



Superintendent's Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 Recommended Budget

**Accelerate Learning and Educational Opportunities
January 2023- Updated March 7, 2023**



Highlights of Success

- **We have three Blue Ribbon Elementary Schools**
- US News & World Report notes:
 - Chariho High School is ranked in the top ten of all RI High Schools
 - Three of our elementary schools are ranked in the top 10 (Ashaway 6th, Charlestown 7th and Hope Valley 10th.
 - Chariho Middle School is ranked in the Top 25 of all RI Middle Schools
- **We offer over 20 Career and Tech Pathways and Programs**
- We offer over 20 Advanced Placement (AP) courses and Chariho High school is outperforming their peers in several areas
- **We received RI recognition for our commitment to Advanced Placement coursework**
- Charlestown Elementary School, 4th Grade Teacher, Heidi Gonzalez-Fee was selected as the RI State Finalist for the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching

Budget Process Timeline

- Budget Development at school and department levels begins October 1st
- **Staffing Plan and Capital Improvement plan is developed with input from school leaders and departments**
- Central Office reviews individual school and department budgets
- **Budget is finalized by Superintendent**
- Presentation of Budget to School Committee is held January 3rd.
- **There are a total of 4 Budget Workshops to receive input from the School Committee and the community. January 3, 5, 24 and 26.**
- There are additional opportunities for input and feedback during the regularly scheduled School Committee meetings.

Budget Process Timeline continued...

- The Finance Committee Meeting and Omnibus meeting is held on January 18th.
- During the Omnibus Meeting the **Superintendent presents the budget again to all School Committee members, Town Councils, State Elected Officials and community members**
- Budget approval by School Committee February 7th
- **Annual Regional District Meeting/Public Hearing on March 7th**
- Budget Adoption March 14th
- **Referendum (Budget Vote) April 4th**

Budget for Staffing

Certified Staff	Total # 312.65	\$ 39,803,885	61 % of Budget (pay & benefits including Healthcare))
Non- Certified Staff	Total # 147.50	\$ 8,167,149	12 % of Budget (pay & benefits including Healthcare)
Healthcare Costs	378 plans	\$ 6,272,611	10 % of Budget (This percentage is included in the amounts noted above)

School Year (SY)	SY 19/20	SY 20/21	SY 21/22	SY 23/24
Certified	316.5	315.65	314.5	312.65
Non certified	149.4	150	149	147.5

Important Staffing Clarification

Staffing does not necessarily decrease when there are less students overall. Special Education supports, programming and services are all factors we review for staffing purposes and are required per Federal Law. Numbers above are for General Fund.

A Look at Some Fixed Costs

These costs are required by either Federal/State legislation/statutes or needed to operate

Special Education Costs- Federally Mandated-Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, Speech, Nursing services, Special Education Teachers, Clinical Services, Equipment etc	\$9,805,668 - salary and benefits
	\$2,601,993 - non wage less tuitions
	\$ 1,044,211 - Out of District Tuitions
Tuition to Charter Schools	\$ 1,061,849
Transportation Non Public/Out of District	\$ 743,320
Transportation General Education	\$ 3,826,342
Transportation Special Education	\$ 1,741,035
Utilities (Electricity, fuel, oil etc..)	\$ 1,248,966

Some Additional Costs

Athletics- Middle School	\$121,000
Athletics- High School	\$ 644,750
Student Information Systems(SIS)- Holds student databases for grading, attendance, transcripts, Individual Learning Plans required by the State	\$ 79,130
Police and Fire	\$ 94,968
Capital Improvements (Facilities, not included in operating budget)	\$ 1,680,273

There have been some adjustments during school committee meetings- final numbers are noted in the full budget '7

New Costs Added to the Budget

- Snowplowing, Sanding and Sweeping for Richmond, Hope Valley and Ashaway Elementary Schools- Approximately \$17,000 budgeted- This is an estimation as it would be dependent on the number of storms etc.. The cost will be approximately \$125 per hour, per vehicle.
- **Special Education Teacher for larger than anticipated enrollment in Pre-K and students moving into Kindergarten SY 23-24. Classroom will be added to Charlestown Elementary School.**
- Special Education Teacher Assistant to support added classroom at Charlestown and the students' individualized educational needs.
- **Dean of Students at the Middle School to support District Vision and Mission to support safety, student services, Title IX etc.. (This was placed in ESSER last year when the budget did not pass. And School committee voted to keep it in ESSER for FY 24.)**

Budget Items with Increases

- Fuel/Electricity
- Healthcare
- Out of District Transportation
- Supply costs
- Capital Projects
 - CHARIHotech Roof
 - Safety Enhancements to doors, windows, cameras

The Impact of ESSER Funds

Almost all of our ESSER funds have been allocated to **support required state mandates** that would have needed to be placed in the operating budget and therefore have removed this burden for the last two fiscal years from the local operating budget and accelerated our District plan to be able to meet our student needs.

