



Hampton, NH 2024 SAU 21 Warrant Articles

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Town Information

2024 Candidates for SAU 21 Winnacunnet School District

Candidates	Term	Candidate Names
School Board Member - Hampton (1)	3 Yrs	Nicole Cico Frank Bajowski
School Board Member - Seabrook (1)	2 Yrs	No Declared Candidate
School Board Member - At Large (1)	3 Yrs	Leslie R. Lafond Charles Shannon
Budget Committee - Hampton (1)	3 Yrs	No Declared Candidate
Budget Committee - At Large (1)	3 Yrs	No Declared Candidate

What it means: Hampton voters get to vote on each of these open positions (even the one marked as Seabrook.) There are two positions, highlighted in yellow, where there are more candidates than there are openings. You also have the option to write-in a name.

Article 1: Operating Budget of \$33,135,855 versus Default Budget of \$32,960,247

Shall the School District raise and appropriate as an operating budget, not including appropriations by special warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately, the amounts set forth on the budget posted with the warrant or as amended by vote of the first session, for the purposes set forth therein, totaling \$33,135,855? Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be \$32,960,247 which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the School District or by law; or the governing body may hold one special meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13, X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only.

NOTE: Warrant Article #1 (operating budget) does not include appropriations in any other warrant articles.

What it means: The proposed budget reflects a 6.9% increase over the FY 2023-2024 and is +0.5% (\$175,608) higher than the default budget of \$32,960,247. Some of the cost drivers for both budgets (versus last year's \$30,273,491) are price inflation; increase in special education costs (particularly the tuition costs for out of district placements); increased transportation costs; significant increase in the health insurance premiums; investment in Alternative to Suspension Program; transfer of 504 Coordination position from ESSER grant to operating budget; Vocational Program cost increase due to higher participation levels and tuition rate increase; and a rise in students requiring services for English as second language.



- Section 504 regulations require a school district to provide a "free appropriate public education" (FAPE) to each qualified student with a disability who is in the school district's jurisdiction, regardless of the nature or severity of the disability.

Hampton is responsible for 47.1% of SAU 21's appropriations.

Those in favor say: There were both increases and decreases in expense items that affected the operating budget for SAU 21 this year. The Board and staff worked hard to keep expenses reasonable for taxpayers.

Fiscal Impact: Using the example of a home valued at \$400,000, adoption of the Proposed Operating Budget for SAU 21 will cause an increase in taxes of \$135.90 versus last year, compared to the Default Budget that would cost that same homeowner \$127.56. The difference is \$8.34.

Take your property valuation divided by 1000 and multiplied by .340 to get the tax impact for your property (if Article 1 passes), or .319 if Article 1 fails.

Note: These costs for taxpayers are calculated at 47.1% of the appropriations, which is Hampton's share.

Article 2: Seacoast Education Assoc Collective Bargaining Agreement (\$27,380 Hampton's share)

To see if the School District will vote to approve the cost items included in the collective bargaining agreement reached between the Winnacunnet School Board and the Seacoast Educational Support Personnel Association for the following increases and reductions in salaries and benefits at the current staffing levels:

Year	Estimated Salary Increase	Estimated Benefits Increase	TOTAL Estimated Costs
2024-25	\$43,977	\$14,156	\$ 58,133
2024-25	\$47,976	\$13,187	\$ 61,163
2025-26	\$24,429	\$34,531	\$ 58,960
2026-27	\$23,988	\$28,922	\$ 52,910

and further to raise and appropriate the sum of \$58,133 for the 2024-25 school year, such sum representing the additional costs attributable to the increase in salaries and benefits required by the new agreement over those that would be paid at current staffing levels in accordance with the current collective bargaining agreement.

NOTE: In order for this article to be adopted, it must be approved by the voters of the school districts of Hampton Falls, North Hampton, Seabrook, South Hampton and the voters of the Winnacunnet Cooperative School District (which includes Hampton voters).

What it means: The CBA is a cooperative agreement at SAU 21. As such, the CBA warrant article needs to pass in all five (5) school districts within SAU 21 – in order for it to take effect in any one district. If one school district CBA warrant article fails, they all fail.



