

The notes in bold, which follow each Question, will not appear on the official ballot.

QUESTION 1: Shall the District raise and appropriate as an operating budget, not including appropriations by special warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately, the amounts set forth on the budget posted with the warrant, or as amended by vote of the first session, for the purposes set forth therein, totaling \$60,441,013? Should this Question be defeated, the operating budget shall be \$61,842,505, which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the District or by law; or the governing body may hold one special meeting in accordance with RSA 40:13, X and XVI, to take up the issue of the revised operating budget only. *(Note: This appropriation does not include appropriations in Questions 4 and 6).*

YES: _____ **NO:** _____

This is the main budget article to fund education in Keene for fiscal year 2010 - 11.

QUESTION 2: Shall the District vote to approve the cost items that result from a collective bargaining agreement negotiated by the Board of Education with the Keene Association of Principals and Supervisors? For fiscal year 2010 – 2011, the first year of this two-year agreement, there are no increased cost items above the costs of the prior agreement, and no additional funds are required beyond that which is already included in Question 1, the operating Budget. The increased costs for the second year of the agreement are estimated to be \$35,694. *(Note: The Board of Education recommends a “yes” vote upon this question).*

YES: _____ **NO:** _____

The School Board and the union representing its school principals and supervisors have entered into a two-year collective bargaining agreement subject to voter approval. The Board recommends approval of the multi-year agreement.

QUESTION 3: Shall the District, if Question 2 is defeated, authorize the Board of Education to call one special meeting, at its option, to address Question 2 cost items only?

YES: _____ **NO:** _____

If Question 2 fails, a “yes” vote under Question 3 would enable the Board of Education and the union representing its school principals and supervisors to bring renegotiated cost items before the voters at another District meeting in the 2010 - 11 fiscal year. A “no” vote would make it much more difficult to seek voter approval of any new agreement.

QUESTION 4: Shall the District raise and appropriate the sum of \$44,451 to fund cost item increases in fiscal year 2010 - 2011 in salaries and benefits as such increases result from an agreement negotiated by the Board of Education with the Association of Keene Tutors; and shall the District approve the financial terms of the second year of this two-year agreement? The increased costs for the second year of the agreement are estimated to be \$42,381. (Note: Pursuant to RSA 273-A:12(VII), if this agreement is approved, the terms of the agreement, including its pay plan, but excluding cost-of-living increases, will continue in force and effect until a new agreement is executed. This appropriation is in addition to Question 1, the operating budget article. The Board of Education recommends a “yes” vote upon this question).

YES: _____ **NO:** _____

The School Board and the union representing its tutors have entered into a two-year collective bargaining agreement subject to voter approval. The Board recommends that the District raise and appropriate the \$44,451 required for the first year of this agreement and recommends approval of the multi-year agreement.

QUESTION 5: Shall the District, if Question 4 is defeated, authorize the Board of Education to call one special meeting, at its option, to address Question 4 cost items only?

YES: _____ **NO:** _____

If Question 4 fails, a “yes” vote under Question 5 would enable the Board of Education and the tutors’ union to bring renegotiated cost items before the voters at another District meeting in the 2010 - 11 fiscal year. A “no” vote would make it much more difficult to seek voter approval of any new agreement.

QUESTION 6: Shall the District establish an expendable trust fund under the provisions of RSA 198:20-c, to be known as the “school buildings maintenance fund,” for the purpose of repairing and maintaining the school buildings within the District; and name the school board as agents to expend from this fund; and shall the District raise and appropriate the sum of up to \$100,000 to be placed in the fund with such amount to come from the June 30, 2010 unexpended balance of 2009 – 2010 appropriations? (*Note: The School Board recommends a “yes” vote upon this question.*)

YES: _____ **NO:** _____

The School Board wishes to establish a reserve account that can be used for building maintenance and repair. Such a reserve fund would help cushion the costs to future taxpayers and/or future program budgets when building expenditures are needed. If there is a budget surplus, unexpended funds from fiscal year ending June 30, 2010, would be used to create the expendable trust fund.

QUESTION 7:

Shall the District discontinue the Capital Reserve Fund for “equipment” as established by the District at its annual meeting held March 28, 1957? (Note: The fund currently holds a little over \$2,300. If this Question is approved, the funds in the account will be transferred to the general fund).

YES: _____ **NO:**

A fifty-plus year old reserve fund for “equipment” has had little use through the years, and the School Board recommends that the equipment reserve fund be discontinued

QUESTION 8:

Shall the District authorize the Board of Education to lease or purchase land or land and buildings for school purposes as such land or land and buildings may be adjacent to any school buildings within the District and/or adjacent to streets which border such school buildings within the District?

YES: _____ **NO:**

This Question has been placed on the warrant for quite some time so to give the Board of Education the authority to purchase property in the District which comes on the market and which is considered necessary for the likely growth of any of the schools. Without this authority, the

Board could not realistically take advantage of a market opportunity unless the owner is willing to wait for the annual meeting votes in March. A line item in the budget is funded with \$1.00 for this purpose with no additional funds in the budget. The Board does not currently foresee any purchases of property and would not intend to purchase property without a public hearing.