

Wilton-Lyndeborough Cooperative School District  
Meeting Minutes March 7, 2020

**School Board Members:** Mr. Mathew Ballou (Chair), Mr. Alexander LoVerme (Vice Chair) Mr. Jonathan Vanderhoof, Ms. Carol LeBlanc, Mr. Mark Legere, Ms. Miriam Lemire, Ms. Tiffany Cloutier-Cabral

**Budget Committee Members:** Ms. Leslie Browne (Chair) Mr. Bill Ryan (Vice Chair) Ms. Christine Tiedemann, Mr. Dennis Golding, Ms. Jennifer Bernet, Mr. Kevin Boette, Mr. Jeffrey Jones, Mr. Adam Lavallee Ms. Lisa Post

**Other:** Moderator Mr. Walter Holland, School District Clerk Ms. Mary-Jane Ryan.

Moderator Holland called the meeting to order at 9:20 AM

Moderator Holland welcomed attendees and led in the Pledge of Allegiance.  
WLC Senior Lily Gendron sang the National Anthem.

Moderator Holland read the following announcements:

- FRES & LCS have fundraisers please see the PTO table for information.
- March 29<sup>th</sup> there will be a welcome home Vietnam Veterans Ceremony in Lyndeborough all are welcome to attend.
- Explained the paper ballots.
- Thanked the staff for setting up the room.

Moderator Holland read the proposed rules of the meeting:

Simple parliamentary procedure. There will be discussion and debate, please use proper respect at all times.

There has been a request for paper ballot for Article 4 District Operating Budget signed by the following:

Sarah Spittle Wilton  
Harry Dailey Wilton  
Karen Walker Wilton

Matthew Bangert Wilton  
Peter Howd Wilton

Moderator asked for present with voice without vote for Superintendent of Schools Bryan Lane, School District Business Administrator Lizabeth Baker, WLC Principal Brian Bagley, FRES/LCS Principal Robert LaRoche, Director of Student Support Services Ned Pratt, Director of Technology Mark Kline and District Curriculum Coordinator Julie Heon.

**Moderator Holland read the voting announcement as follows:**

**WILTON-LYNDEBOROUGH COOPERATIVE SCHOOL DISTRICT WARRANT  
FOR ELECTION OF OFFICERS ON MARCH 10, 2020**

*To the inhabitants of the Wilton-Lyndeborough Cooperative School District in the Towns of Wilton and Lyndeborough, in the County of Hillsborough, State of New Hampshire, qualified to vote upon Wilton-Lyndeborough Cooperative School District affairs:*

**You are hereby notified to meet on the tenth day of March 2020**

**At the following places in the Town of your residence:**

<b>Wilton</b>	<b>Wilton Town Hall</b>	<b>8:00 o'clock in the forenoon</b>
<b>Lyndeborough</b>	<b>Lyndeborough Old Town Hall (Citizens' Hall)</b>	<b>10:00 o'clock in the forenoon</b>

**Polls will not close before 7:00 P.M.**

*To vote for District officers:*

**Article 1:** *To choose one (1) Moderator, by ballot, for the ensuing year.*

**Article 2:** *To choose one (1) At Large Member of the School Board, by ballot, from the Town of Lyndeborough for the ensuing three years; one (1) At Large Member of the School Board, by ballot, from the Town of Lyndeborough for the ensuing two years; one (1) Member of the School Board, by ballot, from the Town of Lyndeborough for the ensuing three years; one (1) Member of the School Board, by ballot, from the Town of Wilton for the ensuing three years.*

**Article 3:** *To choose one (1) At Large Member of the Budget Committee, by ballot, from the Town of Lyndeborough for the ensuing three years; one (1) Member of the Budget Committee, by ballot, from the Town of Lyndeborough for the ensuing three years; one (1) Member of the Budget Committee, by ballot, from the Town of Wilton for the ensuing three*

No questions, proposed rules were accepted

**Moderator Holland read Warrant Article 4**

*To see if the Wilton-Lyndeborough Cooperative School District will vote to raise and appropriate the Budget Committee's recommended amount of \$13,056,164 for the support of schools, for the payment of salaries for the school district officials and agents, and for the payment for the statutory obligations of the district. This article does not include appropriations contained in special or individual articles addressed separately. (Majority vote required)*

*Recommended by the School Board*

*Recommended by the Budget Committee*

*Estimated Tax impact Lyndeborough – \$0.21*

*Estimated Tax impact Wilton – \$0.22*

Moderator Holland recognized Budget Committee Chair Ms. Leslie Browne to speak on Warrant Article 4

Ms. Browne spoke on Article 4 using a slide show presentation:

### **How the Budget affects Tax Rates**

#### **LYNDEBOROUGH**

The proposed budget would create an estimated increase in the tax rate of \$.21

This would create an annual tax increase of \$52.50

for the average home in Lyndeborough valued at \$250,000.

