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## **Article 1. Wayland Teachers and Educational Secretaries Contract Funding**

*Proposed by: Petitioners*

**PETITIONERS' COMMENTS<sup>1</sup>:** We intend to request Town Meeting's approval of the transfer of previously appropriated funds from the Town's "Reserve for Salary Settlement" account to cover the FY2024 incremental cost of the recently settled Wayland Teachers' contracts.

The Wayland Teachers, who are working with salary tables created in 2019, bargained for market-based remuneration that keeps pace with inflation. Even though they will be paid retroactive to July 1, 2023, waiting until the 2024 Annual Town Meeting (ATM) to implement the FY2024 changes will cause hardship for many of these individuals. We are also concerned that the mechanics of the cost-of-living adjustments will be difficult to implement if the Wayland Teachers have to wait until the 2024 ATM to receive their first raises.

While we acknowledge there is a cost of holding this Special Town Meeting and appreciate that the Town has limited resources, we strongly believe the Wayland Teachers deserve your backing.

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<sup>1</sup>These comments were submitted by the Petitioners prior to the revisions to the article language noted in the 2023 STM warrant.