

**A JOINT MEETING OF THE FRANKLIN TOWN COUNCIL &
FRANKLIN SCHOOL COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF MEETING
April 24, 2024**

A joint meeting of the Franklin Town Council and Franklin School Committee was held on Wednesday, April 24, 2024, at the Franklin High School Auditorium, 218 Oak Street, Franklin, MA. Councilors present: Brian Chandler, Theodore Cormier-Leger, Robert Dellorco, Cobi Frongillo, Melanie Hamblen, Glenn Jones, Thomas Mercer, Deborah Pellegrini, Patrick Sheridan. Councilors absent: None. School Committee Members present: Dave Callaghan, Al Charles, Erin Gallagher, Paul Griffith, David McNeill, Ruthann O’Sullivan, KP Sompally. School Committee Members absent: None. Administrative personnel in attendance: Jamie Hellen, Town Administrator; Amy Frigulietti, Deputy Town Administrator; Mark Cerel, Town Attorney; Lucas Giguere, Superintendent of Schools; Tina Rogers, Assistant Superintendent; Bob Dutch, Interim School Business Administrator.

CALL TO ORDER: ► Town Council Chair Mercer called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Town Council Chair Mercer called for a moment of silence. All recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

INTRODUCTION FROM THE CHAIRS OF THE TOWN COUNCIL & SCHOOL COMMITTEE: Town Council Chair Mercer and School Committee Chair Callaghan both gave introductory remarks.

PRESENTATIONS: ► Town Administrator Jamie Hellen and Superintendent of Schools Lucas Giguere each gave a presentation on the topic of the FY25 budget and the possible operational override. Copies of both presentations are attached to the meeting minutes.

CITIZEN COMMENTS: Many citizens provided their comments both pro and con relating to the possibility of an operational override.

ADJOURN: ► Chair Mercer closed the public hearing at 10:17 PM.



Town of Franklin

FY25 Budget Update

Joint Meeting Town Council/School Committee

April 24, 2024

Jamie Hellen, Town Administrator

<https://www.franklinma.gov/town-budget>

State Budget Update

- Governor's House 2 and House Ways and Means budgets propose using one-time funds.
 - House Ways & Means nets Franklin an estimated \$204,000 net increase in state aid over FY24 or \$280,000 over Governor Healey's H2.
- The Commonwealth is facing their own budget challenges:
 - "We know the good fiscal times don't last forever. The reality is one that we have come to know all too well over the past 10 months," Speaker Mariano told reporters.
 - 8 of the past 9 months of tax collections have lagged behind predictions.
 - Far greater requests than available revenues.
 - Governor Healey issued a partial state hiring freeze.
- The spending trends are not sustainable for the state or cities and towns. Massachusetts remains one of the least affordable places to live in the United States.

Boiled Down: FY25 Town Administrator Budget Highlights, #1

- Total Operating budget is \$140,847,520.
 - \$3.264 million in new revenue through the tax levy.
 - \$2 million in one-time revenue
 - \$1.507 million free cash; \$500,000 MECC Stabilization.
 - FY26 already has a \$2 million deficit to fill due to the use of one-time revenues.
 - Local Receipts are estimated up \$1.116 million.
 - But these are mostly estimated fees for service and predictions, not guarantees.
 - EG - Recreation, Fire, Building, Administration, etc.
 - Loss in State aid of about \$76,000 is in the model.
 - Note: HW&M Budget proposal has a \$204,000 increase over FY24.
 - No new spending in the municipal budget. One exception: Fire Department.

Boiled Down: FY25 Town Administrator Budget Highlights, #2

- Account 300 - Franklin Public Schools:
 - \$74,989,431 + \$20.6 million in school costs within the municipal budget = 68% of overall town budget.
 - \$3 million increase (4.2%) for Franklin Public Schools in FY25
 - The largest single year increase in school history (tied with 2019 at the same amount)
 - Level Service increase for the Schools = \$7.3 million (minus \$3 million = \$4.3 million deficit);
 - Level service, plus partially restore cuts from FY 24 = \$9.3 million (minus \$3 million = \$6.3 million deficit)
 - Does not include one-time capital funding appropriations, school revolving funds, or other outside one-time revenue sources (EG - grants).

Historical FPS \$\$ Annual Increase

| <u>Fiscal Year</u> | <u>Final Appropriation</u> | <u>Annual increase</u> | <u>School Request</u> | <u>Available New Tax Levy & New Growth</u> |
|--------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|--|
| 2019* | \$63,235,000 | \$3,000,000 (4.98%) | \$3,000,000 (4.98%) | \$3,269,679 |
| 2020 | \$64,858,500 | \$1,623,500 (2.57%) | \$3,800,000 (6.07%) | \$3,700,361 |
| 2021 | \$65,658,500 | \$800,000 (1.23%) | \$3,900,000 (6.03%) | \$3,596,844 |
| 2022 | \$67,820,825 | \$2,162,325 (3.11%) | \$3,026,084 (4.61%) | \$3,124,417 |
| 2023 | \$70,220,825 | \$2,400,000 (3.74%) | \$2,396,171 (3.53%) | \$3,396,172 |
| 2024 | \$71,989,431 | \$1,768,606 (2.5%) | \$3,370,000 (4.8%) | \$3,319,139 |
| 2025* | \$74,989,431 | \$3,000,000 (4.2%) | \$9,300,000 (12.9%) | \$3,264,366 |

*Denotes years with one-time revenues used to balance the budget: FY19 Rainy Day Fund depletion; FY25 Free cash.

The School deficit has been growing for years.

What is the number to solve “the problem”?, Slide 1

- Solving “the problem” is approximately an **\$8.8 million structural deficit** and defined as:
 - \$6.3 million more is requested by the School Committee to fulfill “Level Service” and “Partially Restore” the cuts made in FY24.

