

Colchester School Board

Meeting Agenda and Packet

October 15, 2024

**Colchester School District
Board of Education Meeting Agenda
October 15, 2024 - 7:00 P.M.
Colchester High School Library**

Agenda

- | | | |
|--------------|--|--------------------|
| I. | Call to Order | |
| II. | Citizen Participation | |
| III. | Hear Update on District Facilities Renovation Bond Proposal | Information |
| IV. | Hear Quarterly Financial Update | Information |
| V. | Second and Final Reading of Continuous Improvement Plan Policy: G8 | Action |
| VI. | Hear FY26 Budget Timeline | Information |
| VII. | Approval of Consent Agenda | Action |
| VIII. | Approval of Meeting Minutes
• October 1, 2024 | Action |
| IX. | Board/Administration Communication, Correspondence, Committee Reports | Information |
| X. | Future Agenda Items | Information |
| XI. | Executive Session to Discuss a Student Matter | Action |
| XII. | Adjournment | |

***Meeting Participation and Viewing Options**

Meetings are open to the public unless warned otherwise. Colchester citizens have an opportunity to speak or comment on any items listed on the agenda. For topics not listed on the agenda, public comment can be made during the Citizen's Participation agenda item. Please review the Public Comment Rules listed at www.csdvt.org/schoolboard prior to the meeting. If not attending in person, citizens may also participate in the meeting by emailing a prerecorded message to schoolboard@colchesters.org with "Citizens Participation" listed in the subject line. It must be received by noon on the day of the meeting, include your full name and phone number, and follow the Public Comment Rules. LCATV will provide live stream coverage via: www.lcatv.org/live-stream-3.




Colchester School District

Administrative Offices, 59 Rathe Road, PO Box 27, Colchester, Vermont 05446

Phone: (802) 264-5999 • www.csdvt.org • Fax: (802) 318-4669

MEMO

To: School Board Directors
CC: Amy Minor
From: George A. Trieb, Jr. 
Date: October 15, 2024
Subject: Year-To-Date Financial Report – September 2024

The table below shows the total budget and forecast revenue and expense figures for the period ending September 2024. Revenue and expenditures are tracking mostly as expected. Should the current spending trend continue the district expects a surplus of \$1,772.

	Budget	Forecast	% of Budget	Variance
Revenue	\$56,008,957	\$56,234,172	100.26%	\$145,215
Expenses	\$56,088,957	\$56,232,400	100.26%	(\$143,443)
<i>Surplus/(Deficit)</i>				\$1,772

Attached to this memo are further details about both the revenue and expenses through September. The district spent 17.5% of the budget versus spending 19.9% last year at this time. The district's total commitments to date are very much in line with last year.

The table below shows expenses paid in the first quarter either through board orders or payroll warrants.

Transaction Type	Date	Amount
Payroll Warrant	7/5/24	\$294,030
Board Orders	7/10/24	\$492,728
Payroll Warrant	7/19/24	\$309,180
Board Orders	7/24/24	\$1,151,731
Total Expenditures		\$2,247,669

Amy Minor
Superintendent
of Schools

George Trieb
Business & Operations
Manager

Carrie Lutz
Director of Student
Support Services

Gwendolyn Carmolli
Director of Curriculum
& Instruction

Transaction Type	Date	Amount
Payroll Warrant	8/2/24	\$400,094
Board Orders	8/7/24	\$519,549
Payroll Warrant	8/10/24	\$320,755
Board Orders	8/21/24	\$501,184
Payroll Warrant	8/30/24	\$1,202,479
Total Expenditures		\$2,944,061

Transaction Type	Date	Amount
Board Orders	9/4/24	\$1,102,570
Payroll Warrant	9/13/24	\$1,363,050
Board Orders	9/18/24	\$1,509,187
Payroll Warrant	9/27/24	\$1,368,097
Total Expenditures		\$5,342,904

Colchester School District
Year-End Budget Report - Voted Budget Revenue
As of September 30, 2024

