

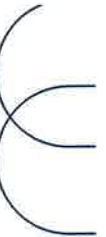
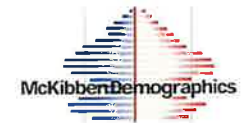
CSD
FY'25

School Budget

January 9, 2024



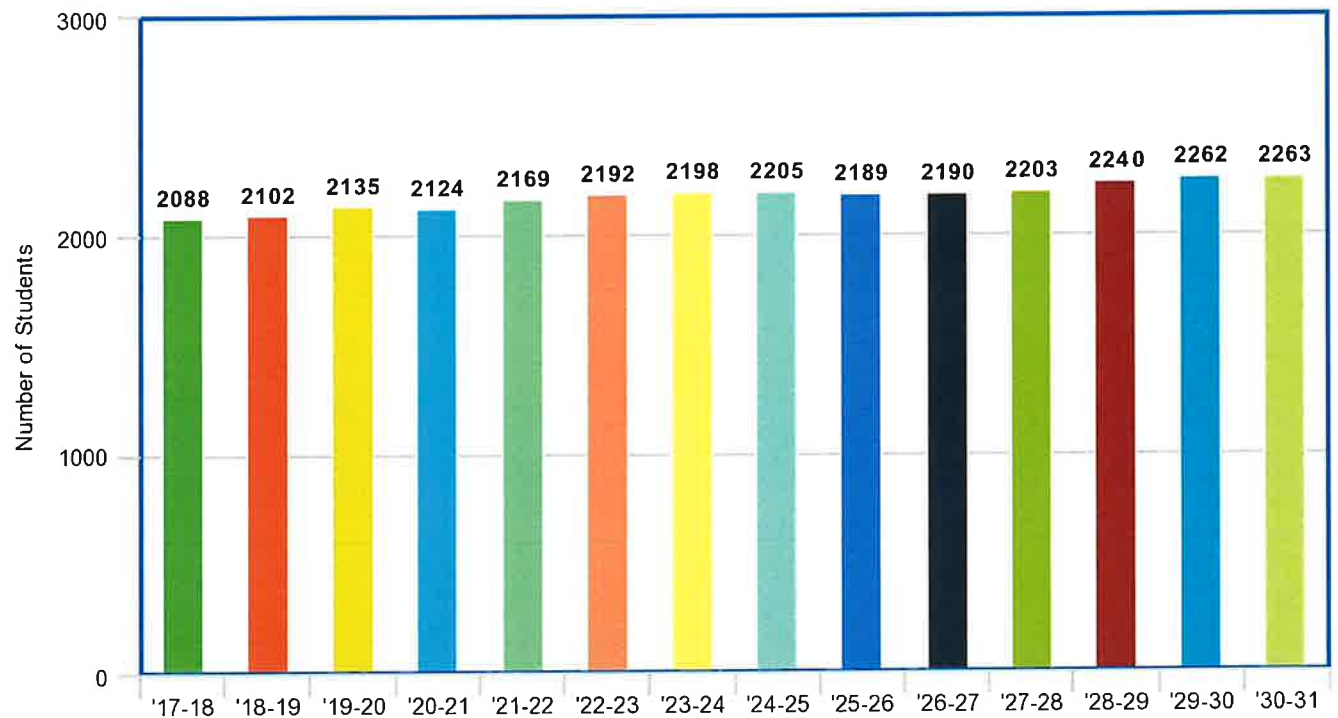
CSD Enrollment Projections



Colchester has 98
tuition students in
grades 7-12.

Tuition students join
us from Alburg,
Georgia, Grand Isle,
Isle LaMotte, North
Hero, Sheldon and
South Hero.

Projected Colchester Enrollment



* TUITION STUDENTS ARE NOT INCLUDED IN PROJECTIONS

Vermont Education Quality Standards

The State of Vermont sets standards for recommended class size per grade.



