

**RSU5 School District
Durham – Freeport – Pownal
FY18 Board of Directors' Adopted
Budget Brochure**



*“Education is the most powerful weapon which
you can use to change the world.”*

Nelson Mandela

District Mission Statement

To provide our students with a world-class education that will challenge minds, engage creativity, develop self-discipline, and advance inherent strengths.

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FY 2018 Budget Brochure

FY 2018 BUDGET CONTEXT

NET IMPACT OF \$1,239,499 or 5.25%

RSU5 recognizes the inherent value of quality public education. On March 22, 2017, the Board of Directors adopted the FY 2018 Budget with a budget increase of 3.96% or \$1,228,645. Of the 3.96% increase, 3.18% of the total percent is non-discretionary spending (e.g. contract obligations). In the governor's currently proposed state budget, the RSU5 state subsidy will decrease by \$212,000. This reduction in subsidy and the increased expenditures result in a net impact to taxation across the three towns of 5.25% or \$1,239,499. Where possible, financial resources were reallocated or reduced to lessen the tax impact while still strengthening the educational services for our students. This proposed budget maintains class sizes of 11-24 in Pre-K through eighth grade, sustains existing programs, strengthens early intervention, increases supports for differentiation of instruction, supports the high school renovation, and begins incurring the debt on the new Joan Benoit Samuelson Track and Field, anticipated to open in September of 2017.

Our first priority in the budget is to increase learning for our youngest students. We are requesting a half-time kindergarten position at Pownal Elementary School to increase the program from half-day to full day. Additionally, the budget allows for Morse Street School to offer an additional session of Pre-K, bringing RSU5 a step closer in offering universal Pre-K to all three towns. Research shows that students who attend Pre-K have higher academic achievement, are more likely to attend college, and earn higher incomes. Early intervention is worth the investment!

Our second priority is to increase student support. Morse Street School is requesting a teacher to support students struggling in reading and math; Durham Community School is requesting an educational technician to support students with behavioral needs; Freeport High School is requesting a .25 teacher to provide literacy support to students; and finally, Durham and Freeport Middle School are requesting a shared math teacher to provide differentiation for our strongest math students. Research shows that students with more math preparation have higher earning power, and are more likely to enroll in and finish college. All of these support positions will help our students realize their potential and increase student achievement.

Our Annual Budget Meeting will be held at Freeport High School on May 24th at 6:30pm. We hope you will find these materials helpful in understanding the Board's proposed budget and assist you in supporting our students as we seek to provide them with a world-class education.

Dr. Becky Foley
Superintendent of Schools

The Schools

RSU5 Schools serve 1,883 students in grades PK through grade 12. The district operates six schools, specifically a PK-5 Elementary School in Pownal, a PK-8 school in Durham, and PK-2, 3-5, 6-8 and 9-12 schools in Freeport.



By Bennett Hight, FHS

RSU5 "BY THE NUMBERS"

SCHOOL ENROLLMENT 2016-2017

Total Enrollment: 1883

Pre-K	66
K – 5	848
6 – 8	458
9 – 12	511

Increase of 37 students
from the 2015-2016
School Year

Please visit us at www.rsu5.org/nclb to see the RSU5 accountability information. This NCLB/ESEA (No Child Left Behind) report shows how we are progressing toward all students being proficient in English Language Arts/Literacy and Mathematics.

COMMUNITY DATA

	Durham	Freeport	Pownal
Population	3,848	7,879	1,474
Median Age	41.2	45.0	44.6
% School Age	16.4%	17.3%	16.1%
% 65 and over	9.3%	15.3%	13.2%
Persons/household	2.57	2.40	2.50
Median Family Income	\$78,105	\$83,013	\$75,313
% Below poverty level	2.6%	8.9%	12.0%
Per capita income	\$29,177	\$35,201	\$30,588
% Homeowner occupied	91.6%	76.6%	89.2%
Occupied Housing Units	1,401	3,356	591
Median Home Value	\$229,600	\$303,600	\$240,900
Unemployment, 2014	3.6%	4.2%	4.8%

2010 Census, US Department of Commerce; State of Maine, Department of Labor

The Mast Landing School Math Team placed 3rd out of 30 teams twice this year!