“On April 9th, 2024, the School Committee voted to approve the FY25 School Budget in the amount of \$81,319,261. We are asking for the Town Council’s support to fully fund this budget that addresses the \$9.3 million increase, up to and including initiating an operational override for the community to vote upon as a ballot question in time to fund the FY25 budget.”
 - \$2 million in one-time money that was used to balance the FY25 budget.
 - \$500,000 for Facilities to restore to pre-pandemic levels for basic services to preserve funding to school buildings.

What is the number to solve “the problem”?, Slide 2

- These numbers do not include:
 - Future FY26 costs drivers such as:
 - collective bargaining,
 - borrowing for the Rem-Jeff remodel, Horace Mann roof replacement, or
 - any other priorities or ideas, such as roads, infrastructure, sustainability, net zero, sidewalks, and so forth.
- Sustainability & Strategic Planning:
 - Regardless of any of this, the Town and School District should work much more closely together to ensure that we have a sustainable budget.
 - Even if an override of this magnitude passes, FY26 will be **more** challenging.
 - The Schools and Town need to live within its means!

What if an override does not pass? FY25 Plan B

- Level Service will be the focus. The “Partially Restore the Cuts” option should be off the table (for now).
- We will include \$200,000 of anticipated state aid; adjust after the Senate budget.
- Prior to making further cuts to the Town OR Schools, the Town should evaluate options. The Superintendent and I have not coordinated this reply - we’d have to dive into the details and I would want to look at School spending far deeper.
 - Await the conclusion of the School Comprehensive Facilities Analysis for savings/economies of scale.
 - We will reevaluate employee health care estimates.
 - The Schools have an estimated \$4.7 million in expected surplus in revolving accounts on June 30, 2024.
 - The Schools are contemplating user fee increases. We should look at these details before cuts.
 - (EG - Facility rental fee structure)
- **If an override does not pass for FY25 for the Schools, the Town will be into the same situation in FY26 with a larger deficit.**

Five Year Fiscal Forecast, slide 1

TOWN OF FRANKLIN FIVE YEAR FISCAL FORCAST FY26 THROUGH FY30

| | BUDGET | FORCAST | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| | FY25 | FY26 | FY27 | FY28 | FY29 | FY30 |
| TAX LEVY | | | | | | |
| Prior Year Levy Limit plus 2 1/2% | \$ 92,839,014 | \$ 96,184,989 | \$ 99,614,614 | \$ 103,129,979 | \$ 106,733,228 | \$ 110,426,559 |
| New Growth | 1,000,000 | 1,000,000 | 1,000,000 | 1,000,000 | 1,000,000 | 1,000,000 |
| | 93,839,014 | 97,184,989 | 100,614,614 | 104,129,979 | 107,733,228 | 111,426,559 |
| DEBT EXCLUSIONS | | | | | | |
| Keller-Sullivan | 360,325 | - | - | - | - | - |
| Horace Mann Issue #2 | 270,000 | 260,000 | - | - | - | - |
| High School Issue #1 | 2,879,488 | 2,880,588 | 2,879,000 | 2,879,888 | 2,877,888 | 2,877,988 |
| High School Issue #2 | 153,062 | 149,313 | 150,563 | 151,563 | 152,313 | 152,813 |
| Tri-County New School | 132,298 | 1,942,875 | 1,942,875 | 1,942,875 | 1,942,875 | 1,942,875 |
| | 3,795,173 | 5,232,775 | 4,972,525 | 4,974,325 | 4,973,075 | 4,973,675 |
| TOTAL POTENTIAL TAX LEVY | 97,634,187 | 102,417,764 | 105,587,139 | 109,104,304 | 112,706,303 | 116,400,234 |

- Depicts five-year tax levy projections
- Debt exclusions continue to “sunset”

Five Year Fiscal Forecast, slide 2

| | FY25 | FY26 | FY27 | FY28 | FY29 | FY30 |
|--|----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| OTHER REVENUES | | | | | | |
| Local Receipts - General Fund | 13,572,562 | 14,251,190 | 14,963,750 | 15,711,938 | 16,497,535 | 17,322,412 |
| | 13,572,562 | 14,251,190 | 14,963,750 | 15,711,938 | 16,497,535 | 17,322,412 |
| OTHER AVAILABLE FUNDS | | | | | | |
| Net Budget Stabilization / Other Transfers | 2,007,009 | | | | | |
| Enterprise Fund (Indirects) | 1,841,000 | 1,933,050 | 2,029,703 | 2,131,188 | 2,237,747 | 2,349,634 |
| | 3,848,009 | 1,933,050 | 2,029,703 | 2,131,188 | 2,237,747 | 2,349,634 |
| TOTAL REVENUES & OTHER FUNDS | 148,843,689 | 154,080,382 | 159,832,889 | 166,062,343 | 172,512,244 | 179,196,473 |
| ASSESSMENTS & OTHER VOTES | | | | | | |
| School Choice | 484,619 | 508,850 | 534,293 | 561,008 | 589,058 | 618,511 |
| State Assessments | 530,647 | 557,179 | 585,038 | 614,290 | 645,005 | 677,255 |
| County Assessment | 262,362 | 275,480 | 289,254 | 303,717 | 318,903 | 334,848 |
| Charter School Assessment | 6,068,541 | 6,371,968 | 6,690,566 | 7,025,094 | 7,376,349 | 7,745,166 |
| Provision for Abatements & Exemptions | 650,000 | 650,000 | 650,000 | 650,000 | 650,000 | 650,000 |
| | 7,996,169 | 8,395,977 | 8,749,151 | 9,154,109 | 9,579,315 | 10,025,780 |
| TOTAL NET REVENUE | 140,847,520 | 145,684,405 | 151,083,738 | 156,908,234 | 162,932,929 | 169,170,693 |
| LESS: TOTAL GENERAL FUND BUDGET | (140,847,520) | (147,996,451) | (153,652,569) | (159,137,108) | (165,682,837) | (172,605,298) |
| UNUSED LEVY | \$ - | \$ (2,312,047) | \$ (2,568,832) | \$ (2,228,875) | \$ (2,749,909) | \$ (3,434,606) |

- Basic Modeling: Assumes Schools and health care/pension at 5% each year, 2.5% elsewhere.
- Does not include any new staff, initiatives, or spending: Police Station, Remington-Jefferson borrowing, etc.

