	$ 566,292.24	$ 681,623.39
Related Services	$ 238,684.16	$ 273,887.28
Administration	$ 19,802.24	$ 19,444.38
Legal	$ 85.50	$ 1,483.59
Transportation	$ 4,056.00	$ 4,674.24
Special Revenue Funds		
Instructional	$ 38,663.37	$ 45,223.76
Related Services	$ 18,341.40	$ 5,420.04
Administration	$ -	$ -
Legal	$ -	$ -
Transportation	$ -	$ -
Total	$ 885,924.91	$ 1,031,756.68
Revenues		
General Fund		
Medicaid	$ 26,248.29	$ 28,750.39
Special Ed Tuition Other LEAs	$ -	$ -
Catastrophic Aid	$ -	$ -
State Adequacy *	$ -	$ -
Special Revenue Funds		
Entitlement Grants	$ 2,100.30	$ 400.00
IDEA Grants	$ 41,235.04	$ 44,870.96
REAP Grants	$ 13,669.43	$ 5,372.84
Total	$ 83,253.06	$ 79,394.19
Net Cost of Special Education	$ 802,671.85	$ 952,362.49

* estimated portion related to special education

Ashland School District
School Board Approved Encumbrances
Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2026

Acct #	Vendor	Description		PO#	Amount
1200	Ashland School District	Special Education		20251097	28,200.00
2620	Ashland School District	Facilities		20261095	43,000.00
3100	Ashland School District	Negative Meal Balances		20261096	10,000.00
Various	Ashland School District	Salary and Benefits		20261094	60,053.00
			Total Encumbrances		141,253.00

Ashland School District
Food Service Fund
Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2026

	Fiscal Year 2024/2025		Fiscal Year 2025/2026		variance
Beginning Fund Balance	$ 37,269.72		$ 37,269.72		
Spend Down Plan: Supplies/Equipment	$ -		$ (7,809.28)		
New Beginning Fund Balance	$ 37,269.72		$ 29,460.44		
Operating Days	178	per day	179	per day	% change
Revenue					
Daily Sales	29,909.55	168.03	35,503.30	198.34	18.04%
Special Functions	183.75	1.03	434.55	2.43	135.17%
State Nutrition Program	1,117.85	6.28	1,041.55	5.82	-7.35%
State Breakfast Program	287.61	1.62	270.03	1.51	-6.64%
Federal Free & Reduced	49,864.43	280.14	54,565.17	304.83	8.82%
Fresh Fruits and Vegetable Program	8,895.16	49.97	12,586.81	70.32	40.71%
General Fund Contributions	31,175.98	175.15	30,000.00	167.60	-4.31%
Supply Chain Assistance Grant	-	-	-	-	-
Total Revenues	$ 121,434.33	682.22	134,401.41	750.85	10.06%
Expenses					
Fresh Picks Café Contract	112,539.15	632.24	115,897.93	647.47	2.41%
FFVP	8,895.18	49.97	12,586.81	70.32	40.71%
Repairs & maintenance	-	-	-	-	-
Supplies	-	-	-	-	-
New Equipment	-	-	-	-	-
Dues & Fees	-	-	-	-	-
Total Expenses	-	-	-	-	-
	$ 121,434.33	682.22	$ 128,484.74	717.79	5.21%
Revenues less Expenses	$ -		$ 5,916.67		
Balance Food Service Fund	**$ 37,269.72**		**$ 35,377.11**		
Total Enrollment NHED Oct. 1st	159		141		
Total Free & Reduced	64	40%	47	33%	

Ashland School District
Federal Funds
Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2026

Grant Title		Fiscal Year	Amount	Purpose
Revenues				
Title I Project 50622		2025	$ 1,025.00	
Title I Project 60325		2026	$ 108,108.60	
Title IIA Project 40359		2024	$ 10,556.52	
Title IIA Project 50719		2025	$ 7,392.56	
Title IIA Project 60323		2026	$ 6,861.06	
Title IVA Project 50882		2025	$ 1,962.95	
Title IVA Project 60324		2026	$ 13,350.89	
REAP		2024	$ 5,507.15	
IDEA Project 50191		2025	$ 1,977.85	
IDEA Project 60232		2026	$ 43,148.30	
IDEA Preschool Project 60658		2026	$ 1,124.26	
ROBOTICS Project 61213		2026	$ 5,394.98	
SAFE GRANT Project 61833		2026	$ 77,907.22	
Discovery Education Project 61934		2026	$ 3,000.00	
			$ 287,317.34	
Expenses by Function				
Regular Education	Salaries		$ 59,693.00	Title l Teacher
	Benefits		$ 53,898.34	Medical/Dental/FICA/NHRS
	Supplies		$ 3,000.00	Family STEAM Night Supplies
	Books		$ 4,225.06	Family STEAM Night Books/ Literacy & Math Books
	Electronic Access		$ 3,000.00	Discovery Education Experience
			$ 123,816.40	
Special Education	Salaries		$ 39,850.92	Special Education Teacher
	Supplies		$ 218.48	
	Books		$ 5,154.36	
			$ 45,223.76	
Co-Curricular	Salaries		$ 1,570.00	Robotics Coach
	Benefits		$ 422.01	FICA/NHRS
	Travel		$ 700.00	Transportation
	Supplies		$ 2,427.97	Robotics: T-shirts/Legos/3D Printer
	Dues & Fees		$ 275.00	Registration Fees
			$ 5,394.98	
School Counseling	Supplies		$ 2,000.00	McKinney-Vento Support
			$ 2,000.00	
Psychologist	Professional Services		$ 5,020.04	Psychologist Services
			$ 5,020.04	
Curriculum	Salaries		$ 11,180.00	Committee & Mentor Stipends
	Benefits		$ 2,989.05	FICA/NHRS
	Professional Services		$ 7,612.50	Educational Consultant
	Travel		$ 361.82	Educational Consultant Travel
			$ 22,143.37	
Buildings and Equipment	Professional Services		$ 75,564.72	Surveillance System Upgrades
			$ 75,564.72	
Indirect Cost			$ 8,154.07	Grant Administration
Grand Total			$ 287,317.34	

Ashland School District
Special Revenue Funds
Charitable Donations & Community Grants
Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2026

Fund	Orton Music Fund #2051	Fitness Trail Fund # 2052	Restricted Donations # 2053*	Total
Balance 7/01/2025	10,799.06	2,380.99	735.15	13,915.20
Revenues Received	3,922.02	0.00	65,000.00	68,922.02
Less Expenditures	0.00	0.00	21,000.00	21,000.00
Fund Balance 6/30/2026	14,721.08	2,380.99	44,735.15	61,837.22

**Fund 2053 Revenue: $50,000 CMF Kids / $14,000 Field Experiences / $1,000 Negative Meal Balances*

Ashland School District
Expendable Trust Funds
Year End Report **June 30, 2026**

Date	Description	Health Insurance Reserve	Special Education	School Safety, Security and Facilities Maintenance	Homeless Transportation
6/30/2017	Balance	$ 45,447.24	$ 67,209.53	$ 95,708.07	
	Principal Payment	$ -	$ 20,000.00	$ 50,000.00	
	Withdrawal	$ 15,046.00	$ -	$ -	
	Interest	$ 559.75	$ 341.24	$ 599.83	
6/30/2018	Balance	$ 30,960.99	$ 87,550.77	$ 146,307.90	
	Principal Payment		$ 35,000.00	$ 50,000.00	
	Withdrawal	$ 15,046.00			
	Interest	$ 698.63	$ 672.65	$ 1,098.75	
6/30/2019	Balance	$ 16,613.62	$ 123,223.42	$ 197,406.65	
	Principal Payment		$ 35,000.00	$ 50,000.00	
	Withdrawal	$ 16,916.56			
	Interest	$ 302.94	$ 855.18	$ 1,349.81	
6/30/2020	Balance	$ (0.00)	$ 159,078.60	$ 248,756.46	
	Principal Payment		$ 35,000.00	$ 25,000.00	
	Withdrawal				
	Interest		$ 490.72	$ 732.51	
6/30/2021	Balance	$ (0.00)	$ 194,569.32	$ 274,488.97	
	Principal Payment		$ 35,000.00	$ 50,000.00	
	Withdrawal				
	Interest		$ 431.67	$ 609.64	
6/30/2022	Balance	$ (0.00)	$ 230,000.99	$ 325,098.61	$ (0.00)
	Principal Payment		$ 20,000.00	$ 50,000.00	$ 5,000.00
	Withdrawal			$ (198,595.00)	
	Interest		$ 1,908.96	$ 1,255.03	$ 2.59
6/30/2023	Balance	$ (0.00)	$ 251,909.95	$ 177,758.64	$ 5,002.59
	Principal Payment				
	Withdrawal		$ (96,077.00)		
	Interest		$ 2,660.38	$ 2,228.60	$ 7.48
6/30/2024	Balance	$ (0.00)	$ 158,493.33	$ 179,987.24	$ 5,010.07
	Principal Payment				
	Withdrawal				
	Interest		$ 1,992.56	$ 2,262.77	$ 7.52
6/30/2025	Balance	$ (0.00)	$ 160,485.89	$ 182,250.01	$ 5,017.59
	Principal Payment				
	Withdrawal				
	Interest		$ 2,017.60	$ 2,291.22	$ 7.52
6/30/2026	Balance	$ (0.00)	$ 162,503.49	$ 184,541.23	$ 5,025.11

