



NEW PORTLANDER

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Visit the Town of New Portland's web page at newportlandmaine.org

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TOWN OFFICE INFORMATION

Phone: 628-4441 • Fax: 628-4440

Town Office Contact Information and Hours of Operation:

Office Hours:

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday 10 am - 5 pm

Thursday 12 pm - 6 pm

Town Manager/CEO: Stacie Rundlett

Email: newportlandtownmanager@gmail.com

Deputy Town Manager: Lori Alyea

Email: townofnewportland@gmail.com

Code Enforcement Officer: Jeff Drew - 207-453-4258 ext 0

Town Clerk: Jacob Pinkham | Deputy Town Clerk: Lori Alyea

Email: newportlandtownclerk@gmail.com

Office Hours: By Appointment

LPI: Dan Gilbert - 207-938-3866

Assessor's Agent: Audra Swanson

Wednesday 10am - 2pm

Email: newportlandassessor@gmail.com

Fire Department: Chief Kip Poulin

Animal Control Officer: Stacie Rundlett - 207-491-8007

Announcement

The family of Judi Wills would like to announce the graveside service. The service will take place at the East Village Cemetery in New Portland on May 30 at 12:00 pm. A reception of family, friends and community members will follow the service at the New Portland Fair grounds exhibition hall.

Submitted: Dallas Landry



Kingfield Seniors Group

Monday, May 4, 12:00 pm
Western Mountains Baptist Church.

This is NOT a church event. All seniors are invited regardless of where they live. We have seniors who come from Wilton, Farmington, Strong, Freeman, Salem and New Sharon! We are a welcoming group and are always looking forward to meeting new people or just connecting with old friends. We start our programs with a potluck lunch. So please join us!

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me:
Nanci Lehto Mahlmann - 207 628 4461

Hope to see you there!!!

Remember. . .

- **Selectman's Meeting**
1st & 3rd Tuesday of each month 6:30 pm
- **New Portland Fire Department Meeting**
2nd & 4th Tuesday of each month 6:30 pm
- **Library Board of Trustees Meeting**
2nd Thursday of each Month 6:00 pm
- **Planning Board Meeting**
1st Wednesday of the Month 6:30 pm
- **New Portland Water District Meeting**
2nd Wednesday of each Month 6:30 pm
- **New Portland Community Library Hours:**
Tuesday, Friday & Saturday 9:00 am - 12:00 pm
Wednesday & Thursday 3:00 pm - 6:00 pm
- **Kingfield - New Portland Transfer Station**
Wednesday, Saturday, Sunday 7:30 am - 4:30 pm
- **New Portland Post Office Customer Service Hours**
Monday - Friday 7 am - 9 am & 2 pm - 4 pm
Saturday 7:00 am - 10:30 am

Superintendent of Schools

April 17, 2026

Dear Residents of New Portland,

Board work for the year is down to two more monthly meetings and the district budget meeting on May 20, 2026 at Carrabec High School. We will have one more subcommittee meeting in May for the Academic Committee. Work that has been completed recently includes:

In March and April, the negotiations subcommittee successfully came to an agreement with the Teachers' Association for a new three year agreement. The agreement provides 3.5%, 4.25%, and 4.25% increases in wages over the three-year agreement. Board members felt these increases would provide our teachers with competitive salaries with our neighboring districts. At this time both the Board of Directors and the Carrabec Education Association have formally approved the new agreement.

The finance committee reviewed the proposed budget during a subcommittee meeting. The full board reviewed the budget in a workshop meeting mid-March and gave final approval for the 2026-2027 school budget at the April 1 monthly meeting. I will be in New Portland on May 5, 2026 to report to the Board of Selectpersons the proposed budget but can provide a little insight now in this letter. The budget is up 2% from the current budget. However, the local share is down just under 3.5%. Two factors for this. Our state subsidy is going up for the coming school year. This increase is due to the fact we are receiving additional funding to support needs in special education. Secondly, we have made reductions in staffing. A few years ago, I asked for additional funds to support needs with large classes in the middle school grades. Those classes are or will both be in high school. We also have successfully gone from eight bus routes to seven without increasing student travel time on the bus. This change was necessary due to a retirement and no applicants at that time. So we will not seek to fill that position. We are buying a new bus to replace one of the four buses with over 200K miles, but as planned we are not doing any large building projects offsetting

the increase due to the bus. Even though the district will see a decrease to local taxpayers, New Portland will see roughly a \$6,000 increase. The state valuation of our communities changed. New Portland saw the greatest percentage increase (roughly 15%) by the State of Maine.

Again, the regular monthly meeting of the board is the first Wednesday of each month. The District Budget Meeting is on May 20, 2026. My presentation to the select board is May 5, 2026.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at mcampbell@carrabec.org

Submitted: Mark. L. Campbell, Superintendent of Schools



NEW PORTLANDER article submission deadline is May 20 by 4:00 pm.

