

ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE
YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2006
AND
PROPOSED BUDGET
JULY 2007 – JUNE 2008

ANNUAL REPORTS
SCHOOL DISTRICT OF MERRIMACK, NH
for the
Year Ending June 30, 2006
- DISTRICT OFFICERS -

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- NOTICE -

A complete copy of the Merrimack School District
Policy Manual is available for review at the
Office of the Superintendent of Schools.

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This Annual Report was prepared and printed in its entirety
by the MSD Printing Department located in Merrimack High School.

2006-2007 MERRIMACK SCHOOL BOARD



Rose Robertson-Smith, Jennifer Thornton, Jody Vaillancourt, Emily Coburn, George Markwell

ANNUAL REPORT FROM THE CHAIR

To the Citizens of Merrimack:

Many exciting programs and academic activities occurred this year in the Merrimack School District, but the highlight of the year was welcoming the MHS class of 2018 to our elementary schools. In September of 2005 we opened our doors to the district's 5 year olds for the first time to offer half-day Kindergarten instruction. We join the parents and families in applauding the efforts of our staff in creating the seamless transition to a K-12 model of education in the district and for making the first year of the program successful.

In October of 2005 the district began assessing our children in mathematics, reading/language arts, and writing through the New England Common Assessment Program (NECAP). The results posted by the NH Department of Education in the Spring showed that our students have demonstrated Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) in all areas as required by the federal No Child Left Behind Act. While still designated a District in Need of Improvement in Reading/Language Arts, our growth statistics show progress toward our goals.

This year the School Board worked with all levels of the schools' administration to update and revise the District's Goals and Objectives. The Logic Model that was generated is a document that should serve our students, staff, and families well in realizing continuous progress in reading and math achievement and in the application of technology skills in school environments that promote learning.

The School Board continues to seek a balance between the academic needs of our students and families with the needs of the taxpayer in Merrimack. The budget proposed for 2006-2007 continued to streamline resources within the district and arrived under default for the third year in a row. We are confident that with the continued support of our families and the community our students will continue to grow and flourish under the care of our faculty's and volunteers' efforts. We look forward to even more growth and successes for our learners in the coming year.

We also continue to monitor the ramifications of the current education funding formula on the district's budgetary process. While the Supreme Court ruled in favor of the NH Communities for Adequate Funding of Education and found the current education funding mechanism to be unconstitutional, the definition of an "adequate education" and the design to fund such lies within the hands of our legislature. We will continue to follow this action and require that the state meet its obligations to Merrimack and to all children in New Hampshire.

Respectfully submitted,

Emily S. G. Coburn
Merrimack School Board, Chair

MERRIMACK SCHOOL DISTRICT GOALS & OBJECTIVES (A Logic Model)

Approved by School Board on 12/5/05

INPUTS Describes state/district plans/structures currently in place	STRATEGIES Describes ongoing activities to meet district goals	OBJECTIVES Describes what will be done between Dec. 2005 and June 2007	GOALS Describes what will be in place in 5-7 years	IMPACT Describes long-term results
District Improvement Plan for Reading (DINI)	Select and adopt K-12 formative assessment tools	Develop a formative assessment plan to measure student learning in reading and math	A comprehensive data tracking system is implemented that helps students and teachers identify individual learning needs and instructional goals.	All students make continuous progress in reading achievement
School Improvement Plans for Reading and Math (SINIs)	Provide consistent, ongoing PD for all staff to support district goals	Develop an intervention plan to address needs of students who are currently not successful in reading and math	Consistent language and common instructional approaches are used by all staff to build consistency for students and parents.	All students make continuous progress in math achievement
School Board policies and procedures (i.e. bullying/harassment)	Support staff and parent understanding of research and practice in effective reading and math instruction	Increase scheduled time for teacher dialogue in 2006-2007 school year	Each student's learning needs are used to determine instructional goals and strategies.	All students make continuous progress in the acquisition and application of technology skills.
State Accountability - Standards for Public School Approval - Curriculum Frameworks - GLEs (Grade Level Expectations) - Highly Qualified Teachers (HQT)	Support understanding of assessment use at class and district level	Identify components of a comprehensive literacy program	A Comprehensive K-12 Literacy Model is implemented.	Students, parents and staff experience an environment that promotes learning
Program & Curriculum Revision & Implementation Process	Increase opportunities for teacher dialogue on student learning	Develop and sustain school-level behavioral programs that provide a safe learning environment.	Staff integrates use of technology tools into all curriculum areas of instruction.	
Tchr Support Models/Plans - Torchbearer Program - Benchmark Coaching - Pay for Performance Plan	Review district curriculum revision process		Students will apply technology skills appropriately to enhance their learning.	
District Technology Plan	Implement district PD Plan			
District Professional Development Plan	Implement district technology plan			
Operating Budget/Grant Support	Support a consistent data-driven behavior plan			

Merrimack School District
District in Need of Improvement
Curriculum, Instruction, Assessment and Intervention Synthesis Report

A year of research in best practices and thoughtful analysis of data has provided a strong, clear direction for our delivery of literacy instruction, particularly in the area of reading.

As we look ahead to the 2006-2007 school year, we are ready to begin to implement a district-wide plan that will change how, when and where reading instruction is delivered. This will necessitate a shift of emphasis for the district and a change in roles for all members of the learning community. At the center of this initiative will be the student who will be supported by the educator. The educator in turn will be supported by building administrators, the language arts coordinator or the reading specialist, department heads, the library media specialist, computer technology educators, special educators and paraprofessionals. The next level of support will be a District-Wide Literacy Coordinator who will work in all buildings and monitor the progress of the initiative. All of the educators above will be supported by the district administration and the School Board who establish goals and provide for professional development.

A Shift in Emphasis for the District

A district committee will be created to study and select an instructional framework that addresses the Grade Level and Grade Span Expectations of the State of New Hampshire and includes a core set of strategies to be used at each grade level. The program structure will hold educators accountable for the use of Grade Level and Grade Span expectations to guide their planning and instruction. There will be a focus on shifting from traditional reading skills instruction to cognitive strategies instruction.

The district will define the effective components of a ninety-minute reading block for grades K-6 and provide educators with training for implementation. In addition, educators will be given the opportunity to observe in identified best practices classrooms. A District Literacy Coordinator will monitor district-wide progress across buildings and help build collaboration among buildings and across grade levels.

The district will implement a K-12 assessment model for all students, which will provide educators with timely feedback. The district will investigate the capability of the PowerSchool to report and collect data and use it longitudinally. The data will ultimately be used to determine the effectiveness of methods and materials.

The district should seek to maximize the use of existing personnel, resources, and materials to support this initiative. A first step might be to establish a database inventory of human resources and create a flow chart that identifies personnel who have varying

areas of expertise and provide their contact information. In addition, a database inventory of material resources needs to be created. The existing library online catalog might be a central system for tracking selected materials and making them accessible to all. Additional materials supporting the literacy initiative will need to be purchased and made accessible to all staff.

The district should also seek to use existing subsystems to support the cause of literacy. The Evaluation Model (Step I Objectives and Observations), Pay for Performance, and IPDPs can be integrated with a focus on improving the instruction of reading at all grade levels and in all content areas.

Changing Roles for Principals and Other Leaders

In order to support educators in their changing roles, principals and other district leaders will set expectations around literacy. Those expectations will be based on a common understanding of what good reading instruction looks like in the classroom and recognition that academic achievement in all content areas and at all grades is dependent upon effective literacy instruction. Principals will be able to identify best practices in the teaching of reading and, when hiring, look for candidates with a broad background in literacy.

Principals will closely examine the school day with an eye for providing quality instructional time, in particular the uninterrupted ninety-minute reading block for grades K-6. In addition, time needs to be set aside for examining student work and other collaborative educator initiatives. Instruction and the need for educators to collaborate should become the driving forces behind schedule creation. Principals should also foster the collaboration of classroom teachers, special educators and Title I tutors around the manner in which students are instructed.

Principals will need to support and facilitate the efforts of language arts coordinators and reading specialists in building educator knowledge of Grade Level and Grade Span Expectations and strategy instruction as well as assisting in the effective implementation of a larger literacy block. Principals and other supervisors will need to focus observations around literacy and increasingly hold educators accountable for demonstrating an understanding of the Grade Level and Grade Span Expectations. These supervisors will encourage educators to set professional growth objectives in the area of literacy.

Principals will encourage and support educators' increased understanding of various formative and summative assessments. They will foster collaborative discussion within their buildings to work towards a common understanding of what constitutes quality work. They will look for evidence in observations that

educators are using assessment results to modify instruction.

Principals will promote library \media specialists and computer technology educators as important literacy resources for students and teachers, recognizing their expertise in the selection and evaluation of materials and the integral role of technology in literacy instruction and assessment.

Changing Roles for Educators in 2006-2007

Educators will have several layers of support for the shift in instructional emphasis in 2006-2007. In order to facilitate the shared responsibility for creating proficient, strategic readers, all educators will receive training in instructional strategies appropriate to their grade and/or subject area. In addition, elementary educators will receive training and support for an instructional framework that includes a ninety-minute reading block. Educators will be given support for becoming familiar with Grade Level and Grade Span Expectations in order to begin using these for daily planning and instruction. Educators will receive training in the use and analysis of consistent, systematic and frequent assessments that provide both formative and summative reading data. Use of assessment data, combined with knowledge of a variety of strategies, will allow educators to more effectively differentiate their instruction according to the needs of their students. The classroom teacher will provide the first line of primary intervention, seeking appropriate strategies and resources, thus allowing for adjustments in educational practice and pacing to meet the identified needs of all readers in classrooms.

Changing Roles for Students in 2006-2007

All students will experience instruction that is directly linked to the New Hampshire Grade Level and Grade Span Expectations. They will be instructed in a core group of reading strategies to decode and comprehend text and will be expected to use these strategies to take a more active role in their own learning and monitor their own reading progress. Whenever possible, students will be flexibly grouped and receive instruction that is driven by assessment. If instructional modification is indicated, that intervention will begin in the student's regular education classroom with the classroom teacher.

Beginning in kindergarten, students will learn that different skills and purposes are involved in reading different types of materials and will be introduced to the strategies required in order to read for information. Students will also receive instruction in the nuances of reading and understanding specific content area materials in all grades.

Further, students will be instructed in the strategies involved in self-selecting appropriate and/or appealing materials and be given opportunities to read in a variety of genres.

Students will also be introduced to the joy of reading and come to understand that reading is the essential key to unlock a lifetime of learning.

The Next Steps

Working with supervisors, the Literacy Coordinator will create an inventory of existing assessment tools and strategies in use in the district as well as examples of best practices. The district will train educators in formative assessment and how it can be used to drive instruction. Additional training will also show educators how to analyze existing data from summative assessments.

The district will develop a committee to research a comprehensive assessment plan and report on the expense involved. The district will explore systemic changes for administering formative and summative assessments. The district should build on the successful model of administering and analyzing DIBELS in kindergarten and consider expanding up to grade four.

In the area of intervention, the district will focus on training and hiring Literacy Coaches. These coaches will train and assist in the administration of assessments and help educators adjust instruction based on the data collected. The district will continue to provide training in differentiated instruction so that classroom teachers are better equipped to provide immediate intervention. The district will continue to identify teachers of excellence and bring in renowned educators to model and train in best reading instructional practices. In addition, the district will provide training to educators in using computer technology as a tool for differentiating instruction.

Resources

The district will investigate alternative methods for the delivery of professional development, including but not limited to videos, videoconferencing, and online learning. The district will promote the many resources available for their professional development in the area of literacy such as OPEN NH and PBS Teacherline. To support professional development, the district will align with a college or university and identify and add to library professional resources.

The district will utilize an electronic database (PowerSchool or a new system designed specifically for the purpose) to collect, track, analyze and manage assessment data longitudinally. Educators will be trained in how to input, track and utilize data as is deemed appropriate by the district.

Conclusion

In order to begin implementing the recommendations of the District in Need of Improvement Subcommittees, the Leadership Team has built and approved a 2006-2007 timeline of activities. Training and support will be offered throughout the school year.



REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS TO THE CITIZENS OF MERRIMACK

The most significant accomplishment for the 2005-2006 school year was the initiation of half-day public kindergarten in the three elementary schools for two hundred forty eight children. Several educators and members of the community worked together for over twenty years to make kindergarten a reality. The focus of the program was to develop the children's pre-literacy skills in reading, language arts, and mathematics. Kathi Custer, principal of James Mastricola Elementary School and the chairman of the Kindergarten Development and Implementation Committee, worked in tandem with the district's kindergarten teachers to ensure consistency and continuity in programming between and among the classes in the three neighborhood schools. Based on letters from parents and the performance of the students, the first year of kindergarten implementation was a huge success.

Another important accomplishment was the Synthesis Report completed by thirty educators in the school district who had the responsibility for doing research to ascertain the best practices for the delivery of reading instruction. After the school district was designated a "District-in-Need of Improvement" in the winter of 2005 it became imperative for the local educators to analyze the district's reading data and determine what steps needed to be taken to improve the reading achievement of all learners. Four subcommittees were formed to focus on reading curriculum, effective reading instructional strategies, reading assessment tools and interventions for struggling learners. At the conclusion of a seven month study, the subcommittees recommended that systemic changes in literacy that need to occur in the 2006-2007 school year. That body of work became the springboard for the district's major literacy initiative.

One of the greatest assets of the Merrimack School District is the talent and dedication of its staff. Rick Glatz, the teacher of gifted and talented students at Merrimack Middle School was named New Hampshire Gifted Educator of the Year. Seven educators who collectively provided one hundred eighty-four years of service to the children of Merrimack retired from the district. Each educator was lauded by her respective school. The honorees were: Carole Craven, Ellen Diggins, and Maureen Flynn from Thorntons Ferry Elementary School, Joanne Harrison, Betty Mehlhorn, and Mary McConnell from James Mastricola Upper Elementary School and Linda Kempf from Merrimack Middle School.

Respectfully submitted,

Marjorie C. Chiafery



REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF SPECIAL SERVICES

The number of students serviced by the Department of Special Services remained relatively stable. Approximately 789 students were eligible for services according to our annual state IDEA (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act) report. Of those receiving services, 36 were considered preschool students (ages 3-4), 41 kindergarten students (age 5) and 712 were enrolled in grades 1-12. The breakdown of all students with disabilities by disability category for the 2005-2006 school year was: twelve (12) students were diagnosed with Mental Retardation; eight (8) with Hearing Impairments; three (3) with Deafness; one hundred forty (140) with Speech Impairments; seventy four (74) with Emotional Disturbances; one hundred thirty-five (135) with Other Health Impairments; three hundred nine (309) with Learning Disabilities; six (6) with Multiple Disabilities; thirty (30) with Autism; three (3) with Traumatic Brain Injury; and sixty nine (69) with Developmental Delays.

One of the improvements that allowed the Special Education Department to improve the quality of services to young students with disabilities was the addition of public kindergarten in our district. The kindergarten program allowed the special education department to work collaboratively with regular educators to monitor students and provide supports earlier on in their education, potentially preventing students from falling behind and quickly intervening where educational disabilities were suspected.