Override Calculations on Average SFH

| <u>Override Total Amount</u> | <u>Override Cost*</u> |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|
| \$2,000,000 | \$162.59 |
| \$3,000,000 | \$247.14 |
| \$4,000,000 | \$325.19 |
| \$5,000,000 | \$409.74 |
| \$6,000,000 | \$487.78 |
| \$6,500,000 | \$528.10 |
| \$7,000,000 | \$572.33 |
| \$8,000,000 | \$650.38 |
| \$9,000,000 | \$734.93 |
| \$10,000,000 | \$812.97 |

*FY25 will also include an additional 2.5% as allowed under Prop 2 1/2

Assumptions

- \$650,377 Avg. Single Family Value
- FY24 Tax Rate is \$11.79
- FY24 Current Avg Tax Bill \$7,667
- Calculate Your Override [here on DOR Override Estimate Calculator](#)
- The Household Cost is in addition to the average household cost at 2.5% of \$198.

FY25 - Overall Financial Impacts to Citizens

- The public needs to be conscientious of the impact of cost increases to citizens.
- Massachusetts is one of the least affordable states to live in because the Cost of Living is so high.
- Other guaranteed new cost increases in FY25:
 - Previously authorized:
 - 20% Sewer Rate increase July 1, 2023 for Beaver Street Interceptor.
 - 15% July 1, 2024, 10% July 1, 2025.
 - Debt exclusion for new Tri-County School to hit taxpayers in FY25. This has been built into the model.
 - Resident Municipal Aggregation 10 cent electricity rate ended November 2023.
 - .15 cents November 2023-2025.
 - New required:
 - Increase in the Stormwater Fee July 1, 2025 (federal mandate)
 - Expect another small increase of \$10/household in FY25 to maintain this unfunded mandate.
 - Trash/Recycling fee is expected to rise \$50/household for FY25.
 - Federal/State PFAS remediation regulatory costs (water rate increase is certain FY25 for PFAS).
 - Water Rate increases expected of a 8% FY25, 8% FY26, 8% FY27.
 - Estimate increase is \$50/household in FY25.

Crystal Ball: FY25-FY28 - Other Expected Costs

- The upcoming four years that may need a new/increased revenue sources for:
 - Police Station.
 - PFAS mandates from the EPA and state DEP.
 - Stormwater and Phosphorous mandates from the EPA.
 - Discretionary:
 - If the Davis-Thayer is maintained and renovated by the municipality.
 - Other unforeseen projects and costs...
- I firmly believe that this community needs to begin to be very judicious with its additional commitments moving forward unless the revenue source is through an already existing mechanism,
- The Town and School District cannot do it all.

Community Assistance Program (CAP)

- The Town of Franklin, through its Community Assistance Program (CAP) in Section 82 of the Town Code and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts offer a variety of exemptions, discounts & resources to qualifying residents.
- The Board of Assessors can discuss applicability of state exemptions (EG - disability, veteran).
- Recreation, Public Works, Fire, and other departments offer discounts for services.
- Town Citizens, Discounts & Exemptions Flyer



CITIZEN DISCOUNTS AND EXEMPTIONS

A Guide to Local and State Government Assistance Programs



LOCAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

The Town of Franklin offers a variety of assistance programs to qualifying residents. Eligible residents may receive discounted rates for certain Town services through our departments. Requirements and applications are available on our website. You can find information about the following:

| | | |
|--|--|---|
| <u>Dept of Public Works</u> Eligible residents can receive a 20% credit, per quarter, on | <u>Recreation Department</u> Eligible residents can receive up to a 100% discount on | <u>Assessor's Office</u> Senior, Blind and/or Veteran Property Owners may qualify |
|--|--|---|

END



Franklin Public Schools



Franklin School Committee & Town Council Joint Budget Meeting

“Investing in Our
Future”



April 24, 2024



- **Confident and Self-Aware Individual**
- **Empathetic and Productive Citizen**
- **Curious and Creative Thinker**
- **Effective Communicator and Collaborator**
- **Reflective and Innovative Problem Solver**

The FY25 Budget was developed in support of Franklin's Portrait of a Graduate - the community's consensus on the essential skills all students will practice and develop through their growth, PreK-Age 22.

FY25 PRIORITIES

1. Maintain **class sizes** within recommended ranges
2. Provide **support for students** with complex educational, social, emotional, and behavioral needs.
3. Further advance the **literacy** and in grades PreK-12 **other curriculum and instruction initiatives** by providing necessary curriculum materials and professional development.
4. Preserve funding currently supported through the **ESSER-3 grant** through appropriated budget or other available source.
5. To sustain current and explore new investments for equitable access to **high-quality learning**, focusing on closing achievement gaps.



