

SCHOOL BOARD REPORT



*Seated L-R; Vice-Chair Philip Pancoast, Chair Keith Allard, Teacher Rep. Peggy Zola
Standing L-R; Dian McCarthy, Ginny McKinnon, Student Rep. Elizabeth Kelly, Lorry Cloutier
Teacher Rep. Jeanne Roy, Hank Boyle, Mary Grassett, Jennifer Theroux. Absent: Suzanne Tremblay, Kent Nolan*

The education of our children is a direct investment in our most valuable asset and their future success. During the 2010 school year, the Goffstown School Board has renewed its commitment to sustaining and supporting essential educational investments made over the past decade.

In continuing efforts to reduce operating costs and keep the tax rate as level as possible, the School Board has, over the past two years, taken several steps to make reductions in the operating budget. Several of the major cuts include:

- The Reduction of 18 staff positions between the 09-10 and 10-11 academic school year;
- The reduction of many supply lines by 25% or more;
- Elimination of funding for field trips;
- The late bus was discontinued;
- Postponed routine and necessary maintenance projects into future years;
- Reduced funding to co-curricular activities

Reflecting on the reductions already made in previous year and the state of the economy, the Goffstown School Board presented the community with a budget that provided the means to sustain the current level of services. In fact, educational funding in the Goffstown School District continues to be nearly \$2,000.00 per student below the state's average. These figures continue to confirm the value that the taxpayers in Goffstown are receiving.

In the 2009-2010 academic year, the Goffstown School District received a significant amount of ARRA funds which were used, in part, to expand an in-house special education

programs which will provide for improved services while saving the district money on current and future out-of-district tuitions. The new core reading program was also purchased utilizing these funds. A majority of the ARRA funds received by the district were used to support budgeted programs and items, thus a significant reduction to the property taxes of residents occurred. This reduction was approximately three percent.

With the cuts realized in our 2009-2010 budget, costs did not decrease proportionally. A significant amount of the costs to educate our students were absorbed by parents, parent groups, school booster clubs, and teachers. Our administrators, teachers, support staff, volunteers, coaches, and parents continuously go above and beyond the call of duty to ensure a quality and memorable education.

Positive results from the educational investments made over the past decades can be seen in the state's NECAP score for our Goffstown High School students. It is with great pride that I share that our students scored in the 95th percentile in Reading, 96th in writing and 92nd in Math this year. Both GHS and MVMS continue to be fully accredited schools. These results are a combined effort in the preparation of the testing method and the educational investments made by our staff over the past decade.

In the upcoming year the School Board will continue to improve public education in Goffstown by focusing on developing a clear mission and goals for the Board and the School District. We will keep our focus on encouraging academic rigor for all our students to ensure their future success.

In closing, I would be remiss if I did not acknowledge the dedication and efforts of my fellow Board Members who serve to provide our children with a quality education. This year the Goffstown School Board had all our school committees chair positions filled with active and dedicated individuals. I am especially thankful for the efforts put forth by these committee chairs, Philip Pancoast, Lorry Cloutier, Hank Boyle, and Dian McCarthy. It has been a pleasure and honor to serve as Chairman over the past five years and I look forward to continuing to serve with our administrators, teachers, staff, volunteers, coaches, and parents as we experience what tomorrow holds.

Keith Allard, Chairman
Goffstown School Board

SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS REPORT

Stacy Buckley, Superintendent

On behalf of School Administration Unit # 19, I present this 2009-2010 report of the Superintendent of Schools. The school districts of Dunbarton, Goffstown, and New Boston continue to provide the highest quality education for our students in the most cost effective manner possible. We are proud of our accomplishments over the past year and continue to strive to meet expectations and outcomes for the upcoming year.

During the 2009-2010 school year, all three school districts of SAU #19 focused on two main goals- demonstrating our success by increasing our New England Common Assessment (NECAP) Scores and providing instruction to all students that is research based, multi-tiered and

responds to the individual needs of students. All of the administrators in SAU #19 recognize the impact that NECAP scores have on our schools and community. A rejuvenated focus on the assessment led to a significant increase in many of our schools scores. Our NECAP testing results provided quantitative evidence that our educational system is strong. Goffstown High School NECAP scores showed that our students perform in the top 10% of the state. This is a significant accomplishment given the fact that our cost per pupil expenditure is in the lowest 10% of the state. These outcomes demonstrate that the Goffstown, Dunbarton and New Boston School Districts are providing a comprehensive and high quality education to the students of our communities.

In order to provide this quality education, all students must be challenged and engaged in their learning. Through the Response to Intervention (RtI) initiative, the SAU focused the instructional strategies for students by ensuring that each student has access to a research based, multi-tiered approach to learning. Through professional development, teachers learned to identify the strengths and needs of each student by assessing individual, classroom and school wide data. Through this process, instruction is geared towards meeting the needs of each student. The RtI initiative coincided with the revision of the English Language Arts curriculum. Through this process, the Goffstown School District identified the need to explore programmatic options for its elementary and middle school reading programs. After an extensive investigation process, it was determined that *Reading Street 2011* would be adopted as the new core reading program. The purchase of this program was done through the utilization of ARRA funds. With its implementation, we are seeing a more systematic, engaging, and responsive approach to reading. We continue to look forward to the success this program will have with our students.

At the end of the 2009-2010 school year, we said goodbye to several dedicated and long term employees of our schools. Madeline Enman retired from the Goffstown School District after 43 years of service as the Food Service Director. Doris Seastream, a science teacher at Goffstown High School, retired after 25 years of service and Mary Waples, who served as the school nurse at Mountain View Middle School, retired after 15 years. We wish them all well as they venture into a new phase of their lives.

The Goffstown School Board recognized Ellen Vermokowitz for her many years of service and dedication to the district by giving her the Dream Keeper Award. Dr. Athena Chisholm and Valerie Chess were awarded the Cornerstone Award for their daily dedication to the students of the Goffstown School District.

We also wish to extend our thanks to several school board members for their years of service. Three school board members completed their service during the 2009-2010 school year. A special thank you to Marti Wolf (New Boston), Jeffrey Tate (Goffstown), and Phillip Kendall (Goffstown) for their efforts and dedication on behalf of the students of our communities.

On behalf of the students, school boards, faculty, and staff, I would like to extend my sincere appreciation to the communities of Goffstown, Dunbarton, and New Boston for their continued support of the educational programs and services of SAU #19.

GOFFSTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES DELIBERATIVE SESSION MONDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2010

Moderator, James Raymond, called the 2010 School District Deliberative Session to order at 7:25 p.m. There were 371 registered voters in attendance. Counters were Marie Boyle, Jane Raymond, Mark LeMay and David Bunton.

J. Raymond, Moderator called the meeting to order at 7:25 p.m.

The cast of IADA led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance; and sung the National Anthem. The cast then shared a wonderful musical number with the audience.

J. Raymond: I would like to introduce the members of the boards and administration.

The Following members of the SAU #19 Administration were introduced: Stacy Buckley, Superintendent of Schools; Brian Balke, Assistant Superintendent of Schools; MaryClaire Barry, Assistant Superintendent of Schools; Raymond Labore, Business Administrator; Jerry Agate, Facilities Director; Suzanne Pyszka, Principal of Maple Avenue Elementary School; Carol Kilmister, Human Resources Director (not present); David Bousquet, Principal of Bartlett Elementary School; Frank McBride, Principal of Goffstown High School; James Hunt, Principal of Mountain View Middle School; Leslie Doster, Principal of Glen Lake Elementary School; Jerry Agate, District Facilities Director; Steve Fountain, Athletic Director; Peggy Zola, Mary Grasset and Cecile Perretta, Teacher Representatives; Kyle Carreau, Student Representative and Attorney Ed Kaplan.

J. Raymond: I would also like to introduce Fred Plett, Assistant Moderator; Jo Ann Duffy, School District Clerk; and myself, Jim Raymond, Moderator.

Moment of Silence: Keith Allard asked the meeting to join him in a moment of silence in remembrance of Jennifer Wentz.

Keith Allard – Presentation of awards

Dream Keeper Award: Ellen Vermokowitz – presented by Keith Allard

The Goffstown School Board wished to recognize exceptional service to our school district. To this end, the Dream Keeper Award is established. It is designed to recognize people or organizations that truly have gone the extra mile to make the Goffstown dream of providing a superior education a reality. This award would have the magnitude similar to the following: act of heroism, published manuscript or research project in a state or national publication relating to education, an election or appointment to state or national executive leadership position promoting education, a scholastic achievement such as a National merit Finalist or Semifinalist, a state or national competition winner relating to education, a presentation at a national conference or convention relating to education, a major investment of capital, time, supplies or equipment that will enhance education, an achievement, accomplishment recognized at the state or national level relating to education, significant contribution to the district in service, creativity, etc., which enhances the quality of education in our schools, outstanding academic, athletic and/or community service achievement.