Kindergarten in Merrimack also allowed the District to integrate young students with disabilities in with typical students at the kindergarten level. These typical kindergarten students provided excellent role models for students with disabilities, enabling them to progress more rapidly.

Having most of the District's students under our school's roofs also helped us in the area of preventing reading failure. In the long run, most students with educational disabilities receive special education services because of reading difficulties. The district has instituted a highly effective research based assessment tool called the Dynamic Indicators of Early Literacy Skills (DIBELS) to assess students early and identify effective teaching strategies. Overall, the addition of public kindergarten had a very positive effect on the education of students with disabilities.

Our Positive Behavioral Intervention and Supports (PBIS) project continued at Thorntons Ferry School and Masticola Elementary School. Both schools received Awards of Achievement from the New

Hampshire Center for Effective Behavioral Intervention and Supports (NH-CEBIS). In addition, James Masticola Upper Elementary School became involved in the NH-PBIS project. This will allow the highly effective model used in grades k-4 to extend into grades 5-6. This program has proven to decrease inappropriate student behavior in our schools. The Special Education Department worked cooperatively with other departments, schools and the central office staff to develop a plan to improve reading instruction for all students. This cooperative effort lead to the development of the Merrimack School District Logic Model that will shape the District's future direction in the teaching of reading. This model was approved by the School Board in December of 2005.

The Special Education Department continued its ongoing training. One of the areas the Department concentrated on, tying into the PBIS behavioral programs, was providing a safe environment for all students. The district leadership team and selected special educators received training in nonviolent crisis intervention through the National Crisis Prevention Institute. The training focused on best practices in behavior management, guided by the concepts of care, welfare, safety and security for all.

On a personal note, I was honored by my peers and elected President of the N.H. Chapter of the Council of Administrators of Special Education.

Respectfully submitted,

David St. Jean



REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR LIBRARY SERVICES

Rumors about the Internet replacing school libraries were dispelled during the 2005-2006 school year when the Merrimack School Libraries circulated a record number of 95,769 print and non-print items! During the year, the six building librarians also collaborated with classroom teachers to teach over 4,000 classes, designing units in which students learn curriculum content while also acquiring the 21st century literacy skills they need in order to access and use information found in books, media, online databases and, when appropriate, on the Internet. Our library staff served even greater numbers of students in search of resources and access to technology, with the High School library hosting over 30,000 study hall students and an average of 22 students each morning before school. Our statistics also indicated a marked increase in the use of our online subscription databases. Growing from the EBSCO suite of resources supplied to all schools and public libraries free of charge through the NH State Library, the Library Program has continued to respond to the increasing demand for electronic resources. Those added in the 2005-2006 school year included Grolier Online Kids and World Book Kids for the K-4 elementary schools; Grolier Online, World Book Online, and Annals of American History by Britannica for the Upper Elementary, Middle, and High Schools; and the Literary Reference Center by EBSCO, purchased in cooperation with the Public Library for the High School literary criticism units. All subscription databases purchased by the Library Program are available from any computer in the school district as well as via password access from home. Interested students or parents may simply ask any school library staff member for these passwords.

In their buildings, District librarians participated in a variety of literacy programs such as author visits and Principals' Story Hours. High School Librarian Cindy Baker promoted "The Flume Award" and Sharon Silva at the Upper Elementary promoted "The Great Stone Face Award," both awards appropriate to their respective grade levels given to the book receiving the most votes from New Hampshire students. Debbie McLaughlin, librarian at Reeds Ferry School, coordinated the annual "Read across America" celebration for Merrimack schools. Thorntons Ferry librarian Sue Weghorst ran lunch time book clubs for her third and fourth graders. Librarians were also called upon to provide training in new technologies such as unitedstreaming™, the new video-on-demand product provided to the two Mastricola schools through

Mastricola Trust Funds.

In support of District initiatives, Cindy Baker and Tracy Wyman, librarian at the Mastricola Elementary School, served on the Social Studies Curriculum Committee and began to compile a database of resources in support of the new curriculum. The District library team spent a considerable amount of time during the year identifying the NH State Grade Level Expectations for Reading, which librarians either address with direct instruction or support with resources and have begun to more actively incorporate these standards into their collaborations with teachers. Librarian Sharon Silva and Director Pam Tinker served on District in Need of Improvement Subcommittees and the Synthesis Team to pull the work of the subcommittees together and prepare a report for the School Board and the District staff.

While the librarians provide the instruction, serve on the committees, and present the workshops, all of us would agree that it is the library support staff is the real backbone of the Library Program. Although library assistants' jobs have evolved from tasks such as stamping due dates, helping students use the card catalog, and threading 16mm projectors to overseeing a building-wide video distribution system, assisting students with Excel, iPac and Internet searches, and navigating an entirely automated circulation system, they continue to make the libraries run so smoothly and make it look so effortless that their talents are sometimes underestimated. Since their contributions are seldom publicly acknowledged, it was gratifying when last spring the Merrimack High School Principal honored Lesley Duke with a very much deserved Service Award for 2005-2006.

In August, Laurel Sumner, Middle School librarian for nine years resigned from her position to relocate. With good librarians in short supply, we felt extremely fortunate to welcome back as her replacement former Merrimack High School librarian, Laura Denehy, who had made a timely move back to New Hampshire.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela J. Tinker



REPORT OF THE PRINCIPAL MASTRICOLA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

The big story this school year was the roll-out of the first public kindergarten in Merrimack. We enrolled enough students to fill six sessions each comprised of 12-15 students at MES. With Principal Kathi Custer facilitating the district-wide kindergarten team met monthly to design curriculum, order instructional materials and develop an assessment model and report card, the Kindergarten Developmental Record. We enjoyed a lot of positive feedback from parents and the community. The kindergarten teachers were trained to administer DIBELS, a quick screen for early literacy skills. This information allowed for identification of potential problems in learning to read and focused instruction for our youngest learners.

We also fully implemented the Everyday Mathematics program in grades K-4. Grade level teams hosted a Math Open House for parents and students to give a program overview and to introduce various games for practice and application of skills. There was a noticeable level of engagement in the classrooms as students shared strategies and solved problems together. Parents became partners with the homework assignments known as Home Links.

Mastricola finished its three-year participation in a grant from NH-CEBIS to install the program for Positive Behavior Interventions and Support, popularly known as PBIS. We received a perfect score on the annual evaluation from Dr. Howard Muscott, grant administrator. We continued to see fewer office referrals and improved student behavior. We extended our efforts to the buses and bus drivers and expanded our parent information piece through the Mastricola News. The year's slogan, "Even When No One is Looking," encouraged students to make positive behavior choices without an adult mediating.

There were a number of successful enrichments for students willing to commit the time and personal energy. MES fielded five Destination Imagination teams, thanks to the efforts of part-time Gateway teacher, Barbara DeVore and our parent coaches. Music teacher Chris Saunders offered Guitar Club to fourth graders. Second graders participated in Cribbage Club to practice counting and number facts. The fourth grade musical, *Under the Sea*, was performed by students in Mrs. Powell's class. This theme was a perfect segue to Field Day 2006-Bubble Mania chaired by Alicia Lussier. It was a spectacular demonstration of community as well as good sportsmanship and fair play. MES also hosted an artist in residence who shared her craft of Batik with

students. We have several, beautiful panels with an underwater motif displayed around school.

The MES School Volunteer Program was awarded a 24th Blue Ribbon by NHPIC. Mastricola also was honored for five Gold Circle partnerships with Service Credit Union, U.S. Postal Service, Merrimack Fire Department, Merrimack Police Department and Dr. Chuck Capetta's Fit Kids. Our service project to assist students in Louisiana displaced by Hurricane Katrina was accomplished with support from Ecco Shoes, Inc. in Londonderry, NH. Shoeboxes for Student School Supplies involved many MES families, and we were able to ship over 400 boxes of supplies and personal items to Baton Rouge. Student Council members once again assisted with school grounds clean-up for Earth Day. They also established a school store that is open one morning a week to sell supplies and small toys, some with our dragon logo. Students learn to order and keep inventory as well as (to) market and sell specific items.

Physical education teacher, Jean Mazzarella, continued to provide co-curricular activities to help establish healthy, active life styles for MES students. Student walkers and joggers earned recognition as members of the Milers Club. Others signed up for morning exercise club and started the day moving through stations in six week sessions. There was an opportunity to practice and perfect jump roping skills in the MES Jump Rope Club and the Jump Rope for Heart marathon dedicated to Mr. Bob Kohler, MES day custodian, recently deceased.

Finally, we all benefited from improvements to our school campus over the summer. With help from the Parents and Teachers Together group (PATT), we were able to make improvements to the Small Toy in anticipation of our first kindergarten class. With a gift from the Trustees of the Mastricola Trust, our maintenance department completed our classroom storage units. Everyone found it easier to get in and out of the Mastricola complex with the completion of a bus loop on O'Gara Dr. and a reconfiguration of our traffic flow.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Custer



REPORT OF THE PRINCIPAL REEDS FERRY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

The students, staff and parents of Reeds Ferry Elementary School enjoyed a remarkable 2005-2006 school year. We began the year by celebrating the arrival of a new assistant principal, Kimberly Yarlott, and our first classes of public kindergarten. Mrs. Yarlott joined us from Concord, NH where she worked as a kindergarten, first, second and third grade teacher. On September 6th we welcomed 45 children to the morning session and 39 children to the afternoon session. All the hard work and planning paid off as the children entered the building to classrooms filled with new furniture, books and materials. This school year was full of exciting learning opportunities as the staff took these boys and girls through many wonderful activities during their two and half hour session. Parents, staff and administration all felt that this program had a highly successful first year.

Reeds Ferry School is proud of all our children who are involved in academic and sporting competitions. In the State Geography and Spelling Bees, Reeds Ferry students conducted themselves in a manner that made the whole school proud. The Destination Imagination program is alive and well at Reeds Ferry School. Teams from our school competed at the Regional meet with two teams going on to the State competition. Children from Reeds Ferry attended bowling and basketball competitions as well as track and field meets as a part of the Special Olympics program. A team of fourth grade students were active participants in the Annual Fire Muster.

This year the professional and support staff were engaged in a wide variety of professional development. These staff development opportunities focused around the professional staff's Individual Professional Development Plans as well as district initiatives and goals. After-school trainings as well as workshop days were devoted to topics such as Write Traits, Reading Strategies That Work, Every Day Math and Understanding Rubric for Scoring Writing Samples. Administrators and a Site-Based team spent many after-school hours were spent helping two groups of teachers as they worked on their IPDPs. Paraeducators in the building met monthly with the special education coordinators to learn more about techniques that would help them as they work with special needs children.

As a school community, the students, staff and parents continue to promote the school-wide themes of caring, respect and responsibility. Several service projects were planned and participated in by many in the building. Food drives for the local food pantries,

Pennies for Patients and Christmas presents for a needy Reeds Ferry family were just a few of the caring events that took place. Money raised from the Hot Dog Dinner was sent to two schools in New Orleans destroyed by Hurricane Katrina. Items were sent in by families for Military Care Packages that were sent to troops overseas. The School Store and the Safety Patrol continues to be a way for students to show responsibility and help out their fellow students.

Our parent volunteer program once again earned a 'Blue Ribbon Award' from the New Hampshire Partners in Education for outstanding volunteerism in the school. In addition, our staff and parents were given two 'Gold Circle Awards.' As in the past, this commitment by our parents and staff is a hallmark of our success as an educational community. The Parent Faculty Association continues to do a wonderful job providing the children and staff with many quality activities, equipment, materials and supplies. Their big project this year was purchasing and installing additional playground equipment for the students of our school.

Special day and evening activities continue to be some of the key highlights of our school year. In keeping with the spirit of reading excellence, we enjoyed a visit from the renowned children's author Helen Lester. Every student in the building had the opportunity to enjoy her work and ask questions. Open Houses, Pumpkin Night, Family Math Night and Astronomy Night are some of the evening activities that parents and students look forward to attending. The Art Show, music concerts and Bed-Time Story Hour bring large groups of the Reeds Ferry community together for a wonderful time. And last, but not least, Fun Day, put on by the PFA with the help of staff and the Merrimack Fire Department is a time talked about all year by the students.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Frank W. Hoell".

Frank W. Hoell



REPORT OF THE PRINCIPAL THORNTONS FERRY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

The 2005-06 school year encompassed a wide variety of activities and achievements by the students and staff at Thorntons Ferry Elementary School. The first year of public kindergarten brought over ninety youngsters to our morning and afternoon sessions. Our academic concentration for the program was on reading and mathematics literacy. The joy and excitement on the children's faces throughout the year was truly inspirational. It's hard to believe that they are near completing their first grade experience as well.

Our Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) program continued with the school being recognized with an achievement award from the New Hampshire Center for Effective Behavior and Supports. We were one of the original start-up schools and successfully completed all training and implementation requirements. It is remarkable to see the Safe, Responsible, and Respectful behavior demonstrated by the children on a daily basis. Evidence to this effect has been noted by community visitors and organizations receiving our students on field trips. We were quite proud of the fact that the Auxiliaries of the VFW Post 8641 and American Legion Post 98 awarded the children a plaque in appreciation for their continuous contribution and remembrance of our veterans on Veterans' Day. We have received this award for five consecutive years.

The children once again raised over two thousand dollars for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. They also made donations to the Marine's "Toys for Tots" program. These worthy efforts were largely organized and conducted by the students through their school council, the "Community Council."

Many terrific educational programs were conducted at the school during the year. Students participated in our "Invention Convention" with Andrew Kling, John Williams, Madison Boerner, and Paulina Klinger representing Thorntons Ferry at the state "Inventors' Celebration." Five student artists had their work displayed by the New Hampshire Art Educators' Association at their exhibit for "Youth Art Month 2006." They were Samantha Holder, Samantha Verdon, Zoe Lanier, James Jolly, and Savannah Cummings.

Our "Destination Imagination" team did a wonderful job representing the school at the regional competition. "Granite State Fit Kids" visited the fourth grade and educated us on the need for exercise and good nutrition. These skills were put to good use as the

fourth graders conducted their own version of the 2006 Olympics in February. We also received a "Gold Circle Award" for our participation in partnerships with the Merrimack Fire Department (Fire Muster) and the Federal Service Credit Union (School Banking).

The staff and parents of Thorntons Ferry provided us with much to be proud of as well this past year. The Thorntons Ferry Making Strides for Breast Cancer Team participated in the Nashua area "Walk Against Breast Cancer" event and raised over two thousand dollars for that worthwhile charity. An individual distinction occurred when one of our third grade teachers, Rebecca VandenBerg, was nominated for a Disney Award, which honors creativity in teaching. Our "Principal's Reading Night" at Barnes & Noble was broadcast on the Merrimack Community Television Station. None of us, however, got a casting call from Hollywood!

Finally, visiting children's author Helen Lester entertained all the children in the spring with background information and readings from her many books.

