Town Council
Town of Trumbull
CONNECTICUT
www.trumbull-ct.gov

TOWN HALL
Trumbull

TELEPHONE
(203) 452-5000

FINANCE COMMITTEE
BOE FY2026-2027 BUDGET HEARING
MINUTES
APRIL 8, 2026

CALL TO ORDER: The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

ROLL CALL: The clerk called the roll and recorded it as follows:

PRESENT: Nicole Satin Chairman, Mary Isaac, Vice Chairman, Christine El Eris, Tom Broderick, John Foreman, Richard Wolf, Bill Mecca, Alternate, Tony Scinto, Alternate

ALSO PRESENT: First Selectman Tesoro, Chief Administrative Officer Cynthia Katske, BOF Chairman Lainie McHugh, Town Council Chairman Ashley Gaudiano, Town Council members Joy Colon, Matt Dunn, Jennifer Winschel, Jerrod Ferrari,

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BOE Budget Hearing – The Chair noted this is the final phase of the FY 2026-2027 budget process, with a vote to adopt the proposed budget scheduled for early May.

The current council has a significant number of educators, coaches, and staff who support education and keeping teachers in classrooms. The council recognized the challenges of increased property tax impacts, aging infrastructure, and broader economic uncertainty affecting many residents and recognized the importance of a strong school system as a primary reason families choose to live in Trumbull is emphasized, (See Attached Town of Trumbull Budget Statement)

Dr. Martin Semmel, Superintendent of Schools reviewed the BOE budget request with the Town Council Finance Committee. (See Presentation Attached).

- The presentation covers the return on investment, the approved BOE and BOF budget, and the impact on current staff and programming.

- The Board of Finance approved a 4% net increase over last year's BOE operating budget representing $1,820,000 savings. Key areas of savings include insurance, transportation, energy, and non-lapsing funds. The Board of Education proposed a 6.65% increase but faced a $2.2 million gap. Potential reductions include seven teacher positions, increasing class sizes, technology budget cuts, and pay-to-play fees.
- The importance of maintaining a safe, supported, enriching environment for students was emphasized.
- The return on investment, using a scatter plot to compare Trumbull's achievement with other districts in the state was reviewed. The accountability index number and the net cost per child in Trumbull are explained, showing that Trumbull spends less and achieves more than other districts. The inclusion of all education expenses in the net cost calculation is discussed, showing that Trumbull's net cost per child is still below the state average. The efficiency of Trumbull's public schools is emphasized, with comparisons to other districts and the state average.
- Dr. Semmel shared and distributed page 1 & 2 of the BOE August 2011 minutes regarding the town pension/401(a) discussion, (See Attached)
- Early retirements and tiered busing were considered for cost savings.
- The survey on the potential implementation of a three-tier bus system to save costs was discussed. The impact on families, particularly those with young children, was discussed, at this time the survey on tiered busing showed 27% of respondents find it challenging.
- The pros and cons of the three-tier system includes reduced capacity issues and traffic improvements. The survey closes tomorrow at noon. The results will be collected, analyzed and presented to the Board of Education to make an informed decision about moving to a three-tier bus system. There will be a need to contact the TLC program director to discuss TLC capacity and operational options if a three-tier bus schedule is implemented. The finalized survey results and any recommended next steps will be posted once the survey data is processed.
- The non-lapsing account and its role in providing a buffer for variability in the BOE's budget. The non-lapsing account balance is $348,000, with a proposed use of $200,000. The importance of being strategic in using the non-lapsing account to avoid creating a hole for future budgets was discussed. The history of the non-lapsing account and its evolution from a surplus account to a non-lapsing account was outlined. The need for transparency and collaboration in managing the non-lapsing account was emphasized.
- Energy cost reduction strategies were discussed, including battery systems and night modes for buildings. It was noted that low-hanging fruit has been addressed, necessitating third-party engagement. The current FY 2026 budget for electricity is $1.273 million, a 30% increase from $1.587 million in FY 2025. Many of the schools are older buildings, with single-pane windows requiring significant investment to improve energy efficiency. There is a need for comprehensive building upgrades, including insulation and sealing, to achieve significant energy savings. It was suggested involving Mr. Mallozzi or Mr. Gala from the BOF to gain additional perspectives on energy cost reduction strategies.
- The BOE explained a detailed breakdown of the fiscal 2026 budget for electricity, noting a shortfall of over $300,000 before the year began. It was agreed that the current energy costs have increased overall.
- The ECS funding for Trumbull was discussed, with hopes for increased funding due to the significant increases in transportation and special education costs. It was noted the

current ECR budget is on target with an anticipated increase for next year. First Selectman Tesoro noted she had been able to advocate for more ECS funding this afternoon at an event with Councilman Colon and the governor, and believes there will be some, it is unknown how much and would like to think it will be significant, hopefully soon she will have more to report on this.

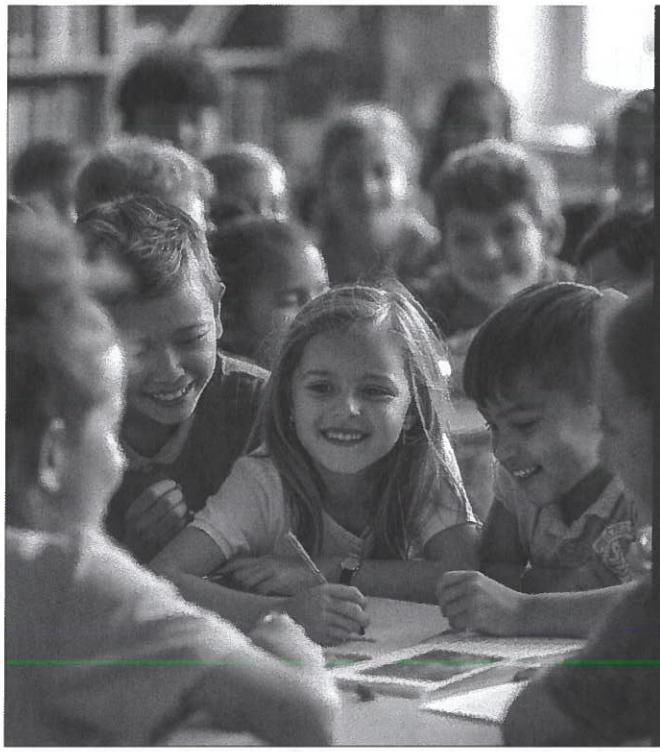
- The importance of the efforts and proactive outreach by guidance counselors to encourage families to fill out free and reduced lunch forms was noted as well as that they are available online.
- The potential for synergizing the Town and BOE's Munis systems, was emphasized although that would involve using a consultant to merge the two systems and will not affect this FY2026-2027 budget.
- The Bookworms program state-mandated and the positive impact on students was noted.
- The BOE reassured all that no student will be prevented from participating in sports due to financial constraints and emphasized the commitment to covering costs.
- The link on page 5-2 (administrative salaries) for the resignations/retirements document needs to be fixed and circulated to the town council.
- The 5% increase in salaries is a placeholder until contracts are finalized after the budget process.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to discuss the Finance Committee adjourned by unanimous consent at 8:49 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Margaret D. Mastroni

Margaret D. Mastroni, Clerk



Trumbull Public Schools

Investing in Students

Board of Finance Adopted 2026-2027 Budget

APRIL 8, 2026

Trumbull Public Schools: Our Commitment to Education

EMPOWERING STUDENTS TO ACHIEVE THEIR POTENTIAL

The Trumbull Public School System, in partnership with the community, strives to meet the educational needs of all students within a challenging and supportive academic environment that empowers each student to become a life-long learner and to live and participate in a democratic, diverse and global society.