This year, the Goffstown School Board is pleased to announce that Ellen Vermokowitz is receiving the Dream Keeper Award. Ellen served numerous terms on the Goffstown School Board; she served as School Board Chair, SAU Chair, and was a member of almost every subcommittee of the School Board in her tenure on the Goffstown School Board. Ellen served on three major building projects; MVMS, GHS Renovations and Glen Lake School. Her experience with school building projects and her attention to detail ensured that our school dollars were well spent. Ellen proved to be a tireless advocate for our school system, its teachers, staff and students. One of Ellen's greatest contributions was her steadfast commitment to the planning and communication committee of the Goffstown School Board. Leading by example, Ellen emphasized how important it was to regularly communicate with the community. Goffstown and our school are a better place thanks to Ellen's passion, educational vision and tremendous work ethics. It is with great honor that we present the Dream Keeper award to Ellen Vermokowitz.

Cornerstone Award

The Cornerstone Award Program is a recognition program whereby the Goffstown School District has the opportunity to recognize outstanding achievements by staff members as well as community members working within our schools. These awards are open to all members of the Goffstown staff and school community who have been employed or dedicated to the district for at least one full school year.

Valerie Chess – presented by Keith Allard

The first recipient of the Cornerstone Award is Valerie Chess. She currently serves as Guidance and PowerSchool Secretary. Valerie has held numerous positions with GHS. She is known to be knowledgeable, pleasant and willing to interact with all members of our school community. Valerie routinely proves herself to be a valuable member of the school community and a dedicated worker. With Valerie's eye to detail and working closely with our district data manager, the school district has been able to streamline the flow of information and provide real-time data for the educators. On behalf of the Goffstown School Board, I am pleased to present Valerie Chess with the Cornerstone Award for 2010.

Dr. Athena Chisolm – presented by Keith Allard

The second recipient of the Cornerstone Award is Dr. Athena Chisolm. Athena has been with the school district and at Maple Avenue School for 17 years, and currently holds the position of Reading Specialist. Athena is a proponent of lifelong learning and shares this enthusiasm with the students, parents and teachers. Athena has also dedicated time to serving on various boards and committees over the years. One of the driving examples of Athena's dedication to the betterment of our students is her organizing a school summer reading program. Because Athena is generous, compassionate and selfless, the Goffstown School Board is pleased to present her with a Cornerstone Award.

Board Member Retirement

Jeffrey Tate – presented by Phillip Kendall

I am here to present an award to Jeff Tate for his service to the School Board, but more importantly, to the Town itself. Jeff and I have been friends for a long time. We were both on the Budget Committee together. Six years ago, when we ran for the Budget Committee, we shared signs. He has been a great friend and board member. He has done a lot for this Town. Thank you for your dedication to this Town.

Moderator Raymond explained the procedures of this meeting.

Jen Foley: In the event you do a voice vote and it seems similar, how will we have the opportunity to have a ballot vote?

J. Raymond: You would have the opportunity for seven ballot voters to ask for a ballot vote. If I cannot discern, I will ask for a standing vote.

ARTICLE 1

To choose all School District officers for the ensuing years:

To choose three members of the School Board for the ensuing three years.

No action needed by this body.

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 FIVE MILLION SIX HUNDRED TWENTY SEVEN THOUSAND THREE HUNDRED NINETY TWO DOLLARS (\$35,627,392.00)? Should this Article be defeated, the Default Budget shall be THIRTY SIX MILLION FOUR HUNDRED THIRTY THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED FORTY SIX DOLLARS (\$36,430,646.00), 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. (Majority vote is required).

The Budget Committee voted 7-5-0 to recommend

P. Pancoast moved seconded by K. Nolan to move and speak to Article 2 as printed on the Warrant.

P. Pancoast moved to increase the school district budget by \$837,529 from \$35,627,392 to \$36,464,921. Seconded by Kent Nolan.

K. Allard: The goal this evening is for the district to educate you on the budget process, effects of revenue, resources, where Goffstown ranks, impact of a default budget. The School Board’s budget is \$1,804,273 or 5.2% more than the current school year’s budget. These dollars support programming and services for pre-school, kindergarten, two elementary schools, the middle and high school. Our operating budget this year is below our default budget. Should we not receive the number we are requesting, these cuts would need to be in all departments. Administrators, teachers, paraprofessionals, co-curricular, transportation, Special Ed, etc., would all be affected by these cuts. The salaries for first year teachers have been flat. Employee benefits have had quite a fluctuation. Our guaranteed max cap for insurance increases is 21%. This is not unusual. We don’t have our exact increase at this point. Energy has fluctuated significantly over the years as well. Student transportation shows a decrease of five percent. We transferred the cost back onto the co-curricular activity. We did not eliminate any sports/co-curricular programs, but transferred some costs to the parents. In July 2009, the school board returned \$3.3 million back to the taxpayers. The cost per valuation went down last year \$2.40. The current tax rate is \$11.91, default budget tax rate is \$15.31 (increase of \$3.40), School Board’s tax rate is \$15.45 (increase of \$3.54) and Budget Committee’s tax rate is \$14.74 (increase of \$2.83). Our budget is not doubling every ten years. There has been approximately a

20% increase over the last ten years in the school district's budget. Over the last four years, there has been a 9.77% increase in our budget. We have been increasing less than the COLA put out by the US Government.

Phillip Pancoast: This is an important night for the district and each one of you. It's not an easy time or an easy decision. If we have done our job properly this evening, then we have done our job. Everybody that sits at that table pays taxes. Please listen and ask the questions you have and then make the best possible decision for yourselves. The School Board's goals is to make the best decisions for the schools. This is not a challenge that changes because the economy changes. We have a business to run. Businesses make budgets in much the same way the school district makes a budget. They try to predict how much to sell, revenue to make, etc. The district needs to consider enrollment, how do we educate the children and with what resources. They are doing great things in our schools and should be applauded for what they do. Our enrollment is flat. What we need to do has not changed since 2002 to the present. (presented slide on staffing trends for the past seven years). There is one less administrator at the high school now. (A slide was also presented on the cost per pupil data comparing Goffstown with the state). 94 percent spent more than the district you support. We are spending \$6 million less educating the students than if we were spending the state average. I would say we are doing something very right. I encourage you to understand the numbers and say that the fox is not guarding the hen house. We look to you for your support.

J. Raymond: We will not permit negative attacks on anyone individual. Everybody is pulling in the same direction for the benefit of the Town. I will not permit any variance from that. I will only allow one amendment on the floor at one time. I will allow you to tell us about it, so people know what is coming next, but you must wait until this amendment is moved on.

Calvin Pratt: Clarification, I see that in special programs line 1200 there is almost \$200,000 cut. I understand that is mandated by Federal Law. How is it possible for this cut to be in there? When Mr. Allard was speaking, I misheard what he said about the percentage increase. I don't see a 9. Figure. I see a 10.79 figure there and a COLA. I am wondering why my figures are different from what I have heard. Next question concerns "No Child Left Behind". Has Goffstown's status changed? On the page that shows the average cost per pupil, it shows that it has doubled.

K. Allard: 1200 line – most will be contractual under the IEP programs. If there is not enough money in that line, we are forced to take it from another line. The handout does say 10.79, which is a typo. Currently, we have to meet AYP two years in a row in order to not be designated as needing improvement. I am not sure what you were referring to in your fourth question.

C. Pratt: I just put two check marks next to that particular column.

K. Allard quoted the average costs in 1997-98.

Scott Gross moved to call the question.

J. Raymond: I will suspend that motion and entertain others. The purpose of this meeting is to have discussion.

Ken Rose: I would like to hear feedback from the Budget Committee as to why they are proposing lower figures and why they think their budget is more appropriate.

Guy Caron: I understand you will not allow amendments to amendments. There are going to be other motions for different numbers.

I will permit one more motion to amend after this amendment.

G. Caron: I am certainly going to. Mr. Allard made reference to this flyer. He is correct; the column on the top did change. The default budget numbers are correct and the budget committee numbers are correct, as are the column on the right. I am stunned a motion was made to increase this number. The School Board does not operate like any business I know, if they did, they would act to streamline costs. I intend to request a secret ballot on this motion.

David Bunton: I don't understand this budget. I think there would be no problems if everything was status quo with the economy. We have people in Town on the verge of losing their home. Because we want to keep the class size at 25 students does not justify for people losing their homes. We need to cut the increase down to zero.

Ivan Beliveau: I would like to thank the students. I want to thank the School Board for returning \$3.3 million. We saw a reduction in our tax rate of about 5%. That was really helpful. The comment I would like to make is we are in hard times. We do see lots of things happening. We are looking at some significant tax increases here. Any number over \$31.9 million will mean about 70 cents increase per million. We will be looking at increases Wednesday night also. One thing I want to observe, the total school budget was \$300,000. \$300 per student. It took to 1972 before we had a \$1 million school budget. In 2000, we were up to \$17 million. Now we are double that.

K. Allard: I will not argue the trends in the 1950's or 1960's. Look at our current trends. This School Board is one of the most conservative school boards in the state.

Steven Druin: My taxes are over \$8,000. The company I work for is an \$8 million company. We would be fired if we ran our business like this.

John Caprio: If you look at the budget at 2000 and the current proposed budget factoring out Glen Lake School, there has been about a \$15 million increase. The increase in the students is only 59 students. Something is wrong with the math here.