A special thanks, as always, goes to our parents and the community at large. The parent and teachers group (PTTF) provided funding to assist in the construction of our new playground equipment. The Merrimack Trustees and Saint-Gobain Corporation also made financial contributions to this effort. The project was made possible by the generosity of our citizens and, of course, the final connection of the school to town sewage which opened the land for installation of the equipment. Fidelity Corporation also made a forty-two hundred dollar grant to the school to be used for the purchase of student reading materials.

To cap off the year, the descendants of Matthew Thornton, signer of the Declaration of Independence donated a portrait of our famous colonial resident and patriot to the school. It was proudly displayed during the Fourth of July Parade and is currently located in the school lobby off the gymnasium. This certainly was a fitting conclusion to another extraordinary school year.

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie N. Carter



REPORT OF THE PRINCIPAL MASTRICOLA UPPER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

James Mastricola Upper Elementary School, a partnership among students, parents, staff, and the Merrimack community, promotes a positive learning environment that fosters respect, responsibility and safety. Together, we challenge all to be independent, critical thinkers while becoming educated citizens and lifelong learners. Every day is a fine day for learning at the upper elementary school.

The upper elementary school promotes a positive school climate and culture through the implementation of the Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports program (PBIS). The PBIS program integrates respect, responsibility and safety into the daily program. Students are taught strategies to improve the quality of their interactions with peers and adults. Opportunities to practice the positive behavior strategies they learn are provided in the classroom, at lunch and on the playground. An anti-bullying presentation by the Plymouth State University Tiger Program reinforced our school-wide expectations.

The Student Council, comprised of representatives from each of the fifth and sixth grade pairs, provides students with leadership opportunities and serves as a voice for the entire student body. The classroom representatives elect officers and hold democratic meetings throughout the school year, focusing on issues brought to them by their constituents. Several special activities were sponsored by the Student Council to promote a positive school culture such as literacy days and spirit days. The Student Council also promotes service learning by sponsoring several food drives in conjunction with our Parent Faculty Association to support local food pantries.

James Mastricola Upper Elementary School students are provided with many opportunities for enrichment through our Gateway Program. They participate in a spelling bee, geography bee, Mock Trial competition, Chess Club, Invention Convention and Eminent People Night. Participation in these activities provides students with opportunities to explore new learning experiences and take pride in their achievements.

In conjunction with the Parent Faculty Association, our school's Author Committee organized two exciting literacy programs for our school population. Well known author Ralph Fletcher presented several of his novels and offered writing sessions for students and faculty. The Looking Glass Theater also presented skits from popular children's novels. These exciting programs have helped motivate children and emphasize the importance of literacy.

Through the collaborative efforts of our school and the Boys and Girls Club of Greater Nashua, the Club Program provides children with a positive and safe environment after school. The Club Program offers quality activities and services that enhance children's lives, shapes their futures and produces good citizens. The students are provided with good adult role models who respect and listen to them and a safe environment where they have fun and interesting, constructive activities that channel their youthful energy into challenging pursuits.

We are proud to have won our first Blue Ribbon Award for school volunteerism. Hundreds of volunteer hours were generously donated to our school by parents and community members. We are truly fortunate to have a wonderfully supportive Parent Faculty Association to organize these volunteers and provide our students with so many educational activities. In addition, we received several Gold Circle Awards for business and community partnerships with local agencies. One partnership is with the Merrimack Police Department for providing the Drug Awareness Resistance Education (D.A.R.E.) program to our fifth grade students and also presenting workshops for the sixth grade Project Safeguard program. Another partnership is with the Merrimack Fire Department for sponsoring a Fire Muster to teach children about fire safety. BAE Systems is also a partner for their work with our Lego Robotics teams. These partnerships have helped to enrich and enhance the education of upper elementary school students.

Respectfully submitted,

Marsh McGill



REPORT OF THE PRINCIPAL MERRIMACK MIDDLE SCHOOL

Merrimack Middle School celebrated its first year of operation on September 9, 2005. A major focus for students, staff and administration for the 2005-2006 school year was the promotion of a positive and safe school climate through a school-wide steering committee comprised of students, teachers, parents, and administrators. They developed action plans to address several component areas: empowering students and teachers; developing student leadership initiatives; promoting collaboration and collegiality; developing a consistent behavioral plan and positive interventions with a focus on eliminating bullying and harassment issues; recognizing staff and students for academic excellence in the workplace; promoting character, social and civic responsibility; initiating school beautification projects; planning and designing murals and other art forms to enhance the school environment and to promote student achievement, and developing outdoor recreational areas for instructional use and community leisure time activities.

An additional major area of focus for the 2005-2006 school year was to strengthen student literacy and comprehension in the content areas of science, social studies, mathematics, and the unified arts classes. Deborah Hodge, the Language Arts Coordinator, planned and implemented training designed to assist teachers that provided teachers with a variety of effective strategies to teach vocabulary and spelling, textbook comprehension, and independent reading. Integration and application of these strategies were supported and monitored throughout the school year.

The math facilitator and members of the Merrimack Middle School mathematics department completed a comprehensive review of instructional resources, materials, and textbook series to support the implementation of the new math curriculum. Each program was evaluated relative to its alignment with state curriculum frameworks, the NCTM and National Standards, the ability to integrate reading and writing into the math curriculum, the availability of supplemental resources and the degree of compatibility with the use of technology. The final assessment resulted in the adoption of the Glencoe series which include MATHSCAPES, a National Science Foundation program that effectively integrated reading and real world learning activities and experiences into the instructional offerings.

Middle School teachers continue to be recognized for their academic skills and expertise. Richard Glatz was honored at the New Hampshire Excellence in Education Awards as "Teacher of the Year" by the New Hampshire Association for Gifted Education. Warren Berry, a seventh

grade science teacher at Merrimack Middle School, was honored for his collaborative work in adolescent issues education and community partnership with the Merrimack Police Department. Warren's efforts resulted in the middle school receiving, for a second time, the Gold Circle Partnership Achievement Award from the New Hampshire Partners in Education. Health teachers Linda Murgo and Amy Lariviere were recognized for their efforts to formulate the Shining Stars Program, developed to honor middle school students for exceptional character, kindness and respect towards others.

Middle School students were recognized for their skills in a variety of local, state and national competitions, including the Granite State Junior Debate League, the National Geography Bee, the state Mock Trial competition, Math counts, the New Hampshire Mathematics League, the Watkins Speech and Spelling contests and the First Robotics competition. Middle School choral members were honored by performing the National Anthem for the New Hampshire State legislature and kicking off the third New Hampshire Safe Driving Summit held in Merrimack and facilitated by Representative Bob L'Heureux.

Middle school and High school faculty members collaborated in the planning and implementation of a new transition program for eighth grade students. Entitled Springboard to Success, this four week summer program was designed to assist at-risk students with their transition to high school. The project included academic support in English and language arts, mathematics, science and social studies. The program also included a guidance component as well as career and community service opportunities.

The academic year concluded with the completion of the Memory Garden. Constructed through the collaborative and volunteer efforts of students, faculty, and community participants, the garden serves as a permanent memorial to honor and remember those members of the Merrimack family who have passed on. Sadly, two members of our school community were memorialized last year. Linda Kempf, a beloved math teacher who had served students at Thornton's Ferry, Masticola Elementary and Merrimack Middle School and Katie Retelle, a former Merrimack Middle School student and daughter of Sue Retelle, a current middle school faculty member.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas C. Levesque



REPORT OF THE PRINCIPAL MERRIMACK HIGH SCHOOL

The High School administration continued to take steps to affect the school's climate positively in an effort to improve student learning. A new initiative, the Springboard for Success program, was designed to assist at-risk 8th grade students transitioning to the high school. This successful summer program was the product of collaboration among parents, students, teachers, and administrators and became a Gold Circle Award winner, recognizing its school partnerships and volunteer contributions that enhance the educational experience for kids.

Students at Merrimack High School continue to strive for academic success. Four students, Rachel Griffith, Emily Harris, Jarrad Kirsch and Ashley MacGuire were honored as Commended Scholars, and Adrianna K. Wolfe was declared a winner in National Merit Scholarship Program and received full scholarship from the University of Vermont. The daily average attendance rate increased to 96.1%, and the dropout rate dropped for the third consecutive year to 2.5%. Of the 381 seniors who graduated, 83% of the class continued their education after high school. Sixty-five percent (61%) entered a four-year college, and eighteen percent (22%) enrolled into a two-year college or sought other post-secondary education.

Our student body continues to excel on the state level and beyond in co-curricular and extra-curricular activities. Merrimack's US FIRST team earned honors in both regional and national competition and competed at the Verizon Center in state competition. In addition, MHS students were selected for the All-State Chamber Music Festival and the All-State Jazz Festival, while other music students were selected to perform with the All-State Chorus, Orchestra & Symphonic Band. MHS hosted the NH Educational Theater Guild Regional Festival of plays. The students performed "Helpless Doorknobs," written by JoAnn Wegman and directed by Tim L'Ecuyer. Mrs. Wegman also continued the tradition of "Empty Bowls," a fundraiser that collected monies for local food pantries.

The National Honor Society (NHS) included 50 members and continued its tradition of excellence by promoting several community service functions. Among these were the Teddy Bear Picnic first grade students and the Thanksgiving Dinner for senior citizens. The NHS also promoted new activities for senior citizens, including a Bowl-A-Thon and a candle making day, which took place at the senior center.

Several interscholastic athletic teams proceeded to post season competition. Led by John Snell, the Boys Spring Track team earned the title of State Champions. The

Indoor Track Sprint Medley team, comprised of Billy Godfrey, Sean Morrison, Ben Casey and Gabe Dano was 4th in the country and made "All American," Gabe also became State Champ in the 200 meter dash. On the girls' Indoor Track Team, the four by 800 meter relay team including Melissa Pelletier, Kate Albert, Shannon Peabody and Kelsey Peabody came in second in the state. The Co-Ed Spirit Team took second place in the state. In all, over 20 student-athletes were recognized as Scholar Athletes at the state level by the New Hampshire Commission on the Status of Women and the New Hampshire Athletic Directors' Association.

This year's Artist in Residence Program (AIRP) featured sculptor Emile Birch's completion of a kinetic sculpture entitled "Merrimack In Motion", now located in the foyer of the MHS cafeteria. Gateway students also participated in traditional activities including the Youth Day of Caring, "Students Helping Students Tutoring Program," Destination Imagination, the Rivier Challenge Program, Academic Decathlon, Granite State Challenge, multiple cultural events, and International Week. Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD) continued their work by helping to present an anti-drinking and driving program with the State Liquor Commissioner's Office and supported Red Ribbon week to discourage drug use by teens. Once again, Merrimack High School was chosen as a Blue Ribbon School; this marked the 16th consecutive year the honor was bestowed upon MHS.

Teachers also received special recognition. Wendy Otavsky, teacher of math, was given state recognition for her students' efforts on the Math AP exam; John Snell, Science Department Chair, was inducted into the NHIAA Hall of Fame; and Sean Muller, teacher of science, was the recipient of the No Bell Outstanding Teacher Award. Virginia Crook was honored on the national level for her work with the Junior Achievement program; Jeff Capone received regional honors for his videography project, "Star Sports"; and Tray Sleeper received a \$5000 grant from MIT for his bio-diesel project.

The year ended with an impressive graduation ceremony, honoring not only the Class of 2006, but also welcoming for all the Class of 2018 – the Merrimack School District's first kindergarten class.

Respectfully submitted,

Kenneth W. Johnson

MERRIMACK HIGH SCHOOL 2006 GRADUATES

- | | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| * Megan A. Abad | Stephen M. Connington | Gina M. Genet |
| *† Thomas D. Aborn | Sarah Jane Connor | Pejmon Ghanbari |
| Mitchell B. Adams | Alison B. Conrad | Ryan M. Giampietro |
| Erin Elizabeth Albert | *† Carolyn A. Correia | Rebecca L. Gleason |
| Eric D. Anderson | † Chantal R. Cote | Brian Gonzalez |
| Kevin S. Annis | Robert C. Cote | *† Kellie A. Goodridge |
| Nicole L. Anzalone | Courtney M. Cotter | Dominique Michelle |
| Shannon M. Arel | * Valerie A. Cotton | Goudreau |
| Taylorann M. Armstrong | Brian Coughlin | * Karoline Paes Goulart |
| Nicole Lynn Arsenault | Kevin Coughlin | Christopher Graham |
| Lindsay M. Audette | Kira Count | * Ashley E. Grant |
| Meghan Banach | Alisha L. Courtemanche | Ryann M. Grasso |
| Ryan Banfield | Alissa Danielle Couturier | Thomas Gray |
| Stanley Shannon Barnaby | Sarah Cunningham | * Lauren M. Greenland |
| Nolan Barrie | Noah Edward Curtis | Justyne Coville Griffin |
| Collin H. Barry | Jenna M. Daigle | * Rachel M. Griffith |
| Trevor Bauer | * Melinda N. Daigle | Robert J. Grosso |
| * Natasha Bazil | Richard T. Daigle | Katherine E. Grzesik |
| Kristen L. Beebe | Adam Damon | Andrew D. Guay |
| *† Rachel Leigh Behler | *† Zoë Carlene Dancy | Daniel R. Guichard |
| Kristine E. Bell | Michael S. Daravong | David T. Guimond, Jr. |
| Justin S. Belote | Julianne Frances Davis | Jonathan W. Haeck |
| Casey A. Benoit | Alyssa Day | Samantha K. Hafley |
| Kristen L. Bernard | Kelly H. Demers | Derek Ryan Haigler |
| Lyle Roger Blais | Kirin B. Denton | Ashley J. Hall |
| Nicolin S. Blanchard | Joanne M. DePietro | Alysson Dorissa Hamlin |
| Julie Marie Block | Andrew J. Deraney | Shawna Corrine Hanley |
| Katherine M. Bogdan | Nicole J. Deraps | Kevin D. Harder |
| Matthew T. Bomberg | Vanessa C. Devaney | *† Emily Rose Harris |
| *† Kendra A. Bonaccorsi | *† Nicholas D. Deveau | *† Jennifer M. Harshman |
| Graham R. Borden | Nicole M. Difraia | Douglas E. Hartfield |
| Lauren E. Boulay | † Katie Diggins | *† Juliana L. Hartley |
| Nicholas J. Bourgeois | Nicholas James DiOrio | Nathan A. Harvey |
| Meghann E. Bresnahan | Emily D. Ditman | Richard P. Hazen |
| Jessica D. Briand | Sean Downey | Brien S. Healey |
| Taylor J. Bronson | Mitchell T. Drapeau | Susan Heather Heaney |
| Danielle Brown | Samantha A. Drapeau | Ashley Anne Hicks |
| Jeffrey J. Brown | Mitchell T. Drapeau | Kari A. Hicks |
| Whitney Brown | Matthew K. Dubois | Jodi Ann Hill |
| Nathan Brunelle | Abby R. Dugas | Andrea D. Hoffman |
| Shawn M. Buchholz | Matthew F. Dumont | Alyssa K. Hornstein |
| Christopher R. Burnham | Carly Dawn Dupont | Stephanie M. Howe |
| Alisha L. Burns | Michele K. Duspiva | Tammy A. Huffman |
| Daniel Cafferty | Michael D. Dwyer | Chad Hughes |
| Casey V. Caggiula | Adam C. Eckmair | Michelle L. Hughes |
| Jessica Lynn Campbell | Tyler Edwards | * Elizabeth A. Hyam |
| Joseph A. Campo | * Taylor Naomi Engelsman | Kevin P. Illsley |
| Jason R. Capriotti | Natascha A. England | Nathan A. Irizarry |
| Ashley L. Carroll | Jennifer Eriquezzo | Natasha S. Janson |
| Kaylee R. Caruso | *† Abigail M. Feloney | Samantha K. Jean |
| Patrick W. Cassella | Daniel W. Fernandez | Daniel Jesseman |
| Morgan A. Cassidy | Alden Michael Finver | Ashley A. Johnson |
| Nicole L. Cassidy | Michael Fleming | Jared C. Jones |
| * Samantha J. Cassista | Corey Floyd | Justin T. Jones |
| Jenna M. Castranova | † Kelly A. Forster | * Jason Michael Joseph |
| Peter F. Cataldi | Kolleen Fortin | Michael P. Joseph |
| William R. Chaussee | *† James Christopher Fre- | * Sarah Judd |
| Michael Childs | dette | Craig R. Justason |
| Brett D. Clark | Rebecca I. Fredette | Craig R. Justason |
| Brian R. Clinghan | Jordan M. Fritz | Amanda L. Kahn |
| Michael J. Clinghan | Jaimie L. Frost | *† Allison S. Kanakis |
| Holly Cloonan | Stephen M. Frost | Stephen L. Kane |
| Scott F. Close | Mark R. Furey | Laura S. Katz |
| Timothy R. Cogan | Joshua D. Gallagher | * Tyler Colton Keay |
| Matthew S. Cohen | Heather Marie Gartner | Kevin M. Kelly |
| Jonathan M. Comrie | Maxwell Gausch | Evan J. Kennedy |

