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# Superintendent's Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 Recommended Budget

**Accelerate Learning and Educational Opportunities  
January 2023**



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# 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

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# 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.

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# 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

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

| <b>School Year (SY)</b> | <b>SY 19/20</b> | <b>SY 20/21</b> | <b>SY 21/22</b> | <b>SY 23/24</b> |
|-------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 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

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Special Education Costs- Federally<br/>Mandated-Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy,<br/>Speech, Nursing services, Special Education Teachers,<br/>Clinical Services, Equipment etc</b> | \$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                            |
| <b>Transportation Non Public/Out of District</b>  | <b>\$ 743,320</b>                       |
| Transportation General Education  | \$ 3,826,342                            |
| <b>Transportation Special Education</b>   | <b>\$ 1,741,035</b>                     |
| Utilities ( Electricity, fuel, oil etc..)   | \$ 1,248,966                            |

# Some Additional Costs

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

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# 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.)**



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# 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

All of our ESSER funds have been allocated to support required state initiatives that would have needed to be placed in the operating budget and therefore have removed this burden 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 Savings: \$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**

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# 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

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## **Enrollment Shifts by Town**

Charlestown 24.30% or - 0.49 %

Richmond 38.00% or + 0.15 %

Hopkinton 37.70% or +0.34%

**Member Towns' Contributions w/o Debt Service  
after Re-Allocation of Fund Balance +6.09%**

**Member Towns' Contribution w/Debt Service  
after Re-Allocation of Fund Balance +6.0%**

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.

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# Final Impact on Member Towns

**Overall FY24 preliminary budget increase is 6%.**

**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.

Numbers are preliminary

**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.**

|                  | <b>Enrollment</b> | <b>Chariho budget</b> | <b>CPI-U November</b> |
|------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| FY24*preliminary | 0.91%             | 6.0%                  | 5.0%                  |
| 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%            | +0.81%                | +2.1%                 |
| Average FY24-15  | -0.96%            | +1.28%                | +3.0%                 |

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## Fund Balance- Information

- FY22 Audit is not yet finalized and all fund balance numbers are estimates at this time. 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).



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# **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.*