Description	FY2025 Budget	FY2025 Forecast	Revenue Received	Percent Received	Variance Favorable/(Unfavorable)
LOCAL					
Fund Balance	\$0	\$0	\$0	N/A	\$0
Tuition	\$2,056,400	\$2,056,400	\$0	0.00%	\$0
Interest Earnings	\$175,000	\$335,000	\$61,940	35.39%	\$160,000
Facility Rentals	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$5,550	22.20%	\$0
Impact Fees	\$125,000	\$125,000	\$0	0.00%	\$0
Miscellaneous	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$8,192	32.77%	\$0
Act 176 Funds - High School Completion	\$0	\$0	\$0	N/A	\$0
TOTAL LOCAL	\$2,406,400	\$2,566,400	\$75,682	3.15%	\$160,000
STATE					
General State Aid	\$46,177,952	\$46,177,952	\$15,351,360	33.24%	\$0
Transportation Aid	\$615,000	\$640,000	\$0	0.00%	\$25,000
Voc. Ed. Transportation Reimb.	\$46,000	\$46,000	\$0	0.00%	\$0
Driver Education Reimbursement	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$4,993	24.97%	\$0
TOTAL STATE NON SPECIAL EDUCATION	\$46,858,952	\$46,883,952	\$15,356,353	32.77%	\$25,000
SPECIAL EDUCATION					
Census Block Grant	\$5,179,131	\$5,179,131	\$1,686,377	32.56%	\$0
Extraordinary Reimbursement	\$459,638	\$500,000	\$0	0.00%	\$40,362
EEE Program	\$244,689	\$244,689	\$122,345	50.00%	\$0
TOTAL SPECIAL EDUCATION	\$5,883,458	\$5,923,820	\$1,808,722	30.74%	\$40,362
FEDERAL					
SpEd/Title IVB IDEA	\$930,090	\$850,000	\$0	0.00%	(\$80,090)
SpEd/EEE IDEA Pre-School	\$10,057	\$10,000	\$0	0.00%	(\$57)
TOTAL FEDERAL	\$940,147	\$860,000	\$0	0.00%	(\$80,147)
TOTAL REVENUE	\$56,088,957	\$56,234,172	\$17,240,757	30.74%	\$145,215

COLCHESTER SCHOOL DISTRICT

Year-to-Date Budget Report - Voted Budget Expenditures (by Account)