Special Education Trust Fund established through Article 4 - March 5, 1994
Health Insurance Trust Fund established through Article 5 - March 5, 1994
School Safety, Security and Facilities Maintenance Trust Fund established through Article 6 - March 12, 2013
Homeless Transportation Trust Fund established through Article 06 - March 8, 2022

Ashland School District
Estimated Cost Per Pupil Calculation
DOE 25 2025/2026

Current Expenditures	$ 4,874,574.14	
Less: Food Service Revenue	$ 35,937.85	
Less: Transportation Expenditures	$ 87,372.02	
Less: Supplemental Expenditures	$ 73,167.65	All Equipment including furniture, computers, tuition, summer school
Equals: Pupil Cost	$ 4,678,096.62	
Average Daily Membership 2024/2025	147.98	
Cost Per Pupil	$ 31,613.03	

The New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services

Drinking Water and Groundwater Bureau certifies that

Ashland Elementary School

As of 04/02/2026
Has successfully completed the Get the Lead Out of Drinking Water Program requirements in RSA 485: 17-a by testing drinking water outlets for lead and taking appropriate action to remediate and reduce exposure.

NHDES

Ian Atwell

Ian Atwell, Program Manager
Lead in Schools & Child Care Facilities
Drinking Water and Groundwater Bureau

Get the Lead Out of NH Drinking Water

Ashland Accounts Payable Manifest
2026-2027 Fiscal Year

Manifest #: 2006 Manifest Date: 10/6/2026 Prepared By: Wendi Cantwell

The Ashland School District is hereby authorized to draw checks against Ashland School District funds for the sum of **$ 109,910.78** on account of obligations incurred for value received in services and materials as shown and dated on the following check listings:

ASHLAND BOARD

Sandra Coleman, Vice Chair _____

Jesse Farris, Chair _____

Jennifer Foote _____

Alicia Gillis _____

Stephen Heath _____

Fund	Amount
GENERAL FUND	$ 102,570.71
FOOD SERVICE	$ 6,286.44
FEDERAL FUNDS	$ 1,050.53
RESTRICTED FUNDS	$ 3.10
	$ 109,910.78

CHECK NUMBER	CHECK DATE	CHECK TYPE	VENDOR NUMBER	VENDOR NAME	AMOUNT	DESCRIPTION
36794	10/06/2026	PRINTED	20197	AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	$ 1,076.40	CLASSROOM & OFFICE SUPPLIES
0009	10/06/2026	EFT	20013	BELLETETES, INC (ASHLAND LUMBER)	$ 1,068.49	MAINTENANCE SUPPLIES
36795	10/06/2026	PRINTED	21213	BRINES TEAM SALES	$ 170.00	VOLLEYBALL JERSEYS (2) & ICE PACKS
0010	10/06/2026	EFT	21365	ALEXIS BYRD (BYRD SPEECH)	$ 1,050.00	SUPPORT SERVICES
36796	10/06/2026	PRINTED	20672	FRESH PICKS CAFE LLC	$ 6,286.44	FOOD SERVICE PROGRAM
36797	10/06/2026	PRINTED	21235	CONSOLIDATED COMMUNICATIONS	$ 217.30	PHONE LINES
0011	10/06/2026	EFT	20568	DUNSTAN PEDIATRIC SERVICES	$ 3,264.25	SUPPORT SERVICES
36798	10/06/2026	PRINTED	21392	ENDYNE, INC	$ 1,375.00	WATER TESTING
36799	10/06/2026	PRINTED	20882	ESGI LLC	$ 364.00	ASSESSMENT LICENSE
36800	10/06/2026	PRINTED	21036	EVERYDAY SPEECH LLC	$ 599.99	GUIDANCE SUBSCRIPTION
36801	10/06/2026	PRINTED	20067	GOVCONNECTION, INC.	$ 112.00	PRINTER
36802	10/06/2026	PRINTED	20086	HEALTHTRUST	$ 82,638.18	OCTOBER 2026 INSURANCE PREMIUMS
36803	10/06/2026	PRINTED	20532	ITW FOOD EQUIPMENT GROUP LLC	$ 2,554.89	WAREWASHER MAINTENANCE
36804	10/06/2026	PRINTED	21031	IMPACT FIRE SERVICES LLC	$ 420.00	KITCHEN INSPECTION/CLEANING
0012	10/06/2026	EFT	20169	JP PEST SERVICES	$ 97.00	PEST CONTROL SERVICES
36805	10/06/2026	PRINTED	20079	JW PEPPER & SON, INC.	$ 8.74	MUSIC BOOK
36806	10/06/2026	PRINTED	20943	MAURA KING	$ 237.12	REIMBURSEMENT: MILEAGE
36807	10/06/2026	PRINTED	20085	LAKESHORE LEARNING MATERIALS LLC	$ 1,066.05	CLASSROOM TABLES
36808	10/06/2026	PRINTED	20091	MANGO SECURITY SYSTEMS, INC.	$ 6.38	AUGUST 2026 FEE
0014	10/06/2026	EFT	20099	MULTI-STATE BILLING	$ 4.70	NH MEDICAID BILLING
36809	10/06/2026	PRINTED	21368	SHAWN PAQUETTE	$ 36.48	MILEAGE REIMBURSEMENT
36810	10/06/2026	PRINTED	20123	PITNEY BOWES GLOBAL FINANCIAL SERVICES LLC	$ 181.50	POSTAGE METER LEASE
36811	10/06/2026	PRINTED	20129	REALLY GOOD STUFF LLC	$ 332.49	CLASSROOM CHAIR
36812	10/06/2026	PRINTED	20136	SAU #2	$ 1,050.53	JULY/AUGUST 2026 INDIRECT COSTS
36813	10/06/2026	PRINTED	20138	SCHOLASTIC INC	$ 324.91	SUBSCRIPTIONS
36814	10/06/2026	PRINTED	20140	SCHOOL SPECIALTY, LLC	$ 406.40	CLASSROOM SUPPLIES
36815	10/06/2026	PRINTED	21307	SOUNDTRAP US INC	$ 513.00	MUSIC SUBSCRIPTION RENEWAL
36816	10/06/2026	PRINTED	21279	THE UPS STORE #3582	$ 752.08	SHIPPING: RETURN LAPTOP LEASE
36817	10/06/2026	PRINTED	20541	ULTIPLAY PARKS & PLAYGROUNDS INC	$ 2,500.00	WOOD CHIP PLAYGROUND SURFACING
36818	10/06/2026	PRINTED	20877	WM CORPORATE SERVICES INC	$ 563.13	RUBBISH REMOVAL
36819	10/06/2026	PRINTED	21302	EMBRACE SOFTWARE, INC.	$ 300.00	GUIDANCE SUBSCRIPTION
36820	10/06/2026	PRINTED	21206	XEROX FINANCIAL SERVICES	$ 333.33	COPIER LEASE
				TOTAL:	**$ 109,910.78**	

Hold for 2027/2028 Budget Process Calednar

New Hampshire School Boards Association

Barrett M. Christina, Executive Director
Matt Pappas, President, Rochester
Ege Cordell, First Vice President, Chesterfield
James Noyes, Second Vice President, Bethlehem
Holly Kennedy, Immediate Past-President, Hinsdale

25 Triangle Park Drive, Suite 101
Concord, NH 03301
Phone: (603) 228-2061
www.nhsba.org

Proposed Resolution #1
Submitted By: Governor Wentworth School Board

Proposed Resolution:
Establish a new Policy III:B that states: NHSBA supports school districts' ability to join and govern governmental pooled risk management programs, commonly called "risk pools." Further, NHSBA supports multiple forms of risk pools to be permitted to exist, including, but not limited to, assessable and nonassessable risk pools. NHSBA also supports the reasonable regulation of risk pools and for those regulations to promote and ensure risk pools' solvency, which creates stability for risk pool members and their employees.

