Berlin-Boylston Regional School District

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Date: October 14, 2025
From: Aaron Osborne, Director of Finance & Operations
To: The Berlin-Boylston Regional School Committee
Re: Budget Closeout

At its December 10, 2024 meeting, the School Committee approved a FY25 Operating budget in the amount of $24,793,688. This action met the DESE requirement that the district have a finalized, School Committee voted, budget to avoid falling into a 1/12 budget scenario as per MGL. At that time, we were still closing FY24 and it was unclear what had been spent, what remained available, and what would be necessary to spend in completing this work, which was done by May. At this time, it is necessary to ask the Committee to approve a more itemized revenue budget for the sake of our auditor who will want to be able to trace back specific items to approvals.

Attached, you will find a Closing Multi-Fund Budget Report for FY25 that shows a detailed accounting of spending, totaling of $24,605,928.01 spent from the General Fund and other major offset accounts. You will see that despite the number of challenges faced by the district, we came in below budget and will preserve funds that will be available to support the needs of our students, maintain reasonable assessments to our member towns, and protect provide for unexpected extraordinary expenses. We expect to have our End of Year Reporting and Excess & Deficiency certification completed in time for the FY27 budget process.

The following is a more detailed budget funding breakdown request that falls in line with the School Committee's approval on December 10, 2024, and what we would request the Committee now authorize:

FY25 Operating Budget Revenues By Funding Source:		
Funding Source:	**Amount:**	**Notes:**
FY 25 Operating Budget:	**$ 24,793,688.00**	**Dec 10, 2024**
Total Assessments:	**$ 19,673,597.67**	**Actual Received**
Total Chapter 70 Aid:	**$ 2,991,521.00**	**Actual Received**
Total Transportation Reimb:	**$ 623,003.00**	**Actual Received**
Total Interest Income:	**$ 140,000.00**	
Total Circuit Breaker:	**$ 894,159.68**	**Actual Spent**
Total IDEA Grant:	**$ 227,871.10**	**Actual Spent**
Total Title I Grant:	**$ 60,820.40**	**Actual Spent**
Total School Choice (Max Auth):	**$ 182,715.15**	**Will be unspent**
Total All SC Auth Accts	**$ 24,793,688.00**	

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Please note that we were aware, and shared publicly, that there were items/positions in the budget we inherited that would not be filled, such as the SRO for example. Additionally, we were able to utilize more Circuit Breaker funds than I believe was projected; this was due to extraordinary relief, rolled-over balances and higher reimbursement rates for transportation than projected. The amount in School Choice is to balance the budget as approved, and as I have shared we would only have spent those funds with approval of the School Committee if needed.

Please be clear that this format and timeline of this line-item budget approval is intended as a necessary one-time event and you will note that the approved budget for FY26 included all of the line items and offsets listed above. While spending of Circuit Breaker and Grant funds, for example, don't typically necessitate School Committee approval, they are utilized to offset the general fund budget and must be provided to demonstrate planned sources of funds for budget purposes.

Recommendation: That the Berlin-Boylston Regional School Committee votes to authorize the FY25 Operating Budget By Funding Source provided above in the net total amount of $24,793,688, consistent with its vote of December 10, 2024.