ACCOUNT #	ACCOUNT TITLE	As of September 30, 2024		EXPENDITURES YTD	AVAILABLE BUDGET	% OF BUDGET UTILIZED	VARIANCE
		FY2025 BUDGET	FY2025 FORECAST				
5111	TEACHERS	\$20,271,688	\$20,271,688	\$2,320,228	\$17,951,460	11.4%	\$0
5121	PARAEDUCATOR	\$3,910,889	\$3,910,889	\$468,965	\$3,441,924	12.0%	\$0
5131	SUBSTITUTES	\$490,000	\$490,000	\$36,022	\$453,978	7.4%	\$0
5141	ADMINISTRATION	\$2,201,040	\$2,201,040	\$579,238	\$1,621,802	26.3%	\$0
5151	MID-MANAGEMENT/SUPERVISOR	\$579,883	\$579,883	\$153,037	\$426,846	26.4%	\$0
5161	SUPPORT STAFF - CLERICAL	\$1,224,056	\$1,224,056	\$275,397	\$948,659	22.5%	\$0
5171	TECH & PROF STAFF	\$1,067,741	\$1,067,741	\$178,710	\$889,031	16.7%	\$0
5172	TCH & PRF STF-OT/PT/BS/CC	\$840,115	\$840,115	\$89,363	\$750,752	10.6%	\$0
5181	NON-CLERICAL GENERALISTS	\$1,109,928	\$1,109,928	\$243,938	\$865,990	22.0%	\$0
5191	STIPENDS- BOARD ED	\$8,500	\$8,500	\$0	\$8,500	N/A	\$0
5192	STIPENDS- OTHER	\$750,000	\$750,000	\$285,946	\$464,054	38.1%	\$0
5211	HEALTH INSURANCE	\$5,779,482	\$5,779,482	\$1,713,341	\$4,066,141	29.6%	\$0
5212	HEALTH CARE CONTRIBUTION	\$16,000	\$16,000	\$0	\$16,000	N/A	\$0
5218	HAS	\$72,244	\$72,244	\$0	\$72,244	N/A	\$0
5219	HRA	\$911,991	\$911,991	\$115,745	\$796,246	12.7%	\$0
5220	FICA	\$2,482,463	\$2,482,463	\$332,298	\$2,150,165	13.4%	\$0
5221	CHILD CARE CONTRIBUTIONS	\$85,896	\$85,896	\$17,759	\$68,137	20.7%	\$0
5232	VSTRS- OPEB	\$130,000	\$130,000	\$0	\$130,000	N/A	\$0
5233	VSTRS- PENSION PAYMENTS	\$21,415	\$21,415	\$2,471	\$18,944	11.5%	\$0
5234	VMERS	\$442,643	\$465,000	\$92,234	\$350,409	20.8%	(\$22,357)
5251	TUITION REIMB- TEACHER	\$175,000	\$175,000	\$53,368	\$121,632	30.5%	\$0
5252	TUITION REIMB- SPT STF	\$37,000	\$37,000	\$9,481	\$27,519	25.6%	\$0
5253	TUITION REIMBURSEMENT - ADMIN	\$18,000	\$18,000	\$0	\$18,000	N/A	\$0
5261	UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION	\$40,000	\$40,000	\$0	\$40,000	N/A	\$0
5271	WORKERS COMPENSATION	\$247,197	\$252,000	\$246,182	\$1,015	99.6%	(\$4,803)
5281	DENTAL	\$312,029	\$318,000	\$107,276	\$204,753	34.4%	(\$5,971)
5292	LIFE	\$36,031	\$46,000	\$16,991	\$19,040	47.2%	(\$9,969)
5294	LTD	\$81,798	\$72,000	\$17,384	\$64,414	21.3%	\$9,798
5295	CASH IN LIEU	\$205,000	\$205,000	\$0	\$205,000	N/A	\$0
5321	PROFESSIONAL EDU SERVICES	\$875,884	\$875,884	\$262,969	\$612,915	30.0%	\$0
5331	EMP TRAINING/DEVELOP	\$20,600	\$20,600	\$4,685	\$15,915	22.7%	\$0
5341	OTHER PROFESSNL SERVICES	\$586,324	\$586,324	\$93,656	\$492,668	16.0%	\$0
5342	AUDITING SERVICES	\$46,000	\$46,000	\$974	\$45,026	2.1%	\$0
5352	OTH TECHNICAL SERVICES	\$0	\$105,000	\$104,710	(\$104,710)	#DIV/0!	(\$105,000)
5411	UTILITY SERVICES	\$88,000	\$88,000	\$2,728	\$85,272	3.1%	\$0
5425	TRASH & RECYCLING	\$64,000	\$64,000	\$11,752	\$52,248	18.4%	\$0
5431	NONTECHNLGY REPAIR/MAINT	\$1,049,251	\$1,049,251	\$328,926	\$720,325	31.3%	\$0
5432	TECHNOLOGY REPAIR/MAINT	\$15,965	\$15,965	\$11,189	\$4,776	70.1%	\$0
5441	RENTALS-LAND/BUILDINGS	\$128,750	\$128,750	\$44,584	\$84,166	34.6%	\$0
5442	RENTALS-EQUIPMNT/VEHICLES	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$16,904	\$83,096	16.9%	\$0
5443	PUBLIC INFO SERVICES	\$0	\$4,650	\$4,650	(\$4,650)	#DIV/0!	(\$4,650)
5451	CONSTRUCTION SERVICES	\$0	\$47,000	\$46,777	(\$46,777)	#DIV/0!	(\$47,000)
5490	OTHER PURCH PROPERTY SERV	\$40,000	\$40,000	\$0	\$40,000	N/A	\$0
5513	STUDENT TRAN CONTRACT	\$1,654,101	\$1,687,000	\$0	\$1,654,101	N/A	(\$32,899)
5519	STUDENT TRAN OTHER EXTRA	\$577,499	\$577,499	\$81,972	\$495,527	14.2%	\$0
5521	INSURANCE (NOT EMP BEN)	\$73,500	\$75,692	\$75,692	(\$2,192)	103.0%	(\$2,192)
5522	INSURANCE- LIABILITY	\$115,500	\$98,900	\$98,900	\$16,600	85.6%	\$16,600
5531	COMMUNICATIONS	\$38,000	\$38,000	\$4,945	\$33,055	13.0%	\$0
5533	POSTAGE	\$28,000	\$28,000	\$7,131	\$20,869	25.5%	\$0
5534	TELEPHONE AND VOICE	\$29,601	\$29,601	\$11,176	\$18,425	37.8%	\$0
5541	ADVERTISING	\$16,000	\$16,000	\$559	\$15,441	3.5%	\$0
5551	PRINTING AND BINDING	\$14,630	\$14,630	\$0	\$14,630	N/A	\$0
5561	TUITN TO PUB VT LEAS	\$60,000	\$60,000	\$0	\$60,000	N/A	\$0
5562	TUITN TO PRIV VT LEAS	\$2,426,194	\$2,426,194	\$415,834	\$2,010,360	17.1%	\$0
5566	TUITN TO VC-ON BEHALF	\$520,054	\$520,054	\$0	\$520,054	N/A	\$0
5567	TUITN TO VC	\$490,245	\$490,245	\$0	\$490,245	N/A	\$0
5581	TRAVEL	\$45,462	\$45,462	\$7,744	\$37,718	17.0%	\$0
5611	GENERAL SUPPLIES	\$936,292	\$936,292	\$318,039	\$618,253	34.0%	\$0
5621	NATURAL GAS	\$205,405	\$205,405	\$3,174	\$202,231	1.5%	\$0
5622	ELECTRICITY	\$482,952	\$482,952	\$76,047	\$406,905	15.7%	\$0
5626	GASOLINE	\$25,750	\$25,750	\$3,809	\$21,941	14.8%	\$0
5641	BOOKS AND PERIODICALS	\$100,988	\$100,988	\$32,387	\$68,601	32.1%	\$0
5651	SUPPLIES - TECH RELATED	\$36,050	\$36,050	\$10,649	\$25,401	29.5%	\$0
5652	SUPPLIES - TECH SOFTWARE	\$291,044	\$291,044	\$286,573	\$4,471	98.5%	\$0
5731	MACHINERY	\$15,450	\$15,450	\$0	\$15,450	N/A	\$0
5732	VEHICLES	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$0	\$100,000	N/A	\$0
5733	FURNITURE AND FIXTURES	\$99,125	\$99,125	\$12,169	\$86,956	12.3%	\$0

