ARTICLE 21. To see if the Town will vote to amend subsection (B) ("Final Maintenance and Operating Budget") of Section V ("Budget") of the Masconomet Regional School District Agreement, as recommended by the Masconomet Regional School District School Committee, by deleting the text shown in strikethrough, and inserting the **bold**, **italicized text**:

The Committee shall, not later than forty-five (45) days prior to the earliest date on which the business session of the annual town meeting of any member town is to be held (but in any event, not later than March thirty-first (31st) in each year adopt an annual maintenance and operating budget for the ensuing fiscal year, by a two-thirds vote of all its members. Said budget to include debt and interest charges and any other current capital costs as separate items, and shall apportion the amounts necessary to be raised in order to meet the said budget in accordance with the provisions of subsections IV (D) and IV (E). The amounts so apportioned to each member town shall, not later than thirty days following adoption of the final annual budget, be certified by the District treasurer to the treasurers of the such member towns, and each member town shall be liable for and shall, at its next annual town meeting, appropriate the amounts so certified to it. Approval of the budget shall require an affirmative vote of the appropriating authorities of two-thirds of the member towns.

Or to take any other action thereon.

Sponsored and supported by the Masconomet Regional School District School Committee

Select Board recommends adoption of this article

MOTION: I move to amend subsection (B) ("Final Maintenance and Operating Budget") of Section V ("Budget") of the Masconomet Regional School District Agreement, as described in and in accordance with Article 21 of this warrant.

COMMENTS: This article seeks approval of an amendment to the Masconomet Regional School District Agreement, of which the towns of Topsfield, Boxford, and Middleton are members, which affirms the statutory requirements that the School Committee must adopt a budget by a 2/3 majority vote of its members and that each town's annual town meeting must vote to appropriate the amounts certified to it by the regional district treasurer.