# TACONIC AND GREEN REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT 



2022

## ANNUAL REPORT

Towns of Danby, Dorset, Landgrove, Londonderry, Manchester, Mt. Tabor, Peru, Sunderland, Weston

IMPORTANT DATES<br>Annual Meeting<br>February 28, 2023 7:00PM<br>Currier Memorial School<br>Australian Ballot Vote<br>March 7, 2023<br>See back page for voting locations

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## TACONIC AND GREEN REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

| Moderator | Oliver Olsen |
| :--- | :--- |
| Clerk | Sandra Pinsonault |
| Treasurer | Andrew McKeever |

Board Members


David Chandler * Clerk
Exp. March 2025 dchandler@brsu.org


Herb Ogden Chair
Exp. March 2023
hogden@brsu.org


Jeff Wilson *
Exp. March 2025 jeff.wilson@brsu.org


Richard Dale Vice Chair
Exp. March 2024 rdale@brsu.org


Lindsay Ralph * Exp. March 2025 Iralph@brsu.org


Jon Wilson
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Ben Freeman Exp. March 2023
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Jim Salsgiver Exp. March 2023 jsalsgiver@brsu.org


Jane Worley
Exp. March 2023
jworley@brsu.org


Suzanne Kantorski Exp. March 2023
(Seat exp. March 2024)


Melanie Virgilio Exp. March 2023 mvirgilio@brsu.org


Kaitlynn Cherry
Exp. June 2023
kcherry@brsu.org
Student
Representative


Debra Lyneis Exp. March 2024 dlyneis@brsu.org


Alexander Wilde * Exp. March 2025 awilde@brsu.org


Kate LeVine
Exp. June 2024
klevine@brsu.org
Student Representative

[^0]
## Bennington-Rutland Supervisory Union

## 6378 VT Route 7A

Sunderland, VT $05250 \quad 802.362 .2452$
www.brsu.org

| Superintendent of Schools | Randi Lowe | rlowe@brsu.org |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Director of Student Services | Paul Eaton | peaton@brsu.org |
| Director of Finance | Sue Wilborn | sue.wilborn@brsu.org |
| Director of Teaching \& Learning | Skyler LaBombard | slabombard@brsu.org |

Currier Memorial School (Prekindergarten - Grade 5)
234 North Main St.
Danby, VT 05739 802.293.5191
Principal Carolyn Parillo cparillo@brsu.org
Sunderland Elementary School (Kindergarten - Grade 6)
98 Bear Ridge Rd.
Sunderland, VT $05250 \quad 802.375 .6100$
Principal Jennifer Turner jturner@brsu.org
Flood Brook School (Kindergarten - Grade 8)
91 VT Route 11
Londonderry, VT 05148 802.824.6811
$\begin{array}{ll}\text { Principal Amy Harlow } & \text { aharlow@brsu.org } \\ \text { Assistant Principal Johanna Liskowsky-Doak } & \text { jliskowskydoak@brsu.org }\end{array}$
Manchester Elementary Middle School (Prekindergarten - Grade 8)
80 Memorial Ave.
Manchester, VT 05255 802.362.1597
Co-Principal Debra Fishwick dfishwick@brsu.org
Co-Principal Harrison Shulman hshulman@brsu.org
Assistant Principal Kendra LaRoche klaroche@brsu.org
The Dorset School (Kindergarten - Grade 8)
130 School Dr.
Dorset, VT 05251 802.362.2606
Principal Rosanna Moran rmoran@brsu.org

## WARNING

The legal voters of the Taconic and Green Regional School District, consisting of the towns of Danby, Dorset, Landgrove, Londonderry, Manchester, Mt. Tabor, Peru, Sunderland and Weston, are hereby notified and warned to meet at the Currier Memorial School at 234 North Main Street in Danby, Vermont on Tuesday, February 28, 2023 at 7:00 PM to consider and act upon the following articles and to discuss the articles to be voted upon by Australian Ballot.

## To be acted upon on Tuesday, February 28, 2023:

Article 1: $\quad$ To elect a Moderator to serve from July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024.
Article 2: To elect a School District Clerk to serve from July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024.
Article 3: To elect a School District Treasurer to serve from July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024.
Article 4: To determine the date and time on which the 2024 Annual Meeting of the Taconic and Green Regional School District shall be held, and where such meeting shall be held.
Article 5: To hear and act upon the reports of the School District Directors and Officers.
Article 6: To discuss articles to be voted upon by Australian ballot.
Article 7: To transact any other business which may legally come before this meeting.
To be voted by Australian Ballot on Tuesday, March 7, 2023:
Article 8: Shall the voters authorize the School Board to borrow money by issuance of notes not in excess of anticipated revenue for the fiscal year July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024?
Article 9: $\quad$ Shall the voters approve payment of the announced tuition rate of Burr and Burton Academy in the amount of $\$ 19,987$ for the 2023-2024 school year for resident pupils in grades 9 through 12 who attend any approved Vermont independent school?
Article 10: Shall the voters of the school district approve the school board to expend $\$ 36,829,647$, which is the amount the school board has determined to be necessary for the ensuing fiscal year? It is estimated that this proposed budget, if approved, will result in education spending of $\$ 20,862$ per equalized pupil. This projected spending per equalized pupil is $9 \%$ higher than spending for the current year.
Article 11: Shall the voters authorize the School Board to transfer any unassigned General Fund surplus existing on June 30, 2023, an amount estimated to be $\$ 638,353$, to the Building and Grounds Reserve Fund?
Article 12: Shall the voters appropriate the sum of $\$ 250,000$ for the Building and Grounds Reserve Fund?
Article 13: $\quad$ Shall the voters appropriate the sum of $\$ 125,000$ for the Bus Reserve Fund?
Article 14: Shall the voters appropriate the sum of $\$ 50,000$ for the Technology Equipment Reserve Fund?
Article 15: Shall the Taconic \& Green Regional School District advise the School Board, the Vermont General Assembly and Governor that:

1. Because our district does not operate a public high school, students have the opportunity to choose from a variety of public and independent high school options;
2. The electorate does not support the public funding of any school that discriminates against students or staff on the basis of race, creed, color, national origin, disability, marital status, sex, sexual orientation, or gender identity;
3. The electorate supports the current structure of independent schools having autonomy over their governance and operations within the current regulatory framework. This structure of oversight has enabled our districts to make high school education available, as required by the State of Vermont, while maintaining confidence that the schools serving our students provide a high quality of education; and
4. The electorate opposes efforts to change the current structure in a way that eliminates educational opportunities made possible by our current practice of high school choice. The electorate believes our current local educational system, in a great example of Vermont traditions, has evolved within this current structure, through a high level of community commitment and an appropriate exercise of local control, to provide high quality, equitable educational opportunities for our students.

Article 16: To elect the following Officer and School Director positions:

- Danby - One (1) Director for a one (1) year term expiring March 2024
- Dorset - One (1) Director for a three (3) year term expiring March 2026
- Landgrove - One (1) Director for a three (3) year term expiring March 2026
- Mt. Tabor - One (1) Director for a three (3) year term expiring March 2026
- Peru - One (1) Director for a three (3) year term expiring March 2026
- Sunderland - One (1) Director for a three (3) year term expiring March 2026


## For the purpose of voting by Australian ballot on Tuesday, March 7, 2023:

Voters of the Town of Danby will vote at the Danby Town Clerk's Office at 130 Brook Road. The Polls will open on Tuesday, March 7, 2023 at 7:00 AM and close at 7:00 PM.
Voters of the Town of Dorset will vote at the Dorset Town Office at 112 Mad Tom Road. The Polls will open on Tuesday, March 7, 2023 at 7:00 AM and close at 7:00 PM.
Voters of the Town of Landgrove will vote at the Landgrove Town Hall at 88 Landgrove Road. The Polls will open on Tuesday, March 7, 2023 at 8:00 AM and close at 7:00 PM.
Voters of the Town of Londonderry will vote at the Old Town Hall at 139 Middletown Road, South Londonderry. The Polls will open on Tuesday, March 7, 2023 at 7:00 AM and close at 7:00 PM.
Voters of the Town of Manchester will vote at the Manchester Town Hall at 40 Jeff Williams Way. The Polls will open on Tuesday, March 7, 2023 at 8:00 AM and close at 7:00 PM.
Voters of the Town of Mt. Tabor will vote at the Mt. Tabor Town Office at 522 Brooklyn Road. The Polls will open on Tuesday, March 7, 2023 at 10:00 AM and close at 7:00 PM.
Voters of the Town of Peru will vote at the Peru Town Office at 402 Main Street. The Polls will open on Tuesday, March 7, 2023 at 9:00 AM and close at 7:00 PM.
Voters of the Town of Sunderland will vote at the Sunderland Municipal Office at 104 Mountain View Road. The Polls will open on Tuesday, March 7, 2023 at 10:00 AM and close at 7:00 PM.
Voters of the Town of Weston will vote at the Weston Playhouse at 12 Park Street. The Polls will open on Tuesday, March 7, 2023 at 8:00 AM and close at 7:00 PM.
The legal voters of Taconic and Green Regional School District are further notified that voter qualification registration, and absentee voting relative to said meeting shall be as provided in Section 706(u) of Title 16, and Chapters 43,51 and 55 of Title 17, Vermont Statutes Annotated.

Dated this 11th day of January 2023.
On behalf of the Taconic and Green Regional School District Board of School Directors: Herbert Ogden, Chair

Received for the record and recorded this 11th day of January 2023 by:
Sandra Pinsonault, Clerk of the District

## SCHOOL BOARD REPORT

Herbert G. Ogden, Board Chair - January 2023

This is the sixth annual report and budget proposal by the school board for Danby, Dorset, Landgrove, Londonderry, Manchester, Mount Tabor, Peru, Sunderland, and Weston. We are responsible for the Currier Memorial School in Danby (pre-kindergarten through 5), The Dorset School (kindergarten through 8), the Flood Brook School (K through 8), the Manchester Elementary Middle School (pre-K through 8), and the Sunderland Elementary School (K through 6). We also fund a number of private pre-kindergartens and fund school choice for our high school students, the majority of whom attend Burr \& Burton Academy.

Our chief executive officer is Randi Lowe, who has been the Superintendent of the Bennington Rutland Supervisory Union (BRSU) since July 2020. The BRSU includes not only our large district but also the smaller Mettawee and Winhall districts. For all three districts, the BRSU administers special education, financial management, curriculum and instruction, transportation, food service, building and grounds maintenance, and technology. The BRSU employs the Superintendent as well as other staff who serve all the schools in the Supervisory Union.

On account of the COVID pandemic, everyone faced challenges no one ever thought of before. We are deeply grateful to everyone who works in the schools for shouldering extra work and quickly figuring out new ways to do things. We remain very concerned because the pandemic has worsened an already existing teacher shortage and has been exhausting for many in the schools as well as at home. We are more aware of the limits of remote learning and are trying to help students and staff make up for what was lost when children were at home with little contact with school or with each other.

We are glad that the state's careful response to the pandemic has enabled us to resume the usual Annual District Meeting, with floor votes including the election of the District Moderator, Clerk, and Treasurer. As always, voting on the budget, reserve funds, and high school tuition will be by Australian Ballot on March $7^{\text {th }}$. You will not automatically receive an absentee ballot. If you want to vote by mail, you must request a mail ballot from your Town Clerk. Please do this by Monday, March 6 or go to your Town Clerk and pick up a ballot. Please read this Annual Report for detailed information as you consider the budget and the other issues listed in the Warning on pages 3 and 4.

This year's Warning has one unusual item, regarding school choice. This issue became more complicated in June, when the U. S. Supreme Court decided a case from Maine, which had attendance options that resembled ours. The court said school districts that paid tuition to nonpublic schools had to pay schools that used the money for religious instruction as long as they met educational standards. The Vermont Supreme Court has said the Vermont Constitution does not allow funding religious instruction with public money. There is heated debate about how districts like ours, which have no public high school, can obey both constitutions. Most districts do not have to deal with this question, because most have a public high school and therefore cannot be asked to send tuition to any nonpublic high schools regardless of whether they would use it to fund religious instruction.

The Warning includes the proposed budget. It reflects the challenges of attracting qualified staff and of inflation. In considering the residential property tax rate, please bear in mind that the many citizens who benefit from income sensitivity will not pay the stated rates on their homestead property. For those who lack this benefit, tax bills will increase substantially. This is happening because, although the school tax rate has gone down, the Common Level of Appraisal has gone way up, reflecting the surge in property values during the last year. In other words, the increase in the value of residential real estate has more than canceled out the decrease in the base tax rate.

The budget would have to be reduced by $\$ 257,928$ to lower the equalized tax rate one cent, or in other words to lower the tax on a $\$ 100,000$ property by $\$ 10$. We estimate that we will have enough surplus so that we could reduce the tax rate from what you see on page 38. At present, however, that does not seem. The purpose of the tax stabilization reserve is to avoid tax shocks from year to year.

## SCHOOL BOARD REPORT

(continued)
Developing a budget was only one of our tasks. Last year, over 600 people gave us their opinions about goals by answering two fundamental questions: First, what is the purpose of schools in today's world? Second, what important skills, values and behaviors do you hope our students gain from their time in our schools? We revised our goals and policies accordingly and continue to review them. Public input is important, and we wish we could have had more. We publicize our meetings on electronic bulletin boards like Front Porch Forum and in the local print media, and our part of the Supervisory Union website can be used for comments, but we do not receive many.

Once we set goals and policies with your help, we tell the Superintendent to meet the goals and follow the policies in any reasonable way without our day to day supervision. Just as we are accountable to the voters, who own the system, the Superintendent is accountable to us. We look at what the Superintendent has done. If it is not as expected, options include re-evaluating our goals to see if they were realistic, adding more detailed policies to guide the Superintendent, or finding a new Superintendent. This process is called Policy Governance. More information is on page 8. We look forward to receiving more advice from you as we continue to improve our policies.

In addition to the budget, you will be voting for board members on March Town Meeting Day. We have thirteen elected members and two nonvoting high school student members. A complete list of board members and of seats up for election this March is at the beginning of this report. Please note that our nine town merger agreement says that all members are elected by all voters and represent all communities. There is a crucial difference, for example, between being "the representative of Dorset" and "the representative from Dorset." More detail about this is on page 8.

I want to thank all board members for the hours they spend seeking input, preparing for and attending meetings, and becoming educated through events run by the Vermont School Boards Association and others. I especially want to thank Dick Dale of Londonderry and David Chandler of Dorset for their service as Vice Chair and Clerk, and Jim Salsgiver and David Chandler of Dorset for serving on the Vermont School Boards Association Board. In addition, Jim Salsgiver chairs the board of the supervisory union.

If you want to know more about how we operate or comment on our work, please attend one of our meetings either remotely or in person. We also welcome comments and questions by letter or email. We meet at least monthly. We begin at 6:30 p.m. and aim to end by $8: 30$. There is a ten minute public comment period at the beginning. Agendas, minutes, and information on how to attend remotely are available on the Bennington-Rutland Supervisory Union website, www.brsu.org.

## HOMESTEAD DECLARATION AND HOUSEHOLD INCOME

## Have you filed your Homestead Declaration and Household Income Forms with the State of Vermont for 2021?

The education portion of your property taxes are income sensitive. You may be missing out on reductions to your education property taxes if you do not file the applicable forms when due.

In order to take advantage of any available reductions to your education property taxes, you must file forms HS -122 (Homestead Declaration and Property Tax Adjustment Claim) and HI-144 (Household Income) with the state of Vermont.

You can find more information at https://tax.vermont.gov/property-owners/homestead-declaration

## BOARD GOALS

Goal \#1 - Governance - The Board will adopt a governance model that looks to the future and fosters a high level of effectiveness and efficiency.

Goal \#2 - Community Engagement - The Board will use a proactive approach to community engagement to assist in the formulation of ends policies.

Goal \#3 - Equity - The Board will use possibilities presented from the merger to provide substantial equity in the quality and variety of educational opportunities.

Goal \#4 - Legislative Action - The Board will keep abreast of legislative issues and take action when needed to support the district.

## BOARD NORMS

As a Board: We will make sure all our students are our first priority.
We will honor the distinction between governance and administrative responsibilities.
We will set ends policies, executive limitation policies, board-management delegation policies, and governance policies and measure our performance against these policies.
We will set goals for our work that are SMART (specific, measurable, attainable, results-oriented, and timebound) and we will periodically check in on these goals.
We will conduct ourselves in a courteous and professional manner. This means we will:

- Respect time
- Follow protocol
- Speak to the point
- Be prepared
- Bring closure to open items

We will make fact-based decisions that are in the best interests of our stakeholders.
We will clearly and effectively communicate with all stakeholders.

## BOARD OPERATIONAL DEFINITION OF EQUITY

Education equity means that each child receives what they need to develop to their full academic and social potential. Working towards equity involves commitments to Access, Process, and Outcomes, including by:

1. Removing the predictability for success or failures that currently correlates with any social or cultural factor,
2. Interrupting inequitable practices, examining biases, and creating inclusive multicultural school environments for adults and children,
3. Discovering and cultivating the unique gifts, talents, and interests that every human possesses.

Equity goes beyond formal equality where all students are treated the same. Achieving equity may require an unequal distribution of resources and services.
(Definition adapted from the National Equity Project)

## HOW DOES AT-LARGE REPRESENTATION WORK?

by Herbert Ogden, Board Chair

Each Taconic and Green School District Board member represents all District residents, not just the people who reside in the town where the candidate lives. There's a crucial difference between being "the representative of Dorset" and "the representative from Dorset." None of us represent only our hometown. All 13 voting members are elected by the voters in the whole District. Regardless of which town a member resides in, the member is elected by all the voters in the whole District, not just by the voters in the town where the candidate resides.

Representation rules differ from residency rules. The difference is complicated in our District but let me try to explain: From among the legal voters in each of the nine towns in the District, one or more candidates are on the ballot when a present board member ends a term of office. All voters in the District, not just the voters in the town where the candidate resides, elect one person from each of the nine towns. That accounts for nine of the elected thirteen seats. There are four additional seats, reserved for residents of the four largest towns (Danby, Dorset, Londonderry, and Manchester). One or more such residents is on the ballot when a present board member who lives in one of these four towns resigns or ends a term of office. All voters in the District, not just the voters in the four largest towns, elect the additional four members who live in those towns. Because each seat is voted on by all the voters in the District, wise candidates will appeal to voters outside their own towns. For example, assume that two of the four additional seats are vacant and two residents of each of the four largest towns run for those two seats. For those two seats, there would be a total of eight candidates, with two each residing in Danby, Dorset, Londonderry, and Manchester. Residents of Londonderry could win both of those seats (in addition to the seat reserved for a Londonderry resident) even if they ran slightly behind in the four largest towns, as long as they ran ahead in the smaller towns. This is true because every voter in the District votes on every one of the 13 seats, and every board member represents all the voters in the whole District.

## HOW DOES OUR POLICY GOVERNANCE WORK?

by Herbert Ogden, Board Chair

We began using Policy Governance in 2019. It is a newer way of operating than most districts in Vermont use, so perhaps an example from another area of life may help show how it works: Assume the District is like a Vermont manufacturer, Vermontco, that wants to sell its goods profitably in Japan. Under policy governance in its broadest form, Vermontco's board would tell its CEO that this was the goal. The CEO would decide how to market the goods, ship the goods, and ensure payment. Vermontco's board would not tell its CEO whether to advertise, whether to send the goods by ship or by air, or whether to extend credit. Vermontco's board would, however, tell its CEO how not to operate. For example, it would forbid illegal and unethical conduct. As long as the CEO found a reasonable way to sell the goods profitably within whatever limits the board set, Vermontco's board would be satisfied. Ultimately the company's board is accountable for results to its owners, the shareholders. More information on Policy Governance is on various websites, including www.carvergovernance.com.

This example does not work 100\% for public boards like ours. Some of our duties are set by state law, which does not allow us to delegate certain tasks to the Superintendent. Mostly, however, policy governance works for public boards as well as private ones. It also forces the board to define what its goals are after consulting the people who own and use the schools. Accordingly, we are maintaining our efforts to find out what people in the District want us to achieve.

Policy Governance remains a work-in-progress for us. Your feedback was invaluable in developing the original merger. We relied on your involvement to create our goals, and we welcome your continued involvement to improve them.

## REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

## Randi Lowe, EdD <br> January 2023

Preparing for this report, I feel proud of what we have accomplished over the past year. The Bennington-Rutland Supervisory Union (BRSU) is engaging in important work focused on improving our programming and meeting the needs of more students. I will provide highlights in this report.

During the 2021-22 school year, a team of educators reviewed research-based math curriculums to replace our previous curriculum. The committee recommended adopting Reveal Math which all schools began using at the start of the 2022-23 school year. This curriculum is more rigorous than our prior curriculum and has built-in lessons and practice activities designed to meet a wide range of learning needs. In addition to the classroom curriculum, we recently purchased the companion intervention program, Arrive Math Booster, so students who require additional support in math will receive instruction closely aligned with what they receive in the classroom. This is designed to ensure all students have access to high-quality and effective classroom instruction. It generally takes 2-3 years to see the impact of a new curriculum implementation, and we believe we will see positive assessment results.

Another committee has been reviewing our reading and writing curriculum and is in the final stages of making their recommendation to use starting next school year. The committee is ensuring that the "big 5" areas of reading, including phonological awareness, phonics, fluency, comprehension, and vocabulary are explicitly and directly taught in their selection. We have seen significant improvement in our youngest students' basic skills since we began using Heggerty and Fundations for phonological awareness and phonics instruction and we want to continue with this momentum. Ensuring a guaranteed and viable curriculum for our students is important to establish a strong foundation in early literacy.

The BRSU completed an equity audit during the 2021-22 school year and over the summer we received the final report. Findings indicate there are areas for us to explore and address related to the broad areas of strategic planning, beliefs about students, students' sense of belonging, psychological safety, family engagement, recruitmentretention of teachers, and policies/ procedures. All BRSU schools are looking more closely and critically at the performance of students in different subgroups and an SU equity committee will begin meeting soon to address system-level policies and practices. School and central office leaders are working with the University of Washington's Center for Educational Leadership to complete a yearlong course called "Leading Equitable Schools." Our teachers are continuing to participate in 4 equity-focused modules annually to grow and expand their understanding of equity-centered topics. This is all designed to ensure we are meeting more needs of more students.

While we strive to provide a strong and effective education for our learners, we operate under a cloud of unprecedented numbers of school shootings across the country. Our School Boards join me in concern and advocacy in this area. The Mettawee and Taconic and Green School Boards sent letters to the public, legislators, Agency of Education, and Governor, expressing their concerns, and advocating for action to keep our schools safe. The Supervisory Union invested funds to update and expand school security, require identification badges for all employees and visitors, and restrict public access to school buildings. In addition to this, every school has a group of professionals who have been trained to complete threat assessments. School and central office personnel are following the Sigma threat assessment protocol in this work. We have a responsibility to keep our school communities safe and to educate our children when they make poor decisions. Schools are working hard to balance both of these responsibilities.

Last May, a group of parents, teachers, board members, and a principal and community member joined me to begin discussing the idea of a regional middle school for the Taconic and Green Regional School District. A demographic study was completed as part of this work and last fall, the committee recommended to the School Board that they advance the exploration. The Board approved an architect review of the Manchester Elementary Middle School, Dorset School, and Flood Brook School buildings and properties to recommend the best location for a potential middle school. This report was recently completed and recommended Manchester as the most appropriate spot given its central location within the SU. The Board also approved moving forward with community engagement and visioning work to hear more about what the community wants and needs. This work will be completed in the first few months of 2023 . We have included $\$ 60,000$ in the FY 24 budget

## REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

## (continued)

to cover any conceptual design work that may be required, should this project continue to move forward. We welcome public input on this discussion and will share information in school newsletters, social media, and on the BRSU website.

One of the most significant challenges we face right now is the lack of substitutes when teachers and staff are absent from work. This is a national issue and is creating operational and educational challenges for our schools. School systems across the country are implementing a wide variety of solutions but most are not addressing the source of the problem. We have always looked outside the system to replace teachers and staff when they are absent. No other business model is set up like this, and so this fall, I met with a group of interested employees to creatively think through possible solutions. These meetings led to a clear consensus that we needed an internal system of stability to ensure teaching and learning had minimal disruption and meaningful relationships could be established. The result of this work is the addition of nine support positions to the Taconic and Green budget, to be shared between Manchester Elementary Middle School and Flood Brook School next school year. These positions will join a team of classrooms as instructional assistants and will support classroom programming and directly educate the students on the team when someone is absent from work. We hope this goes a long way to solving our staffing problem and allows for more consistent teaching and learning experiences.

We are doing a lot of effective work throughout our schools and will continue to grow and improve over time. We have strong and committed School Boards and I have developed an open and honest partnership with Board members. At a time when schools are under a high level of stress and pressure, our Boards stay focused on what matters and thoughtfully guide and support our work. We have shared values and a commitment to every child in our community. I am grateful to be serving as the Superintendent for the BRSU and partnering with our School Boards, parents, teachers, and staff to provide a highquality education to our students. It is a privilege to work and live here.