Rationale:
We believe NHSBA should have a clear established position on governmental pooled risk management program. We also believe the position should support multiple forms of risk pools existing and reasonable regulations of the pools.

NHSBA Board of Directors Recommendation: Not support. Recent legislation and related matters concerning New Hampshire's pooled-risk programs, specifically as it relates to health insurance, are important matters to school boards. However, the Board of Directors believes that the proposal is too specific and does not necessarily relate to school board governance matters. Additionally, NHSBA has not taken a position on such legislation the last two years, believing that the issues at hand do not relate to NHSBA's vision and mission statements.

Proposed Resolution #2
Submitted By: Dover School Board

Proposed Resolution:
NHSBA opposes any legislation that enacts a statewide school budget cap.

Rationale:
NH operates on a long, cherished tradition of local control. Recent legislative attempts to enact a statewide mandated school budget cap threaten that local control, locking every district into a one-size-fits-all restriction that provides no flexibility for unique community needs. Local residents already have the ability to enact a budget cap in their own communities - voted on by the people who would be directly affected by that decision. Many essential education costs - disability services, transportation and health insurance to name just a few - often rise faster than inflation. School board members and administrators are best suited to know and address the needs of their local communities, and should be trusted to act with fidelity in developing budgets that balance those needs with the capacity of their local residents to fund education services.

NHSBA Board of Directors Recommendation: Not support. While the NHSBA Board of Directors recognizes the importance of this proposal and legal problems with HB 1300 as adopted, the Board believes this proposal is not necessary, given that NHSBA advocated vigorously against this bill. Further, given that HB 1300 is now law, the proposal seems reactive to a law that is now in place.

Proposed Resolution #3
Submitted By: Chesterfield School Board

Proposed Resolution:
The New Hampshire School Boards Association (NHSBA) adopt a default advocacy position in favor of focused, germane legislation affecting New Hampshire public schools; that NHSBA communicate to the New Hampshire Legislature its concern about the use of non-germane amendments as a vehicle for unrelated policy; and that NHSBA oppose non-germane amendments when, in NHSBA's judgment, they compromise the clarity, transparency, or effectiveness of legislation impacting public school students and communities — while retaining full discretion to support any amendment that, upon thorough review, advances the interests of New Hampshire public schools.

Rationale:
Local school boards across New Hampshire — regardless of district size, geography, or political composition — share a common need: clear, predictable, and transparent state law that they can implement faithfully on behalf of their students and communities. This resolution does not seek to restrict NHSBA's legislative flexibility or to intervene in the internal procedures of the New Hampshire Legislature. Rather, it asks NHSBA to give voice to a practical concern that school boards across the state encounter when unrelated policy is bundled into education legislation through the use of non-germane amendments.

This is not a partisan concern. Non-germane amendments have been used by legislators across the political spectrum, and the burden they place on school boards falls equally regardless of which party introduces them. The following benefits illustrate why focused, germane legislation serves New Hampshire's public school students, educators, and communities more effectively:

1. CLARITY OF IMPLEMENTATION
When a law addresses a single, clearly defined subject, school boards and administrators can develop coherent policies and procedures to implement it. Non-germane amendments introduce unrelated obligations into a single statute, forcing boards to simultaneously address policy areas that may require entirely different stakeholders, legal reviews, and community input processes. Focused legislation allows school boards to implement new law efficiently, consistently, and with fidelity to legislative intent.

2. INFORMED PUBLIC PARTICIPATION
School board members are directly accountable to their communities. When a bill is amended with non-germane provisions, parents, educators, and community members may be unaware that policy affecting their schools is advancing under an unrelated bill title. This is true even when a public hearing is technically held — hearings on non-germane amendments are frequently scheduled with little notice, giving advocates and community members insufficient time to understand the amendment's implications or meaningfully participate. Germane legislation ensures that a bill's title and stated purpose accurately reflect its content, giving the public a fair opportunity to engage with their elected representatives.

3. PROTECTION OF STRONG, STANDALONE LEGISLATION
Non-germane amendments can place school boards and legislators in an untenable position: accepting harmful or inadequately vetted policy in order to advance important protections, or rejecting a meritorious bill entirely because of an unrelated rider. This dynamic has occurred repeatedly in the New Hampshire Legislature across multiple legislative sessions and across bills of varying subject matter. Requiring that amendments be germane protects the integrity of good bills regardless of their origin or sponsorship.

4. ACCURATE FISCAL AND OPERATIONAL PLANNING
School boards engage in multi-year and long-range operational planning. Non-germane amendments can introduce unfunded mandates or significant operational requirements with little notice and no opportunity for fiscal analysis prior to passage. When legislation is focused and its content is predictable from its title and stated purpose, school boards can anticipate costs, engage their communities on resource needs, and plan for compliance — rather than being required to implement policy they had no meaningful opportunity to review.

5. STRENGTHENING NHSBA'S LEGISLATIVE EFFECTIVENESS
NHSBA's credibility and effectiveness as an advocate depends on its ability to evaluate legislation thoroughly and respond in a timely, informed manner. Non-germane amendments — frequently introduced late in the legislative session — compress the time available for staff analysis, member input, and stakeholder consultation. A consistent, publicly stated position that NHSBA expects germane legislation strengthens NHSBA's standing at the statehouse and signals to legislators that the association is a rigorous, principled advocate for New Hampshire's public schools.

NHSBA Board of Directors Recommendation: Support. In the past, NHSBA has not uniformly opposed the use of non-germane amendments, as such amendments could include positions that the Association supports. However, the volume and complexity of legislative activity in recent years have exacerbated the challenges this practice creates for policymakers, stakeholders, and the public, with several such amendments becoming law without full hearing and without integration into current statutory frameworks. As a result, the Board of Directors now supports requiring amendments to be germane to the underlying legislation to promote greater transparency, meaningful review, and informed decision-making.

Proposed Resolution #4
Submitted By: Pittsfield School Board

Proposed Resolution:
Education Freedom Accounts (EFAs) should be made available only to students who meet the eligibility requirements for free and reduced lunch and who are not succeeding academically in their local public school. This restores the initial intent of EFAs and prevents the current free-for-all approach that has spiraled costs out of control.

Rationale:
EFA funds are being provided to parents who do not need them (kids already in private school, have the means to pay) and the resulting impact on the budget is squeezing other services.

NHSBA Board of Directors Recommendation: Not support. NHSBA has two long-standing Statements of Belief opposing vouchers, tax credits and tax subsidies that divert scarce tax dollars away from public education (I:A, adopted in 1991; and I:B, adopted in 2005). If the delegates wish to adopt this proposal, those two long-standing Statements of Belief would have to be amended or deleted.

- *I:A• NHSBA supports the utilization of public education funds solely for public school purposes as determined by the local school boards. (1991)*

- *I:B• NHSBA urges the NH Legislature and Congress to oppose any efforts to subsidize elementary or secondary private, religious or home schools with public tax dollars. Specifically, NHSBA opposes the creation of vouchers, tax credits and tax subsidies that in any form are targeted to the tuition or expenses for non-public K-12 schools. Rather than diverting scarce tax dollars away from our public school classrooms, NHSBA urges the NH Legislature and Congress to support improvements in our public schools and meet current funding obligations and promises, benefiting the vast majority of America's children who are educated daily in our public schools. (2005)*

Proposed Resolution #5
Submitted By: Pittsfield School Board

Proposed Resolution:
If the legislature continues its pursuit of state-mandated open enrollment, the state should be responsible for covering the full cost of the student's participation in the receiving district and should fund transportation expenses for students attending a school other than their public school of record. No local funds from the sending district should be allocated to the receiving district since the state will have superseded local control over these decisions.

Rationale:
The state should fully fund state-required changes in educational policy such as this, rather than allowing the burden to fall on local school districts.

NHSBA Board of Directors Recommendation: Support alternative language.

Alternative Resolution Proposed by the NHSBA Board of Directors:
Amend continuing resolution #5 to read: *NHSBA opposes state-mandated open enrollment as a primary legislative position. Such opposition is paramount when any proposals to expand open enrollment is not fully funded by the state, and/or does not include sufficient state funding to provide transportation for all K-12 students to the open enrollment of their choice.*

NHSBA Rationale:
In 2025, NHSBA members adopted Continuing Resolution #5, which states "NHSBA opposes state-mandated open enrollment."