FY25 BUDGET SUMMARY

Level Service Plus budget approved by School Committee

1 Retain same level of education for all students in the upcoming school year.

2 Afford financial increases from FY24 to maintain current programming

3 Provide staff and supplies to maintain class size ranges and partially restore FY24 cuts

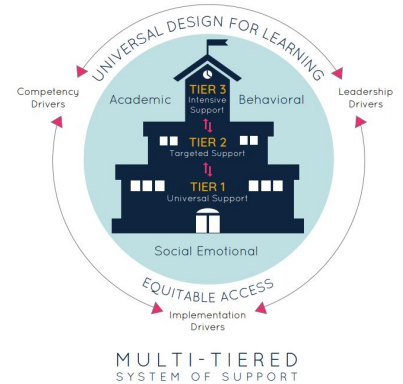
| | Percentage Increase | Budget Amount | \$\$ Increase/Deficit |
|---|--|---------------|-----------------------|
| School Committee Approved Budget on 3/19/24 | FY25 Level Services Plus Stabilize 12.96% over FY24 | \$81.4M | +\$9.3M |
| Town's Administrator's Recommended Allocation on 4/12/24 | 4.2% Increase Over FY24 | \$74.9M | +\$3.0M |
| Budget Shortfall | 8.76% shortfall | | -\$6.3M |

PILLAR 1: BUDGET PRIORITIES



Franklin Public School District

- Provide equitable learning environments for ALL students
 - Student-to-teacher ratios
 - Grades K-3 approximately 18-22
 - Grades 5-12 approximately 20-24



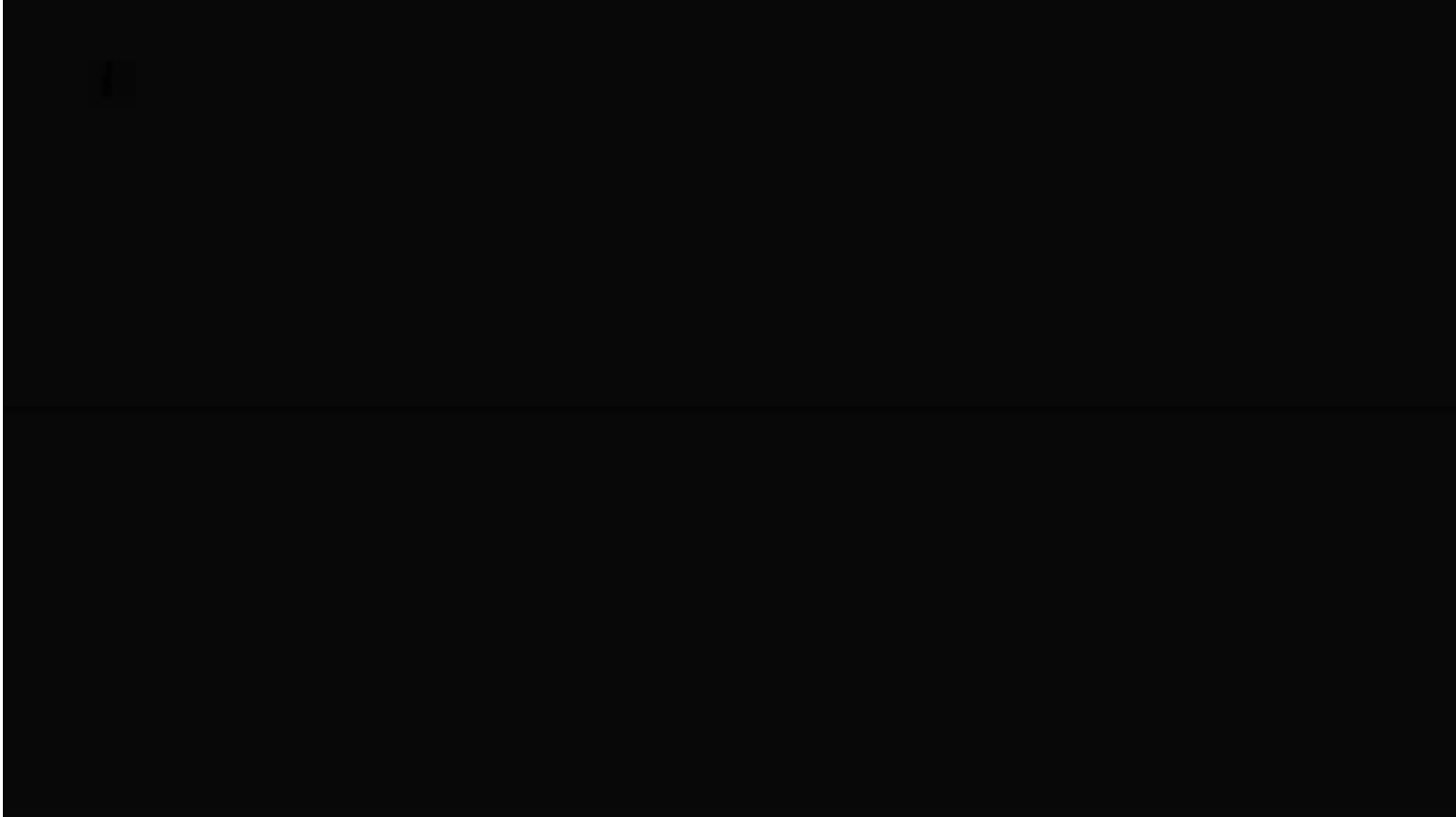
- Targeted supports for ALL students requiring intervention and individualized education supports
- Access for ALL students to co-curricular and extracurricular activities
- Provide access to needed materials, technology, and counseling resources for ALL students to learn, achieve, and grow.

Assumes the same level of service to the schools from the FY24 budget to the FY25 budget, including the current school programs, staffing levels, class sizes, and services.