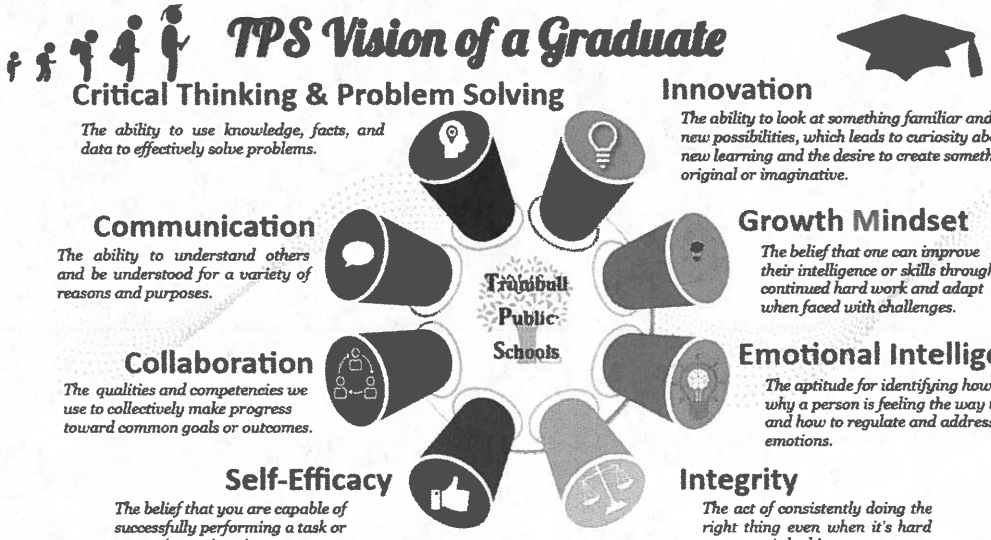


BOE DISTRIBUTED @ BOF MEETING 4-8-26

Budget as a Foundation for Success

INVESTING IN EVERY STUDENT'S FUTURE POTENTIAL

TPS Vision of a Graduate



Critical Thinking & Problem Solving
The ability to use knowledge, facts, and data to effectively solve problems.

Innovation
The ability to look at something familiar and see new possibilities, which leads to curiosity about new learning and the desire to create something original or imaginative.

Communication
The ability to understand others and be understood for a variety of reasons and purposes.

Growth Mindset
The belief that one can improve their intelligence or skills through continued hard work and adapt when faced with challenges.

Collaboration
The qualities and competencies we use to collectively make progress toward common goals or outcomes.

Emotional Intelligence
The aptitude for identifying how and why a person is feeling the way they are and how to regulate and address those emotions.

Self-Efficacy
The belief that you are capable of successfully performing a task or managing a situation.

Integrity
The act of consistently doing the right thing even when it's hard or no one is looking.

Trumbull Public Schools

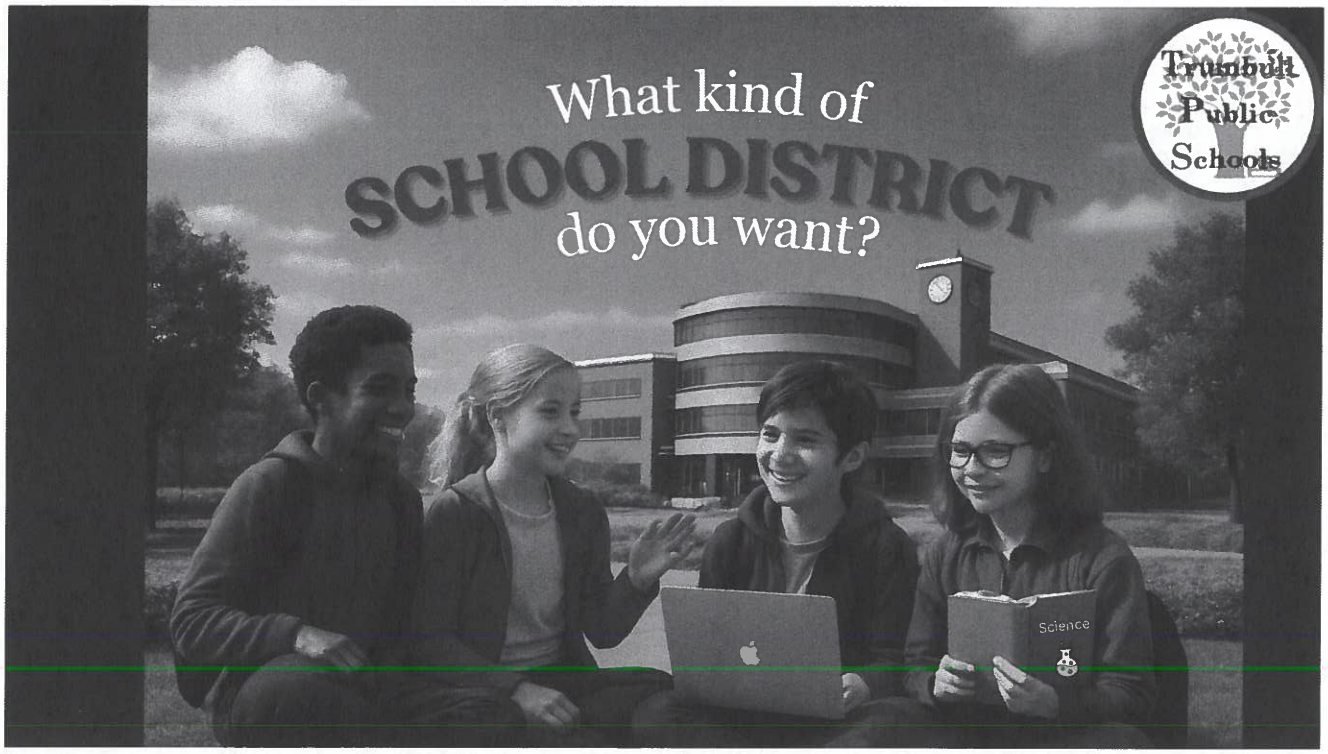
Board of Education

- Lucinda Timpanelli, Chair
- Marie Petitti, Vice-Chair
- Lisa Nuland, Secretary
- Chris Bandecchi
- Stacey Hepburn-James
- Tammy McGee
- Julia McNamee
- Alison Squiccimarro

- Martin J. Semmel, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools
- Susan C. Iwanicki, Ed.D., Assistant Superintendent of Schools
- Alison Pierce, Business Administrator
- Dean Catalano, Director of Pupil Personnel Services
- Joseph Chella, Director of Human Capital & Talent Development
- Christina Hefele, Director of Digital Learning
- Kevin Dion, Director of Operations