The Board of Directors holds firm on that commitment as a primary position, but acknowledges that continuing legislative efforts to expand open enrollment may require the Association to work to mitigate negative effects of future bills. In recent proposed legislation, some of the negative impacts would have included further erosion of New Hampshire's longstanding principle of local control, the forced impact of individual family choices upon school district budgets, and the disparate impact on families lacking the financial or time resources necessary to transport their children to other schools.

If the delegates wish to accept this Proposed Resolution in some form, the NHSBA Board of Directors amending Continuing Resolution #5.

Proposed Resolution #6
Submitted By: Pittsfield School Board

Proposed Resolution:
Local Education Agencies (LEAs) may pursue agreements to share, streamline, or merge SAU administrative services as negotiated by their local school boards. Any state-driven merging of such SAU services must, however, allow a minimum of three years before implementation and must articulate how smaller and/or poorer districts will not be overlooked in a larger administrative unit.

Rationale:
We do not disagree that administrative services for smaller districts are expensive to maintain. However, the decisions about when and whether to consolidate in some way should be left to local boards (local control). If the state mandates such consolidation, they must allow time to consider its implementation, and the state must articulate how the plan will not disenfranchise smaller and/or poorer districts.

NHSBA Board of Directors Recommendation: Support alternative language.

Alternative Resolution Proposed by the NHSBA Board of Directors:

The New Hampshire School Boards Association supports local school districts pursuing agreements to share, streamline, or merge SAU administrative services as negotiated by the local school boards. However, NHSBA beliefs that any state-mandated merging of SAUs or SAU services must, allow for a reasonable time before implementation so such implementation can be done with fidelity. Further, state-mandated SAU mergers must articulate and ensure that smaller and/or poorer school districts will not be overlooked by a larger administrative unit.

NHSBA Rationale: Though NHSBA has opposed state-mandated SAU mergers the last two legislative sessions, there is continuing discussion at the legislature about implementing some sort of legislation to consolidate SAUs and/or SAU services. NHSBA believes that such mergers, if any, should be left to local voters to approve following negotiation among and by local school boards. Further, the NHSBA Board of Directors believes ensuring that smaller and poorer school districts are not overlooked by a larger SAU structure is a prudent principle.

Proposed Resolution #7
Submitted By: Pittsfield School Board

Proposed Resolution:
The state will not further decrease or eliminate any tax or other revenue stream unless and until 40% of the cost of special education in every district in the state has been funded by a combination of state and federal funds.

Rationale:
Education does not have a spending problem. We have a revenue problem, driven largely by the legislature's decisions to reduce or eliminate sources of revenue such as the Interest and Dividends tax and the BET. If the decision to reduce revenue is taken, the state should ensure that its obligations to local districts' special education costs have been met first.

NHSBA Board of Directors Recommendation: Not support.

NHSBA Statement of Belief IX:A states "NHSBA urges the U.S. Congress to appropriate funds to pay 40% of the cost of implementing IDEA, and to fully fund any additional requirements in the area of special education and to provide financial impact statements." (1990)

Additionally, NHSBA Statement of Belief IX:B (2002) states in part "Congress should fully fund the federal share of IDEA as a mandatory program."

For these reasons, the NHSBA Board of Directors believes the Proposed Resolution is already covered by these two existing Statements of Belief.

Proposed Resolution #8
Submitted By: Pittsfield School Board

Proposed Resolution:
NHSBA supports the right of parents to homeschool their children. However, parents who choose to do so should be required to submit accountability measures to the State Board of Education. Furthermore, no parents homeschooling their child should receive an Education Freedom Account (EFA) unless their child would meet the eligibility requirements for free and reduced lunch in public school.

Rationale:
Accountability for education rests with the public schools. If children are educated at home by parents, the state has a vested interest in ensuring that children are making academic progress. Parents who choose to homeschool their children should not receive EFAs unless their child would meet the eligibility requirements of FRL in the public school to keep the system fair.

NHSBA Board of Directors Recommendation: Not support. First, as noted above, NHSBA has two long-standing Statements of Belief opposing school vouchers. This proposal implies that NHSBA does not oppose vouchers provided certain conditions or criteria are met. Second, homeschooling matters are not necessarily matters impact or affecting school board governance. For these reasons, the NHSBA Board of Directors does not support this proposal.

Proposed Resolution #9
Submitted By: Raymond School Board

Proposed Resolution:
BE IT RESOLVED that the New Hampshire School Boards Association establish a process requiring any resolution that is seven (7) years old or older to be reviewed by the appropriate committee or governing body; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that following such review, the resolution shall be recommended for one of the following actions:
1. Retain the resolution as written;
2. Amend or update the resolution; or
3. Remove the resolution from the Association's active policy positions; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the results of the review process be communicated to the membership as part of the Association's regular resolution and delegate assembly process.

Rationale:
The New Hampshire School Boards Association maintains a series of resolutions intended to guide advocacy efforts, legislative priorities, and organizational positions on behalf of member school districts; and

Resolutions adopted many years ago may no longer reflect current educational priorities, legislative realities, fiscal conditions, or the needs of New Hampshire school districts; and

Regularly reviewing existing resolutions helps ensure that the Association's positions remain relevant, accurate, and representative of its membership; and

A formal review process would provide member districts with the opportunity to reaffirm, revise, or retire outdated resolutions in an organized and transparent manner.

NHSBA Board of Directors Recommendation: Support. The NHSBA Board of Directors agrees that the Association currently has too many Resolutions/Statement of Beliefs and that many of them are either outdated or no longer pertinent.

Proposed Resolution #10.1
Submitted By: Claremont School Board

Proposed Resolution:
Developing a New Hampshire Educational and Municipal Finance Workforce Pipeline

WHEREAS, New Hampshire school districts and municipalities are experiencing significant difficulty recruiting and retaining qualified business administrators, finance directors, accountants, and other public-sector financial professionals; and
WHEREAS, accounting practices, statutory requirements, reporting obligations, tax-rate calculations, grant administration, governmental auditing standards, and financial management responsibilities in school districts and municipalities differ substantially from those found in private-sector accounting; and
WHEREAS, many skills and competencies required for governmental and school finance administration are not routinely taught in traditional business accounting degree programs; and
WHEREAS, the shortage of qualified candidates creates operational risks for school districts, threatens compliance with state and federal requirements, and increases costs associated with recruitment, training, and turnover;
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the New Hampshire School Boards Association advocate for legislation, appropriations, and state-supported initiatives that encourage New Hampshire colleges, community colleges, universities, and other institutions of higher education to establish, expand, or support programs, certificates, concentrations, internships, apprenticeships, and degree pathways focused on governmental, municipal, and school district accounting and finance; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that NHSBA advocates for scholarships, loan-forgiveness programs, internships, and other incentives designed to attract and retain qualified professionals in New Hampshire's public education and municipal finance workforce.

This resolution is contingent on Claremont School Board approval

Rationale:
New Hampshire faces a growing shortage of qualified school and municipal finance professionals. Private-sector accounting experience alone often does not provide the specialized knowledge necessary to administer public funds, comply with governmental accounting standards, calculate tax rates, manage grants, and meet state and federal reporting requirements. Establishing educational pathways focused specifically on governmental and school finance will strengthen the workforce pipeline, improve compliance, reduce risk, and better protect taxpayer resources.

NHSBA Board of Directors Recommendation: See the NHSBA Board of Directors response and recommendation following Proposed Resolution 10.3.

Resolution #10.2
Submitted By: Claremont School Board

Proposed Resolution:
Reinstatement of State Certification Requirements for School District Business Administrators

WHEREAS, school district business administrators are responsible for the stewardship of substantial public funds and for ensuring compliance with complex state and federal financial requirements; and
WHEREAS, the responsibilities of school district business administrators include budgeting, accounting, financial reporting, tax-rate development, grant administration, procurement, debt management, internal controls, auditing coordination, and regulatory compliance; and
WHEREAS, these responsibilities require specialized expertise that is distinct from private-sector accounting and financial management; and
WHEREAS, consistent professional standards help ensure sound financial practices, transparency, accountability, and protection of taxpayer resources;
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the New Hampshire School Boards Association advocate for legislation and administrative rules requiring school district business administrators to obtain and maintain state certification as a condition of employment in New Hampshire public school districts; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that certification standards reflect the specialized knowledge and competencies required for school finance administration and governmental accounting in New Hampshire.

Rationale:
School district business administrators occupy positions of significant fiduciary responsibility. Requiring state certification establishes a consistent baseline of professional competence, promotes accountability, and helps ensure that individuals entrusted with managing public education funds possess the specialized knowledge required to perform these duties effectively. Reinstating certification requirements will strengthen financial oversight and reduce the risk of costly compliance failures.