## SUPERINTENDENT ENROLLMENT REPORT

ENROLLMENT AS OF DECEMBER 1, 2022

| ENROLLMENT * | PK3 | PK4 | $\mathbf{K}$ | $\mathbf{1}$ | $\mathbf{2}$ | $\mathbf{3}$ | $\mathbf{4}$ | $\mathbf{5}$ | $\mathbf{6}$ | $\mathbf{7}$ | $\mathbf{8}$ | $\mathbf{9}$ | $\mathbf{1 0}$ | $\mathbf{1 1}$ | $\mathbf{1 2}$ | TOTAL |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Currier | $\mathbf{2}$ | 7 | 10 | 13 | 14 | 12 | 4 | 12 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | $\mathbf{7 4}$ |
| Dorset | - | - | 14 | 17 | 13 | 18 | 16 | 18 | 20 | 23 | 20 | - | - | - | - | $\mathbf{1 5 9}$ |
| Flood Brook | - | - | 24 | 30 | 16 | 41 | 30 | 30 | 34 | 25 | 30 | - | - | - | - | $\mathbf{2 6 0}$ |
| MEMS | - | 20 | 31 | 29 | 35 | 40 | 35 | 45 | 39 | 55 | 44 | - | - | - | - | $\mathbf{3 7 3}$ |
| Sunderland | - | - | 10 | 8 | 4 | 8 | 8 | 13 | 10 | - | - | - | - | - | - | $\mathbf{6 1}$ |
| Sub-Total | $\mathbf{2}$ | $\mathbf{2 7}$ | $\mathbf{8 9}$ | $\mathbf{9 7}$ | $\mathbf{8 2}$ | 119 | 93 | $\mathbf{1 1 8}$ | $\mathbf{1 0 3}$ | $\mathbf{1 0 3}$ | $\mathbf{9 4}$ | $\mathbf{0}$ | $\mathbf{0}$ | $\mathbf{0}$ | $\mathbf{0}$ | $\mathbf{9 2 7}$ |
| Less Non-Residents | $\mathbf{0}$ | 0 | 1 | 6 | 1 | 4 | 4 | 6 | 3 | 14 | 11 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | $\mathbf{5 0}$ |
| TOTAL | $\mathbf{2}$ | $\mathbf{2 7}$ | $\mathbf{8 8}$ | $\mathbf{9 1}$ | $\mathbf{8 1}$ | $\mathbf{1 1 5}$ | $\mathbf{8 9}$ | $\mathbf{1 1 2}$ | $\mathbf{1 0 0}$ | $\mathbf{8 9}$ | $\mathbf{8 3}$ | $\mathbf{0}$ | $\mathbf{0}$ | $\mathbf{0}$ | $\mathbf{0}$ | $\mathbf{8 7 7}$ |

* includes non-resident students

| TACONIC \& GREEN ** | PK3 | PK4 | K | $\mathbf{1}$ | $\mathbf{2}$ | $\mathbf{3}$ | $\mathbf{4}$ | $\mathbf{5}$ | $\mathbf{6}$ | $\mathbf{7}$ | $\mathbf{8}$ | $\mathbf{9}$ | $\mathbf{1 0}$ | 11 | 12 | TOTAL |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Arlington | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 0 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 8 |
| Brattleboro UHS | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | 1 |
| Burr \& Burton | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 139 | 130 | 143 | 134 | 546 |
| Cambridge Central | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | 1 |
| Cardigan Mtn | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | 1 |
| Currier | 2 | 7 | 10 | 13 | 14 | 12 | 4 | 12 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 74 |
| Cushing | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | 1 |
| Dorset | - | - | 14 | 17 | 13 | 18 | 16 | 18 | 20 | 23 | 16 | - | - | - | - | 155 |
| Eagle Hill | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | 1 |
| Flood Brook | - | - | 23 | 26 | 15 | 38 | 28 | 29 | 32 | 21 | 29 | - | - | - | - | 241 |
| Governor's Academy | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | 1 |
| Grace Christian | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | 1 |
| Green Mtn UHS | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 2 | - | 1 | - | 3 |
| Holderness | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | 1 |
| Kent | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | 1 |
| Leland \& Gray | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | 1 |
| LiHigh | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | 1 |
| Long Trail | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 6 | 14 | 5 | 10 | 35 |
| MEMS | - | 20 | 31 | 28 | 35 | 39 | 35 | 41 | 38 | 45 | 38 | - | - | - | - | 350 |
| Mill River | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | 1 | 4 | 4 | 10 |
| Northfield Mt Hermon | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | 1 |
| NY Military Academy | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | 1 |
| Okemo Mtn School | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | 1 |
| PK Partners | 44 | 34 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 78 |
| Pomfret | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | 1 |
| Stratton Mtn | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 3 | 2 | 2 | 6 | 13 |
| Suffield Academy | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | 1 |
| Sunderland | - | - | 10 | 7 | 4 | 8 | 8 | 13 | 10 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 60 |
| The Taft School | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | 1 |
| VT Academy | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | 1 | - | 2 |
| Williston Northampton | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | 1 |
| Total | 46 | 61 | 88 | 91 | 81 | 115 | 91 | 113 | 100 | 89 | 84 | 155 | 152 | 164 | 163 | 1593 |
| ** only resident students | $P K 3=3$ yrolds;PK4=4 yrolds. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

** only resident students $\quad$ PK3 $=3 \mathrm{yr}$ olds; PK4 $=4 \mathrm{yr}$ olds.

## ENROLLMENT HISTORY

|  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Dec } \\ 2010 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Dec } \\ 2011 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Dec } \\ 2012 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Dec } \\ 2013 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Dec } \\ 2014 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Dec } \\ 2015 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Dec } \\ 2016 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Dec } \\ 2017 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Dec } \\ 2018 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Dec } \\ 2019 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Dec } \\ 2020 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Dec } \\ 2021 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Dec } \\ 2022 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| K | 107 | 123 | 110 | 112 | 101 | 93 | 100 | 101 | 97 | 109 | 75 | 90 | 89 |
| 1 | 105 | 101 | 120 | 105 | 111 | 101 | 96 | 104 | 94 | 100 | 102 | 85 | 97 |
| 2 | 112 | 112 | 101 | 120 | 107 | 115 | 104 | 99 | 105 | 94 | 90 | 116 | 82 |
| 3 | 105 | 116 | 109 | 103 | 123 | 111 | 121 | 109 | 93 | 106 | 97 | 89 | 119 |
| 4 | 108 | 111 | 113 | 111 | 108 | 116 | 111 | 116 | 107 | 103 | 106 | 113 | 93 |
| 5 | 106 | 110 | 112 | 114 | 106 | 112 | 126 | 119 | 114 | 104 | 101 | 115 | 118 |
| 6 | 116 | 104 | 113 | 114 | 114 | 115 | 108 | 123 | 108 | 115 | 84 | 96 | 103 |
| 7 | 138 | 132 | 129 | 135 | 144 | 134 | 134 | 107 | 126 | 115 | 112 | 94 | 103 |
| 8 | 152 | 150 | 128 | 137 | 142 | 139 | 144 | 135 | 103 | 125 | 108 | 107 | 94 |
| TOTAL K-8 | 1,049 | 1,059 | 1,035 | 1,051 | 1,056 | 1,036 | 1,044 | 1,013 | 947 | 971 | 875 | 905 | 898 |
| Less Nonresidents | 30 | 28 | 34 | 30 | 35 | 39 | 33 | 34 | 32 | 39 | 34 | 32 | 50 |
| TOTAL K-8 | 1,019 | 1,031 | 1,001 | 1,021 | 1,021 | 997 | 1,011 | 979 | 915 | 932 | 841 | 873 | 848 |
| Homestudy K-8 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 35 | 92 | 45 | 54 |


| 9 | 153 | 160 | 154 | 150 | 151 | 151 | 149 | 155 | 164 | 144 | 158 | 148 | 155 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 10 | 145 | 161 | 163 | 162 | 153 | 149 | 159 | 161 | 162 | 166 | 154 | 166 | 152 |
| 11 | 204 | 149 | 168 | 185 | 171 | 159 | 149 | 163 | 164 | 171 | 166 | 154 | 164 |
| 12 | 148 | 191 | 161 | 174 | 177 | 168 | 164 | 154 | 160 | 169 | 183 | 180 | 163 |
| TOTAL 9-12 | 650 | 661 | 646 | 671 | 652 | 627 | 621 | 633 | 650 | 650 | 661 | 648 | 634 |
| Homestudy 9-12 | 8 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |


| TOTAL K-12 | 1,669 | 1,692 | 1,647 | 1,692 | 1,673 | 1,624 | 1,632 | 1,612 | 1,565 | 1,582 | 1,502 | 1,521 | 1,482 |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |

Pre-K counts are excluded from the above figures as it is difficult to compare counts over time due to changes in statute and the variable enrollment of students within the counts. It should be noted that Pre-K students are included in the ADM figures shown on page 11.


## PRINCIPAL'S REPORT - Currier Memorial School

Carolyn Parillo, Principal - January 2023

Currier Memorial School is having an incredible year and we have so much to celebrate! We have been bringing back numerous events that were halted by COVID. We are making continuous efforts to improve on a safe learning environment for all. We are implementing curriculum and interventions to ensure we are making successful gains towards our Continuous Improvement Plan (CIP) goals. We are proud of what we have accomplished, and the growth we are seeing in our students!


Highlights from the past year include concerts, author visits, a mobile S.T.E.A.M. museum, trips to the Smokey House, Harvest Open House, a trip to the Southern Vermont Art Center, the Northshire Bookstore, and a family luncheon, to name a few. Students were highly engaged as they explored and experienced a variety of hands-on activities to help deepen their understanding of the wonderful world around them! We are always looking for opportunities to enhance student learning, and we are thankful to have resources available to support our efforts.

In addition to creating joyous opportunities for learning, we also challenge ourselves to engage in our own professional development. This ensures that we are implementing evidence based practices for literacy, math, science, and social studies. This school year, as part of the BRSU initiatives, we implemented a new math and inquiry based social studies curriculum. Additionally, Currier teachers in grades 1-4, special educators, and our interventionist have been trained in the Orton-Gillingham technique, which is a multisensory approach for teaching explicit reading skills. John Hattie, a well-known and respected educational researcher, has identified that "Collective Teacher Efficiency" (Hattie, J. 2018) is the number one indicator of student achievement. We have worked incredibly hard, and continue to do so, to build strength in this area, and we are well on our way. Many family members have commented on the excitement and
 confidence their children have with their reading skills!


Another important area of focus is ensuring that our students feel safe and have a sense of belonging at school. We utilize a number of data points as evidence towards success in this area. We look at behavior, attendance, various surveys, and academic data to determine if we are making the progress we are aiming for. As you can see in the graph below on discipline write-ups, when comparing pre-pandemic numbers to the present, there has been great improvement made by learning more effective ways to meet social and emotional needs of our students. At this time, we have a total of 65 behavior writeups, compared to 72 at this same time last year. In addition, so far this school year, students have collectively earned 10,000 positive dojo points for showing kindness, being safe, responsible, and respectful! This is a clear indication that we are heading in the right direction and that our continued efforts will lead us to our goal of sustaining positive student behaviors. We are still working hard to get our attendance back to pre-pandemic levels. While we all continue to struggle with daily challenges to make determinations on symptoms, this area also continues to improve as time marches on. In a recent survey given to students grades 2-5, 97\% of students reported they feel safe and have friends at school. We want ALL students to feel this way and will continue to work hard to reach $100 \%$ !



We are encouraged and inspired by the amazing community that we serve! Currier families and the local communities provide an abundance of on-going support and care for our students. The collected efforts of our families, community members, teachers, and support staff combined with an unyielding determination, ensures that we have what we need to support the growth and success of every one of our students.

## PRINCIPAL'S REPORT - The Dorset School

Rosanna Moran, Principal - January 2023

The Dorset School currently has 159 students. We have 33 students who are new to TDS this year: 21 in grades 1-8 and 12 Kindergartners!

One of the big takeaways from COVID was that our students had been facing too many transitions during the day. Fortunately, we have been able to maintain the same configuration as last year, with self-contained classrooms K-5 and two teacher teams for grades 5-6 and 7-8. We have continued with our welcoming committee out front each morning and afternoon, which remains a highlight of my day. We kept two (shorter) recesses per day and a team approach to coverage for recess and lunch. This allows for more consistency, as students are not interacting with multiple teachers and paras for recess and lunch. The big change this year is that all students are eating in the cafeteria again. Because the lunch periods overlap, it allows for more adults in the cafeteria for supervision throughout lunch.

Project Based Learning: Throughout the year, each grade level teacher will have the opportunity to partner with our art teacher, David Paarlberg-Kvam to plan units of project based learning. Last year, the 6th grade created a cell project where they built a geodesic dome to represent the cell and utilized QR codes to record and access information they had researched on the specific parts of the cell. This year, he has facilitated several more projects:

- Second graders turned part of their classroom into a cave as part of their science unit on cave dwellers. They drew pictures and built plaster models of creatures and studied the first human artwork found in caves.
- Third grade students researched different regions of the world and created recorded pertinent information and travel tips for tourists. They built a globe, and affixed QR codes to access the students' recordings of the travel tips for each region. Finally, they invited visitors to place flags on the regions they had visited.
- Eighth graders solved their lack of storage space by planning and building a science themed storage unit as well as researching the science concepts they included within the design.

Community Outreach: It was great to have our students participating in live performances again! Dan Seiden (Mr. D) organized concerts last March for our students, which coincided with our arts fest. It was the first time we had parents in the building since early 2020! We look forward to hearing our amazing musicians again at the end of January! One of the $7 / 8$ electives was a play, The Day the Internet Died. Our students did a terrific job and did a tremendous job performing it at the Southern Vermont Arts Center last June!

Trout in the Classroom is back on track as well! 100 Brook Trout eggs were delivered January 5th and we look forward to seeing them grow as well as their release in May. What is even more amazing to watch is the competence our young scientists develop as they attend to proper feeding and ph levels in the water, and research conditions for their release.

## Student growth and assessment:

We continue to utilize i-Ready as our universal screener, and while we are still seeing the effect of two and half years of disrupted schooling, we are seeing good growth. In reading last year, students K-8 made $126 \%$ of expected growth in Reading and $104 \%$ of expected growth in Math.

- In reading, $90 \%$ of our students are passing $70 \%$ or more of their lessons.
- In math, $89 \%$ of our students are passing $70 \%$ or more of their lessons.

I look forward to January i-Ready results to celebrate the growth our students have made so far this year!
I feel so fortunate to work with a dedicated, talented faculty and staff in such a supportive school community!

# PRINCIPAL'S REPORT - Flood Brook School 

Amy Harlow, Principal - January 2023

## "Success is to be measured not so much by the position that one has reached in life as by the obstacles which they have overcome." - Booker T. Washington

Looking back on the last year I feel so much gratitude towards the Flood Brook School and community. We put our growth mindset to work and have come together following the pandemic uncertainties back into the rhythm of a 'normal' school year! We welcomed our new Assistant Principal, Johanna Liskowsky-Doak, our teachers and support staff are excellent, the students are coming to school ready to learn, and we are feeling so supported by our parents. I am enjoying getting to know the larger community of Londonderry. We have overcome the obstacles of a global pandemic and are looking forward to a positive Flood Brook School future.

The Flood Brook School currently serves 260 students Kindergarten through Eighth grade. We serve the communities of Londonderry, Weston, Landgrove, and Peru and also welcome students from Winhall, Ludlow, and Manchester. Our school is made up of three wings, the Primary Wing (K-2), the Intermediate Wing (3-5), and the Middle School Wing (6-8). We have two classes at each grade. Our Unified Arts include French, Physical Education, Art, Music, Media, and Health. Students in our middle school participate in daily advisories based on Developmental Design, an approach that encompasses the social needs of adolescents with the goal of creating responsible independence. Elementary students engage in Responsive Classroom Morning Meetings, an engaging way to start each day and build a strong sense of community in order to set the students up for a successful day both academically and emotionally. All teachers utilize our outdoor classrooms and spaces on a regular basis. We have an excellent staff who are committed to the safety and well-being of all of our students.

We continue to work on developing a fully implemented system of MTSS (Multi-Tiered System of Support) as required by the State of Vermont. A MTSS system addresses the academic and social-emotional needs of all students.

IReady is the tool we use to drive our school wide assessments in order to determine student growth and interventions. We have added teacher assigned lessons in addition to the Personalized Pathways which i-Ready generates based on student performance. The Personalized Pathways are designed to fill in the gaps from previous years' learning; teacher assigned lessons are focused on helping students with the current year's curriculum.

At Tier 1, all students are receiving core instruction in their classrooms. We have adopted the Reveal Math Curriculum this year and have been happy with the results. Teachers are using Inquiry Ed to enhance their World Learning and Science curriculum, and all elementary teachers are using Phonemic Awareness and a tool called Fundations to help young readers learn how to be successful in literacy. Classroom teachers work with students in their WINN (What I Need Now) Block to provide support and intervention within the classroom.

When the data shows us that students are needing Tier 2 interventions, we have two Math and Literacy Interventionists who are available in all grades to provide services in eight week cycles. Our five special education teachers work with identified students to provide more intensive services.

The Flood Brook School continues to work with Positive Behavioral Interventions (PBIS) along with Restorative Practices. It has been a challenging year for students coming back into the building and re-learning the skills necessary to maintain a safe learning environment. Through PBIS, we celebrate students' successes in following expectations. Restorative opportunities are provided when expectations are not being met.

I have felt so welcomed here at Flood Brook School, by the community, and by the BRSU. I know there are some I haven't met yet, please feel free to call and come in and visit anytime. I will continue to lead the Flood Brook School with compassion and integrity so that our students can grow and thrive.

## PRINCIPAL'S REPORT - Manchester Elementary Middle School

Deb Fishwick, Co-Principal / Harrison Shulman, Co-Principal - January 2023

Manchester Elementary Middle School (MEMS) welcomed 44 new families, 79 new students and 24 new staff members to its community. MEMS enrollment continues to hold steady at 369 students, serving grades PK-8. Our newly enrolled students have come from many local towns seeking school choice, and others have found their way here from many different locations. We are proud to embrace a student population that is diverse by Vermont standards.

Our school year started in a more traditional way. We celebrated the beginning of the 2022-2023 school year by welcoming families back into our building. Students were able to visit their classrooms, meet their teachers, and were served ice cream by the principals before they headed home.

As we transitioned into the new school year, we did so with several new programs to support the BRSU's proficiency based curriculum. These programs included Reveal Math which provides access to grade level standards as well as offering differentiated assignments to support students learning at all levels.

We are also piloting InquirEd which is an inquiry based program for social studies. In this program, students engage in investigations to build their knowledge in History, Civics, Geography, and Economics. The program allows students to develop their transferable skills and supports student voice and choice and connects to students' experiences and interests. By incorporating elements of students' previous in or out of school learning and experiences, students' thinking becomes more valued and encourages students to begin realizing that their in-school learnings and experiences have immense importance outside of the classroom walls.

## Elementary Level

The Elementary Level have not only focused on curriculum they have spent time building classroom community. Our elementary teachers use Responsive Classroom as a structure. Each morning, students begin their day with a morning meeting which gives students an opportunity to greet one another and sets the structure of the day. We are also integrating the Second Step program as a foundation for supporting the social emotional needs of our learners. These things along with PBIS (Positive Behavior Intervention Support) helps us to create an environment in which students are ready and able to learn.

Our Elementary Level schedule has a daily intervention block or W.I.N. (What I Need). During this time students may work independently on extension activities, work in small groups practicing foundational skills, or they may work directly with a teacher on lessons to help them move forward as a learner. Groups change regularly and are built based on a student's need.

## Middle Level

The Middle Level grades have been working hard to further our programming for students in order for them to develop skills that will carry over and serve them well in High School and beyond. Educators have been provided numerous opportunities to grow as well.

The Grade Six team has created a yearlong inquiry study at Merck Forest which allows students to develop a research question, collect data in the field and utilize skills from all content areas to pursue the answer to a question in an area of interest. The trips to Merck occur monthly and after data is collected there, the students work through the steps of the scientific method to determine if their hypothesis is accurate or if further research is needed. In addition to this work, the grade six students are engaging in the Trout in a Classroom project, where students raise trout eggs from their beginning stages and prepare an ecosystem for them to be hatched. This year, however, a new spin on the Trout in the Classroom project has been undertaken by working in tandem with our art teacher to create an integrated arts project which has resulted in life-size murals of trout being painted along the classroom.

## PRINCIPAL'S REPORT - Manchester Elementary Middle School

(continued)
The Grade Seven and Eight teams have combined to become a six person core academic group that works alongside three special educators. Within this team, teachers have been working with our instructional coach to develop integrated units of study which look at a particular topic through the lens of three different subject areas: English Language Arts, Literature and Social Sciences. This work is allowing students to have a deeper understanding of content and helping students to see how skills do not have to remain in one subject area but can be carried over into many different areas of study. The same idea is guiding the Eighth Grade STEM class, which combines the skills of Math and Science. Students take their skills and apply the concepts of design, creating products that enable students to see the theoretical become tangible. The seventh and eighth grade team have also been developing programming by incorporating elements of Project Based Learning professional development workshops held prior to the global pandemic and creating a sort of Capstone project for our students. This is just the beginning of the Project Based Learning and Capstone effort, and we are looking forward to more work to be done regarding these skills in the upcoming academic year.

In closing, we are excited as we move forward with our new curriculum and continue to look forward to the exciting and new learning opportunities for our students at MEMS.

## PRINCIPAL'S REPORT - Sunderland Elementary School <br> Jennifer Turner, Principal - January 2023

At Sunderland, we pride ourselves on being a small school with a clear vision: Learners Today, Leaders Tomorrow. Sunderland is a special place to learn with high expectations for both academic and personal growth for all. Our faculty and staff are committed to meeting the individual needs of our students. Our families are our best partners and are extremely supportive of our school.

Sunderland's parent teacher group has always been an asset to our school. This year the group has grown in both number and excitement. After two years of limited options, they are thrilled to be able to bring back our traditional events as well as introduce new ones. We are very appreciative of their commitment to our students and staff.

Sunderland Elementary School currently has 61 students enrolled from 46 families. This year for the first time in four years, our kindergarten is not combined with first grade. For combined classes, we have our first and second graders together, as well as our third and fourth graders. This structure allows for a larger learning community to provide better opportunities to collaborate and grow with each other. All of our teachers have implemented flexible seating options in their classroom to accommodate students' preferences. They are also in their second year of providing project based learning opportunities to students throughout the year.

Along with the other BRSU schools, we are implementing Reveal Math and InquirEd this year. These new programs were each chosen by a team of educators from across the SU because they are designed to provide students with engaging experiences in mathematics and social studies. They both provide teachers with a variety of options in delivering instruction and monitoring progress. We look forward to seeing how students respond to this over time.

Safety has been another focus across the BRSU. Sunderland's safety committee has been working to ensure that our emergency operations plan is all encompassing. Additionally, we have helped staff with the transition to options based drills and understanding the behavior threat assessment approach and process. Our school now has key cards for entry into our school by staff and identification badges are worn by all the adults in the building. All of these steps have improved the safety of our students and staff.

We are very proud of our continued growth and work hard to improve the student experience each year. Please feel welcome to visit and see for yourself.

## FREQUENTLY USED TERMS AROUND BUDGETING AND TAX RATES

## Office of the Superintendent - BRSU Assessments

Assessments are amounts collected by a supervisory union from local member districts to support the supervisory union's budget(s). Total assessments are calculated by subtracting any local revenues, such as interest earned and grants received, from the approved supervisory union budget. The remaining net costs are then assessed to member districts in a variety of ways through an allocation process and included in the member districts' local voted budget.

Allocation methods used are average daily membership counts (ADM), projected enrollment, and management estimates. District assessments may vary from year to year due to changes in the supervisory union expenditures and/or revenues as well as the district's overall share of the assessment based on the allocation methods used. Changes in a supervisory union budget have a direct impact on assessments included in member district local budgets.

## Education Spending

Education spending is the amount of money to be drawn from the state education fund in support of a district's budget. It is calculated by taking a district's voted and approved budgeted expenditures and appropriations minus local revenues such as interest, tuition charged for non-resident students, categorical grants, etc., less any surplus or reserve funds used. Education spending is used to calculate a district's equalized tax rate.

## Average Daily Membership

Average Daily Membership (ADM) is a count of enrolled students, by town of residence and state-placed status, who receive an education at public expense. Resident students are counted during the period from the 11th to the 30th day of the current school year, while state-placed students are counted in the school year prior to the current census period.

ADM is used in the equalized pupil calculation which in turn is used to calculate a district's equalized tax rate.

