

# TOWN OF GOFFSTOWN



## TOWN VOTERS' GUIDE 2011 Official Ballot

## SCHOOL VOTERS' GUIDE 2011 Official Ballot



The Goffstown Board of Selectmen and Goffstown School Board are pleased to present the 2011 VOTERS GUIDE. All town and school articles which will appear on the Official Ballots are included with explanations following each article. Both boards strive toward improving communication with the Goffstown community, and we sincerely hope this guide will assist you in making informed voting decisions. Please remember to exercise your right to vote on Tuesday March 8, 2011 from 7:00 AM – 7:00 PM at Bartlett Elementary or Goffstown High School.

**TOWN BALLOT:** If all the appropriation articles which are recommended by the Board of Selectmen pass, then the town side of the property tax rate is estimated to be **\$8.91**, a decrease of **\$.04** over the previous year. This estimate does **NOT** account for any potential property tax impact from state actions.

**SCHOOL BALLOT:** The estimated tax rate of Article 2, the Operating Budget, is **\$11.56** while **Article 3**, the Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Goffstown Educational Support Staff Association is estimated to be **\$.01**, for a total of **\$11.57** This is an increase of **\$1.00** from the previous year and does **NOT** account for any potential property tax impact from state actions. **Article 4**, the deposit of up to \$200,000 into the Bartlett Elementary School Capital Reserve Fund, is to be made from the current year's unreserved fund balance to become available on July 1, 2011.

Your comments regarding this newsletter are welcome. Please submit comments regarding town articles to Scott Gross, Board of Selectmen Chairman, [sgross@goffstownnh.gov](mailto:sgross@goffstownnh.gov) and comments regarding school articles to Keith Allard, School Board Chair, [kallard@goffstown.k12.nh.us](mailto:kallard@goffstown.k12.nh.us).

# 2011 TOWN ARTICLES

**SELECTMEN**

*For 3 Years*      *Vote for not more than One*  
 Phil D'Avanza   
 Collis G. Adams   
 Write-In \_\_\_\_\_

**BUDGET COMMITTEE**

*For 3 Years*      *Vote for not more than Four*  
 Phillip E. Kendall II   
 Steve LaRose   
 Brian Lewis   
 Sean Skinner   
 Paul Augros   
 Elizabeth Dubrulle   
 Lisa J. Jukes   
 Write-In \_\_\_\_\_   
 Write-In \_\_\_\_\_   
 Write-In \_\_\_\_\_   
 Write-In \_\_\_\_\_

**BUDGET COMMITTEE**

*For 1 Year*      *Vote for not more than One*  
 Francesca "Checker" Hansen   
 Write-In \_\_\_\_\_

**CEMETERY TRUSTEE**

*For 3 Years*      *Vote for not more than One*  
 Linda Reynolds Naughton   
 Write-In \_\_\_\_\_

**LIBRARY TRUSTEE**

*For 3 Years*      *Vote for not more than Three*  
 Susan Plante   
 Wayne Eddy   
 Mike Lawler   
 Write-In \_\_\_\_\_   
 Write-In \_\_\_\_\_   
 Write-In \_\_\_\_\_

**LIBRARY TRUSTEE**

*For 1 Year*      *Vote for not more than One*  
 Theresa "Tess" Marts   
 Roxann Hunt   
 Write-In \_\_\_\_\_

**PLANNING BOARD**

*For 3 Years*      *Vote for not more than Two*  
 Mark Warden   
 Steven J. Dutton   
 John Hikel   
 Richard Meaney   
 Lowell Von Ruden   
 Write-In \_\_\_\_\_   
 Write-In \_\_\_\_\_

**SEWER COMMISSION**

*For 3 Years*      *Vote for not more than One*  
 Stephen R. Crean   
 Write-In \_\_\_\_\_

**TOWN CLERK**

*For 3 Years*      *Vote for not more than One*  
 Celeste Molan   
 Cathleen "Cathy" Ball   
 Jacqueline "Jackie" Lutkevich   
 Write-In \_\_\_\_\_

**TRUSTEE OF TRUST FUNDS**

*For 3 Years*      *Vote for not more than One*  
 Earl S. Carrel   
 Write-In \_\_\_\_\_

**ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT**

*For 3 Years*      *Vote for not more than Two*  
 Catherine Whooten   
 Kevin Reigstad   
 Write-In \_\_\_\_\_   
 Write-In \_\_\_\_\_

**ARTICLE 1**

Shall the Town adopt Amendment #1 amending the following Sections of the Zoning Ordinance for Goffstown, New Hampshire, as amended on March 9, 2010 as follows?