- **Savings to Local Operational Budget as a result of:**

- ESSER III: \$1,656,025.58 (FY 23 & 24)
- ESSER II: \$ 1,163,082.10 (FY 22 & 23)
- ESSER I: \$315,655.00 (FY 21 & 22)

- **Total: \$3,134,762.68**

- **Mathematics and English Language Arts Curricular Resources K-12, Professional development and coaching. [RIGL 16.22.30-33](#)**
- **Right to Read Act Professional Development- [RIGL 16.11.4-6](#)**
- **Nathan Bruno and Jason Flatt Act- [RIGL 16-21.7](#)**

Funding from Additional Grant Opportunities

RIDE Mental Health Grant	\$1,200,000
RIDE Arts	\$102,000
RIDE 21st Century Technology and Equipment	\$395,468
Champlin Grant	\$67,290
Comprehensive School Improvement- CALA	\$109,000
ELC (Epidemiology & Laboratory Capacity)	\$93,000
Youth Mental Health First Aid	\$46,000
Community 2000	\$16, 840

We currently have an additional \$750,000 submitted and under review

Revenue

- **State Aid of \$15,469,992 estimated to include full Transportation Categorical aid and same Town allocations per enacted Rhode Island State Budget for FY 23. These numbers are anticipated to change with the FY 24.**
- Governor's recommended budget may affect local support requirements.
- **CTC Tuitions of \$ 3,065,096**
- Increased investment income with higher interest rates

Enrollment Shifts by Town

Charlestown 24.30% or - 0.49 %

Richmond 38.00% or + 0.15 %

Hopkinton 37.70% or +0.34%

NOTE: The amount paid to the District by each town is determined by that town's share or percentage of enrolled students. See Section 7 of the Budget for more enrollment detail.

Final Impact on Member Towns

**Member Towns' Contributions w/ Debt Service
after Re-Allocation of Fund Balance and preliminary State Aid is an
overall increase of 1.45%**

Hopkinton +1.76%

Richmond +1.17%

Charlestown +1.43%

Note: Annual inflation for the New England region consumer price index (CPI) was 1.2% for 2021 and through November of 2022 annual inflation is at 6.8%. The FY23 Chariho Regional School District budget is adjusted to a zero (0.0%) percent increase per last year's budget process.

Below is a table of % increase (+,-) for overall student enrollment, Chariho budget increase or decrease and the Consumer Price Index (CPI) for New England as of November 2022.

	Enrollment	Chariho Budget	CPI-U November
FY24*preliminary	0.91%	1.45%	5.20%
FY23*estimated	-3.05%	0.00%	7.10%
FY22*pre-audit	0.61%	2.23%	6.80%
FY21	-1.78%	1.95%	1.20%
FY20	1.22%	0.01%	2.10%
FY19	-0.33%	1.30%	2.20%
FY18	-1.50%	1.96%	2.20%
FY17	1.31%	1.18%	1.70%
FY16	-3.03%	-1.35%	0.50%
FY15	-3.91%	-1.08%	1.30%
FY14	0.28%	0.00%	1.20%
FY13	-2.52%	1.88%	1.80%
Average FY22-13	-0.96%	0.0081	0.021
Average FY24-15	-0.96%	0.0128	0.03

Fund Balance- Information

- FY22 Audit results are finalized and to retain a preliminary 2.25% fund balance reserve per the School Committee Unassigned Fund Balance policy results in \$388,462 being available for general fund use in FY24.
- Estimated fund balance for the district overall is recommended to be 2 months of expenditure (\$10-11 million is Chariho current monthly average) per Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA).

UNASSIGNED FUND BALANCE POLICY

The Chariho Regional School District Committee shall maintain an undesignated fund balance of a minimum of two percent (2%) and a maximum of four percent (4%) of general fund actual expenditures from the previous fiscal year. The Committee shall strive to maintain an undesignated fund balance of three percent (3%) of general fund actual expenditures from the previous fiscal year.

During the budget development, approval and adoption process, the Committee shall consider the re-appropriation of available unassigned funds that are in amounts greater than indicated above to reduce the impact of the District budget on the member towns. Any amount so re-appropriated shall be applied at the individual member town level in accord with that town's contribution to the District in the previous fiscal year.

Creativity High-expectations

Achievement

Relationships

Innovative



Hope Opportunities

ALL KIDS. ALL OF THE TIME.