



**SELECT BOARD MEETING**  
**Town of Southwest Harbor**  
**Pemetic School Library**  
**6:00 p.m. ~ Thursday, January 08, 2026**

**BUDGET MINUTES**

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Burby called the meeting to order 6:00 p.m.
2. **ROLL CALL:** Chair Noah Burby, Vice Chair Chapin McFarland, Natasha Johnson, Carolyn Ball, Dan Norwood, Town Manager Karen Reddersen, and Town Clerk Jennifer LaHaye were present.

**A. Excused Absences (if any)** None

3. **ADOPTION OF AGENDA:** *Request of the Town Manager for a motion to adopt the agenda as presented.*

**4. BUDGET REVIEW:**

*6:00 pm ~ Pemetic School Draft Budget*

Burby thanked the School Board for meeting, noted the attendance of the School Board members: John Bench, Susan Allan, Clifford Noyes, Maria Spellino, Jacques Newell-Taylor, Interim Principal Carolyn Todd, Superintendent Michael Zboray, and Business Manager Nancy Thurlow.

Michael Zboray presented the Pemetic Elementary School budget to Select Board members. He noted there was carryover from last year's budget in the amount of \$231,548 that will be used for next year's budget. Discussion took place related to the Coast Guard subsidy. Nancy Thurlow explained it was based on how many children attended Pemetic four years ago and is based on a formula. They are anticipating a decrease in subsidy for next year's budget and have reflected this in the proposed budget. Zboray reports they expect to receive state subsidy in the amount of \$410,000. They usually will receive this in January.

Zboray noted that Interim Principal Todd has really worked hard to see how they could reduce the budget and was able to remove Ed Tech position that was no longer needed.

An additional allocation of \$20,000 was included for plowing services following the Town's determination that it could no longer provide this service to the school. Members of the School Board raised concerns regarding this change. The Town Manager advised that the Highway Department lacks the capacity to do the extra work. Norwood suggested this should be built into the municipal budget. Some school board members believed the Town had historically provided this service, while Town Manager Karen Reddersen noted that she has been told it has not.

Other discussion included increased employee funding and challenges hiring bus drivers. Burby noted teachers should not bear classroom costs; Zboray agreed to review this with Select Board support.

Johnson inquired further about the Coast Guard funding. Nancy Thurlow explained that the federal subsidy is determined by a formula based on the number of Coast Guard children enrolled at Pemetie in prior years. Johnson also asked how the Coast Guard might be willing to continue to support the school, such as volunteering efforts. She encouraged the school to “think outside the box” when considering opportunities to engage with and benefit from their support within our community.

Johnson raised concerns regarding the current after-school bus schedule and its impact on student participation in extracurricular activities. She noted that parents have been required to provide transportation at times due to not having a bus available to get children to and from practice if they are practicing in Tremont. Zboray stated that the school continues to face challenges in recruiting bus drivers.

Superintendent Zboray thanked the Select Board and Warrant Committee. He advised that he is available to answer any questions as they came up.

*Attached is the Pemetie School/Fiscal year 2027 Budget Fact Sheet.*


**5. ADJOURNMENT:**


McFarland motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:54 p.m. Seconded by Johnson. Vote: 5-0-0.

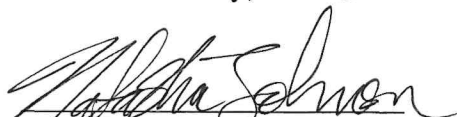
Respectfully Submitted,

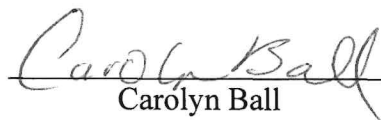
Jennifer E. LaHaye  
Town Clerk

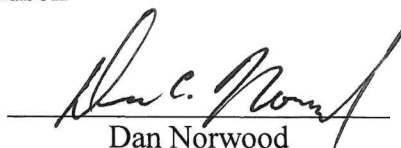
**APPROVED**

  
Noah Burby, Chair

  
Chapin McFarland, Vice Chair

  
Natasha Johnson

  
Carolyn Ball

  
Dan Norwood

# Pemetic School / Fiscal Year 2027 Budget Fact Sheet

Revenue Summary		2024 - 2025 Actual	2025 - 2026 Budgeted	2026 - 2027 Proposed	Difference
	Carryover	\$707,707	\$342,661	\$236,048	-\$106,613 (-31.11%) saving \$70,000
	PL 874 Aid	\$27,405	\$20,000	\$18,000	-\$2,000 (-10.00%)
	State Subsidy	\$381,163	\$410,000	\$410,000	\$-0- (0.00%)
	Town Appropriation	\$4,261,660	\$4,712,030	\$5,211,582	\$499,552 (10.60%)

