



Regional School Unit 13

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John C. McDonald
Superintendent of Schools

Neal Guyer
Director of School Improvement

Pete Orne
Business Manager

April 6, 2016

Mr. Valmore Blastow, Town Manager
Town of Thomaston
PO Box 299
Thomaston, ME 04861

Dear Mr. Blastow:

As you know, the RSU 13 Board of Directors has voted to close the Lura Libby School in Thomaston effective for the 2016-2017 school year, or July 1, 2016. As part of the closure process, the question for closure of the school will appear on the ballot for the June 14, 2016 referendum.

This week, we have received preliminary confirmation of our calculations of operational cost savings for the closure of the school from the Maine Department of Education. This figure is \$323,346.00 per year. The question that will appear on the ballot for the referendum will read:

“Do you favor authorizing the School Board of Regional School Unit No. 13 to close Lura Libby School? The additional cost of keeping the school open has been estimated by the School Board of Regional School Unit No. 13 to be \$323,346.00”

Prior to the referendum, we will schedule a public hearing on the closure of the school and will inform you of this date as soon as it has been determined. I anticipate this to occur in May.

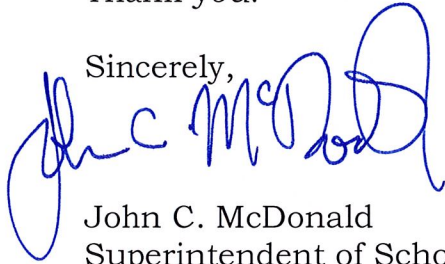
At this time, our law firm, Drummond and Woodsum, is preparing official ballots and warrants for the closure vote, and we will provide them to the Town Clerks as required by law.

Should the closure vote be affirmed, our legal representatives will work with the Town of Thomaston to transfer legal ownership and deed for the property to the Town of Thomaston, should the town indicate a willingness to accept the property.

Rather than attempt to illustrate every aspect of the potential transfer of the school to the Town of Thomaston, we offer to meet with you and your representatives to answer any questions you may have and discuss the upcoming referendum. As always, Business Manager, Peter Orne, and I are available via telephone or email and would be happy to discuss these or any other matters with you, or arrange for a meeting at your convenience.

Please review this information and let me know if you have any questions.
Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "John C. McDonald". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and "M".

John C. McDonald
Superintendent of Schools

JCM/kb

cc: Thomaston Board of Selectmen
Paul Gibbons, Attorney
RSU 13 School Board