Grades K-3

20 students per classroom



Grades 4-12

24 students per classroom

CSD Projected Class Sizes

ELEMENTARY

Grade	'24-25 Projected	Projected Avg Class Sizes	EQS
K	171*	22	N
1	131	16	Y
2	152	19	Y
3	158	20	Y
4	163	20	Y
5	171	21	Y

SECONDARY

Grade	'24-25 Projected	Projected Avg Class Sizes	EQS
6	171	22	Y
7	162*	21*	Y
8	160*	20*	Y
9	164*	20-24	Y
10	191	20-24	Y
11	181	20-24	Y
12	185	20-24	Y

CSD Strengths

- Stable student enrollment and housing growth
 - 2013: 2,133 students
 - 2023: 2,151 students
- Committed and qualified employees across the district
 - 82% of teachers hold masters degrees
 - 23% of teacher hold at least 2 endorsements
 - 88% of admin have been with CSD for 5+ years
 - 10 support staff with teacher licenses
- Added behavior and mental health supports across the district
- Co-curricular involvement numbers are beginning to rise

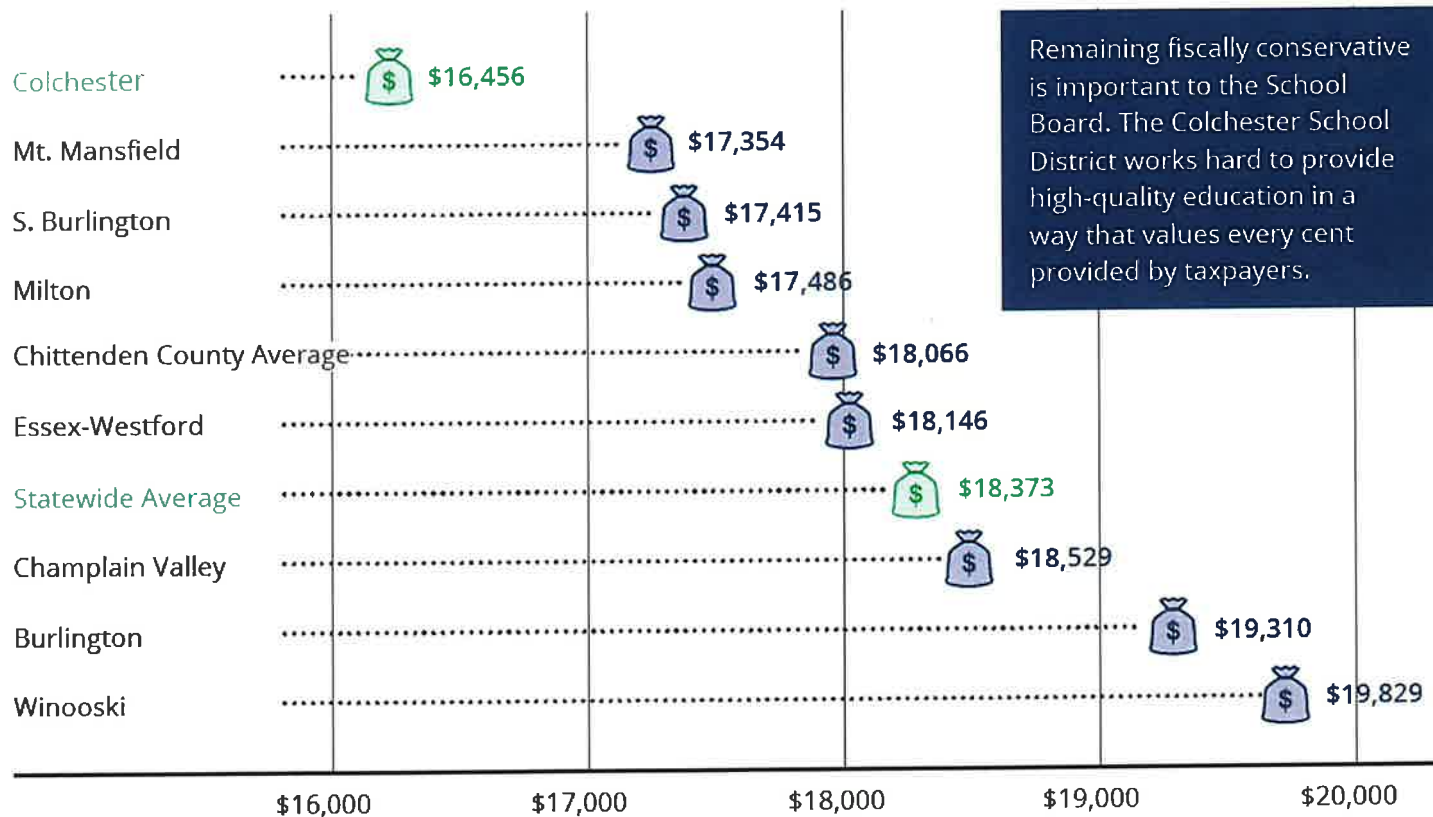


Regional Spending Comparison

Equalized Spending Per Pupil by District



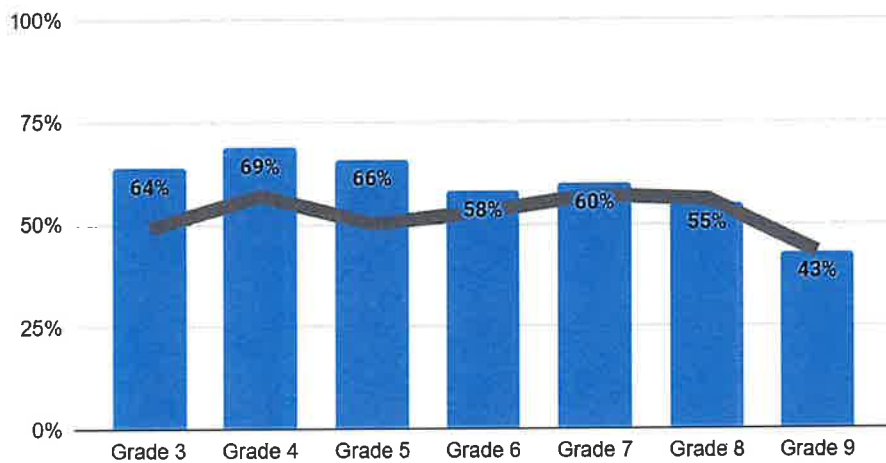
**FY
23**



Colchester Academic Outcomes

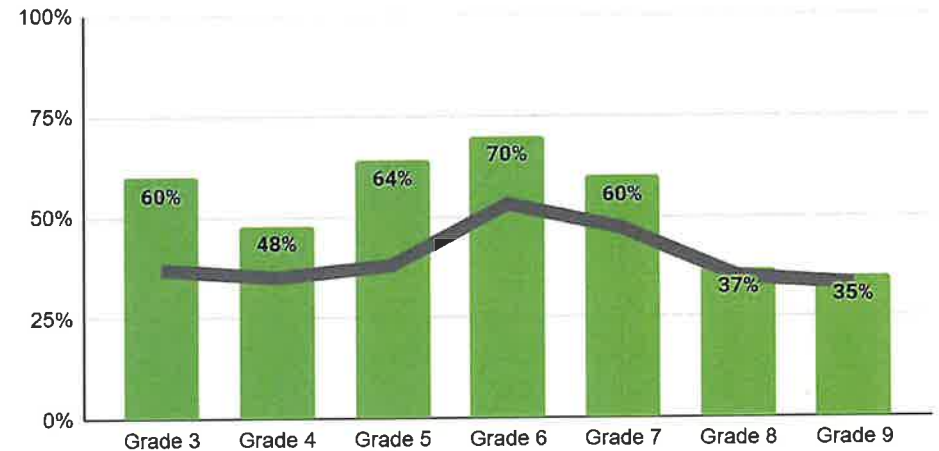
VTCAP ELA

Colchester Vermont