COLCHESTER SCHOOL DISTRICT

Year-to-Date Budget Report - Voted Budget Expenditures (by Account)

ACCOUNT #	ACCOUNT TITLE	As of September 30, 2024		EXPENDITURES YTD	AVAILABLE BUDGET	% OF BUDGET UTILIZED	VARIANCE
		FY2025 BUDGET	FY2025 FORECAST				
5734	TECH-RELATED HARDWARE	\$475,511	\$475,511	\$40,581	\$434,930	8.5%	\$0
5811	DUES AND FEES	\$60,766	\$60,766	\$46,849	\$13,917	77.1%	\$0
5831	REDEMPTION OF PRINCIPAL	\$294,118	\$294,118	\$0	\$294,118	N/A	\$0
5832	INTEREST ON LT DEBT	\$205,000	\$140,000	\$0	\$205,000	N/A	\$65,000
5899	MISC EXPENDITURES - OTHER	\$18,417	\$18,417	\$4,792	\$13,625	26.0%	\$0
5911	FD TRSF- CONTRIB RSRV	\$90,000	\$90,000	\$0	\$90,000	N/A	\$0
	TOTALS	\$56,088,957	\$56,232,400	\$9,828,900	\$46,260,057	17.5%	(\$143,443)

COLCHESTER SCHOOL DISTRICT**POLICY: CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT PLAN****DATE ADOPTED:** DRAFT**POLICY STATEMENT**

In accordance with state law, it is the policy of the Colchester School District to establish annually a Continuous Improvement Plan (CIP) for the district as a whole, as well as individual CIPs for each school. These plans must be based on student achievement data and shall set forth goals and associated resources needed to improve student performance.

*Legal References:**V.S.A. 16 § 165**Vermont State Board of Education Manual of Rules and Practices § 2125*

Last Reviewed: October 1, 2019
Date Warned: September 13, 2024
First Reading: September 17, 2024
Second Reading: October 15, 2024



Colchester School District

Administrative Offices, 59 Rathe Road, PO Box 27, Colchester, Vermont 05446
Phone: (802) 264-5999 • www.csdvt.org • Fax: (802) 318-4669

MEMO

To: School Board Directors
From: George A. Trieb, Jr.
Subject: FY'26 Budget Timeline
Date: October 15, 2024

Attached is the proposed budget development timeline for FY'26. Similar to last year, it should provide us with ample time to: (1) review and discuss all expenditure and revenue items internally, (2) prepare the expenditures baseline budget, (3) thoroughly discuss the baseline budget with the school board, employees and community, (4) prepare and discuss the superintendent's budget, and, (5) finalize a budget for the school board's approval and timely warning.

