



Regional School Unit 57

86 West Rd Waterboro ME 04087

Phone: 207-247-3221 Fax: 207-247-3477

Alfred - Limerick - Lyman - Newfield - Shapleigh - Waterboro



PROPOSED BUDGET

FISCAL YEAR 2015-2016





Superintendent's 2015 Annual Letter

I am pleased to report the state of our schools for the school year of 2014-2015. Overall, our district is on excellent footing. Economically we are not out of the woods but there are signs of hope out there. Our annual audit report was excellent. The District is managing and accounting for the resources it receives in a transparent and accurate manner. The Board is attentive to the maintenance needs of our buildings, energy efficiency, appearance and occupant safety. They are making sure that roofs are repaired, boilers are maintained and/or replaced and that smaller items are not ignored and thus become significant cost issues.

I have expressed before that I believe education is an investment not an expense we should constantly seek to reduce. If we believe in this country, and our democracy is worth preserving and passing on to future generations, we owe it to those who will follow us to prepare them and to educate them for the many challenges they will face.

Curriculum and Instruction: Our school district remains committed to helping all our students prepare for the many challenges they will face in their lifetime. We know they will need to know how to think, solve problems, assemble, sort, and digest an extraordinary amount of information and data and do this while working in groups that will change composition quickly. We must challenge our children beyond memorizing information. We must help prepare them to use information to solve really difficult problems.

Our district is continuing its effort at moving our instructional practices to a place where we will expect all students to demonstrate what they have learned and that they have learned to levels much higher than was expected of us. As a school, community, and nation, we can no longer afford to just teach the willing. We must find ways to teach everyone.

Finance and Budget: This budget is reflective of our time. Funding from Augusta has not reached the 55% as is required under the law. I cannot guarantee that will change anytime soon. The Board will present to you a budget that is reflective of the programs you have supported these past several years.

Facility and Maintenance: Our buildings continue to require attention. The District maintenance staff is small but they accomplish a great deal over the course of a year. I continue to be amazed at how much work they do themselves. Whether it is a roof repair or replacement, a boiler replacement, painting, carpeting or a general facelift to an older classroom, the Board has done a great job of making sure small problems have not turned into major issues.

The Board has recommended improvements to the athletic fields. These improvements represent a scaled down version to include repairing and redesigning the track, adding public bathrooms, resurfacing the tennis courts, applying a new surface to the stadium field and adding bleachers.

We know the track is unusable and has not been used for competition since 2005. We know the stadium complex is in need of permanent bleachers and we should widen the field to accommodate a variety of sports. We need to provide a more permanent space for patron bathrooms and the storage of equipment. Finally, the tennis courts are nearing the end of their competition life span and must be resurfaced.

Education is a community effort and the community is invited to visit and/or volunteer in our schools. You are encouraged to visit our website for more information about the District or you can contact the Superintendent's Office when you have a question or concern.

Respectfully submitted,

John A. Davis, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

MESSAGE FROM THE SCHOOL BOARD CHAIR

Dear Residents,

I am pleased to present a budget that will have the least impact on the taxpayers in many years. The FY16 budget development process has proven to be very productive this year and I want to give thanks to the Board's Finance Committee. This committee is made up of one member from each town and they have worked throughout the winter balancing the needs of our responsibilities to the student along with the needs of taxpayers. A well deserved thank you for all your work. I also want to thank the administrative team led by our Superintendent, John Davis and Director of Finance, Colin Walsh and all the staff that provided their expertise in preparing this budget.

Our economy continues to improve and this year our district and State have benefited from lower energy costs. Our children's educational needs, opportunities, and expectations remain as great as ever. Our students need a solid education to compete in the global workplace and we believe the proposed school district budget will fulfill the requirements. This process has included multiple stakeholders and all information about the budget has been posted online for taxpayers to see, at www.rsu57.org. Transparency is essential when asking you to support our budget and we believe we have achieved the highest level of transparency. Please take a look at the site and let the Board know your thoughts. We hope you will support the school district budget which we believe strikes the right balance between giving students what they need educationally, while not overburdening the taxpayers of our six towns.