Amending Section 3.12, Table of Accessory Uses, providing for the allowance of Raising and Keeping of Livestock and Raising and Keeping of Poultry as accessory uses to a principle residential use permitted by right in the Conservation and Agricultural districts, permitted by Special Exception in the R1 and R2 districts, and not permitted in all other districts of the Town; and,

Amending Section 5.5 Agricultural and Horticultural Operations, giving specific rules and regulations regarding these uses on properties within the Town;

*(Full-text copies of the proposed amendments may be obtained from the Planning Department and the Town Clerk's office.)*

***Submitted by the Planning Board.  
 Recommended by the Planning Board 7-0-0.***

**EXPLANATION:** The purpose of this amendment is in response to several requests that were received by the Zoning Board of Adjustment for variances to allow these uses. This amendment makes the raising and keeping of poultry and livestock easier by making them "Accessory to Principle Residential Uses" that are permitted both in the Conservation and Agricultural districts, with the poultry being also allowed by Special Exception in the R1 and R2 districts. It also requires that best management practices be followed when raising and keeping poultry and livestock, that the raising of such animals, when determined to be "Accessory to Principle Residential Uses" shall clearly be a subordinate use to the principal residential use and that the use be conducted by a resident of the premises.

**ARTICLE 2**

Shall the Town amend the Goffstown Zoning Ordinance and Zoning Map, by changing the zoning of property identified as Tax Map 6, Lot 78-2, from Agricultural (A) to Commercial (C)? This property's address is 381 Goffstown Back Road, commonly known as the Educare Property.

*Submitted by Petition.*

*Recommended by the Planning Board 4-3-0.*

**EXPLANATION:** The purpose of this article is to rezone this lot from Agricultural (A) to Commercial (C) zoning. Two commercial businesses already operate on this property. There is no associated request to change the current uses on the property.

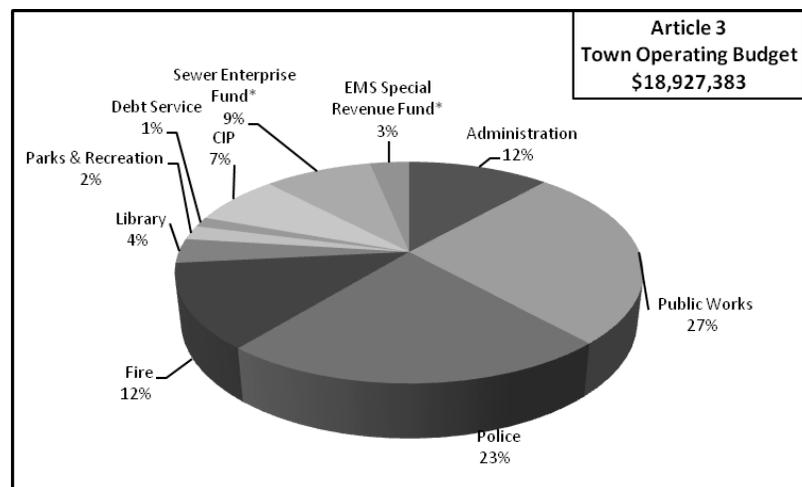
**ARTICLE 3**

Shall the Town of Goffstown 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 Eighteen Million Nine Hundred Twenty Seven Thousand Three Hundred Eighty Three Dollars (**\$18,927,383**)?

Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be Nineteen Million Nine Hundred Twenty Five Thousand Eight Hundred Sixty Three Dollars (**\$19,925,863**), which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town of Goffstown or by law or the governing body may hold one special meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13 X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only. NOTE: This article (operating budget) does not include appropriations in any other warrant article.

*Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0-0 and Budget Committee 11-0-0.*

**EXPLANATION:** The reason for the large difference between the budget and the default budget this year is because many Capital Improvement items were removed from the operating budget and now appear as Separate Articles. Article 6 (portion of the annual Road Plan), 7 (Pumper/Tanker) and 8 (Solid Waste Collection Vehicle) were originally in the operating budget. This separation of CIP items from the budget was to allow the voters to vote on each individually. The Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend this article.



**ARTICLE 4**

Shall the Town of Goffstown approve the cost items included in the collective bargaining agreement reached between the Town of Goffstown by its Board of Selectmen and the New England Benevolent Police Association, Local No. 24 representing the **Patrolmen** which calls for the following increases in salaries and benefits at the current staffing level?