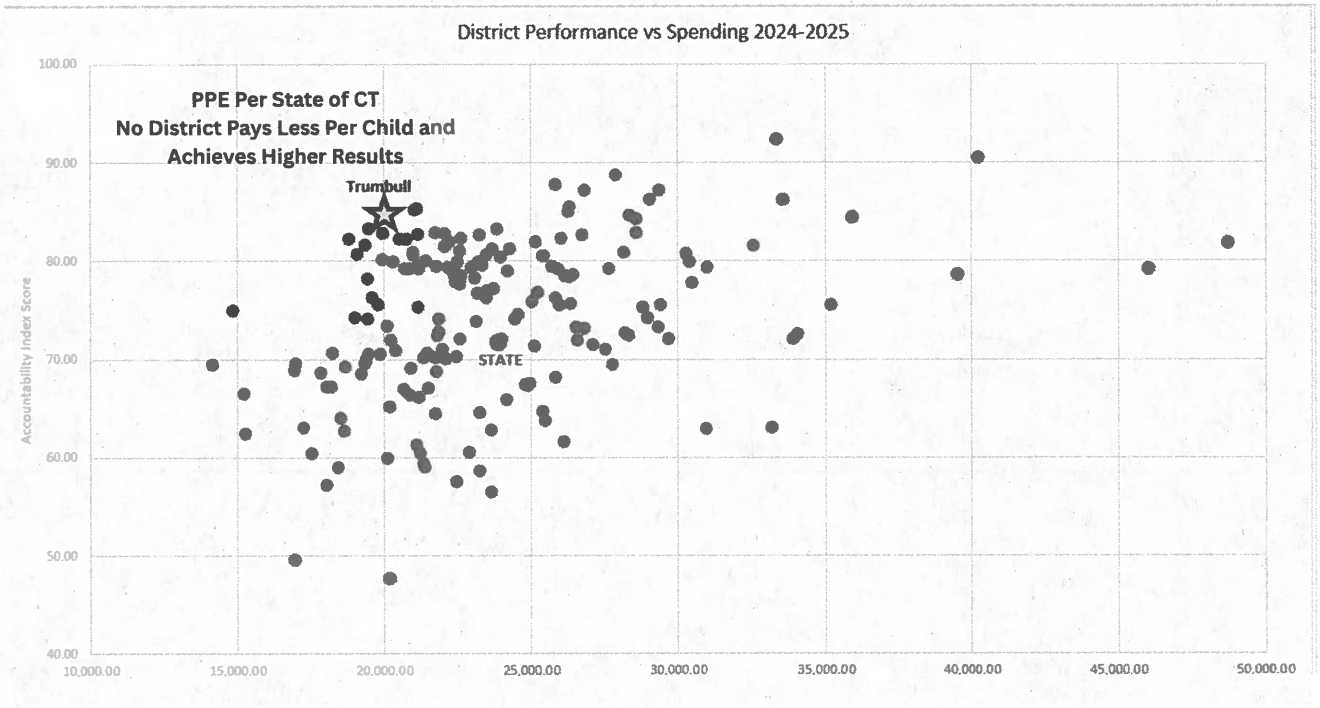
Todd Manuel – Trumbull High School Principal
Bryan Rickert – Hillcrest Middle Principal
Peter Sullivan – Madison Middle Principal
Kevin Chase – Booth Hill Principal
Gary Kunschaft – Daniels Farm Principal
Gina Prisco – Frenchtown Principal
Patsy Horan – Jane Ryan Principal
Debra Ponte– Middlebrook Principal
Jennifer Neumeyer – Tashua Principal
Matthew Wheeler, Ed.D. – TECEC Principal

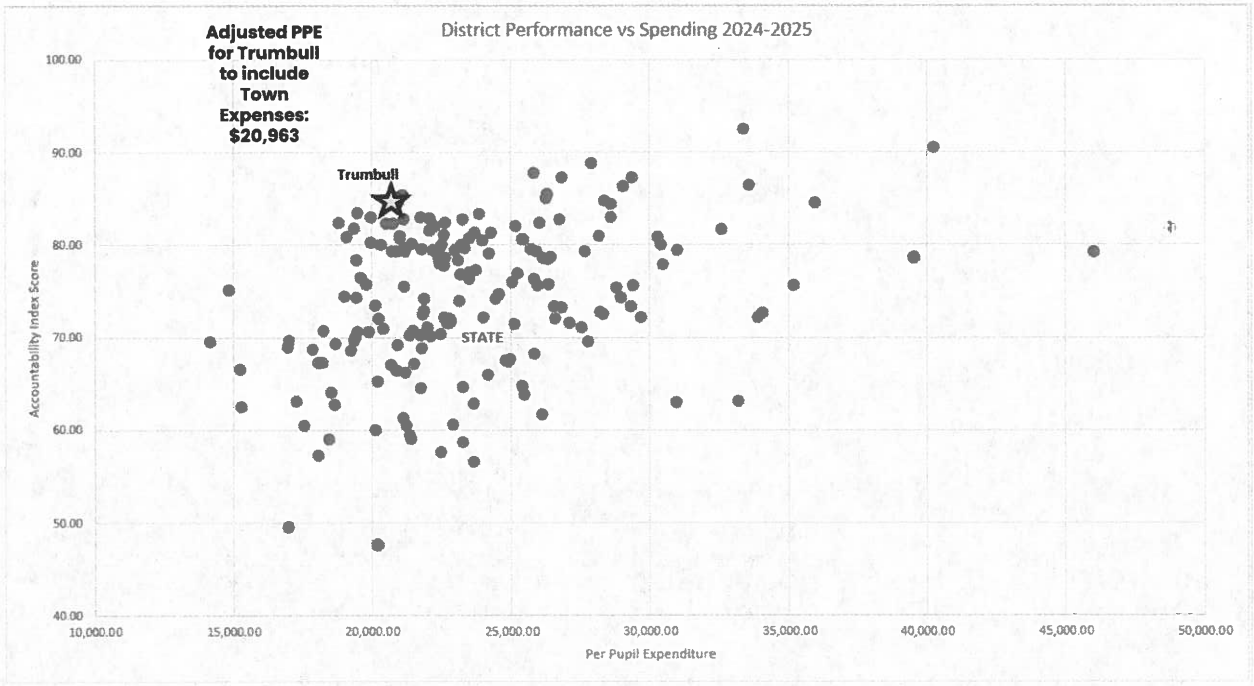




Tonight's Presentation

- Return on Investment
- Approved BOE Budget
- Approved BOF Budget
- Difference
- Impact on Current Staff/Programming
- Request of TC
- Answer TC Questions


District Performance vs Spending 2024-2025
PPE Per State of CT
No District Pays Less Per Child and
Achieves Higher Results
Trumbull
STATE
Accountability Index Score
100.00
90.00
80.00
70.00
60.00
50.00
40.00
10,000.00
15,000.00
20,000.00
25,000.00
30,000.00
35,000.00
40,000.00
45,000.00
50,000.00


Adjusted PPE
for Trumbull
to include
Town
Expenses:
$20,963
District Performance vs Spending 2024-2025
Trumbull
STATE
Accountability Index Score
Per Pupil Expenditure
100.00
90.00
80.00
70.00
60.00
50.00
40.00
10,000.00
15,000.00
20,000.00
25,000.00
30,000.00
35,000.00
40,000.00
45,000.00
50,000.00