Jen Foley: I printed off the budget. It shows you have been conservative in some respects. My concern is, if you look at the \$99,000 line that you spent \$17,000 on. Why are you budgeting \$84,000 in this budget. There are several items that I see are increasing. Our court system is shutting down 17 days next year. Our school system needs to take some cuts too.

Bill Exner: I have four kids who went through the system and the community supported the schools when my kids were attending. We are here as a community to invest in one another. I am here to urge we support the school board's recommendation. There are social costs associated when we start cutting back on schools. We will have to look at the tax structure in the state of NH. That is an issue in Concord for both Democrat and Republican state representatives. This will not change until they take that issue up where it belongs. We have fewer Master Degree teachers in our system. Our classroom space is going up a third more than the state average teacher:pupil ratio. My four year old granddaughter is going to be in our school system too. I think it is a privilege to support this. I am overburdened as a taxpayer too. It will not change by going after the school budget. It will change by asking our State Representatives to do it right.

K. Allard: We do the best we can on budgeting. When kids roll into school in September, we are starting to project the following year's budget. \$2 million was from unanticipated revenue. \$1.3 million was from fiscally conservative doing the responsible thing. We could have created new programs and we didn't.

Request for Written Ballot submitted by nine registered voters for Article 2.

Ellen Vermokowitz: If we were paying \$2,000 more per child than the state average, I would be yelling cut it. The fact is we pay \$2,000 less. I can't image what we could cut out if

anybody does not want to support the school board's motion. I ask you to stand up to say what service, what program and what child you do not want educated. It will not happen with less than what they are asking for. We are responsible for our community as a whole. My children are grown and gone and they are taxpayers here in Goffstown. We should never be penalizing the education of our children for the dollar. Anybody who wants to not support the school's proposal please tell us what program, children, etc., should receive less than an education.

Tim McPease: I looked at the warrant article guide. There are some things that are troubling going up. I don't think we can control any of them. One thing that was brought to my attention is employee benefits. I have not gotten a raise in two years. My health care costs have gone up 15%. I shouldered that burden.

Dian McCarthy: I have been a long time taxpayer in town and I am a small business owner. Good economy or bad, educating our children is not an option. Education will be there greatest asset and the greatest gift we can give them. I have spent hundreds of hours in the school. I am seeing a strong influence of conservatism. We have 92 percent of the district spending more than us. I have spent a lot of time at meetings, the budget committee made many cuts. Next year's fourth graders will feel the effects. They are looking at 28 class sizes. The school is at capacity and even if we could afford another teacher, we don't have any place to put another classroom. Education is not a luxury to be cut out of the budget. Education is a necessity.

Mark Campbell: Our budgets have increased over the last ten years. I've lived here eight years. Approximately 15 years ago, GHS lost its accreditation. A lot of things have changed. No child left behind was instituted in 2001. Mandates increased the cost. We are in a global economy where skills are necessary. The best thing we have is to educate our children. Education is where it increases are value as world leaders. We now have a graduation age of 18. Our economy has changed. The world has changed and I hope you support this budget.

Calvin Pratt: You are well represented in Concord. Your representatives are in the minority. What you can expect from the state level, there will be more license fees, etc. You can also anticipate Uncle Sam will have his hand in your pocket too.

Len Stuart: I have had two children go through the school system. There is no business I know that is proposing five percent increases. You are talking about layoffs, cut backs in hours, cut backs in unions. We are talking about a five percent increase in expenditures which will add to your monthly mortgage bill. We are talking about dealing with the pain of the economy this year. Most of the five percent increase is due to the salaries and benefits. I think the board could have looked at other areas. Having had children go through the system, I don't think we are penalizing the system. I think we are asking for realities of what people can afford. You don't want people losing their homes because of these tax increases.

J. Raymond: A motion was made to move question and there was a second.

Fred Plett explained the procedures in order to vote by secret ballot.

Meeting suspended at 8:54 p.m. to engage in the vote. Meeting called back to order at conclusion of ballot voting.

Results: Yes – 168 No – 174. Motion defeated.

C. Caron: Motion to reduce that number to a number identical to what the School Board has as a budget \$34,660,647, which is a reduction of \$966,745. Last year, the School Board's operating budget was \$34.8. This year it is \$34.6 and we have heard they are

planning on returning about \$610,000. Considering what we are going through, keeping the budget at the same budget is not an unreasonable reduction.

Seconded by Carmine Gange.

Bill Gordon: Most of us in the private sector are operating on 5, 10, 15% of our income has been reduced, yet we are obligated to feed our families, clothe them, health insurance, etc. This school budget with this reduction is a reduction somewhere in the vicinity of 4-5%. I worked for several corporations that would come through and make ten percent across the board cuts and expect that we produced the product that we did our job with less. I have been through untold number of pay freezes. Five percent is not a huge number. We are not committing any crime against humanity with this number.

Francesca Hanson: As a parent, teacher and a member of this community, that we are doing a crime against humanity. Corporations are not required to accept all of the population and educate them no matter what their needs are. We take every child and offer them an education. We are doing a disservice to our students and our community. We are looking at class sizes with 28 and 29 students per class.

Jeff Tate, resident: Every year we vote in new School Board members. They spend countless hours going over these budgets. It goes through the administration, budget committee. Every step of the way it was cut. Now this motion is asking you to arbitrarily take a number and remove it from the budget.

Carmine Gange: I have listened to a lot of people tonight that it is for the children. We all want to educate the kids. I'd like to know who is negotiating these contracts. Who is getting us into these contracts? Who is paying them? If I might remind you, the teachers union supports these programs, so if you don't like what is happening in the schools, your union is pushing this through. I don't think the number was arbitrary.

David Butler: I just want to reiterate. This is not about me having to go cold for a few days. We are in the absolute worst financial crisis than I have ever seen in my lifetime. What we are asking them to do is give another 5, 10, and 15% of their salary for the kid's education. The school board has to sharpen your pencils and cut it back some more. You may have to cut programs for a few years. We are in a financial crisis for anything to raise our taxes at all.

Ivan Beliveau: We live in the live free or die state. I believe most of us believe in no new taxes. The way that works is we rely on the property tax. It forces the decision making down to here. I agree with Rev. Exner, we may not be taxing people with the ability to pay, and that is an issue. My request is that you support this amendment. I chose to believe the school board can make this happen.

Scott Gross: I am not speaking on behalf of the Board of Selectmen. I am a resident of 15 years and I have two kids in the system. I find it disconcerting that there are three members of the budget committee who voted for a reduction and they were difficult decision and it was a budget they voted for. I believe the budget committee did a difficult job and set the ceiling for spending. The \$1 million they cut originally is the ceiling and any further reductions would be irresponsible.

Barbara Carbonneau: I am a single person living on a fixed income. What money I do have in savings helps pay my taxes. There is no way I would want to jeopardize the education of our children in this town. If you have any consideration for the children in this town, you won't vote for it either.

Guy Caron: This number is not a cut in the budget at all. It is exactly what they have now. It is a reduction in their requested increase.

Request for written ballot received submitted for amendment to Article 2.

?: We did a lot with not very much at a Catholic school in Philadelphia. Sometimes it is something what we have to do. I am not against education, I am a teacher. I can see how everybody can cut corners. It falls down to who you hire and the parents. I did a lot in Philadelphia with nothing and I still felt I could reach the students.

Josh Douglas: I would like to say thank you to all of the teachers and the budget committee as well. What has not been asked are appropriate questions. I don't want to see any programs cut that will affect the students. Things like contractual obligations for health care, why can't we shop around?

P. Pancoast: The motion before you is not the recommendation of the budget committee. I participated in the union negotiations. They considered many different things. The issue with health insurance, is not the cost of the insurance, it is the use. After the contract was negotiated, it was put before the voters, who had the opportunity to ask questions, the voters supported that contract. Now because of the times, it is a do-over. Next year, that contract will increase our obligations by \$1.4 million. That is not for administration, food service, that is to compensate the teachers. If you increase by \$1.4 and drop by \$1.9, I'll leave the math to you.

F. Plett explained the process for the next vote by secret ballot.

Meeting suspended at 10:15 p.m. to engage in the vote. Meeting resumed at 10:35 p.m.

Results: Yes – 102

No – 164. Motion defeated.

Amount of the operating budget to appear on the ballot will be the amount on the warrant as written.

K. Allard moved to restrict reconsideration of Article 2. Seconded. Voted unanimously. Motion carried.

ARTICLE 3

To see if the Goffstown School District will vote to raise and appropriate up to the sum of TWO HUNDRED FIFTEEN THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$215,000.00) to conduct engineering and architectural plans for the expansion and renovation of the School District's elementary school facilities. This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7 and will not lapse until the plans for the expansion and renovation of the elementary schools are complete or by June 30, 2012 whichever is earlier. Funds to come from impact fees available on July 1 of 2010. This appropriation has no tax impact. This appropriation is in addition to Warrant Article #2, the Operating Budget Article. (Majority vote is required).