The base budget includes:

1. The total FY24 budget appropriation
2. Statutory or regulatory mandates (i.e. special education, etc.)
3. Personnel step, longevity and collective bargaining increases
4. Health insurance costs
5. Actual costs of variables such as substitute teachers, transportation
6. Changes to outside revenue such as grants and revolving accounts





BUDGET INCREASE OBLIGATIONS

| | |
|--|---------------------|
| Begin with FY24 Final Budget Appropriation | \$71,989,431 |
| Contractual Obligations | \$1.7M |
| Absorbed salaries due to elimination of ESSER III Funds | \$497,000 |
| Increase in Out of District Special Education Costs & Services | \$2.2M |
| Increase in Out of District Special Education Transportation | \$100,000 |
| Increase in Transportation of Homeless Students | \$80,000 |
| Increase in Contracted Transportation for in-district Students | \$108,000 |
| Increase in Health Insurance Expense | \$650,000 |
| Decrease in Grant and Revolving Funds | \$1.2M |
| GRAND TOTAL | \$6,535,000 |



FY25 REQUESTS BEYOND LEVEL SERVICE

What is the “Plus” in Level Service Plus?

| | | | |
|------------------------------|---|---|---------------|
| Elementary | 5.0 K-2 Tchrs 1.0 BCBA | 1.0 STRIVE Tchr 1.0 STRIVE ESP | .8 ECDC ESP |
| Middle | 1.0 Tchr 1.0 Spec. Ed. Tchr | 1.0 Spec. Ed. ESP 1.0 ABA Tutor | |
| High | .5 Team Chair 1.0 Spec. Ed. Tchr | 1.0 Business Tchr 1.0 Math Interventionist | 1.0 Librarian |
| Student Services | .8 Van Driver | | |
| District | 2.0 DLI | | |
| Programs and Supplies | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Middle School Clubs and Activities and bus transportation ● Middle School Transition programming ● After School Behavior Support ● High School Supplies: Math, Music, World Language lab, instructional software, etc. | | |



REVENUE SOURCES BREAKDOWN

Chapter 70 Aid

\$29,343,701

Local Revenue (including Ch. 70)

\$81,319,261

Grant Funds

\$1,531,010

Revolving Funds (including CB)

\$6,352,000




and


 **School Master Planning**

Goal: Identify both short-term, midterm, and long-term solutions to sustain our services within our budget to create a more fiscally sustainable model for our district.

- Reorganizing into grade level-based bands resulting in unification/consolidation of schools
- Recommended options will likely include school closures and redistricting
- Creating “newer and fewer” schools positioned to serve students in the most appropriate ways, considering equity, cost, access and educational services while maintaining a sense of community
- Utilize existing buildings in reasonable physical condition to minimize disruptions to the greatest extent possible
- Offering educational opportunities and help create a more fiscally sustainable model for our district
- Facilities utilization to meet the needs of all aspects of our educational programming

 **Population & Enrollment Forecast**

 **Educational Visioning & School Adequacy**

 **Facilities Assessment**

April 2024 - Finalized Recommendations
June 2024- June 2025 Planning

May 2024 - Vote on preferred option
July 2024-2025 - Implementation

ENROLLMENT PROJECTIONS

FRANKLIN PUBLIC SCHOOLS TOTAL ENROLLMENT

| | 2020-21 | 2021-22 | 2022-23 | 2023-24 | 2024-25 | 2025-26 | 2026-27 | 2027-28 | 2028-29 | 2029-30 | 2030-31 | 2031-32 | 2032-33 | 2033-34 |
|-------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| PK | 80 | 133 | 150 | 154 | 154 | 154 | 154 | 154 | 154 | 154 | 154 | 154 | 154 | 154 |
| K | 267 | 281 | 289 | 307 | 317 | 318 | 308 | 304 | 304 | 314 | 318 | 323 | 327 | 322 |
| 1 | 276 | 302 | 297 | 301 | 325 | 331 | 333 | 323 | 319 | 319 | 323 | 327 | 332 | 336 |
| 2 | 328 | 293 | 309 | 307 | 302 | 327 | 330 | 332 | 322 | 322 | 322 | 326 | 330 | 335 |
| 3 | 326 | 339 | 299 | 320 | 309 | 304 | 328 | 331 | 333 | 328 | 329 | 329 | 333 | 336 |
| 4 | 352 | 321 | 350 | 300 | 314 | 303 | 298 | 321 | 324 | 334 | 329 | 331 | 331 | 337 |
| 5 | 327 | 360 | 330 | 364 | 301 | 315 | 304 | 299 | 322 | 330 | 340 | 335 | 337 | 336 |
| Total K-5 | 1956 | 2029 | 2024 | 2053 | 2022 | 2052 | 2055 | 2064 | 2078 | 2101 | 2115 | 2125 | 2144 | 2156 |
| 6 | 349 | 331 | 379 | 338 | 377 | 311 | 323 | 317 | 309 | 331 | 340 | 350 | 345 | 345 |
| 7 | 386 | 355 | 331 | 382 | 344 | 382 | 316 | 327 | 321 | 314 | 336 | 346 | 356 | 351 |
| 8 | 412 | 387 | 357 | 341 | 385 | 347 | 385 | 319 | 330 | 327 | 320 | 342 | 352 | 363 |
| Total: 6-8 | 1147 | 1073 | 1067 | 1061 | 1106 | 1040 | 1024 | 963 | 960 | 972 | 996 | 1038 | 1053 | 1059 |
| 9 | 413 | 389 | 387 | 366 | 317 | 383 | 345 | 383 | 317 | 328 | 330 | 323 | 345 | 356 |
| 10 | 429 | 411 | 395 | 384 | 364 | 315 | 381 | 343 | 381 | 315 | 326 | 328 | 321 | 343 |
| 11 | 437 | 423 | 411 | 400 | 386 | 366 | 317 | 383 | 346 | 385 | 318 | 329 | 331 | 324 |
| 12 | 449 | 435 | 424 | 411 | 402 | 388 | 368 | 319 | 385 | 348 | 387 | 320 | 331 | 333 |
| SP | 10 | 14 | 15 | 11 | 11 | 11 | 11 | 11 | 11 | 11 | 11 | 11 | 11 | 11 |
| Total: 9-SP | 1738 | 1672 | 1632 | 1572 | 1480 | 1463 | 1422 | 1439 | 1440 | 1387 | 1372 | 1311 | 1339 | 1367 |
| Total PK-SP | 4841 | 4774 | 4723 | 4686 | 4608 | 4555 | 4501 | 4466 | 4478 | 4460 | 4483 | 4474 | 4536 | 4582 |

- The budget reflects adjustments in staffing associated with fluctuations from grade to grade or from school to school

Enrollment Forecast

PK

- Increase from 2021-22 to 2023-24 approx. 50% (74 students). Possible increase in future years.