Fiscal Year	Estimated Increase
2011	\$0
2012	\$33,007
2013	\$42,311

and further to raise and appropriate the sum of zero dollars (\$0) for the current fiscal year 2011, such sum representing the additional costs attributable to the increase in salaries and benefits required by the new agreement over those that would be paid at current staffing levels in accordance with the most recent collective bargaining agreement. (This appropriation is in addition to Article 3.)

*Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 4-1-0 and Budget Committee 8-3-1.*

**EXPLANATION:** The Selectmen set and achieved the following goals for negotiations: (1) no fiscal impact in 2011 due to the state of the economy; (2) eliminate the compounding effect of step increases plus cost of living adjustments (COLA) in the last two years of contract; (3) increase employee contributions to health insurance; (4) mitigate the potential increased costs due to the evergreen law; (5) mitigate the impact of any future spiking assessment from the state's retirement system.

In the first year of this contract, there are no Steps or cost of living adjustments. During the second year those members eligible for a Step increase will receive one but no COLA. In the third year, members receive a 3.25% COLA but no Step. Incentive adjustments are as follows: Detectives increase \$300 per year; DARE/School Resource Office decreases \$250 per year; Field Training Officer (FTO) increases to same step on Sargeant matrix while training. Members are on higher co-pay health insurance plans as of 1/1/11, reducing premiums. Those on a single person health insurance plan will now contribute 10% to their health insurance. Cashouts for spouses employed by the town is eliminated. Cashouts for all members reduced by 15%. These are the highlights of the cost items. The Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend this article.

**ARTICLE 5**

Shall the Town of Goffstown approve the cost items included in the collective bargaining agreement reached between the Town of Goffstown by its Board of Selectmen and the New England Benevolent Police Association, Local No. 124 representing the **Dispatchers & Clerks** at the Police Department which calls for the following increases in salaries and benefits at the current staffing level?

Fiscal Year	Estimated Increase
2011	\$0
2012	\$9,378
2013	\$18,902

and further to raise and appropriate the sum of zero dollars (\$0) for the current fiscal year 2011, such sum representing the additional costs attributable to the increase in salaries and benefits required by the new agreement over those that would be paid at current staffing levels in accordance with the most recent collective bargaining agreement. (This appropriation is in addition to Article 3.)

*Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 4-1-0 and Budget Committee 9-2-1.*

**EXPLANATION:** The Board of Selectmen had similar goals for negotiation with this union as described in the previous article. However, this is a new union and they were already on the health insurance plan with higher co-pays. This contract increases the weekly contribution for a single person health insurance plan by 10%, eliminates the cashout for spouses, and decreases cashout amounts for all by 15%. During the three year term of this contract, there are no Steps. During the first year there is no cost of living adjustment (COLA), second year 3.25% COLA and third year has a 3.25% COLA. The Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend passage of this article.

### **ARTICLE 6**

Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of Four Hundred Ninety Nine Thousand Five Hundred Twenty-Four Dollars (\$499,524) for the purpose of reinstating the Budget Committee's reduction of the approved CIP road plan? Passage of this article will also indicate the voters' desire to keep the costs of the road plan in the annual operating budget. (This appropriation is in addition to Article 3.)

*Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0-0 and Budget Committee 10-2-0.*

**EXPLANATION:** Since 2002, the Town has attempted to fund a road rebuilding plan laid out by the MicroPAVER pavement management plan used by communities throughout the country. The financial situation affecting the region has prompted a reduction in this funding over the past couple of years; however, the Selectmen are asking the Town to support this article to restore about 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of the road plan funding that was taken out of the operating budget and placed as a separate article. Though much progress has been made in the past 8 years there are still many roads that need to be upgraded. For example, roads like Warren Avenue, Addison Road, New Boston Road, Normand Road, Paige Hill Road, Locust Hill Road and East Dunbarton Road all need complete reconstruction and that is just naming a few. While the listed roads will take much more money than any one year's typical funding level, this year's funding level will allow significant progress to continue towards the goal of providing well-built roads for the community. The Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend this article.

### **ARTICLE 7**

Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of Five Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$550,000) for the purpose of purchasing a Pumper/Tanker to replace a 1992 Fire Engine and a 1989 Tanker, and to fund this appropriation with One Hundred Forty Two Thousand Dollars (\$142,000) from the Fire Apparatus Capital Reserve Fund and Four Hundred Eight Thousand (\$408,000) by taxation? (This appropriation is in addition to Article 3.)

*Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0-0 and Budget Committee 9-3-0.*

**EXPLANATION:** Replacement of Engine 5 and Tanker 5 were deemed urgent and necessary by the Capital Improvements Program Committee. Both vehicles have reached the end of their useful lifespan, and in fact Engine 5 is no longer able to respond to fires as its fire pump has failed and repairs are not advisable. Funding through this article will replace both vehicles with one (1) combined unit (pumper/tanker). This will help in reducing annual maintenance costs and future replacement costs. The Board of Selectmen and the Budget Committee recommend this article.

### **ARTICLE 8**

Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of Two Hundred Forty Seven Thousand Dollars (\$247,000) for the purpose of purchasing an Automated Solid Waste Collection Vehicle to replace the 2000 Solid Waste Automated Collection Vehicle? (This appropriation is in addition to Article 3.)

*Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0-0 and Budget Committee 10-2-0.*

**EXPLANATION:** The Department of Public Works maintains a fleet of 3 Automated Solid Waste Collection Vehicles. Two are working daily collecting the solid waste and recycling around the community. An older unit is kept as a backup to the other two to be used when maintenance is needed or there is a breakdown. The current practice is that a new vehicle is used as the primary solid waste collection vehicle, the next newest vehicle would serve as the recycling collection vehicle and the oldest vehicle in the fleet serves as the backup. The last truck was purchased 4 years ago (2007), and CIP plans another purchase in 4 years (2015). This year's purchase of a new packer is a prudent and timely action to ensure the town is able to maintain an effective and reliable fleet for curbside pickup operations. The current back up vehicle, a 2000 Volvo with 12,497 hours and 107,473 miles, will be sold or traded when the new vehicle is approved and purchased. The Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend passage of this article.

### **ARTICLE 9**

Shall the Town raise and appropriate Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000) for the purpose of supporting the nonprofit Goffstown Main Street Program, Inc.? (This appropriation is in addition to Article 3.)

*Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0-0 and Budget Committee 12-0-0.*

**EXPLANATION:** The Town has supported Goffstown Main Street Program at the same level since 1999. Their mission is to provide support, advice and promotion to current and potential business owners and residents in the designated Main Street area using a 4-point approach. The 4 point approach revolves around principles of effective design, promotion, economic restructuring, and organization as the keys to economic revitalization of historic downtown. Many of you are familiar with the many special events sponsored by Main Street including the Giant Pumpkin Regatta, Old Home Day, Concerts on the Common, Friday Night Under the Lights, and Art Showoffs. These events bring business to the Village Area and foster a sense of community.

### **ARTICLE 10**

Shall the Town adopt an ordinance pursuant to RSA31:39-c to allow for administrative enforcement of violations of any municipal code, ordinance, bylaw or regulation and for the collection of penalties, to be used prior to the service of a formal summons and complaint? The system provides opportunities for persons who do not wish to contest violations to pay such penalties by mail. The proposed ordinance is available for viewing on the town's website and in the Town Clerk's Office.

*Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 3-1-1.*

**EXPLANATION:** This article seeks to adopt an ordinance to provide staff another tool in the enforcement of local ordinances by allowing those who do not contest violations to pay penalties by mail. The Board of Selectmen recommends this article.

### ARTICLE 11

Shall the Town adopt the Community Revitalization Tax Relief Incentive outlined in Chapter 79-E of state law and to designate two commercial areas as meeting the standards for an eligible district as set forth in RSA 79-E:2, (I) of town as eligible for said incentive: (1) Pinardville Area which includes 147 taxable parcels; and (2) Goffstown Village Area which includes 100 taxable parcels? (A map identifying these parcels is available on the town's website and in the Town Clerk's Office.) This plan has been endorsed by Goffstown Board of Selectmen, Goffstown Economic Development Council, and Goffstown Main Street Program to promote improvements and investments in said commercial districts.

*Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 4-0-1.*

**EXPLANATION:** This article seeks to adopt the Community Revitalization Tax Incentive, outlined in RSA 79-E. The program offers tax relief to property owners who want to substantially rehabilitate a building in designated areas in the Village and Pinardville. For a finite period the assessed value on a property would not increase due to the rehabilitation. When the approved term is complete, the property would be taxed at its full value.

