

Food Service Operations

The food service (“FS”) program operates as a stand-alone entity receiving limited support from the district. The program has been able to effectively service the district with the goal of remaining financially neutral. It is quite common throughout Vermont to subsidize a FS program with general fund dollars. The school board has provided financial support to the FS program through general funds over the past several years. In FY’22, the board provided the program with \$65K to cover the anticipated budget shortfall.

However, with the federal government providing universal meals to all Vermont School Districts in fiscal year 2022, the program had revenues of \$1,803K and expenses of \$1,717K for an unexpected surplus. This was unexpected and not part of any budget assumptions for the period. Further details are available in the auditor’s report for this period.

The FS program did not request any funds in the form of support from the school board in fiscal year 2023 as it believed that universal meals would remain available through the state and the program would be able to at least break even.

During the preparation of district budget for fiscal year 2024, a budget was not prepared for the FS program as it was uncertain if universal meals would again be available. Once this is determined, the program will prepare a budget for the upcoming period.