NHSBA Board of Directors Recommendation: See the NHSBA Board of Directors response and recommendation following Proposed Resolution 10.3.

Proposed Resolution 10.3
Submitted By: Claremont School Board

Proposed Resolution:
Strengthening Continuing Education Requirements for Certified School District Business Administrators

WHEREAS, state and federal laws, regulations, accounting standards, grant requirements, auditing expectations, and financial reporting obligations affecting school districts change regularly; and

WHEREAS, maintaining professional competency requires ongoing education and demonstrated mastery of specialized subject matter; and

WHEREAS, continuing education programs that rely solely upon attendance verification do not adequately demonstrate comprehension or competency; and

WHEREAS, failures in grant administration, reimbursement procedures, tax-rate calculations, financial reporting, procurement compliance, and other areas of public finance can result in financial losses, audit findings, delayed reimbursements, and increased taxpayer burden;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the New Hampshire School Boards Association advocate for mandatory continuing education requirements for all certified school district business administrators; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that continuing education programs include objective assessment measures demonstrating successful completion and comprehension of course content, including examinations, competency assessments, case-study evaluations, or other measurable methods of evaluation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that required continuing education include instruction and demonstrated competency in areas including, but not limited to:

- School district accounting and governmental accounting standards;
- State and federal grant administration;
- Grant reimbursement procedures and compliance requirements;
- Financial reporting and audit preparation;
- Tax-rate calculation and revenue estimation;
- Budget development and long-range financial planning;
- Procurement and contracting requirements;
- Internal controls and fraud prevention;
- State-specific statutory and regulatory requirements;
- Federal compliance requirements and reimbursement regulations; and
- Other topics essential to the effective stewardship of public education funds.

Rationale:

Continuing education should ensure not only participation but also demonstrated competency. School district business administrators must remain current on increasingly complex financial, regulatory, and grant-management requirements. Requiring objective evaluation as part of continuing education will promote professional excellence, improve compliance, reduce audit findings, maximize reimbursement opportunities, and strengthen public confidence in the management of taxpayer resources.

NHSBA Board of Directors Recommendation: Support alternative language.

Alternative Resolution Proposed by the NHSBA Board of Directors:

10.1 The New Hampshire School Boards Association will advocate for and support legislation and administrative rules requiring school district business administrators to obtain and maintain state certification (with appropriate alternative pathways) as a condition of employment in New Hampshire public school districts; and that certification standards reflect the specialized knowledge and competencies required for school finance administration and governmental accounting in New Hampshire.

10.2 The New Hampshire School Boards Association will advocate for and support mandatory continuing education requirements for all certified school district business administrators; and that continuing education programs include objective assessment measures demonstrating successful completion and comprehension of course content, including examinations, competency assessments, case-study evaluations, or other measurable methods of evaluation.

10.3 The New Hampshire School Boards Association will advocate for and support legislation, appropriations, and state-supported initiatives that encourage New Hampshire colleges, community colleges, universities, and other institutions of higher education to establish, expand, or support programs, certificates, concentrations, internships, apprenticeships, and degree pathways focused on governmental, municipal, and school district accounting and finance; and that the Association will advocate for scholarships, loan-forgiveness programs, internships, and other incentives designed to attract and retain qualified professionals in New Hampshire's public education and municipal finance workforce.

NHSBA Rationale: New Hampshire school districts, many with annual budgets in the 10s of millions of dollars, face significant challenges recruiting and retaining qualified business administrators, finance directors, accountants, and other public-sector financial professionals, creating operational risks and increasing costs associated with recruitment, training, and turnover.

School district finance work requires specialized expertise in budgeting, accounting, financial reporting, tax-rate development, grant administration, procurement, debt management, internal controls, audit coordination, and regulatory compliance—knowledge that differs substantially from private-sector accounting and is not routinely taught in traditional business accounting programs.

School district business administrators (SBA's) are responsible for the stewardship of substantial public funds and must maintain compliance with complex and regularly changing state and federal laws, regulations, accounting standards, grant requirements, auditing expectations, and financial reporting obligations.

Breakdowns in grant administration, reimbursement procedures, tax-rate calculations, financial reporting, procurement compliance, or other public-finance functions can result in financial losses, audit findings, delayed reimbursements, increased taxpayer burden, and diminished public accountability.

Consistent professional standards and continuing education demonstrating mastery of specialized subject matter support sound financial practices, transparency, accountability, compliance, and protection of taxpayer resources.

Proposed Resolution #13
Submitted By: Hooksett School Board

Proposed Resolution:
The New Hampshire School Boards Association advocate for legislation affecting the governance, operations, or finances of public school districts to include implementation timelines that provide school districts with sufficient notice to comply with new statutory requirements through their normal governance and budgetary processes. Legislation requiring board action, budget committee approval, public hearings, policy revisions, or other district action should not become effective immediately upon passage when doing so could reasonably result in administrative hardship, loss of statutory authority, or significant unbudgeted financial impacts.

Rationale:
School districts operate on annual budget cycles and are required to comply with numerous statutory processes involving school board action, budget committee review, public hearings, and voter authorization. When legislation imposing new requirements or modifying existing statutory authority becomes effective immediately upon passage, districts may have little or no opportunity to complete these required processes before the close of the fiscal year.

HB 1610 (2025) illustrates this concern. The legislation modified the requirements governing school district contingency funds, including annual authorization requirements, funding limitations, and the conditions under which such funds may be used. Because the bill became effective immediately upon passage, districts faced uncertainty regarding whether actions needed to be taken before the Governor signed the bill in order to preserve their ability to establish or retain contingency funds for the upcoming fiscal year.

Reasonable implementation periods promote thoughtful decision-making, compliance with statutory public processes, sound fiscal management, and equitable administration across all school districts. The New Hampshire School Boards Association should advocate that legislation affecting school district governance or finances include effective dates that provide adequate time for districts to implement new requirements without unnecessary administrative or financial hardship.

NHSBA Board of Directors Recommendation: Support. NHSBA routinely informs the legislature that certain timelines for implementing new legislation, new policies, and new practices are not possible; and further, NHSBA routinely asks the legislature to delay the effective date of legislation so school boards and administrators can prepare and plan properly.

Proposed Resolution #14
Submitted By: Chester School Board

Proposed Resolution:
RESOLVED, that the Chester School Board supports the inclusion of implementation safeguards in any universal enrollment legislation or policy, including:

1. Prevent duplicate tuition payments and preserve existing tuition and area agreements.
2. Limit student transfers during the school year, except for hardship or relocation.
3. Require timely parent notification to resident and receiving districts.
4. Preserve existing area agreements, tuition agreements, and enrollment rights.
5. Allow districts to determine participation and available enrollment capacity.
6. State funding follows the student.
7. Resident districts shall not be responsible for tuition payments.

Rationale:
Universal enrollment can expand educational opportunities for students and families; however, it must be implemented in a manner that promotes fiscal responsibility and operational stability for school districts. Clear provisions addressing tuition obligations, enrollment timelines, student mobility, and existing area agreements will help districts budget effectively, maintain educational continuity, and preserve successful collaborative school arrangements while supporting family choice.

NHSBA Board of Directors Recommendation: No position. As with Proposed Resolution #5, last year, NHSBA members adopted Continuing Resolution #5, which states "NHSBA opposes state-mandated open enrollment." If the delegates choose to adopt this proposal, the NHSBA Board of Directors believes Continuing Resolution #5 should be amended to add theses proposed provisions, rather than create a new Resolution.

Proposed Resolution #15
Submitted By: Deerfield School Board

Proposed Resolution:
NHSBA will actively support legislation that fully funds special education costs in the State of New Hampshire and IDEA federally, this is consistent with the promise Congress made when the creation of IDEA occurred in 1975 and signed into law by President Gerald Ford.

Rationale:

NHSBA Board of Directors Recommendation: Not support. As with proposal #7, NHSBA Statement of Belief IX:A (1990) urges Concord to fulfill its IDEA obligations. Further, Statement of Belief IX:B calls for Congress to fully fund the federal share of IDEA as a mandatory program.

