

**REGIONAL SCHOOL UNIT NO. 18
DISTRICT BUDGET MEETING MINUTES
MAY 29, 2018**

Those Present: Directors, Dawn Castner, Andrew Cook, Karen Hatch Gagne, James Isgro, Mary-Anne LaMarre and Cathy McElway. Also present at all or parts of the meeting were Carl Gartley, Gary Smith, Keith Morin, Kristi Farrell, Kelly Pinney-Michaud, Dana Wrigley, Gwen Bacon, Irene Belanger, Wayne Bengston, Linda Bengston, Wendy Nutting, Bob Nutting, Dan Bowers, Lois Bowden, Lennie Goff, Denice Hatch, Jennifer McGee, Donald Carter, Mary Glennon, Steve Kuybi, Tim Roddy, Sharon Jolicoeur, Lauralee Fegel, Dillon Clark, Sam Dunbar, Heather Wilson and Cheryl Mercier.

James Isgro, Chair of the Board of Directors of Regional School Unit No. 18, called the District Budget Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. in the cafeteria at Messalonskee Middle School in Oakland. Chair Isgro welcomed everyone and noted that all are here to discuss a budget that the School Board has approved. He noted that the School Board members will answer questions as best they can and will find answers if they are not readily available this evening. Whatever the final budget figure is, it is hoped that the citizens will support that figure when voting takes place on June 12. He thanked everyone for participating and attending this evening.

Superintendent Gartley welcomed everyone and thanked everyone for coming. RSU 18 is an educational institution, and this meeting is a big step in our budget process, with voting on June 12 being the final process.

ARTICLE 1A: To elect a moderator to preside at the meeting.

It was moved by LAMARRE and seconded by CASTNER that Robert W. Nutting be nominated to serve as moderator to preside at the meeting.

Motion carried unanimously.

James Isgro, Chair of the Regional School Unit No. 18 Board of Directors, administered the moderator's oath for Mr. Nutting and filed the Moderator's Record Oath and Certificate.

Mr. Nutting welcomed everyone to the RSU 18 budget meeting.

Robert W. Nutting administered the Oath of Municipal Clerk to the individuals listed below.

Patricia Bragg, Town of Sidney	Lynn LaBelle, Town of Rome
Jennifer Chamberlain, Town of China	Cheryl Mitchell, Town of Belgrade
Cheryl Cook, Town of Belgrade	Kathleen Paradis, Town of Oakland
Julie Finley, Town of China	Janice E. Porter, Town of Oakland
Leatrice Grevois, Town of Oakland	Winnie Robbins Kinsella, Town of Sidney

Mr. Nutting reviewed the rules. This meeting will use the Maine Moderator's manual, and he will follow those rules. The job of moderator is to keep the meeting flowing, making sure everyone has an opportunity to speak. He asked that those who wish to speak raise their hands, stand, state their name and state the community in which they reside. Mr. Nutting will read the Articles one at a time, a motion will be made and seconded, or amended, then there will be time for questions/comments. The duty of the moderator is not to answer questions. He will repeat the questions, and someone from the Board or administration will answer those questions. Then there will be a vote on the Articles. Mr. Nutting will call upon the voters to hold up their cards during the vote. If obvious, he will declare a vote; if not obvious, ballot clerks will count votes.

Note: The May 17, 2018 budget meeting acted only on Articles 1 through 5 and 8 through 11 of the school budget, and Article 16 (the adult education budget). The May 17 budget meeting adjourned without taking action on Articles 6, 7, 12, 13, 14, 15, and 17. This supplemental budget meeting is held for the sole purpose of supplemental action to complete a 2018-2019 fiscal year budget for submission validation referendum in accordance with Maine law.

ARTICLE 6: Shall the Regional School Unit be authorized to expend **\$842,764.69** for System Administration?

This Article includes costs for activities concerned with establishing and administering policy and operation of the school administrative unit.

Vote: It was moved by ISGRO and seconded by CASTNER to approve Article 6 as presented in the amount of \$842,764.69 for System Administration.

Motion carried.

ARTICLE 7: Shall the Regional School Unit be authorized to expend **\$1,933,014.50** for School Administration?

This Article includes costs for activities concerned with the administrative responsibility of individual schools.

Vote: It was moved by ISGRO and seconded by LAMARRE to approve Article 7 as presented in the amount of \$1,933,014.50 for School Administration.

Motion carried.

For Articles 12, 13, and 15, statute requires a recorded vote. Article 14 will be a Secret Ballot vote.

ARTICLE 12: Shall the Regional School Unit appropriate **\$31,126,456.56** for the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act and shall the Regional School Unit raise and **\$17,242,699.76** and assess as each municipality's

contribution to the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act in accordance with the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, Section 15688?

Total Appropriated (by municipality):		Total Raised (and Regional School Unit assessments by municipality):	
Town of Belgrade:	\$5,009,706.75	Town of Belgrade:	\$5,009,706.75
Town of China:	\$7,381,585.98	Town of China:	\$3,401,234.25
Town of Oakland:	\$10,328,290.13	Town of Oakland:	\$4,308,825.75
Town of Rome:	\$1,335,087.01	Town of Rome:	\$1,335,087.01
Town of Sidney:	\$7,071,786.69	Town of Sidney:	\$3,187,846.00
Regional School Unit Total Appropriated (Sum of Above):	\$31,126,456.56	Regional School Unit Total Raised: (Sum of Above):	\$17,242,699.76

The Regional School Unit’s contribution to the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act is the amount of money determined by State law to be the minimum amount that the Regional School Unit must raise and assess in order to receive the full amount of State dollars.