Any articles, submissions, information for publication should be received by:

Dallas Landry • PO Box 34, North New Portland, ME 04961 • (207) 628-4201 • email: alderswamp2@gmail.com

If there are any questions or needs regarding the receiving of the *New Portlander*, those inquires should be directed to the Town Manager.

School Board

The April board meeting was held at Carrabec Community School.

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Adjustments to the Agenda: There were two resignations and one nomination added to the agenda.

Minutes: The minutes of the March 4 regular board meeting and the March 18 special board meeting were approved.

Presentation: Kristie Leblanc, Theresa Dendy, and Shaleigh Trask from Somerset Public Health spoke to the board about data from the Maine Integrated Youth Health Survey (MIYHS). (The data was presented to the admin team last month.) Throughout the county there are troubling trends in the areas of violence in the home, bullying, drug use, obesity, etc. Going forward, Somerset Health will work to educate students and families about the negative impact of energy drinks.

Superintendent Report: Mr. Campbell did not add to his written report. Judi Dunphy asked if it would be possible for board members to get a copy of class schedules in the event they wished to visit schools during the instructional day.

Georgie Manzer asked a clarifying question about Mr. Campbell's written report in which he mentioned the eighth grade being moved from CCS to CHS. She asked if the intent was for this change to begin in 2026-'27, or in '27-'28. The superintendent stated with low enrollment at CHS being a concern, this is on the radar for 2026-'27. The board would have to vote to approve this change.

Resignations:

Brian Shamaly - District Mechanic;
Felicia Schobel - Special Ed/Ed Tech One, CHS;
Kelsie Walter - Ed Tech One, GS;
Jean Butler - Solon/GS Principal

Nominations:

Ashley Spaulding: Ed Tech One, GS
Shyanne Durand: Special Ed/Ed Tech One, CCS

Admin Reports: 1.) Board member Erik Ewing speculated that there could be a connection between test-scores and home-schooling. Perhaps families opt to go the home-

school route because a school has low test scores. If that could be the case, what are schools doing to improve test scores and increase student buy-in so they take the tests more seriously? 2.) Bruce Dostie said teachers have dissected test data and used the info to better align curriculum. Teachers in all subject areas are giving students NWEA-type questions as classroom warm up activities. Teachers are discussing the standards with students. 2.) Rachel Merrill gave a brief report on spring sports. At CHS there is one coach who may not stay beyond this year, but a plan is in place to have a successor ready with a smooth transition. 3.) Jean Butler invited board members to attend the upcoming Family Literacy Night and the K-5 Career Days next month. She addressed NWEA testing, and said that students at the lower levels will practice using the computer, dragging/dropping to answer the questions. Teachers are emphasizing test-taking strategies, and offering incentives. 4.) Geoff Case told the board the recent March Mathness event in the CCS K-5 wing was a big success. 40-50 parents attended. He reiterated some of what Jean and Bruce had previously said. At CCS there will be rewards for students who improve their scores. Teachers will show kids their previous scores and set goals for improving. Students who are not flagged for rapidly guessing will be rewarded. 6.) Judi Dunphy questioned whether it was educationally sound for students in K-1-2 to take the NWEA. 7.) Georgie Manzer mentioned that the CCS Pi Day Event was a success. 7.) The Student Rep, Henry Lindeman, added a bit to his written report. He mentioned the CHS Math Team won its fifth consecutive conference championship. 8.) Scott Hall, Tammy Wyman, and Chris Roux chose not to add to their written reports.

Committees: The Negotiations Committee met on March 2, 10, 17, and 23. Both the Finance Committee and the Restructure Committee met on March 11.

Public Participation: 1.) Bailey Dominski of North Anson spoke about her interest in getting a superintendent agreement for her son. She hopes to meet with Mr. Campbell to discuss this. 2.) Earlier in the day, CCS 6-8 students recited Six Word Memoirs in front of the entire school and dozens of community members. As this had not been mentioned during the meeting, I mentioned it. I said the students did well, and said the 6-8 wing was lucky to have Mrs.

School Board *continued*

Pease, the staff member behind the event. (I did not mention, but I wish that I had, that Samantha Taylor helped a great deal as well.)

Policy: The board approved the second reading of policy BDE - Board Standing Committees. 2026-2027 School Budget.

There were a couple of changes from the proposed budget that emerged from the March 18 special board meeting. An ed tech 3 position at CHS was added. Some money was added in the area of co-curricular activities. The board voted to accept the budget with these changes.

Teacher Contract: The board voted to ratify the 2026-2029 agreement between the board and the Carrabec Educational Association. (A CEA ratification vote will be later this month.)

Executive Session: The board voted to enter executive session to discuss a "pending legal matter". No action was anticipated to come following the executive session.

*Submitted: Dave Ela,
President of Carrabec Teachers Association*

New Portland Water Board

The Board of Trustees of the New Portland Water District would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to our long-time board member Dick Salmon. Dick will be retiring from the board after many years of valuable service. Dick could always be counted on for his attendance and advice on the many issues that have been faced by the district.