Elementary

- Decline through 2024-25 then steady increase through 2033-34+ (2156 students). Approx. 100 students

Middle

- Decline through 2028-29 then steady increase from 2033-34+ (1059 students) Approx. 80 students

High School

- Decline through 2031-32 then increase from 2032-33+ (1339 students)

District

- Decline through 2031-32 then increase in 2032-33+ (4536 students)

* Overall forecast trends verified with McKibben

** Forecasted numbers higher based on assumption of new single family homes built each year and existing home sales (60 vs. actual of 7)

REVOLVING FUNDS

| ACCOUNT | FY24 BEGINNING BALANCE | FY24 REVENUE | FY24 EXPENDITURES AGAINST THE BUDGET | AVAILABLE FOR FY25 (CURRENT) |
|-------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| ATHLETICS | \$718,362.93 | \$296,535.25 | \$688,000 | \$326,898.18 |
| ECDC | \$1,126,303.85 | \$319,165.80 | \$950,000 | \$495,469.65 |
| PAY TO RIDE | \$1,344,460.45 | \$183,178.00 | \$1,300,000 | \$227,638.45 |
| CIRCUIT BREAKER | \$3,337,382.11 | \$3,857,084.00 | \$3,637,575 | \$3,556,891.11 |
| EXTRACURRICULAR | \$867,606.00 | \$47,812.50 | \$106,500 | \$808,918.20 |
| LIFELONG LEARNING | \$685,205.54 | \$244,930.53 | \$350,000 | \$580,136.07 |
| TOTAL | \$8,079,320.88 | \$4,948,706.08 | \$7,032,075 | \$5,995,951.66 |

SPECIAL EDUCATION COSTS MODEL

Historical Special Education Out of District Costs

| Year | # of Students | Cost | Change | % Change |
|----------|---------------|----------------|----------------|----------|
| 2021-22 | 65 | \$6,598,372.50 | | |
| 2022-23 | 81 | \$7,619,726.92 | \$1,021,354.42 | 15.48% |
| 2023-24* | 75 | \$7,440,153.74 | -\$179,573.18 | -2.36% |

In-District vs. Out of District Costs

| Program | # of Students | FPS Cost Per Pupil | OOD Cost Per Pupil | Savings |
|--------------------------------|---------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Elementary GOALS | 21 | \$48,623 | \$79,990 | \$658,707 |
| Elementary REACH | 10 | \$71,355 | \$98,883 | \$275,480 |
| NECC Partner Program | 13 | \$83,940 | \$185,000 | \$1,313,780 |
| Middle School STRIVE | 9 | \$58,350 | \$147,922 | \$806,148 |
| Estimated Total Savings | | | | \$3,054,115 |



INVESTING IN OUR FUTURE

A STABILIZED BUDGET ALLOWS US TO...

PRESERVE WHAT WE HAVE

Academic Programming: Advanced Placement (AP), K-12 Fine and Performing Arts, Franklin Arts Academy, 6-12 World Languages, Senior Project, high school electives, middle school teaming, STEM

Support Services: Tiered interventions, counseling services, case loads, class sizes

Co-curricular Programs: MS/HS clubs, DECA, National Honor Societies, Mock Trial, before and after-school music programs

Extracurricular Programs: Athletics, Unified Sports, clubs

EXPAND, INNOVATE AND RESTORE

Early college: Partner with college and DESE on credit opportunities for academics and elective courses

Innovative Career Pathways: Align and develop coursework that leads to industry credentials, certifications, and licensure (e.g. Ch. 74-CTE).

Civil Service Partnerships: Continue to work with Franklin Fire, Police, EMT, and other departments to prepare students for civil career fields

Review previous programming and staff reduction for potential restoration

Explore opportunities to offer child care programming for employees and residents



Implications of Override Votes



Reduction in Staff & Programs (-\$4.8M)

- Reduction of approx. **30 FTE** staff across all levels
- Teachers
 - Ed. Support Personnel
 - Administrators
 - School supply budgets, stipends, professional development

- Larger class sizes K-2 (24-27) 3-12 (24-28)
- Increased caseloads (Special ed./ELL)
- Elimination or reduction of non-required courses (electives/Advanced Placement, etc.)

Increased Fees (-\$1.5M)

- Self-funding** fee structure
- Athletics (+150% per sport)
 - Transportation (\$360 to \$1100)
 - Clubs and Activities (\$75 to \$125)

- Increased** fee structure
- Early Childhood Tuition (20% increase)
 - Student Parking Fee (\$0 to \$125)
 - Building-use Rentals (5% in FY25 with 3% annual escalator))

These reductions are in addition to not funding any of the FY25 Level Service Plus requests to stabilize and partially restore

IMPACT OF FUNDING BELOW LEVEL SERVICE

Elimination of Activities

Co-curricular activities such as sports, clubs, and arts programs are often among the first reductions due to underfunding.

These activities play a crucial role in fostering students' social, emotional, and physical development. Losing access to these opportunities can have long-term implications for students' overall well-being and academic success.