#### **WILTON**

The proposed budget would create an estimated increase in the tax rate of \$.22

This would create an annual tax increase of \$47.74

for the average home in Wilton valued at \$217,000.

### **Understanding Spending and Taxes**

- ▶ FY20-21 shows an increase of \$131,679 or 1% from adjusted FY19-20 budget.
- ▶ Debt Services decreased \$329,000 due to Middle School Bond ending.
- ▶ Spending increase of \$460,679
- ▶ The 2021 fiscal year projected revenue is \$3,445,183.
- ▶ Total taxation for Operating Budget is based on \$9,610,981

### **Major Areas of Change**

- ▶ Increase in salaries and benefits – \$512,071
  - Due to changes in personnel, student needs and benefit choices
- ▶ Increase in professional and contracted services - \$ 275,315
  - Due to student needs
- ▶ Decrease in debt services - \$329,000
  - Middle School bond ending
- Accounts for increase of \$458,386

### **Where did we look to save?**

#### **Reductions from Draft 5...**

- ▶ French program at WLC
- ▶ .5 Librarian position at FRES
- ▶ iPads for Grade 1 cart
- ▶ Climate and Culture program development at WLC
- ▶ New Café tables
- ▶ Security cameras

- ▶ FRES slide

Total of items removed = \$150,740

## Major Budget Drivers

\$11,827,577 of the General Fund is made up from the following 5 items:

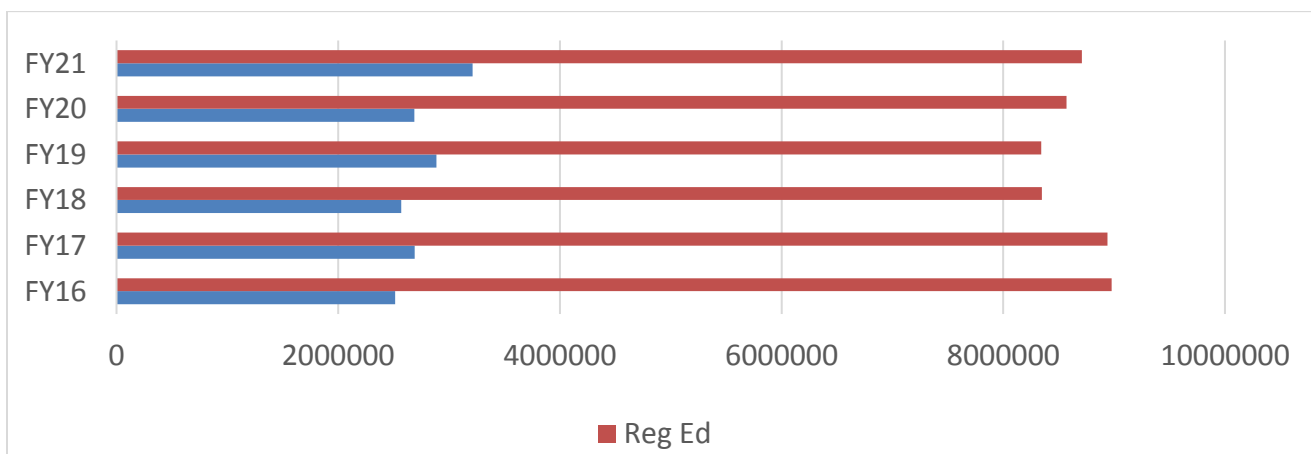
- ▶ Salaries & Benefits: \$9,287,291
- ▶ Special Education Services: \$953,890
- ▶ Debt Services: \$603,268
- ▶ Facilities and Utilities: \$505,749
- ▶ Transportation: \$477,379

10%, or \$720,870, of District expenses encompass things like technology, curriculum, extra-curricular, supplies, etc.

## Standards set by the D.O.E

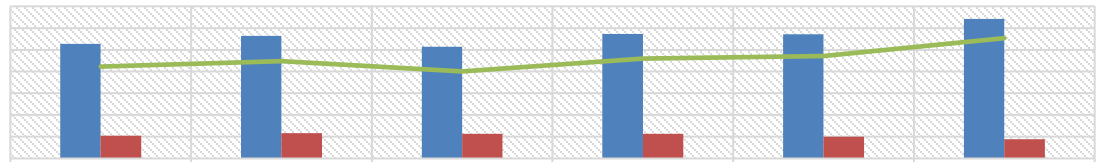
- ▶ Offer a curriculum that meets the minimum standards
- ▶ Provide instructional resources
- ▶ Provide a food service program
- ▶ Approve a professional development program
- ▶ Prepare students to be college/career ready
- ▶ Meet safety regulations in maintaining facilities
- ▶ Have school nurses
- ▶ Fund required positions
- ▶ Create policies as required
- ▶ Create culture and climate in schools that created a shared ownership by students, staff and community.