Top 10 Most Efficient School Districts in Connecticut

Performance vs. Wealth & Spending (All Districts Included)

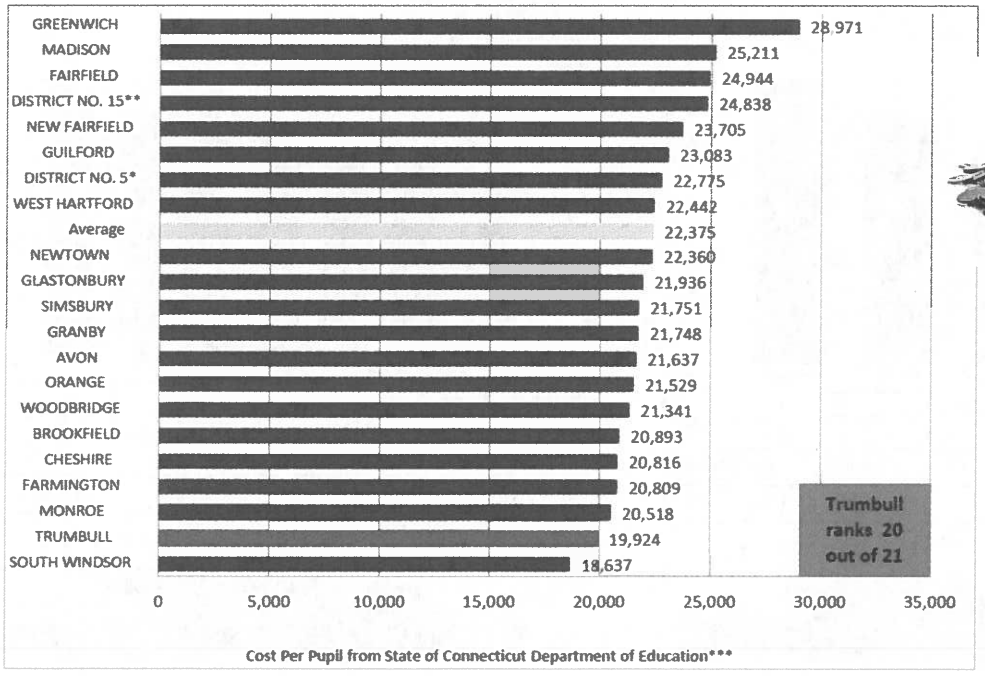
Rank	School District	Above Expected
1	Trumbull	+11.05
2	Cheshire	+10.30
3	Farmington	+9.65
4	West Hartford	+8.82
5	Glastonbury	+8.27
6	Ridgefield	+7.85
7	South Windsor	+7.79
8	Fairfield	+7.79
9	Coventry	+7.75
10	Rocky Hill	+6.98

Excellence in Education.

Cheshire PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Trumbull Public Schools

DRG B District Per Pupil Expenditures 2024-25



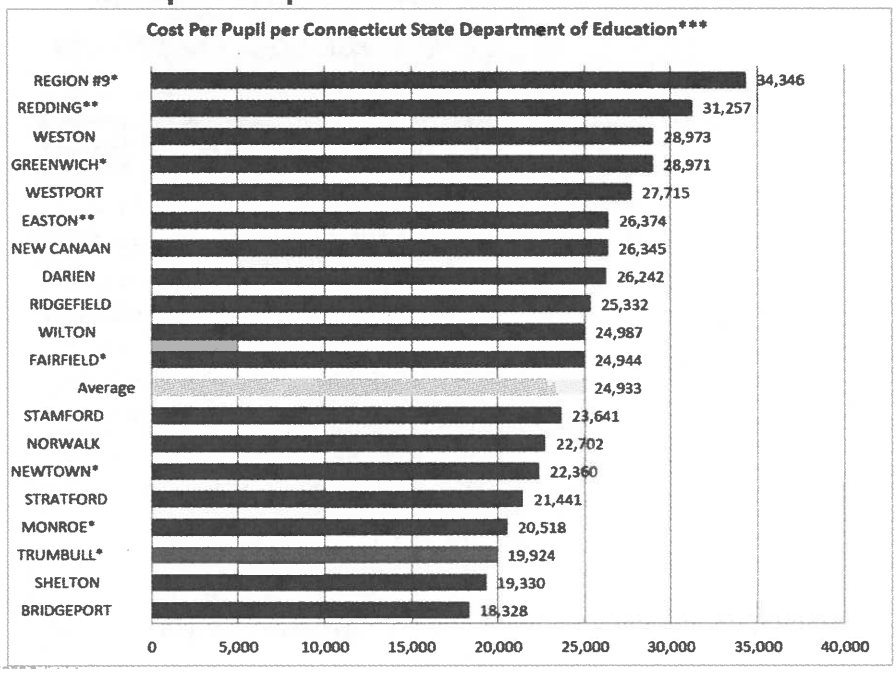


*District 5 - Orange, Bethany, Woodbridge - Grades 7 - 12
**District 15 - Southbury, Middlebury - Grades PK - 12
***Based on CT State Department of Education Bureau of Grants Management

Area District Per Pupil Expenditures 2024-25

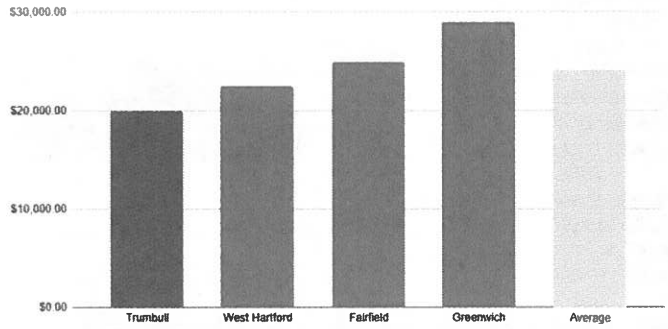


*DRG B District
**Easton, Redding have PK-8 schools; they regionalize for high school at Joel Barlow
***Based on CT State Department of Education Bureau of Grants Management



During the 2026-2027 Budget Process

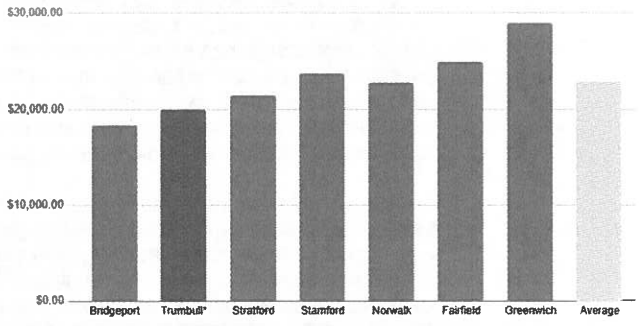
DRG B Districts-
2024-2025 Per Pupil Expenditures
District Enrollment Equal or Greater to TPS



Average for Selected DRG B Districts	$24,070	Per Student
Trumbull	$19,924	Per Student
Difference	$4,146	Per Student
Funding Needed to Achieve Average!	**$28,470,582**	

Updated for 25-26: Funding Difference Now $28 MM

Area Districts-
2024-2025 Per Pupil Expenditures
District Enrollment Equal or Greater to TPS