All the dates noted fall on the scheduled school board meeting nights. However, should the need arise, we can also schedule extra budget sessions on January 14th and 28th, as long as we have the warned budget to the town clear by January 29th. Ideally the goal is to have the budget warned on the 21st so that we don't delay our communications plan.

Please review and provide me with any feedback that you might have.

Thanks.

Amy Minor
Superintendent
of Schools

George Trieb
Business & Operations
Manager

Carrie Lutz
Director of Student
Support Services

Gwendolyn Carmolli
Director of Curriculum
& Instruction

Board Meeting Dates	Budget Topic	Specific Budget Items
10/15/24	Timeline	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review budget timeline/process – general budget discussion
11/5/24	Expenditures/Strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discuss budget drivers and challenges Review tax calculation (terms/methodology) Enrollment history and projections Class size numbers – K-8 / FTE’s instructional
11/19/24	Expenditures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> General budget discussion – prioritize key budget items (strategy driven process) Budget Core Assumptions Grant/Medicaid funded programs and personnel Discuss new/discontinued programs – Impact
12/3/24	Expenditures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review and discuss baseline expenditure budget Building Operational Budgets - PPS, UMS, MBS, CMS, CHS.
12/17/24	Expenditures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to review & discuss expenditures
1/7/25	Revenue	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Present Superintendent’s recommended budget Discuss all potential sources of revenue – local, state, federal and SPED
1/21/25	General	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discuss the proposed Superintendent’s recommended budget impact on the education tax School Board approves budget and warning
2/4/25	Budget Discussions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discuss and promote budget
2/18/25	Budget Discussions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discuss and promote budget
3/3/25	Town Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Town Meeting/School Report Night
3/4/25	Meeting/Vote	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Obtain approval for school budget

COLCHESTER SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board of Education Meeting
Colchester High School Performing Arts Center

Tuesday, October 1, 2024
7:00 p.m.

MINUTES (General Session)

The Colchester Board of Education converted a regular board meeting to a community presentation on the facilities bond item that voters will consider on the November 5 election ballot. Board members in attendance were Board Chair Lindsey Cox, Directors Nic Longo, Ben Yousey-Hindes, Laurie Kigonya, Jennifer Fath and Student Board Member Rylee Friend. District administrators in attendance included Superintendent Amy Minor, Business and Operations Manager George Trieb, and Director of Curriculum and Instruction Gwen Carmolli, and Director of Student Support Services Carrie Lutz. Architects John Hemmelgarn and Polly Wheeler from Black River Design Architects were also in attendance to answer questions.

I. Call to Order

Board Chair Lindsey Cox called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. Citizen Participation

None.

III. Approval of Meeting Minutes

Action

- September 17, 2024
- September 24, 2024

Director Longo moved to approve the minutes from the meetings held on September 17 and 24, 2024. The motion passed unanimously.

IV. Community Presentation and Q&A on the Proposed Facilities Bond

Information

School board members, administrators, and architects provided a comprehensive presentation for community members outlining the proposed facilities bond on the November 5 ballot. The bond will fund enhancements to safety, upgrades to infrastructure, and improvements to learning spaces through renovating existing facilities and constructing new additions at schools in the district. While all five schools will see some level of updates, most of the funds will go to Porters Point School, Union Memorial School, and Colchester Middle School. Following the presentation, community members were invited to make statements or ask questions.

David Cohen of North Beach Road asked if the district had thoroughly evaluated what a completely new building would cost. John Hemmelgarn from Black River Design said they did a preliminary design and estimate. It would be more expensive, noting that new constructions typically involve higher expenses, including establishing underground utilities and site infrastructure. Mr. Cohen He also raised concerns about the presence of PCBs and questioned whether the school board had issued a request for proposals from construction companies. Board Chair Lindsey Cox stated they cannot put out a request for proposals until taxpayers approve to spend the money by passing the bond. Hemmelgarn explained the role and process they used to estimate costs.