## Regular Ed & Special Ed Trends



## Special Education Cost VS. Revenue

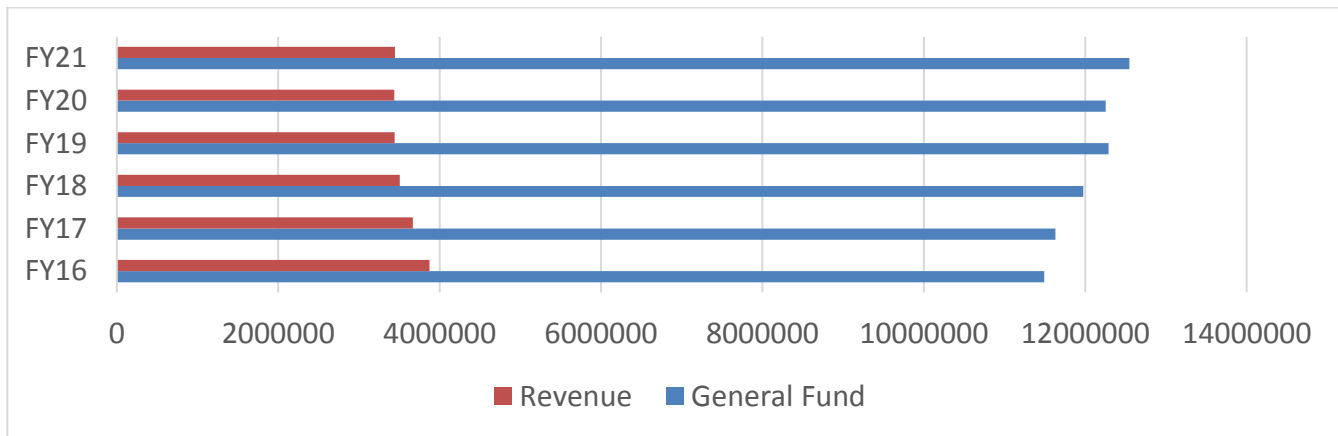
\$3,500,000  
\$3,000,000  
\$2,500,000  
\$2,000,000  
\$1,500,000  
\$1,000,000  
\$500,000



SPED Cost	\$2,637,768	\$2,821,408	\$2,567,962	\$2,866,096	\$2,860,309	\$3,211,229
SPED Revenue	\$525,893	\$580,426	\$565,435	\$565,747	\$504,551	\$443,410
Net	\$2,111,875	\$2,240,982	\$2,002,527	\$2,300,349	\$2,355,758	\$2,767,819

SPED Cost SPED Revenue Net

## General Fund and Revenue Trends



## Student Enrollment

Grade	# of Students	Avg. Class
Pre-school	20	10
Kindergarten	43	14
Grade 1	62	21
Grade 2	40	20
Grade 3	46	23
Grade 4	39	19
Grade 5	52	26

Middle School-	average in core classes
Grade 6	14
Grade 7	15

Grade 8	28	14
<b>High School</b>		
Grade 9	48	
Grade 10	42	
Grade 11	43	
Grade 12	29	

**Total 578**

#### **Fall Enrollment Numbers**

2019-20	569
2018-19	559
2017-18	537
2016-17	577
2015-16	572
2014-15	594
2013-14	609
2012-13	649
2011-12	653
2010-11	685

#### **District Staffing**

	<b>SAU</b>	<b>LCS</b>	<b>FRES</b>	<b>WLC</b>
Teachers		4	21	33
Nurses		1	1	1
Counselors			1	2
Principals			1	2
ABA/RBT/BCBA		5	7	2

Admin. Assistants	2	1	2	3
Other Support Staff	5		1	3
Paraprofessionals		5	6	8
Title 1 Tutors			3	
Custodians		1	3	3
Van Driver				1
Food Serv. Wrks		1	2	2
Administration	5			
	<b>12</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>60</b>

**District Totals 138**

### Local Education Tax Rate – Town Comparison

Marlboro	21.66	Mascoma Valley	17.11
Brookline	20.73	Keene	16.64
Hinsdale	19.61	Rindge	16.37
Milford	19.37	Temple	13.36
Henniker	19.16	Peterboro	16.19
New Ipswich	19.00	Monadnock Reg.	16.15
Amherst	18.30	Jaffrey Rindge	16.04
Mascenic	17.74	Lyndeborough	15.63
Wilton	17.37	Jaffrey	15.61
Greenfield	17.27	Wear	15.51