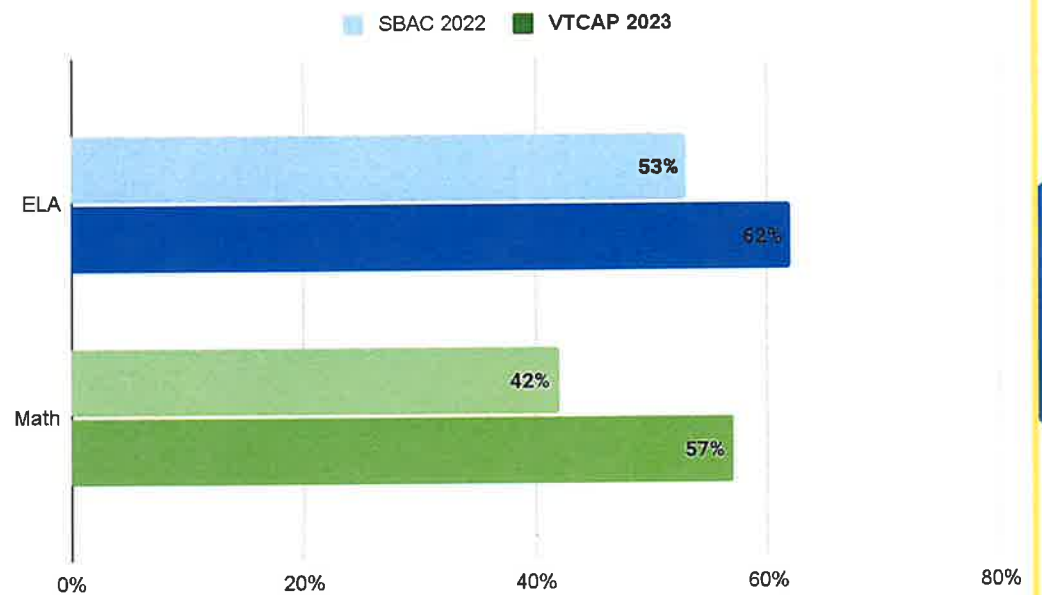
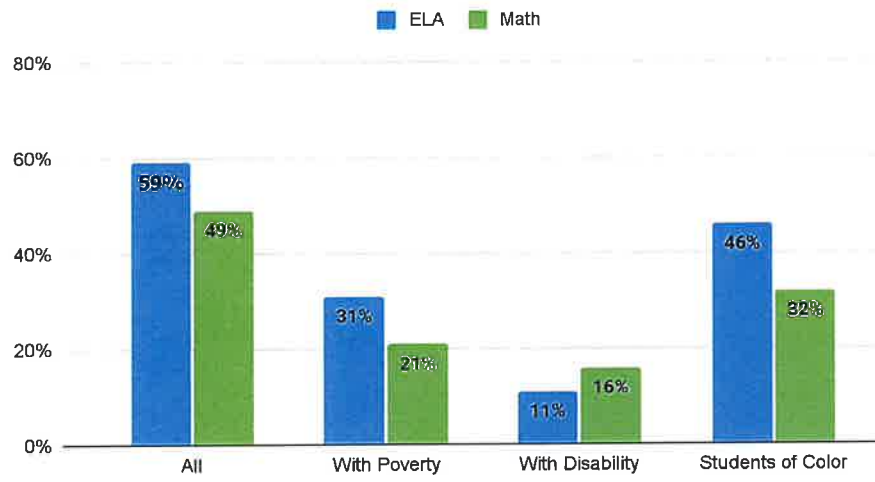


VTCAP Math

Colchester Vermont



VTCAP Disaggregated Results



CSD Needs

- Close the achievement gap for all students
- Increase in behavioral, mental health and medical needs across the district.
- Increase in students eligible for support based on an anxiety, depression and ADHD diagnosis. Case loads and access to individualized programming are challenging.
- Increase opportunities for students 6-12 to engage outside of the classroom especially after the school day ends.