To qualify for the tax relief a project must satisfy three conditions: (1) a structure must be located in the designated Village or Pinardville area; (2) the rehabilitation must cost at least 15% of a building's pre-rehab assessed value or \$75,000, whichever is less; and (3) the project must provide a public benefit to the town by enhancing the economic vitality of the area; enhancing and improving a culturally or historically important structure; promoting development of the area, providing for efficiency, safety and a greater sense of community; or increasing residential housing.

### ARTICLE 12

Shall the Town adopt an Exemption for the Disabled under the provisions of RSA 72:37-b as follows: the exemption from assessed value for qualified taxpayers shall be \$45,000 off their assessment? To qualify, the person must apply in writing to the Selectmen no later than April 15<sup>th</sup> of the tax year, be eligible under Title II or Title XVI of the federal Social Security Act, must have been a New Hampshire resident for at least five years, must occupy the property as his principle place of abode as of April 1<sup>st</sup> of the tax year, must own the property individually or jointly, or if owned by a spouse, they must have been married for at least 5 consecutive years, had in the calendar year proceeding April 1<sup>st</sup> a net income from all sources, of not more than \$35,000 if single and \$50,000 if married, own assets not in excess of \$150,000, excluding the value of the persons actual residence and up to the minimum single family residential lot size specified in the local zoning ordinance.

*Submitted by petition. Not recommended by the Board of Selectmen 4-0-1.*

**EXPLANATION:** This is a petition article to establish a Disability Exemption in the Town of Goffstown. The amount of the exemption, the income and asset requirements are the same as those for the 65 year old Elderly Exemption. Although this is not an appropriation article, any exemption redistributes the amount of taxes to be raised amongst other taxpayers. The Board of Selectmen did not recommend this article because the impact of the passage of this article was not presented and is unknown.

### ARTICLE 13

Shall the Town establish a Police Detail Revolving Fund pursuant to RSA31:95-h? The money received from charges for services shall be allowed to accumulate from year to year, and shall not be considered part of the town's general fund. The town treasurer shall have custody of all monies in the fund, and shall pay out the same upon the order of the Board of Selectmen. These funds may be expended only for police detail related expenses, and no expenditure shall be made in such a way as to require the expenditure of other town funds which have not been appropriated for that purpose.

*Submitted by petition. Not recommended by the Board of Selectmen 4-0-1.*

**EXPLANATION:** This is a petition article to establish a Police Detail Revolving Fund. In essence this article would remove the need to budget the appropriation and revenue in the operating budget, as the receipt of revenue from firms hiring the police detail and the subsequent payment of wages would be accounted for through a non-lapsing revolving fund. The Board of Selectmen do not recommend this article because of the need for new financial software to efficiently carry out the financial accounting of this proposed new fund. The Board prefers that the town's financial software be replaced first.

### ARTICLE 14

Shall the Town amend and add to the town's Noise Ordinance the following paragraph L) under III. Specific Violations Enumerated?

#### **L) Excessive/Nuisance Noise in a Residential Area**

Nuisance noise and/or excessive sound from, but not limited to, the use of any ATV, dirt bike, motorized vehicle, 4x4, off road vehicle, modified car/truck or machinery, etc. or any other nuisance noise on any lot or parcel of land in a Residential Area in such a manner as to be plainly audible at a distance of 50 ft. or more from the lot line, structure or vehicle

Violations will be treated in accordance with Section IV: Penalties.

In addition the Goffstown Police Department can request, if they deem it necessary, a "cease and desist order" from the Board of Selectmen in a Board of Selectmen meeting if the nuisance noise and or violation continues.

(The current noise ordinance is available at the Town Clerk's Office or on the Town's website.)

*Submitted by petition. Not recommended by the Board of Selectmen 4-0-1.*

**EXPLANATION:** This is a petition article which attempts to address nuisance noise and excessive sound from a variety of vehicles and machinery in residential areas. The Town Attorney advises this article is, in all likelihood, unconstitutional. It proscribes otherwise lawful conduct (operating equipment on your own property) and renders it criminal (as well as enjoined) by local ordinance on the basis of being heard within a finite distance, without any indication of the level of noise being generated. If it passes it will be virtually impossible to enforce and, moreover, raises serious legal issues of whether a town may act in this manner (e.g. authorizing police to issue cease and desist orders and establishing objective per se nuisance standards for otherwise lawful conduct).

