

Executive Summary – Budget FY’26

The School Board approved the FY’26 budget in the amount of \$64,889,466. This is an increase over the current year by \$7,463,509 or 13.0%. The general education funding required increased by \$6,364,856 or 13.78%, which is higher than the overall anticipated statewide education spending growth of 6.1%.

The proposed budget, if approved, results in per pupil spending of \$14,382, which is an increase from FY’25 per pupil spending of \$12,818 or 12.20%. This is above the state’s projected average per pupil spending increase of 7.0%. The increase in spending on a per pupil basis results in a homestead tax increase of 2.95% increase. This means the homestead education tax rate would increase from \$1.8199 to \$1.8735. For a homeowner with a house valued at \$350,000, this increase would represent a \$188 increase annually. This does not consider any aspect of income sensitivity. Approximately seventy percent (70%) of Vermont homeowners received a property adjustment in 2023.

General education spending growth for the district increased to \$33,726,529, which is an increase of 6.85% or \$2,163,560. The primary reasons for the overall increase are salaries and benefits, which represent 76% of the overall budget, and a double-digit increase in health insurance.

Special education increased to \$15,816,124, which is an increase of 17.22% or \$2,322,916 due to anticipated demand. The increase can be attributed to employee compensation, benefits, and tuition costs for out of district placements.

Support of education increased to \$13,916,813, which is an increase of 6.96% or \$2,884,033. The most significant cost drivers in this area are compensation, benefits, building maintenance, bond interest and student transportation.

Below is a summary of the expenditures in each of the functional areas.

Function	2024-25 Budget	2025-26 Budget	Percent Change	Dollar Change
Total General Education	\$31,562,969	\$33,726,529	6.85%	\$2,163,560
Total Special Education	\$13,493,208	\$15,816,124	17.22%	\$2,322,916
Total Support of Education	\$11,032,780	\$13,916,813	26.14%	\$2,884,033
Grants, Medicaid, EPSDT	\$1,337,000	\$1,430,000	6.96%	\$93,000
Totals	\$57,425,957	\$64,889,466	13.00%	\$7,463,509