Average for Selected Area Districts	$22,850	Per Student
Trumbull	$19,924	Per Student
Difference	$2,926	Per Student
Funding Needed to Achieve Average!	**$20,092,842**	

Updated for 25-26: Funding Difference Now $20 MM

Board of Education Adopted 2026-2027 Budget

$137,773,114; a YTY increase of $8,595,475 or 6.65%

Budget request includes:

- Contractual increases of salaries Currently 40.19% of total request Or $3.45 MM
- Medical insurance rate increase estimate from State Comptroller is 15.0% for State Partnership Plan 2.0 (SPP).Currently 38.42% of total request Or $3.3 MM
- Increases to Elementary staff (3.0 FTE) to adhere to BOE guidelines
- Adds World Language (2.0 FTE) to provide Spanish exposure in Grade 5
- Includes anticipated savings of $635,000 through staff turnover
- Utility costs, primarily electricity, due to higher rates and the public benefit charge.
- Includes Athletics budget with $400K revenue offset (PTP fees + gate receipts)
- Transportation budget based on estimated 4.5% contractual increase and additional buses

Last year, the BOE approved a 5.89% increase, but ultimately received a 3.73% increase. How did that translate to reductions?

- $75,000 Pay to Play Increased from $165 to $190
- $290,000 of Non-Lapsing Account Paid for Bookworms
- $300,000 of Non-Lapsing Account Used to Decrease Technology Budget
- $207,000 Increased Expectation for Excess Cost Reimbursement after Special Legislation Passed in CT
- $80,000 Eliminated DFS Grade 2 FTE
- $80,000 Eliminated FTE for Madison Middle School Intervention
- Eliminated significant dollars in supplies, furniture, textbooks across the district

First Selectman Budget For BOE

Shared March 2, 2026

4.00%

Board of Finance Approved Budget

March 24, 2026

4.39%

The Board of Finance was the <u>only</u> Board that could increase the BOE Budget!

The Difference:

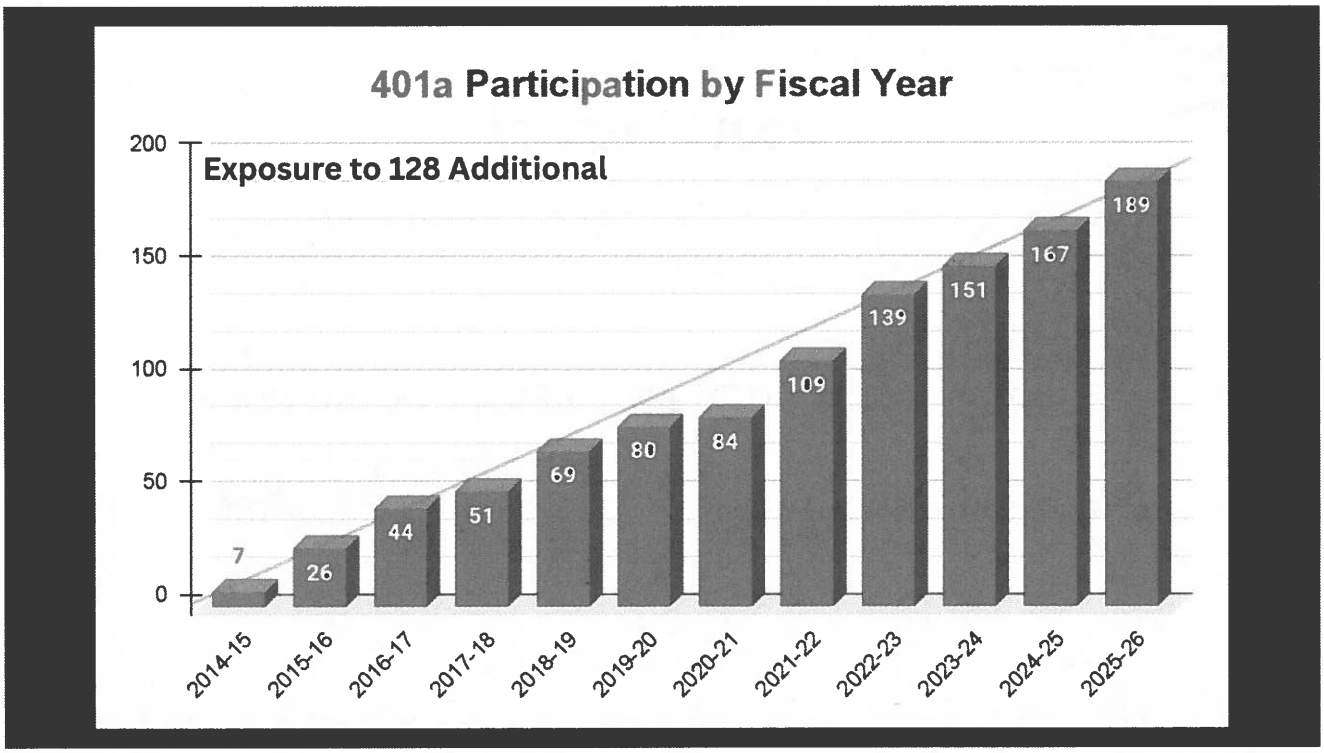
BOE Approved Budget:	$137,773,114 (6.65%)
BOF Approved Budget:	- $134,844,746 (4.39%)
Difference:	$2,928,368