## Equalized Pupils Count

The equalized pupils count is an average of the two most recent ADM counts (long-term membership) with weighting factors applied to PK and secondary students, state-placed student counts, and factors applied for poverty, limited English proficiency, and state-wide reconciliation. Equalized pupils are used to calculate a district's equalized tax rate.

The equalized pupils count is used to calculate a district's equalized tax rate.

## Weighted Long-Term Membership Count

Effective for the FY25 budget year, the state will begin using a new count, weighted long-term membership, in place of the equalized pupils count. This count is comprised of long-term membership (an average of the two most recent ADM counts) and weighting factors applied for grade level, poverty, limited English proficiency, small schools, and population density.

The weighted long-term membership count will be used to calculate a district's equalized tax rate beginning in FY25.

## FREQUENTLY USED TERMS AROUND BUDGETING AND TAX RATES

(continued)

## Common Level of Appraisal

The Common Level of Appraisal (CLA) was developed to equalize what is paid in education property taxes across a town. The CLA for every Vermont town is the primary result of the Equalization Study performed by the Tax Department every year. The equalization study compares the ratio of Grand List value to sale price for all the arms-length sales in the town over the prior three-year period. The study considers sales price as the best measurement of fair market value. If Grand List values are generally less than sale prices for the recent sales, the town will end up with a CLA of less than one hundred percent. If Grand List values are generally more than sale prices for the recent sales, the town will end up with a CLA of more than one hundred percent. Once the CLA is determined, it is used to adjust the district's equalized tax rate and the non-homestead tax rates. The CLA doesn't change taxpayer's property values, only the education tax rates in a town.

## Penalties in the Tax Rate Calculation (Not applicable through FY29)

An excess spending penalty ( 32 V.S.A. § 5401 (12)(B)) is applied if a district's education spending per equalized pupil (ES/EP) exceeds the state-wide ES/EP increased by $121 \%$. The variance is added to the district's ES/EP prior to calculating the final tax rate. The penalty is paused through FY29 while we transition to using the new weighted long-term membership counts to calculate education spending per pupil.

## Property Yield

The property yield is the "Property Dollar Equivalent Yield" which means the amount of spending per equalized pupil that would result if the homestead tax rate were $\$ 1.00$ per $\$ 100.00$ of equalized education property value. The homestead property rate is set in statute at $\$ 1.00$. The Property Yield is used to calculate the homestead tax rate.

The Tax Commissioner recommended a yield of $\$ 15,479$ for FY 24 and the final yield will be set by the legislature.

## Income Yield

The income yield is estimated to be the amount of per pupil spending that a $2 \%$ tax on household income will yield in the upcoming year. It is used to calculate property taxes for those taxpayers that are income sensitive. Education spending per equalized pupil (ES/EP) is divided by the income yield then multiplied by $2 \%$ to get the percentage cap. As ES/EP increases so does the percentage cap on income.

This cap is used by the state to calculate the state share of an eligible homeowner's education tax bill, or state payment. This state payment offsets the amount due for education taxes by an eligible homeowner.

The Tax Commissioner recommended a yield of $\$ 17,600$ for FY 24 , and the final yield will be set by the legislature.

## Non-Homestead Tax Rate

The statewide non-homestead tax rate is divided by the CLA in an individual town before being applied to non-homestead properties. The Tax Commissioner recommended a rate of $\$ 1.386$ for FY 24 and the final rate will be set by the legislature.

> You can find more information on the Vermont Department of Taxes Website at: http://tax.vermont.gov/property-owners/understanding-property-taxes/education-tax-rates/faqs

# TACONIC \& GREEN (T\&G) REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS 

Budget, Programs \& Operations

The following FAQs respond to anticipated questions from residents of the Taconic \& Green communities on the proposed Fiscal Year 2024 (FY24) budget for the Taconic and Green Regional School District.

## 1. Is the FY24 Voted Budget increasing or decreasing from the prior year?

The amount of the budget to be voted for FY24 is $\$ 36,829,647$. This is a $7.9 \%$ increase, $\$ 2,696,021$ from the FY 23 voted budget of $\$ 34,133,626$.

## 2. What are the main factors contributing to the $7.9 \%$ budget increase?

Many of the factors contributing to the budget increase are the same as those experienced by taxpayers, such as increased costs for utilities, gas, and food (lines $370,378 / 380,407 / 413$ of expenditures). Along with this type of increased operational expense the budget includes increased wages and benefits for current staff. Most notably, health insurance costs provided under the state contract are expected to rise an average of $12.9 \%$ next year.

Although our secondary tuition count is only projected to increase by two students next year (see page 55), costs are still going up by $3.3 \%$ due to expected increases in tuition rates. This rise contributes $1.1 \%$ to the overall $7.9 \%$ budget increase. Assessments from the BRSU are also increasing mainly due to an increase in the number of special education students we are serving and those attending special education placements. For more detailed information on the assessment increases refer to question 13 and pages 60-64.

The budget also includes an increase in locally funded positions. These positions are intended to equitably provide student support services across all of our schools, pilot a new classroom team model in our two larger schools (Flood Brook School and Manchester Elementary Middle School), and provide increased support in our school meals program in order to operate effectively in all buildings.

Last year, the Taconic and Green Board expressed an interest in exploring the possible formation of a regional middle school that would include all middle school students who currently attend The Dorset School, Flood Brook School, and Manchester Elementary Middle School. Last winter a survey was sent to staff, parents and current middle and high school students and about $70 \%$ of respondents thought the District should explore the idea. Last spring a study committee was formed to complete this work, completing a demographic study, and reviewing our current needs and future benefits of having one middle school. The committee recommended to the Board that they continue the exploration by having an architect make a recommendation on location and to complete focused visioning work and community engagement. An architect completed a review and recommended Manchester as the most appropriate town for a school, given its location within the District and proximity to town. The visioning work and community engagement are scheduled in March-May 2023. Included in the budget is $\$ 60,000$ to fund architectural concept development in FY24, should the project continue to move forward.

# TACONIC \& GREEN (T\&G) REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS 

(continued)

| Cost Category | \% of Overall <br> Budget Increase |
| :--- | :---: |
| K-8 Program Staffing Increases | $1.6 \%$ |
| Operational Cost Increases (Fuel, Gas, Food) | $0.9 \%$ |
| Secondary Program | $1.1 \%$ |
| Middle School Study | $0.2 \%$ |
| BRSU Assessments - General | $0.4 \%$ |
| BRSU Assessments - Special Education | $1.4 \%$ |
| Current Staff Wages/Benefits \& Miscellaneous | $2.3 \%$ |
| Budget Increase | $7.9 \%$ |

## 3. What are our current educational priorities?

We continue to focus on providing effective instruction using evidence based practices in the classroom and ensuring our curriculum and instruction meets most needs of most students. We are implementing a new math curriculum this year, Reveal Math, in all six of the schools in the Supervisory Union. This McGraw Hill product provides a rigorous program including differentiated practice lessons to ensure every student receives instruction they are able to access. We will be adopting a new reading and writing curriculum for the 2023-24 school year, and we are looking forward to this additional resource.

Our middle school teams are taking the first steps toward a culminating capstone project at the end of 8th grade in which students demonstrate proficiency on key standards we want students to achieve before transitioning to high school. We are developing comprehensive and robust multi-tiered systems of support for both academic and social-emotional programming to support every learner in reaching their full potential.

## 4. How is Taconic and Green addressing Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging in its schools?

Equity is a regularly discussed topic at T\&G board meetings. The T\&G Board has developed an operational definition of equity which guides our work (see page 7). The T\&G Board established an Equity Committee to discuss and make policy recommendations to the T\&G Board.

The BRSU completed a system-wide Equity Audit which provided us with an objective third party analysis of our instruction, curriculum, inclusivity, and operations through an equity lens. We received the final report last summer and are assembling an SU level Equity Team to review and address the findings.

Our teachers receive annual training on equity related topics and are completing a series of training modules to continue to develop their understanding of this work. The purpose of these training sessions is to expand their knowledge and help us to be most effective at meeting the needs of a diverse group of learners.

# TACONIC \& GREEN (T\&G) REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS 

(continued)
5. How does the Taconic and Green Board seek feedback and solicit information from people in the community?

During the 2020-21 school year the T\&G Board had a large-scale community outreach initiative to find out what community members considered the purpose of school to be. Over 600 responses were reviewed, analyzed, and synthesized into the T\&G Ends Policy (www.brsu.org), a comprehensive document that is now the foundation of the District's work. Our schools are now beginning the important work of interpreting the policy and working toward achieving the policy goals. This year we are providing opportunities for more integrated units of studies in which crosscurricular standards are being addressed and 8th graders at all schools are completing multi-disciplinary projects in which they design and build Tiny Houses.

The Board also sets aside time on each agenda for public comment. For more information on meeting dates and how you can attend visit the Events page on the BRSU website at brsu.org. Board meetings are recorded and made available to the public at GNAT-TV.org.

## 6. What staffing changes did we make to meet the needs of our student population?

T\&G recognizes the need to align our staffing to address the educational, operational, and emotional needs impacted by the pandemic. It is important to identify our current needs and align our programming and staffing to meet them.

## FY24 Staffing Changes

This year we reviewed academic intervention and social emotional teaching positions to determine if services were being equitably distributed across all five of our schools. We established a baseline level of service and made the decision to increase positions in order to maintain services where schools met the baseline, and increase services where schools were below this level. This results in an increase of 2.7 full-time equivalent positions funded out of the local budget. It should be noted that additional intervention and social emotional teaching positions, above what is locally funded, is provided through federal grant Title I funds targeted to support schools with a more vulnerable population. These positions remain in place, and do not impact the local budget.

We have had difficulty finding substitute classroom teachers since the pandemic. There are simply not enough substitute classroom teachers to support absences. This hinders our ability to provide consistent learning experiences and a predictable routine for our students on a daily basis. While most of our schools experience staffing difficulties at times, our two largest schools are most impacted by the lack of available substitutes. The education system is unique in its reliance on substitutes to come in and perform a job due to an absence on a day to day basis, and this model is no longer working. To address this, we brought together a team of educators, support staff, and administrators, to come up with an alternative solution. As a result of this work, we have added nine instructional assistant positions to support a classroom team environment, so that a substitute will not be needed, and one person's absence will not disrupt the learning environment.

Our school meals program operates four separately staffed kitchens. Since the merger into Taconic and Green we have tried different staffing models to gain efficiencies while not sacrificing the quality or effectiveness of our programs. Our staffing needs are always being assessed considering compliance requirements and the ability to support program needs accounting for student participation. We have added two part-time positions to support two schools in order to meet program requirements and continue to support the operation of each of our four kitchens.

# TACONIC \& GREEN (T\&G) REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS 

(continued)
There is a reduction of 1.2 FTE paraeducator positions overall in the budget. This year we reduced two budgeted positions to support the hiring of a special educator (in the BRSU Special Education budget) in order to increase services to our most complex learners by skilled trained professionals. For next year, after taking into consideration changes in support needed due to incoming students and students moving on to high school, the net reduction in positions is 1.2 FTE budget to budget.

We have also reduced 1.50 FTE for previously budgeted leave positions that no longer apply and allocated an additional 0.20 FTE of local administrator support.

In summary, the local budget includes an increase of 10.0 full-time equivalent positions to support K-8 instructional programming and school operations. This is a large increase in positions and makes up $1.6 \%$ of the $7.9 \%$ budget increase. We intend to be able to address many of the increased needs of our student population and support our staff in their work educating the students of the Taconic and Green communities.

## 7. How has enrollment of our resident students in the schools we operate changed over time?

In December of 2010, enrollment for K-8 resident students was 1,019. In December of 2022, enrollment for K-8 resident students was 842 , a decline of 177 students, or $17.4 \%$, over the past 12 years. Enrollment dropped 18 students from last year to this year. We have responded to declining enrollment in past years by taking advantage of classroom teacher attrition and allowing for increased classroom sizes where appropriate. In some of our smaller schools it is difficult to assure classroom sizes are at their optimum level.

For a history of T\&G enrollment see page 12.

## 8. How much of the school budget goes towards funding health benefits offered under the state contract?

Health benefit costs for locally funded positions were budgeted at \$2,474,664 for the current year, or $14.4 \%$ of the FY23 operational budget. Health benefit costs for locally funded positions are budgeted at $\$ 3,200,847$ in FY 24 , or $17 \%$ of the operational budget to be voted. The operational budget excludes PK tuition, the secondary program budget, and assessments. While we expect health insurance premiums to increase an average of $12.9 \%$ next year, actual health benefit costs incurred by the District will fluctuate based on staffing changes, employee elections, and the use of benefits offered through the state contract.

## 9. What causes the $3.3 \%$ increase in the secondary education budget?

T\&G does not operate any schools offering grades 9-12 public education. Instead, T\&G pays tuition for students from our nine communities to attend the high school of their choice. Tuition makes up the majority of costs included in the secondary budget.

Article 9 of the warning asks the voters to approve the FY24 Burr \& Burton Academy tuition rate of $\$ 19,987$. With this voter approved rate, BBA agrees to enroll all T\&G students.

T\&G pays secondary school tuition rates in the following categories: Public tuition is paid at the announced rate for each individual public school, independent schools in the state are paid up to the rate approved by the voters for Burr \& Burton Academy (Article 9), and independent schools out of state are paid at the Vermont union school average.

# TACONIC \& GREEN (T\&G) REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS 

(continued)
T\&G's tuition budget is mainly influenced by two factors: the tuition rate per student and the number of enrolled students. For FY24, the average tuition cost per student is up by $4.1 \%$. The FY24 full-time equivalent count of secondary students from our nine communities is projected to increase by two students over the FY23 budget, from 616 to 618.

Each year we include the costs of an additional 15 students in the budget to account for an increased secondary school population as families move into the District. This year (FY23) we saw increased enrollment of 25 students vs. the 15 included in the budget. Given the increase experienced this year we have included 20 students, rather than the typical 15 , in our FY24 student count of 618 noted above. While we cannot know for certain the number of secondary students that will be enrolled, the inclusion of these additional students allows for approximately a $3 \%$ increase in enrollment over our known students.

## 10. How has enrollment of our secondary students changed over time?

As you can see from the enrollment history provided on page 12 that dates back to 2010, secondary enrollment fluctuates from year to year. The high point reached 671 in December of 2013 and the previous low was 621 in December of 2016. Next year's projected secondary enrollment is lower still at 618 students. While secondary enrollment is partly driven by graduating seniors and incoming 9th graders, we always have families moving in and out of the District, and secondary enrollment will fluctuate as families make these decisions.

## 11. What are the School District Office Salaries?

Chair of the Board - $\$ 1,500$ (line 273 of expenditures)
Board Members - $\$ 1,000$ (line 273 of expenditures)
District Clerk - $\$ 500$ (line 274 of expenditures)
Treasurer - \$300 (line 274 of expenditures)

## 12. What are assessments from the Bennington-Rutland Supervisory Union (BRSU) and how are they determined?

Assessments are funds collected by a supervisory union from local member districts to fully cover the supervisory union budget(s). The BRSU is responsible for managing the operations of its member districts, and the BRSU budget supports these services.

Assessments are calculated by subtracting any BRSU local revenues, such as interest earned and grants received, from the approved BRSU budget. The remaining net costs are then assessed to member districts in a variety of ways through an allocation process. Allocation methods used are average daily membership (ADM), projected enrollment, and management judgements.

Assessments may vary from year to year due to changes in the BRSU's expenditures and revenues as well as the overall district share of the assessment. For example, if an assessment is allocated by enrollment and the percentage share of students at one district is increasing relative to the enrollment of all students in the BRSU, that district's percentage share of the assessment will go up.

# TACONIC \& GREEN (T\&G) REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS 

(continued)

## 13. How have the BRSU assessments changed for FY24?

## General BRSU Assessments to T\&G

Assessed expenditures to T\&G that cover curriculum, technology, administration, fiscal services, and operations oversight are increasing by $\$ 195,563$. The increase in general assessments is mainly due to increased personnel required to provide services to member districts along with increased software subscription services for necessary systems such as student data reporting and building security.

The BRSU is returning $\$ 200,000$ of available surplus funds to all three member districts. This is an increase of $\$ 80,000$ from the amount returned the prior year. T\&G receives $\$ 163,400$ of this return of surplus, an amount $\$ 66,279$ higher than the prior year.

After factoring in the returned surplus, the net increase to the T\&G assessment is \$129,284 (\$195,563-\$66,279).

## Special Education Assessments to T\&G

Assessed expenditures to T\&G that cover special education services to our PK-12 students are increasing by $\$ 474,781$. The increase in special education assessment is mainly due to the costs of services provided to students in our nonoperating grades. We have both an increased number of students receiving special education services, and an increased population of students in special education placements.

The BRSU is returning $\$ 250,000$ of available surplus funds to all three member districts. T\&G receives $\$ 198,450$ of this return of surplus, an amount $\$ 9,200$ higher than the prior year. After factoring in the returned surplus, the net increase to the T\&G assessment is $\$ 465,581$ ( $\$ 474,781-\$ 9,200)$.

A summary of assessments by category can be found on pages 50 and 51 . The overall assessment calculations can be found on pages 73 and 81 . More detailed information on the general and special education budgets, assessments, and return of surplus can be found on pages 60-64.

# TACONIC \& GREEN (T\&G) REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS 

(continued)

## Reserves \& Surplus Funds

A summary of general and reserve fund balances can be found on page 42.

## 14. What does the Warned Article amount of $\$ 425,000$ represent?

The warned articles, totaling $\$ 425,000$, includes the following three appropriation requests:
Article 12-\$250,000-Appropriation for the Building \& Grounds Reserve Fund
Article 13-\$125,000-Appropriation for the Bus Reserve Fund
Article 14 - \$50,000-Appropriation for the Technology Equipment Reserve Fund
We know from experience that the cost of a facility maintenance project, a new bus, or updated technology can create a significant added expense in the year of the purchase. In anticipation of these expected future costs, we believe it is financially prudent to set aside an amount of money each year to limit our exposure in those years when actual expenditures are required. We based these amounts on a ten-year replacement schedule for both vehicles and technology equipment, and a five-year facility maintenance plan with added contingency funds. A stable appropriation from year to year helps ensure the District can make large purchases or repairs in any given year without materially impacting the tax rate.

## 15. What happened to the prior year (FY22) General Fund Surplus?

The District ended last year (FY22) with a surplus of $\$ 1,664,933$. The year-end surplus is mainly due to savings in some programming areas due to pandemic recovery (professional development, enrichment, etc.) and reduced staffing costs due to unfilled positions.

The year-end surplus was approved by the voters in March of 2022 for transfer to the tax stabilization reserve fund.
16. Why are we anticipating a surplus of $\$ 638,353$ at the end of this year (FY23)?

We continue to see reduced costs due to numerous vacancies and the difficulty in filling them. At the start of the current year, we had many budgeted positions that were unfilled. The savings from unfilled positions, or the delay in filling open positions, make up the majority of the surplus.

## 17. Are we applying the anticipated year end surplus of $\$ 638,353$ to the $F Y 24$ budget to reduce education spending and taxes?

No. Instead, under Article 11 of the Warning, the voters are asked to transfer the year end surplus to the building and grounds reserve fund. Construction costs have increased significantly over the past two years, and we did not have enough federal recovery funds (ESSER) to complete all desired projects or cover the total cost of the planned and necessary HVAC projects. A large emergency project in one building could use up a significant portion of the fund. If passed, the warned article would provide more protection for unexpected project needs and allow us to continue to work on smaller planned projects.

## TACONIC \& GREEN (T\&G) REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

(continued)
18. Are any Tax Stabilization reserve funds used to reduce education spending and the equalized tax rate in FY24?

The projected FY24 equalized tax rate is expected to decline by 8.9 cents from FY23 so no tax stabilization reserves are planned for transfer.

The use of tax stabilization funds is intended to address large fluctuations in the equalized tax rate from year to year. This can occur due to increased educational spending, declining enrollment, the need to raise a prior year deficit, or a decrease in the Vermont Education Property Yield. Like any reserve, it is intended to provide stability when needed. In FY24, an increase in the recommended Property Yield offsets the increases in overall education spending when calculating the equalized tax rate.

## 19. Why is maintaining a healthy tax stabilization reserve important?

Maintaining a balance in reserves for future use is important due to the following:

- The recommended property yield has increased $16.3 \%$ due to the health of the education fund and provides a substantial reduction to the equalized tax rate. While we saw a large increase in the property yield last year as well, the increase is not typical, so it is unlikely to continue on an annual basis. The property yield has had an average increase of $3 \%$ over the 5 years prior to FY23. See question 34 on page 35 for additional information.
- Beginning in FY25 a new formula to count students (weighted long-term membership) will be used to calculate education spending per pupil. We cannot be certain of how the weighted factors will impact the count of the District until it is put in place.
- We pay tuition for students in grades 9-12 on a student by student basis. Our budget includes secondary costs for students based on current information and includes a new enrollment estimate, but student enrollment will change based on families moving in and out of the District, and decisions families make about which school their student will attend. These changes can produce a deficit in the budget, and tax stabilization funds can be used to support any resulting deficit.
- Any decline in enrollment can affect the pupil count used to calculate education spending per pupil putting upward pressure on costs per pupil and the equalized tax rate.

These factors support a recommendation to maintain our stabilization reserve for use in future years when it is likely that components of the formula will increase tax rates. We are maintaining the reserve for the future, rather than applying the funds now, when there is an expected decrease in the equalized tax rate due to the increased yield.

# TACONIC \& GREEN (T\&G) REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS 

(continued)

Revenues \& Tax Rates

In reviewing this information, please note that recent state reporting shows that on average, approximately $41 \%$ of property owners in Taconic \& Green towns will pay their education tax based on the projected tax rate. A majority, approximately $59 \%$, will pay a lower tax based on "income sensitivity." If you believe you might qualify for income sensitivity, please make sure to review the information included in question 25 .

## 20. Why are local revenues rising in FY24?

Local revenue is budgeted at $\$ 2,576,618$, an increase of $\$ 705,743$ from the FY 23 budget of $\$ 1,870,875$. The increase is mainly due to three areas:

- increased enrollment of non-resident students (line 29)
- increased school meals revenues due to increased program participation (line 59)
- sub-granted funds from the Supervisory Union Consolidated Federal Program to support the middle school success program and instructional coaching program (line 39)

21. What is the projected equalized tax rate for next year?

The FY24 projected equalized tax rate for the Taconic and Green Regional School District is $\$ 1.348$, which is 8.9 cents lower than the current year's (FY23) tax rate of \$1.437.

The calculations for the projected equalized tax rate can be found on page 38 .
22. What is the difference between the T\&G's equalized tax rate and the homestead tax rates that will appear on the town tax bills?

The primary differences between the two tax rates are focus and jurisdiction.
The T\&G equalized tax rate is based on education factors that apply equally across all communities of the entire District: education spending, cost per pupil, and the Vermont Education Property Yield. The calculation of T\&G's equalized tax rate is controlled by factors that relate most directly to education. This rate is the same for each town in the District, and each district in the state calculates their rate using the same formula.

The homestead tax rate that appears on your town tax bill is an adjustment to the T\&G equalized tax rate using what is called the Common Level of Appraisal (CLA). The CLA reflects the accuracy of a town's assessed property values in the recent real estate market. Since the CLAs for each town are not the same, the towns have different homestead tax rates (refer to question 35 on page 36 for more information).

To sum up, the equalized tax rate is based on education components that apply uniformly to all towns in T\&G. Each town has the same equalized tax rate. The homestead tax rate, meanwhile, is an adjustment to the equalized rate based on the uniqueness of each town's real estate market. Each town will have different homestead tax rates.

## TACONIC \& GREEN (T\&G) REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

(continued)
23. Are the projected homestead tax rates higher than the District's equalized tax rate?

Although the T\&G's equalized tax rate is decreasing, the projected homestead tax rates in each town are expected to increase due to decreases in the Common Level of Appraisal (CLA) in each town.

The calculations for the projected equalized and homestead tax rates can be found on page 38. For information on the CLA, see question 35 on page 36. For additional information on how the tax rate is calculated, and each component of the tax rate, please refer to the Tax Rate Details section beginning on page 34.
24. Is this the only tax rate I will see on my property tax bill?

No. The homestead tax rate represents only the educational portion of your property taxes. It does not cover municipal taxes.