Barrett M. Christina, Executive Director
Matt Pappas, President, Rochester
Ege Cordell, First Vice President, Chesterfield
James Noyes, Second-Vice President, Bethlehem and Profile Regional
Holly Kennedy, Immediate Past-President, Hinsdale

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Continuing Resolutions for 2026
Adopted at the 2025 NHSBA Delegate Assembly October 25, 2025

1. The NHSBA will advocate for minimum standards for public school approval, ED 306, that are consistent with the NHSBA Statement of Beliefs Manual and current approved Continuing Resolutions. (2024)

2. NHSBA will advocate for laws governing impact fees to be updated to require local Planning Boards to revisit impact fee methodology, policy, and schedule at least every five years, to ensure local ordinances reflect legislative or rule changes and consider other local factors and school district concerns. (2024)

3. NHSBA will support legislation that requires the State of New Hampshire to fund the cost of the Youth Risk Behavior Survey for all New Hampshire middle school students in the state in districts that wish to implement it. (2024)

4. NHSBA supports legislation which prioritizes the well-being and safety of students and, while recognizing the rights of parents to make decisions about their children, also gives due consideration and weight to educators' professional judgment and their responsibility under the Code of Ethics for New Hampshire Educators to always act in a student's best interests. (2024)

5. NHSBA opposes state-mandated open enrollment. (2025)

6. NHSBA supports legislation that would for a simple majority to approve bonds intended for the maintenance, repair, or improvement of existing school district facilities, especially when the major portion of the borrowed

funds are essential to bring such facilities up to fire and other safety requirements, or improvements necessary to meet the requirements of the minimum standards for school facilities.

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Policies, Resolutions and Statements of Belief Manual

October 2025
By Procedure Adopted Unanimously at Delegate Assembly, November 4, 2006
And Following Action of the October 25, 2025 Delegate Assembly

Overview of Action Taken at the 2006 Delegate Assembly

The resolutions contained herein have been adopted for three consecutive years by a vote of the Delegate Assembly. Such resolutions become a continuing commitment of the Association and part of this document, *Policies, Resolutions and Statements of Belief Manual*. This practice is based on the proposal adopted unanimously at the 2006 Delegate Assembly on November 4, 2006:

> Whereas NHSBA takes consistent positions on certain issues that repeatedly come before the Delegate Assembly as re-adopted resolutions; and
>
> Whereas these issues deserve special recognition for their continued importance as long-standing positions;
>
> Be it therefore resolved that any resolution adopted for at least three continuous years be moved to the NHSBA Policies, Resolutions and Statements of Belief Manual.

RESOLUTIONS QUALIFYING FOR INCLUSION IN THE POLICIES, RESOLUTIONS AND STATEMENTS OF BELIEF MANUAL

SECTION	*TOPIC*	*PAGE*
I	School Choice	4
II	Education Funding	4
III	Health Care Funding	7
IV	Charter Schools	7
V	Local Control/School District Autonomy	7
VI	School Safety	10
VII	Accountability	11
VIII	State Board of Education	12
IX	Federal Legislation	13
X	Public Pension System	15

Perennial Resolutions of the New Hampshire School Boards Association

I - School Choice

I:A• **NHSBA** supports the utilization of public education funds solely for public school purposes as determined by the local school boards. (1991)

I:B• **NHSBA** urges the NH Legislature and Congress to oppose any efforts to subsidize elementary or secondary private, religious or home schools with public tax dollars. Specifically, NHSBA opposes the creation of vouchers, tax credits and tax subsidies that in any form are targeted to the tuition or expenses for non-public K-12 schools. Rather than diverting scarce tax dollars away from our public school classrooms, **NHSBA** urges the NH Legislature and Congress to support improvements in our public schools and meet current funding obligations and promises, benefiting the vast majority of America's children who are educated daily in our public schools. (2005)

II - Education Funding

II:A• **NHSBA** proposes that the state fully fund all state public schools, public school districts and education aid formulas before the funding of any other state obligation. (1994; amended 2025)

II:B• **NHSBA** supports reducing the threshold for determining the local share of a catastrophic aid special education placement to 2 times the state average elementary and secondary costs of general education. (1998)

II:C• **NHSBA** supports additional appropriations under RSA 198:15-a, IV, the state's Building Aid Program to adequately fund all necessary school facility needs. This program has effectively created local and state partnerships in financing school building improvements that benefit all students of New Hampshire, and which should be considered a significant part of fulfilling the State's constitutional duty to provide an adequate education to all children. (First Adopted in 2000; Revised 2014; Revised 2020; Revised 2023)

II:D• **NHSBA** supports a continual review of all costs associated with providing the opportunity for an adequate education, including costs associated with facilities, transportation and increasing the state commitment to reflect actual costs incurred. Any additional revenue raised by the state to meet this obligation shall be dedicated solely for the

purpose of fully funding a constitutionally adequate education for all students in the state. (First Adopted in 2000 – Revised in 2014 – Revised in 2020)

II:E• **NHSBA** proposes that the state develop an equitable and sustainable tax plan dedicated solely to public schools operated by local school districts education for the purpose of fully funding a constitutionally adequate education for all students in the state. (2002; amended 2024)

II:F• **NHSBA** opposes the dramatic and unpredictable changes in educational funding each year – often with solid information only coming to the school districts after the balloting or school district meetings are done.

NHSBA also opposes any new educational funding legislation, passed and enacted by the Legislature, which takes effect any earlier than the next biennium. School boards cannot be expected to work with legislation passed after the budget cycle for the following year is completed. (2005)

II:G• *Replaced by Resolution II:D in 2014.*

II:H• **NHSBA** supports a required kindergarten program as part of a comprehensive K-12 curriculum offering, with concurrent state kindergarten funding. (*First Adopted in 2003 – Revised in 2014*)

II:I• *Replaced by Resolution II:N in 2014.*

II:J• **NHSBA** opposes any constitutional amendment that vacates the spirit and intent of the Claremont and Londonderry lawsuits and attempts in any way to limit or redirect funding in a manner that is contrary to the New Hampshire Supreme Court's ruling and present interpretation of the New Hampshire Constitution. (2008)

II:K• **NHSBA** opposes transfer of the responsibility to provide and fund a free and appropriate education (FAPE) for special education students from resident districts to attending districts when a non-resident student is placed in a district by a parent. (2008)

II:L• *Replaced by Resolution II:C in 2014.*

II:M• **NHSBA** opposes the recent change in statute that decreases the state share of local employer retirement costs. NHSBA calls for the immediate return of the state share of local employer retirement costs for teachers, police and fire to 35% for fiscal years 2010 and 2011, as well as maintaining this commitment in the future. (2010)

II:N• **NHSBA** opposes legislation that would directly or indirectly divert state costs or responsibilities to local school districts, including unfunded state aid programs (e.g. catastrophic aid and building aid), and the state share of retirement contributions. (2011)

II:O• Should the special education mandates of the state of New Hampshire exceed the federal special education requirements, then the state of NH should fully fund those mandates that exceed federal requirements to the local school districts. This resolution should not be interpreted to obligate the NHSBA to challenge the renewal or re-authorization of mandates that uphold existing rights for students receiving special education services. (First Adopted in 2009 – Revised in 2020)

II:P• **NHSBA** supports amending New Hampshire's special education statute so that only the state legislature, not the state board of education via rulemaking or any other process, decides when it is appropriate for state law to exceed federal law. (2010)

II:Q• **NHSBA** supports fully funding the School Building Aid program pursuant to RSA 198:15-a. Furthermore, NHSBA believes that an adequate school building is a component of the requirement to provide an adequate education and therefore the state is obligated to provide funding for adequate school facilities. The state has failed to meet this obligation since 2009. (2017)

II:R• **NHSBA** supports modifying RSA 198:38 to provide state funding for the cost of full day kindergarten for school districts that have chosen to provide kindergarten for the entire school day. (2017)

II:S• **NHSBA** supports additional state adequacy aid for public pre-kindergarten. (First adopted in 2017; revised in 2023)

II:T• NHSBA supports the state seeking to provide viable financial solutions and funding models to assist municipalities in completing the true "last-mile" broadband Internet networks throughout their towns or cities or establish a regulatory framework that requires providers to complete the networks, so that broadband Internet access is available along every public way in the state. (January 2021)

II:U• NHSBA calls upon the New Hampshire Legislature to full fund any legislation that creates or has a fiscal impact on local school districts. (2020).

