

ABSTRACT OF THE 2015 FAIRFAX TOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT MEETING

**FAIRFAX TOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT
Annual Meeting 2015**

The inhabitants of the Town of Fairfax who are legal voters in the Annual Town School District Meeting met in the Elementary auditorium of Bellows Free Academy, Fairfax, Vermont on Saturday, February 28, 2015 for the purpose of voting upon or transaction such business not involving voting by Australian ballot.

Moderator Roberta K (Robby) Rodimer called the school portion of the Town Meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Robby read Robert's Rules as modified by VT State Law. She stated that without objection that the School would change the length of time each person may speak from 10 minutes to 4 minutes. There was no objection. Robby turned the microphone over to Barbara Murphy. Barbara introduced herself as our new State Representative. Barbara left hand outs in the lobby on the FY2016 Estimated Net Education Tax amounts for a house and up to two acres, along with Senator Bill Doyle Town Meeting Day Survey to be filled out.

Articles 1, 2, and 3 were voted upon by the use of the official Australian ballot on Tuesday, March 3, 2015 at the Elementary Auditorium at Bellows Free Academy, Fairfax, Vermont. Polls opened at 7:00 a.m. and closed at 7:00 p.m.

Article 1 The following officials were elected by the legal voters of the Town:

<i>School Moderator</i>	<i>One year term</i>	<i>Roberta K Rodimer</i>	<i>653 votes</i>
<i>School Director</i>	<i>Three-year term</i>	<i>Scott Mitchell</i>	<i>37 votes</i>
<i>School Director</i>	<i>Two-year term</i>	<i>Rachelle LeVau</i>	<i>616 votes</i>
<i>BFA Trustee</i>	<i>Five-year term</i>	<i>John Mitchell</i>	<i>702 votes</i>

Robby read Article 1 that was voted by Australian ballot. There was no discussion from the floor.

Article 2 Shall the voters of said school district appropriate **\$12,758,564** necessary for the support of its schools for the year beginning July 1, 2015?

A slide show was presented. Elaine Carpenter, Chair spoke about the Fairfax School Budget 2015/2016 Proposal consisting of the BFA Fairfax's Mission with the Reallocation of Budget Resources with increases and decreases consisting of staff, supplies/books, coaching, education, and special education growth to mention as few. Enrollment Snapshot showed our student population change over time. Elaine showed the staffing-student ratio of BFA student: Adults ratio (K-12), and the student: instructional staff ratio. Jason Boyd continued speaking about the Budget Proposal FY2016 with the changes in the Budget, the projected spending in the FY16 per equalized pupil and how the education is funded, and the transportation budget needs. Rachelle LeVue spoke about the estimated tax impact, stating the assuming statewide education tax rate being set at \$1.00. The projected tax increase of 2 cents per \$1000. The School Board also spoke about the Vermont education tax rate; estimated school tax rate/tax bill; and the Capital Improvement Plan for projects over the next five years with a total anticipated project cost of \$543,000. These are a few bullet points the were presented : the

return of your investment which perform in the top 1/3 of VT Schools while spending levels remain in the lowest 15%; 100 5-8 grade students participate in engineering club; and Fairfax students have opportunities to participate in global education.

The floor was opened to discussion. There was a question and answer session. Some bullet points were to the increases to special needs; tuition; and Special Education Reimbursement.

In Favor: 434

Opposed: 357

Article 3

Shall the voters of said school district authorize the school directors to borrow money for school expenses in anticipation of revenue for the ensuing year?

The floor was opened to discussion. There was none.

In Favor: 445

Opposed: 338

Article 4

To approve the School Directors' report from the previous year.

A motion was made by Jim McGuinness and seconded by Mike Cain. The floor was opened to discussion. There was none. A motion was passed by a show of cards.

Article 5

To conduct any other legal business to come before said meeting.

A motion was made by Jim McGuniness and seconded by Mike Cain. The floor was opened to discussion. There was discussion on the status of the White House. Kudos went out to the School for what they do. A motion was passed by a show of cards.

Article 6

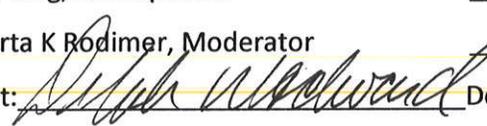
To adjourn.

A motion was made by Jim McGuniness and seconded by Mike Cain. The floor was opened to discussion. There was none. A motion was passed by a show of cards at 11:00 a.m. There was an attendance of 72 people.

There are 3399 registered voters with 793 voting by Australian ballot making a 23% voter turnout.

Peter King, Selectperson

Roberta K Rodimer, Moderator

Attest:  Deborah Woodward, Fairfax School District Clerk

A true record

March 5, 2015