Now the board is seeking a new trustee from among our customers for the term starting this year 2026. We will also be seeking two (2) more trustees for the term starting 2027 as some of our trustees have been serving the district for over 20 years. It is time for some new members to take a turn with their new ideas and opinions. If you would like to step up and have a say in your water supply, please contact one of the trustees.

Thank you.

Don Edes 612-8787
Valerie Pinkham 628-3348
Macy Fenderson 313-0626
Lisa Beane 512-6342.

Submitted: Andrea Reichert

Memorial Day

Honoring all who served





Stepping into Spirit

A circle for like-minded souls on the path of growth and self-discovery.

“Stepping into Spirit” is a welcoming community circle where each person is invited to share, ask questions, or simply absorb. Together, we explore the experiences that shape our lives and look at how the world, and our own stories, have influenced the way we move through life.

Each gathering flows with the needs of those who attend and includes a gentle guided meditation to support grounding, clarity, and inner reflection.

- Date: May 26, Time: 6:00 – 7:30 pm
- Location: New Portland Community Library
- Donation: \$10 minimum.
A portion of each donation supports the New Portland Community Library.
- RSVP required.

Facilitated by Donna Churchill, spiritual intuitive and guide.

To RSVP or learn more:
Call 207-399-1213
or email decorles@hotmail.com

Submitted: Donna Churchill

New Portland Community Library

Time for spring cleaning! We have a wall of books that need a good home, so come grab a BAG-A-BOOKS for a \$5 donation! Fiction, non-fiction, some children’s books and even some DVD’s are included. Free puzzles, too.

Book Club meets Monday, May 18 at 5:00pm at the library to discuss the book *How To Read A Book* by Monica Wood, written in 2024. (It’s excellent!). We will have a few loaner copies at the circulation desk which you can check out.

Save the date!! Saturday, June 13 will be our annual Plant/Book and CRAFT sale, 9:00 am – 2:00 pm.

Vendors: Scan this QR code to reserve your outdoor space, or you can call or email. \$20 per space, and leave your name, how many spaces you’d like, and what you will be selling.



BYO table and tent, please. (rain or shine!)

Adult Summer Reading Challenge starts in June, more details coming. Read books of your choosing from five categories and join fellow readers for a celebration at the library in September!

Library Hours:

Tues/Fri/Sat 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

Wed/Thurs 3:00 – 6:00 pm.

899 River Road New Portland, Maine 04961
newportlandcl@gmail.com or 207/628-6561.

Online catalog: <https://opac.libraryworld.com>
then enter Library Name/Password: NPCL

Not yet a patron? It’s free! Come in and get your library card and enjoy two weeks with each book or DVD you check out. If we don’t have the book you need, we can request it from other Maine libraries through our Inter-Library Loan system.

Submitted: Beth Perera, Volunteer





NEW PORTLANDER CALENDAR

MAY 2026



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 NPCL OPEN 9:00-12:00	2 NPCL OPEN 9:00-12:00
3 WMBC SERVICE 10am NPCC SERVICE 10:30am	4 KINGFIELD SENIORS GROUP WMBC - NOON	5 CINCO DE MAYO NPCL OPEN 9-12:00 SELECTMAN'S MEETING 6:30PM	6 NPCL OPEN 3:00 - 6:00 pm SCHOOL BOARD MEETING 6:00PM CCS PLANNING BOARD 6:30 PM	7 NPCL OPEN 3:00 - 6:00 pm	8 NPCL OPEN 9:00-12:00	9 NPCL OPEN 9:00-12:00
10 WMBC SERVICE 10am NPCC SERVICE 10:30am	11 NPCL OPEN 9:00-12:00 NPCC SERVICE 10:30am	12 NPCL OPEN 9:00-12:00 FIRE DEPT. MEETING 6:30pm	13 NPCL OPEN 3:00 - 6:00 pm NEW PORTLAND WATER DISTRICT 6:30 PM	14 NPCL OPEN 3:00 - 6:00 pm NPCL TRUSTEES MEETING 6:00 PM	15 NPCL OPEN 9:00-12:00	16 NPCL OPEN 9:00-12:00
17 WMBC SERVICE 10am NPCC SERVICE 10:30am	18	19 NPCL OPEN 9:00-12:00 SELECTMAN'S MEETING 6:30PM	20 NPCL OPEN 3:00 - 6:00 pm	21 NPCL OPEN 3:00 - 6:00 pm	22 NPCL OPEN 9:00-12:00	23 NPCL OPEN 9:00-12:00
24 WMBC SERVICE 10am NPCC SERVICE 10:30am	25 MEMORIAL DAY TOWN OFFICE CLOSED	26 NPCL OPEN 9:00-12:00	27 NPCL OPEN 3:00 - 6:00 pm	28 NPCL OPEN 3:00 - 6:00 pm	29 NPCL OPEN 9:00-12:00	30 NPCL OPEN 9:00-12:00
31 WMBC SERVICE 10am NPCC SERVICE 10:30am						