Respectfully Submitted,

Karla Bergeron

Karla Bergeron
RSU #57 School Board Chair

MESSAGE FROM THE FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIR

Dear Residents:

The Finance Committee began its work on the budget at the start of the New Year. We consistently reminded ourselves that the goal and obligation of the school district is to provide a quality educational experience which will allow our students to be respectful, responsible and creative thinkers.

The administrative team worked diligently with the Finance Committee to help ensure that the essential needs of all students are addressed. The challenges of minimal increases in state funding while costs continue to rise and enrollments decrease provided a difficult balancing act for the Committee. After many hours of work and discussion we believe that we have taken a very proactive approach to providing what is necessary in educating our youth while containing the financial impact to the taxpayers.

The full School Board reviewed the proposed budget and has approved it for the taxpayers' support and approval. We are hopeful that you will participate in the District Budget Meeting on May 19, 2015 at Massabesic Middle School. In addition, please make sure you visit your respective polling place on June 9, 2015 for support of the District Referendum Vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dominic Vermette

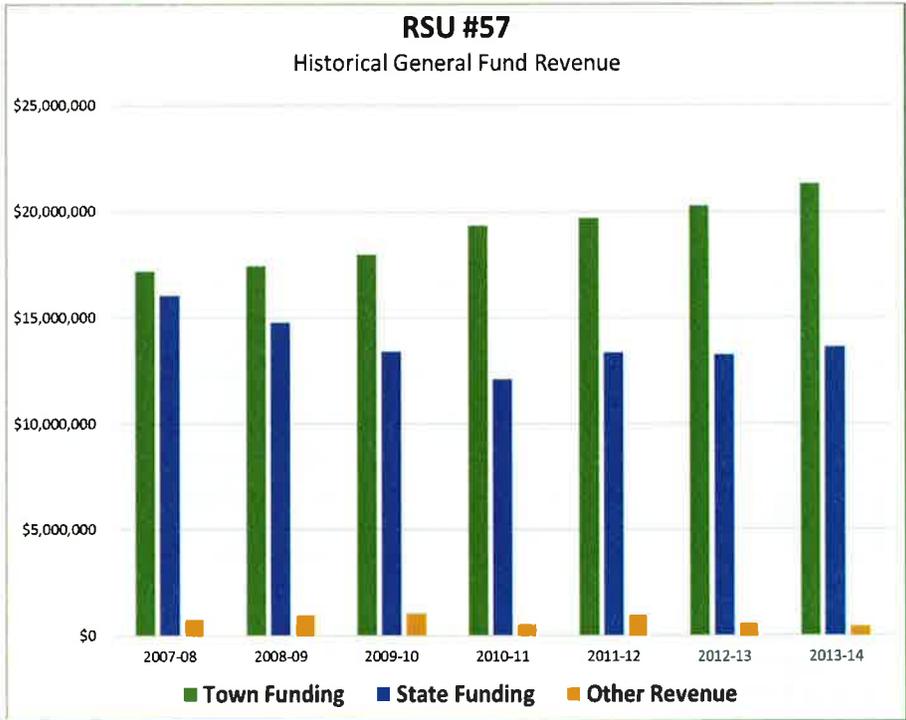
Dominic Vermette
Finance Committee Chairman
RSU #57 School Board

Enrollments by Community				
<u>FY 2014-15</u>		<u>FY 2015-16</u>		Difference
Alfred	344.50	Alfred	349.50	5.00
Limerick	463.00	Limerick	443.50	(19.50)
Lyman	575.50	Lyman	571.50	(4.00)
Newfield	177.00	Newfield	186.00	9.00
Shapleigh	347.50	Shapleigh	354.50	7.00
Waterboro	<u>1,290.50</u>	Waterboro	<u>1,243.50</u>	<u>(47.00)</u>
TOTAL	3,198.00	TOTAL	3,148.50	(49.50)

	 STATE AVERAGE	 RSU #57	<u>% BELOW</u> STATE AVERAGE
2013-14	\$12,056	\$10,778	-10.6%
2012-13	\$11,582	\$10,388	-10.3%
2011-12	\$11,218	\$ 9,708	-13.5%
2010-11	\$11,063	\$ 9,311	-15.8%
2009-10	\$11,037	\$ 9,439	-14.5%



RSU#57 PREPARES RESPECTFUL, RESPONSIBLE &
CREATIVE THINKERS FOR SUCCESS IN THE GLOBAL
COMMUNITY.