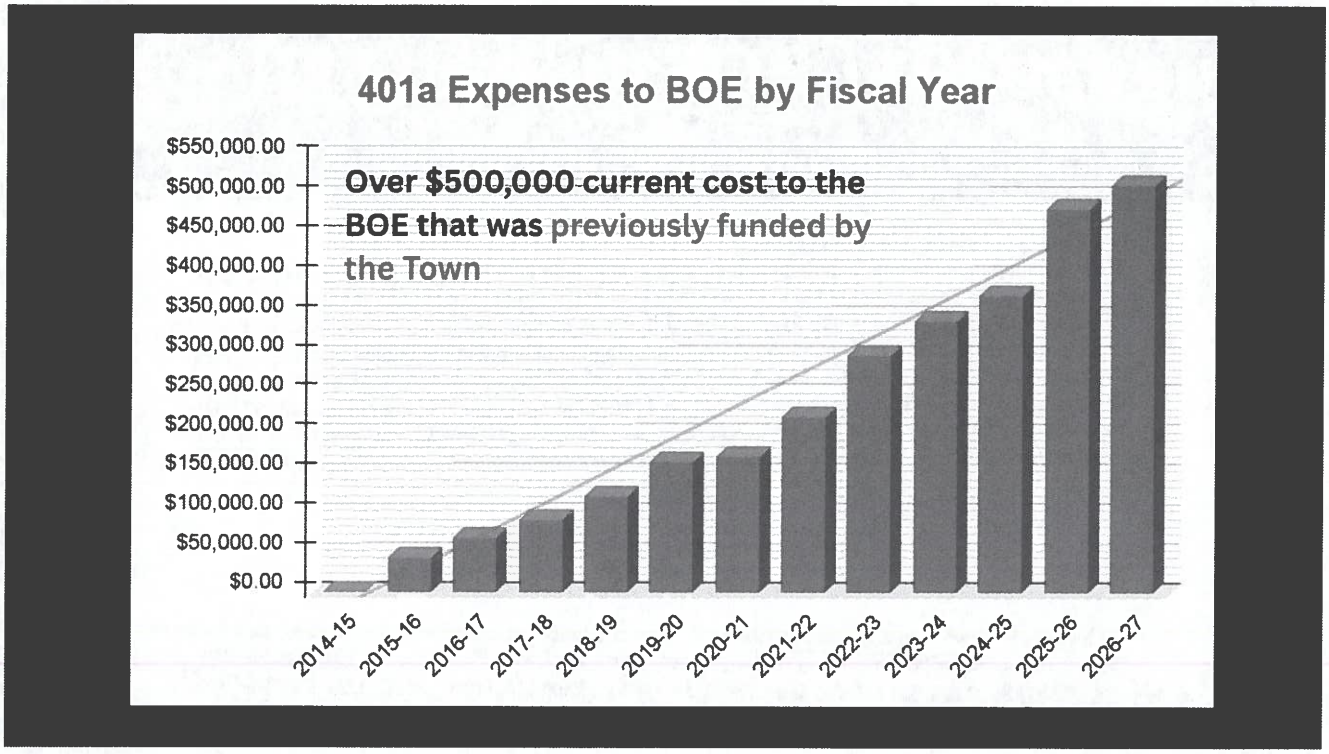
ADJUSTMENTS

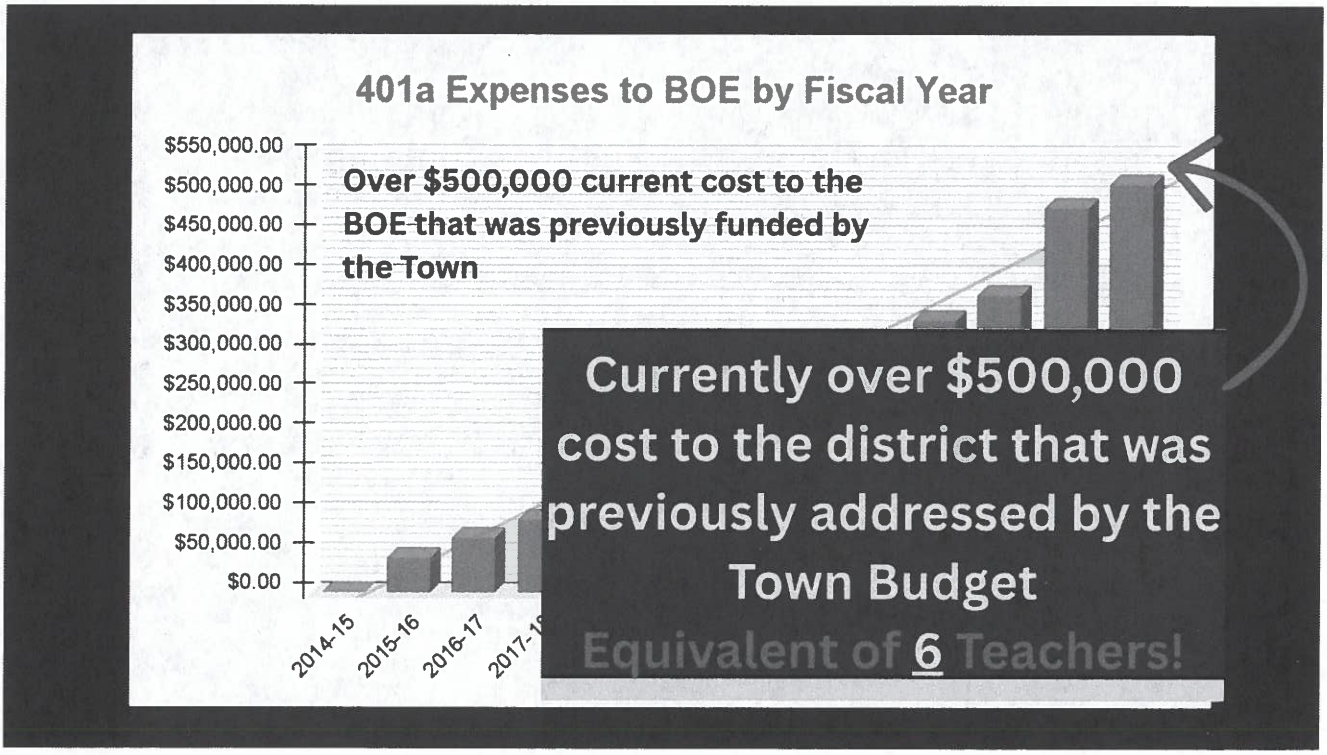
Difference:	$2,928,368
Adjustment:	
Insurance Cost (15% ➡ 12.5%)	($680,000)
Required Reduction:	$2,248,368

Possible Reductions @ 4.39%

7 Teacher Positions (7.0 FTE's)	$630,000	Increase class size Elem/HS; Student Support
All New Staff (7.0 FTE's)	$542,000	Elem Enroll Increases; No Payroll Support, No ISS at THS
Technology Reduction	$225,000	Prolong 5 Year Technology Plan
Use Non-Lapsing Account	$200,000	Unexpected Facility Failures Cannot be Covered
Long Hill Support Staff (2.0 FTE's)	$205,000	More work for others; potential burnout, longer response rate
Textbook Reduction	$100,000	Middle School Math 1 year purchase; Eliminate Fun Readers
Various Supply Accounts	$95,000	Fewer Instructional Supplies
Secondary School Activities, Advisors & Comp Exp.	$90,000	Fewer Opportunities for Students
Raise Pay to Play by $40-50	$70,000	Additional Costs Given to Parents
Curriculum Writing/Professional Dev	$47,000	Fewer Course Updates and New Courses
Electricity Reduction	$25,000	Reduction in Public Benefits; Appliance Audit
Security Guards 12mo-> 10mo	$16,000	Leaves one 12 month Security Guard; Less Security at THS
Total	$2,245,000	




401a Expenses to BOE by Fiscal Year
$550,000.00
$500,000.00
$450,000.00
$400,000.00
$350,000.00
$300,000.00
$250,000.00
$200,000.00
$150,000.00
$100,000.00
$50,000.00
$0.00
Over $500,000 current cost to the BOE that was previously funded by the Town
2014-15
2015-16
2016-17
2017-18
2018-19
2019-20
2020-21
2021-22
2022-23
2023-24
2024-25
2025-26
2026-27


401a Expenses to BOE by Fiscal Year
$550,000.00
$500,000.00
$450,000.00
$400,000.00
$350,000.00
$300,000.00
$250,000.00
$200,000.00
$150,000.00
$100,000.00
$50,000.00
$0.00
Over $500,000 current cost to the BOE that was previously funded by the Town
2014-15
2015-16
2016-17
Currently over $500,000 cost to the district that was previously addressed by the Town Budget
Equivalent of 6 Teachers!

