



**BRENTWOOD SCHOOL
DISTRICT**

**ANNUAL MEETING STYLE
TRADITIONAL OR SB 2?
PUBLIC HEARING**



TOWN STRUCTURE

- ➔ Two separate and equal entities
- ➔ Town--Board of Selectmen
- ➔ School--School Board
- ➔ “Pure Democracy” because people decide budgets, collective bargaining contracts, and other warrant article issues



TWO STYLES OF GOVERNMENT

- ➔ Traditional “town meeting” or “school meeting” style
- ➔ SB 2 style (Deliberative Session-- separate from Voting Session--usually about one month apart)
- ➔ The same community could choose to have one form for Town and a different form for School



TRADITIONAL STYLE

- ➔ Registered voters gather in March to make decisions
- ➔ Each Warrant Article is discussed, amended if necessary, and final decisions are made by a majority vote of those present



SB 2 STYLE

- ➔ Registered voters gather for a “Deliberative Session” to review each Warrant Article in early February
- ➔ Each Warrant Article may be “amended” but its “purpose” may NOT be changed
- ➔ Final decisions are made by “secret ballot” in mid-March



BUDGETS

- ➔ In “traditional” style meetings the budget is decided at the meeting
- ➔ There is no “default budget”
- ➔ In “SB 2” style meetings the proposed budget—and a default budget—are presented simultaneously
- ➔ Only the proposed budget may be amended



DIFFERENT STYLES

- ➔ Because the “town” government and the “school” government are separate entities...
- ➔ It is possible to have two different styles within the same community
- ➔ That’s why this issue will appear on both the “town” and the “school” ballots



LEGAL REQUIREMENT

➔ By statute, **a minimum of 60%** of the registered voters **who cast a ballot** on this topic on “Voting Day” is required to adopt the provisions of SB 2



2011 SCHOOL VOTING

- ➔ 2,661 Registered Voters in Brentwood
- ➔ 181 (6.80%) participated in “traditional” school meeting
- ➔ Exeter Region Coop is SB 2
- ➔ 23,862 Registered Voters
- ➔ 66 (0.2%) participated in the “Deliberative Session”
- ➔ 4,132 (17.32%) cast a ballot in the “Voting Session”



HISTORY OF SB 2 SCHOOL DISTRICT VOTING

	YES	%age	NO	%age
2006	330	51.97%	305	48.03%
2007	481	59.60%	326	40.40%
2008	351	58.79%	246	41.21%
2010	320	53.60%	277	46.40%



DISCUSSION POINTS

- ➔ Voters are “more informed” in traditional style meetings
- ➔ Community atmosphere is “better” in traditional style meetings
- ➔ Hardly anyone attends a “Deliberative Session”
- ➔ Voters gather their information from a variety of sources in SB 2 communities
- ➔ Absentee Ballots may be used for SB 2



PUBLIC INPUT

➔ Questions

➔ Comments

➔ **VOTING DAY:**

➔ **TUESDAY, MARCH 13, 2012**

➔ **COMMUNITY CENTER**

➔ **8:00 am – 7:00 pm**