The School Board voted 7-0-0 to recommend

The Budget Committee voted 13-1-0 to recommend

J. Tate moved seconded by K. Allard to move and speak to Article 3 as printed on the Warrant.

P. Pancoast: This article asks the voters for permission to raise up to \$215,000 to conduct architectural and engineering studies of the district's elementary schools. The district's elementary school expansion project is on the Town's Capital Improvement Program Matrix for 2012-2013. Facilities expansion is still a forecasted need for the district. Current population trends suggest that the addition of several classrooms and office space at Bartlett and Maple Avenue sites will satisfy current and future needs. The purpose of the studies is to determine the feasibility of construction at these facilities. Given their age and the different building codes in place at the time of original construction, a detailed evaluation of existing structural, electrical,

mechanical and life safety infrastructure systems will need to be conducted. Funds for this engineering and design study will come from existing impact fees. There will be no tax impact resulting from this article.

No further discussion. Article 3 will appear on the ballot as printed.

ARTICLE 4

To see if the School District will vote to raise and appropriate up to the sum of THREE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$300,000.00) 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 year end undesignated fund balance available on July 1 of 2010. This appropriation is in addition to Warrant Article #2, the Operating Budget Article. (Majority vote required).

*The School Board voted 6-1-0 to recommend
The Budget Committee voted 11-2-1 to not recommend*

G. McKinnon moved seconded by H. Boyle to move and speak to Article 4 as printed on the Warrant.

Kent Nolan: This special article asks voters for permission to place up to \$300,000 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, 2010. On December 31, 2008, there was \$341,000 and accumulated interest in the fund. There is no scheduled deposit for the current school year. The school district voters established the Bartlett 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 which might arise from any new work authorized by the voters. The school district has organized this work to be completed in two phases. Phase I work totaling \$976,000, was completed in December 2008 utilizing capital reserve funds and impact fees. Phase 2 will be based upon the results of the engineering and architectural studies discussed within Article 3.

Len Stuart: In addition to the \$600,000 that was going to be returned, we are also talking about another \$300,000 as undesignated funds to go into this reserve account at the end of the year. I question whether this is a good idea during these tough economic times.

Dan Cloutier: I noticed the Budget Committee voted 11-2-1 to not recommend. I would offer up an amendment to change this to \$1.00. Seconded by Bill Hart.

D. Cloutier: I was following with what the budget committee didn't recommend. I am trying to figure out what people think.

P. Pancoast: The opportunity is to use some of the unencumbered fund balance. That would reduce that \$610,000.

Myrtle Clapp: We were talking about assigning a different name to the Bartlett School capital fund. They said \$300,000 was left. Is this in addition to the \$300,000 that we already have?

K. Allard: Currently the reserve fund has \$300,000. This would be in addition. The \$610,000 we anticipate giving back, this would come out of the \$610,000.

Vote on the amendment to amend from \$300,000 to \$1.00: Voice vote – nay’s have it, motion defeated.

J. Foley moved to compromise and reduce the \$300,000 to \$150,000. Seconded by B. Hart.

J. Foley: The vote sounded like it was even enough that we could compromise.

Vote on the amendment to amend from \$300,000 to \$150,000: Voice vote – nay’s have it, motion defeated. The moderator entertained a standing vote: Yes-55 No-88. Motion defeated.

Article 4 will appear on the ballot as presented.

ARTICLE 5

To see if the School District will vote to change the purpose of an existing Bartlett Elementary School Facilities Capital Reserve Fund to the Elementary School Facilities Renovation Capital Reserve Fund. Furthermore, to see if the School District will vote to designate the School Board as agents to expend from the Elementary School Facilities Renovation Capital Reserve Fund. This article has no tax impact. (2/3 vote is required).

The School Board voted 7-0-0 to recommend

P. Kendall moved seconded by K. Allard to move and speak to Article 5 as printed on the Warrant.

Kent Nolan: This article asks voters for permission to change the name of the existing Bartlett Elementary School Capital Reserve Fund to the Elementary School Facilities Capital Reserve Fund and to appoint the School Board as agents to spend from this fund. Approval of this article will allow the school district to utilize all of the funds and accumulated interest within the existing fund to address the complete scope of the elementary facilities project which will include Phase 2 work at Bartlett. Broadening the intended use of these funds will serve to provide a more uniform and efficient approach to project financing.

John Caprio: Under what RSA does the School Board have authorization to put their recommendation on a non-budgetary article?

K. Allard: We believe that authority is contained in RSA 40:13.

Pam Manney: Have all the concerns with Bartlett School been addressed? How much money is left in the reserve fund at this time?

K. Allard: We had Phase I and Phase II. We addressed Phase I. The fund has \$300,000. There are remaining issues to address at Bartlett.

P. Manney: Bartlett is an old school and I would hate to see any money deferred into another building. I would like to have that school taken care of. I am a little concerned about the Article.

No further discussion on Article 5. Article 5 will appear on the ballot as printed.

ARTICLE 6**Submitted by Petition**

“Shall we adopt the provisions of RSA 40:14-b to delegate the determination of the default budget to the municipal budget committee which has been adopted under RSA 32:14?” (3/5 Majority vote required).

The School Board voted 6-0-1 to not recommend

K. Allard: There is a hearing on February 15 at the Goffstown High School Media Center for all petitioned articles.

No further discussion on Article 6. Article 6 will appear on the ballot as printed.

ARTICLE 7**Submitted by Petition**

“Shall the voters of the Goffstown school district within school administrative unit number 19 adopt the provisions of RSA 194-C:9-b to allow for insertion of the school administrative unit budget as a separate warrant article at annual school district meeting?” (Majority vote required)

The School Board voted 6-0-1 to not recommend

D. Cloutier moved seconded by C. Simard to move and speak to Article 7 as printed on the Warrant.

D. Cloutier: I brought this forward. In my zeal to learn the law, I was looking at things the Budget Committee does. The one thing that is little known, although on the Article of the budget there is a figure that is called the default budget. What part does not include a portion of the default budget is the SAU budget. There is an SAU Board. The law says whatever the board members say is the budget, you have no choice. You are stuck with it. My point in putting this forward is to give the people the opportunity to have the Budget Committee provide this budget. The DRA feels unless this is on all three town's warrants, it would not be legal. I believe it could be a referendum to the people.

A motion was made to restrict reconsideration of all articles. Motion carried unanimously.

Dan Cloutier, Chair of Budget Committee: No appropriation articles successfully amended. No need to have a meeting of the Budget Committee following this meeting.

The School District meeting adjourned at 11:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Jo Ann Duffy
School District Clerk

ELECTION RESULTS

Goffstown NH School District

March 9, 2010

ARTICLE 1

To choose three members of the School Board for the ensuing three years:

<u>SCHOOL BOARD 3 for 3 years</u>	
Lorry D. Cloutier	1233
Phillip E. Kendall II	1156
Dian McCarthy	1398
Jennifer Theroux	1645

To choose School District Officials for the ensuing three years:

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 FIVE MILLION SIX HUNDRED TWENTY SEVEN THOUSAND THREE HUNDRED NINETY TWO DOLLARS (\$35,627,392.00)? Should this Article be defeated, the Default Budget shall be THIRTY SIX MILLION FOUR HUNDRED THIRTY THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED FORTY SIX DOLLARS (\$36,430,646.00), 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. (Majority vote is required).

The School Board voted 7-1-0 to not recommend
The Budget Committee voted 9-3-0 to recommend

Yes – 1601

No – 1070

ARTICLE 3

To see if the Goffstown School District will vote to raise and appropriate up to the sum of TWO HUNDRED FIFTEEN THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$215,000.00) to conduct engineering and architectural plans for the expansion and renovation of the School District’s elementary school facilities. This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7 and will not lapse until the plans for the expansion and renovation of the elementary schools are complete or by June 30, 2012 whichever is earlier. Funds to come from impact fees available on July 1 of 2010. This appropriation has no tax impact. This appropriation is in addition to Warrant Article #2, the Operating Budget Article. (Majority vote is required).

The School Board voted 7-0-0 to recommend
The Budget Committee voted 13-1-0 to recommend

Yes – 1535

No – 1127

ARTICLE 4

To see if the School District will vote to raise and appropriate up to the sum of THREE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$300,000.00) 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 year end undesignated fund balance available on July 1 of 2010. This appropriation is in addition to Warrant Article #2, the Operating Budget Article. (Majority vote required).

The School Board voted 6-1-0 to recommend

The Budget Committee voted 11-2-1 to not recommend

Yes – 768

No – 1886

ARTICLE 5

To see if the School District will vote to change the purpose of an existing Bartlett Elementary School Facilities Capital Reserve Fund to the Elementary School Facilities Renovation Capital Reserve Fund. Furthermore, to see if the School District will vote to designate the School Board as agents to expend from the Elementary School Facilities Renovation Capital Reserve Fund. This article has no tax impact. (2/3 vote is required).

The School Board voted 7-0-0 to recommend

Yes – 1444

No – 1152

ARTICLE 6**Submitted by Petition**

“Shall we adopt the provisions of RSA 40:14-b to delegate the determination of the default budget to the municipal budget committee which has been adopted under RSA 32:14?” (3/5 Majority vote required).

The School Board voted 6-0-1 to not recommend

Yes – 944

No – 1603

ARTICLE 7**Submitted by Petition**

“Shall the voters of the Goffstown school district within school administrative unit number 19 adopt the provisions of RSA 194-C:9-b to allow for insertion of the school administrative unit budget as a separate warrant article at annual school district meeting?” (Majority vote required).