This chart illustrates the allocation of total general fund revenue over the most recent seven fiscal years. Although total revenue has not increased dramatically over this time period the amount received from the state has decreased by \$2.4 Million.

Per Pupil Total Expenditures

How we compare with other districts in 2013-2014

1	Acton	\$15,552.53
2	RSU #51 Cumberland	\$15,004.06
3	York	\$14,785.05
4	Falmouth	\$14,144.62
5	Yarmouth	\$14,029.80
6	South Portland	\$13,662.49
7	RSU #21 Kennebunk	\$13,585.18
8	Brunswick	\$13,582.43
9	RSU #75 Topsham	\$13,264.59
10	Kittery	\$13,211.79
11	Cape Elizabeth	\$13,195.95
12	RSU #5 Freeport	\$13,133.90
13	Portland	\$12,841.13
14	Biddeford	\$12,822.10
15	RSU #55 Sacopee Valley	\$12,550.52
16	Scarborough	\$12,312.21
17	Gorham	\$12,187.69
	STATE AVERAGE	\$12,056.40
18	Westbrook	\$12,048.07
19	RSU #60 Noble	\$11,745.38
20	RSU #35 Marshwood	\$11,698.48
21	RSU #14 Windham	\$11,659.52
22	RSU #23 Saco	\$11,486.68
23	RSU #6 Bonny Eagle	\$11,436.72
24	Lewiston	\$11,107.07
	 RSU #57 Massabesic	\$10,777.78
26	Sanford	\$10,749.48
27	RSU #17 Oxford Hills	\$10,238.96
28	Auburn	\$ 9,997.66
29	RSU #19 Newport	\$ 9,750.17

RSU#57 Core Beliefs

- ◆ All Students can learn.
- ◆ Students learn in different ways, in different settings, and at different rates for different futures.
- ◆ Successful student learning is meaningful and relevant to the learner.
- ◆ Clear learning targets and continuous reflection are essential to successful learning.
- ◆ Students learn best in a safe environment characterized by positive relationships with caring, competent individuals.
- ◆ High standards of performance are expected of all.



LOCAL ASSESSMENTS *

Assessment Shares by Town & Tax Impacts

** Includes Adult Education*

TOWN	ACTUAL LOCAL SHARE 2014-2015	PROPOSED LOCAL SHARE 2015-2016	\$\$\$ Difference 2015-2016	% Difference 2015-2016	APPROXIMATE ANNUAL \$\$\$ INCREASE PER \$100,000 OF PROPERTY VALUE	APPROXIMATE ADDITIONAL MONTHLY COST
ALFRED	\$ 2,431,233	\$ 2,514,203	\$ 82,970	3.41%	\$ 13.91	\$ 1.16
LIMERICK	\$ 2,897,365	\$ 2,930,042	\$ 32,677	1.13%	\$ 17.51	\$ 1.46
LYMAN	\$ 4,078,079	\$ 4,201,797	\$ 123,718	3.03%	\$ 26.95	\$ 2.25
NEWFIELD	\$ 1,688,041	\$ 1,770,221	\$ 82,180	4.87%	\$ 33.01	\$ 2.75
SHAPLEIGH	\$ 3,419,855	\$ 3,527,892	\$ 108,037	3.16%	\$ 22.94	\$ 1.91
WATERBORO	\$ 7,682,188	\$ 7,792,967	\$ 110,779	1.44%	\$ 28.42	\$ 2.37
TOTALS	\$ 22,196,761	\$22,737,122	\$ 540,361	2.43%		

Local Assessments*

8 Year History

2008-09 through Proposed 2015-16

**Includes Adult Education*

Fiscal Year	Budget	% Increase
2008-09	\$17,628,936	
2009-10	\$18,202,488	3.25%
2010-11	\$19,525,163	7.27%
2011-12	\$19,896,730	1.90%
2012-13	\$20,487,824	2.97%
2013-14	\$21,487,824	4.88%
2014-15	\$22,196,761	3.30%
2015-16 Proposed	\$22,737,122	2.43%
Average Annual Increase = 3.71%		

Alfred*Limerick*Lyman*Newfield*Shapleigh*Waterboro

Where the Money Comes From...