## 25. Are education property taxes tied to income?

For the majority of taxpayers, yes. In the current tax year, an average of $58.7 \%$ of homesteads in the nine towns of Taconic and Green received state payments, or education tax credits, reducing their education taxes. The following percentage of homesteads in each town received a state payment, or property tax credit, offsetting their education tax bill:

| Danby | $64.2 \%$ |
| :--- | :---: |
| Dorset | $51.7 \%$ |
| Landgrove | $31.0 \%$ |
| Londonderry | $63.3 \%$ |
| Manchester | $58.0 \%$ |
| Mt. Tabor | $83.6 \%$ |
| Peru | $61.7 \%$ |
| Sunderland | $62.5 \%$ |
| Weston | $53.5 \%$ |

For those taxpayers that are income sensitized, changes in education tax payments from year to year would be calculated on an individual basis. The state payment offsetting the tax is calculated using an individual's household income* each year.
*Note that "household income" is not the same as federal taxable income

## TACONIC \& GREEN (T\&G) REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

(continued)
As shown in the following calculation, the projected income cap for qualifying Taconic and Green Regional School District residents is $2.37 \%$ of household income. The state set income cap percentage of $2.0 \%$ is increased proportionately by the ratio of education spending per equalized pupil over the income yield.

Income Cap $=2.0 \% \times$ Education Spending per Equalized Pupil $\div$ Income Yield

Education Spending per Equalized Pupil $\div$ Income Yield $=\$ 20,859 \div \$ 17,600=1.185$
Taconic and Green Regional School District Towns Income Cap $=1.185 \times 2.0 \%=2.37 \%$

For more information on calculating property tax credits, or to use the state property tax calculator, visit: https://tax.vermont.gov/property/tax-credit

For more information on property in Vermont see the state's annual report at: https://tax.vermont.gov/pvr-annual-report
For more information on individual information by town visit:
https://tax.vermont.gov/sites/tax/files/documents/property_tax_credits_2022.pdf
26. Using projected tax rates, how much might taxes increase for those homeowners that are not income sensitized?

|  | Tax Rate <br> Change | Tax Rate Increase per <br> $\$ 100,000$ Assessed <br> Homestead Value |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Danby | $\$ 0.065$ | $\$ 65.00$ |
| Dorset | $\$ 0.095$ | $\$ 95.00$ |
| Landgrove | $\$ 0.070$ | $\$ 70.00$ |
| Londonderry | $\$ 0.057$ | $\$ 57.00$ |
| Manchester | $\$ 0.040$ | $\$ 40.00$ |
| Mt. Tabor | $\$ 0.144$ | $\$ 144.00$ |
| Peru | $\$ 0.101$ | $\$ 101.00$ |
| Sunderland | $\$ 0.185$ | $\$ 185.00$ |
| Weston | $\$ 0.117$ | $\$ 117.00$ |

# TACONIC \& GREEN (T\&G) REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS 

(continued)
27. Are there any significant changes to components of the tax rate that we should be aware of?

Both the property yield and Common Level of Appraisals (CLAs) have significant impacts on tax rates this year.

## Property Yield

The projected tax rate is calculated using information from the state on the property yield that was published in the Annual Education Tax Letter by the Tax Commissioner on December 1, 2022. The property yield is affected by the health of the Vermont Education Fund. Factors that can benefit the fund include higher non-property tax receipts and a surplus from previous fiscal years. The improved outlook for the Vermont Education Fund in FY24 results in a higher property yield. In the tax formula, an increase in the property yield helps lower a district's equalized tax rate for the District.

## Common Level of Appraisal

The state adjusts the equalized tax rate to correct for a town's assessed property values if they are out of line with current market property values. This is done by dividing a district rate by the CLA for each individual town to calculate each town's actual homestead tax rate. CLAs reflect the relative strength of the local real estate market compared to assessed values over a three year period. A CLA greater than $100 \%$ indicates properties selling below assessed value. A number less than $100 \%$ signals a stronger market with properties sold above assessed values. As a town's CLA moves lower, the town property tax rate increases to reflect the higher market value of the property.

If a town's assessed property values accurately reflect actual real estate market values, the town's CLA is $100 \%$. In that situation, a town's homestead tax rate will be the same as the district equalized rate.

Statewide, towns are seeing historic CLA decreases as property sale prices have been higher than the assessed values of the properties purchased. All of our towns have a significant decrease in their CLA. The change in CLAs by town can be found on page 38. For more information on the CLA see question 35 on page 36.

## 28. Does the budget affect the non-homestead tax rate?

No. The non-homestead tax rate is set by the legislature and is currently recommended by the Tax Commissioner at $\$ 1.386$. This is a statewide tax rate and is divided by the Common Level of Appraisal (CLA) in an individual town before being applied to non-homestead properties.

## 29. How do projected equalized FY24 Tax Rates compare to recent history?

A ten-year history of equalized tax rates is provided on page 39. You will see some degree of volatility in each town as tax rates are impacted by the voted budgets, use of reserves and/or surpluses, changes to equalized pupils and the property yield set by the state.

# TACONIC \＆GREEN（T\＆G）REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS 

（continued）

## Tax Rates Details

The Taconic and Green equalized homestead tax rate calculation，and projected tax rates by town，can be found on page 38 ．

30．What are the major components used to calculate the equalized homestead tax rate？
1．Education Spending
a．Voted Budget \＆Warned Articles
b．Local Revenues
c．Use of Surplus
2．Equalized Pupils
3．State Property Yield
Please see Frequently Used Terms on pages 20－21 for definitions of the above terms．

31．When taken individually，what impact does each change in component have on the projected equalized tax rate for next year？

|  | FY23 <br> （Budget Year） | FY24 <br> （Budget Year） | Increase／（Decrease） <br> from Prior Year | Increasel／（Decrease） <br> to the FY24 Tax <br> Rate Projection |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Total Education Spending | $\$ 32,687,751$ | $\$ 34,678,029$ | $\$ 1,990,278$ | $7.8 申$ |
| Voted Budget \＆Warned Articles | $\$ 34,558,626$ | $\$ 37,254,647$ | $\$ 2,696,021$ | $10.5 申$ |
| Local Revenues | $\$ 1,870,875$ | $\$ 2,576,618$ | $\$ 705,743$ | $(2.7 \phi)$ |
| Use of Surplus | $\$ 0$ | $\$ 0$ | $\$ 0$ | $0 \phi$ |
| Equalized Pupils | $\mathbf{1 , 7 0 8 . 6 6}$ | $\mathbf{1 , 6 6 2 . 4 7}$ | $\mathbf{( 4 6 . 1 9 )}$ | $3.7 申$ |
| Property Yield | $\$ 13,314$ | $\$ 15,479$ | $\$ 2,165$ | $\mathbf{( 2 1 . 9 申 )}$ |

32．What is Education Spending and how is it different from the Voted Budget and Warned Articles？
The Voted Budget and Warned Articles make up the total amount of funds that we plan to appropriate in FY24． Education Spending is the amount of money the District will draw from the State Education Fund．It is the Voted Budget and Warned Articles minus local revenues and other resources such as available surplus funds or transfers from reserves．In FY24，our Voted Budget and Warned Articles of $\$ 37,254,647$ reduced by local revenues of $\$ 2,576,618$ ， results in net Education Spending of $\$ 34,678,029$ ，which is $6.1 \%$ higher than the FY 23 amount of $\$ 32,687,751$ ．

# TACONIC \& GREEN (T\&G) REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS 

(continued)
33. How does the equalized pupil figure impact the tax rate and how has it changed over time?

As equalized pupils decline the tax rate will increase. A six year history of equalized pupils, and average daily membership (ADM) figures included in the equalized pupils formula, can be found on page 59. Our equalized pupil count dropped from $1,708.66$ last year to $1,662.47$ this year.

Annually, each town's equalized pupil count is limited to a decline of $3.5 \%$ from the prior year's calculated amount. In other words, if last year's figure was limited to a $3.5 \%$ decline from its prior year, that is not the figure used for limiting decline in the current year. Instead, the prior year's calculation without any limitation is used for comparison.

Without this limitation in place, the District's equalized pupil count (all towns combined) used in next year's (FY24) tax rate calculation would be 1,643.39. This year the towns of Danby, Dorset, Landgrove, Manchester and Mt. Tabor are limited to this $3.5 \%$ decline, offsetting a more significant drop in equalized pupils.

As noted in question 19 on page 29, next year we will begin using a new state pupil count, the weighted long-term membership, to calculate education spending per pupil. The new state count applies different factors and weights than the current count, and districts state-wide will be impacted by the change. We cannot be certain of how the weighted factors will impact the count of the District until it is put in place.

In order to phase in any impact to equalized tax rates due to decreases in student counts, the equalized tax rate will be limited to a $5 \%$ increase from year to year, from FY25 through FY29. If in any year of the transition period the equalized tax rate increase does not exceed $5 \%$, a district will no longer be eligible for this limitation for the remainder of the transition period.

## 34. How does the property yield impact the equalized homestead tax rate?

The property yield is the "Property Dollar Equivalent Yield" which means the amount of spending per equalized pupil that would result from a tax rate of $\$ 1.00$. The state set tax rate of $\$ 1.00$ is increased proportionately by the amount that our education spending per equalized pupil is over the property yield.

| Education Spending Per Equalized Pupil (ES/EP) | $\$ 20,859$ |
| :--- | :---: |
| Property Yield | $\$ 15,479$ |
| ES/EP over the Property Yield | $\$ 5,380$ |
| Percentage that ES/EP is over the Property Yield | $34.8 \%$ |
| Equalized Homestead Tax Rate | $\$ 1.348$ |

The education fund receives revenues from sources other than education property taxes, and those revenues play a part in the final property yield. Additionally, as noted in the Commissioner's letter linked below, unreserved/unallocated funds from the prior year also contribute to the final property yield. This year the state has included in their announced figure nearly 64 million in unreserved/unallocated funds projected to be available from the prior year. The property yield is subject to legislative approval and not yet final.

# TACONIC \& GREEN (T\&G) REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS 

(continued)
Changes to the property yield for the last eight years:

| YEAR | PROPERTY <br> YIELD | \% CHANGE |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| FY17 | $\$ 9,701$ |  |
| FY18 | $\$ 10,160$ | $4.7 \%$ |
| FY19 | $\$ 10,220$ | $0.6 \%$ |
| FY20 | $\$ 10,648$ | $4.2 \%$ |
| FY21 | $\$ 10,998$ | $3.3 \%$ |
| FY22 | $\$ 11,317$ | $2.9 \%$ |
| FY23 | $\$ 13,314$ | $17.6 \%$ |
| FY24* | $\$ 15,479$ | $16.3 \%$ |

*FY24 Figure is the recommended yield at this time, subject to legislative approval
To view the Tax Commissioner's December 1 property yield original recommendation visit: https://tax.vermont.gov/property/education-tax-rates/forecast

For more information about how the state sets the property yield visit: $\mathrm{https}: / / t a x . v e r m o n t . g o v / p r o p e r t y-~$ owners/understanding-property-taxes/education-tax-rates/faqs
35. How does the Common Level of Appraisal, when applied to the District equalized tax rate, correct the inequities that exist when a town's assessed property values do not reflect real market conditions?

A district's equalized tax rate is divided by each town's Common Level of Appraisal (CLA) to calculate the homestead tax rate for that town. The CLA is a mechanism the State uses to adjust taxes collected in a town where properties are considered to be over or undervalued on the town's grand list.

A town CLA over 100\% means that properties are selling at prices lower than their assessed values. Property in that town is overvalued. When the CLA is applied in that town, the homestead tax rate will be lower than a district tax rate to reflect the lower market value of properties.

A town CLA under 100\% has the opposite effect. This means that properties are selling at prices higher than their assessed values. Property in that town is undervalued. When the CLA is applied in that town, the homestead tax rate will be higher than a district tax rate to reflect the higher market value of properties.

The effect of adjusting the tax rate by the CLA means all properties are taxed as if they were assessed at their true market value. Since each property's value cannot be adjusted, the tax rate is adjusted instead.

# TACONIC \& GREEN (T\&G) REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS 

(continued)
Finally, it is important to note how annual changes in a town's CLA will impact yearly comparisons. If a town's CLA moves lower, for example from $108 \%$ to $102 \%$, it will put upward pressure on the homestead tax rate for that town. In this example, that rate will still be lower than the District tax rate because the CLA remains over $100 \%$, but the decreased CLA increases the final tax rate when compared to the prior year.

To summarize:

- A CLA over $100 \%$ decreases the town tax rate compared to a district tax rate
- A CLA under $100 \%$ increases the town tax rate compared to a district tax rate
- A lower CLA compared to the prior year puts upward pressure on a town tax rate
- A higher CLA compared to the prior year puts downward pressure on a town tax rate
- A CLA of $100 \%$ means a town's property assessments reflect actual market value and the District and Town tax rate will be equal

For more information on the common level of appraisal visit: https://tax.vermont.gov/municipalities/reports/equalizationstudy

## Future Considerations

## 36. How would a decline in enrollment next year impact future tax rates?

Declining enrollment will further reduce the pupil count in the following tax year (FY25) and put increased pressure on the tax rate.

## 37. What protections do we have from rising tax rates in future years?

The tax stabilization reserve fund was established for use when we have significant increases in the equalized tax rate. The tax rate may be affected by the need to cover a prior year deficit, budget increases, a decline in local revenues, a decline in equalized pupils, or a significant change in the property yield. A transfer from the tax stabilization funds can be used strategically to offset the impact of these changing variables. Maintaining this fund as circumstances allow will help assure that we have funds available for use in a year when they can have the most impact. (See question 19 on page 29)
Taconic \& Green Regional School District
Actual and Projected Tax Rates

Definitions for the above terms can be found on pages 21-22 of this report.
(1) Education spending per equalized pupil is slightly less than that noted in Article 10 of the warning on page 3. The $\$ 20,862$ per pupil included in the warning was calculated based on an estimated equalized pupils figure of $1,662.25$. The final figure of $1,662.47$ was not provided by the stae until after the warning was voted.

| Town | FY22 Actual |  |  | FY23 Actual |  |  | FY24 Projected |  |  | Tax Rate Variance FY23 to FY24 | $\begin{gathered} \hline \text { Variance } \\ \text { FY23 to } \\ \text { FY24 } \end{gathered}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Equalized Rate | CLA | Tax Rate | Equalized Rate | CLA | Tax Rate | Equalized Rate | CLA | Tax Rate |  |  |
| Danby | \$1.556 | 112.17\% | \$1.387 | \$1.437 | 102.92\% | \$1.396 | \$1.348 | 92.22\% | \$1.461 | \$0.065 | (10.70\%) |
| Dorset | \$1.556 | 103.02\% | \$1.510 | \$1.437 | 91.78\% | \$1.566 | \$1.348 | 81.14\% | \$1.661 | \$0.095 | (10.64\%) |
| Landgrove | \$1.556 | 98.41\% | \$1.581 | \$1.437 | 96.36\% | \$1.491 | \$1.348 | 86.32\% | \$1.561 | \$0.070 | (10.04\%) |
| Londonderry | \$1.556 | 97.36\% | \$1.598 | \$1.437 | 94.44\% | \$1.522 | \$1.348 | 85.33\% | \$1.579 | \$0.057 | (9.11\%) |
| Manchester | \$1.556 | 100.22\% | \$1.553 | \$1.437 | 97.46\% | \$1.474 | \$1.348 | 88.98\% | \$1.514 | \$0.040 | (8.48\%) |
| Mt. Tabor | \$1.556 | 102.82\% | \$1.513 | \$1.437 | 101.02\% | \$1.422 | \$1.348 | 86.07\% | \$1.566 | \$0.144 | (14.95\%) |
| Peru | \$1.556 | 100.91\% | \$1.542 | \$1.437 | 88.66\% | \$1.621 | \$1.348 | 78.24\% | \$1.722 | \$0.101 | (10.42\%) |
| Sunderland | \$1.216 | 98.80\% | \$1.231 | \$1.437 | 98.35\% | \$1.461 | \$1.348 | 81.89\% | \$1.646 | \$0.185 | (16.46\%) |
| Weston | \$1.556 | 96.86\% | \$1.606 | \$1.437 | 94.92\% | \$1.514 | \$1.348 | 82.62\% | \$1.631 | \$0.117 | (12.30\%) |

Historical Homestead Tax Rates (Pre-CLA)
Various factors impact the equalized tax rate from year to year such as the voted budget, local revenues (non-resident tuition fees, grants, etc.), the use of a prior year surplus or available reserve funds, raising a prior year deficit, appropriations for reserves, changes to equalized pupils and the property yield set by the state.

| District Equalized Homestead Tax Rates |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | FY14 | FY15 | FY16 | FY17 | FY18* | FY19 | FY20 | FY21 | FY22 | FY23 | FY24 <br> Projection |
| Danby | \$1.440 | \$1.565 | \$1.667 | \$1.704 | \$1.494 | \$1.554 | \$1.541 | \$1.603 | \$1.556 | \$1.476 | \$1.348 |
| Dorset | \$1.494 | \$1.569 | \$1.617 | \$1.549 | \$1.691 | \$1.606 | \$1.541 | \$1.603 | \$1.556 | \$1.476 | \$1.348 |
| Landgrove** | \$1.604 | \$1.607 | \$1.676 | \$1.600 | \$1.407 | \$1.477 | \$1.541 | \$1.603 | \$1.556 | \$1.476 | \$1.348 |
| Londonderry** | \$1.604 | \$1.607 | \$1.676 | \$1.600 | \$1.407 | \$1.477 | \$1.541 | \$1.603 | \$1.556 | \$1.476 | \$1.348 |
| Manchester | \$1.489 | \$1.528 | \$1.523 | \$1.632 | \$1.662 | \$1.579 | \$1.541 | \$1.603 | \$1.556 | \$1.476 | \$1.348 |
| Mt. Tabor | \$1.660 | \$1.253 | \$1.179 | \$1.379 | \$1.333 | \$1.400 | \$1.470 | \$1.544 | \$1.556 | \$1.476 | \$1.348 |
| Peru** | \$1.604 | \$1.607 | \$1.676 | \$1.600 | \$1.407 | \$1.477 | \$1.541 | \$1.603 | \$1.556 | \$1.476 | \$1.348 |
| Sunderland | \$1.315 | \$1.468 | \$1.410 | \$1.422 | \$1.000 | \$1.050 | \$1.103 | \$1.158 | \$1.216 | \$1.476 | \$1.348 |
| Weston** | \$1.604 | \$1.607 | \$1.676 | \$1.600 | \$1.407 | \$1.477 | \$1.541 | \$1.603 | \$1.556 | \$1.476 | \$1.348 |







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Taconic \& Green Regional School District


 FY24 Budget

> Supervisory Union Assessments
Return of Surplus (Supervisory Union)
Operations - Facilities \& Transportation
Long-Term Debt
School Meal Programs
Total Budget to be Voted
Warned Articles
TOTAL EXPENDITURES $\begin{array}{ll}10 & \text { Personnel Services } \\ 11 & \text { Supervisory Union Assessments }\end{array}$

Program Summary (Excluding Warned Articles)
PK-6 Programs \& Operations
9-12 Education Program
Special Education PK-12
Administration (District/SU) Transportation


## EXPENDITURES SUMMARY

 K-8 Instruction/Support Program Extracurricular/Enrichment 9-12 Instruction/Support Program District Administration Middle School Study School Administration Fiscal Services Personnel Services
Taconic \& Green Regional School District

REVENUES Tuition/Services
Tuition

Miscellaneous/Return of PY Tuition



$\begin{array}{lr}59 & \\ 60 & \\ 61 & \text { Revenue Subtotal } \\ 62 & \text { Education Spending }\end{array}$

Education Spending Total Revenues Receipts Total Revenues Receipts
Transfers/Surplus Used/(D)
Special Education Reimbursement
After School Program
Building/Bus Use/Non-Town
ellaneous/Local
interest


Taconic \& Green Regional School District

| 66 | Actual Balance June 30, 2021 |
| :--- | :--- |
| 67 |  |
| 68 | Actual FY22 Revenues |
| 69 | Actual FY22 Expenditures |
| 70 | Surplus Reserved for use in FY22 |
| 71 | Warned Article Transfers (Voted 3/2021) |
| 72 | Transfer to Reserve (Voted 3/2022) |
| 73 | Actual Balance June 30, 2022 |
| A $\quad 74$ |  |
| 75 | Anticipated FY23 Revenues |
| 76 | Anticipated FY23 Expenditures |
| 77 | Warned Articles (Voted 3/2022) |
| 78 | Transfer to Reserve (To be Voted 3/2023) |
| 79 | Anticipated Balance June 30, 2023 |
| 80 |  |
| 81 | Budgeted FY24 Revenues |
| 82 | Budgeted FY24 Expenditures |
| 83 | Warned Articles (To be Voted 3/2023) |
| 84 | Budgeted Balance June 30, 2024 |

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EXPENDITURE DETAIL PK PROGRAM／EARLY EDUCATION Instruction Teacher Salaries Health Benefits

Paraeducator Positions
Regular Education
Paraeducators Wages
Paraeducators Wages
Heath Benefits
P／R Taxes／Fringe／Insurance
Special Education
Special Education
Paraeducators／Special Education Wages
Health Benefits
P／R Taxes／Fringe／Insurance
Contracted Services
Total PK Paraeducator Support



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Social/Emotional Student Support
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P/R Taxes/Fringe/Insurance Contracted Services Positions/BRSU Based




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 Special Education Paraeducator Wages Substitutes Health Benefits P／R Taxes／Fringe／Insurance完 Total K－8 Paraeducator Support | Middle School Success |
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| Success Staff Wages |
| Health Benefits |
| P／R Taxes／Fringe／lnsurance |
| Positions／BRSU Based |
| Supplies／Services | Other Instruction／Student Support Summer School Wages

Teachers Stipends Teacher Leave Positions Substitutes Health Benefits
P／R Taxes／Fringe／lnsurance
 Services－Summer Programming





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Taconic \& Green Regional School District FY24 Budget

| 181 | Instructional Materials |
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| 182 | Innovation Materials \& Support |
| 183 | Instructional Furniture \& Equipment |
| 184 |  |
| 185 | Early Retirement (Elected under contract) |
| 186 | Early Retirement (Elected under contract) |
| 187 |  |
| 188 | P/R Taxes/Fringe |
| 189 |  |
| 190 |  |
| 191 | School Nurse Program |
| 192 | Teacher Salaries |
| 193 | Nurses Office Support Staff Wages |
| 194 | Substitutes |
| 195 | Health Benefits |
| 196 | P/R Taxes/Fringe/Insurance |
| 197 | Positions/BRSU Based |
| 198 | Contracted Services |
| 199 | Health Supplies |
| 200 |  |
| 201 |  |
| 202 | Library/Media Program |
| 203 | Teacher Salaries |
| 204 | Media Support Staff Wages |
| 205 | Substitutes |
| 206 | Health Benefits |
| 207 | P/R Taxes/Fringe/Insurance |
| 208 | Library Supplies |
| 209 | Books \& Subscriptions |
| 210 | Positions/BRSU Based |
| 211 | Contracted Technical Services/Internet |
| 212 | Technology Supplies \& Equipment |
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Taconic \＆Green Regional School District
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Budget


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| 214 | Support Services |
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| 215 | Instructional Coaches |
| 216 | Teacher Salaries |
| 217 | Health Benefits |
| 218 | P／R Taxes／Fringe／Insurance |
| 219 |  |
| 220 | Other Staff Support |
| 221 | Support Stipends |
| 222 | P／R Taxes／Fringe／Insurance |
| 223 | Prof Development／Tuition（Contracted） |
| 224 | District Professional Development |
| 225 | District PD／Inservice Supplies |
| 226 |  |
| 227 |  |
| 228 | Total Support Services |
| 229 |  |
| 230 | TOTAL K－8 INSTR／SUPPORT PROGRAM |
| 231 |  |
| 232 | EXTRACURRICULAR |
| 233 | After School Program |
| 234 | Program Staff Wages |
| 235 | P／R Taxes／Fringe／Insurance |
| 236 | Services／Supplies |
| 237 |  |
| 238 | Athletics |
| 239 | Athletic Director Stipends |
| 240 | Coaches／Staff Support Wages |
| 241 | P／R Taxes／Fringe／Insurance |
| 242 | Referee Services |
| 243 | Supplies \＆Athletic Equipment |
| 244 | Transportation |
| 245 | P／R Taxes／Fringe／Insurance |
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Taconic \＆Green Regional School District

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| 247 | Enrichment |
| :--- | :--- |
| 248 | Enrichment Program Stipends |
| 249 | P／R Taxes／Fringe／Insurance |
| 250 | Enrichment Activities |
| 251 | Enrichment Supplies |
| 252 | Transportation |
| 253 | P／R Taxes／Fringe／Insurance |
| 254 | Transportation Services |
| 255 |  |
| 256 | Theater Program |
| 257 | Production Directors／Staff Support Wages |
| 258 | P／R Taxes／Fringe／Insurance |
| 259 | Supplies \＆Materials |
| 260 |  |
| 261 |  |
| 262 | TOTAL EXTRACURRICULAR |
| 263 |  |
| 264 | $9-12$ InSTRUCTION／SUPPORT PROGRAM |
| 265 | Instructional Services |
| 266 | Tuition |
| 267 | Service Fees－Instruction |
| 268 | Service Fees－Support |
| 269 | Prior Year Allowable Tuition Charges |
| 270 | TOTAL 9－12 INSTR／SUPPORT PROGRAM |
| 271 |  |
| 272 | DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION |
| 273 | Board Stipends |
| 274 | Treasurer／Clerk Stipends |
| 275 | Minute Taker／Wages |
| 276 | Social Security |
| 279 | Professional Dev／Contracted Services |
| 278 | Communications Consultant |
| 279 | Audit Expense |