Free/Reduced Lunch Rate



23%

2008-2009



28%

2012-2013



38%

2022-2023



CSD Homeless Data



Year	Number of homeless students attending CSD	Number of homeless students currently living in Colchester but attending another school district
2021-22	35	27
2022-23	58	28
2023-24 (as of 1/9/24)	65	30

Multi-Lingual Staffing

- Current challenge is meeting the needs of newcomers and their families.
- Over the past eight years CSD has slowly increased ML from 1.5 FTE to 4.0 FTE across the district.
- Strong community partnerships with local refugee agencies to predict and place students appropriately

Newcomer:
Student who has
moved into the US
with little or no
English

Grade Level	21-22	22-23	23-24
K-2	1	0	8
Malletts Bay	2	5	8
Middle	1	1	4
High School	2	2	11
Total	6	8	31

CMS 504 Teacher Rationale



- Students eligible for a 504 plan are students identified with a disability. It is best practice that the plans are managed by folks with specialized training in disability law and educational knowledge of each disability area.
- The American School Counselor Association and VT School Counselors Association recommend that “school counselors be available to advocate for students at individual education plan meetings and 504 meetings, student study teams and school attendance review boards, as necessary”. It is highly recommended that school counselors do **NOT** coordinate school wide student 504 plans as this takes away from their primary responsibility.
- A licensed special educator devoted specifically to students eligible for 504 services allows us to expand specific programming for these students within a model of MTSS.

CMS 504 Data and Needs



Current Data:

- ★ There are currently 39 students eligible for 504 services at CMS.
- ★ 20 students are case managed by the school counselors
- ★ 19 are managed by current middle school special educators in addition to managing students eligible for special education
- ★ No other school counselors oversee 504 case management in CSD

Needs:

- ★ Additional small group lessons designed to build students access to education
- ★ A continuum of services for students eligible for 504 services
- ★ School wide expert on accommodation and lesson design for students eligible for 504 services

CSD FY'25 Budget





Budget Contributing Factors

Expenditures

- Current estimated inflation rate of 2.5-3.0% will cause upward pressure on non-compensation expenses (e.g. supplies, professional services, transportation, equipment).
- Combined impact of negotiated CBA settlements during a time of high inflation and a strained labor market.

Revenues

- The district did not have a carry forward surplus thus putting upward pressure on the education spending dollars needed to support the proposed budget.





Budget Contributing Factors

State Factors

- The Dec. 1st Tax Commissioner's Letter announced a FY25 Yield of \$9,452, which is 10% lower than last year
- Initial new pupil weights of Act 127 were released by state on 12/5 and continue to be revised (version 5 was released today)
- Common Level of Appraisal (CLA) was released the evening of 1/2/24 with CSD seeing a decrease which dramatically raises the residential education tax rate, even with the Act 127 pre-CLA cap of 5.00%
- Statewide healthcare increased by 16.4%
- State approved child care contribution is a first time expense in FY25 (Act 76)



Act 127:

improves student equity by adjusting the school funding formula and providing education quality and funding oversight.

Stated Goals:

- ★ Increase educational equity by changing the education funding system
- ★ Improve educational outcomes
- ★ Improve transparency by simplifying the school funding formula
- ★ Enhance educational and financial accountability by ensuring that equitable resources are provided

Updates categories and weighting:

Determines long-term weighted ADM
(replacing equalized pupils)

- ★ Prek, K-5, 6-8, and 9-12
- ★ English Language Learners
- ★ Socioeconomic status
- ★ Small schools
- ★ Sparsity/population density





CSD Administrative Priorities



Highest Priority

To maintain our existing levels of professional staffing.