The School Board voted 6-0-1 to not recommend

Yes – 934

No – 1615

GOFFSTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT
2011 WARRANT
SCHOOL DELIBERATIVE BALLOT DETERMINATION MEETING
FEBRUARY 5, 2011

THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

To the Inhabitants of the School District in the Town of Goffstown qualified to vote in District affairs:

You are hereby notified to meet on Saturday, the fifth day of February 2011, in the Goffstown High School Gymnasium, at 10:00 A.M. for the first session of the School District Meeting, also known as the first Deliberative Session, to act on the following subject and determine matters which will then be voted upon by the official ballot on Tuesday, March 8, 2011.

You are further notified to meet on Tuesday, the eighth day of March 2011, also known as the second session, to vote on all matters by official ballot. The polls are open on March 8, 2011, at 7:00 A.M. and close at 7:00 P.M. at the Central polling district at the Goffstown High School and will open at 7:00 A.M. and close at 7:00 P.M. in the Fifth District at the Bartlett Elementary School.

ARTICLE 1

To choose all School District officers for the ensuing years:

To choose three members of the School Board for the ensuing three years.

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 SIX MILLION EIGHTY FIVE THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED SIXTY EIGHT DOLLARS (\$36,085,268.00)? 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. (Majority vote is required).

The School Board voted 8-0-0 to not recommend
The Budget Committee voted 10-0-2 to recommend

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:

Year	Estimated Increase
2011-2012	\$10,020.00

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.)

The School Board voted 8-0-0 to recommend
The Budget Committee voted 10-1-1 to recommend

ARTICLE 4

To see if the School District will vote to 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).

The School Board voted 8-0-0 to recommend
The Budget Committee voted 9-2-1 to not recommend

**GIVEN UNDER OUR HANDS AT SAID GOFFSTOWN ON THIS 26th DAY OF
 JANUARY 2011.**

Keith Allard, Chair
 Philip Pancoast, Vice Chair
 Henry Boyle
 Lorry Cloutier
 Dian McCarthy
 Virginia McKinnon
 Kent Nolan
 Jennifer Theroux
 Suzanne Tremblay

SCHOOL BOARD

OCTOBER 1 PUPIL ENROLLMENT

2006 - 2010

School	Grade	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
BARTLETT	1	44	45	40	57	54
	2	50	44	44	43	51
	3	47	44	43	50	47
	4	59	45	49	41	53
	Total - Bartlett		200	178	176	191
GLEN LAKE SCHOOL	Pre-School	46	42	41	56	48
	Kindergarten	94	118	117	110	109
	Total - Glen Lake School	140	160	158	166	157
MAPLE AVE	1	93	130	128	123	109
	2	134	98	136	122	128
	3	133	139	100	129	121
	4	108	134	142	102	133
	Total - Maple Avenue		468	501	506	476
MOUNTAIN VIEW MIDDLE SCHOOL	5	202	170	184	186	144
	6	204	205	174	178	193
	7	288	291	302	288	272
	8	288	285	291	305	299
	Total - MVMS		982	951	951	957
GOFFSTOWN HIGH SCHOOL	9	358	338	343	363	364
	10	326	307	294	318	321
	11	361	303	295	287	279
	12	279	303	280	261	245
	Total - GHS		1,324	1,251	1,212	1,229
GRAND TOTAL 2006- 2010		3,114	3,041	3,003	3,019	2,970



MELANSON HEATH & COMPANY, PC
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS
MANAGEMENT ADVISORS

102 Perimeter Road
Nashua, NH 03063-1301
Tel (603) 882-1111 • Fax (603) 882-9456
www.melansonhealth.com

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

To the School Board
Goffstown School District
Goffstown, New Hampshire

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Goffstown School District, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2010, which collectively comprise the Goffstown School District's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Goffstown School District's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinions.

As discussed in Note 2 to the financial statements, management has not determined its Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB) liability in its governmental activities and, accordingly, has not recorded an OPEB liability. Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that an actuarially determined liability of Other Post-Employment Benefits be recorded, which would increase the liabilities, decrease net assets, and increase expenses of the governmental activities. The amount by which this departure would affect the liabilities, net assets, and expenses of the governmental activities is not reasonably determined.

In our opinion, because of the effects of the matter discussed in the preceding paragraph, the financial statements referred to above do not present fairly, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, the

Additional Offices:

Andover, MA • Greenfield, MA • Ellsworth, ME • Manchester, NH

financial position of the governmental activities of the Goffstown School District, as of June 30, 2010, and the changes in financial position, thereof for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

In addition, in our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, each major fund and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Goffstown School District, as of June 30, 2010, and the respective changes in financial position, and the respective budgetary comparison for the General Fund for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

The management's discussion and analysis, appearing on the following pages, is not a required part of the basic financial statements but is supplementary information required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We have applied certain limited procedures, which consisted principally of inquiries of management regarding the methods of measurement and presentation of the required supplementary information. However, we did not audit the information and express no opinion on it.

The Schedule of Nonmajor Funds on page 29 is not a required part of the basic financial statements, and we did not audit or apply limited procedures to such information and do not express any assurance on such information.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued a report dated December 14, 2010 on our consideration of the District's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* and should be considered in assessing the results of our audit.

Melanson, Heath + Company P.C.

Nashua, New Hampshire
December 14, 2010

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

As management of the Goffstown School District (the District), we offer readers this narrative overview and analysis of the financial activities of the District for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2010.

A. OVERVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

This discussion and analysis is intended to serve as an introduction to the basic financial statements. The basic financial statements are comprised of three components: (1) government-wide financial statements, (2) fund financial statements, and (3) notes to the financial statements. This report also contains other supplementary information in addition to the basic financial statements themselves.

Government-wide financial statements. The government-wide financial statements are designed to provide readers with a broad overview of our finances in a manner similar to a private-sector business.

The statement of net assets presents information on all assets and liabilities, with the difference between the two reported as net assets. Over time, increases or decreases in net assets may serve as a useful indicator of whether the financial position is improving or deteriorating.

The statement of activities presents information showing how the government's net assets changed during the most recent fiscal year. All changes in net assets are reported as soon as the underlying event giving rise to the change occurs, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. Thus, revenues and expenses are reported in this statement for some items that will only result in cash flows in future fiscal periods.

Fund financial statements. A fund is a grouping of related accounts that is used to maintain control over resources that have been segregated for specific activities or objectives. Fund accounting is used to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements. All of the funds can be divided into two categories: governmental funds and fiduciary funds.

Governmental funds. Governmental funds are used to account for essentially the same functions reported as governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. However, unlike the government-wide financial statements, governmental fund financial statements focus on near-term inflows and outflows of spendable resources, as well as on balances of spendable resources available at the end of the fiscal year. Such information may be useful in evaluating a government's near-term financing requirements.

Because the focus of governmental funds is narrower than that of the government-wide financial statements, it is useful to compare the information presented for gov-

ernmental funds with similar information presented for governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. By doing so, readers may better understand the long-term impact of the government's near-term financing decisions. Both the governmental fund balance sheet and the governmental fund statement of revenues, expenditures and changes in fund balances provide a reconciliation to facilitate this comparison between governmental funds and governmental activities.

An annual appropriated budget is adopted for the general fund. A budgetary comparison statement has been provided for the general fund to demonstrate compliance with this budget.

Fiduciary funds. Fiduciary funds are used to account for resources held for the benefit of parties outside the government. Fiduciary funds are not reflected in the government-wide financial statements because the resources of those funds are not available to support the District's own programs.

Notes to financial statements. The notes provide additional information that are essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the government-wide and fund financial statements.

Other information. In addition to the basic financial statements and accompanying notes, this report also presents certain required supplementary information which is required to be disclosed by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

B. FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

- As of the close of the current fiscal year, the total of assets exceeded liabilities by \$ 18,867,748 (i.e., net assets), a change of \$ (600,548) in comparison to the prior year.
- As of the close of the current fiscal year, governmental funds reported combined ending fund balances of \$ 4,748,313, a change of \$ (717,809) in comparison to the prior year.
- At the end of the current fiscal year, unreserved fund balance for the general fund was \$ 3,200,796, a change of \$ (809,766) in comparison to the prior year.
- Total long-term debt (i.e., bonds and lease payable) at the close of the current fiscal year was \$ 8,974,733 a change of \$ (1,164,132) in comparison to the prior year.

C. GOVERNMENT-WIDE FINANCIAL ANALYSIS

The following is a summary of condensed government-wide financial data for the current and prior fiscal years.

