

Wilton-Lyndeborough Taxpayers

2018 VOTER GUIDE

for WLC SCHOOL DISTRICT MEETING

Updated 3/5/2018

The School District Meeting will take place at the **WLC Middle/High School** on **Saturday, March 10th at 9 AM**. The voters of the school district will vote on a number of distinct measures called “Warrant Articles”. This voter guide has been prepared by the *Wilton-Lyndeborough Taxpayers*, which is a group of residents of both towns whose goal is to ensure fiscally-responsible government and to help keep taxes low.

Don't forget to vote in Town Elections on Tuesday, March 13th.

Visit our website and sign up for e-mail updates at **www.WLtaxpayers.org**.

Warrant Article #	Recommendation	
1-3	SEE NOTE	Articles 1 through 3 are not voted on at the Town Meeting. Instead, they are voted on at the Town Election, which takes place this year on Tuesday, March 13 th . There is a separate VOTER GUIDE FOR TOWN ELECTIONS. Please download it from www.wltaxpayers.org.
4	YES	District Operating Budget of \$12,344,685: The proposed budget is a decrease of 1.65% from the previous year. Wilton-Lyndeborough Taxpayers believe that this is a move in the right direction.
5	YES	Collective Bargaining Agreement for Support Staff: This article calls for the approval of the Collective Bargaining Agreement with the support staff. The increase represents a modest and reasonable pay increase.
6	see note	Special CBA Article: This article will presumably only be addressed <u>if</u> Article 5 is defeated. If Article 5 is defeated then the school district would need to re-negotiate the agreement and hold a special district meeting to decide on it. This article would authorize that special meeting. We recommend a YES vote on Article 5. However, if Article 5 fails, then we would strongly recommend a YES vote on Article 6.

Warrant Article #	Recommendation	
7	NO	<p>Full-Day Kindergarten: This article calls for the implementation of a full-day Kindergarten program, which will cost an estimated \$57,545 per year. That estimate assumes that the State of NH continues with its commitment to subsidize full-day programs in the future. In other NH school districts similar to ours, the districts <u>without</u> full-day Kindergarten actually performed slightly <u>better</u> than those that do have full-day Kindergarten.</p> <p>Full-day Kindergarten is an optional program (not mandated by the state or federal governments). Full-day Kindergarten would create a long-term impact on the school district budget, as it is unlikely that the district would choose to discontinue such a program once it is in place.</p> <p>There is considerable debate as to the educational value of full-day Kindergarten. Many studies tout its benefits, while many others show that it has no discernable benefit, and that the benefits are temporary.</p>
8	YES	<p>\$60,000 to the Capital Reserve Fund: This would continue to fund the capital reserve for Building/Equipment and Roadway. In our school district, the Board has the authority to authorize withdrawals from the capital reserve funds without voter approval. Although this is a potential concern, it is still prudent to ensure that our capital reserve funds are maintained at levels that can support good upkeep of our buildings, equipment, and roadways.</p>
9	TBD	<p>To transact any other business that may legally come before the meeting.</p>