Needs

Increase layers of support and opportunities for students

FY25 Educational Tax Components


COMPONENT	DESCRIPTION
Dollar Yield (set by legislature)	The yield is the per pupil amount that the education fund can support with uniform homestead tax rates of \$1.00 on homestead value
Income Yield	Figure used to calculation tax caps based on income (approximately 70% of taxpayers are capped)
Estimated Ed Spending Increase	The total budget less non-tax revenues such as federal and state grants as well as locally generated revenues such as tuition and interest
Per Pupil Spending	The total education spending need divided by the LTW ADM
Common Level of Appraisal (set by town/state)	A measure of how close each town's local appraisals are to the actual fair market value
Baseline Budget Increase \$	The total dollar increase in the first cut of the budget rolling all existing programs forward and based on assumptions
Baseline Budget Increase %	The total percentage increase in the first cut of the budget rolling all existing programs forward and based on assumptions

FY25 Educational Tax Components

COMPONENT	SET BY	FY'25
Dollar Yield (set by legislature)	State	\$9,452
Income Yield	State	\$10,300
Estimated Ed Spending Increase	CSD	\$5,019,203
Per Pupil Spending	CSD	\$12,818
Common Level of Appraisal	State/Town	66.76%
Baseline Budget Increase \$	CSD	\$4,814,550
Baseline Budget Increase %	CSD	9.19%

Impact and Tax Caps

	FY25 per pupil spending increase < 10% of equivalent FY24 per pupil spending	FY25 Per pupil spending increase \geq 10% of equivalent FY24 per pupil spending
FY25 district tax rate increase is \leq 5.0% of FY24 district tax rate	District tax rate is as calculated and no Tax Rate Review	District tax rate is as calculated, potentially subject to a Tax Rate Review
FY25 district tax rate increase is > 5.0% of FY24 district tax rate	District tax rate is capped at a 5.0% increase and no Tax Rate Review.	<p>District tax rate is capped at a 5.0% increase and a Tax Rate Review is held.</p> <p>If the budget increase is deemed justified, the district rate is capped at 5.0%.</p> <p>If the budget increase is determined not to be for good cause, the district rate as calculated.</p>



This working draft of the FY'25 proposed budget would generate a residential homestead tax rate increase of

5.00% before the application of the
Common Level of Appraisal.