Negative Impact on Recruitment and Retention

Creates an atmosphere of uncertainty and instability leading to high turnover rates.

Turnover not only disrupts continuity in teaching and learning but also incurs additional costs for recruitment and training of new staff.

STAFFING RETENTION RATES

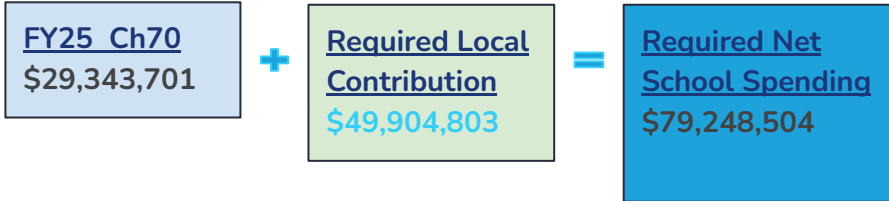
| | 2023 | 2022 | 2021 | 2020 |
|------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Teachers | 84.2% | 86.6% | 86.4% | 90.9% |
| Principals | 81.8% | 81.8% | 81.8% | 84.7% |

Culture of Volatility

Perpetuate a culture of volatility within the school district.

Instability makes it difficult to implement long-term plans for improvement and innovation and can hinder efforts to attract investment and support from external stakeholders, further exacerbating the financial challenges.

Net School Spending (NSS)



State Aid + Local Contribution = Required Net School Spending (NSS)

This is the minimum amount that a district must spend to comply with state law.

Net School Spending must be equal to or greater than the Foundation Budget (\$66,575,133 in FY25)

In FY2023, Franklin spent **\$ 13.2M MORE** than required NSS

While this is **18.0% MORE** than required NSS, Franklin falls in the **33rd percentile statewide**

67% of MA districts spend more than 118.0% over required NSS

In FY2023 Massachusetts districts spent an average of **41.8% more** than required NSS overall

CLASS SIZE

Jefferson Elementary

| Grade | Current January 2024 | Staffing | Avg. Class Size | Projected Sept. 2024 | Staffing | Avg. Class Size | |
|------------------|----------------------|-----------|-----------------|----------------------|-----------|-----------------|----|
| 1 | 55 | 3 | 18.33 | 48 | 3 | 16.00 | 24 |
| 2 | 46 | 2 | 23.00 | 55 | 3 | 18.33 | |
| 3 | 66 | 3 | 22.00 | 46 | 2 | 23.00 | |
| 4 | 49 | 2 | 24.50 | 66 | 3 | 22.00 | |
| 5 | 71 | 3 | 24.00 | 49 | 3 | 16.33 | |
| Sub Total | 335 | 15 | 22.63 | 317 | 17 | 18.61 | |
| K | 48 | 2 | 24.00 | 48 | 3 | 16.00 | 24 |

Keller Elementary

| Grade | Current January 2024 | Staffing | Avg. Class Size | Projected Sept. 2024 | Staffing | Avg. Class Size | |
|------------------|----------------------|-----------|-----------------|----------------------|-----------|-----------------|----|
| 1 | 81 | 4 | 20.25 | 94 | 5 | 18.80 | 24 |
| 2 | 94 | 5 | 18.80 | 81 | 4 | 20.25 | |
| 3 | 85 | 4 | 21.25 | 94 | 5 | 18.80 | |
| 4 | 98 | 4 | 24.50 | 85 | 4 | 21.25 | |
| 5 | 112 | 5 | 22.40 | 98 | 5 | 19.60 | |
| Sub Total | 564 | 26 | 21.78 | 546 | 28 | 19.5 | |
| K | 94 | 4 | 23.50 | 94 | 5 | 18.80 | 24 |

Kennedy Elementary

| Grade | Current January 2024 | Staffing | Avg. Class Size | Projected Sept. 2024 | Staffing | Avg. Class Size | |
|------------------|----------------------|-----------|-----------------|----------------------|-----------|-----------------|----|
| 1 | 59 | 3 | 19.67 | 48 | 3 | 16.00 | 24 |
| 2 | 64 | 3 | 21.33 | 59 | 3 | 19.67 | |
| 3 | 65 | 3 | 21.67 | 64 | 3 | 21.33 | |
| 4 | 39 | 2 | 19.50 | 65 | 3 | 21.67 | |
| 5 | 58 | 3 | 19.33 | 39 | 2 | 19.50 | |
| Sub Total | 331 | 16 | 20.75 | 321 | 17 | 18.88 | |
| K | 46 | 2 | 23.00 | 46 | 3 | 15.33 | 23 |

Oak Elementary

| Grade | Current January 2024 | Staffing | Avg. Class Size | Projected Sept. 2024 | Staffing | Avg. Class Size | |
|------------------|----------------------|-----------|-----------------|----------------------|-----------|-----------------|----|
| 1 | 63 | 3 | 21.00 | 81 | 4 | 20.25 | 27 |
| 2 | 63 | 3 | 21.00 | 63 | 3 | 21.00 | |
| 3 | 68 | 3 | 22.66 | 63 | 3 | 21.00 | |
| 4 | 62 | 3 | 20.67 | 68 | 3 | 22.66 | |
| 5 | 70 | 3 | 23.33 | 62 | 3 | 20.67 | |
| Sub Total | 407 | 19 | 21.49 | 418 | 20 | 20.97 | |
| K | 81 | 4 | 20.25 | 81 | 4 | 20.25 | |