II:V• NHSBA believes that school districts should be held harmless for pandemic related reduction in enrollment that may negatively impact differentiated aid. Differentiated aid should be based upon free and reduced numbers from pre-pandemic enrollment or current enrollment, whichever is greater. (2021)

II:X• NHSBA supports that the state and federal government seek and provide viable, sustainable, permanent funding to provide a school breakfast and lunch at no cost to students and at no cost to local school districts. (2022; amended 2024)

II:Y• NHSBA supports legislation and rulemaking that requires the state of New Hampshire and NH Department of Education to participate in the federal Medicaid Direct Certification Program to more accurately calculate eligibility for free and reduced lunch programs. (2023)

III - Health Care Funding

III:A• NHSBA supports a statewide effort to work with legislative bodies to address the spiraling costs associated with health care benefits borne by the school districts in New Hampshire. (2005)

III:B• NHSBA supports legislation and rulemaking that helps make Medicaid to Schools (MTS) funding more accessible to school districts by allowing greater flexibility in signing off by school counselors and by supporting implied parental consent after due diligence on the school district's part, and a clearly defined and executable opt-out process to increase access to public benefits for students with disabilities. (2023)

III:C• NHSBA will support legislation and rulemaking that proposes an increase in per service fees under Medicaid programs. (2023)

IV – Charter Schools

IV:A• **NHSBA** proposes that for any charter school authorized by the State Board of Education, state aid entitlements under RSA 198:42 should be paid directly to the charter school from state funds which are separate from local district grants. (2006)

IV:B• **NHSBA** proposes that the State Department of Education develop evaluation and accountability criteria for the state's charter schools to ensure their financial stability as well as sound educational objectives. (2006)

V - Local Control and School District Autonomy

V:A• **NHSBA** supports legislation to lower the mandated 2/3-majority vote for passing a bond article to 60% for all school districts. (1997)

V:B• **NHSBA** supports the continued ability for Cooperative School Districts to adopt apportionment formulas based on locally determined factors. (2000)

V:C• *Deleted in 2014.*

V:D• **NHSBA** supports amending current law to allow school districts to establish a non-lapsing contingency fund to meet the cost of unanticipated expenses. (2001)

V:E• **NHSBA** supports legislation that allows local governing bodies to indicate their recommendation on any warrant article, in addition to those recommendation requirements already specified in the municipal budget law, RSA 32. (2006)

V:F• The **NHSBA** supports the NH Legislature amending the "SB 2" process to allow a legislative body to specifically vote by a supermajority of 60% on a Warrant Article to create and fund a program that would then continue beyond the single year and its costs would be included as part of the following years default budget. (2008)

V:G• **NHSBA** opposes any change in statute implementing an "Evergreen Clause" in all negotiated contracts. Evergreen clauses mandate the continuation of any pay plan after the expiration of a contract when a successor agreement has not been reached. Any such

provision exceeds previous standards and usurps local control, significantly tipping the balance of negotiations. (*First adopted in 2009 – Revised in 2014*)

V:H• **NHSBA** opposes any mandated teacher salary schedule requiring all districts in the state to pay salaries based on a common state schedule. (2009)

V:I• **NHSBA s**upports local control provided in NH statutes and rules that allow local school districts the authority to make their own decisions in defining a school calendar that complies with both the spirit and the letter of the law. (*First adopted in 2009 – Revised in 2014*)

V:J• **NHSBA** supports new legislation or administrative rules that impose penalties against school district employees who breach their employment contracts. (2011)

V:K• **NHSBA** opposes any branch of New Hampshire government adopting or supporting curriculum standards that usurp state's rights and de-emphasize and limit local control of curriculum and local school board oversight. (2011)

V:L• **NHSBA** supports legislation to allow local school districts to retain a percentage of their year-end unreserved fund balance in the same manner as local municipal governments. (2011)

V:M• **NHSBA** supports local boards and their responsibility for establishing the structure, accountability, advocacy and delivery of instruction within their local district. This includes statutory changes that affirm this managerial policy confided exclusively to public employers. Specifically, governing bodies have the right to determine standards for evaluation, compensation, selection, layoff and retention, discipline, assignment and transfer, and other traditionally accepted managerial rights so as to continue public control of governmental functions. (2013)

V:N• **NHSBA** supports state and federal legislation that affirms the responsibility for education resides with the states, which have delegated to local school boards the power and authority to adopt policies, establish priorities, and provide accountability to direct the operation of the schools, including the school system's mission and goals, organization, budget, program, curriculum and services, all essential to the daily operation of schools, consistent with state laws and regulations. (2014)

V:O• **NHSBA** supports legislative affirmation of the management right associated with teacher evaluation that is an integral component of the requirement that school boards adopt a teacher evaluation policy. Further, NHSBA supports involving teachers and principals by allowing a reasonable opportunity to comment on draft school board evaluation policy, understanding that the school board has the sole prerogative to adopt a local policy it deems appropriate. (2014)

V:P• **NHSBA** supports New Hampshire's adoption of updated requirements in statutes and rules that reflect current document imaging technologies and backup capabilities. (2016)

V:Q• **NHSBA** supports language in legislation that provides parents' rights to opt-out of content and programs that they feel are not appropriate for their child(ren). However, NHSBA opposes language requiring parents to opt-in to content and programs for their child(ren). Opt-in language creates an undue burden on the school district to account for every student who would participate, versus the few who choose not to participate. (2017)

V:R• **NHSBA** supports modifying RSA 193:12 to add the following: Any person who provides false information for establishing residency for school attendance purposes, or any person who assists in doing so, may be required to remit full restitution to the school district or districts that have financial or fiscal liability as a result of the false information. (2018)

V:S• **NHSBA** supports amending pertinent electioneering statutes to clarify: (1) the definition of "election" official"; (2) that electioneering by election officials may not occur at the polling place; and (3) that a public body may affirmatively promote positions established by formal actions of that body. (2018)

V:T• **NHSBA** supports modifying RSA 193:3, I, to require the New Hampshire State Board of Education to restore support for local decision in Change of School Assignments and Manifest Educational Hardship requests by requiring the State of New Hampshire to fully fund any change in school assignment made under RSA 193:3,1 so that the local school district will not be held financially responsible for any school assignment change prescribed by the State Board of Education which conflicts with the local school board decision. (2019)

V:U• **NHSBA** supports amending RSA 91-A to allow for remote participation of all public body members in official meetings of public bodies without having a quorum physically present, while still ensuring that full notice and full transparency are satisfied. (2021; amended 2025)

~~**V:V• NHSBA** supports amending RSA 91-A to allow committees, subcommittees, and advisory committees to hold meetings without having a quorum physically present, while still ensuring that full notice and full transparency requirements are satisfied.~~ (2022; rescinded 2025)

V:W• NHSBA opposes any legislations that divests local school boards of original jurisdiction relative to complaints about local curriculum, instruction, and instructional resources such as books, library materials, and other instructional resources. Further, NHSBA opposes any legislation that subjects school district staff to civil lawsuits and sanctions relative to curriculum and instruction. (2023)

V:X• NHSBA affirms the qualifications of school district staff to research and select appropriate digital and printed material for schools. Literary and curricular collections should offer students information that provides a balance of cultural values. Further, literary collections should represent diverse points of view; provide a global perspective; stimulate essential thinking skills; and meet the interests, abilities, learning styles, and information needs of the learning community. (2023)

V:Y• NHSBA will support legislation that creates flexibility for town moderators and moderators of cooperative school districts to postpone school district elections in the event of inclement weather. (2023)

V:Z• NHSBA supports any legislation that intends to streamline the recruiting, credentialing, and hiring of certified teachers and other licensed school staff from other states. This resolution is in support of both the State of NH credentialing laws, as well as the interstate compact and reciprocity between NH and neighboring states. This resolution also supports changes to reduce barriers to teachers from other states who wish to transfer retirement savings from their current retirement program into the NH Retirement system. (2023)

VI - School Safety

VI:A• NHSBA supports legislation which excludes public schools from being designated as neutral ground for visitation purposes for children of parents undergoing a divorce procedure by legal or other administrative orders. (1998)

VI:B• NHSBA supports efforts to enact legislation which would require notification to school districts of restraining orders related to a student's behavior. (1999)

VI:C• NHSBA supports legislative action to remove the unfunded mandated provisions of RSA 193-F, Pupil Safety and Violence Prevention. The imposition of these new mandates and their related financial costs, without additional state funding, violates the New Hampshire Constitution, Part First, Article 28-a. (2011**)**

VI:D• NHSBA supports legislative action that allows criminal background checks to be shared with their Human Resources Department and that the specific charge be shared with the Superintendent so he/she can make an informed judgment related to their employment. (2017)

VI:E• NHSBA calls upon the United States Congress, the New Hampshire Legislature and local public safety agencies to prioritize collaborative threat assessment and crisis planning with school districts; and further supports legislation at the federal, state and local levels that protect students and school district employees from on-campus violence. (2019)

VI:F• NHSBA supports equity and inclusion in all aspects of education, including curricular programs, co-/extra-curricular programs and governance. NHSBA supports adherence to all anti-discrimination laws, rules and statutes ensuring that no person is excluded or discriminated against on the basis of sex, gender identity, race, religious creed, color, marital status, physical or mental disability, national origin, economic status, familial status, sexual orientation, health condition, or native language. (January 2021; amended 2024; amended 2025)