Those in favor say: A speaker stated that this article was unanimously supported by all members of the School Board, and discussed the importance of the educational associates. He talked about the need for this article to pass in order to retain the best educational associates and to be able to hire high-quality new associates. He discussed the high turnover rate and stated that we currently provide uncompetitive compensation and benefits to these important employees.

If the CBA fails, paraprofessionals do not receive pay increases, steps, or health insurance offerings. Hampton's paraprofessionals are currently paid \$15 - \$19 per hour and are only eligible for single-person health insurance. This is not competitive with surrounding school districts, or businesses and retailers. Hampton loses paraprofessionals at a 40% turnover rate.

SAU 21 paraprofessionals are in the classroom every day working with teachers and supporting students to allow for individualized and personalized instruction. They assist with hands-on learning opportunities and educational experiences. These professionals work in both general education and special education, providing services for students as required by their IEPs.

Those opposed say: No one spoke against this Article at Deliberative Session.

Fiscal Impact: A Hampton home valued at \$400,000 would bear an increased tax cost of \$ 2.76 in 2024 if SAU 21 Article 2 passes, and for each year of the contract, the cost is below \$3.00. Take your property valuation divided by 1000 and multiplied by .007 to get your cost.

Note: These costs for taxpayers are calculated at 47.1% of the appropriations, which is Hampton's share.

Article 3: HVAC Upgrades \$188,400 (Hampton's share)

To see if the School District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$400,000 for HVAC upgrades at Winnacunnet High School. This project is part of the facility plan adopted by the school board. This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7 VI and will not lapse until the project is complete or June 30, 2027, whichever is earlier. (Majority vote required)

What it means: The School Board proposes to raise and appropriate \$400,000 to fund the planned HVAC upgrades project per the HVAC replacement plan and five-year capital improvement plan (CIP).

Those in favor say: The proposed HVAC upgrades project reflects the scheduled upgrades per the plan. The project is part of the ongoing HVAC replacement cycle that includes ongoing HVAC replacement, upgrades, controls integration, and duct cleaning.

The HVAC replacement cycle helps minimize large one-time expenditures for multiple system replacements and levels the spending over multiple years.

Those opposed say: No one spoke against this Article at Deliberative Session.

Fiscal Impact: A Hampton home valued at \$400,000 would bear an increased tax cost of \$ 18.99 in 2024 if SAU 21 Article 3 passes. Take your property valuation divide by 1000 and multiply by .047 to get your cost.

Note: These costs for taxpayers are calculated at 47.1% of the appropriations, which is Hampton's share.



Article 4: Replace and repair Winnacunnet HS Roof \$459,225 (Year 1) (Hampton's share)

To see if the School District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$975,000 for Year 1 of a multi-year project to replace and repair the roof at Winnacunnet High School? The project is part of the facility plan adopted by the school board. This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7 VI and will not lapse until the project is complete or June 30, 2029 whichever is earlier.

What it means: A total main school building and gymnasium roof replacement is scheduled for 2024-2026 at an estimated cost of \$3,500,000 including all translucent panels and skylights. This will be phased into a multi-year project (3 years) starting in the summer of 2024.

Those in favor say: In order to minimize tax payer impact, funding will be over two years with the bulk of the funding raised in 2025-26 to coincide with expiration of the building bond, which will offset the cost.

Those opposed say: No one spoke against this Article at Deliberative Session.

Fiscal Impact: A Hampton home valued at \$400,000 would bear an increased tax cost of \$ 46.29 in 2024 if SAU 21 Article 4 passes. Take your property valuation divided by 1000 and multiplied by .116 to get your cost.

Note: These costs for taxpayers are calculated at 47.1% of the appropriations, which is Hampton's share.

REMEMBER TO VOTE ON MARCH 12TH. YOU CAN BRING YOUR NOTES WITH YOU TO THE BALLOT BOOTH TO SAVE TIME. THANKS FOR BEING A THINKING HAMPTONITE.