August 2011 BOE Meeting Minutes

Addendum B

Agenda Item IV—Reports (out of order)

B. Town Pension Plan Update – Mr. Iassogna noted that the Town is pursuing a significant modification with regard to the Town Pension Plan. Town Chief of Staff Dan Nelson reviewed the Defined Contribution Plan, similar to a 457 Plan and noted it was an amendment to the Town's Pension Plan. He noted that this plan has already received Town Council approval and one bargaining unit of the Town now participates in this new plan. New hires for the Board of Education who are not affiliated with any bargaining unit would no longer be eligible for the Town's current pension but would be offered this new plan, whereby the employee would contribute to his own plan and the Town would contribute up to 5% of employee's salary in a matching amount of the employee contribution (i.e. if employee contributes 4% of his salary, Town would match contribution). Any employee participating in this plan would be able to take their monies with them if they no longer were employed by the Town/Board. Mr. Nelson also noted that the expenses for this plan would be funded from the Town's side of the budget.

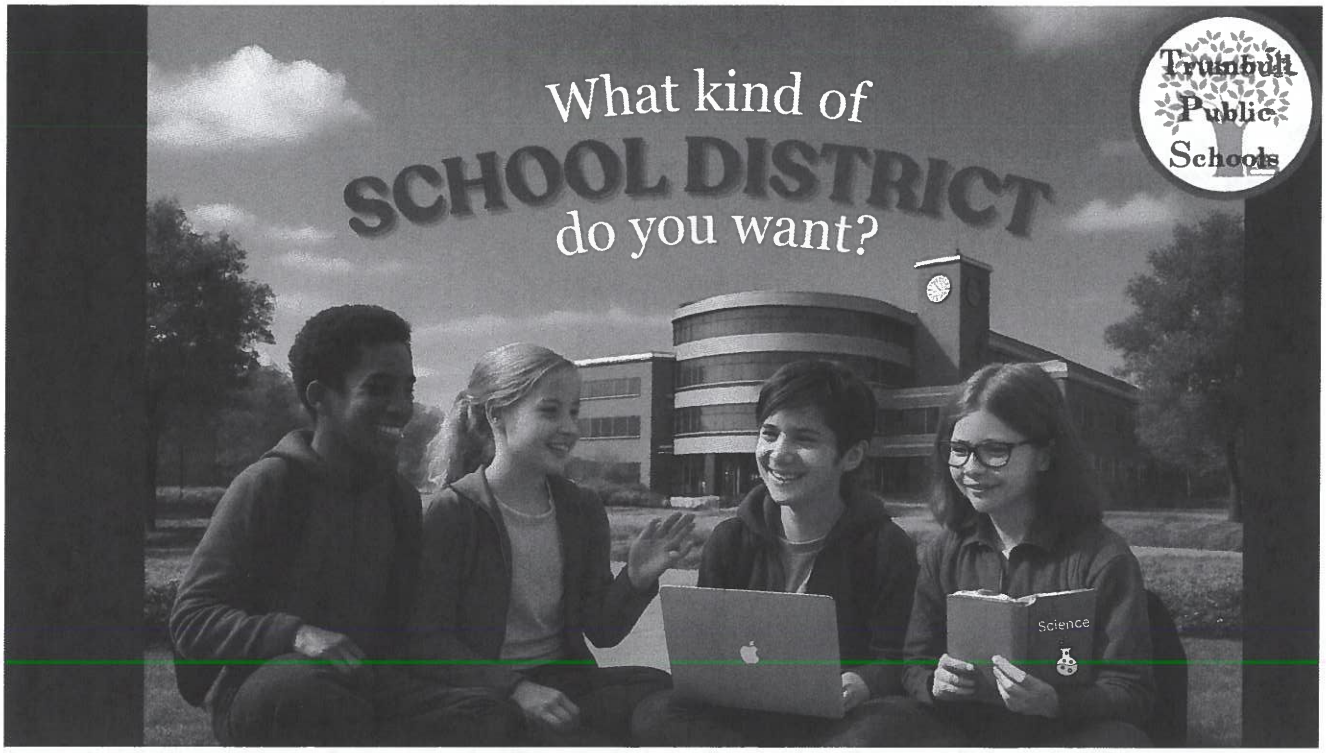


BRING THE NON-CERTFIED RETIREMENT EXPENSE

BACK TO THE TOWN BUDGET

KEEP BOF APPROVED INCREASE OF 4.39%

THIS WILL REDUCE CUTS!



Request

- Recognize the Trumbull Public Schools for its Effectiveness and Efficiency
- Keep Entire Board of Finance Adopted Budget for BOE
- Remove 401A Expense from BOE Budget

What can you do now?

- Provide Public Comment to Town Council
  - Monday, April 27, 6:00 PM
    - Hybrid Meeting in Council Chambers
    - Comments taken via Zoom
  -

Can I Do Anything Else?

- Reach out to your State Elected Officials
  - Ask them to increase the Education Cost Share Grant
  - Ask them to fully fund the Excess Cost Reimbursement Grant (Special Education Reimbursement)
  - Ask them to stop adding unfunded mandates!

State Contact Info



- Governor Ned Lamont, 1-800-406-1527, 860-566-4840, Governor.Lamont@po.state.ct.us
- Lieutenant Governor Susan Bysiewicz, 860-524-7384, ltgovernor.Bysiewicz@ct.gov
- State Senator Sujata Gadkar-Wilcox (22nd district), 860-240-0425, Sujata.gadkar-wilcox@cga.ct.gov, gadkarwilcox@senatedems.ct.gov
- State Representative David Rutigliano (123rd district), 860-240-8700, David.Rutigliano@housegop.ct.gov
- State Representative Sarah Keitt (134th district), 860-240-8585, Sarah.Keitt@cga.ct.gov
- State Representative Ben McGorty (122nd district), 860-240-8757, Ben.McGorty@housegop.ct.gov
- State Representative Tony Scott (112th district), 800-842-1423, 860-240-8700, Tony.Scott@housegop.ct.gov

Trumbull Public Schools

THANK YOU!

Addendum B

TRUMBULL PUBLIC SCHOOLS
TRUMBULL, CONNECTICUT
Regular Meeting – August 16, 2011
Long Hill Administration Building
Lorraine R. Smith Assembly Room

The Trumbull Board of Education convened in the Long Hill Administration Building for a Regular Meeting.

Members present:

T. Lovely, Chairperson
D. Herbst, Vice Chairperson
T. Kelly, Secretary
L. Chory, Board Member
L. Labella, Board Member
M. Ward, Board Member
S. Wright, Board Member

Members absent:

Agenda Item I – Preliminary Business

A. Salute to the Flag - The Public Session began at 7:03 p.m. followed by a salute to the Flag.

B. Correspondence - Mr. Kelly noted that several emails were received from parents of 2nd grade students at Booth Hill Elementary School concerning class size.