- *† Jarrad M. Kirsh
Mercedes K. Krimme
Nicholas G. Kuba
Elizabeth K. Kulikowski
Amanda E. Kuzmick
Keith J. LaBonte
Steven C. LaBonte
Amanda J. Labrie
Mark A. Lajoie II
James L. Lamb
Ryan K. Lambert
Randy Lamont
Thomas Paul Larvia, III
Daniel Lasala
Anthony James Lawrence
Ryan Leary
Brian J. Leclair
Cory B. Lemay
Rebecca A. Lennartz
Corissa M. Leonard
Meghan A. Leonard
- *† Brian J. Letourneau
* Kristin T. Levesque
Alicia A. Lewis
Nicole M. Lewis
Arthur D. Little
Ashley E. Long
* Ashley R. Loranger
† Ashley C. Lorrain
*† Michael LoVerme
Matthew P. Luksha
Melissa E. MacDonald
Russell M. MacDougall
* Ashley E. MacGuire
William G. MacLean
Thomas R. MacPherson
* Maria Dorothy Maglio
Kellie Mailloux
Danielle C. Maio
Michael J. Manhardt
Gregory John Mann
Matthew J. Manuele
Allison H. Marston
Molly B. Martel
- *† Elizabeth J. Martin
* Jarrod C. Martin
Ross A. Martin
James L. Marusz
Janelle E. Mathers
*† Loni Del Maughan
Amy E. Mauriello
Alicia A. Mazerall
† Chelsea A. McCosh
Kyle Thomas McGonagle
Alexander W. McHugh
Steven R. McKay
Brittany Marie McKenna
Jessica K. McLavey
David J. McLeod
Amanda J. McMenamin
Alexander R. McNally
Heather A. Merchant
Sherrin L. Miller
Robert T. Millett
Corey M. Mooney
Elizabeth N. Moore
Logan J. Moore
Rebecca D. Morin
Sean H. Morrison
- *† Clare Margreta Mulrey
Nicole Sarah Muzzey
Stephanie A. Myles
Eric C. Ngwa
Ryan J. Nunnerley
† Courtney A. O'Brien
Kendra O'Callaghan
*† Casey O'Neill
Elena I. Ortega
Jennifer J. Ouellette
Matthew R. Ozella
Naomi E.M. Paige
Mario A. Palermo
Troy Pallitto
Anna L. Paratore
Jarrad J. Parolisi
Tara J. Passwaters
Sukesh L. Pathak
* Gregory Adam Pavone
Marybeth C. Peddy
Melissa J. Pelletier
Samantha L. Pelletier
Daniel R. Pelrine
Ryan Matthew Perrigo
Kristin Lynn Petersen
Brandee L. Peterson
Joseph A. Peterson
Katherine Allison Phelps
Stephanie F. Pilkington
Andrea J. Pollock
- *† Stacey E. Poltack
Seleena A. Post
Colby Poulin
Trevor J. Prezlock
Kayla C. Provencher
Katherine A. Quinn
Jessica E. Raymond
Kristina M. Raymond
David J. Reali
Lindsay Kay Reardon
*† Julie Ann Reen
Ashley M. Rennie
* Courtney R. Reynolds
Bryce Rhodes
*† Olga Rizhevsky
Jason Roark
James Robarge
Kallie Robertson-Smith
Jason Michael Robinson
Michelle A. Rodriguez
Nicholas P. Rosa
Samuel P. Rose
Ellen Margaret Rothenberg
Jason G. Rowe
* Kelsey A. Roy
Kyle S. Roy
Justin G. Ruddock
* Megan M. Ruggiero
Jonathan P. Rung
* David T. Rutzke
Michael F. Saia
Noelle Arianna Saunders
David O. Schaller
† Melissa M. Schilke
Jacob Schofield
Amanda E. Schueler
* Kathleen A. Schwabe
*† Jade A. Schwalbe
Sarah E. Sculley
- Kathleen N. Sexton
* Megan M. Seymour
Cory E. Shanahan
*† Steven Shidlovsky
† David Philip Shimmel
Stephanie L. Simard
Nathan R. Sloper
Elizabeth A. Smith
Jeffrey P. Smith
Kyle M. Smith
Victoria H. Smith
Charles Erhart Smith, II
- *† Alyssa L. Snow
Ashley A. Snow
Kayla M. Sorli
* Aaron M. Sornson
*† Julie Marie Sousa
Kraig S. Southwick
Vanessa R. St-Amour
Heather A. Stevens
Cailin A. Sullivan
Shaun M. Sullivan
* Lauren M. Sweetland
Nargiza Sydykova
Melissa J. Symonds
Damian L. Tacito
Irakli Tavartkiladze
Lindsey A. Taylor
Christopher J. Tennant
* April C. Theroux
Ashley L. Tobin
James Tracey
* Kirsten Richel Trombley
Jonathan P. Tucker
Julie E. Upton
Kraig M. Van Dole
Michelle E. Varga
Melinda R. Vieira
Rodrigo T. Vieira
Kayla A. Vigneault
Julie A. Waisanen
Matthew T. Walker
* Alysa Wallace
Dustin A. Waller
Kenneth A. Waller
Jillian K. Walsh
Nichole R. Whatcott
Bryce C. Wilson
Craig Wilson
€ Nathan B. Wilson
Kellie A. Winch
* Adrianna Kathryn Wolfe
*† Adrian Wong
Albert Wong
Andrew A. Wright
Benjamin R. Wyatt
* David A. Wynn
Crystal A. Yule
* Allison E. Yuse
Laura M. Zale
Jacob D. Zwart

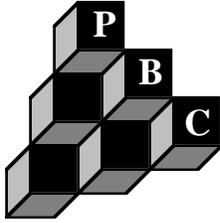
† National Honor Society

* Top 15%

€ Automotive Technology Honors

Members of the Merrimack High School Class of 2006 were accepted at the following institutions of higher learning:

American International College (MA)
American University (DC)
Arizona State University (AZ)
Armstrong Atlantic State University (GA)
Art Institute of Boston @ Lesley College (MA)
Assumption College (MA)
Augustana College (IL)
Babson College (MA)
Bates College (ME)
Bentley College (MA)
Boston College (MA)
Boston University (MA)
Brandeis University (MA)
Bridgewater State College (MA)
Brigham Young University (UT)
Brigham Young University (ID)
Brown University (RI)
Bryant University (RI)
Carnegie Mellon University (PA)
Cazenovia College (NY)
Central Connecticut State University (CT)
Champlain College (VT)
Christopher Newport University (VA)
Clarkson University (NY)
Clemson University (SC)
Coastal Carolina University (SC)
Colby College (ME)
Colby Sawyer College (NH)
Colorado State University (CO)
Columbia College Chicago (IL)
Columbia University (NY)
Curry College (MA)
Daniel Webster College (NH)
Daytona Beach College (FL)
Dean College (MA)
Dowling College (NY)
Drexel University (PA)
East Carolina State University (NC)
East Stroudsburg University of Pennsylvania (PA)
Eastern Nazarene College (MA)
Eckerd College (FL)
Elmira College (NY)
Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University (AZ)
Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University (FL)
Emerson College (MA)
Emmanuel College (MA)
Endicott College (MA)
Fairfield University (CT)
Fairleigh Dickinson University (NJ)
Fisher College (MA)
Fitchburg State College (MA)
Florida Institute of Technology (FL)
Florida South University (FL)
Florida Southern College (FL)
Florida State University (FL)
Framingham State College (MA)
Franklin Pierce College (NH)
George Washington University (DC)
Georgetown University (DC)
Gordon College (MA)
Goucher College (MD)
Hampshire College (MA)
Hesser College (NH)
Hofstra University (NY)
Houghton College (NY)
Ithaca College (NY)
James Madison University (VA)
Johnson & Wales University (RI)
Johnson State College (VT)
Keene State College (NH)
Lasell College (MA)
Louisiana Tech Union (LA)
Lyndon State College (VT)
MA College of Pharmacy & Health Sciences (MA)
Marist College (NY)
Marymount Manhattan College (NY)
Massachusetts College of Art (MA)
Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MA)
Merrimack College (MA)
Messiah College (PA)
Mississippi State University (MS)
Mount Ida College (MA)
Mt. Holyoke College (MA)
New College of Florida (FL)
New England College (NH)
New Hampshire Technical Institute (NH)
New York University (NY)
NHCTC - Laconia (NH)
NHCTC - Manchester (NH)
NHCTC - Nashua (NH)
NHCTC - Stratham (NH)
Nichols College (MA)
North Country College of Essex & Franklin (NY)
Northeastern University (MA)
Northern Michigan University (MI)
Norwich University (VT)
Pennsylvania State University (PA)
Pikes Peak Community College (CO)
Plymouth State University (NH)
Pratt Institute (NY)
Providence College (RI)
Quinnipiac University (CT)
Radford University (VA)
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (NY)
Rhode Island College (RI)
Rhode Island School of Design (RI)
Rhodes College (TN)
Rider University (NJ)
Rivier College (NH)
Roanoke College (VA)
Rochester Institute of Technology (NY)
Roger Williams University (RI)
Rutgers, State University of New Jersey (NJ)
Sacred Heart University (CT)
Saint Anselm College (NH)
Salem State College (MA)
Salve Regina University (RI)
Savannah College of Art and Design (GA)
School of the Museum of Fine Arts (MA)
School of Visual Arts (NY)
Simmons College (MA)
Skidmore College (NY)
Southern Connecticut State University (CT)
Southern New Hampshire University (NH)
Springfield College (MA)
St. Joseph's College of Maine (ME)
St. Joseph's School of Nursing (NH)
St. Michael's College (VT)
Stonehill College (MA)
Suffolk University (MA)
Susquehanna University (PA)
Syracuse University (NY)
Temple University (PA)
Tri State University (IN)
Tufts University (MA)
Tulane University (LA)
U.S. Military Academy @ West Point (NY)
U.S. Naval Academy (MD)
Union College (NY)
University of Arizona (AZ)
University of Central Florida (FL)
University of Colorado (CO)
University of Connecticut (CT)
University of Delaware (DE)
University of Hartford (CT)
University of Illinois at Chicago (IL)
University of Maine - Orono (ME)
University of Massachusetts - Amherst (MA)
University of Massachusetts - Boston (MA)
University of Massachusetts - Dartmouth (MA)
University of Massachusetts - Lowell (MA)
University of New England (ME)
University of New Hampshire (NH)
University of New Hampshire - Manchester (NH)
University of New Haven (CT)
University of North Carolina - Charlotte (NC)
University of North Carolina - Greensboro (NC)
University of North Carolina - Wilmington (NC)
University of North Florida (FL)
University of North Texas (TX)
University of Rhode Island (RI)
University of South Florida (FL)
University of Southern Maine (ME)
University of Tampa (FL)
University of Utah (UT)
University of Vermont (VT)
University of Western Kentucky (KY)
University of West Florida (FL)
University of Wyoming (WY)
Vermont Technical College (VT)
Vet Tech Institute, Pittsburgh (PA)
Virginia Tech (VA)
Wentworth Institute of Technology (MA)
Wesleyan University (CT)
West Virginia University (WV)
West Virginia Wesleyan College (WV)
Western New England College (MA)
Western State College of Colorado (CO)
Westminster College (UT)
Wheaton College (MA)
Wilmington College (DE)
Worcester Polytechnic Institute (MA)
York College of Pennsylvania (PA)



PLANNING & BUILDING COMMITTEE
Merrimack School District
<http://www.isone.com/~merrpbc>

Report to the Citizens of Merrimack
March 2007

The Planning and Building Committee is chartered with providing long term strategic planning for the Merrimack School District. It is the only such committee in the state whose members are elected.

The Committee is pleased to report that the Technology Warrant article that it spearheaded last year passed by a wide margin.

In response to the elimination of parking lot attendant positions at the high school, the Committee met with police, parents and school officials during the summer. Before the start of the school year, the Committee presented a recommendation to the School Board that ultimately led to the reinstatement of these positions at no cost to the taxpayers. The Committee is still working on additional traffic and parking recommendations for the high school.

Members of the Committee worked with school officials to develop the energy conservation program on the ballot this spring. If passed, the Committee will spend much of next year revising the schedule of projects in the District's Capital Improvement Plan, including proposed renovations at the James Masticola Upper Elementary School.

In other work, the Committee website has been brought up to date. Members of the public can find minutes, reports and other information about the work of the Committee on this site.

The Planning and Building Committee appreciates your continued support and participation. Our meetings are casual and open to the public. We welcome your comments and suggestions.

Sincerely,

Stan Heinrich, Chair

Merrimack School District
ANNUAL SCHOOL DISTRICT MEETING
Session 1: Deliberation
March 9, 2006

Present: School Board members: Ken Coleman, David Denton, George Markwell, Emily Coburn, and Rose Robertson-Smith; Superintendent Marjorie Chiafery; Assistant Superintendent Deborah Woelflein; Business Administrator Matthew Shevenell; and Legal Counsel Eugene Van Loan.

