

***NEW!* MSAD 35 Budget Frequently Asked Questions**

June 8, 2015

- The requested school budget is \$30,449,047. That is \$1,229,424 higher than last year.
True, the 2015-2016 budget is 4.2% higher than the 2014-2015 budget.
- The State of Maine subsidizes a maximum of \$24,875,447. MSAD#35 budget is over by \$5,573,600.
True, however the according to the EPS formula the State should be subsidizing and we should be spending a minimum of \$25,431,055 to educate our students and at the District Budget Meeting the voters approved exceeding the EPS recommended amount by a margin of 144 in favor to 16 opposed.
- Eliot and South Berwick residents pay 100% of unsubsidized expenditures.
False, the budget includes \$1,927,361 in non tax revenue, \$1,061,500 of that is the tuition paid by Rollinsford.
- The new bus garage, and bus storage, will be located on the grounds of the Marshwood Middle School.
True, the middle school location is the most cost effective option and will have little impact on the operation of the school.
- Payments of \$200,000 are not included in this budget increase but will start in the following year.
True, the three annual lease/purchase payments of \$200,000 for the bus garage are not included in this budget. All of the payments will be paid out of a Capital Reserve Account and will not impact the local budget.
- The State of Maine does not subsidize any portion of the cost of this project.
True, however the state will subsidize the cost of operating the new garage.
- In 2005, the school budget was \$21,379,623, and there were 313 more students enrolled at the time.
True, however the average annual percent increase in the budget over that twelve year period is 3.5% .
- A NO vote keeps the school budget at the previous year's level of spending: \$29,219,623.
False, a NO vote would require the School Board to convene another District Budget Hearing and another Budget Validation Referendum vote and continue that process until the voters approve a budget.