Ted Stokes of Fern Court appreciated the presentation but highlighted the financial burden on low-income individuals and families, emphasizing that many residents are renters who may face increased rent due to higher taxes. He urged the board to differentiate between essential and non-essential spending to reduce the size of the proposed bond.

Chris Dupont of Leclair Drive acknowledged the need for the project but stressed the importance of cutting unnecessary expenses. He inquired about contingency plans and whether PCB testing would be completed before starting renovations. Administrators confirmed plans for both.

Taryn Barrett of Orchard Drive shared she is an architect and commended the planning and dedication of those involved in the project, recognizing the difficult conditions teachers face in the current facilities. She expressed confidence that the team would successfully move forward with the necessary renovations and shared support for what was presented.

Dick Pecor of Middle Road highlighted the town's history of delaying necessary renovations until buildings are in poor condition, recalling past issues with outdated facilities at the town garage, town office, and police station. He stressed that many school buildings currently do not meet code, which poses safety risks, and shared his shock from seeing the pictures in the presentation that showed the current conditions of the buildings.

Tom Barry of Old Sawmill Road agreed that the case for renovation was strong and noted that much of the proposed work is essential. He mentioned a previous issue with a drainage pipe that arose from parking expansion and suggested budgeting for a stormwater management system.

Kate Ellingson of South Bay Circle and a teacher in the district, raised concerns about the safety of students during emergencies, like fires or school shootings, noting inadequate exit routes in the buildings. She highlighted the need for improvements and questioned the rationale behind waiting for emergencies to address critical issues at the two schools that are not receiving significant funds. She asked why the school board was not asking taxpayers for more funds to improve conditions.

Churchill Hindes of Thayer Bay Road appreciated the informative presentation and stressed the importance of safety and compliance with building codes, noting that the schools are exempt because of age, but that does not mean being out of compliance is okay. He reflected on the tragic consequences of the school shooting in Essex and wants to make sure the district's schools can keep the students and staff safe. He also expressed a desire for a one-on-one discussion about the structure of the bond and financial intricacies.

Pete Labrie of Julie Drive thanked the board for their commitment to a comprehensive, long-term approach to school facilities, cautioning against piecemeal solutions that could lead to higher costs. He asked whether the board had considered acquiring and rehabilitating state-owned properties.

Mark Gagne of Hidden Oaks Drive and teacher, coach, and parent shared his firsthand experiences of overcrowded classrooms and inadequate facilities. He stated the presentation did not exaggerate the current facility conditions. He emphasized the need for more than temporary fixes, as the current conditions are not conducive to effective teaching and learning.

Chris Dupont made a second comment, reiterating his acknowledgment of the need for renovations while voicing concerns over potential tax increases that could affect residents. He urged the state to help towns and districts fund renovations for their aging facilities. In lieu of any state assistance, he pleaded for the board to get the best possible price for the renovations.

Jocelyn Scheuch Shore Acres Drive expressed her support for proactive measures to ensure ADA compliance in schools and emphasized the importance of understanding the growth of the school population. She pointed out that the proposed expansion seems conservative, given the ongoing new construction in the area, and inquired about additional capacity in the plans. Superintendent Amy Minor responded that a demographic report informed the floor plans, indicating slight enrollment growth with a forecasted leveling off, and noted the inclusion of a flexible space to accommodate unexpected high enrollment in any grade while avoiding overbuilding based on the data.

David Cohen made a second comment, noting that he has been astounded and startled by the facility conditions shared in the presentation. He feels that many necessary renovations could have been accomplished incrementally in previous years. He emphasized the importance of affordability in light of the upcoming property reassessment and the potential tax impact on residents.

Kate Ellingson made a second comment, continuing to highlight the struggle that teachers face. She called for a broader discussion on funding for education and urged that the state hear the voices of teachers and community members.

Kari Carney of Landing Avenue and a fourth-grade teacher, expressed concern about classroom size and the current facilities' barriers to safety in the event of an emergency. She recounted a plumbing incident that disrupted learning, emphasizing the need for adequate space and facilities.

Vicki Brown, a special educator in the district, thanked the board for their thoughtful consideration of district needs. She voiced concerns about ADA compliance and the challenges students face in current facilities, stressing the importance of updates to provide the best education possible.

V. Adjournment

Director Yousey-Hindes moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:48 p.m.

Recorder:

Meghan Baule
Recording Secretary

Board Clerk:

Ben Yousey-Hindes
Board Clerk