At 7:05 PM, Moderator Carolyn Whitlock called the meeting to order and led the body in the Pledge of Allegiance. Mrs. Whitlock asked Mr. Coleman, Chair of the School Board, to introduce the School Board and officials seated on stage. She asked Stan Heinrich, Chair of both the School District Planning and Building Committee and the Budget Committee, to introduce the members of each committee. In addition to introductions, Mr. Heinrich asked the body to acknowledge Planning and Building Committee member Carol Morrison and Budget Committee members Nancy Gagnon, John Grady and Bob Kelley who were not seeking re-election. Mrs. Whitlock acknowledged the Assistant Moderators, the Supervisors of the Checklist, the Ballot Inspectors, the School District Clerk, and the School District staff for their efforts in preparation for the meeting. Mrs. Whitlock recognized Mr. Heinrich who reminded the voters of the Annual Water District Meeting on March 28th. Mrs. Whitlock then made several announcements regarding voting on April 11th and explained the procedures that would be followed during the meeting.

Mrs. Whitlock read the warrant, stated Article 1 was election of officers, which would take place by official ballot on April 11th and read Article 2.

Article 2: Shall the Merrimack School Board be authorized to accept on behalf of the District, without further action by the voters, gifts, legacies and devises of personal or real property which may become available to the District during the fiscal year? (Majority vote required). (Recommended by the School Board Vote: 5-0-0).

Mrs. Whitlock recognized Mr. Coleman who moved Article 2 as printed. Second: Mr. Markwell. Mr. Coleman spoke to his motion. He told the body that this was a standard housekeeping article, which would allow the School Board to accept gifts, legacies and donations, which might become available during the next year.

Mrs. Whitlock called for discussion on the article. There was none. Mrs. Whitlock declared Article 2 moved to the ballot and read Article 3.

Article 3: Shall the District vote to approve the cost items included in the collective bargaining agreement reached between the Merrimack School Board and the Merrimack Educational Support Staff which calls for the following increases in salaries and benefits:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Estimated Increase</u>
2006-2007	\$279,195
2007-2008	\$287,990
2008-2009	\$298,602

and raise and appropriate the sum of \$279,195 for the 2006-2007 fiscal year, such sum representing the 2006-2007 costs attributable to the increase in salaries and benefits described above over those of the 2005-2006 fiscal year? (Majority Vote Required). (Recommended by the School Board Vote: 4-1-0). (Recommended by the Budget Committee Vote: 13-1-0).

Mrs. Whitlock recognized Mrs. Coburn, who moved Article 3 as printed. Second: Mrs. Robertson-Smith. Mrs. Coburn spoke to her motion. She stated this article is a three-year contract for the support staff. She explained that the contract covers all para-educators, instructional assistants, Title I tutors, library assistants, maintenance and custodial workers, secretarial staff, and lunchroom workers. She stated the contract provides for a 3.95% pay increase for the first year, and a 3.75% pay increase for each of the second and third years. She stated the tax impact for the first year would be 11¢ per \$1,000 of valuation. She also stated the contract includes a three year transition period during which the employee health insurance contribution will change from 20% of the Blue Cross Indemnity JY plan to 10% of the Point of Service Blue Choice Plan.

Mrs. Whitlock called for discussion on the article. There was none. Mrs. Whitlock declared Article 3 moved to the ballot.

Mr. Heinrich made a MOTION to restrict reconsideration of Article 3. Second: Rick Barnes (Lawrence Road). Mrs. Whitlock called for a vote on the motion and declared the MOTION PASSED and reconsideration of Article 3 restricted.

Mrs. Whitlock read Article 4.

Article 4: Shall the District, if Article 3 is defeated, authorize the School Board to call one special meeting, at its option, to address Article 3 cost items only? (Majority vote required). (Recommended by the School Board Vote: 4-1-0).

Mrs. Whitlock recognized Mrs. Robertson-Smith, who moved Article 4 as printed. Second: Mr. Denton. Mrs. Robertson-Smith spoke to her motion. She stated that this article gives the School District the ability to hold a special meeting to discuss cost items only, without the need to petition the Superior Court, if Article 4 fails. She stated this article has no tax impact.

Mrs. Whitlock called for discussion on the article.

Mr. Markwell stated he was the vote against recommending this article. He stated if the contract fails, he felt that the issue should not be re-addressed.

There was no further discussion. Mrs. Whitlock declared Article 4 moved to the ballot and read Article 5.

Article 5 (Special Warrant Article): Shall the District raise and appropriate the sum of \$650,000 for the purpose of the installation of a fire sprinkler system for the Masticola Complex and renovations at Masticola Upper Elementary School to include the replacement of ceiling tiles and lighting in the hallways and fund said

appropriation by withdrawing \$400,000 from the James Mastricola Upper Elementary School and James Mastricola Elementary School Renovation Fund created for that purpose with the balance of \$250,000 coming from general taxation? (Majority vote required). (Recommended by the School Board Vote: 5-0-0). (Recommended by the Budget Committee Vote: 11-0-0).

Mrs. Whitlock recognized Mr. Markwell, who moved Article 5 as printed. Second: Mr. Coleman. Mr. Markwell spoke to his motion. He stated this renovation was mandated by the Fire Department. He said there was currently \$400,000 in the Renovation Fund and this article raises an additional \$250,000 through taxation of fund the remaining costs for this renovation. He further stated the renovation also included replacing ceiling tiles and lights.

Mrs. Whitlock called for discussion on the article.

Assistant Fire Chief Dave Parenti told the body that the initial renovation to convert the old middle school to an upper elementary school triggered a provision in the state fire code requiring the installation of sprinklers. He said the School Board was notified of this and that they had requested a temporary waiver. The Fire Department agreed to the waiver as long as no other renovations are done to the upper elementary school before sprinklers are installed.

Mr. Heinrich stated that the original plan had called for this renovation to be fully funded last year, but due to budget constraints the renovation had been delayed.

Carol Morrison (Maidstone Drive) stated that the Mastricola complex schools are the only Merrimack schools, which do not have sprinklers.

Pat Daniels (Turkey Hill Road) asked if \$400,000 was the current total in the Renovation Fund. Mr. Coleman replied it was.

Davis Powell (Greatstone Drive) asked what the state would do if the article fails and the renovation is not done. Assistant Chief Parenti stated the state could shut down both schools.

Tom Koenig (Danforth Road) asked if the article fails, did the School Board still have the authority to do the renovations. Mr. Coleman stated if the article failed, he felt the School Board could transfer funds from other areas of the budget to accomplish the renovation, if funds could be found. However, they entire \$650,000 would have to be found as the School Board cannot access the money in the Renovation Fund without a vote of the public.

Mr. Heinrich stated he believed that RSA 32 was recently changed to state if a warrant article fails, anything specified in that warrant article cannot be accomplished through the operating budget.

Dennis King (Derry Street) asked for the cost of this article to the taxpayer. Mr. Markwell stated the article would cost 10¢ per \$1,000 of valuation.

There was no further discussion. Mrs. Whitlock declared Article 5 moved to the ballot and read Article 6.

Article 6 (Petitioned Warrant Article): Shall the District raise and appropriate the sum of \$146,200 for the purpose of providing technology upgrades for Merrimack High School to include the replacement of all Windows 98 computers? (Majority vote required). (Recommended by the School Board Vote: 4-0-0). (Recommended by the Budget Committee Vote: 10-1-0).

Mrs. Whitlock recognized Jody Vaillancourt (Coleman Path) who moved Article 6 as printed. Second: Shannon Barnes (Lawrence Road). Mrs. Vaillancourt spoke to her motion.

She stated the technology upgrades included in this warrant article are part of the District 2005-2011 Technology Plan which has been approved by the state Department of Education and that this article was endorsed by the School District Planning and Building Committee. She said the article includes purchasing 132 Windows XP computers to replace the Windows 98 computers, 30 laser printers to replace inkjet printers, and 9 ceiling mounted presentation systems to complete an initiative that was started several years ago to equip each high school instructional space.

Mrs. Whitlock called for discussion on the article.

Mrs. Barnes stated she was a member of the Planning and Building Committee. She said she hoped people would realize the failure of this article would only put off something, which will have to be purchased eventually.

Laurie Rothhaus (Kittredge Lane) stated she was also a member of the Planning and Building Committee. She said Windows 98 computers are three generations old and should be to be replaced sooner rather than later.

Wayne Morrison (Maidstone Drive) stated that Windows 98 is no longer supported by Microsoft and represents a security risk to the District's computers.

Mr. King asked if anyone had looked for corporate sponsor, such as Digital. He suggested that possibly discounts were available for school purchases.

Mr. Barnes said that the middle school has Windows XP computers, which means students going to the high school are taking two steps backward. He stated Windows 98 computers cannot be upgraded.

Mrs. Morrison stated she was also a member of the Planning and Building Committee and told the body that Digital no longer exists and the company that bought Digital has moved out of town. She stated she did not think it was a business' responsibility to provide school materials. She further stated that the Windows 98 computers would not support Power School, a program that is used by teachers, students and parents.

Jim Smalley (Ellie Drive) stated a new version of XP was scheduled for release soon and suggested the District wait until then to purchase new computers. Mr. Coleman thanked him for his suggestion.

Stan Bonislowski (Stearns Lane) stated he was the Budget Committee member who voted against recommending this article. He said he did this as a protest because he felt that the technology was needed but since this item had been pulled from the operating budget by the Administration and pulled as a warrant article by the School Board, he felt they didn't consider this a priority.

Jim Allen (Iris Drive) suggested the District buy the XP computers with upgradeable software. He also wanted to be sure the District went out to bid for this purchase and that any computers purchased would be networkable.

Mike Thompson (Joppa Road) stated that Microsoft offers excellent discounts for schools and he suggested the District not purchase the new XP until the version is completely vetted. He suggested the District purchase the current XP with software assurance so it can upgrade to new version without additional fees.

Mr. King acknowledged that Digital has moved, but still felt the idea of approaching corporations to purchase items such as this was a good one.

There was no further discussion. Mrs. Whitlock declared Article 6 moved to the ballot.

Mr. Coleman clarified that further review had shown that Mr. Heinrich was correct regarding Article 5. If that article fails, the District would not be able to install sprinklers using funds from the operating budget.

Mrs. Whitlock read Article 7.

Article 7 (Petitioned Warrant Article): If the Town votes to accept the proposed Merrimack Charter, thereby doing away with the current Municipal Budget Committee, shall the voters adopt RSA 32:15 (Municipal Budget Act) with respect to the Merrimack School District? The initial composition of the new Budget Committee shall continue with the present personnel until their current term expires. If the Charter Article fails, this article becomes null and void.

Mrs. Whitlock recognized Norman Phillips (Edwards Lane) who noted there was an error in the printed version of Article 7. He moved Article 7 with the RSA reference that was contained in the original petition as follows:

Article 7 (Petitioned Warrant Article): If the Town votes to accept the proposed Merrimack Charter, thereby doing away with the current Municipal Budget Committee, shall the voters adopt RSA 32:14 (Municipal Budget Act) with respect to the Merrimack School District? The initial composition of the new Budget Committee shall continue with the present personnel until their current term expires. If the Charter Article fails, this article becomes null and void.

Second: Mr. King. Mr. Phillips spoke to his motion. He stated that if passed, the Town Charter does away with the Budget Committee. He said the sole purpose of the Budget Committee is to advise the voters and it is independent of the governing body. He said he felt the voters should have a chance to decide if they wanted a Budget Committee, independent of the provisions of the Town Charter.

Mr. King stated that oversight is good and though the proposed Charter does away with the Budget Committee, this article keeps the Budget Committee for the School District.

Mr. Heinrich stated the Budget Committee is made up of 12 elected members, each of whom offer different perspectives on any budget issue. He stated that the Committee hasn't made too many changes to proposed budgets because School Administrators know the Budget Committee provides checks and balances to the process.

Carol Lang (Wilson Hill Road) stating having Budget Committee oversight results in a better end product.

Tim Tenhave (Souhegan Drive) asked if legal counsel had reviewed the article. He stated he was concerned that none of the provisions of RSA 32 allow for a school district wholly within a town to establish its own Budget Committee. Mr. Coleman stated the School District counsel believed this to be a legal article. Mr. Phillips stated the article was written with input from the Department of Revenue Administration.

Mr. Thompson spoke against this article and said the Budget Committee process takes a lot of staff time that could be better spent with the students.

Anita Memos (Bedford Road) said that department heads preparing a budget they knew would be undergoing close scrutiny was a good thing.

Mr. Phillips responded to Mr. Thompson's comments by saying he did not think the amount of time that department heads spent with the Budget Committee was onerous.

Heather Anderson (Peaslee Road) stated she felt the amount of time administrators spent on budgetary matters could be better spent on voter approved projects. She also noted that the Budget Committee had made no changes to the budget proposed by the School Board.

Mr. Denton called the question. Mrs. Whitlock ruled those waiting in line could speak

Mr. Phillips responded to Ms. Anderson's comments by stating he hoped administrators were doing more than just working on budget issues.

Bob Kelley (Birchwood Drive) called the question.

Mr. Markwell corrected Ms. Anderson's statement regarding the Budget Committee changes to the proposed budget by noting the Budget Committee had added \$2. Mr. Coleman stated the Budget Committee had re-instated two budget lines by putting \$1 in each.

Mrs. Whitlock declared Article 7 moved to the ballot.

Mr. Coleman asked the body to recognize Mr. Denton who would be retiring from the School Board. Mr. Denton received a standing ovation from the body.

Mrs. Whitlock read Article 8.

Article 8: Shall the 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 \$57,334,325? (Should this article be defeated, the operating budget shall be \$57,826,131 which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the 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)? (Majority vote required). (Recommended by the School Board Vote: 4-1-0). (Recommended by the Budget Committee Vote: 11-0-0). Note: This warrant article (operating budget) does not include appropriations in ANY other warrant articles.

Mrs. Whitlock recognized Mr. Heinrich who moved Article 8 as written. Second: Mr. Phillips. Mr. Heinrich stated the proposed budget has a net reduction of 11 employees and no new positions. He stated the Budget Committee was concerned about the following areas in the budget that had been cut by the School Board:

- Security cameras at Reeds Ferry School. The Budget Committee added \$1 to the budget to reinstate this line should additional funding become available.
- Physical education mats at Reeds Ferry School. The Budget Committee added \$1 to the budget to reinstate this line should additional funding become available.
- Parking lot attendants at Merrimack High School. The Committee was told that the high school would still be collecting parking fees and some type of enforcement

plan will be developed. The School Board left \$1 in this line.

Mr. Heinrich noted the District has over 700 employees and that health insurance costs have increased by 17.4%. He stated the budget included funds for a new 14 passenger van to be used by the Special Education department. He said this vehicle addressed safety concerns with the current van. He noted decreased transportation costs because the District will be using more large buses. He also noted increased fuel and utility costs. He stated the District goes to bid with the town to get the best possible fuel price. He concluded that the default budget is higher than the proposed budget.

Mrs. Whitlock called for discussion on the article.