Vote: It was moved by ISGRO and seconded by LAMARRE to approve Article 12 as presented in the amount of \$31,126,456.56 for the Regional School Unit total appropriated and the amount of \$17,242,699.76 for the Regional School Unit total raised.

For: 29
Opposed: 0

ARTICLE 13: Shall the Regional School Unit raise and appropriate **\$49,250.06** for the annual payments on debt service previously approved by the Regional School Unit voters for non-state funded school construction projects and non-state-funded portions of school construction projects in addition to the funds appropriated as the local share of the Regional School Unit’s contribution to the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12?

Explanation: Non-state funded debt service is the amount of money needed for the annual payments on the Regional School Unit’s long-term debt for major capital school construction projects that are not approved for state subsidy. The bonding of this long-term debt was previously approved by the Regional School Unit voters.

Vote: It was moved by ISGRO and seconded by LAMARRE to approve Article 13 as presented in the amount of \$49,250.06 for Debt Service as previously approved by Regional School Unit voters.

For: 30
Opposed: 0

ARTICLE 14: (Written ballot required.) Shall the Regional School Unit raise and appropriate **\$5,221,645.17** in additional local funds, which exceeds the State’s Essential Programs and Services allocation model by **\$5,096,645.17** as required to fund the budget recommended by the Board.

The School Board gives the following reasons for exceeding the State’s Essential Programs and Services funding model by \$5,096,645.17.

The additional local funds are those locally raised funds over and above the Regional School Unit’s local contribution to the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding. These additional funds are needed to fun expenses that are not covered by the State’s Essential Programs funding model. This model does not fully cover the costs of regular classroom instruction, special education instruction, extracurricular and co-curricular student activities, district administration and leadership, student transportation and school technology.

Please note that of the total additional local amount raised in this Article \$447,574.00 is to be assessed only to the Town of China to cover costs of tuition and insured value factor pursuant to the RSU 18 reorganization plan previously approved by the voters.

Vote: It was moved by ISGRO and seconded by LAMARRE to approve Article 14 as presented in the amount of \$5,221,645.17 in additional local funds, which exceeds the State’s Essential Programs and Services allocation model by \$5,096,645.17 as required to fund the budget recommended by the School Board.

For: 35
Opposed: 2

ARTICLE 15: Shall the Regional School Unit authorize the School Board to expend **\$37,580,390.14** for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2018 and ending June 30, 2019 from the Regional School Unit’s contribution to the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act, non-state-funded school construction projects, additional local funds for school purposes under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, Section 15690, unexpended balances, tuition receipts, state subsidy and other receipts for the support of schools?

It was moved by ISGRO and seconded by LAMARRE for authorization for Regional School Unit No. 18 to expend **\$37,580,390.14** for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2018 and ending June 30, 2019 from the Regional School Unit’s contribution to the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act, non-state-funded school construction projects, additional local funds for school purposes under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, Section 15690, unexpended balances, tuition receipts, state subsidy and other receipts for the support of schools.

For: 30
Opposed: 0

ARTICLE 17: In addition to amounts approved in the preceding articles, shall the School Board be authorized to expend such other sums as may be received from federal or state grants or programs or other sources during the fiscal year for school purposes, provided that such grants, programs or other sources do not require the expenditure of other funds not previously appropriated?

Vote: It was moved by ISGRO and seconded by HATCH GAGNE to approve Article 17 as presented authorizing the School Board to expend such other sums as may be received from federal or state grants or programs or other sources during the fiscal year for school purposes, provided that such grants, programs or other sources do not require the expenditure of other funds not previously appropriated.

Motion carried.

ARTICLE 18: To the extent legally required, if any, shall the actions of the May 17, 2018 Budget Meeting in approving Articles 1 (Regular Instruction), 2 (Special Education), 3 (Career and Technical Education), 4 (Other Instruction), 5 (Student and Staff Support), 8 (Transportation and Buses), 9 (Facilities Maintenance), 10 (Debt Service and Other Commitments), and 11 (All Other Expenditures) for the school operating budget for fiscal year 2018-2019, and in approving Article 16 (Adult Education Program and local share) for fiscal year 2018-2019, be ratified, approved, and adopted by this meeting?

Vote: It was moved by ISGRO and seconded by LAMARRE to approve Article 18 to the extent legally required, if any, that the actions of the May 17, 2018 Budget Meeting in approving Articles 1 (Regular Instruction), 2 (Special Education), 3 (Career and Technical Education), 4 (Other Instruction), 5 (Student and Staff Support), 8 (Transportation and Buses), 9 (Facilities Maintenance), 10 (Debt Service and Other Commitments), and 11 (All Other Expenditures) for the school operating budget for fiscal year 2018-2019, and in approving Article 16 (Adult Education Program and local share) for fiscal year 2018-2019 be ratified, approved, and adopted by this meeting.

Motion carried.

Moderator Robert W. Nutting thanked the ballot clerks, Board, and Superintendent for their efforts in regard to the District Budget Meeting. The Regional School Unit Board of Directors signed the Notice of Amounts Adopted at the Budget Meeting, to be distributed to Town clerks to assist the voters of Regional School Unit No. 18 in voting at the budget validation referendum to be held on June 12, 2018 for the purpose of determining if the Regional School Unit budget for the 2018-19 fiscal year that was adopted at the District budget meeting on May 29, 2018 should be approved.

As there being no further warrant Articles upon which to act, it was moved by ISGRO and seconded by LAMARRE that the meeting be adjourned.

Motion carried unanimously.
Time: 6:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carl Gartley
Superintendent of Schools