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Taconic \& Green Regional School District

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$\begin{array}{ll}310 & \text { FISCAL SERVICES } \\ 311 & \text { Supplies, Etc. } \\ 312 & \text { Short-term Interest } \\ 313 & \text { TOTAL FISCAL SERVICES }\end{array}$
$\begin{array}{ll}310 & \text { FISCAL SERVICES } \\ 311 & \text { Supplies, Etc. } \\ 312 & \text { Short-term Interest } \\ 313 & \text { TOTAL FISCAL SERVICES }\end{array}$

Prof Development - Administration
Prof Development - Operations Prof Development - School Meals Background Checks
Health Benefit Administration Local Travel - Administration Local Travel - Operations Local Travel - School Meals TOTAL PERSONNEL SERVICES
SUPERVISORY UNION ASSESSMENTS $\frac{\text { General Assessment }}{\text { English Language Servich }}$
English Language Services
Curriculum \& Instructional Support
Technology Support
Director of Operations
Director of Food Service
Accounting/Personnel Services
Office of the Superintendent
Assessment Subtotal
Return of Surplus
FY24 Budget 315
316
317 317
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Taconic \& Green Regional School District


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Early Education
K-8 Instruction/Support 9-12 Instruction/Support 9-12 Instruction/Support Assessment Subtotal Return of Surplus

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Taconic \＆Green Regional School District
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Budgets

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$\$ 778,666$



 $\begin{array}{r}\$ 5,014 \\ 14,598 \\ 349 \\ (12,958) \\ \hline \$ 7,003 \\ \hline\end{array}$ 우우우웅 \＆
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 $\begin{array}{r}\$ 69,826 \\ 37,316 \\ 10,747 \\ (131,152) \\ \hline(\$ 13,263)\end{array}$


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Health Benefits
P/R Taxes/Fringe/Insurance

TOTAL EXPENDITURES


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Taconic \＆Green Regional School District FY24 Budget

|  | $$ |  | $\begin{aligned} & \stackrel{\infty}{\underset{N}{x}} \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \infty \\ & \stackrel{\infty}{N} \\ & \stackrel{八}{\wedge} \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \stackrel{\infty}{\underset{~}{~}} \end{aligned}$ |  | $\stackrel{\infty}{N}$ |
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| FY23 Budget |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| Rate | Students | Tuition |
|  |  |  |
| $\$ 18,350$ | 8.00 | $\$ 146,800$ |
|  |  |  |
| $\$ 16,480$ | 1.00 | 16,480 |
| $\$ 18,950$ | 1.00 | 18,950 |
| $\$ 17,100$ | 10.00 | 171,000 |
| $\$ 15,250$ | $\underline{2.00}$ | $\underline{30,500}$ |
|  | $\underline{\underline{22.00}}$ | $\underline{\underline{\$ 383,730}}$ |
| $\$ 10,800$ | 1.00 | 10,800 |
| $\$ 17,400$ | 1.00 | 17,400 |
| $\$ 17,400$ | 1.00 | 17,400 |
| $\$ 17,400$ | 1.00 | 17,400 |
| $\$ 17,400$ | 1.00 | 17,400 |
| $\$ 17,400$ | 1.00 | 17,400 |
| $\$ 17,400$ | 1.00 | 17,400 |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  | $\underline{1.00}$ |
| $\$ 17,400$ | 1.00 | 17,400 |
| $\$ 17,400$ | 1.00 | 17,400 |
| $\$ 17,400$ | $\underline{1.00}$ | $\underline{17,400}$ |
|  | $\underline{100}$ | $\underline{167,400}$ |


| 428 | Tuition－Public In State |
| :--- | :--- |
| 429 | Arlington |
| 430 | Brattleboro |
| 431 | Green Mountain UHS |
| 432 | Leland \＆Gray |
| 433 | Mill River |
| 434 | Mt．Anthony |
| 435 |  |
| 436 | Tuition－Out of State |
| 437 | Cambridge High School |
| 438 | Cardigan Mountain |
| 439 | Carrabassett |
| 440 | Culver Academies |
| 441 | Cushing |
| 442 | Eagle Hill |
| 443 | Eaglebrook |
| 444 | Governor＇s Academy |
| 445 | Grove School |
| 446 | Holderness |
| 447 | Kent |
| 448 | Middlesex |
| 449 | Pomfret |
| 450 | Northfield Mt．Hermon |
| 451 | NY Military |
| 452 | Suffield |
| 453 | The Taft School |
| 454 | Williston Northampton |
| 455 |  |

Taconic \& Green Regional School District FY24 Budget

|  |  | FY23 Budget |  |  | FY23 Anticipated |  |  | FY24 Budget |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Rate | Students | Tuition | Rate | Students | Tuition | Rate | Students | Tuition |
| 456 Tuition - Independent In State |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 457 | BBA | \$19,200 | 517.00 | \$9,926,400 | \$19,200 | 539.15 | \$10,351,680 | \$19,987 | 515.09 | \$10,295,104 |
| 458 | Grace Christian |  |  |  | \$8,180 | 1.00 | 8,180 | \$17,778 | 1.00 | 17,778 |
| 459 | LiHigh | \$17,400 | 1.00 | \$17,400 | \$17,278 | 1.00 | 17,278 | \$17,778 | 1.00 | 17,778 |
| 460 | Long Trail School | \$19,200 | 48.00 | 921,600 | \$19,200 | 35.00 | 672,000 | \$19,987 | 58.00 | 1,159,246 |
| 461 | Okemo |  |  |  | \$19,200 | 1.00 | 19,200 | \$19,987 | 1.00 | 19,987 |
| 462 | Stratton Mountain | \$19,200 | 14.00 | $\underline{268,800}$ | \$19,200 | 12.70 | 243,840 | \$19,987 | 12.00 | 239,844 |
| 463 | Vermont Academy | \$19,200 | 4.00 | 76,800 | \$19,200 | $\underline{2.00}$ | 38,400 | \$19,987 | 2.00 | 39,974 |
| 464 |  |  | 584.00 | \$11,211,000 |  | 591.85 | \$11,350,578 |  | 590.09 | \$11,789,711 |
| 465 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 466 |  |  | $\underline{616.00}$ |  |  | $\underline{625.95}$ |  |  | $\underline{618.09}$ |  |
| 467 Vocational Tuition |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 468 | CDC | \$22,975 | 7.89 | \$181,273 | \$23,998 | 7.89 | \$189,344 | \$24,470 | 9.20 | \$225,124 |
| 469 | Stafford Tech Center | \$18,425 | 3.44 | 63,382 | \$18,748 | 3.44 | 64,493 | \$19,248 | 0.83 | 15,976 |
| 470 | River Valley Tech Center | \$17,050 | 0.00 | $\underline{0}$ | \$17,881 | $\underline{0.00}$ | $\underline{0}$ | \$18,381 | 0.00 | $\underline{0}$ |
| 471 |  |  | $\underline{11.33}$ | \$244,655 |  | $\underline{11.33}$ | \$253,837 |  | $\underline{10.03}$ | \$241,100 |
| 472 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 473 | Total Secondary Tuition |  |  | \$12,006,785 |  |  | \$12,191,294 |  |  | \$12,528,066 |
| 474 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | The student counts above it equates to the amount of this report as enrollment c | based on <br> e the stud <br> ts each stud | ull-time equiv nt is in attend ent in attend | lent students ance for the ye ance at a spec | The FTE is <br> e that this <br> in time. | used when ca gure will not | Iculating the an equal the enroll | will pay for unts show | each stude in other sec |  |



Taconic \& Green Regional School District
FY24 Budget


$$
\begin{array}{ll}
475 & \text { TUITION REVENUE } \\
476 & \\
477 & \text { Green Mtn USD } \\
478 & \text { Ludlow/Mt. Holly } \\
479 & \text { Mettawee } \\
480 & \text { River Valley USD } \\
481 & \text { Sandgate } \\
482 & \text { Stratton } \\
483 & \text { Winhall } \\
484 & \text { Administrative Fee } \\
485 & \text { Total Tuitioned Studer } \\
486 & \text { Estimated Return Prio } \\
487 & \text { Total Tuition Revenu } \\
488 & \\
489 & \\
490 &
\end{array}
$$

Taconic \& Green Regional School District

## FY24 Budget


FY24
Budget



Variance
Fav/(Unfav)
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| N |  |
| :---: | :---: |


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FY22
Anticipated


웅융웅

$\begin{array}{r}\$ 165,000 \\ 3,500 \\ 0 \\ 255,000 \\ \underline{2,800} \\ \$ 426,300 \\ \hline\end{array}$
$\stackrel{8}{\circ}$
$\stackrel{\pi}{5}$
$\stackrel{\pi}{6}$

$\$ 16,577$
6,500
55,718
599,111
2,800
$\$ 680,706$



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$\begin{array}{r}\$ 69,826 \\ 37,316 \\ 10,747 \\ (131,152) \\ (77) \\ (10,602) \\ 414 \\ (82,848) \\ \underline{8,361} \\ (\$ 98,015) \\ \hline\end{array}$



15,100
15,100
15,000
3,500
0,000
웅
School Meals Program Expenditures - Child Nutrition and Local Program Combined Salaries
$\begin{array}{lrr}\text { Salaries } & \$ 206,667 & \$ 152,572 \\ \text { Group Medical } & 60,032 & 30,857\end{array}$
$\begin{array}{lll}\text { Group Medical } & 60,032 & 30,857 \\ \text { P/R Taxes/Fringe/lnsurance } & 30,715 & 21,931\end{array}$
$\begin{array}{lll}\text { P/R Taxes/Fringe/lnsurance } \\ \text { Positions/BRSU Based } & 0 & 113,028\end{array}$
School Meals Program Revenues - Child Nutrition and Local Program Combined
$\begin{array}{ccc}\text { Meal Sales/Grants } & \$ 165,000 & \$ 7,900\end{array}$
$\begin{array}{rr}\$ 165,000 & \$ 7,900 \\ 5,300 & 3,500\end{array}$ 5,300

0 | 8 |
| :--- |
| $\stackrel{\circ}{\circ}$ |
| $\stackrel{H}{\sim}$ | $\begin{array}{r}10,000 \\ \mathbf{\$ 4 3 5 , 3 0 0} \\ \hline\end{array}$

t10'99\$


- Following current statute, the Tax Commissioner recommended a property yield of $\$ 15,479$ for every $\$ 1.00$ of homestead tax per $\$ 100$ of equalized property value, an income yield of $\$ 17,600$ for a base income percent of $2.0 \%$, and a non-residential tax rate of $\$ 1.386$. These figures use the estimated $\$ 64,000,000$ surplus from the Education Fund. New and updated data will likely change the proposed property and income yields and perhaps the non-residential rate.
- Final figures will be set by the Legislature during the legislative session and approved by the Governor.


## RECENT HISTORY OF ADM AND EQUALIZED PUPILS

| AVERAGE DAILY MEMBERSHIP <br> (ADM) PK - 12 |  |  | EQUALIZED PUPILS (EP) USED IN EQUALIZED TAX RATE |  |  |  | EP Count <br> Without Any <br> Limitation in Decline (2) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| A | Dec 2022 | 1,596.15 |  | FY24 Tax Rate | 1,662.47 | (Average $\mathrm{A}+\mathrm{B}$ with factors applied) | 1,643.39 |
| B | Dec 2021 | 1,652.35 |  | FY23 Tax Rate | 1,708.66 | (Average $\mathrm{B}+\mathrm{C}$ with factors applied) | 1,698.70 |
| C | Dec 2020 | 1,714.29 | (1) | FY22 Tax Rate | 1,728.75 | (Average $\mathrm{C}+\mathrm{D}$ with factors applied) | 1,721.54 |
| D | Dec 2019 | 1,714.29 |  | FY21 Tax Rate | 1,738.08 | (Average D +E with factors applied) | 1,732.09 |
| E | Dec 2018 | 1,742.34 |  | FY20 Tax Rate | 1,752.66 | (Average E + F with factors applied) | 1,752.66 |
| F | Dec 2017 | 1,777.49 |  | FY19 Tax Rate | 1,771.00 | (Average F + G with factors applied) | 1,770.78 |
| G | Dec 2016 | 1,730.58 |  |  |  |  |  |

(1) The Dec 2020 ADM actual count was $1,589.90$. Due to legislation enacted during the pandemic, the Dec 2020 figure could not drop below the Dec 2019 count.
(2) The statute changed for the FY19 tax year to protect towns from no more than a $3.5 \%$ decline from prior year's "Calculated" equalized pupils vs. actual equalized pupils. Note - ADM is still collected by town of residence, and equalized pupils are still calculated by town. The merger has no impact on the $3.5 \%$ limitation calculation. It is still calculated on a town by town basis before the District's equalized pupils is totaled. We still have 3 towns included in the total that are limited to a $3.5 \%$ decline from the prior year's calculated figure for their town.

## BRSU BUDGETS FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## 1. What does a supervisory union do?

The supervisory union is responsible for managing the operations of its member districts. The main services provided per statute by a supervisory union to its member districts are:

- Establish and ensure implementation of a supervisory union wide curriculum
- Financial management services, inclusive of state and federal grants, and human resource needs
- Professional development and training
- Special education services
- Data management services
- Manage a system to purchase and distribute all materials needed to operate schools
- Manage school operation systems and construction contracts
- Manage employee contract negotiations

2. What school districts are members of the Bennington-Rutland Supervisory Union (BRSU)?

The BRSU member districts are:

- Mettawee School District (Mettawee SD)
- Taconic \& Green Regional School District (T\&G)
- Winhall Town School District (Winhall TSD)


## 3. How are the Supervisory Union budgets funded?

The BRSU collects funds called assessments from local member districts to cover the budgets. Assessments are calculated by subtracting any local (BRSU) revenues, such as interest earned and grants received, from the Board approved budget. The remaining net costs are allocated to districts and included in the districts voted budgets as assessments. The assessments to the districts, combined with the local BRSU revenue, supports $100 \%$ of the approved BRSU budget.

## 4. How are assessments allocated to districts?

Assessments are allocated to member districts in a variety of ways, such as average daily membership (ADM), projected enrollment, and management judgements.

The assessment allocation to each district may vary from year to year due to changes in expenditures and revenues as well as an overall district's share of the assessment. For example, if an assessment is allocated using enrollment, and the percentage share of students at one district is increasing relative to the enrollment of all students in the BRSU, that district's percentage share of the assessment will go up.

Assessment allocations for the general budget and the special education budget can be found on pages 68 and 76 of this report, respectively.

## 5. What staffing or program changes are included in the BRSU general budget?

The programmatic changes in the BRSU budget are based on educational priorities. The items below reflect our commitment to safety, equity, and educational programming for all students, while maintaining an appropriate balance of services for students, staff and communities.

## BRSU BUDGETS FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

(continued)
After taking all staffing changes into consideration we have added a total of 1.60 full-time equivalent positions to the BRSU assessed expenditure budget.

1.0 Decrease - Technology Innovation Teacher 1.0 Increase - Director of Student Support Administration 0.4 Decrease - MTSS/Equity Coordinator (two year position has ended) 1.0 Increase - Business Operations (Accounting/Human Resources) 1.0 Increase - IT Support

## Director of Student Support Administration

Over the past few years, new laws and rules have been implemented requiring changes in educational practice, which have resulted in additional system level responsibilities. This position is intended to directly facilitate this work. The former Tech Innovation Teacher position was adjusted to create this new position, more directly tied to our current needs. The person in this Director role will manage and oversee our data management system which aggregates all data and allows users to review data from the student level all the way up to the Supervisory Union level. This person will also oversee many of the state requirements that support student services. These include oversight of Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS), Rule 4500, Bullying, Hazing and Harassment, McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Act and other similar policies, laws and state rules.

## Business Office Position (Accounting/HR)

The employment landscape has changed for education, as it has for many other types of employment since the pandemic. In order to continue to provide the necessary services and support to our administration, our employees, and keep up with state reporting requirements, additional staff support is needed. We have a small, knowledgeable business office team, and hope the addition of a staff member will allow us to keep up with the services required of our office.

## IT Support

During the pandemic we added an additional technician to our staff funded by our ESSER grants. The use of technology in the classroom has changed over the last few years, we have more systems to manage, and increased security to maintain. Our technology services are all managed in-house, and no services are contracted out. We are putting greater emphasis on assuring that our systems are secure, and our data protected in this ever changing environment. The addition of this position to our technology team provides the right level of support needed to manage the varied aspects of technology services that are required to support our students, teachers, and business systems.

## New Supports

The budget includes an increase for new software expenditures of $\$ 13,743$ for student data reporting and building security (lines 44 \& 144 of expenditures).

## 6. What grants are included in the BRSU general budget and how do we use these resources?

We receive various grants from the state and federal governments. Our largest grant, the Consolidated Federal Program (CFP) grant, includes federal Title IA, Title IIA, and Title IV funds. Funds are allocated to the BRSU based on federal formulas and are to be used for addressing issues of equity, providing intervention supports, investing in professional development to support effective instruction, supporting programs that provide enrichment, and improving conditions for student learning through Science, Technology, Engineering \& Math (STEM). We receive reimbursement funds from both the federal and state governments for certain support services we provide to students, these are listed as Medicaid in the general budget.

## BRSU BUDGETS FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

(continued)

Grant funds change on an annual basis and grant spending must respond to these changes while being designed to meet the needs of our students and supervisory union initiatives. Our grants regularly cover the costs of intervention positions, instructional coaches, a social work position, and our after school program and middle school success directors. The Interventionists provide additional instruction in the areas of literacy and math to students who need more focused instruction and/or would benefit from a more personalized approach, as well as behavior intervention. Instructional Coaches work directly with classroom teachers to help improve classroom instruction.

We've received additional federal funding (not included in the grant section of the budget), Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Funds (ESSER), to support work and expenditures directly tied to pandemic recovery. We have been allocated a total of $\$ 5,366,666$ to be spent over a 4 year period. A summary of our actual spending to date along with our estimated spending through next year can be found on our website at brsu.org. Highlights of spending include updates to school heating and ventilation systems, new flooring and windows, new math, reading and writing curriculum, equity training and supports for leaders, new technology materials and equipment, increased summer programming, and additional support for students including student engagement, intervention, mental health, English language learner and physical therapist personnel.

## 7. What staffing or program changes are included in the special education budget?

- A new special educator position has been added to the budget (with a related decrease of two paraeducator positions in the T\&G budget) to increase services to our most complex learners by skilled trained professionals. This is a direct response to the District Management Group (DMG) report providing our SU with recommendations to improve our intervention services.
- An increase of a paraeducator in the Anchor (social/emotional) program and a decrease of two paraeducators in the RISE (autism) program will provide the appropriate level of support for the expected enrollment next year.
- An increase of one driver position as student transportation needs have increased.
- A shift in the shared position allocations of administrative time from special education to local administration provided at schools. Two Assistant Principal positions are shared between special education administration and local building administration. The local share was previously budgeted at 0.80 FTE and is increased to 1.0 FTE ( $50 / 50$ for each position). This shift supports a more realistic representation of the actual work required at the local level.


## 8. What other changes typically impact the Special Education Budget \& Assessments?

Many of our students attend schools other than those we operate, either because they have choice due to their grade and where they live, or due to an individual education team (IEP) placement decision identifying the most appropriate setting for their education. The BRSU pays for special education services for these students based on the services written into their plan and the costs of providing those services where they are enrolled. The costs of these services will fluctuate each year based on our resident students, the services required, and the schools they attend.

Special Education Students (Excluding PK)

|  | DEC <br> 2014 | DEC <br> 2015 | DEC <br> 2016 | DEC <br> 2017 | DEC <br> 2018 | DEC <br> 2019 | DEC <br> 2020 | DEC <br> 2021 | DEC <br> 2022 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Special Education <br> Child count K-12 | 349 | 342 | 356 | 347 | 342 | 332 | 315 | 318 | 326 |

## BRSU BUDGETS FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

(continued)

| Student FTE (Full-Time Equivalent) | FY23 <br> Budget | FY23 <br> Anticipated | FY24 <br> Budget |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Attending Schools Operated by the SU | 150 | 180 | 177 |
| Special Education Schools (Operating Grades) | 8 | 10 | 3 |
| Attending Schools not Operated by the SU | 134 | 133 | 140 |
| Special Education Schools (Non-Operating Grades) | 13 | 20 | 23 |
| Total Students | 305 | 343 | 343 |

It is clear from our child count and student FTE data above that the number of students attending our schools in need of special education services was impacted by the pandemic and we are seeing that count rebound. Child count is taken at a specific point in time (December 1), and the budget is prepared using the most current information for all students served or expected to be served during the year. This year we have a significant increase over budget in the number of students receiving services, as well as an increase in the number of students in special education placements. This increased student population remains in the FY24 budget. About half of our students are served in schools that we operate, and we can absorb much of the increased count within our current programming. More students attending nonoperating schools increases the budget on a per-student basis.

The costs of services per student also impacts our extraordinary special education reimbursement from the state. As student services change, and enrollment changes take place, this can increase or decrease our level of reimbursement. This year we receive extraordinary reimbursement when costs per student exceed $\$ 60,000$. Next year the threshold rises to $\$ 66,206$. As extraordinary reimbursement per student decreases, assessments will increase if costs per student are the same or higher.

Another important factor that now impacts the special education assessments is the change in special education funding. With this year's implementation of Act 173 we no longer receive all special education funding on a reimbursement basis, instead we receive an annual census block grant. As special education costs rise there is no reimbursement funding (with the exception of extraordinary if applicable) to offset those costs, so we will see a greater impact to assessments then we have in the past.

Act 173 's primary purpose is to increase flexibility within the educational system to provide students with a greater scope of services within a tiered system of supports. All students receive classroom instruction from the classroom teacher and interventionists and special education personnel provide increasingly specialized instruction to those who need it. Prior to Act 173, only students on an IEP could receive services from a special educator, but now we match student needs to the provider's skills, expertise, and schedule. The new model allows for great flexibility within the system. This legislation is based on best practices in education and a model that yields stronger outcomes for students.

## 9. Are assessments in the two BRSU budgets increasing or decreasing?

General Budget - Assessed expenditures are increasing by $\$ 237,297$ ( $9.7 \%$ ). Half of this is due to the increase of 1.60 positions noted in question 5 . The remainder is due to the newly added software supports, general increases to maintain current systems, increased internet costs serving the SU and all schools, as well as general salary and benefit increases for current staff. See page 75 for assessment calculations.

## BRSU BUDGETS FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

(continued)
Special Education Budget - Assessed expenditures are increasing by $\$ 696,733$, due in part to general salary and benefit increases, but mainly to increased costs for students in non-operating grades and special education placements. See page 83 for assessment calculations.

Overall assessments are further reduced by the return of available surplus in both general and special education funds.

## 10. Why are there surplus funds available to return to the districts?

Both the general and special education funds ended last year with a higher surplus than originally anticipated, and we expect to end the current year with surpluses as well (see page 65 for the full fund summary).

The general budget had savings due to an unfilled Director position for part of the year, and we continued to see savings in budgets for additional work assignments and professional development as the pandemic limited the amount of work and travel staff took on. We also had increased revenues due to indirect funds collected against increased federal grant spending. The amount collected over budget $(\$ 107,919)$ is specifically assigned for future curriculum purchases (see page 62. We have spent, and set aside, a large amount of federal ESSER funds to support the review, selection, and purchase of new curriculum in math, reading and writing. As we put new curriculum in place, we want to assure we have funds set aside to continue needed work in this area.

The special education budget experienced savings due to unfilled positions, reduction in staffing costs due to increased leave, and savings in services and professional development. We also experienced savings due to individual students moving out of district.

After assigning funds for return in the FY23 assessments and other areas of future spending, we anticipate ending this year with a general fund surplus of $\$ 81,785$ and a special education fund surplus of $\$ 109,413$. If we end the year as anticipated, these funds will be available for return in future years.

## 11. What amounts of surplus funds are being returned in the FY24 assessments?

- $\$ 200,000$ of surplus funds are being returned in the General Fund Assessments
- $\$ 250,000$ of surplus funds are being returned in the Special Education Assessments


## 12. What impact does the return of surplus have on district tax rates?

District equalized tax rates will go down a little more or less than a penny, depending on the district, due to the return of surplus. A subsequent increase in taxes should be expected the following year if the same level of surplus is not available for return. While we anticipate the return of some surplus in the following year, it is unlikely to be at the same level.

## OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT - TREASURER'S REPORT

The Bennington-Rutland Supervisory Union engaged RHR Smith \& Company, CPA's, Buxton, Maine, to conduct an audit of its FY22 financial statements. Copies of the audit report will be available upon completion for public inspection at BRSU.org, or by calling the Bennington-Rutland Supervisory Union, (802) 362-2452.

Summary of Fund Balances

|  |  | General <br> Fund | Equipment / <br> Software <br> Assigned | Curriculum Assigned | Special <br> Education | Vehicle <br> Assigned |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | Balance June 30, 2021 | \$168,242 | \$13,327 | \$20,000 | \$620,910 | \$0 |
| 2 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 3 | Transfer to Assigned Funds | $(13,000)$ | 3,000 | 10,000 | $(100,000)$ | 100,000 |
| 4 | Assigned for Use from Prior Year | 145,000 |  |  | 500,000 |  |
| 5 | Actual Revenues FY22 | 4,533,452 |  |  | 10,002,637 |  |
| 6 | Actual Expenditures FY22 | $(4,462,914)$ | $(3,423)$ |  | $(10,373,413)$ |  |
| 7 | Surplus Assigned for Use FY23 | $(120,000)$ |  |  | $(250,000)$ |  |
| 8 | Actual Fund Balance June 30, 2022 | \$250,780 | \$12,904 | \$30,000 | \$400,134 | \$100,000 |
| 9 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 10 | Transfer to Assigned Funds | $(122,919)$ | 5,000 | 117,919 | $(30,000)$ | 30,000 |
| 11 | Assigned for Use from Prior Year | 120,000 |  |  | 250,000 |  |
| 12 | Anticipated Revenues FY23 | 5,071,821 |  |  | 11,243,942 |  |
| 13 | Anticipated Expenditures FY23 | $(5,037,897)$ | (7,000) |  | $(11,504,663)$ |  |
| 14 | Surplus Assigned for Use FY24 | $(200,000)$ |  |  | (250,000) |  |
| 15 | Anticipated Fund Balance June 30, 2023 | \$81,785 | \$10,904 | \$147,919 | \$109,413 | \$130,000 |
| 16 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 17 | Transfer to Assigned Funds | $(15,000)$ | 5,000 | 10,000 | $(30,000)$ | 30,000 |
| 18 | Assigned for Use from Prior Year | 200,000 |  |  | 250,000 |  |
| 19 | Budgeted Revenues FY24 | 5,357,777 |  |  | 11,706,902 |  |
| 20 | Budgeted Expenditures FY24 | (5,557,777) |  |  | (11,956,902) |  |
| 21 | Budgeted Fund Balance June 30, 2024 | \$66,785 | \$15,904 | \$157,919 | \$79,413 | \$160,000 |



Budget
FY22
Actual

## FY23

 BudgetFY23
Anticipated

## FY24 Budgets

Budget
24 vs 23

| 1 | EXPENDITURE SUMMARY |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2 | Student/Staff Support | \$712,601 | \$659,716 | \$772,744 | \$662,740 | \$784,304 | 1.5\% |
| 3 | Administration | 1,324,654 | 1,292,917 | 1,375,317 | 1,331,795 | 1,577,035 | 14.7\% |
| 4 | Operations | 297,365 | 274,542 | 295,872 | 295,474 | 319,891 | 8.1\% |
| 5 | Expenditures for Assessment | \$2,334,620 | \$2,227,175 | \$2,443,933 | \$2,290,009 | \$2,681,230 | 9.7\% |
| 6 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 7 | Internal Services for Direct Billing | \$1,152,332 | \$1,463,386 | \$1,831,020 | \$1,930,319 | \$1,936,058 | 5.7\% |
| 8 | Grants (Excluding Recovery Funds) | 1,184,841 | 772,353 | 839,211 | 817,569 | 940,489 | 12.1\% |
| 9 | Total BRSU Expenditures | \$4,671,793 | \$4,462,914 | \$5,114,164 | \$5,037,897 | \$5,557,777 | 8.7\% |
| 10 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 11 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 12 REVENUE |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 13 | Interest | \$3,000 | \$1,327 | \$3,000 | \$3,000 | \$3,000 | 0.0\% |
| 14 | Miscellaneous | 500 | 2,347 | 500 | 500 | 500 | 0.0\% |
| 15 | Grant Administration | 41,000 | 148,919 | 60,000 | $\underline{60,000}$ | 60,000 | 0.0\% |
| 16 | Supervisory Union Local Revenues | \$44,500 | \$152,593 | \$63,500 | \$63,500 | \$63,500 | 0.0\% |
| 17 | Assessments (Net of Surplus Applied) | 2,145,120 | 2,145,120 | 2,260,433 | 2,260,433 | 2,417,730 | 7.0\% |
| 18 | Internal Services | 1,152,332 | 1,463,386 | 1,831,020 | 1,930,319 | 1,936,058 | 5.7\% |
| 19 | Grants (Excluding Recovery Funds) | 1,184,841 | 772,353 | 839,211 | 817,569 | 940,489 | 12.1\% |
| 20 | Subtotal | \$4,526,793 | \$4,533,452 | \$4,994,164 | \$5,071,821 | \$5,357,777 | 7.3\% |
| 21 | Surplus Used/(Deficit Raised) | 145,000 |  | 120,000 |  | 200,000 | 66.7\% |
| 22 | Total Revenue | \$4,671,793 |  | \$5,114,164 |  | \$5,557,777 | 8.7\% |
| 23 ( ${ }^{2}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 24 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 25 Student/Staff Support |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 26 Curriculum/Support Staff |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 27 | HHB Restorative Justice Coord Salary | \$74,600 | \$74,850 | \$78,205 | \$78,205 | \$81,990 | 4.8\% |
| 28 | Curriculum Stipends | 22,500 | 7,594 | 22,500 | 22,500 | 22,500 | 0.0\% |
| 29 | Director of Teaching \& Learning Salary | 99,911 | 100,161 | 104,907 | 104,907 | 110,152 | 5.0\% |
| 30 | MTSS/Equity Coordinator Salary | 34,000 | 35,300 | 36,960 | 27,720 | 0 | (100.0\%) |
| 31 | Stipends/Staff Training Support | 2,000 | 1,500 | 1,000 | 0 | 0 | (100.0\%) |
| 32 | Tech Innovation \& Data Mgmt Salary | 67,530 | 67,780 | 69,252 | 0 | 0 | (100.0\%) |
| 33 | Director of Student Support Administration | 0 | 0 | - | 0 | 90,000 | n/a |
| 34 | Health Benefits | 69,648 | 55,450 | 56,024 | 28,940 | 47,469 | (15.3\%) |
| 35 | PR Taxes/Fringe/Insurance | 30,185 | 33,021 | 35,722 | 27,400 | 35,747 | 0.1\% |
| 36 | Tuition/Professional Development | 2,500 | 2,382 | 4,100 | $\underline{0}$ | 4,100 | 0.0\% |
| 37 |  | \$402,874 | \$378,038 | \$408,670 | \$289,672 | \$391,958 | (4.1\%) |
| 38 Materials \& Services |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 39 | General Supplies \& Materials | \$2,500 | \$2,278 | \$2,500 | \$2,500 | \$2,500 | 0.0\% |
| 40 | Local Curriculum Supplies | 3,000 | 1,885 | 3,000 | 3,000 | 3,000 | 0.0\% |
| 41 | Curriculum Materials - District-Wide | 41,000 | 33,428 | 41,000 | 41,000 | 41,000 | 0.0\% |
| 42 | Instructional Software | 25,000 | 22,881 | 25,000 | 28,000 | 28,000 | 12.0\% |
|  |  | 66 |  |  |  |  |  |



43 Equity Audit
44 Educlimber
45 Local Assessment (iReady)
46 Seesaw LMS
47 ALMA - Student Information System
48 Device Security System
49 Amplifiedit/Google
50 Internet/Districts
51 Tech Repairs \& Supplies/Districts
52 Tech Software/Subscriptions/Districts
53 Messaging/Website Portal
54
55 English Language Services
56 Teacher Salary
57 Health Benefits
58 PR Taxes/Fringe/Insurance
59 Supplies \& Materials
60 Support Stipends
PR Taxes/Fringe/Insurance
Tuition/Professional Development

66
67
68
69

| FY22 <br> Budget | FY22 <br> Actual | FY23 <br> Budget | FY23 <br> Anticipated | FY24 <br> Budget | \% Change <br> Budgets <br> 24 vs 23 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 5,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | n/a |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 8,847 | n/a |
| 65,000 | 74,491 | 75,000 | 86,433 | 72,800 | (2.9\%) |
| 5,500 | 4,358 | 5,500 | 3,274 | 5,500 | 0.0\% |
| 0 | 0 | 31,000 | 17,634 | 18,500 | (40.3\%) |
| 8,000 | 0 | 8,000 | 7,357 | 10,000 | 25.0\% |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 2,880 | 3,000 | n/a |
| 13,500 | 12,847 | 13,500 | 19,196 | 20,000 | 48.1\% |
| 11,500 | 14,163 | 23,500 | 23,500 | 20,000 | (14.9\%) |
| 6,000 | 5,846 | 6,000 | 7,500 | 7,500 | 25.0\% |
| 2,500 | 2,379 | 2,500 | 2,379 | 8,000 | 220.0\% |
| \$188,500 | \$174,556 | \$236,500 | \$244,653 | \$248,647 | 5.1\% |
| \$65,000 | \$54,414 | \$58,246 | \$58,679 | \$61,934 | 6.3\% |
| 17,122 | 12,303 | 15,066 | 17,434 | 28,432 | 88.7\% |
| 6,377 | 6,414 | 7,472 | 7,398 | 8,060 | 7.9\% |
| 500 | 540 | 500 | 500 | 500 | 0.0\% |
| 0 | 1,067 | 3,779 | 1,500 | 1,500 | (60.3\%) |
| 0 | 85 | 311 | 123 | 123 | (60.5\%) |
| 2,000 | 1,400 | 2,500 | 2,500 | 2,500 | 0.0\% |
| \$90,999 | \$76,223 | \$87,874 | \$88,134 | \$103,049 | 17.3\% |
| \$7,500 | \$5,287 | \$10,000 | \$10,000 | \$10,000 | 0.0\% |
| 4,000 | 3,429 | 4,000 | 4,000 | 4,000 | 0.0\% |
| 7,078 | 7,207 | 7,300 | 7,603 | 7,800 | 6.8\% |
| 7,150 | 7,278 | 7,400 | 7,678 | 7,850 | 6.1\% |
| 4,500 | 7,698 | 11,000 | 11,000 | 11,000 | 0.0\% |
| \$30,228 | \$30,899 | \$39,700 | \$40,281 | \$40,650 | 2.4\% |
| \$712,601 | \$659,716 | \$772,744 | \$662,740 | \$784,304 | 1.5\% |
| \$139,050 | \$139,050 | \$146,003 | \$150,174 | \$157,683 | 8.0\% |
| 90,333 | 101,485 | 94,851 | 103,260 | 116,550 | 22.9\% |
| 600 | 450 | 600 | 600 | 600 | 0.0\% |
| 51,470 | 52,177 | 53,022 | 60,464 | 72,199 | 36.2\% |
| $\underline{28,978}$ | 35,559 | 28,877 | 31,208 | 34,458 | 19.3\% |
| \$310,431 | \$328,721 | \$323,353 | \$345,706 | \$381,490 | 18.0\% |


| FY22 | FY22 | FY23 | FY23 | FY24 | Change <br> Budgets |
| ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Budget | $\underline{\text { Actual }}$ | $\underline{\text { Budget }}$ | $\underline{\text { Anticipated }}$ | Budget | $\underline{24}$ vs 23 |


| 82 | Supporting Services |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 83 | Legal | \$2,500 | \$3,359 | \$2,500 | \$2,500 | \$2,500 | 0.0\% |
| 84 | Audit | 10,450 | 9,500 | 10,450 | 14,000 | 14,500 | 38.8\% |
| 85 | Leadership Professional Development | 3,000 | 3,550 | 3,000 | 3,000 | 3,000 | 0.0\% |
| 86 | Comprehensive Insurance | 5,784 | 5,652 | 5,900 | 11,963 | 12,450 | 111.0\% |
| 87 | IQM2 (Board Mtg Mgmt System) | 4,800 | 4,662 | 4,700 | 4,662 | 4,800 | 2.1\% |
| 88 | Dues | 6,500 | 5,941 | 6,500 | 6,500 | 6,500 | 0.0\% |
| 89 |  | \$33,034 | \$32,664 | \$33,050 | \$42,625 | \$43,750 | 32.4\% |
| 90 Business \& Accounting - Stafing |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 91 | Administrative Staff Salaries | \$216,602 | \$210,699 | \$231,050 | \$220,194 | \$267,129 | 15.6\% |
| 92 | Health Benefits | 48,806 | 45,243 | 50,137 | 28,586 | 37,549 | (25.1\%) |
| 93 | PR Taxes/Fringe/lnsurance | 31,738 | 31,522 | 34,197 | 32,398 | 39,919 | 16.7\% |
| 94 |  | \$297,146 | \$287,464 | \$315,384 | \$281,178 | \$344,597 | 9.3\% |
| 95 Personnel Services - Staffing |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 96 | Administrative Staff Salaries | \$136,290 | \$116,327 | \$147,368 | \$118,535 | \$164,535 | 11.6\% |
| 97 | Health Benefits | 36,372 | 23,264 | 29,761 | 8,588 | 6,074 | (79.6\%) |
| 98 | PR Taxes/Fringe/lnsurance | 20,497 | 17,926 | $\underline{22,842}$ | 19,666 | $\underline{27,197}$ | 19.1\% |
| 99 |  | \$193,159 | \$157,517 | \$199,971 | \$146,789 | \$197,806 | (1.1\%) |
| 100 Personnel Services - Administration |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 101 | Flex Plan Administration/Background Checks | \$500 | \$7,195 | \$6,000 | \$7,500 | \$7,500 | 25.0\% |
| 102 | Local Travel | 4,500 | 2,534 | 4,500 | 2,500 | 4,500 | 0.0\% |
| 103 | Professional Development - Administration | 19,500 | 8,416 | 19,500 | 19,500 | 19,500 | 0.0\% |
| 104 |  | \$24,500 | \$18,145 | \$30,000 | \$29,500 | \$31,500 | 5.0\% |
| 105 Technology - Staffing |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 106 | Administrative Staff Salaries | \$172,020 | \$181,791 | \$200,429 | \$201,850 | \$256,663 | 28.1\% |
| 107 | Health Benefits | 67,768 | 62,925 | 70,376 | 70,156 | 89,722 | 27.5\% |
| 108 | PR Taxes/Fringe/Insurance | 26,965 | 29,271 | 30,659 | 32,643 | 42,380 | 38.2\% |
| 109 |  | \$266,753 | \$273,987 | \$301,464 | \$304,649 | \$388,765 | 29.0\% |
| 110 Technology - SU Support |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 111 | Professional Development | \$2,500 | \$0 | \$2,500 | \$2,500 | \$2,500 | 0.0\% |
| 112 | Local Travel | 2,500 | 358 | 2,500 | 2,500 | 2,500 | 0.0\% |
| 113 | Internet | 7,600 | 7,545 | 7,600 | 15,853 | 19,196 | 152.6\% |
| 114 | Tech Supplies/Services | 3,000 | 1,418 | 3,000 | 3,000 | 5,000 | 66.7\% |
| 115 | Tech Software/Subscriptions | 5,000 | 2,762 | 5,000 | 6,000 | 6,000 | 20.0\% |
| 116 | Equipment | 2,000 | 2,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | n/a |
| 117 | Student Information System (ALMA) | 28,200 | 30,720 | 0 | 0 | 0 | n/a |
| 118 | Copier Fees/Supplies | 2,500 | 2,499 | 2,500 | 2,500 | 2,500 | 0.0\% |
| 119 | Accounting System (TYLER) | 20,750 | 23,160 | 22,000 | 21,000 | 22,000 | 0.0\% |
| 120 |  | \$74,050 | \$70,462 | \$45,100 | \$53,353 | \$59,696 | 32.4\% |

121
122
Support Services/Central Office

Alarm System Monitoring/Maint.
124 Custodial/Trash
125 Rent
126 Telephone
127 Postage
128 Advertising
129 Supplies
130
131
132 Total Administration
133
134
135
136
137 Director of Transportation Salary
138 Health Benefits
139 PR Taxes/Fringe/Insurance
140 Professional Development
141 Local Travel
142 Advertising
143 Supplies \& Materials
144 Building Security Software
145 Transfinder Software
146
147 School Meal Programs Support
148 Director of Food Services Salary
149 Health Benefits
150 PR Taxes/Fringe/Insurance
151 Professional Development
152 Local Travel
153 Supplies \& Materials
154 Mealtime Mgmt System
155
156
157
158
159 Total Expenditures to be Assessed

| FY22 | FY22 |
| ---: | ---: |
| Budget | Actual |

FY22
Actual

FY23
Budget Anticipated

| FY24 | Budgets |
| ---: | ---: |
| Budget | $\underline{24}$ vs 23 |


| $\$ 1,500$ | $0.0 \%$ |
| ---: | ---: |
| 300 | $0.0 \%$ |
| 9,000 | $0.0 \%$ |
| 97,131 | $1.5 \%$ |
| 3,000 | $0.0 \%$ |
| 3,000 | $0.0 \%$ |
| 2,500 | $0.0 \%$ |
| $\underline{13,000}$ | $8.3 \%$ |
| $\underline{\$ 129,431}$ | $1.9 \%$ |
| $\mathbf{1 , 5 7 7 , 0 3 5}$ | $\mathbf{1 4 . 7 \%}$ |

14.7\%

| \$85,068 | \$85,318 | \$89,321 | \$88,471 | \$92,895 | 4.0\% |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 40,321 | 42,537 | 46,354 | 46,354 | 48,671 | 5.0\% |
| 31,822 | 32,702 | 34,630 | 31,374 | 34,556 | (0.2\%) |
| 19,151 | 22,025 | 20,740 | 21,825 | 23,223 | 12.0\% |
| 3,000 | 395 | 3,000 | 3,000 | 3,000 | 0.0\% |
| 3,000 | 3,107 | 3,000 | 3,000 | 3,000 | 0.0\% |
| 750 | 750 | 750 | 750 | 750 | 0.0\% |
| 3,000 | 4,398 | 5,000 | 5,000 | 5,000 | 0.0\% |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4,896 | n/a |
| $\underline{0}$ | $\underline{0}$ | 4,950 | 4,950 | 5,100 | 3.0\% |
| \$186,112 | \$191,232 | \$207,745 | \$204,724 | \$221,091 | 6.4\% |
| \$65,000 | \$66,610 | \$69,553 | \$72,500 | \$79,500 | 14.3\% |
| 28,143 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | n/a |
| 10,110 | 9,271 | 9,574 | 10,238 | 11,200 | 17.0\% |
| 1,500 | 239 | 1,500 | 1,500 | 1,500 | 0.0\% |
| 2,000 | 1,759 | 2,000 | 2,000 | 2,000 | 0.0\% |
| 500 | 141 | 500 | 500 | 500 | 0.0\% |
| 4,000 | 5,290 | 5,000 | 4,012 | 4,100 | (18.0\%) |
| \$111,253 | \$83,310 | \$88,127 | \$90,750 | \$98,800 | 12.1\% |
| \$297,365 | \$274,542 | \$295,872 | \$295,474 | \$319,891 | 8.1\% |
| \$2,334,620 | \$2,227,175 | \$2,443,933 | \$2,290,009 | \$2,681,230 | 9.7\% |

## Bennington-Rutland Supervisory Union FY24 Budget

| FY22 | FY22 |
| ---: | ---: |
| Budget | Actual |


| FY23 | FY23 |
| ---: | ---: |
| Budget | Anticipated |


|  | $\%$ Change |
| ---: | ---: |
| FY24 | Budgets |
| Budget | $\mathbf{2 4}$ vs 23 |


| 161 District Shared Services |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 162 | Instruction/Support |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 163 Teacher Positions |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 164 | Teacher Salaries | \$325,749 | \$461,021 | \$592,053 | \$618,523 | \$662,918 | 12.0\% |
| 165 | Health Benefits | 42,124 | 74,702 | 113,041 | 113,444 | 114,008 | 0.9\% |
| 166 | PR Taxes/Fringe/Insurance | 38,565 | 52,760 | 65,788 | 68,953 | 73,561 | 11.8\% |
| 167 |  | \$406,438 | \$588,483 | \$770,882 | \$800,920 | \$850,487 | 10.3\% |
| 168 Middle School Success |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 169 | Program Director Salary | \$0 | \$0 | \$56,779 | \$56,779 | \$0 | (100.0\%) |
| 170 | Health Benefits | 0 | 0 | 6,246 | 11,012 | 0 | (100.0\%) |
| 171 | PR Taxes/Fringe/lnsurance | $\underline{0}$ | 0 | 8,818 | 9,196 | $\underline{0}$ | (100.0\%) |
| 172 |  | \$0 | \$0 | \$71,843 | \$76,987 | \$0 | (100.0\%) |
| 173 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 174 | Tuition Reimbursement | \$9,000 | \$7,403 | \$14,000 | \$14,000 | \$14,000 | 0.0\% |
| 175 | Professional Development/Travel | 0 | 0 | 3,500 | 3,500 | 3,500 | 0.0\% |
| 176 | Technology Equipment/Districts | 103,000 | 140,536 | 118,000 | 118,000 | 118,000 | 0.0\% |
| 177 |  | \$518,438 | \$736,422 | \$978,225 | \$1,013,407 | \$985,987 | 0.8\% |
| 178 Operations |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 179 School Meal Programs |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 180 | Food Service Staff Wages | \$0 | \$101,836 | \$125,751 | \$156,984 | \$162,381 | 29.1\% |
| 181 | Health Benefits | 0 | 40,541 | 52,980 | 72,425 | 79,000 | 49.1\% |
| 182 | PR Taxes/Fringe/Insurance | 0 | 18,872 | 19,654 | 26,212 | 27,409 | 39.5\% |
| 183 |  | \$0 | \$161,249 | \$198,385 | \$255,621 | \$268,790 | 35.5\% |
| 184 Transportation Services |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 185 | Bus Driver Wages | \$50,396 | \$48,269 | \$57,485 | \$62,765 | \$64,648 | 12.5\% |
| 186 | Health Benefits | 10,780 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | n/a |
| 187 | PR Taxes/Fringe/Insurance | 10,985 | 11,168 | 12,997 | 14,598 | 15,183 | 16.8\% |
| 188 | Transportation Contracts | 561,733 | 506,278 | 583,928 | 583,928 | 601,450 | 3.0\% |
| 189 |  | \$633,894 | \$565,715 | \$654,410 | \$661,291 | \$681,281 | 4.1\% |
| 190 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 191 | Total District Services | \$1,152,332 | \$1,463,386 | \$1,831,020 | \$1,930,319 | \$1,936,058 | 5.7\% |
| 192 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 193 Consolidated Federal Programs Grant (CFP) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 194 Instructional Intervention |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 195 | Teacher Salaries | \$183,632 | \$190,115 | \$180,302 | \$195,565 | \$188,774 | 4.7\% |
| 196 | Health Benefits | 25,672 | 43,171 | 36,510 | 35,700 | 41,124 | 12.6\% |
| 197 | PR Taxes/Fringe/Insurance | 51,083 | 53,376 | 50,751 | 61,477 | 58,656 | 15.6\% |
| 198 | Professional Development | 11,250 | 810 | 11,250 | 9,800 | 9,800 | (12.9\%) |
| 199 |  | \$271,637 | \$287,472 | \$278,813 | \$302,542 | \$298,354 | 7.0\% |


| FY22 | FY22 |
| ---: | ---: |
| Budget | Actual |


| 200 | Intervention Social/Emotional |  |
| :--- | :--- | ---: |
| 201 | Teacher Salaries | $\$ 51,415$ |
| 202 | Health Benefits | 20,407 |
| 203 | PR Taxes/Fringe/Insurance | $\underline{1,288}$ |
| 204 | Professional Development | $\underline{\$ 1,360}$ |
| 205 |  |  |
| 206 | Instructional Innovation Leaders | $\$ 153,661$ |
| 207 | Teacher Salaries | 23,574 |
| 208 | Health Benefits | 29,310 |
| 209 | PR Taxes/Fringe/Insurance | $\underline{9,000}$ |
| 210 | Professional Development/Travel | $\underline{\$ 215,545}$ |
| 211 |  |  |
| 212 | Other Administration \& Support | $\$ 10,000$ |
| 213 | Homeless Services | 37,500 |
| 214 | Training/Professional Development | 0 |
| 215 | Support Services/Independent Schools | 0 |
| 216 | Supplies \& Materials | $\underline{78,007}$ |
| 217 | Program Director Position | $\underline{\$ 125,507}$ |
| 218 |  | $\underline{\$ 694,049}$ |
| 219 | Total CFP |  |