	Governmental <u>Activities</u>	
	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>
Current and other assets	\$ 5,991,002	\$ 5,942,847
Capital assets	23,244,666	24,304,612
Total assets	<u>29,235,668</u>	<u>30,247,459</u>
Long-term liabilities outstanding	7,573,656	8,679,078
Other liabilities	2,794,264	2,100,085
Total liabilities	<u>10,367,920</u>	<u>10,779,163</u>
Net assets:		
Invested in capital assets, net	14,497,919	14,165,747
Restricted	143,063	151,415
Unrestricted	4,226,766	5,151,134
Total net assets	<u>\$ 18,867,748</u>	<u>\$ 19,468,296</u>

CHANGES IN NET ASSETS

	Governmental <u>Activities</u>	
	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>
Revenues:		
Program revenues		
Charges for services	\$ 779,845	\$ 786,242
Operating grants and contributions	2,130,553	1,070,196
General revenues:		
Town assessment	16,694,628	18,459,624
Grants and contributions not restricted to specific programs	8,196,413	8,120,835
Investment income	17,928	38,108
Tuition	6,004,612	5,785,711
Miscellaneous	48,163	208,977
Total revenues	<u>33,872,142</u>	<u>34,469,693</u>

(continued)

(continued)

	Governmental Activities	
	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>
Expenses:		
Administration	3,202,120	3,341,711
Instruction	22,531,192	21,067,883
Support services	3,725,731	4,108,934
Operation and maintenance	2,850,693	1,676,492
Transportation	1,741,313	1,855,448
Interest expense	385,591	425,733
Miscellaneous	36,050	946,634
Total expenses	<u>34,472,690</u>	<u>33,422,835</u>
Increase (decrease) in net assets	(600,548)	1,046,858
Net assets - beginning of year	<u>19,468,296</u>	<u>18,421,438</u>
Net assets - end of year	<u>\$ 18,867,748</u>	<u>\$ 19,468,296</u>

As noted earlier, net assets may serve over time as a useful indicator of a government's financial position. At the close of the most recent fiscal year, total net assets were \$ 18,867,748, a change of \$ (600,548) from the prior year.

The largest portion of net assets \$ 14,497,919 reflects our investment in capital assets (e.g., land, buildings, machinery, and equipment), less any related debt used to acquire those assets that is still outstanding. These capital assets are used to provide services to citizens; consequently, these assets are not available for future spending. Although the investment in capital assets is reported net of related debt, it should be noted that the resources needed to repay this debt must be provided from other sources, since the capital assets themselves cannot be used to liquidate these liabilities.

An additional portion of net assets \$ 143,063 represents resources that are subject to external restrictions on how they may be used. The remaining balance of unrestricted net assets \$ 4,226,766 may be used to meet the government's ongoing obligations to citizens and creditors.

Governmental activities. Governmental activities for the year resulted in a change in net assets of \$ (600,548). Key elements of this change are as follows:

General fund operations, as discussed further in section D	\$ (665,924)
Nonmajor fund activity - accrual basis	(24,195)
Principal debt service in excess of depreciation expense	166,440
Other	<u>(76,869)</u>
Total	<u>\$ (600,548)</u>

D. FINANCIAL ANALYSIS OF THE GOVERNMENT'S FUNDS

As noted earlier, fund accounting is used to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements.

Governmental funds. The focus of governmental funds is to provide information on near-term inflows, outflows and balances of spendable resources. Such information is useful in assessing financing requirements. In particular, unreserved fund balance may serve as a useful measure of a government's net resources available for spending at the end of the fiscal year.

As of the end of the current fiscal year, governmental funds reported combined ending fund balances of \$ 4,748,313, a change of \$ (717,809) in comparison to the prior year. Key elements of this change are as follows:

General fund operations, as discussed further in section D	\$ (665,924)
Nonmajor funds	<u>(51,885)</u>
Total	<u>\$ (717,809)</u>

The general fund is the chief operating fund. At the end of the current fiscal year, unreserved fund balance of the general fund was \$ 3,200,796, while total fund balance was \$ 4,034,175. As a measure of the general fund's liquidity, it may be useful to compare both unreserved fund balance and total fund balance to total fund expenditures. Unreserved fund balance represents 9.83 percent of total general fund expenditures, while total fund balance represents 12.38 percent of that same amount.

The fund balance of the general fund changed by \$ (665,924) during the current fiscal year. Key factors in this change are as follows:

Revenues in excess of budget	\$ 1,111,211
Expenditures less than budget	1,407,730
Use of fund balance as a funding source	(3,329,933)
Expenditure timing differences	<u>145,068</u>
Total	<u>\$ (665,924)</u>

E. GENERAL FUND BUDGETARY HIGHLIGHTS

There were no differences between the original budget and the final budget.

F. CAPITAL ASSET AND DEBT ADMINISTRATION

Capital assets. Total investment in capital assets for governmental and business-type activities at year end amounted to \$ 23,244,666 (net of accumulated depre-

ciation), a change of \$ (1,059,946) from the prior year. This investment in capital assets includes land, buildings and system, improvements, and machinery and equipment.

Major capital asset events during the current fiscal year included the following:

Purchase of:	
Apple computers through capital lease	\$ 413,617
Security equipment	28,889
Tractor	26,495
Lunch room tables	21,209

Additional information on capital assets can be found in the footnotes to the financial statements.

Long-term debt. At the end of the current fiscal year, total long-term debt outstanding was \$ 8,974,733, all of which was backed by the full faith and credit of the government.

Additional information on capital assets and long-term debt can be found in the footnotes to the financial statements.

REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION

This financial report is designed to provide a general overview of the Goffstown School District's finances for all those with an interest in the government's finances. Questions concerning any of the information provided in this report or requests for additional financial information should be addressed to:

Office of the Business Manager
SAU #19
11 School Street
Goffstown, New Hampshire 03045

GOFFSTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT

BUDGET

Function		2009-2010 Actual	2010-2011 Appropriation	2011-2012 Proposed School Board	2011-2012 Proposed Budget Committee
1100-1199	Regular Education	13,753,073	14,501,533	15,512,513	15,382,024
1200-1299	Special Education	5,097,914	6,452,666	7,080,950	6,784,441
1300-1399	Vocational Programs	72,050	97,000	85,000	85,000
1410	Co-Curricular	365,262	385,314	396,182	382,914
1420	Athletics	134,953	167,022	177,808	94,055
1430	Summer School Programs	61,476	58,867	55,656	55,656
1490	Other Pupil Services	<u>27,150</u>	<u>27,251</u>	<u>29,100</u>	<u>22,500</u>
1400-1499		588,841	638,454	658,746	555,125
1600	Adult Education Programs	59,301	69,316	76,610	74,596
1810	Field Rental	<u>5,000</u>	-	-	-
1600-1899		64,301	69,316	76,610	74,596
2120	Guidance	1,052,373	1,109,009	1,186,129	1,163,959
2125	Guidance Records	14,026	15,275	15,965	15,965
2130	Health Services	378,989	421,038	414,731	411,386
2150	Speech Pathology and Audio	<u>391,840</u>	<u>413,685</u>	<u>442,162</u>	<u>442,162</u>
2000-2199		1,837,228	1,959,007	2,058,987	2,033,472
2212	Curriculum Development	3,672	7,975	5,675	4,250
2213	Staff Development and Training	88,815	80,500	30,400	5,000
2222	Information Center Services	472,481	463,981	513,341	501,454
2223	Audio-Visual Services	6,016	9,500	5,600	2,800
2224	Educational TV	0			-
2290	Technical Support Services	<u>222,227</u>	<u>200,780</u>	<u>210,016</u>	<u>110,593</u>
2200-2299		793,211	762,736	765,032	624,097
2311	School Board	38,213	44,622	43,622	36,429
2313	Treasurer	16	2,129	1,879	-
2314	District Meeting	1,191	4,478	4,478	1,478
2317	Audit Services	8,650	9,950	11,440	9,500
2318	Legal Services	<u>1,620</u>	<u>25,000</u>	<u>35,000</u>	<u>5,000</u>
2310-2319		49,690	86,179	96,419	52,407
2321	SAU Services	1,131,530	1,129,052	1,093,510	1,093,510
2410	Administration	1,960,035	2,127,524	2,220,408	1,775,929
2490	Other Student Support Services	<u>20,998</u>	<u>20,606</u>	<u>21,448</u>	<u>20,352</u>
2400:2499		1,981,033	2,148,130	2,241,856	1,796,281
2519	Other Fiscal Services	0	-	-	-

2620	Building Operations	2,815,549	2,789,500	2,893,068	2,742,645
2630	Care and Upkeep of Grounds	79,588	51,518	49,400	34,800
2640	Equipment Maintenance	<u>341,265</u>	<u>4,600</u>	<u>8,500</u>	<u>6,000</u>
2600-2699		3,236,402	2,845,618	2,950,968	2,783,445
2721	Transportation	984,666	1,052,087	1,053,676	1,053,674
2722	Special Needs Transportation	789,635	714,178	644,965	644,965
2723	Skills Center Transportation	45,072	46,000	59,805	50,000
2724	Athletic Program Transportation	66,560	68,000	71,500	71,500
2725	Field Trip Transportation	20,697	14,590	22,625	10,690
2790	Other Transportation	-	-	-	-
2700-2799		1,906,630	1,894,855	1,852,571	1,830,829
2800	Other Professional Services	-539	1,300	1,340	1,320
2834	GESS Course Reimbursement	<u>9,000</u>	<u>9,000</u>	<u>9,500</u>	-
2800-2999		8,461	10,300	10,840	1,320
4200	Site Improvement	-	-	-	-
5110	Debt Service - Principal	1,275,000	1,210,000	900,000	900,000
5120	Debt Service - Interest	402,605	356,315	316,925	316,925
5251	Transfer to Capital Reserve	0	0	0	0
5222	Transfer to Spec Rev Funds	1,800	0	0	0
	Total General Fund	32,199,769	34,161,161	35,700,927	34,313,472
Fund 21	Food Service Fund	1,018,641	955,731	1,101,796	1,101,796
Fund 22	Federal Grants Fund	900,248	510,500	670,000	670,000
Fund 30	Capital Projects Fund	27,965	-	-	-
Total Goffstown School District *		<u>34,146,623</u>	<u>35,627,392</u>	<u>37,472,723</u>	<u>36,085,268</u>

* Note:

The proposed fiscal year 2011 - 2012 columns equal the MS-27 operating budget posted with the warrant.