CLASS SIZE

Parmenter Elementary

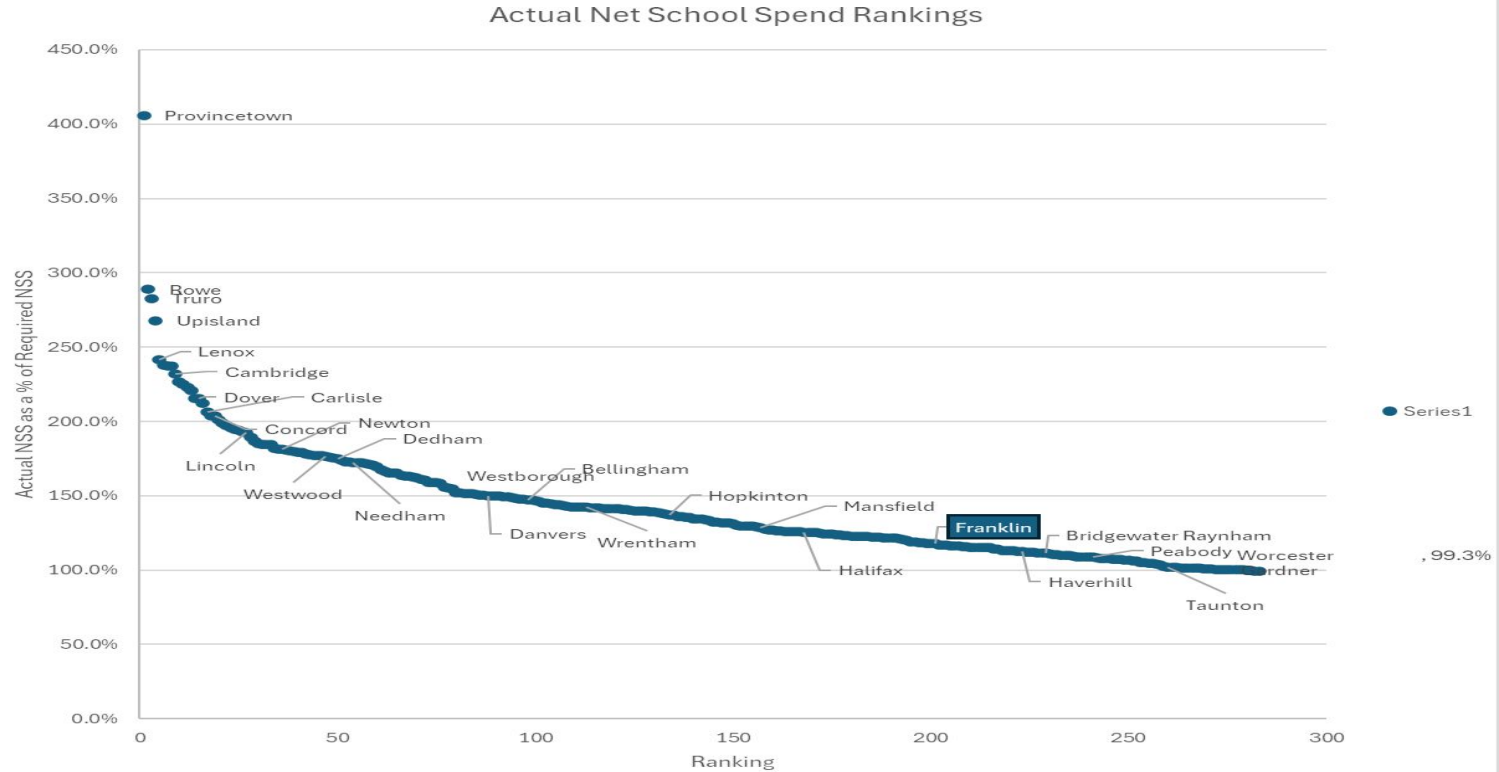
| Grade | Current January 2024 | Staffing | Avg. Class Size | Projected Sept. 2024 | Staffing | Avg. Class Size | |
|------------------|----------------------|-----------|-----------------|----------------------|-----------|-----------------|----|
| 1 | 46 | 2 | 23.00 | 48 | 3 | 16.00 | 24 |
| 2 | 44 | 2 | 22.00 | 48 | 3 | 16.00 | 24 |
| 3 | 42 | 2 | 21.00 | 44 | 2 | 22.00 | |
| 4 | 56 | 3 | 18.00 | 42 | 2 | 21.00 | |
| 5 | 55 | 3 | 18.33 | 56 | 3 | 18.00 | |
| Sub Total | 289 | 14 | 20.88 | 284 | 16 | 17.75 | |
| K | 46 | 2 | 23.00 | 48 | 3 | 16.00 | 24 |

Secondary Level Grades 6-12

| Grade | Current January 2024 | Projected September 2024 |
|-----------------|----------------------|--------------------------|
| 6 | 345 | 304 |
| 7 | 389 | 345 |
| 8 | 340 | 389 |
| Subtotal | 1074 | 1038 |
| 9 | 364 | 340 |
| 10 | 384 | 364 |
| 11 | 395 | 384 |
| 12 | 407 | 395 |
| Ungraded | 11 | 11 |
| Subtotal | 1561 | 1494 |

NET SCHOOL SPENDING - HIGHEST TO LOWEST

75% of school districts in MA spend more on education than Franklin



Per Pupil Comparison to State Average

2021 is latest data available at 11/12/22.
<https://www.doe.mass.edu/finance/statistics/>

| 2022 (updated October, 2023) | Franklin | State Average | Funding Differential | Percentage Differential |
|-----------------------------------|----------|---------------|----------------------|-------------------------|
| In-District Per Pupil Expenditure | \$16,589 | \$19,567 | -\$2,978 | -17.9% |
| Total Per Pupil Expenditure | \$17,651 | \$20,134 | -\$2,483 | -14.06% |

Franklin ranks in the 25th percentile in per pupil spending throughout the state.

75% of districts in Massachusetts spend more on education per pupil, than Franklin.



FRANKLIN'S FY25 CHAPTER 70 AID