VI:G• NHSBA supports legislation to restrict possession of firearms on school property, limiting possession to certified police officers only. (2020)

VI:H• NHSBA supports diversity, equity, and inclusion in all aspects in our schools, is committed to the concept that free and open dialogue around such concepts as racism and

sexism is a vital component to education, and opposes any actions which limit this free exchange of ideas. (2021)

VI:I• NHSBA will advocate for legislative action that ensures local school boards comply with federal firearm laws and policies. (2022)

VII - Accountability

VII:A• NHSBA believes that all components of state testing (English Language Arts, Writing Prompt, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies) should continue to be given annually at the end of the school year with appropriate and immediate steps being taken to ensure that these test results are received by school districts no later than the following July 1. Valid data to assess school performance relies on measuring individual student progress: NH should adopt gain score or value-added measures as the principal means for measuring student performance. If NH does not adopt gains-score or value-added measures as the principal means for measuring student performance, then annual testing should take place at the beginning of the school year so that information may be used instructionally during the year. (*First adopted in 1998 – Revised in 2016*)

VII:B• NHSBA supports the inclusion of only students who have enrolled in a district continuously for the previous school year in the numbers calculated to measure student performance. (*First adopted in 2005 – Revised in 2016*)

VII:C• NHSBA supports a review of NH's accountability and performance measures as well as standards established for the NH state assessment program. (2009)

VII:D• NHSBA supports legislation to amend the State Common Core Testing that will begin in the school year 2014-2015 to allow special education students be tested at their grade level ability rather than their placement of their current school grade. (2013)

VII:E• NHSBA supports the development of curriculum for use by trained teachers in grades K-12 to educate students in the prevention of sexual abuse, with such curriculum to be developed locally using either a model developed by the New Hampshire Department of Education or by one of the 13 state agencies that already use evidence-based sexual abuse prevention education. (2016)

VII:F• NHSBA supports public school approval standards that encompass holistic and comprehensive academic subject areas including: English/language arts and reading; Mathematics; Science; Social studies, to include including civics, government, economics, geography, history, and Holocaust and genocide education; Arts education, to include music and visual arts; World languages; Health and wellness education; Physical education; Engineering and technologies including technology applications; Computer science and digital literacy; Personal finance literacy. (2022)

VII:G• NHSBA urges the New Hampshire Legislature and Department of Education to clarify the responsibilities, obligations and rights of school boards and school districts when students do not attend school on a regular basis; are habitually truant; and otherwise, do not conform to the rules and regulations of the district. (2023)

VIII - State Board of Education

VIII:A• NHSBA calls on the State Board of Education to continuously monitor all teacher training programs at New Hampshire colleges and universities to assure that such institutions are offering quality and relevant training programs preparing individuals for careers as teachers and/or administrators in New Hampshire's public schools. (*First adopted in 1998 – Revised in 2014*)

VIII:B• NHSBA proposes that the Department of Education develop and maintain a database of available grants and other funding mechanisms to assist local school districts in their grant writing efforts and funding of locally determined programs. (2002)

VIII:C• NHSBA urges the State Board of Education to conduct a statewide study of the "traditional" school calendar utilized by most public school districts in New Hampshire and to issue a summary report of its findings, conclusions and recommendations. (2003)

VIII:D• NHSBA urges the NH State Board of Education to adopt Standards of NH School Approval which emphasize qualitative standards rather than quantitative standards. (2003)

VIII:E• *Replaced by Resolution II:H in 2014.*

VIII:F• NHSBA supports the development and implementation of poverty indicators for Title I eligibility, which best reflect the current distribution of children from low-income families in

the public schools across the State and maximizes the number of districts eligible for Title I funds. (2003)

VIII:G• NHSBA supports the concept and duties of the State Board of Education as established in RSA 21-N:10-11. In its capacity to review all programs, advise on goals and hear appeals, the State Board of Education should have the authority to appoint the Commissioner of Education as well as confirm the Deputy Commissioner and division directors nominated by the Commissioner of Education. (2005)

VIII:H• NHSBA opposes the changes in student assessment at the state level which are resulting in fewer content and skill areas tested, especially the loss of the writing assessment. Basing assessment decisions on availability of funding rather than on what is best for the students of New Hampshire is not something that **NHSBA** can support. (2005)

VIII:I• NHSBA supports a compulsory attendance age of eighteen (18), along with flexibility to utilize alternative options that allow students to continue a program of study to complete their high school education. (*First adopted in 2006 – Revised in 2014*)

VIII:J• NHSBA supports a Department of Education funded study on the impact on performance of extended learning opportunities and those extended learning opportunities' relationship to the funding formula. (2009)

VIII:K• NHSBA supports the adoption of statutory language requiring that any statute or New Hampshire Department of Education rule, which mandates the adoption of local school board policies, will expire after five years; and that such statute or rule cannot be renewed without full public hearings, debate and re-authorization by the New Hampshire Legislature. All rules and regulations stipulated by the New Hampshire Department of Education must be submitted to the full New Hampshire Legislature for final consent and approval. (2015)

VIII:L• NHSBA supports modifying RSA 193-C:6 to require that the State Department of Education publish the results of the statewide assessment within 30 days of receipt of the assessment results. The NHSBA supports modifying RSA 193-C:6 to prohibit embargos of assessment results by the State Department of Education, local school districts, or other agencies. (2017)

IX – Federal Legislation

Individual with Disabilities Education Act:

IX:A• **NHSBA** urges the U.S. Congress to appropriate funds to pay 40% of the cost of implementing IDEA, and to fully fund any additional requirements in the area of special education and to provide financial impact statements. (1990)

IX:B• Since its original enactment in 1975, the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) has played a pivotal role to assure that students with disabilities receive the services they need for their success. **NHSBA** supports and applauds the efforts and goals encompassed by IDEA's mission.

As our Congress considers the reauthorization of IDEA, **NHSBA** believes attention should be directed at components of the program that are moving away from the original mission of educating children to a mission that involves a wider range of functions. **NHSBA** believes that for special education to achieve its potential in today's environment, several areas should receive attention. **NHSBA** proposes that federal reauthorization of IDEA address these specific priority concerns in the following areas:

- federal funding - Congress should fully fund the federal share of IDEA as a mandatory program;
- teacher recruitment and retention - federal law should create and encourage incentives for new teachers seeking special education certification;
- administration and paperwork - federal law should ease the current complex paper trail aimed at documenting compliance as well as allowing greater flexibility in the IEP process;
- due-process hearings - federal law should provide for adequate notice of issues and good-faith mediation
- related services - federal law should identify the financial role of other governmental units rather than fix all costs for related services on the narrow portion of the tax base that just serves education;
- private placements - federal law should focus on whether a substantive deprivation of educational opportunities exists in the public setting before consideration of private placement;
- safe learning environment - federal law should allow local school district personnel the flexibility and discretion to make appropriate discipline determinations that are in the best interests of all students when it comes to disciplining children with disabilities;
- over identification - federal law should clarify the definition of those disabilities that can result in over identification. (2002)

IX:BA• NHSBA opposes changes in the IDEA allocation calculations resulting in funds being disbursed directly to the school/district in which the child is registered (in towns which do not have high schools) and not to the student's residence. NHSBA calls for the immediate return of prior method of calculations for IDEA federal and state funds, as well as maintaining this commitment in the future to keep any and all funds distributed to the student's town of residence. (January 2021)

Every Student Succeeds Act:

IX:C• NHSBA urges the New Hampshire Legislature and New Hampshire Department of Education, consistent with the language and intent of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), to maximize local governance and community leadership through enhanced local school board flexibility in addressing key areas such as standards, testing, and accountability; and further to pro-actively engage and collaborate with NHSBA in all legislative and administrative discussions and decisions concerning the implementation of ESSA. (*First adopted in 2003 – Revised in 2009 – Revised in 2016*)

National School Boards Association:

IX:D• *Deleted/removed from the NHSBA Policies, Resolutions and Statements of Belief Manual at the October 2023 Delegate Assembly.* (2023)

X – Public Pension System

X:A• *Deleted in 2019. Replaced with Perennial Resolution X:B (2019).*

X:B• NHSBA supports the continuing existence of the New Hampshire Retirement System (NHRS). The NHRS should be strong, secure, solvent and fiscally stable. To achieve this goal, NHSBA supports legislation that will return state contributions to NHRS. (2019)