### Cost Per Pupil from NH Dept. of Ed FY 28-19

State Average (1)		\$17,357.67			
	Elementary	Middle	High	Total	
Sunapee	25,773.48	28,260.78	28,688.64	27,486.04	
Lincoln-Woodstock Coop	27,203.12	22,919.69	28,392.14	26,485.11	
Moultonborough	20,854.80	34,255.35	29,637.16	25,687.17	
Hinsdale	18,881.21	21,963.35	23,474.56	20,807.17	
Kearsarge Regional	19,735.07	19,874.14	22,386.66	20,543.62	
Littleton	20,209.62	14,584.88	22,426.20	19,971.16	
Gilford	18,454.53	19,295.18	21,194.06	19,798.52	
Contoocook Valley	21,629.55	18,213.42	18,774.38	19,603.99	

<b>9 Wilton-Lyndeboro Co-op</b>	<b>18,486.15</b>	<b>21,191.97</b>	<b>19,711.99</b>	<b>19,445.57</b>
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Hillsboro-Deering Coop	19,553.32	16,399.83	21,251.76	19,236.06
Sanborn Regional	20,163.56	18,737.38	17,489.25	18,770.51
Portsmouth	19,975.72	18,518.05	17,615.63	18,685.08
Gov Wentworth Regional	18,369.30	18,742.99	19,016.69	18,646.22
Haverhill Cooperative	15,993.18	16,707.57	22,565.79	18,166.45
Conway	19,214.33	17,616.72	17,208.09	18,071.14
Oyster River Cooperative	17,995.65	17,409.33	18,240.03	17,902.64
Epping	16,361.84	17,771.79	20,651.62	17,851.02
Newfound Area	17,922.42	17,144.44	17,797.77	17,685.95
Milton	16,356.06	17,149.10	20,080.80	17,560.58
Monadnock Regional	17,520.11	17,068.50	17,871.50	17,557.82
Raymond	16,089.79	17,395.94	19,508.45	17,492.40
Timberlane Regional	17,325.02	17,069.60	17,951.40	17,463.50
Lisbon Regional	13,282.97	26,920.21	19,874.22	17,305.51
Gorham Randolph Shelburne Coop	16,469.85	16,915.84	18,598.51	17,281.91
Hopkinton	17,755.37	15,788.13	16,964.69	17,175.47

**WLC ranks 58 out of 162 schools**

### Accounting of FY20 Deficit

#### Items not budgeted during the budget process

▶ New Teacher Orientation	\$8,900	\$5,900 was grant funded
▶ Summer Custodial	\$7,500	Not put into the budget
▶ Kindergarten Screening	<u>\$2,000</u>	Not put into the budget
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$18,400</b>	<b>\$5,900 will be offset by a grant</b>

#### Unanticipated Costs after the budget was created

### Special Education

Hiring of Reg. Beh. Tech.	\$30,625	Meet the needs of a student new to the District
Hiring of an LPN	\$31,105	Meet the needs of a student new to the District
Hiring of Para-Educator	\$18,000	Meet the needs of a student new to the District



RBT moving to full year	\$17,165	Meet the changing needs of a student
Increased ESY costs	\$21,115	Under budgeted, changing student need
ABA becoming RBT	\$ 8,794	2 ABA Therapists become RBT, increase to \$25 per
Stipend to RBT	\$10,000	New responsibilities
BCBA increase	<u>\$ 5,800</u>	Increased responsibilities
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$142,504</b>	

### **Non-Special Education**

Increase in health insurance	\$60,744	Changes in plans chosen by staff
Increase in dental insurance	\$ 7,664	Changes in plans chosen by staff
Increase in NHRS	\$46,709	Changes in staffing
Increase in FICA	\$19,165	Changes in staffing
Increase in unemployment	\$ 2,518	Changes in staffing
Increase in life insurance	\$ 3,686	Changes in staffing
Inc. in long term disability	<u>\$ 4,254</u>	Changes in staffing
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$144,740</b>	

**Grand Total 305,644**

### **Moderator called for discussion**

Ruth Smith of Wilton

Stated the data is misleading, there is no data on percentages for HS students. Suggested we create revenue by putting our facilities to work.

A Wilton resident asked that it be looked at differently, to look at the increases from this time last year, stating there will be an amendment proposed that will take three things into consideration:

Consumer price index

Approve and allow CBA

Retire the bond back to the taxpayers.

This will result in an approximate 411,000. reduction in the proposed budget.

Mark Hunter of Wilton asked why the Climate Culture program was removed, stating that qualified volunteers are available to do this,

Ms. Browne responded the item was removed through a suggestion for the accreditation program.

Mr. Lane came across a free program and we could fulfill that requirement other ways.

Karen Walker of Wilton proposed an amendment to warrant Article 4 2<sup>nd</sup> by Sara Spittle

Proposed amendment for the budget number to be 12,644,720.00

#### Discussion

Ms. Browne stated both boards worked hard on this, held a lot of meetings and both voted unanimously for this.