C. Comments – There were no comments this evening.

Agenda Item II -- Personnel

A. Personnel – A revised personnel agenda was distributed this evening. It was moved (Herbst) seconded (Wright) to accept the resignations of Caroline Campbell, reading teacher at Tashua Elementary School since November 2008, resigning effective August 11, 2011; Patrice Green, special education teacher at Tashua Elementary School since August 2009, resigning effective July 28, 2011; Jianine Martin, special education teacher at Hillcrest Middle School since August 2006, resigning effective July 29, 2011; Eric Paradis, special education teacher at Trumbull High School since August 2004, resigning effective July 31, 2011; and Caryn Campbell, district social worker/psychologist department chairperson since January 2009, resigning effective August 15, 2011. Superintendent Iassogna noted that several teachers found promotional positions in other districts and one moved out of state. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

B. Superintendent's Evaluation/Salary Continuation—It was moved (Labella) seconded (Ward) to move this agenda item to the end of the public session. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

At this time, it was moved (Herbst) seconded (Chory) to take Agenda Item IV-B out of order. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

Agenda Item IV—Reports (out of order)

B. Town Pension Plan Update – Mr. Iassogna noted that the Town is pursuing a significant modification with regard to the Town Pension Plan. Town Chief of Staff Dan Nelson reviewed the Defined Contribution Plan, similar to a 457 Plan and noted it was an amendment to the Town's Pension Plan. He noted that this plan has already received Town Council approval and one bargaining unit of the Town now participates in this new plan. New hires for the Board of Education who are not affiliated with any bargaining unit would no longer be eligible for the Town's current pension but would be offered this new plan, whereby the employee would contribute to his own plan and the Town would contribute up to 5% of employee's salary in a matching amount of the employee contribution (i.e. if employee contributes 4%

BOE Distributed 4-8-76

of his salary, Town would match contribution). Any employee participating in this plan would be able to take their monies with them if they no longer were employed by the Town/Board. **Mr. Nelson also noted that the expenses for this plan would be funded from the Town's side of the budget.**

At this time, it was moved (Herbst) seconded (Chory) to take Agenda Item V-E out of order. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

Agenda Item V – New Business (out of order)

E. Town Solar Panel Proposal—Town Chief of Staff Dan Nelson noted that in 2006 the Town committed to participating in the Community Innovations Grant as administrator of the Connecticut Clean Energy Fund (CCEF). He noted that he pursued this endeavor as the Town has credits with this fund and as an energy savings measure. The consultants for the CCEF reviewed several school/town buildings and are recommending that solar panels be installed at the Agriscience building. It was noted that solar panels have already been installed at the library, although energy savings have not been calculated. Also noted that an analysis of the building/roof would be conducted to determine if the Agriscience building could support solar panels. Discussion included costs involved for installation and maintenance, amount of energy savings realized, and student/staff safety. It was moved (Chory) to approve the installation of solar panels on the Agriscience building pending no further costs to the Board of Education and meeting acceptable facility standards. Discussion ensued and Mrs. Chory amended the motion, seconded (Herbst) to change the wording as follows: to approve the concept of installation of solar panels on the Agriscience building pending an assessment of the roof and providing two to three years projection of costs to the Board of Education. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

Agenda Item III – Consent Agenda

A. Approval/Minutes – Regular Meeting –8/2/11— By unanimous consent of members present at that meeting, the minutes were approved as presented.

B. Approval/Financial Reports as of 6/30/11 – Mr. Sirico presented final financial reports for the year ending 6/30/11 and noted that figures have not changed since the last report. The figures now are given to the auditors and are used in the General Purpose Financial Statements. It was moved (Ward) seconded (Chory) to accept the Board of Education Expense Report for the 12 months ended 6/30/11 as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor. Mr. Wright noted that over 99% of the budget had been expended, and monies were returned to the Town due to the spending freeze enacted by the Superintendent. He thanked the Superintendent, the Business Manager and the staff for their efforts and congratulated them for a job well done. It was moved (Ward) seconded (Wright) to accept the Grant Expense Report for the 12 months ended 6/30/11 as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor. Mr. Sirico noted that a Food Services deposit was received after the last report which lowered the amount of loss for Food Services. It was moved (Ward) seconded (Labella) to accept the Consolidated Financial Statement as of and for the 12 months ended 6/30/11 as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor. It was moved (Ward) seconded (Labella) to accept the Board of Education Programs Detail Report as of 6/30/11 as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor. It was moved (Ward) seconded (Wright) to accept the Expendable Trust Detail Report as of 6/30/11 as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor. It was moved (Ward) seconded (Labella) to accept the Board of Education Student Activity Detail Report as of 6/30/11 as presented. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

Agenda Item IV—Reports

A. Enrollment Update/Staffing – Mr. Iassogna reviewed current enrollment as of August 12, 2011 and noted the process is extremely difficult with students moving in and out of the district and residency issues. He noted that he is monitoring the enrollments of the second grades at Booth Hill and Middlebrook and recommended that the Board take no action until enrollment is taken on the first day of school. At this time it was noted that if a second grade were eliminated from Booth Hill, the enrollment would be at the

Town of Trumbull
Budget Statement
FY 2026-2027

On March 24, the Superintendent presented a revised "Move Forward" FY27 budget that reflected multiple actions taken at the same time. He reduced his original budget request from a 6.65% increase to a 5.7% increase, lowering his request by **$1,232,349**. In addition, he identified proposed savings totaling **$1,280,000**, based on assumptions generated by both the Board of Education and the Board of Finance, including changes to insurance costs, transportation restructuring, and the use of non-lapsing funds.

Separately, the Board of Finance identified its own savings assumptions totaling **$1,820,000**, exceeding the savings figures presented by the Superintendent. After accounting for the Superintendent's revised request, his proposed savings, and the Board of Finance's identified savings, the Superintendent represented that the remaining gap between the First Selectman's allocation and the "Move Forward" budget was approximately **$916,019**, which he characterized as a workable compromise in his March 24 email to the Board of Finance.

Relying on those representations, the Board of Finance voted on March 24 to add **$500,000** to the Board of Education budget. That action was taken with the understanding that, after the reduction in the original request and the combined savings assumptions, the remaining shortfall would be limited, defined, and capable of being addressed through continued collaboration.

Decisions regarding funding were made by the Board of Finance based on the information, figures, and assumptions presented on March 24. Subsequent statements citing a $2.2 million budget gap do not align with the data that was before the Board at the time those decisions were made. Using the Superintendent's revised "Move Forward" budget, the documented savings assumptions of $1,280,000 to $1,820,000, and the Board of Finance's $500,000 adjustment, the remaining variance ranged from a shortfall of approximately $416,000 to a potential overage of $123,981.

See Table for more information

Town Distributed 4-8-26

Superintendent's Budget Requests		
Item	**Amount ($)**	**YOY %**
FY26 BOE Budget (Base)	$129,177,640	
FY27 Original BOE Request - January	$137,773,114	6.65%
FY27 BOE Move Forward Budget - Emailed March 24	$136,540,765	5.70%
Reduction (Original → Move Forward)	-$1,232,349	

Savings Assumptions		
	BOE Savings	**BOF Savings**
Insurance (15% → 12.5%)	$680,000	$680,000
Transportation (3-tier buses)	$400,000	$600,000
Non-lapsing funds	$200,000	$340,000
Electrical/Energy	$0	$200,000
Total BOE Savings	$1,280,000	$1,820,000

Gap Analysis		
	BOE Assumptions	**BOF Assumptions**
FY 27 BOE Move Forward Budget - Emailed March 24	$136,540,765	$136,540,765
First Selectman Allocation	$134,344,746	$134,344,746
Initial Gap	$2,196,019	$2,196,019
Less: BOE Savings	-$1,280,000	
Less: BOF Savings		-$1,820,000
Remaining Gap (March 24)	$916,019	$376,019
BOF Added Funding (March 24)	$500,000	$500,000
Post-BOF Vote 3/24 Remaining Gap	$416,019	-$123,981
Post-vote remaining gap: Swings from +123,981 over ask to -$416,019 below ask		

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