# 2011 SCHOOL DISTRICT ARTICLES

## ARTICLE 1 ELECTION OF OFFICERS

### SCHOOL BOARD

*For Three Years*                      *Vote for not more than Three*

- |                        |                          |
|------------------------|--------------------------|
| Henry "Hank" Boyle     | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| John Dillon            | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Ben Hampton            | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Philip Pancoast        | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Mary Parah             | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Suzanne "Sue" Tremblay | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Leah Wolczko           | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Write-In _____         | <input type="checkbox"/> |

**EXPLANATION:** Voters will elect three individuals to fill School Board positions, three for a three year term.

## ARTICLE 2

Shall the Goffstown School District raise and appropriate as an Operating Budget, not including appropriations by special warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately, the amounts set forth on the budget posted with the warrant or as amended by vote of the first session, for the purposes set forth therein, totaling THIRTY SEVEN MILLION FOUR HUNDRED SEVENTY TWO THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED TWENTY THREE DOLLARS (\$37,472,723.00)? Should this Article be defeated, the Default Budget shall be THIRTY SIX MILLION THREE HUNDRED SEVENTY EIGHT THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS (\$36,378,150.00), which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Goffstown School District or by law; or the governing body may hold one special meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13, X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised Operating Budget only. This warrant article (the Operating Budget Article) does not include appropriations in ANY other warrant articles.

**EXPLANATION:** At the February 5, 2011 Deliberative Session the district voters agreed, by a margin of 2 to 1, to increase the budget committee's recommended budget of \$36,085,268 to the school board's recommendation of \$37,472,723. This School Board's proposed budget number will appear on the ballot.

The school board came to this recommendation utilizing a zero based budget process. They carefully examined over 2,100 individual budget lines to establish a minimal budget that maintained programs and services at current levels for the upcoming year.

Each year the calculated default budget is derived by adjusting the previous years' operating budget by all contractual obligations and one time expenditures. This process, along with consistent reductions in the budget over the past 2 years, has resulted in a default budget of \$36,378,150 for the 2011-2012 school year.

For the past two years the school district's operating budget has on average been \$890,000 less

than the calculated default budget for that year. This has resulted in significantly decreased levels of plant maintenance and staffing. As an example, 18 positions were eliminated

over this two year period including two secretaries, one administrator, six para-educators, and 7.9 teachers.

The reductions affecting this default budget are in the areas of debt service (due to the retirement of the MVMS and Maple Avenue bond), no increase in wages for support staff (see Article 3), a newly negotiated contract for regular education transportation (resulting in reduced cost to the district), and a significant reduction in projected special education costs.

The School Board's 2011-2012 Operating Budget maintains current programming and services expected by the parents, students, and Goffstown community. It also provides for the curriculum revision cycle for English Language Arts at the high school. This revision has been implemented at the Elementary Schools and Middle School. The High School revision had been delayed for the past year due to previous budget reductions. The operating budget also adds a few necessary positions including a third grade teacher at Bartlett Elementary School (due to actual enrollment numbers), a School Resource Officer (which was done in coordination with the Police Department and Selectmen) and a library paraeducator at MVMS (this position was removed in the current budget). The technology budget provides for the maintenance and operational support of our current technology. In addition, there are minimal requests for new technology and equipment, which will allow the district to continue to move forward in their state approved technology plan. This budget also provides for continued maintenance and repair of our facilities. Throughout the past few years, when budget reductions have been made, they have impacted our on-going pro-active approach to the maintenance of our buildings including planned CIP items. It is important that we continue to fund building maintenance at appropriate levels and adhere to the town approved CIP plan.

The Special Revenue Funds portion of the budget, including food service and grants, has increased by \$305,565 from one year ago, for a projected total of \$1,771,796. Both the food service and grants programs are self-funding; revenues are used to offset expenses. While contributing to the growth of the School Board's Operating Budget, there is no tax impact for these increases.

Should the School Board's Operating Budget fail, the resulting default budget will mean a funding reduction for operating the schools of \$1.4 million for the 2011-2012 school year. At this early stage, we anticipate this to include the elimination of all scheduled maintenance projects; continued reductions in classroom supplies and library/media books; reduction in athletic supplies and equipment; the elimination of all new technology, the English/Language Arts curriculum revision at GHS, field trip transportation, equipment, assemblies, new and replacement furniture, the late bus; and staffing positions potentially including all library paraeducators, a custodian, a technology support position, 1.5 teachers, the school resource officer, and at least 2 paraeducators. This is in addition to the eighteen positions cut in previous budgets.