Ms. Browne asked if there are suggestions where to reduce.

Karen walker stated this will force the board to look more closely at areas to reduce.

Kevin Boette stated that the board started in September, had the special meeting in November to address the error, met with teachers, tax payers, spent a lot of time going over the budget line by line, programs were cut, a lot of thought and detail was put into this; to arbitrarily subtract this now will do a lot of damage to the students. Mr. Boette asked for specifics where these cuts will come from and what is being requested.

Lisa Post stated this decision was made to avoid another special vote, we were told we were working off wrong numbers and wanted to make sure we are on the right track.

Ralph Bushman of Wilton asked about the increase in salaries; what is the percentage of teachers to administration?

Ms. Browne answered, it is roughly the same, Mr. Lane will look up the info.

Dan Nelson of Wilton spoke against the amendment, stating a 250,000 home with this amendment will have an increase of 4.08 a week, 15.20 a month; stating the committee has done their job.

Sally Curran spoke in favor of the amendment referencing a list including the following possible reductions:

Travel and conferences

New Equipment

Professional Development

Curriculum Coordinator

SAU performance incentives

Jeff Jones replied not all of those items are included in the final budget.

A Wilton resident suggested fundraising for one-time spending like furniture and roofs.

A Wilton resident asked why the cost per student is so high.

Mr. Lane responded, referring to the pupil expenditure slides, and the district staff slides, pupil expenditure, we rank 9<sup>th</sup> out of 51. We are lower than schools that are similar to us. We Cannot compare us to larger schools. Mr. Lane referred to OOD day programs and how much they cost; approximately 80,000 for one student, part is due the scale and decisions the community has made, smaller class sizes, right now we have larger class sizes.

Fran Bujak of Lyndeborough spoke against the amendment stating that this reduction will not be anything insignificant, it will be teachers; class sizes will go up. Money will be in our pockets but will be taken away from our students.

Peter Howd of Wilton questioned salary benefits and SPED services to reconcile the bar graphs, the numbers don't seem to match.

Business Administrator Lizabeth Baker explained those salaries come from all different function codes.

Sarah Spittle of Wilton demanded the board look at the numbers and a solution and make difficult decisions asking them to do more and think more creatively.

Jen Weston of Lyndeborough asked why there is only talk of cutting student services, why not administration cuts? Why weren't things cut that could have been?

A Wilton resident expressed confusion with the budget numbers.

Karen Walker of Wilton stated the pupil cost slide doesn't include transportation and asked what it would take for us to be performing in the top 20%.

Mr. Lane answered he is not satisfied with our test scores and it will take three to five years for that change and it is beginning to happen; if you look at what we are doing our students are at or above grade level expectations, changing the academic culture in schools takes time. The RTI program helps students catch up. We are on the road to getting where we need to be.

A Wilton resident called the question.

Moderator will allow two more questions

A Lyndeborough resident asked how we are breaking down per student. And inquired about the climate and culture program.

Ms. Lemire answered the climate and culture is grant funded to continue.

Mr. Lane responded per pupil does not include OOD and transport, it is difficult to determine that break down number, all students are different; explained info is available on the website.

Pam Altner of Lyndeborough asked about administrative costs and any proposed cuts.

Mr. Lane replied we are not required to have a technology coordinator, Curriculum coordinator all others are required, and we do need a technology and curriculum coordinator.

Diane Foss of Wilton asked about teachers being paid for Professional Development.

Mr. LoVerme replied the next warrant article will cover the teacher's contracts and that teachers are paid for professional development.

A resident requested a breakdown for Administrators to Teachers.

Mr. Lane replied Administration 12.8%, teachers 80%, other Paras, support staff.

***Moderator read amendment to reduce the proposed budget amount to 12,644,720 a reduction of 411,444***

***Voice vote was inconclusive, moderator called for hand vote.***

***Results of hand vote on amendment to Warrant Article 4  
Amendment passed 135 yes/ 90 No***

Ms. Baker spoke on three types of budgets Strategic, Maintenance and Correction. This being a correction budget, this is a year to correct.

A Wilton resident asked what happens if the budget is voted down.

Mr. Lane replied a motion needs to be made with a dollar figure to move forward and vote again.

Mike Demers of Wilton asked about tuitioning kids out.

Mr. Boette replied if we tuition out we will have no say, we will just be writing a check.

Emily Hutchison of Wilton proposed a reconsideration of the amendment vote 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bob Newton of Lyndeborough.

Charlie Post of Lyndeborough requested the names be read for the request for a ballot vote.

Moderator read the following names:

Leslie Browne	Alex LoVerme
Adam Lavallee	William Ryan
Denise Golding	Christine Tiederman
Jeff Jones	Kevin Boette

Alison Dumont of Lyndeborough asked why 10 people can decide we have a ballot vote.