Linda Theroux (Patten Road) asked for clarification regarding which budget figure was being proposed by the Budget Committee. Mr. Coleman replied \$57,334,325. Mrs. Theroux asked what amount had been initially proposed by the Administration and initially proposed by the School Board. Mr. Coleman replied \$58,099,722 and \$57,334,323 respectively. Mrs. Theroux asked what impact cutting eleven employees would have on student/teacher ratios. Mr. Coleman replied that enrollments have gone down, so there will only be a minimal impact. He stated the student/teacher ratios would still be below the state maximum standards in all cases. Mrs. Theroux asked if World History is a class mandated by state standards. Mr. Coleman stated it was not. Mrs. Wolflein stated that the state standard is that each student take a world history or geography course before graduation. Mrs. Theroux asked about the high school internship program. Mrs. Chiafery stated the internship coordinator was one of the positions cut and that the Administration is hoping to meet the needs of this program using other staff. Mrs. Whitlock asked Mrs. Theroux to finish her comments or go the end of the line if she had additional comments.

Mr. Denton stated he voted against recommending this article because he felt the default budget resulted in more money for the District.

Mr. King questioned the need for the new middle school and stated the operating budget has increased substantially since 2000. He asked why budgets have increased if enrollments are down. Mrs. Whitlock asked him to focus his questions on the proposed budget.

Hiedi Doyon (Backriver Road) asked how many staff would be retiring. Mr. Coleman replied 14 teachers have made retirement requests and, as required by the contract, 7 requests were approved. He stated more requests might be approved after April 15th. Mrs. Doyon asked an explanation of monies spent for capital projects this year. Mr. Shevenell stated that \$200,000 from the Pavement Capital Reserve Fund was used to pave the parking lot behind Masticola Elementary School and \$200,000 was approved by the voters for deposit into the Masticola Renovation Fund.. Mrs. Doyon asked about the default budget. Mr. Coleman clarified the process by which the default budget is created. Mrs. Doyon asked for a total student enrollment figure. Mrs. Chiafery replied 4,800 students. Mrs. Doyon stated her concern that a vast majority of the tax bill goes toward the schools.

Rick Barnes (Lawrence Road) stated that the proposed budget, though lower than the default budget, is still 1.9% higher than the current budget. He felt with enrollment down, fewer staff would be needed.

Mrs. Theroux requested that if the proposed budget fails, the School Board use the additional funds in the default budget to reinstate the internship coordinator position.

Kim White (Back River Road) asked if the default budget passes, would the School Board use the additional funds to retain the staff positions it has cut. Mr. Denton stated he could not guarantee this.

Mr. Thompson stated the District's salaries would seem to be in line with surrounding communities and suggested the School District look into ways to decrease the cost of benefits. He also stated he disagreed with some of the items that were included in the default budget.

Jennifer Twardosky (Gail Road) stated the problem is not teacher salaries and benefits. She asked about the "District In Need of Improvement" status. Mr. Coleman explained that the District has made significant improvement in the areas of concern and that the flaw in the "No Child Left Behind" law, which holds Special Education students to the same standard as all other students, is being corrected. He stated that virtually every other school district in the state is a District In Need of Improvement. He further noted that 68.8% of the operating budget is directly spent in the classroom and that 74% of the operating budget is for salaries and benefits. He stated much of the rest of the budget covers non-discretionary items like transportation, Special Education, Debt Service and Utility costs.

Jim Roy (Belmont Drive) stated he was President of the Merrimack Teachers Association. He asked voters to compare Merrimack with other communities in regards to salaries, benefits, per pupil cost, and percentage of Special Education students. He stated that, with the passage of the support staff contract, all employees would be contributing something toward their health care plan. He spoke in favor of the Default budget and stated that loss of staff will result in larger class sizes.

Rosemary Rung (Ministerial Drive) complimented Mr. Roy's teaching ability and thanked Mr. Coleman for his explanation of the District in Need of Improvement status. She asked what impact the recent decision in the suit regarding the current state funding of education might have on the proposed budget. Mr. Coleman stated he thought there would be no additional state aid in the next fiscal year.

Mrs. Barnes asked if any of the 11 staff whose positions are slated to be cut might take the place of staff that are retiring. Mr. Coleman stated this might occur. Mrs. Barnes asked about class sizes. Mr. Coleman stated that, though some classes are approaching the maximum size (30 students/1 teacher), no class would be above it. Mrs. Barnes asked if the District offered any "alternative" A-P classes. Mr. Coleman stated that the Administration is investigating this idea.

Dan O'Donnell (Cathy Street) stated that "No Child Left Behind" is an unfunded federal mandate that has created a lot of anguish. He stated a concern for the high school accreditation.

Mrs. Twardosky stated that she had information that showed that the student/teacher ratio was 13.7/1. She also stated that Hollis and Londonderry are not Districts In Need of Improvement. She asked if the budget reflected the costs of repairs for roof leaks at the middle school and the sewer issues related to the construction of the middle school. Mr. Coleman stated that \$240,000 had been withheld from the

contractor until these issues were addressed and that no operating funds would be used to deal with either issue. Mr. Coleman stated the sewer line is working just fine and there are engineering studies currently underway to determine if there was any design issues. Mrs. Whitlock asked Mrs. Twardosky to finish her comments or go the end of the line if she had additional comments. Mr. Markwell asked where Mrs. Twardosky had gotten her information about the roof leaks. Mrs. Whitlock suggested that this question could be answered if Mrs. Twardosky spoke again.

Lon Woods (Arbor Street) called the question. As several people were waiting to speak, Mrs. Whitlock ruled that discussion would continue, but asked that no one else join the line.

Mr. Bonislowski stated that if Article 5 & 6 had been placed in the proposed operating budget, it would be the same amount as the proposed default budget.

Mr. Thompson clarified that he was not asking the District to change benefits; he was requesting that the District think outside the box to reduce the cost of the benefits. Mrs. Coburn stated that both the teachers' and the support staff contracts have provisions to revisit health insurance issues.

Sharon Kolb (Sharon Avenue) stated the School Board had made a good faith effort to present a proper budget and she urged people to support it.

Mr. Roy clarified the student/teacher ratio of 13/1 mentioned by Mrs. Twardosky includes all certified teachers currently employed by the District, not just classroom teachers. He noted as example that guidance counselors are certified teachers, but they do not teach any classes.

Mrs. Twardosky told Mr. Markwell that everyone knows about the middle school roof leaks. She said the public wants answers about the middle school roof. Mr. Coleman stated this was a temporary leak, due to ice build-up on the flat roof. Mr. Shevenell stated any current issues with the roof are under warranty. Mrs. Twardosky asked if the warranty would be revoked since the school was built in wetlands. Mrs. Whitlock asked Mr. Shevenell if there were any funds for roof repair or sewer work in the proposed operating budget. Mr. Shevenell stated there were not. Mrs. Whitlock ruled Mrs. Twardosky's question out of order.

There was no further discussion. Mrs. Whitlock declared Article 8 moved to the ballot.

Mr. Heinrich made a MOTION to adjourn. Duly Seconded. Mrs. Whitlock thanked the body for being courteous and kind, and declared the meeting adjourned at 9:39 PM.

Session 2: Ballot Voting

April 11, 2006

The Town Moderator and Assistant Town Moderators opened the polls at 7:00 AM. At 8:00 PM, the Moderator and the Assistant Moderators closed the polls and allowed those present to finish voting.

At 9:00 PM after results were tallied, School District Moderator Carolyn Whitlock announced 6,719 voters have cast ballots with the following results:

School Board – three years, two seats

Richard Barnes – 2,561 votes
Kenneth Coleman – 2,344 votes
Jennifer Thornton – 3,726 votes
Jody Vaillancourt – 3,027 votes
Miscellaneous – 10 votes

Jennifer Thornton and Jody Vaillancourt were declared elected.

Planning & Building Committee – three years, three seats

Richard Hendricks – 3,528 votes
Finlay Rothhaus – 3,908 votes
Miscellaneous – 42 votes

Richard Hendricks and Finlay Rothhaus were declared elected.

Article 2: Yes – 5,327 votes No – 1,143 votes.

Article 2 was declared passed.

Article 3: Yes – 3,322 votes No – 3,129 votes

Article 3 was declared passed.

Article 4: Yes – 3,401 votes No – 1,931 votes

Article 4 was declared passed.

Article 5: Yes – 4,530 votes No – 1,9312 votes

Article 5 was declared passed.

Article 6: Yes – 3,604 votes No – 2,768 votes

Article 6 was declared passed.

Article 7: Yes – 3,921 votes No – 2,049 votes

Article 7 was declared passed.

Article 8: Yes – 4,547 votes No – 1,798 votes

Article 8 was declared passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Heinrich
School District Clerk



PLODZIK & SANDERSON

Professional Association/Accountants & Auditors

193 North Main Street • Concord • New Hampshire • 03301-5063 • 603-225-6996 • FAX-224-1380

REPORT ON COMPLIANCE WITH REQUIREMENTS APPLICABLE TO EACH MAJOR PROGRAM AND INTERNAL CONTROL OVER COMPLIANCE IN ACCORDANCE WITH OMB CIRCULAR A-133

To the Members of the School Board
Merrimack School District
Merrimack, New Hampshire

Compliance

We have audited the compliance of the Merrimack School District with the types of compliance requirements described in the *U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circular A-133 Compliance Supplement* that are applicable to its major federal program for the year ended June 30, 2006. The Merrimack School District's major federal program is identified in the summary of auditor's results section of the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs. Compliance with the requirements of laws, regulations, contracts and grants applicable to its major federal program is the responsibility of the Merrimack School District's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Merrimack School District's compliance based on our audit.

We conducted our audit of compliance in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America; the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; and OMB Circular A-133, *Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations*. Those standards and OMB Circular A-133 require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether noncompliance with the types of compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on a major federal program occurred. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence about the Merrimack School District's compliance with those requirements and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion. Our audit does not provide a legal determination on the Merrimack School District's compliance with those requirements.

In our opinion, the Merrimack School District complied, in all material respects, with the requirements referred to above that are applicable to its major federal program for the year ended June 30, 2006.

Internal Control Over Compliance

The management of the Merrimack School District is responsible for establishing and maintaining effective internal control over compliance with requirements of laws, regulations, contracts and grants applicable to federal programs. In planning and performing our audit, we considered the Merrimack School District's internal control over compliance with requirements that could have a direct and material effect on a major federal program in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on compliance and to test and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with OMB Circular A-133.

Our consideration of the internal control over compliance would not necessarily disclose all matters in the internal control that might be material weaknesses. A material weakness is a reportable condition in which the design or operation of one or more of the internal control components does not reduce to a relatively low level the risk that noncompliance with applicable requirements of laws, regulations, contracts and grants caused by error or fraud that would be material in relation to a major federal program being audited may occur and not be detected within a timely period by employees in the normal course of performing their assigned functions. We noted no matters involving the internal control over compliance and its operation that we consider to be material weaknesses.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of management, the school board, and federal awarding agencies and pass-through entities and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Gregory A. Colby, CPA

PLODZIK & SANDERSON
Professional Association

August 25, 2006

EXHIBIT C-1
MERRIMACK SCHOOL DISTRICT
Balance Sheet
Governmental Funds
June 30, 2006

ASSETS	General	Grants	High School Building	Middle School	Expendable Trust	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 2,904,450	-	\$ 130,010	\$ 238,020	-	\$ 122,634	\$ 3,395,114
Investments	609,000	-	-	-	-	24,295	633,295
Receivables:							
Accounts	92,122	-	-	-	-	6,655	98,777
Intergovernmental	-	295,265	-	-	1,403,115	12,495	1,710,875
Interfund receivable	273,675	-	-	-	-	-	273,675
Total assets	<u>\$ 3,879,247</u>	<u>\$ 295,265</u>	<u>\$ 130,010</u>	<u>\$ 238,020</u>	<u>\$ 1,403,115</u>	<u>\$ 166,079</u>	<u>\$ 6,111,736</u>
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES							
Liabilities:							
Accounts payable	\$ 121,189	\$ 151,600	-	-	-	\$ 3	\$ 272,792
Contracts payable	-	-	-	238,020	-	-	238,020
Interfund payable	-	143,665	130,010	-	-	-	273,675
Total liabilities	<u>121,189</u>	<u>295,265</u>	<u>130,010</u>	<u>238,020</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>784,487</u>
Fund balances:							
Reserved for encumbrances	50,000	-	-	-	-	-	50,000
Reserved for special purposes	-	-	-	-	1,403,115	-	1,403,115
Unreserved, undesignated, reported in:							
General fund	3,708,058	-	-	-	-	-	3,708,058
Special revenue funds	-	-	-	-	-	166,076	166,076
Total fund balances	<u>3,758,058</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,403,115</u>	<u>166,076</u>	<u>5,327,249</u>
Total liabilities and fund balances	<u>\$ 3,879,247</u>	<u>\$ 295,265</u>	<u>\$ 130,010</u>	<u>\$ 238,020</u>	<u>\$ 1,403,115</u>	<u>\$ 166,079</u>	<u>\$ 6,111,736</u>

The notes to the basic financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

EXHIBIT C-3
MERRIMACK SCHOOL DISTRICT
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances
Governmental Funds
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2006

	General	Grants	High School Building	Middle School	Expendable Trust	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
Revenues:							
School district assessment	\$ 35,837,671	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 35,837,671
Other local	812,750	-	3,661	-	49,051	1,240,212	2,105,674
State	17,013,268	5,550	-	-	-	18,689	17,037,507
Federal	452,866	1,510,695	-	-	-	222,567	2,186,128
Total revenues	54,116,555	1,516,245	3,661	-	49,051	1,481,468	57,166,980
Expenditures:							
Current:							
Instruction	25,752,529	1,516,245	-	-	-	203	27,268,977
Support services:							
Student	2,658,721	-	-	-	-	-	2,658,721
Instructional staff	985,213	-	-	-	-	4,725	989,938
General administration	194,287	-	-	-	-	-	194,287
Executive administration	815,782	-	-	-	-	-	815,782
School administration	2,013,054	-	-	-	-	-	2,013,054
Business	215,787	-	-	-	-	-	215,787
Operation and maintenance of plant	3,302,956	-	-	-	-	-	3,302,956
Student transportation	2,611,598	-	-	-	-	-	2,611,598
Other	11,618,420	-	-	-	-	-	11,618,420
Non-instructional services	37,657	-	-	-	-	1,437,154	1,474,811
Debt service:							
Principal	1,390,000	-	-	-	-	-	1,390,000
Interest	978,489	-	-	-	-	-	978,489
Facilities acquisition and construction	564,243	-	-	81,546	-	-	645,789
Total expenditures	53,138,736	1,516,245	-	81,546	-	1,442,082	56,178,609
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures	977,819	-	3,661	(81,546)	49,051	39,386	988,371
Other financing sources (uses):							
Transfers in	562,876	-	-	-	200,000	1	762,877
Transfers out	(200,001)	-	(130,010)	(232,866)	(200,000)	-	(762,877)
Total other financing sources and uses	362,875	-	(130,010)	(232,866)	-	1	-
Net change in fund balances	1,340,694	-	(126,349)	(314,412)	49,051	39,387	988,371
Fund balances, beginning	2,417,364	-	126,349	314,412	1,354,064	126,689	4,338,878
Fund balances, ending	\$ 3,758,058	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,403,115	\$ 166,076	\$ 5,327,249