Where the Money Goes...



Nearly 75.1% of all available funds go to cover Salaries & Benefits. Less than 6.2% covers items that can be described as "discretionary". The remaining 18.7% covers fixed expenses, such as debt service and energy costs.

Total Budget* 8 Year History 2008-09 through Proposed 2015-16

**Includes Adult Education*

Fiscal Year	Budget	% Increase
2008-09	\$34,098,775	
2009-10	\$34,214,500	0.34%
2010-11	\$34,022,645	(0.56)%
2011-12	\$35,000,000	2.87%
2012-13	\$35,943,101	2.69%
2013-14	\$36,286,550	0.96%
2014-15	\$37,994,873	4.71%
2015-16 Proposed	\$39,193,137	3.15%

Average Annual Increase = 2.02%

Description of Programs Included within Articles 1-11

- Article 1** Regular Instruction
Regular Instruction Programs
K-2 Instruction Programs
Other Instructional Programs
Alternative Education
English as a Second Language
Gifted & Talented
- Article 2** Special Education Instruction
Special Education Programs and Administration
- Article 3** Career & Technical Education Instruction
Career & Technical Education Student Support Services
Career & Technical Education Instruction**
**includes tuition and/or assessments paid to Centers and/or Regions
- Article 4** Other Instruction
Co-curricular
Extra-curricular
Other Instructional Programs
Summer School
Post Secondary Enrollment
NJROTC
- Article 5** Student & Staff Support
Student Support:
Guidance Services
Health Services
Instructional Technology
Other Student Support Services
Staff Support:
Improvement of Instruction
Instructional Staff Training
Library Services
Student Assessment
Curriculum
- Article 6** System Administration - Office of the Superintendent of Schools
- Article 7** School Administration - Office of the Principals
- Article 8** Transportation & Buses (including bus/van leases)
- Article 9** Facilities Maintenance
Operation & Maintenance of Plant
Maintenance/Custodial
Capital Enhancement & Improvement
Capital Renewal & Renovation
- Article 10** Debt Service & Other Commitments
Debt Service Payments
- Article 11** All Other Expenditures including School Lunch
School Nutrition (local support)
Non Public School Services
Community Service





BUDGET VALIDATION REFERENDUM
Tuesday, June 9, 2015

Polling Places in each town will be open as follows:

ALFRED	CONANT CHAPEL 8 KENNEBUNK ROAD ALFRED, ME 04002	8:00 A.M. – 8:00 P.M.	Town Clerk – Andrew J. Bors
LIMERICK	MUNICIPAL BUILDING 55 WASHINGTON STREET LIMERICK, ME 04048	8:00 A.M. – 8:00 P.M.	Town Clerk – Judith LePage
LYMAN	TOWN HALL 11 SOUTH WATERBORO ROAD LYMAN, ME 04002	8:00 A.M. – 8:00 P.M.	Town Clerk – Pauline Weiss
NEWFIELD	PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING 85 WATER STREET NEWFIELD, ME 04056	8:00 A.M. – 8:00 P.M.	Town Clerk – Justine Perkins
SHAPLEIGH	TOWN HALL 22 BACK ROAD SHAPLEIGH, ME 04076	8:00 A.M. – 8:00 P.M.	Town Clerk – Joanne Rankin
WATERBORO	MASSABESIC HIGH/EAST BUILDING 84 WEST ROAD WATERBORO, ME 04087	7:00 A.M. – 8:00 P.M.	Deputy Town Clerk – Yvette M. Dailey

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**WARRANT TO CALL REGIONAL SCHOOL UNIT NO. 57
BUDGET MEETING
(20-A M.R.S. § 1485)**

TO: Mary Jo-Burcham, a resident of Regional School Unit No. 57 (the "Regional School Unit") composed of the Towns of Alfred, Limerick, Lyman, Newfield, Shapleigh and Waterboro, State of Maine.