Mr. Lane replied that is by statue it only requires five signature to request a ballot vote.

Bruce Houston read from Roberts Rules of Order that a motion to reconsider can only be made by someone on the prevailing side of the vote.

Moderator stated we have no way of knowing how someone voted.

Emily Hutchison motioned to amend the budget back to original amount, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bob Newton of Lyndeborough

Harry Daily of Wilton requested a decision on ballot, voice or hand vote going forward.

Moderator read a request for all warrant articles for SAU 63 District meeting on March 7, 2020 be made by ballot vote. The following names were read:

Peter Howd	Karen Walker
Kathleen Bangert	Charlie Post
Geoffrey Allen	

***Results of Paper Ballot vote to return to original Budget number of 13,056,164***

***Yes 107/No 142***

***Motion Failed***

Karen Walker called the question to vote on Amended Article 4

***Results of Ballot vote on Amended Article 4:***

***Yes 160/No 82***

***Motion Passed***

Mark Chamberlain made a motion to restrict consideration of Article 4 as amended and approved by this meeting. Motion was seconded.

***Motion passed by voice vote***

Moderator read Article 5

***Warrant Article #5***

***Collective bargaining agreement with the Wilton-Lyndeborough Cooperative Teachers Association***

*To see if the Wilton-Lyndeborough Cooperative School District will vote to approve the cost items included in the collective bargaining agreement reached between the Wilton-Lyndeborough Cooperative School Board and the Wilton-Lyndeborough Cooperative Teachers' Association which calls for the following increases in salaries and benefits at the current staffing levels over the amount paid in the prior fiscal year, 2020-21 \$114,834 and further to raise and appropriate the sum of \$114,834 for the 2020-21 fiscal year, such sum representing the additional costs attributable to the increase in salaries and benefits required by the new agreement over those that would be paid with current staffing levels. (Majority Vote Required)*

<i>Fiscal year</i>	<i>Estimated Increase</i>
2020-2021	\$114,834

*Recommended by the School Board*

*Recommended by the Budget Committee*

*Estimated Tax impact Lyndeborough - \$0.18*

*Estimated Tax Impact Wilton- \$0.20*

Mr. LoVerme moved that Warrant Article 5 be approved as read 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Ballou

Mr. LoVerme spoke using a slide presentation.

Lyndeborough is responsible for 27.295% of the cost which is \$31,344.

If the contract is passed, a home owner in Lyndeborough with a home valued at \$250,000 will have an estimated annual tax increase of \$45 or \$3.75 per month.

The total cost of the contract is \$114,834.

Wilton is responsible for 72.705% of the cost which is \$83,490.

If the contract is passed, a home owner in Wilton with a home valued at \$250,000 will have an estimated annual tax increase of \$50 or \$4.17 per month

This is a one-year agreement with the teacher's association which includes 60 members that are teachers, school counselors, librarians and nurses. The agreement provides a 2.7% average increase in salary for members ranging from \$850 to \$1,700. The teachers have agreed to add one professional day to enhance the collaborating of teachers throughout the district. Separate from the contract, the teachers through a memorandum of understanding will work with the district's administration to create a professional development committee to ensure that the needs of the district and its' staff are met.

There has been concerns about our schools voiced by the community and what kind of education they offer:

Over the past five years four students have dropped out and not completed our program. This is less than one-half of one percent

The percentage of drop outs is half the state average according to information listed on the Department of Education's website and significantly lower than national rates.

The best way to highlight the efforts of our teachers is to demonstrate the accomplishments of our graduates. In the past four years WLC students have been accepted to 116 different colleges and universities including Brigham Young University, Berkley College of Music, Holy Cross, Drexel University, Georgetown University, Ithaca College, Massachusetts College of Art and Design, Mount Holyoke College, Norwich University, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Rochester Institute of Technology, the University of Arizona, University of Minnesota, University of Wisconsin and Wheaton College

WLC Graduates are currently employed by NASA, Space X, Georgetown University, BAE Systems, Fidelity, Standard Power of America, Security Industrial Specialists, University of New Hampshire, Southern New Hampshire University, Gordon College, New Hampshire Ball Bearing the United States Air Force, Army, Marines and the National Guard.

The professions that some of our graduates have chosen are the following:

Software engineers	Teachers
Investment analysts	Actors
Firefighters	Police Officers
Soldiers	Emergency Medical Technicians
Nurses	Retail store managers
Lawyers	Dental Assistants
Bank Managers	Energy Consultants
Structural Engineers	HVAC technicians
Social Workers	Plumbers
Real Estate Agents	Hair stylists
Chefs	College Admission Officers
Business Systems Analysts	Air Force Pilots
Photographers	Pest Control Technicians
Pharmacists	

Over the past five years, 77 students have been honored as New Hampshire Scholars by the State of New Hampshire by taking a rigorous course selection during their time at WLC. This constitutes 39% of the graduating seniors since 2016.