<b>Regular Instruction (Article 4)</b> PK-8 classroom, specials salary and benefits, tuition, staff travel, all regular education supplies, equipment and books	25-26 \$2,183,106	26-27 Proposed \$ 2,341,899	Difference \$158,793 (+7.27%)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Health Insurance Increase</li> <li>● Teacher Salaries Increase</li> </ul>		

<b>Special Education (Article 5)</b> This cost center is PK-8 special education, includes all related therapists include speech, occupational therapy, physical therapy, special secondary programming	25-26 \$1,186,794	26-27 Proposed \$1,302,924	Difference \$116,130 (+9.79%)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Health Insurance increase</li> <li>● Teacher &amp; Ed. Tech.Salaries</li> <li>● Reduction of 1 Ed Tech Position</li> <li>● AOS Assessment for Spec. Svcs.</li> </ul>		

<b>Other Instruction Co-Curricular / Summer School (Article 7)</b> This cost center includes stipends, and equipment/materials for co-curricular activities (clubs and enrichment) and athletics	25-26 \$120,572	26-27 Proposed \$127,201	Difference \$ 6,629 (+5.50%)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Before &amp; After School Programs</li> <li>● Co-Curricular/Athletic Stipends</li> </ul>		

<b>Student and Staff Support (Article 8)</b> This cost center includes the school counselor, school nurse, our share of district level curriculum and tech support, classroom library, and technology	25-26 \$598,102	26-27 Proposed \$637,021	Difference \$38,,919 (+6.51%)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Health Insurance Increase</li> <li>● Teacher Salaries Increase</li> <li>● AOS assessment - Curriculum and Technology</li> <li>● District Wide Software &amp; MLTI Leases</li> </ul>		

<b>System Administration (Article 9)</b>	25-26 \$130,239	26-27 Proposed \$ 143,201	Difference \$12,962 (+9.95%)
--	--------------------	------------------------------	---------------------------------

Pemetic's School share toward AOS 91, school board stipends, legal and audit fees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SWH share is .39% more than last year - AOS Formula/ SWH's % = 10.86%</li> <li>District Accounting Software upgrade</li> </ul>
---	---

<b>School Administration (Article 10)</b> This cost center includes the principal, school secretaries and bookkeeping salaries. Copier lease, travel, office supplies, advertising, conferences and tuition	25-26 \$329,214	26-27 Proposed \$ 341,528	Difference \$ 12,314 (+3.74%)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Health Insurance Increase</li> <li>Salaries Increases</li> </ul>		

<b>Transportation &amp; Buses (Article 11)</b> This cost center includes transportation for elementary and secondary students	25-26 \$241,913	26-27 Proposed \$ 233,082	Difference \$ -8,831 (-3.65%)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Salary &amp; Benefit Increases</li> <li>Health Insurance Savings</li> </ul>		

<b>Facilities Maintenance - Operations &amp; Maint. of the Plant / Capital Outlay (Article 12)</b> Custodian salaries and supplies, insurance, telephone, electricity, heating fuel, transfer to capital reserves, and routine building and grounds maintenance	25-26 \$629,751	26-27 Proposed \$ 683,774	Difference \$ 54,023 (+8.58%)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Salary and Benefit increases</li> <li>Electricity Cost Increase</li> <li>Insurance Increase</li> <li>Transfer to Maintenance Reserve for Playground</li> </ul>		

<b>Other Expenditures Food Service (Article 14)</b>	25-26 \$65,000	26-27 Proposed \$65,000	Difference \$0
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Food Service</li> </ul>		

**Total Budget 26-27 \$5,875,630**

<b>Reserves</b>  <b>Projected Balance 6/30/2026</b>	Maintenance	\$175,155 (Playground \$75K)
	Bus	\$ 73,234
	Special Education	\$ 306,616

<b>Summary</b>		<b>2025-2026</b>	<b>2026-2027</b>	<b>Difference</b>
	Budget to Budget	\$5,484,691	\$5,875,630	\$ 390,939 (+7.13%)

	Town Appropriation	\$4,712,030	\$5,211,582	\$499,552 (+10.60%) \$43.96 Per \$100,000 Valuation
--	--------------------	-------------	-------------	--