In the name of the State of Maine, you are hereby required to notify the voters of each of the municipalities within Regional School Unit No. 57, namely, the Towns of Alfred, Limerick, Lyman, Newfield, Shapleigh and Waterboro, that a Regional School Unit Budget Meeting will be held at Massabesic Middle School, 134 Old Alfred Road, East Waterboro, ME 04030, Maine at 7:00 p.m. on May 19, 2015 for the purpose of determining the Budget Meeting articles set forth below.

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

**ARTICLES 1 THROUGH 11 AUTHORIZE EXPENDITURES IN COST
CENTER CATEGORIES**

- ARTICLE 1:** Shall Regional School Unit No. 57 be authorized to expend **\$14,755,171** for Regular Instruction?
(The Board of Directors recommends \$14,755,171)
- ARTICLE 2:** Shall Regional School Unit No. 57 be authorized to expend **\$6,558,243** for Special Education?
(The Board of Directors recommends \$6,558,243)
- ARTICLE 3:** Shall Regional School Unit No. 57 be authorized to expend **\$80,600** for Career and Technical Education?
(The Board of Directors recommends \$80,600)
- ARTICLE 4:** Shall Regional School Unit No. 57 be authorized to expend **\$874,203** for Other Instruction?
(The Board of Directors recommends \$874,203)
- ARTICLE 5:** Shall Regional School Unit No. 57 be authorized to expend **\$3,278,016** for Student and Staff Support?
(The Board of Directors recommends \$3,278,016)
- ARTICLE 6:** Shall Regional School Unit No. 57 be authorized to expend **\$859,894** for System Administration?
(The Board of Directors recommends \$859,894)
- ARTICLE 7:** Shall Regional School Unit No. 57 be authorized to expend **\$2,190,352** for School Administration?
(The Board of Directors recommends \$2,190,352)

ARTICLE 8: Shall Regional School Unit No. 57 be authorized to expend **\$3,211,218** for Transportation and Buses?
(The Board of Directors recommends \$3,211,218)

ARTICLE 9: Shall Regional School Unit No. 57 be authorized to expend **\$4,745,101** for Facilities Maintenance?
(The Board of Directors recommends \$4,745,101)

ARTICLE 10: Shall Regional School Unit No. 57 be authorized to expend **\$2,091,755** for Debt Service and Other Commitments?
(The Board of Directors recommends \$2,091,755)

ARTICLE 11: Shall Regional School Unit No. 57 be authorized to expend **\$150,000** for All Other Expenditures?
(The Board of Directors recommends \$150,000)

**ARTICLES 12 THROUGH 14 RAISE FUNDS FOR THE
PROPOSED SCHOOL BUDGET**

ARTICLE 12: Shall Regional School Unit No. 57 appropriate **\$34,396,585** 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 Regional School Unit No. 57 raise **\$20,319,874** and assess the amounts set forth below 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?

<u>Total Appropriated by Town</u>	<u>Total raised by Town (District assessments)</u>
Town of Alfred: \$3,818,021	Town of Alfred: \$2,246,913
Town of Limerick: \$4,846,479	Town of Limerick: \$2,618,537
Town of Lyman: \$6,242,980	Town of Lyman: \$3,755,075
Town of Newfield: \$2,032,838	Town of Newfield: \$1,582,025
Town of Shapleigh: \$3,873,056	Town of Shapleigh: \$3,152,827
Town of Waterboro: \$13,583,211	Town of Waterboro: \$6,964,497
Total Appropriated \$34,396,585	Total Raised: \$20,319,874

(The Board of Directors recommends a Yes vote.)

Explanation: 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.

ARTICLE 13: Shall Regional School Unit No. 57 raise and appropriate **\$72,601** for the annual payments on debt service previously approved by Regional School Unit No. 57

voters for non-state-funded school construction projects or 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?

(The Board of Directors recommends \$72,601)

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 approved by the voters of the Regional School Unit as follows:

Massabesic Middle School – Approved by voters in 2003

ARTICLE 14: (Written ballot required). Shall Regional School Unit No. 57 raise and appropriate \$2,155,367 in additional local funds, which exceeds the State's Essential Programs and Services allocation model by \$1,255,762 as required to fund the budget recommended by the School Board?

(The Board of Directors recommends a Yes vote.)

