

Dover and Dover-Sherborn Regional School Districts

Overview of FY24 Budgets

March 13, 2023

Assumptions

- Regular school operations with level enrollment
- Compliance with Town's budget guidance - level service
- Alignment with District's Strategic Plan
 - Innovative Teaching and Learning
 - Health & Well-Being of Staff and Students
 - Partnerships with Families and Communities
 - Safe & Innovative Facilities
 - Resource Efficiency
- Continued assessment of student needs during the multiple COVID-related transitions

Budget Drivers

- **Payroll and related benefits (for the Region)** represent approx. 80-85% of the operating budget with key budget drivers being:
 - A reserve for contractual agreement increases for all employees (all bargaining unit contracts are currently in negotiations), including step and lane increases for educators ranging from 4-9.8%
 - Several new staffing positions requested for FY24 including educational assistants at Chickering and a literacy specialist and athletic trainer at the Region
 - Salary savings from retirements/staffing changes
 - Continued funding provided for OPEB Liability Trust utilizing phased in cost share savings (fully phased in by FY24) for the Region
- Continued **trend budgeting** for all other operating accounts, increases seen in special education contracted services (Chickering only), instructional technology (devices and software) and utilities
- **Student enrollment** remains level -Projections are **515** for Chickering (class size range is 17-22) and **1,131** for the Region. Dover's Regional assessment % for FY24 is **53.55%** (down from 54.8% in FY23).

Financial Statistics - Dover

- Total proposed operating budget is **\$10,778,641** (FY23 \$10,369,791)
 - Salaries \$ 7,075,018
 - Other Expenditures 459,818
 - Transportation 268,305
 - Buildings/Grounds 418,000
 - TOTAL IN-DISTRICT: \$ 8,221,141
- Out-of-District 2,557,500 (represents tuition and transportation costs for approx. 18 students)
- Represents budget increase of **\$408,850 (3.94%)**
 - In-district **\$363,850 (4.63%)**
 - OOD **\$ 45,000 (1.79%)**
- FY23 operating budget increase- **\$126 (0%)**
 - In-district **\$530,016 (7.23%)**
 - OOD **\$529,890 (17.42%)**
- Revenues from the State for Chapter 70 Revenues (est. **\$1.0 million**) and Circuit Breaker Reimbursement (est. **\$1.0 million**) help offset the cost to the Town
- Net estimated taxpayer cost per in-district pupil: **\$14,022** (exclusive of benefits and other costs budgeted at Town level)

Financial Statistics - Region

- Total proposed operating budget is **\$27,972,540** (FY23 \$27,023,813)
 - Salaries and Benefits \$ 23,490,675
 - Other Expenditures 1,380,315
 - Transportation 1,039,200
 - Buildings/Grounds 1,272,950
 - Debt Service 789,400
- Represents budget increase of **\$948,727** (3.51%) over FY23
- Dover's assessment decrease is **\$4,458** (0.03%) - total assessment is **\$12,954,938**
- Decrease in assessment based on Dover's Regional enrollment % as of October 1, 2022 (assessment percentage decreased 1.25% from FY23)
- Revenues from the State for Chapter 70 and 71 (transportation) along with use of Excess & Deficiency funds and fees for various student activities, etc. contribute **\$3,808,004** (13.62%) to the operating budget
- Net Dover and Sherborn taxpayer cost per in-district pupil estimated to be: **\$21,365** (includes all costs- benefits, debt service, etc.)

Community Investment

- Thank you for the ongoing support to broaden and enhance the Dover student experience
- Financial and in-kind donations were received to date from the following organizations: Dover PTO, POSITIVE, High School PTO, Mudge Foundation, Boosters, FOPA and other private donors

Thank you

We thank the Town of Dover and their community members for their continued support in educating our students.

**School Public Budget Hearings can be viewed on DSCTV from RSC's March 7th meeting and DSC's March 9th meeting*