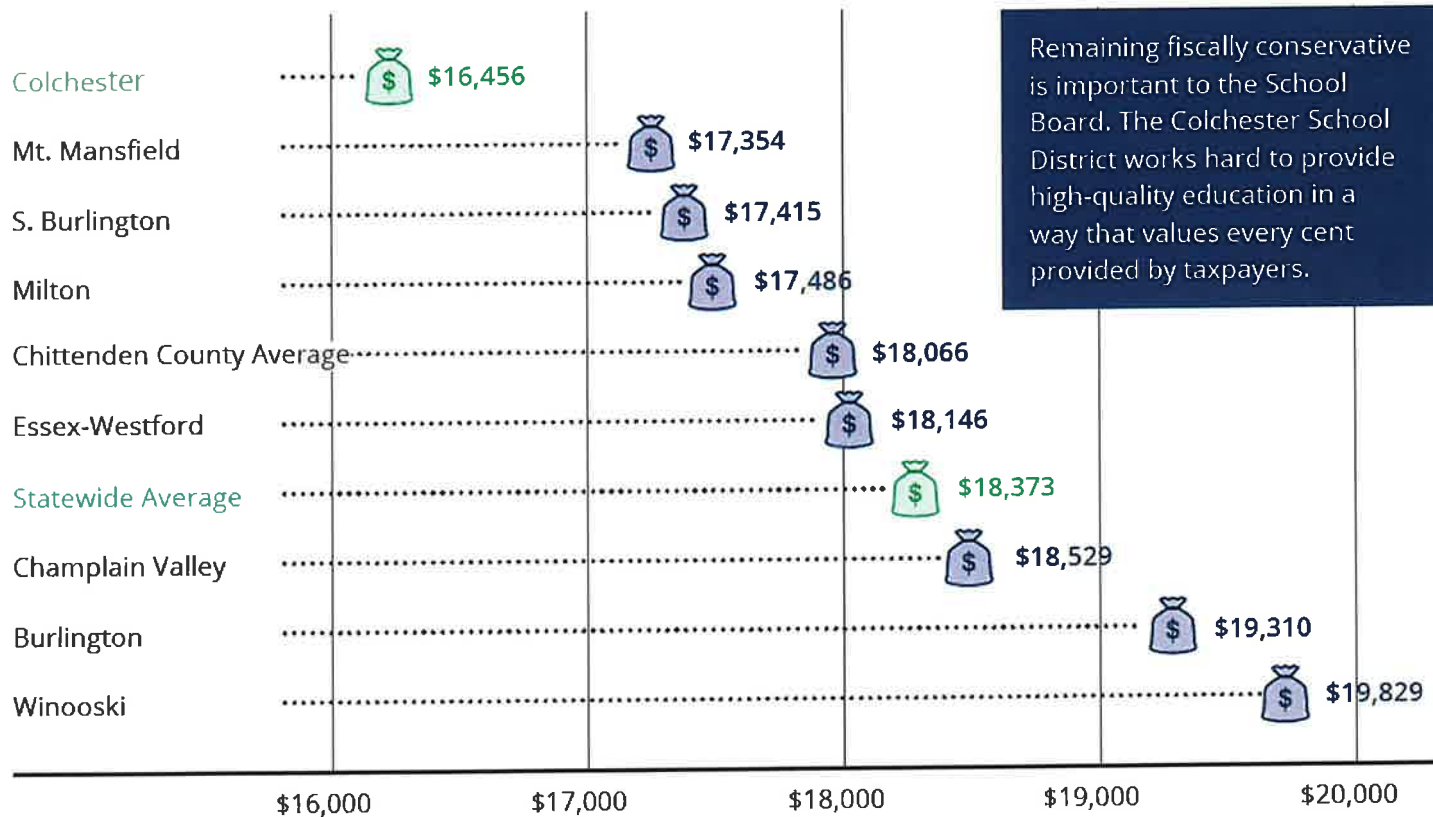


Regional Spending Comparison

Equalized Spending Per Pupil by District




**FY
23**





CSD Historical Budget Information



- 
- We have not had a CLA this low likely ever but at least not in the last 14 years. It matters because it is a huge amplifier and tends to reflect badly on the district despite us having no control over it.
 - The average tax increase over the past 9 years, not counting FY'25, is 1.21% with two years in which we had decreases. The reasons don't really matter at this point.
 - If you include what could be the tax increase for FY'25 (the 5% capped version) you have an average increase over the last 10 years of 2.64%.



Act 127 Impact

	Example A	Example B	Example C	Example D
Additions/Reductions	No additions \$150K reductions	No Additions	\$105K No Reductions	\$210K No Reductions
Budget Amount	\$57,065,957	\$57,215,957	\$57,320,957	\$57,425,957
Increase \$	\$4,664,550	\$4,814,550	\$4,919,550	\$5,024,550
Increase %	8.90%	9.19%	9.39%	9.59%
Tax Increase BEFORE the CLA	16.41%	16.78%	17.05%	17.32%
Per Pupil Spending Increase	4.62%	4.96%	5.20%	5.44%
Act 127 CAP Eligibility	5%	5%	5%	5%
Estimated Tax Increase % (CLA = 66.76%)	15.50%	15.50%	15.50%	15.50%





Ballot Language

“

Shall the voters of the school district approve the school board to expend \$57,215,957, which is the amount the school board has deemed necessary for the ensuing fiscal year?

”





Questions ?