The School Board recommends \$2,155,367 for additional local funds and gives the following reasons for exceeding the State's Essential Programs and Services funding model by \$1,255,762: This amount is needed to cover costs of District schools that the state's funding model does not recognize including the following: 1) costs of special education programming, 2) costs of career and technical education, 3) transportation costs, 4) costs of student and staff support.

Explanation: 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 Act and local amounts raised for the annual payment on non-state funded debt service that will help achieve the Regional School Unit budget for educational programs.

ARTICLE 15 SUMMARIZES THE PROPOSED SCHOOL BUDGET

ARTICLE 15: Shall Regional School Unit No. 57 authorize the Board of School Directors to expend \$38,794,553 for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2015 and ending June 30, 2016 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?

(The Board of Directors recommends a Yes vote.)

ARTICLE 16 AUTHORIZES THE ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAM AND RAISES THE LOCAL SHARE

ARTICLE 16: To see if Regional School Unit No. 57 will appropriate the sum of **\$398,584** for the MASSABESIC CENTER FOR ADULT LEARNING and raise the sum of **\$189,280** as the local share for the year beginning July 1, 2015 and ending June 30, 2016; with authorization to expend any additional, incidental, or miscellaneous receipts in the interest and for the well-being of the Adult Education Program.
(The Board of Directors recommends a Yes vote).

ARTICLE 17 AUTHORIZES EXPENDITURE OF GRANTS AND OTHER RECEIPTS

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?
(The Board of Directors recommends a Yes vote).

ARTICLE 18 AUTHORIZES A TRANSFER TO AND EXPENDITURE FROM THE CAPITAL RESERVE FUND

ARTICLE 18: Shall Regional School Unit No. 57 authorize the Board of Directors to transfer **\$500,000** from available fund balances to the Capital Reserve Fund, and to authorize the Board of Directors, upon a two-thirds majority vote, to expend amounts available from the Capital Reserve Fund for capital improvements or emergency repairs to district facilities and equipment?
(The Board of Directors recommends a Yes vote.)

Given under our hands this day, April 29, 2015, at Waterboro, Maine.

David Galbraith

Anthony Brunton

Tina Crowley-Colwell

Karla Bergeron

Judith Vasalle

Bruce Woodward

Heather Silva

John Flagler

Dominic Vermette

Jodi Laine

Jennifer Raux

Donald Beane

Mary Ross

Kenneth Gates

Paula Lantagne

Bryan Carpenter

Jennifer Mayo

A majority of the School Board of Regional School Unit No. 57

A true copy of the Warrant, attest:

Mary-Jo Burcham, Resident
Regional School Unit No. 57

RETURN

York County, ss.

State of Maine

TO: The School Board of Regional School Unit No. 57

I certify that I have notified the voters of Regional School Unit No. 57 (the "Regional School Unit") of the time and place of the Regional School Unit No. 57 budget meeting by posting an attested copy of the within warrant as follows:

	TIME(S)	DATE(S)	LOCATION(S)
Town of Alfred	9:08	4/30	Alf Office inside
	9:09	4/30	" " outside
	9:15	4/30	Alf Gen Store
Town of Limerick	11:55	4/30	Limerick Town office
	12:14	4/30	Limerick Supermarket
	12:21	4/30	Limerick P.O.
Town of Lyman	9:38	4/30	Lyman Town office
	10:08	4/30	Goodwin's Meats Store
	10:16	4/30	Tackson Co Store
Town of Newfield	12:32	4/30	Newfield PC
	12:45	4/30	W. Newfield P.O.
	1:33	4/30	Newfield Town office
Town of Shapleigh	12:57	4/30	Bronco
	1:13	4/30	Shapleigh P.O.
	5:25	4/30	Shap Town office
Town of Waterboro	10:44	4/30	Waterboro P.O.
	11:03	4/30	E. Waterboro P.O.
	11:19	4/30	Waterboro Town office
	11:35	4/30	No. Waterboro P.O.

being at least seven days prior to the Regional School Unit budget meeting and being public and conspicuous places in each of said municipalities.

Dated: 4/30, 2015

Mary Jo Burcham
 Mary Jo Burcham, Resident of
 Regional School Unit No. 57