## 220

221 Medicaid/EPSDT/Other Intervention \& Support
222 Family/Student Support/Trainings
223 Family Support Liaison Salary
224 Health Benefits
225 PR Taxes/Fringe/Insurance
226 Travel
227 Supplies \& Materials
228 Trauma Informed Materials
229 Software Subscription
230 Professional Development
231
232 Instructional Innovation Leaders/Other Instructional Support
233 Teacher Salaries
$\begin{array}{r}\$ 138,439 \\ 38,596 \\ 15,575 \\ 5,000 \\ 2,000 \\ 9,000 \\ \$ 208,610 \\ \hline\end{array}$
$\begin{array}{r}\$ 54,636 \\ 10,780 \\ 9,161 \\ 3,000 \\ 500 \\ 15,000 \\ 5,500 \\ 1,500 \\ \$ 100,077 \\ \hline\end{array}$

| $\$ 54,886$ |
| ---: |
| 28,722 |
| 8,489 |
| 641 |
| 0 |
| 0 |
| 5,230 |
| $\underline{0}$ |
| $\$ 97,968$ |

\$57,368
29,652
9,509
3,000
5,000
5,50
1,500
\$111,529
\$57,368
29,572
9,968
3,000
1,000
0

5,377
1,500 \$107,785

| $\$ 60,236$ | $5.0 \%$ |
| ---: | ---: |
| 32,714 | $10.3 \%$ |
| 10,574 | $11.2 \%$ |
| 3,000 | $0.0 \%$ |
| 1,000 | $(80.0 \%)$ |
| 0 | $\mathrm{n} / \mathrm{a}$ |
| 5,500 | $0.0 \%$ |
| 1,500 | $0.0 \%$ |
| $\$ 114,524$ | $2.7 \%$ |


| $\$ 51,309$ | $\$ 0$ | $\$ 0$ | $\$ 0$ | n/a |
| ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| 14,459 | 0 | 0 | 0 | n/a |
| 7,248 | 0 | 0 | 0 | n/a |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | n/a |
| 295 | 0 | 0 | 0 | n/a |
| $\underline{5,686}$ | $\underline{0}$ | $\underline{0}$ | $\underline{0}$ | n/a |
| $\underline{\$ 78,997}$ | $\underline{\$ 0}$ | $\$ 0$ | $\$ 0$ | n/a |

## Bennington-Rutland Supervisory Union FY24 Budget




## BENNINGTON-RUTLAND SUPERVISORY UNION

GENERAL ASSESSMENT COMPARISON

District assessments change from year to year, not only because of changes to budgeted revenues and expendiitures, but also due to the change in each district's percentage share of each category of the assessment.

|  |  | Total | Mettawee | Taconic \& Green | Winhall |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 295 Assessment Comparison - FY24 to FY23 (Prior to any applied surplus) |  |  |  |  |  |
| 296 | FY24 Proposed Assessment | \$2,617,730 | \$333,635 | \$2,165,975 | \$118,120 |
| 297 | FY23 Assessment | 2,380,433 | 293,663 | 1,970,412 | 116,358 |
| 298 | Increase/(Decrease) | \$237,297 | \$39,972 | \$195,563 | \$1,762 |
| 299 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 300 | \% Increase/(Decrease) in Assessment (Prior to Surplus) | 10.00\% | 13.60\% | 9.90\% | 1.50\% |
| 301 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 302 Change in Schools ADM \% Share |  |  |  |  |  |
| 303 | DEC 2023 ADM \% Share |  | 11.92\% | 88.08\% |  |
| 304 | DEC 2022 ADM \% Share |  | 11.70\% | 88.30\% |  |
| 305 | Inc/(Dec) to ADM \% Share |  | $\underline{\underline{0.22 \%}}$ | (0.22\%) |  |
| 306 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 307 Change in Overall ADM \% Share |  |  |  |  |  |
| 308 | DEC 2023 ADM \% Share |  | 13.95\% | 75.42\% | 10.63\% |
| 309 | DEC 2022 ADM \% Share |  | 13.31\% | 75.96\% | 10.73\% |
| 310 311 | Inc/(Dec) to ADM \% Share |  | $\underline{\underline{0.64 \%}}$ | (0.54\%) | (0.10\%) |
| 312 Change in Assessment by Cost Center |  |  |  |  |  |
| 313 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 314 | School Based Student/Staff Support FY24 | \$1,095,316 | \$130,541 | \$964,775 |  |
| 315 | School Based Student/Staff Support FY23 | 982,915 | 115,032 | 867,883 |  |
| 316 | Increase/(Decrease) 11.4\% | \$112,401 | \$15,509 | \$96,892 |  |
| 317 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 318 | Administration FY24 (HR transferred to section below) | \$873,796 | \$121,862 | \$659,032 | \$92,902 |
| 319 | Administration FY23 | 906,541 | 120,675 | 688,611 | 97,255 |
| 320 | Increase/(Decrease) (3.6\%) (Impacted by HR transfer) | (\$32,745) | \$1,187 | (\$29,579) | (\$4,353) |
| 321 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 322 | Finance \& Personnel FY24 (HR transferred to section below) | \$328,727 | \$48,734 | \$263,557 | \$16,436 |
| 323 | Finance \& Personnel FY23 | 195,105 | 27,639 | 157,711 | $\underline{9,755}$ |
| 324 | Increase/(Decrease) 68.5\% (Impacted by HR transfer) | \$133,622 | \$21,095 | \$105,846 | \$6,681 |
| 325 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 326 | Facilities \& Transportation Administration FY24 | \$221,091 | \$20,723 | \$191,586 | \$8,782 |
| 327 | Facilities \& Transportation Administration FY23 | 207,745 | 19,204 | 179,193 | 9,348 |
| 328 | Increase/(Decrease) 6.4\% | \$13,346 | \$1,519 | \$12,393 | (\$566) |
| 329 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 330 | School Meals Program Administration FY24 | \$98,800 | \$11,775 | \$87,025 |  |
| 331 | School Meals Program Administration FY23 | 88,127 | 11,113 | 77,014 |  |
| 332 | Increase/(Decrease) 12.1\% | \$10,673 | $\underline{\$ 662}$ | $\underline{\$ 10,011}$ |  |



|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |


|  |  |  |  |  |  |  | \% Change |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | FY22 | FY22 | FY23 | FY23 | FY24 | Budgets |
|  |  | Budget | Actual | Budget | Anticipated | Budget | $\underline{24}$ vs 23 |
| 85 | PR Taxes/Fringe/Insurance | 8,583 | 453 | 7,249 | 7,377 | 7,923 | 9.3\% |
| 86 | Behavior Interventionist Position | 34,950 | 38,000 | 38,000 | 41,000 | 43,000 | 13.2\% |
| 87 | Prof Development/Tuition | 1,000 | 0 | 2,500 | 2,500 | 2,500 | 0.0\% |
| 88 | Administrator Salaries | 40,250 | 23,475 | 68,331 | 88,000 | 92,400 | 35.2\% |
| 89 | Medical | 7,270 | 4,129 | 17,020 | 24,534 | 27,868 | 63.7\% |
| 90 | PR Taxes/Fringe/Insurance | 4,523 | 2,904 | 7,128 | 10,293 | 10,739 | 50.7\% |
| 91 | Total Direct Services PK-8 | \$160,543 | \$71,726 | \$223,247 | \$256,723 | \$273,771 | 22.6\% |
| 92 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 93 | Services Provided to Students in Grades Educated Within Schools in the Supervisory Union |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 94 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 95 | Special Educators |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 96 | Teacher Salaries | \$1,342,073 | \$1,323,660 | \$1,455,510 | \$1,410,735 | \$1,534,619 | 5.4\% |
| 97 | Extended School Year Services | 25,000 | 17,671 | 25,000 | 25,000 | 25,000 | 0.0\% |
| 98 | Substitutes | 12,000 | 3,549 | 12,000 | 6,000 | 6,000 | (50.0\%) |
| 99 | Medical | 345,856 | 282,215 | 316,181 | 323,018 | 369,050 | 16.7\% |
| 100 | PR Taxes/Fringe/Insurance | 141,293 | 133,481 | 151,219 | 157,718 | 166,410 | 10.0\% |
| 101 |  | \$1,866,222 | \$1,760,576 | \$1,959,910 | \$1,922,471 | \$2,101,079 | 7.2\% |
| 2 | Other Instructional |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 103 | Behavior Support Services | \$25,000 | \$13,472 | \$25,000 | \$25,000 | \$25,000 | 0.0\% |
| 104 | Tuition/Services | 721,948 | 1,035,746 | 828,225 | 924,774 | 231,340 | (72.1\%) |
| 105 | District Services/Extraordinary | 123,248 | 55,672 | 52,412 | 36,098 | 30,158 | (42.5\%) |
| 106 | Supplies \& Equipment | 37,500 | $\underline{24,104}$ | 37,500 | 37,500 | 37,500 | 0.0\% |
| 107 |  | \$907,696 | \$1,128,994 | \$943,137 | \$1,023,372 | \$323,998 | (65.6\%) |
| 108 | Speech \& Language Pathologists |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 109 | Teacher Salaries | \$509,765 | \$511,417 | \$507,094 | \$487,563 | \$493,137 | (2.8\%) |
| 110 | Extended School Year Wages | 11,500 | 14,640 | 11,500 | 11,500 | 11,500 | 0.0\% |
| 111 | Substitutes | 2,000 | 0 | 2,000 | 2,000 | 2,000 | 0.0\% |
| 112 | Medical | 121,669 | 112,201 | 157,028 | 122,235 | 130,903 | (16.6\%) |
| 113 | PR Taxes/Fringe/Insurance | 53,817 | 54,101 | 54,683 | 54,025 | 54,189 | (0.9\%) |
| 114 |  | \$698,751 | \$692,359 | \$732,305 | \$677,323 | \$691,729 | (5.5\%) |
| 115 Student Support | Student Support |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 116 | Contracted Services | \$10,600 | \$22,022 | \$21,300 | \$30,763 | \$18,101 | (15.0\%) |
| 117 | Extended School Year Wages | 7,000 | 6,247 | 7,000 | 7,000 | 7,000 | 0.0\% |
| 118 | PR Taxes/Fringe/Insurance | 576 | 631 | 576 | 575 | 575 | (0.2\%) |
| 119 | Teacher Salaries/Counseling | 5,036 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | n/a |
| 120 | Medical | 1,037 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | n/a |
| 121 | PR Taxes/Fringe/Insurance | 788 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | n/a |
| 122 | Evaluations | 7,500 | 14,609 | 7,500 | 7,500 | 7,500 | 0.0\% |
| 123 | Counseling Services | 5,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | n/a |
| 124 | Speech/Auditory Services | 18,500 | 103,843 | 221,700 | 150,261 | 215,391 | (2.8\%) |
| 125 | Speech Supplies/Software | 7,000 | 12,364 | 10,000 | 10,000 | 10,000 | 0.0\% |
| 126 | Transportation Services | $\underline{20,200}$ | $\underline{20,813}$ | 26,000 | 22,165 | 14,165 | (45.5\%) |
| 127 |  | \$83,237 | \$180,529 | \$294,076 | \$228,264 | \$272,732 | (7.3\%) |


|  |  | FY22 Budget | FY22 <br> Actual | FY23 Budget | FY23 <br> Anticipated | FY24 Budget | \% Change <br> Budgets <br> 24 vs 23 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 128 Staff Support |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 129 | Professional Dev. Support Stipends | \$6,000 | \$10,052 | \$9,750 | \$5,500 | \$7,500 | (23.1\%) |
| 130 | PR Taxes/Fringe/Insurance | 494 | 769 | 802 | 452 | 617 | (23.1\%) |
| 131 | Professional Development/Tuition | 45,000 | 21,255 | 45,000 | 45,000 | 45,000 | 0.0\% |
| 132 | District Professional Development | 10,000 | 5,804 | 10,000 | 10,000 | 10,000 | 0.0\% |
| 133 | Travel | 1,500 | 530 | 1,500 | 1,500 | 1,500 | 0.0\% |
| 134 |  | \$62,994 | \$38,410 | \$67,052 | \$62,452 | \$64,617 | (3.6\%) |
| 135 ANCHOR Program |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 136 | Teachers \& Behaviorist Salaries | \$203,760 | \$120,603 | \$126,748 | \$124,616 | \$141,280 | 11.5\% |
| 137 | Paraeducator Wages | 60,925 | 61,292 | 126,785 | 105,910 | 154,142 | 21.6\% |
| 138 | Extended School Year Wages | 6,000 | 5,569 | 6,000 | 6,000 | 6,000 | 0.0\% |
| 139 | Substitutes | 2,000 | 0 | 2,000 | 2,000 | 2,000 | 0.0\% |
| 140 | Medical | 87,149 | 70,589 | 112,860 | 80,176 | 102,782 | (8.9\%) |
| 141 | PR Taxes/Fringe/Insurance | 32,699 | 21,236 | 32,241 | 30,477 | 39,770 | 23.4\% |
| 142 | Program Supplies/Services | 5,000 | 6,094 | 5,000 | 5,000 | 5,000 | 0.0\% |
| 143 | Teacher Salaries/Counseling | 57,363 | 58,544 | 59,151 | 60,764 | 65,625 | 10.9\% |
| 144 | Medical | 9,034 | 9,080 | 9,375 | 9,320 | 10,515 | 12.2\% |
| 145 | PR Taxes/Fringe/Insurance | 6,739 | 7,039 | 6,893 | 7,253 | 7,680 | 11.4\% |
| 146 | Professional Development | 10,000 | 18,404 | 10,000 | 10,000 | 10,000 | 0.0\% |
| 147 |  | \$480,669 | \$378,450 | \$497,053 | \$441,516 | \$544,794 | 9.6\% |
| 148 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 149 | RISE Program |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 150 | Teacher Salaries | \$57,363 | \$59,177 | \$60,764 | \$60,764 | \$65,625 | 8.0\% |
| 151 | Paraeducator Wages | 156,722 | 122,577 | 231,417 | 131,292 | 165,575 | (28.5\%) |
| 152 | Extended School Year Wages | 6,000 | 5,000 | 6,000 | 6,000 | 6,000 | 0.0\% |
| 153 | Substitutes | 2,000 | 1,840 | 2,000 | 2,000 | 2,000 | 0.0\% |
| 154 | Medical | 71,000 | 15,165 | 50,681 | 18,993 | 21,032 | (58.5\%) |
| 155 | PR Taxes/Fringe/Insurance | 28,747 | 24,194 | 39,746 | 26,782 | 32,888 | (17.3\%) |
| 156 | Behavior Support Services | 6,400 | 5,312 | 6,400 | 6,400 | 6,400 | 0.0\% |
| 157 | Teacher Salaries/Speech |  |  |  | 28,776 | 31,046 | n/a |
| 158 | Medical |  |  |  | 10,259 | 11,657 | n/a |
| 159 | PR Taxes/Fringe/Insurance |  |  |  | 3,588 | 3,792 | n/a |
| 160 | Program Supplies/Services | 5,000 | 520 | 5,000 | 5,000 | 5,000 | 0.0\% |
| 161 | Professional Development | 6,000 | 330 | 6,000 | 6,000 | 6,000 | 0.0\% |
| 162 |  | \$339,232 | \$234,115 | \$408,008 | \$305,854 | \$357,015 | (12.5\%) |
| 163 Early Retirement |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 164 | Early Retirement Payments | \$0 | \$0 | \$63,133 | \$62,473 | \$55,933 | (11.4\%) |
| 165 | PR Taxes/Fringe/Insurance | $\underline{0}$ | $\underline{0}$ | 4,830 | 4,779 | 4,279 | (11.4\%) |
| 166 |  | \$0 | \$0 | \$67,963 | \$67,252 | \$60,212 | (11.4\%) |
| 167 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 168 | Total - Grades Served within SU | \$4,438,801 | \$4,413,433 | \$4,969,504 | \$4,728,504 | \$4,416,176 | (11.1\%) |
| 169 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |


|  |  | FY22 <br> Budget | FY22 <br> Actual | FY23 <br> Budget | FY23 <br> Anticipated | FY24 <br> Budget | $\begin{array}{r} \text { \% Change } \\ \text { Budgets } \\ 24 \text { vs } 23 \\ \hline \end{array}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 170 Services Provided to Students in Grades Educated Outside of the Supervisory Union |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 171 | Instruction |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 172 | Extended School Year Wages | \$1,500 | \$875 | \$1,500 | \$1,500 | \$1,500 | 0.0\% |
| 173 | PR Taxes/Fringe/Insurance | 123 | 72 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 0.0\% |
| 174 | Services/Tuition | 3,246,534 | 3,043,956 | 3,113,758 | 3,790,817 | 4,393,002 | 41.1\% |
| 175 | Supplies | 500 | $\underline{0}$ | 500 | 500 | 500 | 0.0\% |
| 176 |  | \$3,248,657 | \$3,044,903 | \$3,115,881 | \$3,792,940 | \$4,395,125 | 41.1\% |
| 177 Student Support |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 178 | Health Services | \$1,260 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | n/a |
| 179 | Evaluations | 7,500 | 0 | 7,500 | 7,500 | 7,500 | 0.0\% |
| 180 | Counseling Services | 74,600 | 53,653 | 33,626 | 73,042 | 57,349 | 70.5\% |
| 181 | Speech Services | 112,000 | 145,492 | 87,611 | 96,153 | 102,103 | 16.5\% |
| 182 | Occupational/Physical Therapy | 13,300 | 42,564 | 17,800 | 89,229 | 101,891 | 472.4\% |
| 183 | Transportation Services | 21,500 | 26,959 | 26,000 | 30,586 | 38,586 | 48.4\% |
| 184 |  | \$230,160 | \$268,668 | \$172,537 | \$296,510 | \$307,429 | 78.2\% |
| 185 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 186 | Total - Grades Served Outside SU | \$3,478,817 | \$3,313,571 | \$3,288,418 | \$4,089,450 | \$4,702,554 | 43.0\% |
| 187 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 188 Student Support Services |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 189 Psychological |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 190 | Psychologist Salaries | \$160,828 | \$161,328 | \$168,870 | \$168,870 | \$177,314 | 5.0\% |
| 191 | Medical | 26,156 | 26,725 | 27,135 | 26,503 | 29,913 | 10.2\% |
| 192 | PR Taxes/Fringe/Insurance | 46,149 | 45,967 | 46,844 | 53,162 | 53,467 | 14.1\% |
| 193 | Materials \& Supplies | 3,000 | 1,640 | 3,000 | 3,000 | 3,000 | 0.0\% |
| 194 | Professional Development | 6,000 | 525 | 6,000 | 6,000 | 6,000 | 0.0\% |
| 195 | Travel | 3,700 | 1,973 | 3,700 | 3,700 | 3,700 | 0.0\% |
| 196 |  | \$245,833 | \$238,158 | \$255,549 | \$261,235 | \$273,394 | 7.0\% |
| 197 Occupational Therapy K-12 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 198 | Occupational Therapist Salaries | \$191,330 | \$164,179 | \$170,747 | \$174,188 | \$182,897 | 7.1\% |
| 199 | Medical | 76,696 | 66,493 | 73,626 | 75,408 | 83,420 | 13.3\% |
| 200 | PR Taxes/Fringe/Insurance | 31,327 | 27,400 | 28,061 | 29,973 | 31,769 | 13.2\% |
| 201 | Supplies | 2,000 | 1,667 | 2,000 | 2,000 | 2,000 | 0.0\% |
| 202 | Professional Development | 4,500 | 534 | 4,500 | 4,500 | 4,500 | 0.0\% |
| 203 | Travel | 3,000 | 455 | 3,000 | 1,500 | 1,500 | (50.0\%) |
| 204 |  | \$308,853 | \$260,728 | \$281,934 | \$287,569 | \$306,086 | 8.6\% |
| 205 Physical Therapy K-12 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 206 | Physical Therapist Salaries | \$88,348 | \$69,549 | \$80,640 | \$78,787 | \$82,662 | 2.5\% |
| 207 | PR Taxes/Fringe/Insurance | 7,294 | 5,837 | 6,657 | 6,612 | 6,931 | 4.1\% |
| 208 | Services/Supplies | 300 | 0 | 10,000 | 300 | 300 | (97.0\%) |
| 209 | Travel | $\underline{250}$ | $\underline{0}$ | $\underline{250}$ | $\underline{250}$ | $\underline{250}$ | 0.0\% |
| 210 |  | \$96,192 | \$75,386 | \$97,547 | \$85,949 | \$90,143 | (7.6\%) |
| 211 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 212 | Total Student Support Services | \$650,878 | \$574,272 | \$635,030 | \$634,753 | \$669,623 | 5.4\% |


|  |  | FY22 Budget | $\begin{array}{r} \text { FY22 } \\ \text { Actual } \\ \hline \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} \text { FY23 } \\ \text { Budget } \end{array}$ | FY23 Anticipated | $\begin{array}{r} \text { FY24 } \\ \text { Budget } \end{array}$ | \% Change <br> Budgets <br> $\underline{24}$ vs 23 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 214 Administration PK-12 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 215 Adminstrative Staffing |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 216 | Director of Student Services | \$107,120 | \$107,370 | \$112,476 | \$111,406 | \$115,000 | 2.2\% |
| 217 | Student Service Coordinators | 336,861 | 376,044 | 376,553 | 339,808 | 356,892 | (5.2\%) |
| 218 | Administrative Staff Salaries | 56,288 | 48,509 | 54,915 | 51,250 | 54,200 | (1.3\%) |
| 219 | Medical | 104,309 | 102,292 | 96,916 | 80,727 | 91,589 | (5.5\%) |
| 220 | PR Taxes/Fringe/Insurance | 120,680 | 126,497 | 123,213 | 170,677 | 173,134 | 40.5\% |
| 221 |  | \$725,258 | \$760,712 | \$764,073 | \$753,868 | \$790,815 | 3.5\% |
| 222 Administrative Services |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 223 | Professional Development | \$25,000 | \$21,391 | \$25,000 | \$25,000 | \$25,000 | 0.0\% |
| 224 | Contracted Service | 8,000 | 681 | 8,000 | 8,000 | 8,000 | 0.0\% |
| 225 | Legal | 5,000 | 409 | 5,000 | 5,000 | 5,000 | 0.0\% |
| 226 | Postage | 3,000 | 2,049 | 3,000 | 3,000 | 3,000 | 0.0\% |
| 227 | Advertising | 2,000 | 3,095 | 2,000 | 2,000 | 2,000 | 0.0\% |
| 228 | Travel | 9,600 | 4,323 | 9,600 | 7,500 | 7,500 | (21.9\%) |
| 229 | Supplies/Software/Copier/Equipment | 14,500 | 15,105 | 14,500 | 14,500 | 14,500 | 0.0\% |
| 230 |  | \$67,100 | \$47,053 | \$67,100 | \$65,000 | \$65,000 | (3.1\%) |
| 231 Transportation Administration |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 232 | Director of Transportation Salary | \$26,881 | \$28,358 | \$30,902 | \$30,902 | \$32,448 | 5.0\% |
| 233 | Medical | 8,491 | 11,339 | 11,656 | 7,030 | 7,731 | (33.7\%) |
| 234 | PR Taxes/Fringe/Insurance | 4,379 | 4,686 | 4,968 | 5,212 | 5,535 | 11.4\% |
| 235 |  | \$39,751 | \$44,383 | \$47,526 | \$43,144 | \$45,714 | (3.8\%) |
| 236 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 237 | Total Administration | \$832,109 | \$852,148 | \$878,699 | \$862,012 | \$901,529 | 2.6\% |
| 238 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 239 Transportation |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 240 Transportation Staff |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 241 | Driver \& Assistant Wages | \$226,187 | \$277,350 | \$295,071 | \$299,165 | \$322,009 | 9.1\% |
| 242 | Medical | 71,348 | 69,292 | 96,544 | 84,862 | 100,644 | 4.2\% |
| 243 | PR Taxes/Fringe/Insurance | 42,843 | 48,064 | 54,066 | 60,022 | 62,574 | 15.7\% |
| 244 |  | \$340,378 | \$394,706 | \$445,681 | \$444,049 | \$485,227 | 8.9\% |
| 245 Transportation Services/Support |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 246 | Repairs \& Maintenance | \$20,000 | \$31,911 | \$20,000 | \$20,000 | \$20,000 | 0.0\% |
| 247 | Services/Insurance | 4,000 | 7,070 | 4,000 | 4,000 | 4,000 | 0.0\% |
| 248 | Advertising | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 0.0\% |
| 249 | Professional Development/Travel | 500 | 0 | 500 | 500 | 500 | 0.0\% |
| 250 | Services Provided by Districts | 3,000 | 5,027 | 3,000 | 3,000 | 3,000 | 0.0\% |
| 251 | Supplies | 1,200 | 104 | 1,200 | 1,200 | 1,200 | 0.0\% |
| 252 | Fuel | 33,000 | 46,560 | 25,000 | 50,000 | 50,000 | 100.0\% |
| 253 | Bus Purchase/Lease | $\underline{0}$ | 70,478 | $\underline{0}$ | $\underline{0}$ | $\underline{0}$ | n/a |
| 254 |  | \$62,700 | \$162,150 | \$54,700 | \$79,700 | \$79,700 | 45.7\% |
| 255 | Total Transportation | \$403,078 | \$556,856 | \$500,381 | \$523,749 | \$564,927 | 12.9\% |
| 256 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 257 | Total Special Education | \$10,536,592 | \$10,373,413 | \$10,927,008 | \$11,504,663 | \$11,956,902 | 9.4\% |


