



# **TOWN OF REHOBOTH TOWN WARRANT**

## **Special Town Meeting**

**Saturday, August 6, 2022  
1:00 PM**

**Francis Farm  
Museum Building  
27 Francis Farm Road  
Rehoboth, MA 02769**



Board of Selectmen  
340 Anawan Street  
Rehoboth, MA 02769

July 11, 2022

Citizens of Rehoboth

Contained in this Special Town Meeting warrant are two articles for your consideration. Although as private citizens each member of the Board of Selectman has a personal opinion as to whether or not you should pass or reject the articles contained herein, as a Board, we do not take a formal position on passage of either of these two articles, other than to say if you do opt to pass Article 1, then we ask you pass Article 2.

Article 1 originates from a citizen petition submitted for the May 2020 Annual Town Meeting by Rehoboth citizens just prior to the start of the COVID pandemic. The article was submitted in accordance with our town bylaws and MGL Chapter 39 Section 10, and as such the Board of Selectmen are obligated to place it on the warrant. After several pandemic-related delays (with the approval of the petitioners) we now present their article for you to act upon at a dedicated town meeting where it can receive the attention it deserves.

This article asks the residents if the town should exercise its contractual rights under Section IX of the Dighton-Rehoboth Regional School District Agreement to withdraw grades K-8 from the Regional School District.

Should you pass Article 1, an independently-elected Rehoboth K-8 school committee shall re-assume control of grades K-8. This newly-elected school committee – not the Board of Selectmen, as some would have you believe – will be responsible for preparing the K-8 budget for your consideration and approval at our annual town meetings. It will handle oversight of the operation of the K-8 schools in Rehoboth and be responsible for collaboration with DESE to ensure all applicable laws and regulations are adhered to so the quality of education in our schools will not only be maintained but also improved. It will exercise other powers and responsibilities empowered to school committees under Massachusetts General Laws, such as the ability to hire a Superintendent or enter into a Superintendency Union if it so deems it appropriate.

Article 1 **does not** dissolve the Regional School District nor **de-regionalize** Rehoboth's schools from the District. It impacts grades K-8 **only**. Grades 9-12 would remain unaffected; they would continue to be part of the DR Regional School District under the control of the DR Regional School District's school committee.

The second article deals with a bylaw modification to create and elect a Rehoboth K-8 school committee. Since we do not currently have a separate K-8 school committee in Rehoboth, we need a bylaw amendment to create one. This article will only need to be acted upon should Article 1 pass. Should Article 1 fail to pass, Article 2 becomes a moot issue.

Should both articles pass, at the next April town election you will be asked to vote for five residents who will serve as the Rehoboth K-8 School Committee. Those new committee members will be responsible for overseeing the process of re-assuming local control over the Rehoboth K-8 schools by working with DESE and the Dighton-Rehoboth Regional School District administration.

These articles are extremely important to all residents as they will impact the future direction you wish to see our K-8 school system take in the years to come. We ask you take time from your busy schedule on August 6<sup>th</sup> and please attend the special town meeting to make your voices on this important issue heard.

For the Board of Selectmen,

*Michael P. Deignan*

Vice-Chairman

**THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS**

**Town of Rehoboth**

**Bristol, ss**

**To any of the Constables of the Town of Rehoboth**

**Greetings:**

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts you are required to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town aforesaid who are qualified to vote in Elections and Town Affairs, therein, to meet at Francis Farm-Museum Building, on Saturday, August 6, 2022 at 1:00 p.m. to act on the following **Special Town Meeting** articles:

**ARTICLE 1: WITHDRAWAL OF GRADES K-EIGHT FROM DIGHTON-REHOBOTH REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**SUBMITTED BY: TOWN OF REHOBOTH PETITIONERS**

To see if the Town will vote, pursuant to Section IX of the Dighton-Rehoboth Regional School District Agreement, to withdraw Grades K-Eight (8) from such agreement and for the Town to resume jurisdiction over the education of said grades K-8, subject to compliance with any and all requirements of such agreement and applicable laws; and provided further that any such withdrawal shall be subject to any required approvals of the Commonwealth's Department of Elementary and Secondary Education; and, further that the Selectboard shall be authorized to enter into agreements and to take any and all other actions as may be deemed necessary to effectuate such withdrawal.