The notes to the basic financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

Merrimack School District Comparative Enrollments

Grade	Enrolled 9/2006	Enrolled 1/2007	Estimated 9/2007
K	221	225	250
1	335	333	325
2	269	266	334
3	333	332	263
4	349	349	339
Sub Total	1507	1505	1511
5	359	361	349
6	383	389	361
Sub Total	742	750	710
7	387	388	388
8	396	401	388
Sub Total	783	789	776
9	396	392	399
10	406	406	389
11	393	391	400
12	416	408	385
Sub Total	1611	1597	1573
Spec. Ed. (Out-of-District Place- ments and Students Ages 3 & 4)	93	97	95
GRAND TOTAL	4736	4738	4665

MERRIMACK SCHOOL DISTRICT

Merrimack, New Hampshire

2007 - 2008

PROPOSED BUDGET

MERRIMACK MUNICIPAL BUDGET COMMITTEE

2006-2007

Stanley Heinrich, Chair	2007
Rick Barnes, Vice Chair	2007
Chris Ager	2007
Stanley Bonislowski	2007
Rod Buckley	2007
Carol Lang	2007
Fran L'Heureux	2007
Norman Phillips	2007
Finlay Rothhaus	2007
Jennifer Twardosky	2007
Finlay Rothhaus	2007
Joe Vilet	2007

Ex-Officio School Board

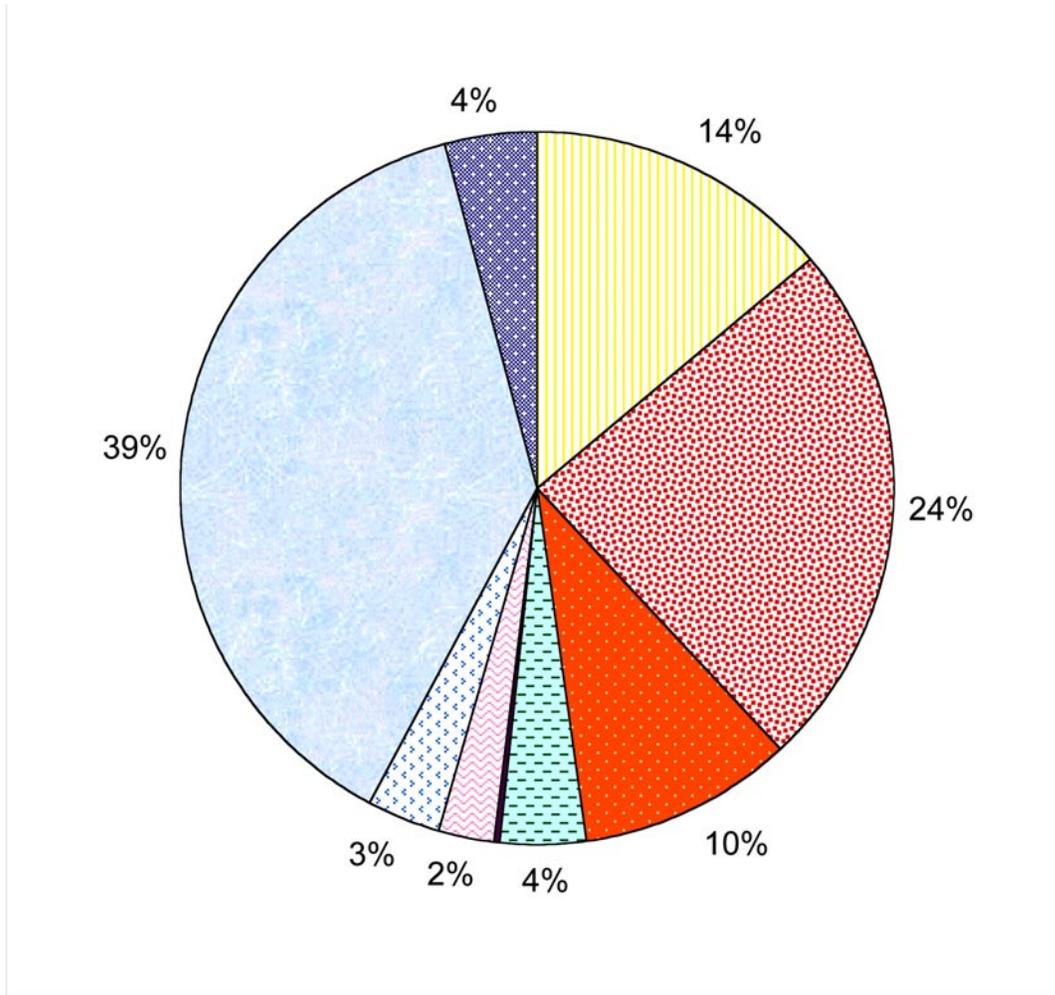
Emily Coburn

Rosemary Robertson-Smith (alternate)

Pat Heinrich, Secretary

DISTRIBUTION OF YOUR EDUCATION DOLLAR

Proposed Budget 2007-2008



**Merrimack School District
School District Warrant
March 7, 2007 (Deliberation)
and April 10, 2007 (Voting)
STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE**

To the inhabitants of the School District in the Town of Merrimack, County of Hillsborough, New Hampshire, qualified to vote in School District affairs:

You are hereby notified to meet at the James Mastricola Upper Elementary School in said District on Thursday, March 7, 2007, at 7:00 p.m. for Session 1 (Deliberation), to discuss the matters to be voted on by official ballot; and to meet at the designated polling sites, either the James Mastricola Upper Elementary School, St. John Neumann Church or St. James United Methodist Church, depending upon your place of residence, on Tuesday, April 10, 2007, Session 2 (Voting) for the choice of School District officers elected by ballot and any other action required to be inserted on said official ballot. The polls for the election of school district officers and other action required to be inserted on said ballot will open on said date at 7:00 a.m. and will not close earlier than 8:00 p.m. to act upon the following subjects:

ARTICLE 1 To elect all necessary school district officers for the ensuing year. (Vote by Ballot.)

ARTICLE 2 Shall the Merrimack School Board be authorized to accept on behalf of the District, without further action by the voters, gifts, legacies and devises of personal or real property which may become available to the District during the fiscal year? (Majority vote required). (Recommended by the School Board Vote: 5-0-0).

ARTICLE 3 (Special Warrant Article) Shall the District raise and appropriate an amount up to \$50,000 or 20% of the unencumbered surplus funds remaining at the end of the fiscal year 2006-2007, whichever amount is less, and transfer that amount to the Roof Reconstruction Capital Reserve Fund? (Majority vote required). (Recommended by the School Board Vote: 4-1-0). (Recommended by the Budget Committee Vote: 12-1-0).

ARTICLE 4 (Special Warrant Article) Shall the District raise and appropriate an amount up to \$50,000 or 20% of the unencumbered surplus funds remaining at the end of the fiscal year 2006-2007, whichever amount is less, and transfer that amount to the Pavement Reconstruction Capital Reserve Fund? (Majority vote required). (Recommended by the School Board Vote: 4-1-0). (Not Recommended by the Budget Committee Vote: 10-03-0).

ARTICLE 5 (Special Warrant Article) Shall the District raise and appropriate the sum of \$150,000 for the purpose of executing the first phase of asbestos abatement and flooring replacement at Merrimack High School? (Majority vote required). (Recommended by the School Board Vote: 5-0-0). (Recommended by the Budget Committee Vote: 13-0-0).

ARTICLE 6 (Special Warrant Article) Shall the District establish a capital reserve fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1, to be known as the Asbestos Abatement Capital Reserve Fund, for the purpose of eradicating all school district facilities of asbestos and raise and appropriate an amount up to \$50,000 or 20% of the unencumbered surplus funds remaining at the end of the fiscal year 2006-2007, whichever amount is less, and transfer that amount to the said fund, and name the school board as agents to expend from this fund? (Majority vote required). (Recommended by the School Board Vote: 5-0-0). (Recommended by the Budget Committee Vote: 11-2-0).

ARTICLE 7 (Special Warrant Article) Shall the District vote to authorize the school board to enter into a 12-year lease agreement for the purpose of energy efficiency and building infrastructure upgrades to district facilities, and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$214,096 for the first year's payment for that purpose? This lease agreement contains an "escape" clause. (Majority vote required). (Recommended by the School Board. Vote: 5-0-0). (Recommended by the Budget Committee Vote: 9-0-0).

ARTICLE 8 (By Petition) Shall the District ask the School Board to re-instate the position of Assistant Principal at James Masticola Elementary School?

ARTICLE 9 Shall the 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 \$59,806,318? (Should this article be defeated, the operating budget shall be \$59,985,208 which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the 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)? (Majority vote required). (Recommended by the School Board Vote: 3-2-0). (Recommended by the Budget Committee Vote: 3-1-8).

Note: *This warrant article (operating budget) does not include appropriations in ANY other warrant articles.*

Given under our hands at said Merrimack this 22nd day of February, 2007

Emily Coburn
Rosemary Robertson-Smith
George Markwell
Jennifer Thornton
Jody Vaillancourt

SCHOOL BOARD

A true copy of warrant - attest:

Emily Coburn
Rosemary Robertson-Smith
George Markwell
Jennifer Thornton
Jody Vaillancourt

SCHOOL BOARD

SCHOOL BUDGET FORM

BUDGET FORM FOR SCHOOL DISTRICTS WHICH HAVE ADOPTED
THE PROVISIONS OF RSA 32:14 THROUGH 32:24

OF: Merrimack School District, Merrimack NH 03054

Appropriations and Estimates of Revenue for the Fiscal Year From July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2008

IMPORTANT:

Please read RSA 32:5 applicable to all municipalities.

- 1. Use this form to list ALL APPROPRIATIONS in the appropriate recommended and not recommended area. This means the operating budget and all special and individual warrant articles must be posted.
- 2. Hold at least one public hearing on this budget.
- 3. When completed, a copy of the budget must be posted with the warrant. Another copy must be placed on file with the school clerk, and a copy sent to the Department of Revenue Administration at the address below.

We Certify This Form Was Posted on (Date): 2/23/07

BUDGET COMMITTEE
Please sign in ink.

[Signature]

[Signature]

[Signature]

[Signature]

[Signature]

[Signature]

[Signature]

[Signature]

[Signature]

THIS BUDGET SHALL BE POSTED WITH THE SCHOOL WARRANT

FOR DRA USE ONLY

NH DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE ADMINISTRATION
COMMUNITY SERVICES DIVISION
MUNICIPAL FINANCE BUREAU
P.O. BOX 487, CONCORD, NH 03302-0487
(603)271-3397

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

Acct.#	PURPOSE OF APPROPRIATIONS (RSA 32:3.V)	WARR. ART.#	Expenditures for Year 7/1/05 to 6/30/06	Appropriations Current Year as Approved by DRA	School Board's Appropriations		Budget Committee's Approp.	
					RECOMMENDED	NOT RECOMMENDED	RECOMMENDED	NOT RECOMMENDED
INSTRUCTION (1000-1999)								
1100-1199	Regular Programs		15,365,056	15,928,166	15,845,932		15,777,839	68,093
1200-1299	Special Programs		9,134,823	10,184,659	10,453,607		10,443,152	10,455
1300-1399	Vocational Programs		19,950	20,000	20,000		20,000	
1400-1499	Other Programs		683,171	597,349	610,164		610,164	
1500-1599	Non-Public Programs							
1600-1899	Adult & Community Programs		7,437	6,110	6,110		6,110	
SUPPORT SERVICES (2000-2999)								
2000-2199	Student Support Services		2,755,663	2,941,646	3,049,661		3,031,299	18,362
2200-2299	Instructional Staff Services		983,715	1,079,141	1,090,849		1,090,849	
General Administration								
2310-840	School Board Contingency							
2310-2319	Other School Board		151,055	138,580	136,401		136,401	
Executive Administration								
2320-310	SAU Management Services		472,762	485,308	484,622		484,622	
2320-2399	All Other Administration		344,019	426,028	360,422		360,422	
2400-2499	School Administration Service		2,016,779	2,045,650	2,001,848		2,001,848	
2500-2599	Business		215,787	216,748	224,359		224,359	
2600-2699	Operation & Maintenance of Plant		3,227,955	3,586,995	3,620,532		3,620,532	
2700-2799	Student Transportation		2,608,388	2,647,919	2,718,895		2,718,895	
2800-2999	Support Service Central & Other		11,698,248	13,347,203	14,645,494		14,632,460	13,034
3000-3999	NON-INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES		37,657	11,259	8,500		8,500	
4000-4999	FACILITIES ACQUISITIONS & CONSTRUCTION		47,306	1	0		0	
OTHER OUTLAYS (5000-5999)								
5110	Debt Service - Principal		1,390,000	1,390,000	1,390,000		1,390,000	
5120	Debt Service - Interest		978,489	944,911	880,873		880,873	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
ACCT.#	PURPOSE OF APPROPRIATIONS (RSA 32:3,V)	WARR. ART.#	Expenditures for Year 7/1/05 to 5/30/06	Appropriations Current Year As Approved by DRA	School Board's Appropriations Ensuing Fiscal Year RECOMMENDED	NOT RECOMMENDED	Budget Committee's Approp. Ensuing Fiscal Year RECOMMENDED	NOT RECOMMENDED
FUND TRANSFERS								
5220-5221	To Food Service		1,351,594	1,362,993	1,414,080		1,414,080	
5222-5229	To Other Special Revenue		252,864	252,864	252,864		252,864	
5230-5239	To Capital Projects							
5251	To Capital Reserves		0	0	0		0	0
5252	To Expendable Trust (*see below)							
5253	To Non-Expendable Trusts							
5254	To Agency Funds							
5300-5399	Intergovernmental Agency Alloc.							
	SUPPLEMENTAL							
	DEFICIT							
	SUBTOTAL 1		53,742,718	57,613,520	59,216,213		59,105,269	

PLEASE PROVIDE FURTHER DETAIL:

* Amount of line 5252 which is for Health Maintenance Trust \$ _____ (see RSA 198:20-c, V)

If you have a line item of appropriations from more than one warrant article, please use the space below to identify the make-up of the line total for the ensuing year.

Acct. #	Warr. Art. #	Amount	Acct. #	Warr. Art. #	Amount

↑	2	3	4	5	6
Acct.#	SOURCE OF REVENUE	WARR. ART.#	Actual Revenues Prior Year	Revised Revenues Current Year	Estimated Revenues ENSUING FISCAL YEAR
REVENUE FROM LOCAL SOURCES			XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX
1300-1349	Tuition		391,017	223,500	223,500
1400-1449	Transportation Fees				*
1500-1599	Earnings on Investments		288,169	100,000	100,000
1600-1699	Food Service Sales		1,294,771	1,262,983	1,314,080
1700-1799	Student Activities		18,401	9,000	18,000
1800-1899	Community Services Activities				
1900-1999	Other Local Sources		81,057	15,000	30,000
REVENUE FROM STATE SOURCES			XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX
3210	School Building Aid		463,353	439,340	439,340
3220	Kindergarten Aid		337,600	300,000	300,000
3230	Catastrophic Aid		1,101,898	850,000	850,000
3240-3249	Vocational Aid		7,979	3,000	3,000
3250	Adult Education				
3260	Child Nutrition		18,689	20,000	20,000
3270	Driver Education				
3290-3299	Other State Sources				
REVENUE FROM FEDERAL SOURCES			XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX
4100-4539	Federal Program Grants		252,864	252,864	252,864
4540	Vocational Education				
4550	Adult Education				
4560	Child Nutrition		159,061	80,000	80,000
4570	Disabilities Programs				
4580	Medicaid Distribution		450,677	225,000	225,000
4590-4999	Other Federal Sources (except 4810)				
4810	Federal Forest Reserve				
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES			XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX
5110-5139	Sale of Bonds or Notes				
5221	Transfer from Food Service-Spec.Rev.Fund				
5222	Transfer from Other Special Revenue Funds				
5230	Transfer from Capital Project Funds		362,876		
5251	Transfer from Capital Reserve Funds		400,000	400,000	

1-	2	3	4	5	6
Acct.#	SOURCE OF REVENUE	WARR. ART.#	Actual Revenues Prior Year	Revised Revenues Current Year	Estimated Revenues ENSURING FISCAL YEAR
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES CONT.			XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX
5252	Transfer from Expendable Trust Funds				
5253	Transfer from Non-Expendable Trust Funds				
5300-5699	Other Financing Sources		34,107	15,000	15,000
	Energy Savings				214,096
5140	This Section for Calculation of RAN's (Reimbursement Anticipation Notes) Per RSA 198:20-D for Catastrophic Aid Borrowing RAN, Revenue This FY _____ less RAN, Revenue Last FY _____ =NET RAN				
	Supplemental Appropriation (Contra)				
	Voted From Fund Balance				100,000
	Fund Balance to Reduce Taxes		1,836,681	3,708,057	2,100,000
	Total Estimated Revenue & Credits		7,499,200	7,903,744	6,284,880

****BUDGET SUMMARY****

	Current Year Adopted Budget	School Board's Recommended Budget	Budget Committee's Recommended Budget
SUBTOTAL 1 Appropriations Recommended (from page 3)	57,613,520	59,215,213	59,105,269
SUBTOTAL 2 Special Warrant Articles Recommended (from page 4)	650,000	514,096	464,096
SUBTOTAL 3 "Individual" Warrant Articles Recommended (from page 4)	146,200	-	-
TOTAL Appropriations Recommended	58,409,720	59,729,309	59,569,365
Less: Amount of Estimated Revenues & Credits (from above)	7,903,744	6,284,880	6,284,880
Less: Amount of Cost of Adequate Education (State Tax/Grant)*	7,159,009	9,905,039	9,905,039
Estimated Amount of Local Taxes to be Raised For Education	43,346,967	43,539,390	43,379,446

Maximum Allowable Increase to Budget Committee's Recommended Budget per RSA 32:18:
(See Supplemental Schedule With 10% Calculation)

5,729,849

*Note: You will also be required to pay a State Education Tax RSA 76:3 and you may be required to pay an additional excess education tax in the amount of \$_____.

BUDGET COMMITTEE SUPPLEMENTAL SCHEDULE
(For Calculating 10% Maximum Increase)
 (RSA 32:18, 19, & 32:21)

VERSION #1: Use if you have no Collective Bargaining Cost Items or RSA 32:21 Water Costs

LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNIT: Merrimack School District FISCAL YEAR: 2007-2008

	RECOMMENDED AMOUNT
1. Total RECOMMENDED by Budget Comm. (See Posted Budget MS7, 27, or 37)	\$59,569,365
LESS EXCLUSIONS:	\$ 1,390,000
2. Principal: Long-Term Bonds & Notes	
3. Interest: Long-Term Bonds & Notes	\$ 880,873
4. Capital Outlays Funded From Long-Term Bonds & Notes per RSA 33:8 & 33:7-b.	
5. Mandatory Assessments	
6. Total exclusions (Sum of rows 2 - 5)	< \$2,270,873 >
7. Amount recommended less recommended exclusion amounts (line 1 less line 6)	\$57,298,492
8. Line 7 times 10%	\$ 5,729,849
9. Maximum Allowable Appropriations (lines 1 + 8)	\$63,028,341

Line 8 is the maximum allowable increase to budget committee's recommended budget. Please enter this amount on the bottom of the posted budget form, MS7, 27, or 37.

Please attach a copy of this completed supplemental schedule to the back of the budget form.

Merrimack School District Proposed Budget for FY 2007-2008

Account Description	Expend 05-06	Budget 06-07	Board 07-08	Bud Comm 07-08
ELEMENTARY EDUCATION				
Salaries	8,045,344	8,084,586	8,009,859	7,961,890
Assemblies & Testing	13,968	14,540	9,140	9,140
Equipment Repairs	88,467	89,337	90,837	90,837
Travel/Printing/Telephone	38,455	53,555	47,207	47,207
Field Trips	22,064	26,926	26,926	26,926
Text Books	195,000	160,632	184,527	184,527
Supplies	136,901	139,845	141,202	141,202
New & Replacement Equipment	32,821	9,597	5,750	5,750
Prof & School Improvement	10,416	11,030	10,480	10,480
TOTAL	8,583,436	8,590,048	8,525,928	8,477,959
MIDDLE SCHOOL EDUCATION				
Salaries	3,038,707	3,159,400	3,094,206	3,071,534
Assemblies & Testing	10,369	18,932	19,630	19,630
Equipment Repairs	29,432	25,434	27,289	27,289
Travel/Printing/Telephone	20,355	18,292	18,289	18,289
Field Trips	21,800	18,778	17,678	17,678
Text Books	53,883	12,707	21,639	21,639
Supplies	71,485	76,121	70,803	70,803
New & Replacement Equipment	24,900	17,259	14,780	14,780
Prof & School Improvement	6,727	7,109	7,392	7,392
TOTAL	3,277,658	3,354,032	3,291,706	3,269,034
HIGH SCHOOL EDUCATION				
Salaries	6,334,198	6,556,815	6,805,379	6,789,565
Contracted Services	151,175	123,500	132,600	132,600
Assemblies & Testing	35,466	31,000	33,500	33,500
Equipment Repairs	57,987	51,402	56,907	56,907
Travel/Printing/Telephone	36,314	34,174	35,573	35,573
Field Trips	70,426	80,231	80,231	80,231
Text Books	70,311	116,870	67,376	67,376
Supplies	228,319	253,878	237,459	237,459
New & Replacement Equipment	18,665	21,100	28,242	28,242
Prof & School Improvement	15,541	21,169	20,749	20,749
TOTAL	7,018,402	7,290,139	7,498,016	7,482,202
LIBRARY SERVICES				
Salaries	611,457	640,526	638,269	638,269
Equipment Repairs	15,723	15,500	15,500	15,500
Travel/Postage/Binding	8,604	8,481	8,463	8,463
Books, Instruct Media, Supplies	120,514	126,250	125,524	125,524
New & Replacement Equipment	6,099	3,600	3,750	3,750
Prof & School Improvement	766	809	868	868
TOTAL	763,163	795,166	792,374	792,374
SPECIAL SERVICES				
Salaries	6,582,188	6,976,619	7,256,228	7,256,228
Contracted Services	877,472	912,952	929,089	929,089
Tuition	3,002,194	3,657,391	3,659,702	3,659,702
Transportation	992,342	1,000,316	1,035,038	1,035,038
Supplies	27,559	17,309	17,309	17,309
New & Replacement Equipment	20,450	96,400	23,100	23,100
Prof & School Improvement	6,084	6,200	6,200	6,200
Travel/Printing/Telephone	12,413	15,276	14,092	14,092
TOTAL	11,520,702	12,682,463	12,940,758	12,940,758

Merrimack School District Proposed Budget for FY 2007-2008

Account Description	Expend 05-06	Budget 06-07	Board 07-08	Bud Comm 07-08
SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE				
Salaries	738,910	747,767	773,412	773,412
Contracted Services/Repairs	113,116	121,000	111,000	111,000
Travel/Printing/Telephone	20,030	20,275	20,411	20,411
Supplies	7,815	7,000	7,000	7,000
Capital Improvement/Outlay	26,441	-	-	-
Prof & School Improvement	8,731	9,500	9,500	9,500
TOTAL	915,043	905,542	921,323	921,323
DISTRICT WIDE EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT				
Salaries	878,339	1,218,787	1,096,467	1,086,012
Benefits	11,442,807	13,064,993	14,360,562	14,347,528
Contracted Services	85,500	101,845	96,625	96,625
Insurance/Ads/Printing	240,016	247,682	247,492	247,492
Supplies	14,359	18,800	18,100	18,100
Capital Improvement/Outlay	-	-	-	-
Prof & School Improvement	231,113	285,950	309,401	309,401
TOTAL	12,892,134	14,938,057	16,128,647	16,105,158
MAINTENANCE & CUSTODIAL SERVICES				
Salaries	1,451,764	1,542,581	1,592,390	1,592,390
Water & Sewer/Oil/Gas/Electricity	1,114,226	1,368,101	1,356,523	1,356,523
Equipment and Repair	477,682	487,951	477,963	477,963
Travel/Printing/Telephone	6,326	6,803	6,668	6,668
Supplies	177,957	181,559	186,988	186,988
Capital Improvement/Outlay	7,000	1	-	-
TOTAL	3,234,955	3,586,996	3,620,532	3,620,532
TRANSPORTATION DISTRICT WIDE				
Salaries	40,944	42,173	43,221	43,221
Transportation	1,457,427	1,477,045	1,513,790	1,513,790
Travel - Coordinator Mileage Reimbursement	1,856	1,100	1,100	1,100
TOTAL	1,500,227	1,520,318	1,558,111	1,558,111
DEBT SERVICE				
Principal and Interest	2,368,489	2,334,911	2,270,873	2,270,873
TOTAL	2,368,489	2,334,911	2,270,873	2,270,873
INTERFUND TRANSFERS				
	1	1	1	1
TOTAL	1	1	1	1
SUB - GEN FUND	52,074,210	55,997,673	57,548,269	57,438,325
FEDERALLY FUNDED PROJECTS				
Chapter I & II/Special Education	252,864	252,864	252,864	252,864
TOTAL	252,864	252,864	252,864	252,864

Merrimack School District Proposed Budget for FY 2007-2008

Account Description	Expend 05-06	Budget 06-07	Board 07-08	Bud Comm 07-08
FOOD SERVICE				
Salaries	521,441	547,718	568,258	568,258
Benefits	39,616	41,615	43,472	43,472
Equipment Repairs	8,308	10,800	10,800	10,800
Travel/Linens	5,030	5,200	5,500	5,500
Food & Supplies	763,508	741,650	768,250	768,250
New & Replacement Equipment	13,691	16,000	17,800	17,800
TOTAL	1,351,594	1,362,983	1,414,080	1,414,080
<i>This is the amount added to the operating budget at the Deliberative Session (03/07/07) to restore positions removed during the budget process. The amount recommended by the Budget Committee and School Board was \$59,105,269.</i>				701,049
SUB - TOTAL	53,678,668	57,613,520	59,215,213	59,806,318
WARRANT ARTICLES				
Roof Reconstruction Capital Reserve			50,000	50,000
Pavement Reconstruction Capital Reserve			50,000	-
Asbestos Abatement Capital Reserve			50,000	50,000
Asbestos Abatement at Merrimack High School			150,000	150,000
Energy Conservation - District Wide			214,096	214,096
Mastricola Complex Sprinkler System 06-07		650,000		
Merrimack High School Technology Upgrade 06-07		146,200		
MHS Band Uniforms 05-06	64,050			
TFS Sewer 06-07	253,147			
Capital Reserve Transfer	200,000			
TOTAL	517,197	796,200	514,096	464,096
GRAND TOTAL	54,195,865	58,409,720	59,729,309	60,270,414

2007-2008 Proposed Budget and Revenue Analysis

Description	Approved Budget	Proposed Budget	2006-2007 Budget vs. 2007-2008 Proposed
	2006-2007	2007-2008	\$ Inc.
General Fund Operating Budget	55,997,673	58,139,374	2,141,701
Food Service	1,362,983	1,414,080	51,097
Federal Funds	252,864	252,864	-
Total Budget	57,613,520	59,806,318	2,192,798
Warrant Articles			
Mastricola Complex Sprinkler System	650,000		
Technology - Merrimack High School - Petition	146,200		
Roof Reconstruction Capital Reserve		50,000	
Pavement Reconstruction Capital Reserve		50,000	
Asbestos Abatement Capital Reserve		50,000	
Asbestos Abatement at Merrimack High School		150,000	
Energy Management - District Wide		214,096	
Total Appropriations	58,409,720	60,320,414	1,910,694
Less: Revenue			
Tuition	223,500	223,500	
Interest	100,000	100,000	
Food Service Sales	1,262,983	1,314,080	
Student Activities	9,000	18,000	
Other Local	15,000	30,000	
Building Aid	439,340	439,340	
Kindergarten Aid	300,000	300,000	
Catastrophic Aid	850,000	850,000	
Vocational Aid	3,000	3,000	
Food Service - State	20,000	20,000	
Federal Funds	252,864	252,864	
Child Nutrition -Federal	80,000	80,000	
Medicaid	225,000	225,000	
Energy Management Savings - District Wide		214,096	
Transfer From Capital Reserve	400,000		
Other Financing Services	15,000	15,000	
Articles From Surplus	-	150,000	
Fund Balance	3,708,057	2,100,000	
Total Revenues	7,903,744	6,334,880	(1,568,864)
District Assessment (Total Appropriations - Total Revenues)	50,505,976	53,985,534	3,479,558
Less: State Education Grant (Current Law)	7,159,009	9,905,039	2,746,030
Less: State Education Tax Assessment	7,340,411	7,180,701	(159,710)
Local School Tax Assessment	36,006,556	36,899,794	893,238
Total Local Tax Effort (Local School + State Education Tax Assessment)	43,346,967	44,080,495	733,528

Merrimack School District

Special Education Programs and Services Expenditures and Revenues

Fiscal Year 2004-2005 and 2005-2006 per RSA 32:11-a

Expenditures

<u>Account Description</u>	<u>Expended 2004-2005</u>	<u>Expended 2005-2006</u>
Salaries	6,242,641	6,582,188
Contracted Services	795,041	877,472
Tuition	2,976,432	3,002,194
Transportation	915,162	992,342
Supplies	28,613	27,559
New & Replacement Equipment	17,679	20,450
Prof & School Improvement	6,473	6,084
Travel/Printing/Telephone	15,823	12,413
TOTAL	10,997,864	11,520,702

Revenues

<u>Account Description</u>	<u>2004-2005</u>	<u>2005-2006</u>
State Aid	1,516,025	2,634,574
Tuition	181,411	191,016
Catastrophic Aid	818,103	1,101,899
Medicaid Reimbursement	374,981	450,678
TOTAL	2,890,520	4,378,167