Goffstown School District Projected Revenues 2011-2012

	2009-2010 Approved MS 24	2010-2011 Approved MS 24	2011-2012 Proposed School Board	2011-2012 Proposed Budget Comm.
REVENUE FROM STATE SOURCES				
Adequacy Grant	6,463,633	7,123,509	7,110,520	7,110,520
School Building Aid	538,000	591,443	501,250	501,250
Kindergarten Construction Aid				
Area Vocational School Transportation Aid	3,500	3,500	23,500	23,500
Kindergarten Bridging Aid	130,000			
Catastrophic Aid	415,000	332,993	394,031	394,031
Child Nutrition	9,600	9,600	10,427	10,427
REVENUE FROM FEDERAL SOURCES				
IASA, Chapter I and II	500,000	510,500	670,000	670,000
DOE / EdJobs Funding	0	0	222,400	222,400
Child Nutrition Programs	67,000	80,000	269,069	269,069
LOCAL REVENUE OTHER THAN TAXES				
Tuition	4,900,000	5,212,800	7,341,550	6,876,314
Driver Education Program Receipts	10,000	10,000	22,500	22,500
Earnings on Investments	3,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
Food Service	795,000	830,000	730,389	730,389
Medicaid	100,000	110,000	129,256	129,256
School Impact Fees	376,000	215,000	0	
Other Income	0	0	65,000	65,000
SUBTOTAL REVENUES & CREDITS	14,310,733	15,039,345	17,499,892	17,034,656
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES				
Sale of Bonds				
Transfer from Capital Reserve Funds	600,000	0		
GENERAL FUND BALANCE				
Reserved Fund Balance	300,000	0	200,000	0
Unreserved Fund Balance	2,268,294	3,370,333	200,000	400,000
TOTAL REVENUES AND CREDITS	17,479,027	18,409,678	17,899,892	17,434,656
DISTRICT ASSESSMENT	15,013,648	13,368,345	16,246,548	15,324,329
STATE ASSESSMENT	3,445,976	3,326,283	3,326,283	3,326,283
APPROPRIATION	35,938,651	35,104,306	37,472,723	36,085,268

Notes:

- > FY 2011- 2012 appropriation number equals the operating budget warrant article
- > Projected revenues are estimates and are subject to change.

- > Projected adequacy grant subject to change.
- > Estimates based upon expected State Aid projections available on 12/22/10
- > Fiscal year 2011 - 2012 Total Appropriation is prior to any individual or special warrant articles.

Goffstown School District

DEBT SCHEDULE

As of June 30, 2010

Years remaining on Goffstown School District's general obligation bonds.

<u>Year</u>	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest</u>	<u>Amount Due</u>
2010-11	1,210,000.00	356,315.00	1,566,315.00
2011-12	900,000.00	314,300.00	1,214,300.00
2012-13	600,000.00	281,300.00	881,300.00
2013-14	600,000.00	252,800.00	852,800.00
2014-15	600,000.00	224,150.00	824,150.00
2015-16	600,000.00	194,750.00	794,750.00
2016-17	600,000.00	164,750.00	764,750.00
2017-18	600,000.00	134,750.00	734,750.00
2018-19	600,000.00	104,750.00	704,750.00
2019-20	600,000.00	74,750.00	674,750.00
2020-21	600,000.00	44,750.00	644,750.00
2021-22	595,000.00	14,875.00	609,875.00
Total Outstanding Bonds	<u>\$8,105,000.00</u>	<u>\$2,162,240.00</u>	<u>\$10,267,240.00</u>

<u>Bond</u>	<u>Last Payment</u>	<u>Principal Balance</u>	<u>Interest Balance</u>	<u>Amount Due</u>
MVMS & Elementary Bond*	8/15/2011	300,000.00	7,875.00	307,875.00
GAHS Renovation/Addition	7/15/2021	<u>7,805,000.00</u>	<u>2,154,365.00</u>	<u>9,959,365.00</u>
Total Outstanding Bonds		<u>\$8,105,000.00</u>	<u>\$2,162,240.00</u>	<u>\$10,267,240.00</u>

*Note:

The MVMS & Elementary Bond was refunded in August 2003 resulting in a savings of \$341,879 in interest cost over the life of the Bond.

GLEN LAKE SCHOOL

Leslie T. Doster, Principal

You can teach a student a lesson for a day; but if you can teach him to learn by creating curiosity, he will continue the learning process as long as he lives. ~Clay P. Bedford

Glen Lake School has three broad goals that provide the framework and guidance for all we do. Our first goal is to prepare each child for success in 1st grade. Our second goal is to foster in each child a lifelong love of learning, and our third goal is to provide a developmentally appropriate, nurturing learning environment that sparks a child's belief that school is a wonderful place. Through the efforts of staff, administrators, families and the community Glen Lake School is moving ever closer to reaching these goals.

2009-2010 was the year of English / Language Arts in the District Curriculum Cycle. Glen Lake School staff took an active role in the process of reviewing the standards and curriculum and exploring teaching materials that best address English / Language Arts benchmarks within the framework of an integrated curriculum. Time was routinely scheduled for teaching teams to meet to review the curriculum, to review current and new materials, and to make informed decisions regarding changes in the instruction of English / Language Arts. After piloting two different core reading programs during the winter, the decision was made in the spring to adopt Reading Street© for kindergarten through 6th grade. Implementation of a scientifically based, core reading program is a giant step toward reaching our first goal, preparing each child for success in 1st grade.

Goals two and three were further addressed in 2009-2010 through the exciting books and materials in both Reading Street© and Everyday Math©, the staples of our curriculum. This material coupled with the skillful instruction of our teachers is a young child's dream. Stories spring to life with vivid pictures and exciting vocabulary. Math is authentic, hands on and manipulable. Activities are developmentally appropriate and peak a child's natural curiosity about the world around him. Glen Lake School is a wonderful place that opens the doors to exploration and learning for our 3 to 6 year olds.

In 2009-2010, as always, Glen Lake School recognized parents as full partners in their child's education. In order to enhance the home and school relationship, the staff provided several curriculum-oriented family events. Before the first day of school in September, the staff welcomed all families with an Open House. In late September each classroom hosted a Parent Information Night focusing on curriculum and instruction. In November, Glen Lake held a Family Science Night, which was attended by close to 300 people. In February, we had another fantastic turn out for Family Math Night. In May, staff welcomed incoming kindergarten parents with a kindergarten orientation evening and in June we celebrated with our families as we prepared to transition their children to new classrooms and new schools. During 2009-2010 parents supported the school by working as volunteers at the Fall and Harvest Theme Day in October, the Winter Wonderland Theme Day in December and Field Day in June. Parents provided additional support throughout the year as office volunteers, and in preparing instructional materials for the classrooms. Glen Lake School Partnership, our parent group, provided financial support by purchasing classroom supplies, Weekly Reader subscriptions for all kindergartners, student snacks on special theme days, and by bringing performers and assemblies to the school to enrich instruction. Behind every child who is successful in school is a team of committed educators and involved parents. At Glen Lake School we have the best of both!

BARTLETT ELEMENTARY

David A. Bousquet, Principal

During the 2009-2010 school year, Bartlett Elementary School saw an increase in enrollment, with 190 students on opening day, compared to 176 the previous year. Besides a growing number of students, Bartlett Elementary saw other changes in its student population. Approximately 32% of our population were classified as low income and received free or reduced lunch. About 16% of our students had special education needs and there was a growing enrollment in our English as a Second Language program. These are factors that we need to consider when educating our students.

Bartlett Elementary School houses two district special education programs. In addition to the SUCCESS program, which focuses on students with emotional and behavioral needs, the LEAP program addresses students with Developmental Delays and Autism. These programs take students throughout Goffstown, helping to keep them in their community schools rather than educating them in out-of-district placements.

Advancing student learning continued to be the goal and focus at Bartlett Elementary School. On the Fall 2009 NECAP, our students continued to score within the average range in both Reading and Math. However, we have been designated as a School in Need of Improvement (SINI), because we did not make expected growth in all subgroups. We have developed a SINI plan, highlighting actions we will take to further improve student learning. A primary part of this plan is our adoption of the new Reading Streets literacy program. This program is helping our students develop their reading and writing skills through consistent and motivating materials and lessons. We also began implementation of two intervention programs to help students who are working below grade level. These programs are My Sidewalks for reading and Number Worlds for math.