**\_\_\_Approved \_\_\_Disapproved**

**ARTICLE 2: TO AMEND TOWN OF REHOBOTH GENERAL BYLAWS-CHAPTER A-ARTICLE III SECTION 1 AND SECTION 2.1**

**SUBMITTED BY: BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

Contingent upon the passage of Article 1, to see if the Town will vote to amend its General Bylaws as follows:

By amending Section 1 of Article III of Chapter A by adding the following: "Five members of a K-8 School Committee, each with a term of three (3) years, provided that at the Committee's initial election at the 2023 annual election, one member shall be elected for a one-year term, two members shall be elected for a two-year term and two members shall be elected for a three-year term, with subsequent terms to be for three years for all members."

By amending Section 2.1 of Article III of Chapter A by replacing it with the following: "Duties of the K-8 School Committee. The K-8 School Committee shall govern grades K-8 of the Rehoboth schools and shall have all the powers and duties that school committees may have under the Massachusetts Constitution and the General Laws of the Commonwealth."

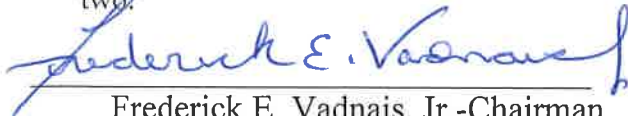
**\_\_\_Approved \_\_\_Disapproved**

**ARTICLE 3: TRANSACT OTHER BUSINESS AS MAY LEGALLY COME BEFORE  
SAID MEETING**


You are hereby directed to serve this Warrant by posting attested copies thereof in the Office of the Town Clerk and in not less than three other public places in each of the four precincts of the Town fourteen (14) days at least before the day fixed for the meeting.

Hereof and fail not and make due return of this Warrant with your doings thereon to the Town Clerk at the time and place of holding said meeting.

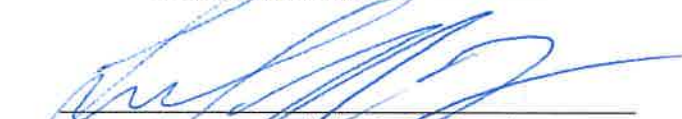
Given under our hands this 11th day of July in the year two thousand twenty-  
two

  
Frederick E. Vadnais, Jr.-Chairman

  
Michael Deignan-Vice Chairman

  
George Solas, Sr.-Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Robert Johnson II - Member

  
Leonard Mills, Jr. - Member

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN**



**REMINDER: STATE PRIMARY ELECTION**  
**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2022 ~ 7AM - 8PM**  
**Francis Farm Community Complex – Museum Building**

**Polling Location Map on Town Website @**

<https://www.rehobothma.gov/home/news/rehoboth-changes-its-centralized-polling-location-francis-farm-community-center-museum>

**SAVE TIME & AGGRAVATION - KNOW BEFORE YOU GO**

**Voter Registration Deadline:**

August 27, 2022

**Vote by Mail Application Deadline:**

August 29, 2022

**Early Voting @ Francis Farm Museum:**

August 27 - September 2\*

*\*(Voting Hours-Saturday 8/27-10AM-4PM; Monday-Thursday 8/29-9/1 8AM-4PM; Friday 9/2 8AM-12-Noon)*

**Election Day Polling Hours:**

7 a.m. – 8 p.m.

**On Ballot:** Representative in Congress, Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, Secretary of State, State Treasurer, State Auditor, Governor's Council, State Senator, State Representative, District Attorney, Sheriff, County Commissioner. Sample Ballot on Town Clerk's Website @

<https://www.rehobothma.gov/town-clerk/pages/elections-voting-links>

**1. Am I a registered voter & what is my party enrollment?**

The deadline to register to vote or change your party affiliation for this Election is **Saturday, August 27<sup>th</sup>**. You may register to vote or change your party enrollment online at: [www.registertovotema.com](http://www.registertovotema.com)

Unenrolled (independent) voters will need to choose which primary ballot type they want to vote on. Voters who are registered in as a Democrat or Republican **MUST** take that party ballot type - Verify Your Party Enrollment @ <https://www.sec.state.ma.us/VoterRegistrationSearch/MyVoterRegStatus.aspx> or Change Your Party Enrollment @ <https://www.sec.state.ma.us/OVR/>

