

WARRANT ARTICLES SCHOOL DISTRICT MEETING

The following are the warrant articles that the Andover School District Meeting 2011 will vote on. Background information is provided, where appropriate, in square brackets [].

School District Meeting starts at 7 PM on Tuesday, March 1, in the Andover Elementary/Middle School gym.

ARTICLE I: To see if the District will vote to accept the reports of Officials, Agents, Auditors, and/or Committees as printed in the School District report.

ARTICLE II: To see if the District will vote to authorize the School Board to make application for, to accept and expend on behalf of the District any and all advances, grants, or other funds for educational purposes which may now or hereinafter be forthcoming from the United States of America and its agencies or from the State of New Hampshire and its agencies.

[This article must appear every year to authorize the School Board to get the state and federal aid it anticipates being available in a given year.]

ARTICLE III: To see if the District will authorize the School Board to accept and expend on behalf of the District private gifts and contributions for educational purposes.

[This article must appear every year to authorize the School Board to accept private donations in a given year.]

ARTICLE IV: To see if the School District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Four Million, Three Hundred Seventeen Thousand, Five Hundred Seventy-Nine Dollars (\$4,317,579) for the support of schools, for the payment of salaries of school district officers and agents, and for the payment of statutory obligations of said district and to authorize the application against said appropriation of such sums that are estimated to be raised from the state's equalization payment, together with other income. The School Board shall certify to the selectmen of Andover

the amount to be raised by taxation of said town. *The Budget Committee and School Board recommend passing this article.*

[This article raises the money to run the district and is worded according to regulations set forth by the Department of Revenue. The amount mentioned does not include any of the amounts mentioned in any of the other warrant articles. The amounts of all the warrant articles that pass get added together to determine the final 2011 School District budget.]

ARTICLE V: To see if the School District will approve the cost items included in the collective bargaining agreement reached between the Andover School Board and the Andover Education Association, which calls for the following estimated increases in salaries and benefits:

- 2011-2012: \$0
- 2012-2013: \$28,949

Note: Pursuant to RSA 273-A:12, if approved, the terms of this collective bargaining agreement, including the pay plan, but excluding cost of living increases, will continue in force and effect until a new agreement is executed. *The Budget Committee and School Board recommend passing this article.*

[This article seeks School District Meeting's approval of the dollar amounts contained in the proposed teachers' contract. No other terms of the contract are subject to School District Meeting approval. For more, see the articles on page 12.]

ARTICLE VI: To see if the School District, in Andover, will reduce its expenditures by 10%. *By petition.*

ARTICLE VII: To transact any other business that may legally come before this meeting.

Issues from page 12

is exactly the advice I gave my eight-year-old daughter this year when she was having bullying issues with a classmate. My wife and I told her, "There are always going to be bullies everywhere you go. In life, your family and friends will help you be strong, but you also need to find your own voice and be strong for yourself. You need to let the bully know that what she is doing is wrong, and you are not putting up with it. If you can't do that, your problems with the bully will never go away, and you won't know how to deal with the next bully that comes along."

How can I give this advice to my daughter and not follow it myself?

I am not saying that standing up to your bullies will be easy, but it is the right thing to do. Stick up for yourself, find support in your family and friends, and keep doing what you think is right to change the things that are unfair.

Most of you know me as a quiet person. I am still that quiet person, but this year I have a reason to find my voice more than ever before. Since the day the teachers voted to ratify our new contract, I have stopped shaving. I now am growing a beard to let everyone know I disagree with this contract. I am making a statement.

The teachers went to mediation because they wanted to change the grievance process to make it fair. The School Board refused to make any changes, and the teachers ratified the contract as it was before mediation (with a process that is totally unfair and gives all the power to the School Board). The teachers gave in to the bullies because

they were afraid of the consequences of fighting for their rights.

It is clear the teachers of this school are too afraid to stick up for themselves, so I ask you all to help stop the bullying. It doesn't cost any money to give the teachers a fair grievance process like all the other schools in the state of New Hampshire. Show the teachers you care about them by standing up to the School Board bullies. Call your School Board members and tell them to change the grievance process to final and binding arbitration, a fair, quick and cheap process. Tell them you will vote the school budget down at the March town meeting if this is not changed. Tell your friends and neighbors to stand up for the teacher's rights and not to allow this injustice to continue.

Each day the Andover School District children go to a school with the best teachers in the state, who ensure the students feel safe, get the best education possible, and eventually find their own voices so they can excel in our society. Don't allow the School Board to treat the teachers this way. Help the teachers do what they don't have the courage to do for themselves.

How can you help? Find your own voice: Call your School Board members and demand the change. Get everyone in town to call them saying the same thing. Get everyone to vote against the School Budget unless this is fixed. Do not accept no for an answer. They will try to tell you that they can't change anything now, but you let them know they have to. You will get the satisfaction of helping the people who help the children of Andover on a daily basis, and it will cost the Town of Andover nothing.

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**PowerPoint
Volunteer Needed**

If you know Microsoft PowerPoint or would like to learn it, please volunteer to help update the Channel 8 Bulletin Board once a week.

For details, contact Charlie Darling at 735-6099 or Charlie@AndoverBeacon.com



Your Rx for living well

If you are suffering from a sports-related injury or an orthopedic issue, Dr. Peter G. Noordsij at New London Hospital is here for you. Dr. Noordsij, a board-certified orthopedic surgeon, has 22 years of experience treating adults and children. He is the director of New London Hospital's Sports Medicine and Physical Rehabilitation Center and a physician with Concord Orthopaedics Professional Association. A New London resident, he can often be spotted cheering on the local team at school sports events.

New London Hospital is your prescription for living well, providing comprehensive primary and specialized health services.



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