

SAU #71 MEMO 5

To: Goshen-Lempster School Community
From: Michele Munson, Superintendent SAU #71

January 26, 2010

The Goshen-Lempster School Board will have a public hearing on the 2010-2011 proposed budget next Tuesday, February 2nd at 7:00 p.m. in the GLCS cafeteria. The public is invited and encouraged to attend to ask for any clarifications on the budget. The 2010-2011 proposed budget documents will be available to review on the school website by Friday, January 29, 2010.

The overall budget proposal is \$3,809,799.29 (see NOTE below) which is a 4.97% increase over our current year's budget. This budget includes a:

- 16.4% increase in health insurance costs,
- 5.5% increase in the cost of dental insurance,
- 7% increase in retirement costs,
- 23% increase in the tuition cost for our students going to high school in Newport (the increased cost for tuition at Newport HS is represented in this budget.), and
- 2.8% increase in our transportation costs.

all of which we are legally obligated to include and have no control over. The Board worked with the administration and trimmed the administration's initial budget to keep the costs to the towns as minimal as possible.

NOTE: However, the amount will appear as \$4,031,800.00 on the warrant because the Department of Revenue requires that we add federal grants and lunch program budgets. These budgets net to zero as the revenues received will cover them.

This general budget of \$3,809,799.29 is expected to raise your taxes **APPROXIMATELY** \$0.23/1,000 in Goshen and \$1.36/1,000 in Lempster. (Based on 2009 net assessed valuations.)

Other warrant articles will include:

- A newly negotiated three-year contract with the Goshen-Lempster Education Association. This agreement includes a 1%, 2% and a 3% increase each year of the contract respectively. Passage of this article for the first year will increase taxes \$0.04/1,000 for Goshen and \$0.03/1,000 for Lempster.
- The purchase of a generator for the school for \$35,000.00 that will support both towns in an emergency. Passage of this article will increase taxes \$0.17/1,000 in Goshen and \$0.12/1,000 in Lempster.
- A contribution to the Special Education Capital Reserve Fund for \$5,000.00. Passage of this article will increase taxes \$0.03/1,000 for Goshen and \$0.02/1,000 for Lempster.

If you have questions about the budget please come to the public hearing or phone the SAU office –

863-2420 ext. 2.