In order to help develop reading skills, we participated in an exciting reading program this year. Each student and staff member received a copy of the book, Charlotte's Web. A schedule was developed and everyone was expected to read one chapter each day. Trivia questions were asked based on the previous night's reading. Different activities were held throughout the program, such as developing a project based on the book. The participation was fantastic! We also organized a reading incentive program in which students received prizes when they submit logs of their reading. A Homework Club was also formed, using funds from a Walker Fund Grant, to provide tutoring and homework support. All of these programs provided support and encouragement to continue and expand upon student's reading skills.

In order to provide a well-rounded education to our students, many events and programs have taken place at Bartlett Elementary School. Some of these programs included All-School Meetings, McDonald's Student of the Month, Grandparents' Lunch, Constitution Day, Kids Voting, Martin Luther King Celebration, Dr. Seuss' Birthday, a Memorial Day Program, and our Fourth Grade Farewell. We also held a fantastic Field Day, held at the Sarette Fields. Special thanks to Holly Tate for organizing this fun-filled event. The Bartlett community was involved in many community service activities this year. For example, food was collected during Thanksgiving and Christmas for the Network Food Drive to be distributed to area families.

Special thanks go to the Bartlett Elementary School staff for their hard work and dedication and to our families for their continued support. The task of educating our students is never complete, and we are committed to meeting the changing needs of our students and community.

MAPLE AVENUE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

“A Community of Active Learners”

Suzanne Pyszka, Principal

Maple Avenue educators are committed to ensuring a strong start and promoting a bright future for all students. One important component for student success is our Response to Intervention (RTI) model. The goal of RTI is to provide instruction and educational assistance by addressing academic and behavioral needs proactively. Students who struggle academically or behaviorally receive additional instruction or support that targets their specific learning needs. RTI is a multi-tiered model that begins with high quality classroom instruction.

Selecting a core reading program enabling consistent, quality instruction in all classrooms was a central focus throughout the 2009-2010 school year. Eight classroom teachers took part in the SAU curriculum revision process by piloting one of two new reading programs being considered for adoption. Once *Reading Street 2011* was adopted, classroom teachers attended summer professional development preparing them for successful implementation of the new core reading program.

Additional professional learning opportunities were extended to the Maple Avenue community throughout 2009-2010. Eighteen teachers took part in a six-week workshop called “Green Book and More”. Teachers engaged in dialogue and discussion that focused on how children learn and how to maximize instructional practices to inspire active learning and raise student achievement.

Active learning and “show what you know” were two key phrases used throughout the 2009-2010 school year. To help prepare students to show what they know, while addressing the School in Need of Improvement (SINI) designation, a team of educators from Bartlett and Maple Avenue collaborated to analyze the New England Common Assessment Program (NECAP) released items. They identified concepts that all students must know and developed a plan to help students prepare for this high stakes test. Six targeted lessons for students in grades 3 and 4 prepared them to do their best on the NECAP. The year’s NECAP results showed significant improvement! In addition, and perhaps even more importantly, these lessons at the start of school prepared children for active participation and active learning in their classrooms everyday.

In the spring, Maple Avenue held its Second Annual Literacy and Arts Festival where student accomplishments were celebrated. Students brought family members to school one evening to view their proudly displayed work. Our school community and student council were active throughout 2009-2010. We helped a city school in Philadelphia achieve their “Reading Dream” by donating gently used books to help build their school library. We held a pajama drive for less fortunate children and funds from the school store, operated by fourth grade students, continued to support area projects.

At Maple Avenue, we value our volunteers! A very special thank you to the Parent/Faculty Together (PFT) who donated over 3800 hours of their time at Maple Avenue in the 2009 – 2010 school year. This wonderful group provides financial support for field trips, special events, and projects. Their time and energy help make Maple Avenue a better place to work and learn.

MOUNTAIN VIEW MIDDLE SCHOOL

James A. Hunt, Principal

There is always a better way.

Thomas Edison

Bruce Joyce, James Wolf, and Emily Calhoun, authors of The Self-Renewing School, remind us *improving student learning* should remain our central goal *involving not only the central office staff, school administrators, teachers, and students, but also support personnel and the community at large*. The November '09 Accreditation of Mountain View Middle School by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEAS&C) provided our school community objective, detailed feedback identifying our school's strengths and needs based upon a set of standards which include the essential aspects of schooling for middle level schools. As a school community, we celebrated a number of NEAS&C commendations including:

- *The commitment of staff to maintaining a positive learning environment where all children can be challenged and provided with paramount opportunities to be successful;*
- *The partnerships with parents and community organizations that have been forged to strengthen the school and provide a foundation necessary for students to acquire knowledge, skills, and character to become contributing members of a global world and life-long learners;*
- *The alignment of an intellectually challenging and diversity-respectful written curriculum with state standards;*
- *The accessibility and use of technology to strengthen instruction;*
- *The use of assessment data to drive instruction; enable learning, support continuous improvement and help to ensure the success of students;*
- *The School Board's continued fiscal support of the school especially its budgetary considerations that are driven by what is best for students...*

As a school community, we embrace Edison's overarching philosophy, "There is always a better way." During the past school year, we have focused our energy and efforts on improving student learning consistent with NEAS&C recommendations, our MVMS Mission Statement, and Core Beliefs. In response to a specific recommendation, we continue to promote a learning environment that fosters respect for self and others with more uniform, consistently applied behavior management strategies. The faculty and administration completed a Research for Better Teaching, Inc. Proactive Behavior Management full-day workshop and participated in an interactive Discipline with Dignity professional book study. These highly valued professional development activities, aligned with researched-based practices, have enabled us to promote a more effective and efficient learning environment.

We have made significant initial progress in addressing our "needs" during the past year; I anticipate our NEAS&C Two-Year Progress Report will reflect we have responded both in spirit and content consistent with meeting the standards of accreditation. Our 2014 NEAS&C Five-Year Progress Report requires a detailed explanation on how our school will have completely addressed the recommendations included in the Visiting Committee's Report. With the support of the School Board, central office administration, faculty, parents, students, and the community at large, we will make every effort to sustain our distinctive achievement – being one of the eight NEAS&C fully accredited middle schools in the state of New Hampshire.

GOFFSTOWN HIGH SCHOOL

Francis McBride, Principal

Goffstown High School's mission is to provide a quality education that encourages students to become impassioned learners who will thrive as individuals and members of their community. As a school, we work hard to ensure that we are engaging all students in their education. Whether it is in the classroom, or while participating in athletics, music, theater or other co-curricular activities, the goal is preparing students for their post high school endeavors.

One of the ways that we can measure our success is through the New England Common Assessment Program (NECAP). I am pleased to report that our recent NECAP scores are outstanding. Every public high school in New Hampshire tests their juniors with the NECAP exam. The assessment is completed in the areas of Reading, Math, Writing and Science. The following are the rank order lists of where Goffstown High School falls relative to other New Hampshire public schools on our state NECAP tests administered during the 09/10 school year:

Reading

Rank	Scaled Score	School
1	1153	Hollis – Brookline High School
	1153	Sunapee Sr. High School
2	1152	Goffstown High School

77 schools scored lower.

Math

Rank	Scaled Score	School
1	1143	Hanover High School
2	1141	Hollis-Brookline High School
3	1140	Bedford High School
	1140	Bow High School
	1140	Oyster River High School
	1140	Sunapee Sr. High School
4	1139	Goffstown High School

74 schools scored lower.

Writing

Rank	Scaled Score	School
1	7.7	Bedford High School
2	7.6	Hollis-Brookline High School
3	7.5	Goffstown High School

78 schools scored lower.

Science

Rank	Scaled Score	School
1	1141	Hanover High School
2	1138	Bedford High School
	1138	Coe Brown

3	1137	Bow High School
	1137	Hopkinton
	1137	Lincoln-Woodstock
	1137	Pittsburg
	1137	Sunapee Sr. High School
4	1136	Goffstown High School

62 schools scored lower.

We are proud of our state test scores and believe they are an accurate indication of the academic achievement that has occurred at Goffstown High School through the hard work and dedication of both students and teachers.

These scores are all the more impressive when you factor in the cost per pupil for educating our students. The most recent released cost per pupil figures are from the 2008-2009 school year. Sixty-six high schools spend more than Goffstown High School to educate their students. The six districts that spend less are Franklin, Hudson, Manchester, Nashua, Rochester and Salem.

The state average for educating high school students is \$11,573.01. The Goffstown cost per pupil is \$9,800.28. A sampling of the cost per pupil for high schools who scored higher than us on a few NECAP tests is as follows:

<u>School</u>	<u>Cost per pupil</u>
Sunapee	\$16,628.62
Oyster River	\$15,425.04
Hanover	\$15,235.72
Bow	\$14,367.24
Bedford	\$11,866.85
Hollis-Brookline	\$10,498.86
Goffstown	\$ 9,800.28

Thank you all for your continued support of the great and important work occurring at Goffstown High School. Your continued commitment in providing us the resources to maintain and surpass our current level of success is appreciated. I can promise you that we will continue to provide quality educational opportunities for our students while maintaining the same level of fiscal responsibility demonstrated by the above figures.