Check your voter status online @ <https://www.sec.state.ma.us/VoterRegistrationSearch/MyVoterRegStatus.aspx>

The deadline to register to vote for this Election is August 27, 2022. You may register to vote online at: [www.registertovotema.com](http://www.registertovotema.com)

**2. Is my voter status "active"?**

Per state law, voters must return their signed street list census forms annually to the Town Clerk's office to maintain an active voter status. Inactive voters are still eligible to vote but will be required to complete additional forms and show an ID at the polls in order to vote. Voters who appear as inactive can change their status to active by emailing a completed census form @

<https://www.rehobothma.gov/town-clerk/pages/census-information-town-rehoboth> to [TownClerk@RehobothMA.gov](mailto:TownClerk@RehobothMA.gov) or return your confirmation postcard, which you recently received, before Monday, August 29<sup>th</sup> to avoid the longer check in process at the polls. Check your voter status online @ <https://www.sec.state.ma.us/VoterRegistrationSearch/MyVoterRegStatus.aspx>

**3. What is my voting Precinct?**

Voters are strongly encouraged to know what precinct they will be voting in before arriving at the polls. Please note that as a result of population changes from the 2020 Federal Census the Town of Rehoboth has changed its voting precincts. Please check your precinct online @

[https://www.rehobothma.gov/sites/g/files/vyhli4911f/uploads/rehoboth-mawhats\\_my\\_precinct.pdf](https://www.rehobothma.gov/sites/g/files/vyhli4911f/uploads/rehoboth-mawhats_my_precinct.pdf)

**4. What will I be voting on?**

Educated voters will reduce time in the voting booths, reduce lines and crowding at the voting site. Sample Ballots are located on the Town Clerk's website @

<https://www.rehobothma.gov/town-clerk/pages/elections-voting-links>

# 2022 Vote by Mail Application



William Francis Galvin  
Secretary of the Commonwealth

**1**

## Voter Information

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address of Voter Registration: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number (optional): \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address (optional): \_\_\_\_\_

**2**

## Ballot Information

### Elections:

- ☐ All 2022 Elections\*
- ☐ Sept. 6<sup>th</sup> State Primary Only\*
- ☐ Nov. 8<sup>th</sup> State Election Only

### \* Primary Ballot

- ☐ Democratic
- ☐ Republican

Ballot Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

**3**

## Assistance

Voter required assistance in completing application due to physical disability.

Assisting person's name: \_\_\_\_\_

Assisting person's address: \_\_\_\_\_

This application is being made by a family member

Relationship to Voter: \_\_\_\_\_



Signed (under penalty of perjury): \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Eligibility

Any registered voter may use this application to request a mail-in ballot for any 2022 election.

## Completing the Application

1. Voter Information – Provide your name, the address where you are registered to vote, and date of birth.
2. Ballot Information – Choose which ballot(s) you want to receive by mail. **If you're requesting a primary ballot and you're not registered in a party, you must pick a primary ballot.** Provide your ballot mailing address.
3. Assistance – If you're helping someone complete this application, or you're requesting a ballot for a family member, fill out this section.
4. Sign your name – If you can't sign your name, you may ask someone to sign your name in your presence.

## Submitting the Application

Send this completed application to the local election office for your city or town. Find contact information for local election officials at [www.VoteInMA.com](http://www.VoteInMA.com) or by calling 1-800-462-VOTE (8683).

## Application Deadlines

This application must reach your local election office by 5 p.m. on the fifth business day before Election Day.

State Primary Deadline: **August 29, 2022**

State Election Deadline: **November 1, 2022**

**Town of Rehoboth  
Rehoboth, Massachusetts 02769**

**Important  
Official Notice of:  
August 6, 2022 Special Town Meeting**

**PRESORTED STANDARD  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Attleboro, MA  
Permit No. PI210**

**BOX HOLDER  
Rehoboth, Massachusetts 02769**

**Please bring this Warrant with you to the  
Special Town Meeting**

***Francis Farm  
Museum Building  
27 Francis Farm Road  
Rehoboth, MA 02769***

***Saturday, August 6, 2022 at 1:00 PM***