|  |  | Total | Mettawee | Taconic \& Green | Winhall |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 258 Early Education - Instruction |  |  |  |  |  |
| 259 | ADM (less direct billed site) | 114.90 | 4.00 | 101.90 | 9.00 |
| 260 | Percentage Allocation |  | 3.5\% | 88.7\% | 7.8\% |
| 261 | Early Education Instruction | \$177,918 | \$6,194 | \$157,788 | \$13,936 |
| 262 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 263 | Early Education - Speech/lnstructional Supp |  |  |  |  |
| 264 | ADM | 133.90 | 23.00 | 101.90 | 9.00 |
| 265 | Percentage Allocation |  | 17.2\% | 76.1\% | 6.7\% |
| 266 | Early Education Speech | \$179,261 | \$30,792 | \$136,421 | \$12,048 |
| 267 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 268 | Early Ed Block Grant Allocation |  |  |  |  |
| 269 | ADM | 133.90 | 23.00 | 101.90 | 9.00 |
| 270 | Percentage Allocation |  | 17.2\% | 76.1\% | 6.7\% |
| 271 | Early Ed Block Grant Allocation | (\$169,330) | (\$29,086) | (\$128,864) | (\$11,380) |
| 272 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 273 Services K-6/8 Grades Served |  |  |  |  |  |
| 274 | Projected Budget Year Enrollment | 998.04 | 120.00 | 851.03 | 27.01 |
| 275 | Percentage Allocation |  | 12.0\% | 85.3\% | 2.7\% |
| 276 | Services K-6/8 | \$2,172,096 | \$261,164 | \$1,852,149 | \$58,783 |
| 277 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 278 | Services 7/9-12 \& K-8 choice out of our SU |  |  |  |  |
| 279 | Projected Budget Year Enrollment | 890.40 | 142.15 | 571.25 | 177.00 |
| 280 | Percentage Allocation |  | 16.0\% | 64.2\% | 19.9\% |
| 281 | Services 7/9-12 | \$1,324,668 | \$211,479 | \$849,862 | \$263,327 |
| 282 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 283 | Student Support/Administration/Transporta |  |  |  |  |
| 284 | Projected Budget Year Enrollment | 2,022.34 | 285.15 | 1,524.18 | 213.01 |
| 285 | Percentage Allocation |  | 14.1\% | 75.4\% | 10.5\% |
| 286 | Student Support/Administration/Transportation | \$514,277 | \$72,513 | \$387,595 | \$54,169 |
| 287 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 288 | Total Assessment | \$4,198,890 | \$553,056 | \$3,254,951 | \$390,883 |
| 289 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 290 | Surplus Returned FY24 |  |  |  |  |
| 291 | FY22 Overall Assessment Allocation |  | 12.7\% | 79.4\% | 8.0\% |
| 292 | Surplus Applied | (\$250,000) | (\$31.675) | (\$198.450) | (\$19.875) |
| 293 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 294 | FY24 Assessments after Returned Surplus | \$3,948,890 | \$521,381 | \$3,056,501 | $\underline{\$ 371,008}$ |
| 295 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 296 Assessment Comparison - FY24 to FY23 (Excluding Surplus Returned) |  |  |  |  |  |
| 297 | FY24 Assessment | \$4,198,890 | \$553,056 | \$3,254,951 | \$390,883 |
| 298 | FY23 Assessment | 3,502,157 | 443,671 | 2,780,170 | 278,316 |
| 299 | Variance | \$696,733 | \$109,385 | \$474,781 | \$112,567 |
| 300 | Percentage Increase/(Decrease) | 19.9\% | $\underline{\underline{24.7 \%}}$ | 17.1\% | 40.4\% |

## BENNINGTON-RUTLAND SUPERVISORY UNION <br> SPECIAL EDUCATION ASSESSMENT COMPARISON

District assessments change from year to year, not only because of changes to budgeted revenues and expendiitures, but also due to the change in each district's percentage share of each category of the assessment.

|  |  | Total | Mettawee | Taconic \& Green | Winhall |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 301 Early Education |  |  |  |  |  |
| 302 | FY24 Assessment less Block Grant Allocation | \$187,849 | \$7,900 | \$165,345 | \$14,604 |
| 303 | FY23 Assessment less Block Grant Allocation | 199,222 | 6,479 | 181,405 | 11,338 |
| 304 | Increase/(Decrease) | (\$11,373) | \$1,421 | (\$16,060) | \$3,266 |
| 305 | \% Increase/(Decrease) | (5.7\%) | $\underline{\underline{21.9 \%}}$ | (8.9\%) | $\underline{\underline{28.8 \%}}$ |
| 306 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 307 Services K-6/8 Grades Served - Less estimated state reimbursement |  |  |  |  |  |
| 308 | Projected FY24 Enrollment | 998 | 120 | 851 | 27 |
| 309 | Projected FY23 Enrollment | 1,002 | 118 | 868 | 16 |
| 310 | Increase/(Decrease) | (4) | $\underline{\underline{2}}$ | (17) | $\underline{11}$ |
| 311 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 312 | FY24 Percentage Allocation |  | 12.0\% | 85.3\% | 2.7\% |
| 313 | FY23 Percentage Allocation |  | 11.8\% | 86.6\% | 1.6\% |
| 314 | Increase/(Decrease) |  | $\underline{\underline{0.2 \%}}$ | (1.3\%) | $\underline{\underline{1.1 \%}}$ |
| 315 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 316 | FY24 Assessment | \$2,172,096 | \$261,164 | \$1,852,149 | \$58,783 |
| 317 | FY23 Assessment | 1,989,427 | 234,284 | 1,723,375 | 31,768 |
| 318 | Increase/(Decrease) | \$182,669 | \$26,880 | \$128,774 | \$27,015 |
| 319 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 320 Services 7/9-12 \& K-8 choice out of our SU - Less estimated state reimbursement |  |  |  |  |  |
| 321 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 322 | Projected FY24 Enrollment | 890 | 142 | 571 | 177 |
| 323 | Projected FY23 Enrollment | 939 | 151 | 592 | 196 |
| 324 | Increase/(Decrease) | (49) | (9) | (21) | (19) |
| 325 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 326 | FY24 Percentage Allocation |  | 16.0\% | 64.2\% | 19.9\% |
| 327 | FY23 Percentage Allocation |  | 16.1\% | 63.0\% | 20.9\% |
| 328 | Increase/(Decrease) |  | (0.1\%) | 1.2\% | (1.0\%) |
| 329 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 330 | FY24 Assessment | \$1,324,688 | \$211,479 | \$849,862 | \$263,327 |
| 331 | FY23 Assessment | 939,112 | 151,018 | 592,070 | 196,024 |
| 332 | Increase/(Decrease) | \$385,576 | \$60,461 | \$257,792 | \$67,303 |

District assessments change from year to year, not only because of changes to budgeted revenues and expendiitures, but also due to the change in each district's percentage share of each category of the assessment.

|  |  | Total | Mettawee | Taconic \& Green | Winhall |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 333 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 334 Psychological/OT/PT/Administration/Transportation - Less IDEA covered costs |  |  |  |  |  |
| 335 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 336 | Projected FY24 Enrollment - PK - 12 | 2,022 | 285 | 1,524 | 213 |
| 337 | Projected FY23 Enrollment - PK - 12 | 2,079 | $\underline{288}$ | 1,572 | $\underline{219}$ |
| 338 | Increase/(Decrease) | (57) | (3) | (48) | (6) |
| 339 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 340 | FY24 Percentage Allocation |  | 14.1\% | 75.4\% | 10.5\% |
| 341 | FY23 Percentage Allocation |  | 13.9\% | 75.6\% | 10.5\% |
| 342 | Increase/(Decrease) |  | 0.2\% | (0.2\%) | 0.0\% |
| 343 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 344 | FY24 Assessment | \$514,277 | \$72,513 | \$387,595 | \$54,169 |
| 345 | FY23 Assessment | 369,801 | 51,229 | 279,617 | 38,955 |
| 346 | Increase/(Decrease) | \$144, 476 | \$21,284 | \$107,978 | \$15,214 |

$\left.\begin{array}{lrrrrr} & & & \begin{array}{c}\text { Budget to } \\ \text { Budget }\end{array} \\ \text { Increase/ }\end{array}\right)$
BRSU and Member Districts Aggregated Full-Time Equivalent Position Counts (FTE) - Staffing included in Assessments from the BRSU, Local Budgets, and Grant Funds

|  | Position | Category | FY23 <br> Budget | FY23 <br> Anticipated | FY24 Budget | Budget to Budget Increase/ (Decrease) | Comment |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | Superintendent | Administration | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 0.00 |  |
| 2 | Director of Student Services | Administration | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 0.00 |  |
| 3 | Principal/Assistant Principal | Administration | 7.80 | 8.00 | 8.00 | 0.20 | Two Assistant Principal positions (Flood Brook/MEMS) allocated between local buildings and special education administration |
| 4 | Director of Teaching \& Learning | Administration | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 0.00 |  |
| 5 | MTSS/Equity Coordinator | Administration | 1.00 | 0.90 | 0.00 | (1.00) | Two-Year position completed; 0.40 loca//0.60 ESSER funded |
| 6 | Director of Student Support Administration | Administration | 0.00 | 0.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | New administrative position (see reductions in lines 5 and 14) |
| 7 | Student Service Coordinator | Administration | 3.20 | 2.98 | 3.00 | (0.20) | Two Assistant Principal positions (Flood Brook/MEMS) allocated between local buildings and special education administration |
| 8 | Early Education Coordinator/SSC | Administration | 1.00 | 0.85 | 0.85 | (0.15) | Allocation of FTE to another assignment (ASP coordinator-grant funded) |
| 9 | Director of Finance \& Business | Administration | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 0.00 |  |
| 10 | Director of Technology | Administration | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 0.00 |  |
| 11 | Director of Operations | Administration | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 0.00 |  |
| 12 | Director of Transportation | Administration | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 0.00 |  |
| 13 | Director of Foodservice | Administration | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 0.00 |  |
| 14 | Tech Innovation/Data Mgmt Leader | Teacher | 1.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | (1.00) | Position eliminated; New administrative position in place above (line 6) |
| 15 | Classroom - PK-8 | Teacher | 71.00 | 70.85 | 71.00 | 0.00 |  |
| 16 | Unified Arts | Teacher | 22.10 | 22.87 | 24.10 | 2.00 | Grant funded positions |
| 17 | English Language Services | Teacher | 1.00 | 2.40 | 2.40 | 1.40 | Grant funded positions |
| 18 | Interventionist | Teacher | 9.40 | 9.89 | 11.00 | 1.60 | Increased locally funded positions by 2.0 |
| 19 | Instructional Coach | Teacher | 5.00 | 5.00 | 4.00 | (1.00) | Two-Year position completed |
| 20 | Social/Emotional Student Support | Teacher | 8.00 | 7.40 | 8.00 | 0.00 | Although no overall FTE change, increase of 1.0 locally funded |
| 21 | Social/Emotional Intervention | Teacher | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 0.00 |  |
| 22 | Library/Media Teacher | Teacher | 4.60 | 4.45 | 4.60 | 0.00 |  |

BRSU and Member Districts Aggregated Full-Time Equivalent Position Counts (FTE) - Staffing included in Assessments from the BRSU, Local Budgets, and Grant Funds

|  | Position | Category | FY23 Budget | FY23 <br> Anticipated | FY24 <br> Budget | Budget to Budget Increase/ (Decrease) | Comment |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 23 | Nurse | Teacher | 6.50 | 6.08 | 6.00 | (0.50) | Sabbatical from FY23 complete |
| 24 | Special Educator | Teacher | 26.00 | 26.55 | 27.00 | 1.00 | Increased with reduction to local T\&G budget of two para positions at one location |
| 25 | Counselor | Teacher | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 0.00 |  |
| 26 | Speech Language Pathologist | Teacher | 8.50 | 8.50 | 8.00 | (0.50) | Sabbatical from FY23 complete |
| 27 | Leave Positions | Teacher | 1.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | (1.00) | Eliminated position funding |
| 28 | HHB/Restorative Justice Coordinator | Student Support | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 0.00 |  |
| 29 | Family Support Liaison | Student Support | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 0.00 |  |
| 30 | Student Engagement Intervention | Student Support | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 0.00 |  |
| 31 | Psychologist | Student Support | 2.00 | 2.00 | 3.00 | 1.00 | Grant funded positions for evaluations |
| 32 | Occupational Therapist | Student Support | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 0.00 |  |
| 33 | Physical Therapist | Student Support | 0.70 | 1.70 | 0.90 | 0.20 | Incresed FTE, partially grant funded |
| 34 | Instructional Assistant | Student Support | 0.00 | 0.00 | 9.00 | 9.00 | New positions for classroom team pilot at MEMS/FIood Brook |
| 35 | Paraeducator | Student Support | 57.80 | 44.41 | 54.60 | (3.20) | Reduction per line 24 above and net changes in needed supports in programming |
| 36 | Full-Time Substitute | Student Support | 3.00 | 1.00 | 3.00 | 0.00 |  |
| 37 | After School Program Coordinator | Student Support | 0.70 | 0.15 | 0.15 | (0.55) | Assignment taken on by a current administrator, see line 8 |
| 38 | Success Program Director | Student Support | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 0.00 |  |
| 39 | Administrative Support Staff | Administration | 14.75 | 14.22 | 14.60 | (0.15) | Reduction per employee request and shift from accounting allocation |
| 40 | Accounting/HR Staff | Staff | 4.25 | 3.91 | 5.00 | 0.75 | Shift to administrative allocation, and a new 1.0 full-time position added |
| 41 | Technicians/IT Support | Staff | 3.00 | 2.70 | 3.00 | 0.00 |  |
| 42 | Building \& Grounds/Transportation | Staff | 36.40 | 35.70 | 37.60 | 1.20 | Increase driver position and staff support on buses |
| 43 | School Meals Staff | Staff | 10.40 | 10.58 | 11.20 | 0.80 | Two part-time positions to support two schools |
|  |  | Total FTE $\underline{\underline{327.10}}$ |  | $\underline{\underline{310.09}}$ | $\underline{338.00}$ | $\underline{10.90}$ |  |
|  |  | Grant Funded Decreased FTE |  |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & (1.25) \\ & 12.15 \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ |  |

## INFORMATIONAL MEETING MINUTES <br> FEBRUARY 22, 2022 -7:00PM VIRTUAL MEETING

Board Members present: Herb Ogden, Board Chair; Dick Dale, Vice Chair; David Chandler, Jim Salsgiver, Ben Freeman, Melanie Virgilio, Jane Worley, Deb Lyneis, Lindsay Ralph, Alex Wilde, Jeff Wilson and John Wilson. Absent: Leigh LoPresti

BRSU Superintendent Randi Lowe, BRSU Director of Finance Sue Wilborn
Staff member Celeste Keel and Burr \& Burton Academy Headmaster Mark Tashjian
Vermont State Representatives from the School District: Rep. Seth Bongartz, Rep. David Durfee and Rep. Kathleen James.

Other members of the communities were also on ZOOM or by telephone participating in the meeting.
Moderator Oliver Olsen went over the procedures of the virtual meeting and asked anyone wishing to speak to please use the "raise hand" signal. Herb Ogden then thanked Superintendent Randi Lowe and her staff, fellow board members and the community for another great year and the continued support of the children in our communities during the COVID-19 pandemic.

## Articles to discuss:

Article 1: To hear and act upon the reports of the School District Directors and Officers.
A motion was made by Dick Dale to accept the reports as presented and seconded by Herb Ogden. The motion carried.
Vermont State Rep. Durfee then spoke about the large surplus in the state educational fund and that it will be passed along next year to reduce the tax rate. Rep. James spoke briefly about the issues at hand on the Ed Committee. Currently Act 28 deals with literacy, Act 35 is about inclusiveness within our schools, Act 67 deals with community schools, Act 72 is about facilities and Chapter 11 deals with Union School Districts. The Ed Committee is not taking on any new bills at this time as their plate is full. Rep. Bongartz began by reiterating the thanks given to Superintendent Randi Lowe and then spoke about Rule 2200. This is about school choice and using public dollars for independent schools. Currently there is a bill S219 in the House by Sen. Campion which supports school choice and the ability to use public monies for independent schools. He stressed the importance of the bill and if it were to fail, the problems it would create for Burr \& Burton Academy and our community.

Article 2: To discuss articles to be voted upon by Australian ballot.
See articles 4-12 below.
Article 3: To transact any other business which may legally come before this meeting.
Oliver Olsen asked Dick Dale to step in as moderator as he wished to address the meeting and cannot do so as moderator. Oliver Olsen then stated that he was speaking as a voter and parent in the district. He referenced Rep. Bongartz and stated that the threat is real, he encouraged the school boards to fight the action and to not allow destruction of our independent schools.

With no other business to come before this meeting, Dick Dale moves to adjourn, seconded by Herb Ogden. The motion was carried and the meeting adjourned at $8: 05 \mathrm{pm}$.

## MEETING MINUTES

(continued)
To be voted by Australian Ballot on Tuesday, March 1, 2022:
Article 4: Shall the voters approve the 2023 Annual Meeting of the Taconic and Green Regional School District be held on Tuesday, February 28, 2023 at 7 pm at the Currier Memorial School?

Herb Ogden explained the rotation of the annual meeting and hopes the rotation will be back on track by next year.

| PASSED | YES | 263 | NO 28 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |

Article 5: Shall the voters authorize the School Board to borrow money by issuance of notes not in excess of anticipated revenue for the fiscal year July 1,2022 to June 30, 2023?

There was no discussion.

## PASSED YES 250 NO 49

Article 6: Shall the voters approve payment of the announced tuition rate of Burr and Burton Academy in the amount of \$19,200 for the 2022-2023 school year for resident pupils in grades 9 through 12 who attend any approved Vermont independent school?

Headmaster Mark Tashjian spoke about the 2-year journey the school has been on since COVID-19 began. He stated how it has been hard, nerve racking, frustrating and at the same time exhilarating and exciting. Students are back in the classroom and sports have resumed. He noted that the tuition increase is $3.8 \%$ vs. the inflation rate of $7.5 \%$. He is very proud and grateful to the community, parents, faculty and staff during these last two years. Overall, he stated that this community is very powerfu!!

PASSED YES 263 NO 40
Article 7: Shall the voters of the school district approve the school board to expend $\$ 34,133,626$, which is the amount the school board has determined to be necessary for the ensuing fiscal year? It is estimated that this proposed budget, if approved, will result in education spending of $\$ 19,089$ per equalized pupil. This projected spending per equalized pupil is $7.0 \%$ higher than spending for the current year.

Superintendent Randi Lowe first thanked her faculty, staff and the T\&G Board for their kind words and that she appreciated them but couldn't have done it alone without the support of her teams. She and BRSU Finance Director Sue Wilborn then presented a slide show to explain the items influencing the budget increase of $2.7 \%$. Sue Wilborn also explained the cost shifting between the T\&G School District and the BRSU District.

## PASSED $\quad$ YES 242 NO 59

Article 8: Shall the voters authorize the School Board to transfer the unassigned General Fund surplus existing on June 30, 2022, an amount estimated to be $\$ 990,159$, to the Tax Stabilization Reserve Fund?

## MEETING MINUTES

(continued)
There was no discussion.

## PASSED <br> YES <br> 249 NO <br> 48

Moderator Oliver Olsen then asked Superintendent Randi Lowe to explain the significance of the reserve funds in Articles 9 , 10 and 11. Superintendent Randi Lowe the importance of supporting these funds for future expenditures.

Article 9: Shall the voters appropriate the sum of $\$ 250,000$ for the Building and Grounds Reserve Fund?
PASSED YES 249 NO 50

Article 10: Shall the voters appropriate the sum of $\$ 125,000$ for the Bus Reserve Fund?
PASSED YES 261 NO 38

Article 11: Shall the voters appropriate the sum of $\$ 50,000$ for the Technology Equipment Reserve Fund?

## PASSED <br> YES 256 NO <br> 45

Article 12: To elect the following Officer and School Director positions:

- Moderator to serve from July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023
- School District Clerk to serve from July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023
- School District Treasurer to serve from July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2022
- Manchester - One (1) Director for a two (2) year term expiring in March 2024
- Four (4) Directors from any of the four (4) largest towns (Danby, Dorset, Londonderry, Manchester) for three (3) year terms expiring in March 2025


## ELECTED:

Moderator - Oliver Olsen 249
School District Clerk - Sandra Pinsonault 261
School District Treasurer - Andrew McKeever 258
Manchester School Board Director - Jon Wilson 247
At-Large School Directors

## VOTES

## David Chandler 243

 Lindsay Ralph 210 Alexander Wilde 210 Jeff Wilson 237Respectfully submitted,
Sandra Pinsonault
School District Clerk

Burr \& Burton
Academy

December 21, 2022

## Dear Members of our Sending Towns:

The Board of Trustees of Burr and Burton Academy has set the tuition for the 2023-2024 school year at \$19,987, a 4.1\% increase. In reaching this decision, we have sought to balance the challenges of inflation, which has been running at an annual rate of approximately $8 \%$, while maintaining affordability for you. The entire increase will be passed on to our faculty and staff, the lifeblood of our school. It is our goal to help them partially offset the challenge of inflation while they continue to dedicate themselves to each and every student we serve.

Since 1829, Burr and Burton has strived to be the best possible high school for our community. We will continue to raise money privately not only to support annual operations, but also all capital projects. Each year, our fundraising contributes approximately $\$ 1$ million toward operating costs, and all of our buildings and grounds have been purchased and built through private philanthropy.

We are extremely grateful to work in partnership with you. Thank you very much for your support.
Respectfully submitted,



January 2023
Dear Residents,
For over four decades, Long Trail School has maintained a commitment to educating students in southern Vermont. We are grateful for the support of our community members and our school-choice model, which enables us to deliver powerful experiences for students each and every day. Long Trail School seeks to be both a center of educational excellence and a resource for our broader community. We are grateful for your continued support.

For the 2022-2023 school year, Long Trail serves 240 students in grades 6-12 hailing from 31 towns and 2 countries. Families choose Long Trail for our unparalleled intellectual and creative challenges. LTS students have ambitious and diverse goals in the classroom, on the playing fields, in the arts, and within their communities. We are proud that Long Trail is a school where students thrive and upon graduation enter the world prepared to lead purposeful lives.

In my first year serving as Head of School at Long Trail, I have quickly come to realize the transformative power of this school, and I warmly invite you to visit our campus to experience Long Trail for yourself. Please email Paula Allen (pallen@longtrailschool.org) to schedule a visit or feel free to reach out to me directly at cigoe@longtrailschool.org or 802-857-5717.

Thank you for caring about our students and our school. We are grateful for tuition funding from our area towns and for your commitment to students in our region. Your investment in Long Trail School is an investment in our community and a commitment to a bright future.

With gratitude,
Colin Igoe
Head of School

# TACONIC AND GREEN REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT 

## ANNUAL MEETING

Tuesday, February 28, 2023
7:00pm
Currier Memorial School

For the purpose of voting by Australian ballot on Tuesday, March 7, 2023:

| VOTING LOCATION | LOCATION ADDRESS | POLLING HOURS |
| :--- | :--- | :---: |
| Danby Town Clerk's Office | 130 Brook Road | $7: 00$ AM to 7:00 PM |
| Dorset Town Office | 112 Mad Tom Road | $7: 00$ AM to 7:00 PM |
| Landgrove Town Hall | 88 Landgrove Road | $8: 00$ AM to 7:00 PM |
| Old Londonderry Town Hall | 139 Middletown Road | $7: 00$ AM to 7:00 PM |
| Manchester Town Hall | 40 Jeff Williams Way | $8: 00$ AM to 7:00 PM |
| Mt. Tabor Town Office | 522 Brooklyn Road | $10: 00$ AM to 7:00 PM |
| Peru Town Office | 402 Main Street | $9: 00$ AM to 7:00 PM |
| Sunderland Municipal Office | 104 Mountain View Road | $10: 00$ AM to 7:00 PM |
| Weston Playhouse | 12 Park Street | $8: 00$ AM to 7:00 PM |

The legal voters of Taconic and Green Regional School District are further notified that voter qualification and registration relative to said meeting shall be as provided in Section 706(u) of Title 16, and Chapters 43, 51 and 55 of Title 17, Vermont Statutes Annotated.


[^0]:    *Members occupying seats reserved for residents of the four largest towns