The accomplishments of our graduating seniors are the result of countless hours over 13 years by teachers and the other staff throughout the district. To quote John Steinbeck

“Teaching might be the greatest of the arts since the medium is the human mind and spirit”

The Wilton-Lyndeborough Cooperative School Board hopes you will support our teachers by supporting this warrant article.

Charlie post of Lyndeborough moved for a vote, motion was 2<sup>nd</sup>

Requesters of Ballot vote agreed to a voice vote for Warrant Article 5

***Warrant Article 5 Passed by Voice Vote.***

***Warrant Article 6***

***Special Meeting for defeated/amended Collective Bargaining Agreement***

*Shall the Wilton-Lyndeborough Cooperative School District, if WARRANT ARTICLE 5 is defeated, authorize the Wilton-Lyndeborough Cooperative School Board to call one special meeting, at its option, to address WARRANT ARTICLE 5 cost items only? (Majority Vote Required)*

*Recommended by the School Board  
This warrant article has no tax impact.*

***MR. LOVERME- moved that Article 6 be passed over:***

***2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Ballou***

***Motion passed by voice vote***

***Warrant Article 6 was passed over.***

**Warrant Article 7**

**Increasing the funds for the Building/Equipment and Roadway Capital Reserve Fund**

*To see if the Wilton-Lyndeborough Cooperative School District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$150,000 to be added to the Wilton-Lyndeborough Cooperative Building/Equipment & Roadway Capital Reserve Fund previously established. This sum is to come from general taxation. This article is a special warrant article and is not included in the operating budget. (Majority vote required)*

*Recommended by the School Board*

*Recommended by the Budget Committee*

*Estimated Tax impact Lyndeborough - \$0.24*

*Estimated Tax impact Wilton - \$0.26*

***Mrs. LeBlanc motioned Warrant Article 7 be approve as read 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Legere***

Mrs. Leblanc spoke on Warrant Article 7 using a slide show presentation.

If the warrant article passes, Lyndeborough residents would be responsible for \$40,943 of the total warrant article. The tax impact would be an additional 24 cents to the tax rate. This would create an estimated annual tax increase of \$60.00 or a monthly increase of \$5.00.

If the warrant article passes, Wilton residents would be responsible for \$108,073 of the total warrant article. The tax impact would be an additional 26 cents to the tax rate. This would create an estimated annual tax increase of \$65.00 or a monthly increase of \$5.41.

The WLC School District created a Capital Improvement Plan several years ago to make sure that the District's investment in its' facilities was taken care of. The projects for the upcoming year will be to:

- Continue the roofing project at WLC
- Renovate bathrooms at WLC
- Replacing the dishwasher in the cafeteria at WLC

The total estimated cost for these projects is \$118,450.

As of January 2020, the balance in this account is \$108,922.46

After the projects are completed there would be a balance of about 140,000. With future projects coming up having a greater expense, building up this account will decrease the need for larger requests in the future.

Hearing no discussion

***Warrant Article 7 passed by voice vote***

**Warrant Article 8**

**Increasing the fund balance in the Special Education Capital Reserve Fund**



To see if the Wilton-Lyndeborough Cooperative School District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$100,000 to be added to the Wilton-Lyndeborough Educating Educationally Disabled Children Capital Reserve Fund previously established. This sum is to come from general taxation. This article is a special warrant article and is not included in the operating budget. (Majority vote required)

Recommended by the School Board

Recommended by the Budget Committee

Tax impact Lyndeborough - \$0.16

Tax impact Wilton - \$0.17

***MRS. LEMIRE moved that Warrant Article 8 be approved as read:***

***2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. LoVerme***

Mrs. Lemire spoke on Warrant Article 8 using a slide presentation

If the warrant article passes, Lyndeborough residents would be responsible for \$27,295 of the total warrant article. The tax impact would be an additional 16 cents to the tax rate. This would create an estimated annual tax increase of \$52.50 or a monthly increase of \$4.38.

If the warrant article passes, Wilton residents would be responsible for \$72,705 of the total warrant article. The tax impact would be an additional 17 cents to the tax rate. This would create an estimated annual tax increase of \$55.00 or a monthly increase of \$4.58.

This fund was created to offset the cost for unanticipated special education incurred after the budget was created and approved. In the 2018-19 school year the fund was accessed for the first time offsetting over \$170,000 in unanticipated costs. The intent of the school board is to bring the fund up to a cap of \$300,000 over the coming years.

The current balance in the account is \$46,970.

Kevin Boette proposed an amendment for 300,000 to the Capitol Reserve fund from general taxation, referencing the budget cut from the prior vote; to be sure there are enough funds to cover any unanticipated expense 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. LoVerme.

