

Budget Explanatory Text

Overview

On Monday, May 6, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. in the Roberta S. Ohotnicky Little Theater, the Regional School District No. 7 Board of Education (the “Board”) will hold a District Meeting on its proposed 2024-2025 budget. No vote will be taken at this meeting. A budget referendum will be held on Tuesday, May 7, 2024, and voters are encouraged to participate.

The budget development process began in October. The Superintendent worked with District staff over a six-month period. The Board then worked on the budget during the months of February, March and April.

The total budget request of \$24,270,092 is an increase of \$814,564, or 3.47 percent more than the current budget of \$23,455,528. The increase is due primarily to: an increase of \$223,156 in the Salary account due to contractual obligations along with staffing changes and staff reductions; an increase in Benefits of \$209,028 primarily due to a 10.95 percent increase in health insurance; an increase of \$7,311 in Professional/Technical Services mostly attributable to Special Education requirements; an increase of \$1,230 in Property Services attributed mainly to energy, fuel and utilities; an increase of \$383,574 in Other Purchased Services from an increase in Special Education outplacement tuitions and transportation for outplaced students; a decrease in Supplies of \$1,970; a decrease in Property of \$6,921; and a decrease in Other Objects and Other Use of Funds of \$844 due to no new borrowing since 2012.

VOTE – TUESDAY, MAY 7, 2024

Salaries and Benefits

Salaries are based on 134.80 full-time equivalent positions (FTE) – including 101.0 certified positions. The Benefits section includes a 10.95 percent renewal increase from health insurance renewal costs.

Revenues

The overall 2024-2025 revenues are anticipated to decrease by an estimated \$113,467. This is primarily due to a decrease in Regular Education Tuition revenues, and a decrease in the Vo-Ag enrollment and state funded Vo-Ag Operating Grant.

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Member Town Allocations

Revenues are derived from taxation, state grants and other sources. The primary source is the taxpayers. The budget allocations are as follows:

	2023-2024	2024-2025	Change
Barkhamsted	\$6,330,297	\$6,098,334	\$-231,963
Colebrook	\$2,250,115	\$2,234,303	\$-15,812
New Hartford	\$10,722,876	\$11,425,613	\$702,737
Norfolk	\$1,804,736	\$2,146,683	\$341,947
Other Sources	\$2,347,504	\$2,365,159	\$17,655

Budget Summary:

Expenditures by Category

Category	2024-2025
Salaries	\$12,310,296
Benefits	\$ 3,577,832
Purchased Professional Services	\$ 2,054,067
Purchased Property Services	\$ 1,310,074
Other Purchased Services	\$ 3,966,915
Supplies	\$ 595,754
Property	\$ 410,026
Other Objects	\$ 57,628
Other Use of Funds	\$ -12,500
<b>Total Budget</b>	<b>\$24,270,092</b>

Increase of 3.47%

Average Daily Membership

(Enrollment of each town)

Percentage of budget (allocations) paid by each town is based on Average Daily Membership (10/1/2023).

	Students	% Allocation
Barkhamsted	213	27.84%
Colebrook	78	10.20%
New Hartford	399	52.16%
Norfolk	75	9.80%
<b>Totals</b>	<b>765</b>	<b>100.00%</b>