The school board is proud to continue to bring forth an operating budget that retains the per pupil costs at a level significantly lower than the state average. The most recent data for per pupil costs shows Goffstown spending \$9,703.69 per student, compared to a state average expenditure of \$12,213.99 – or \$2,510.30 less per student!

*A majority vote is required.*

*The School Board voted 7-0-1 to recommend this article. The Budget Committee voted 10-1-1 to not recommend this article.*

### ARTICLE 3

Shall the School District vote to approve the cost items included in the 1-year Collective Bargaining Agreement reached between the Goffstown School Board and the Goffstown Educational Support Staff Association which calls for the following increases in salaries and benefits:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Estimated Increase</u>
2011-2012	\$10,020

and further to raise and appropriate the sum of TEN THOUSAND, TWENTY DOLLARS (\$10,020.00) for the 2011-12 fiscal year, by taking ONE THOUSAND, THREE HUNDRED SEVENTEEN DOLLARS (\$1,317.00) from the Food Service Revenue accounts with the remaining EIGHT THOUSAND, SEVEN HUNDRED THREE DOLLARS (\$8,703.00) to come from taxation for the purpose of funding the additional costs attributable to the increase in salaries and benefits over those of the appropriation at current staffing levels in accordance with the most recent collective bargaining agreement? This appropriation is in addition to Warrant Article #2 the Operating Budget. (Majority vote required.)

**EXPLANATION:** This individual article asks voters to approve the new one-year collective bargaining agreement between the Goffstown Educational Support Staff and the Goffstown School Board. This agreement covers a total of 157 employees, in the classifications of custodians, food service, EMT's, paraprofessionals, and secretaries.

It also asks the voter's permission to raise and appropriate up to \$10,020 to fund the additional costs associated with the additional salary and benefit costs which would result from the adoption of this agreement. It is important to note that only **\$8,703 will be raised from taxation**. The balance of **\$1,317 will be funded by the Food Service program**.

Members of this bargaining unit have agreed to a pay freeze for the next school year. In addition, this new agreement extends the longevity stipend payment which would have expired with the current contract and provides up to \$100 for each member of the custodial staff as a reimbursement for the purchase of safety shoes.

*A majority vote is required.*

*The School Board voted 8-0-0 to recommend this article.*

*The Budget Committee voted 10-1-1 to recommend this article.*

### ARTICLE 4

Shall the School District raise and appropriate up to the sum of TWO HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$200,000.00) to be added to the existing Bartlett Elementary School Facilities Capital Reserve Fund for Phase II of the upgrade and expansion of the Bartlett Elementary School. Furthermore, to fund this trust from the June 30, 2011 undesignated fund balance available on July 1 of 2011? This appropriation is in addition to Warrant Article #2, the Operating Budget Article. (Majority vote required).

**EXPLANATION:** This special article asks voters for permission to place up to \$200,000 into the existing capital reserve fund established for the renovation of the Bartlett Elementary School. This amount will be transferred from the projected unreserved fund balance which will be available to the school district on July 1, 2011. On December 31, 2010, there was a balance of \$344,970 in the capital reserve fund. A deposit to this fund will not increase the overall tax rate.

The school district's voters established the Bartlett Elementary School Capital Reserve Fund during the 2005-2006 school year with the transfer of \$300,000 from the district's unreserved fund balance. The purpose of the reserve is to provide for the funding required to support building and infrastructure updates necessary to maintain the facility as a viable elementary school capable of supporting projected student enrollments as well as the regular use as a multi-purpose community facility. Utilization of the capital reserve fund would reduce the total of any long term financing requirement that will arise from any new work authorized by the voters.

The school district has organized this work to be completed in two phases. Phase 1 work, totaling \$976,000, was completed in December 2008 utilizing only capital reserve funds and impact fees. There was no new taxation due to the use of this fund. Phase 2 will become a part of the Elementary School Facilities Renovation Project, the scope of which will be defined by the school district after review of the results of the engineering and architectural studies project scheduled to start in the spring of 2011.