Dan Nelson of Wilton spoke in favor of the amendment, stating concerns with going over budget.

Charlie Post of Lyndeborough stated that if need be an emergency meeting could be called.

Barry kemmerer of Lyndeborough asked how long it takes to get all the paperwork and costs involved to address the needs of a new special needs student.

Mr. Lane replied the first 45 days is in place while we evaluate the needs, we are responsible for the costs, we are required by law to service that student.

Karen Grybko of Lyndeborough stated this fund was originally set up for unexpected SPED OOD placement and asked when did this change to anything SPED.

Mrs. Lemire replied some costs are through the RISE and Life Skills programs that we service in district that would have been OOD in the past.

Kevin Boette stated the state and federal government has money for SPED and we need to push for our funds.

Dan Nelson requested ballot vote on amendment.

Moderator read the following five names:

Kevin Boette	Jeff Jones
Adam Lavallee	Denis Golding
Jennifer Bernet	

***Results of Ballot Vote for amendment to Warrant Article 8***

***130 No/78 Yes Motion Failed***

***Dan Nelson proposed an amendment for increase of 100,000 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. LoVerme  
Amendment failed by voice vote.***

***Moderator read Warrant Article 8***

***Warrant Article 8 passed by voice vote.***

***Warrant Article 9 Financial Audit***

*To see if the Wilton-Lyndeborough Cooperative School District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of thirty thousand dollars (\$30,000) for the purpose of completing an audit of the Wilton-Lyndeborough Cooperative School District's financial system from 2017-18, 2018-19, and 2019-20 school years. This is a special warrant article and is not included in the operating budget. (Majority vote required)*

*Recommended by the School Board  
Recommended by the Budget Committee*

*Estimated tax impact Lyndeborough- \$0.05  
Estimated tax impact Wilton- \$0.05*

***MR. BALLOU- motioned that Warrant Article 9 be approved as read:***

***2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. LoVerme***

Mr., Ballou spoke on Warrant Article 9 using a slide show presentation

If the warrant article passes, Lyndeborough residents would be responsible for \$8,189 of the total warrant article. The tax impact would be an additional 5 cents to the tax rate. This would create an estimated annual tax increase of \$12.50 or a monthly increase of \$1.04.

If the warrant article passes, Wilton residents would be responsible for \$21,811 of the total warrant article. The tax impact would be an additional 5 cents to the tax rate. This would create an estimated annual tax increase of \$12.50 or a monthly increase of \$1.04.

After it was identified, the budget committee recommended to the school board that an audit be done to determine the cause of the budget deficit identified in the amount of \$305,466 in the current school year. The intent of the audit is to determine the cause of the issue at hand and to make sure that this does not happen again. The budget committee and the school board felt it should be left up to the voters to determine if they wished to incur this expense.

Mr. Ryan spoke on the talk on social media being not true. The business administrator saw something was not right. Mr. Ryan said he made the motion to have a forensic audit so we will know what went wrong. The Chairs and Co-Chairs of the budget and School Board committee had a conference call meeting with the regular auditors, they informed the committee they saw nothing wrong criminally but did see procedures not in place and suggested putting procedures in place instead of a forensic audit. Mr. Ryan encouraged the citizens to attend budget and school board meetings throughout the year and to work together as a community.

Ms. Post spoke in favor of the forensic audit, stating she wants to know where the money went wrong.

Karen Walker of Wilton proposed an amendment to Warrant Article 9 to add the following wording:

*The scope of which review shall be determined by a committee comprising of two members of the WLC Budget Committee and one member of the WLC School Board, reporting to the School Board, and which shall be performed by a firm that has not conducted a WLC financial audit in the past five fiscal years.*

Motion to amend was 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Fran Bujak stated this should be invalid because it changes the intent of the article and using a committee and reporting back is illegal.

Ms. Walker withdrew her amendment 2<sup>nd</sup> was also withdrawn.

Results of voting on Warrant Article 9

***Moderator read Article 9***

***Warrant Article 9 failed by voice vote***

**Article 10: Transact Other Business**

***To transact any other business that may legally come before this meeting.***

Mark Chamberlain made a motion for beginning next year the Budget Committee and School Board be required to have a report in the annual report. Motion was 2<sup>nd</sup>.

***Motion passed by voice vote***

A Lyndeborough resident inquired about meetings being recorded thorough out the year.

Mr. Lane replied this is being looked into.

Mr. Ballou made a presentation to retiring school board member Joyce Fisk for over 40 years of service on the

school board, the longest tenure in the history of the state.

Ms. Browne recognized retiring School Board Chair Matt Ballou for his years of service.

Motion to adjourn was 2<sup>nd</sup> at 1:40pm

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mary-Jane Ryan". The ink is black and the signature is fluid and legible.

Mary-Jane Ryan  
School District Clerk



