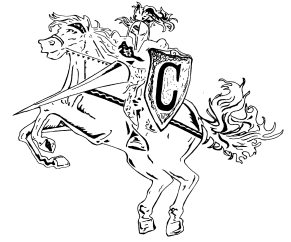


CATHERINE M. GIUSTI
School Committee Chairperson

Chariho Regional School District Office of the Superintendent

455A Switch Road
Wood River Junction, Rhode Island 02894

ALL KIDS. ALL OF THE TIME.



GINA M. PICARD
Superintendent

Superintendent's 2024 Budget Message Accelerate Learning and Educational Opportunities

This year we are working to create a new District Strategic Plan that ensures we continue on a path of success. Our plan will be focused on continuing to offer our students a high-quality and rigorous public education. It is important to note that the economic situation in our nation and state creates a challenge with the budget. However, we remain committed to building a budget that meets the needs of our students.

We have utilized our Federal dollars provided through ESSER (Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund) funds to ensure we meet the requirements put forward in the state legislation regarding curriculum, student services, and the Right to Read Act, without burdening the local taxpayers. Our budget is designed to ensure we have educational opportunities that provide students with the support and services they need while accelerating their learning. Our District is committed to working tirelessly to keep the quality of instruction, professional learning, and services to our families as a top priority.

We are proud to note that:

- We have three Blue Ribbon Elementary Schools.
- Three of our elementary schools are ranked by US News in the top ten in the state.
- The Chariho Regional Middle School is ranked in the top twenty-five middle schools in RI.
- The Chariho Regional High School is ranked in the top ten among all RI high schools.

Highlights of the Fiscal Year 2024 Budget include, but are not limited to:

- Creating student service structures that build upon our current work
- Ensuring access to opportunities that will accelerate learning and close achievement gaps
- Updating infrastructure to ensure efficiencies and improved communication and safety measures
- Continuing Capital Improvement projects that are focused on health and safety upgrades

It is important to note that inflation has had a significant impact on our budget. The New England region reports a 6.4% overall Consumer Price Index (CPI-U) increase for the past year. Prior to your receipt of this budget, I've already made reductions totaling \$587,064 from that which was requested.

The Chariho Administrative team and I look forward to providing the information you need to approve and adopt a Fiscal Year 2024 Budget, that maintains the quality of education we have been committed to for our students.

The Chariho Regional School District does not discriminate on the basis of age, sex, marital status, race, religion, genetic information, national origin, color, political affiliation, veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, or disability in accordance with applicable law.

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