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Director of Student Services

*Mrs. Kathleen Sargent, B.S.B.A.*  
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**For immediate release**

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## **James Faulkner Elementary School Proposes New Classroom Building Tours of JFES Available January 30 and February 4**

**January 25, 2017—Stoddard, NH**—James Faulkner Elementary School, an SAU 24 school located in Stoddard, NH, has seen the school's student population increase by more than 45 percent over the last four years. This growth has necessitated a modular building be added in 2013. Additionally, since 2014, part of the multi-purpose room designed for use as a cafeteria and gym has been turned into a classroom. In light of the increasing population stresses being placed on the building, the school board is asking voters to fund a one classroom addition.

The projected cost of the addition is \$493,000, with \$321,000 of that amount coming from the School Building Design and Renovation Expendable Trust. The financing for the remaining \$172,000 is proposed as a choice of two different warrant articles that will appear on the Annual School District Meeting Warrant on March 16. One warrant will ask that the \$172,000 be raised as a Bond over the next five (5) years and the second will ask for a one time appropriation of the \$172,000.

"We heard the voter concern regarding a multiple classroom addition and renovations," said Superintendent Dr. Lorraine Tacconi-Moore. "We hope that they will approve this much-needed, pared down plan," she continued.

**To assist the voters in their understanding of the space needs at James Faulkner, the board will also provide tours of the school on Monday, January 30 from 6 to 7 PM and again on Saturday, February 4 from 10-11 AM.**

The proposed budget for the 2016-17 school year stands at \$2,892,321. The Board is also considering a warrant article, that if approved, would add up to 50 percent of any end-of-year surplus be added to the School Building Design and Renovation Expendable Trust. There is also a warrant article to formulate a committee to examine the creating of a separate A.R.E.A. agreement for Keene, Stoddard, and Surry for 6<sup>th</sup> grade. Presently the school only has an agreement for grades 7-8 and 9-12.

Other important dates include: February 7, Building Committee Meeting 6 PM; February 13, School Board Meeting at 6 PM, Bond Hearing at 6:30 PM, and Budget Public Hearing at 7 PM; on March 16, 6 PM School Board Meeting and 7 PM Annual School District Meeting and Voting.