



Budget Workshop #5
April 3, 2024



FY25 Budget Development

- **February 7, 2024 Budget Presentation**
 - \$86,086,622 total budget request
 - 4.50% increase in Town Appropriation from FY24

- **Assumptions for April 24, 2024 budget Presentation**
 - \$85,776,622 total budget request
 - 4.13% increase in Town Appropriation from FY24
 - \$310,000 offset by ARPA funding per Town Manager recommendation
 - \$250,000 for Literacy Curriculum
 - \$60,000 for History Department Curriculum

Total FY25 Town Appropriation plus ARPA funding offset is **\$86,086,622; 4.50%**



Budget Category A- Staffing

A Category- Staffing Projections for FY25

- **A1 Administration** (Central Office admin, principals, Unit B- assistant principals and athletic director) category is *on target*; costs from 2/7 budget will be slightly adjusted to reflect new hire contracts; IT Director, Sherwood Assistant Principal
- **A2 Unit A** (Educators and Nurses) category is *on target* representing returning staff with step and COLA increases, plus new positions planned to be added to the budget; in process of being updated to reflect any staffing changes that were not known in February
- **A3 Unit D** Paraprofessionals category is *in process* with negotiations ongoing
- **A4 Non-Rep's** category (secretaries, central office staff, IT) is *on target* from 2/7 budget which includes the 2 additional IT positions
- **A5 Substitutes** (daily and long-term) category is *on target*, actual expenses two-thirds of the way through the school year are just below two-thirds of the FY24 allocation
- **A6 Other Wages** (summer salaries, stipends, crossing guards) category is *on target* with no changes from 2/7 budget
- **A7 Employee Benefits** category is *on target* with no changes from 2/7 budget



Budget Category B- Transportation

B Category- Transportation Projections for FY25

- **B1 Regular Transportation**
 - the 2/7 budget is *on target* with offsetting fees from the revolving account to cover the cost of 39 regular transportation buses and the Late Bus service
- **B2 Special Education Transportation**
 - anticipated rate increases include out-of district routes plus administrative costs from Assabet Valley Collaborative; The 11.98% increase is *on target* based on known student transportation needs for next year



Budget Category C- Tuitions

C Category- Tuitions Projections for FY25

- **C1 Net Special Education Out-of-District Tuitions**
 - Special Education Out-of-District Tuition cost projections have remained *on target* with another review during the week of April 8th to identify any out-of-district tuition changes
 - The school district is awaiting an update from DESE about potential receipt of additional Reserve Relief funding that was added as part of the state's FY24 supplemental budget to help offset the state's authorization of a 14% increase in out-of-district tuition rates implemented this year– we will likely receive some additional funding but do not have an estimate of the amount
- **C2 Vocational Tuitions**
 - FY25 vocational tuitions budget has been *increased* to include the admission of 2 Grade 9 students to Assabet at the end of March
 - The total new cost for Vocational Tuitions is \$488,886, which is a net *increase* of one tuition cost at ~\$20k compared to our initial projection of 21 students at Assabet, one at Norfolk Agricultural



Budget Category D- Contracted Services, Materials, Equipment

D Category- Contracted Services, Materials, Equipment Projections for FY25

- **D3 category-** Instructional Materials will be *reduced* by \$310,000 for the curriculum materials being shifted to ARPA funding, reducing the total Town Appropriation by \$310,000, or 4.13% total increase from FY24
- All other D categories are *on target* at this time with a 3.75% to 4.25% increase for inflation
 - Equipment, supplies and materials (not related to technology) are projecting at a 3.75% increase
 - Contracted services and technology are projecting at a 4.25% increase
- We will continue to explore alternative funding methods to fund IT budget requests currently not included in the FY25 budget



Next Steps for FY25 Budget Development

- **Continue to refine staffing projections**
- **Continue planning regarding in- and out-of-district transportation needs**
- **Update out-of-district tuition projections**
- **Current fiscal year analysis**