*A majority vote is required.*

*The School Board voted 8-0-0 to recommend this article.*

*The Budget Committee voted 9-2-1 to not recommend this article.*

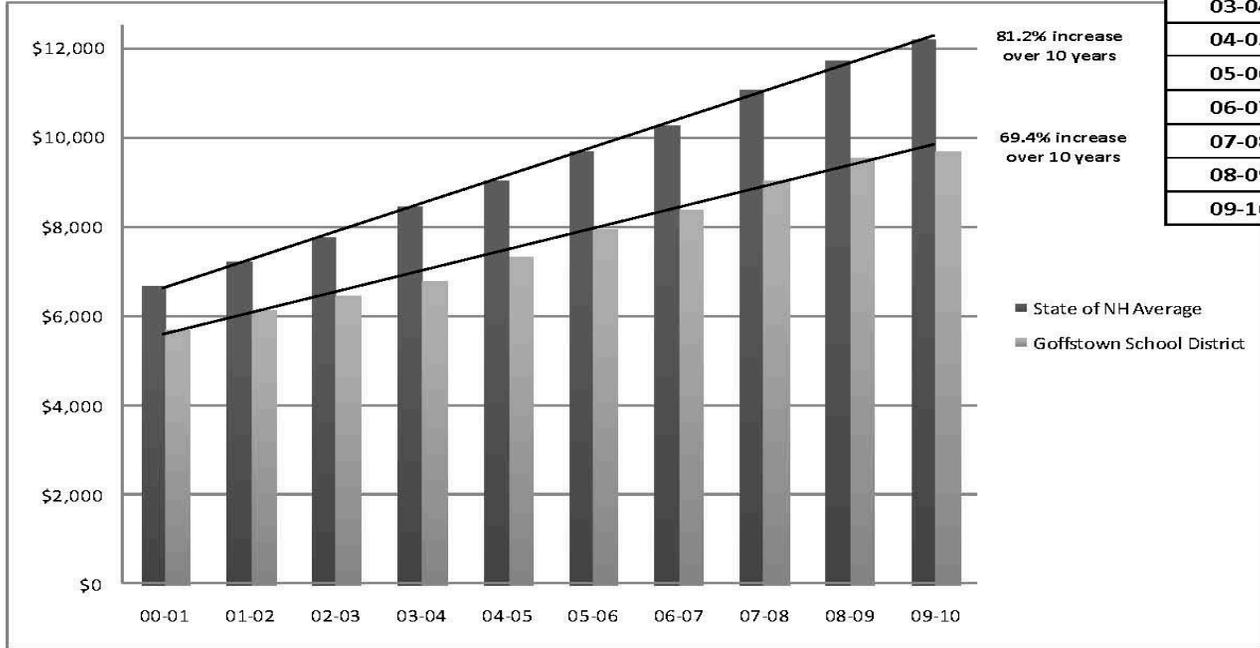
Historical tax rate per \$1,000 of assessed valuation for Goffstown

Year	Local Ed	State Ed	Total Ed tax	Other local	Total tax
2010	10.57	2.30	12.87	10.04	22.91
2009	9.50	2.41	11.91	9.76	21.67
2008	10.69	2.50	13.19	9.50	22.69
2007	11.76	2.87	14.63	10.07	24.70
2006	12.35	2.86	15.21	9.47	24.68
2005	11.43	2.83	14.26	9.35	23.61
2004	9.91	3.09	13.00	8.78	21.78
2003	8.34	3.97	12.31	8.40	20.71
2002	13.01	7.17	20.18	12.74	32.92
2001	11.25	7.23	18.48	11.72	30.20
2000	10.15	6.68	16.83	11.60	28.43

Average Teacher Salaries

	Goffstown	State
<b>09-10</b>	\$45,680	\$51,443
<b>08-09</b>	\$45,171	\$50,128
<b>07-08</b>	\$44,115	\$48,310
<b>06-07</b>	\$40,910	\$46,797

**Cost per Pupil Data:  
Goffstown compared with state average**



	State of NH Average	Goffstown School District
00-01	\$6,738.36	\$5,727.79
01-02	\$7,233.49	\$6,174.95
02-03	\$7,809.49	\$6,484.70
03-04	\$8,496.28	\$6,833.62
04-05	\$9,098.56	\$7,334.23
05-06	\$9,710.10	\$7,961.72
06-07	\$10,304.88	\$8,425.79
07-08	\$11,135.10	\$9,082.68
08-09	\$11,745.55	\$9,579.31
09-10	\$12,213.99	\$9,703.69



***Town of Goffstown***  
TOWN OFFICES  
16 Main Street  
Goffstown, NH 03045

PRSR-STD  
ECRWSS  
US POSTAGE PAID  
GOFFSTOWN NH  
PERMIT No. 44

**TOWN OF GOFFSTOWN  
RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMER**