

REGIONAL SCHOOL UNIT NO. 71
2020-2021 SCHOOL BUDGET

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

TO: Robyn Harwood, a resident of Regional School Unit No. 71 (the “Regional School Unit”) composed of the City of Belfast and the Towns of Belmont, Morrill, Searsmont, and Swanville, State of Maine.

In the name of the State of Maine, you are hereby required to notify the voters of each of the municipalities within the Regional School Unit, namely, the City of Belfast and the Towns of Belmont, Morrill, Searsmont, and Swanville, that a Regional School Unit Public Hearing will be held by remote participation at 5:30 p.m. on June 22, 2020 for the purpose of public participation in and receipt of public comment on the proposed 2020-2021 school budget and on the referendum questions set forth below. Pursuant to Title 1, section 403-A of the Maine Revised Statutes, the School Board has determined that the hearing will be conducted by remote means and may be accessed by the public as follows:

To access the remote public hearing or to participate (provide comment/input):

Follow the instructions to access and participate in the public hearing as provided on the Regional School Unit No. 71 website at: www.rsu71.org

The following questions will be considered at a Regional School Unit No. 71 budget referendum election to be held on July 14, 2020:

Question 1: **School Budget.** Shall Regional School Unit No. 71 appropriate the sum of **\$28,268,293.67** and raise the sum of **\$10,092,756.66** for the 2020-2021 school budget?

School Board Recommends a “Yes” Vote.

VOTER INFORMATION FOR QUESTION 1:

The Regional School Unit No. 71 school budget submitted in this Question 1 totals **\$28,268,293.67**. It includes locally raised funds in the amount of **\$10,092,756.66**, to be assessed in shares to member municipalities in accordance with the RSU’s cost sharing formula and state law. The locally raised amount exceeds the maximum state and local spending target by **\$4,038,169.59**. This budget includes these cost centers and amounts:

Cost Center	Amount Appropriated
Regular Instruction	\$ 9,160,906.25
Special Education	\$ 6,000,389.00
Career and Technical Education	\$ 11,234.00
Other Instruction	\$ 645,424.00
Student and Staff Support	\$ 2,781,779.00
System Administration	\$ 717,693.00
School Administration	\$ 1,672,029.00
Transportation and Buses	\$ 1,927,908.00
Facilities Maintenance	\$ 3,520,477.00
Debt Service and Other Commitments	\$ 1,830,454.42
All Other Expenditures	\$ 0.00
Summary of Total Authorized School Budget Expenditures:	\$ 28,268,293.67

Question 2: **School Nutrition Program.** Shall Regional School Unit No. 71 be authorized to appropriate up to **\$98,825.73** from available fund balances to transfer to the school nutrition program, with authorization to expend any additional, incidental, or miscellaneous receipts in the interest and for the well-being of the school nutrition program?

School Board Recommends a "Yes" Vote.

VOTER INFORMATION FOR QUESTION 2:

Approval by the voters of Question 2 will not increase local assessments.

Question 3: **Adult Education Program.** Shall Regional School Unit No. 71 be authorized to appropriate **\$371,242.00** for adult education and raise **\$259,932.00** as the local share, with authorization to expend any additional, incidental, or miscellaneous receipts in the interest and for the well-being of the adult education program?

School Board Recommends a "Yes" Vote.

VOTER INFORMATION FOR QUESTION 3:

Approval by the voters of Question 3 will increase local assessments as follows: Belfast: \$171,191.22; Belmont: \$14,504.20; Morrill: \$14,218.28; Searsmont: \$34,674.93; Swanville: \$25,343.37.

Question 4: **CTE Region Budget.** Shall the Region 7 Waldo County Technical Center operating budget as approved by the cooperative board for the year beginning July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021 be approved in the amount of **\$1,993,674.85**?

School Board Recommends a "Yes" Vote.

VOTER INFORMATION FOR QUESTION 4:

Approval by the voters of Question 4 will not increase local assessments.

Question 5: **CTE Region Adult Education Budget.** Shall the Region 7 Waldo County Technical Center approve a budget for adult education in the amount of **\$48,064.00** for the year beginning July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021 with authorization to expend any additional, incidental, or miscellaneous receipts in the interest and well-being of its adult education program?

School Board Recommends a "Yes" Vote.

VOTER INFORMATION FOR QUESTION 5:

Approval by the voters of Question 5 will not increase local assessments.

Question 6: **Capital Improvement Fund.** Shall the School Board of Regional School Unit No. 71 be authorized to (i) expend up to **\$500,000.00** from the existing Capital Reserve Fund for the purpose of repairing and upgrading pool control units, operational panels and related computers, and (ii) in the event the Governor orders a curtailment of state subsidy pursuant to Title 5, Section 1668 of the Maine Revised Statutes, transfer up to **\$750,000.00** from the existing Capital Reserve Fund to the undesignated fund account to help offset the curtailment?

School Board Recommends a "Yes" Vote.

VOTER INFORMATION FOR QUESTION 6:

Approval by the voters of Question 6 will not increase local assessments.

Dated as of this June 8, 2020.

Catherine Robins-Halsted



Jenica Woods

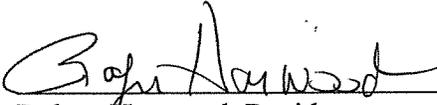
Patrick J. Hill

Scott Guyer

Jean L. Dube

A majority of the School Board of Regional School Unit No. 71

A true copy of the Notice of Public Hearing, attest:



Robyn Harwood, Resident
Regional School Unit No. 71