

Christopher Record  
Cape Elizabeth School District  
LD 225

My name is Dr. Christopher Record and I am the proud Superintendent of the Cape Elizabeth school department. I am not weighing in on the question of a 3% sales tax on hotel and lodging, but instead stressing the dire need for the Maine state legislature to increase the dollars appropriated for school construction and to increase access to those dollars to more school districts. As you know, there are school construction needs throughout the state. I strongly support rather than funding an entire school project at a time, that the funds be distributed to several school districts at once to help offset a portion of the cost of school construction. Whether it be new construction or renovation, if the state would provide at least 25% of the projected costs I surmise school construction referendums would likely receive much more support from local taxpayers. In Cape Elizabeth, a November referendum to build a much needed new middle school lost by just 166 votes. Taxpayers from Cape Elizabeth and multiple other Maine towns have seen their tax dollars help build wonderful new schools in other Maine communities. I believe more citizens of Cape Elizabeth and other Maine towns would be on board supporting school construction projects if the state were to pick up a portion of the cost. As Maine citizens, we all contribute our hard earned tax dollars and I would strongly support those dollars to be more widely distributed to support multiple much-needed school construction projects. Thank you.