Key Dates for 2024-2025 Budget

MONDAY, 12/4/2023, 6:00PM
Regular School Board business meeting with budget review

MONDAY, 12/18/2023, 6:00PM
Regular School Board business meeting with budget review

MONDAY, 1/2/2024, 6:00PM
Regular School Board business meeting with final budget review before public hearing

TUESDAY, 1/9/2024
Last date for Petitioned Warrant Articles
Last date for Collective Bargaining Agreements

THURSDAY, 1/11/2024, 6:00PM,
HDMS Cafetorium
Public Budget Hearing followed by Regular School Board business meeting with review and approval of final budget and warrant for deliberative session (SNOW DATE - TUESDAY, 1/16/2024)

WEDNESDAY, 1/24/2024
First filing date for district officers
One Moderator, 1-year term
Two At Large School Board Members, 3-year term

MONDAY, 1/29/2024
Last date to Post the Warrant, Budget and Default Budget

FRIDAY, 2/2/2024
Last filing date for district officers

MONDAY, 2/5/2024, 7:00PM,
HDMS Cafetorium
Deliberative Session
(first voting session)

WEDNESDAY, 2/6/2024, 7:00PM,
HDMS Cafetorium
SNOW DATE for Deliberative Session

TUESDAY, 3/5/2024
Annual Report is available with final budget and warrant (ballot questions)

TUESDAY, 3/12/2024
School District Ballot Voting
(second voting session)
Deering voters – Deering Town Hall
8:00am-7:00pm
Hillsboro voters – HD Middle School Gym
7:00am-7:00pm

COLOR CODE

- Regular Board Meetings
- Very important for voters to attend
- Warnings to post or report available
- Filing information for candidates
SCHOOL GOVERNMENT

The towns of Deering and Hillsboro belong to a cooperative school district. All the school buildings are located in the town of Hillsboro with the exception of the High School Alternative Program located in Deering. This District is called the Hillsboro-Deering Cooperative School District. All schools in the cooperative are governed by the Hillsboro-Deering School Board. Windsor sends their students to Hillsboro-Deering schools under an area tuition agreement. Washington tuitions students to the HD Middle and High Schools.

WHAT IS SAU#34?
The school districts of Hillsboro-Deering, Washington and Windsor are a part of School Administrative Unit (SAU) #34 which serves as a “business front office” to handle all operational, business, and human resource functions of the school districts and to support a quality education for all students.

WHAT IS THE SCHOOL BOARD?
The school board is made up of elected citizens, with elections taking place the second Tuesday in March on the official school district ballot. To become a candidate for school board or moderator, one must file at the SAU office in Hillsboro. The Hillsboro-Deering School Board includes five members, one from Deering, two from Hillsboro and two at large, serving staggered three year terms.

WHAT DOES THE SCHOOL BOARD DO?
The Hillsboro-Deering School Board is primarily responsible for determining policy for the operation of the schools – including curriculum, finances, and operations. The school board develops and monitors a budget each year.

WHEN DOES THE HDSB MEET?
The Hillsboro-Deering School Board meets on the first and third Monday of each month, except during the budget season when meetings are held more often. Meetings are usually held at the HD Elementary School. All meetings are open to the public.

WHAT IS SB2?
In 1995, the NH Legislature passed what is popularly known, after the Senate bill that engendered it, as “SB2”, SB2, codified as RSA 40:13, permits both towns and/or school districts to adopt “the official ballot for voting on all issues before the voters” at the same time they elect local officials. Adoption of SB2 requires a 3/5 majority vote at the polls. Similarly, after a town or school district adopts SB2, a 3/5 majority is needed to rescind it.

The towns of Hillsboro and Deering have adopted for their schools the Official Ballot Referenda, SB2, which utilizes the official ballot for voting on all issues before the voters. Under SB2, the annual town meeting, a meeting of citizens who come together to form a legislative body of the town, is divided into two sessions that are held about a month apart.

THE FIRST SESSION OF SB2
The first session, also referred to as the DELIBERATIVE SESSION, held annually in February consists of an explanation, discussion, and debate of each warrant article (or proposed ballot question) including the school district budget. The discussions held at this session are an important part of the process for voters to listen to a variety of viewpoints about what will be voted on in the second session voting held in Deering and Hillsboro in March.

MORE ON THE DELIBERATIVE SESSION
The DELIBERATIVE SESSION is similar in many ways to the traditional TOWN MEETING. But unlike town meeting, no final voting on warrant articles occurs at the DELIBERATIVE SESSION. However, registered voters of Hillsboro and Deering are allowed to make motions to amend the content, including dollar amounts of warrant articles whose wording is not prescribed by law. Seconded motions are discussed and then called to a vote. If passed, the amended wording of the warrant article appears on the official ballot for voting in March. Public participation at the DELIBERATIVE SESSION is important because of the potential impact on the final wording of the ballot questions.

THE SECOND SESSION OF SB2
The second session is held on the second Tuesday in March. At this second session, the school district voters, by official ballot, elect the school board member(s) and moderator and vote on all warrant articles including the school budget from the first session and questions required by law.

Where to find the warrant & budget before the March vote?
Posted at Deering & Hillsboro town offices
Posted on the Post Office bulletin board
Posted on bulletin boards at each school including outside HDMS Cafetorium door
Online at www.hdsd.org

Request a copy from the SAU#34