FHS Baseball 2016
Southern Maine Class B
Champions



The addition of Unified
Basketball



- Boys Soccer: McDougal Cup Champions
- Cheering: Western Maine Conference Champions
- Boys Nordic Skiing: Western Maine Conference Champions and MPA (Maine Principals' Association) Sportsmanship Banner
- Girls Nordic Skiing: MPA Sportsmanship Banner
- Football: First Battle of the Bay Champions

Mast Landing School Civil Rights Team assists in creating an art installation that engages school communities in thinking about issues of belonging and diversity.

Growth in the performing arts at Durham Community School. In the last year, band has grown by 45%, chorus by 110% and the drama performance included 70 students!



Freeport High School students in the community service club, Interact, helped to start "Food for Change" where local farmers donate excess food for the students and community partners to cook and make meals for the food pantry.

Six Freeport High School students were selected as winners for next year's MLTI (Maine Learning Technology Initiative) screensaver competition out of a total of 20 winners statewide.

Freeport Middle School JMG (Jobs for Maine Graduates) Program fundraised over \$1,000 for Portland Wheelers, a non-profit that provides bike rides for people in wheelchairs.

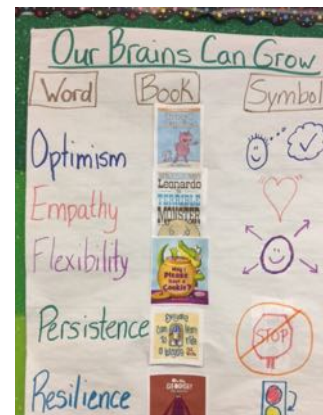
Durham Community School's JMG program prides themselves on civic awareness. Students help around the school whenever needed. It not only makes it a safe environment but also increases experiential learning outside the classroom walls.

Interdisciplinary projects on Maine, infectious disease, Egypt, Cold War, Dirty 30's, boat building, roller coasters abound at Freeport Middle School!

Pownal Elementary School promotes volunteerism!



Pownal Elementary School is building growth mindsets in students to help them access a challenging curriculum.



Morse Street School: New ecologically friendly playground opening in September 2017.

We are proud of our schools and students!

RSU5 School Board Sets Strategic Goal:

“Focus on Student Achievement Through Improved Student-Centered Teaching and Learning”

- Strategic Objective One:
Implementation of proficiency-based learning Pre-K - 12
- Strategic Objective Two:
Improved teacher and administrator effectiveness
- Strategic Objective Three:
Increase the sense of pride, unity, and excitement in the RSU5 community
- Strategic Objective Four:
Create facilities that foster a safe, engaging environment

In October 2016, the Board adopted the overarching goal of focusing on student achievement through improved student-centered teaching and learning, and adopted the four strategic objectives that would assist us in reaching our goal. This budget supports those objectives.

Want to know more about student achievement in RSU5?

Go to www.rsu5.org/scorecard

RSU5 Vision:

- Our schools provide a safe, engaging environment that fosters a passion for life-long learning.
- Our educators are mentors dedicated to providing our students with the knowledge and skills that will help them adapt to our changing world.
- Our community supports the concept that each individual—be they student, educator, parent, or community member—bears responsibility to the success of our mission.
- All stakeholders understand that financial responsibility is a facet of each decision that is made and tirelessly seek the resources to support our mission and vision.



RSU5 Board of Directors

Back Row: John Morang, Valy Steverlynck,
Michelle Ritcheson, Lindsay Sterling, Brian Pike,
Naomi Ledbetter, Jeremy Clough
Front Row: Candy deCsipkes, Beth Parker, Kate
Brown, Sarah Woodard

IMPORTANT BUDGET MEETING DATES

April 12th: **Q&A on Budget**, 6pm, Pownal Elementary School

April 26th: **Q&A on Budget**, 6pm, Durham Community School

May 10th: **Q&A on Budget**, 6pm, Freeport High School

May 24th: **Annual Budget Meeting**, 6:30pm, Freeport High School

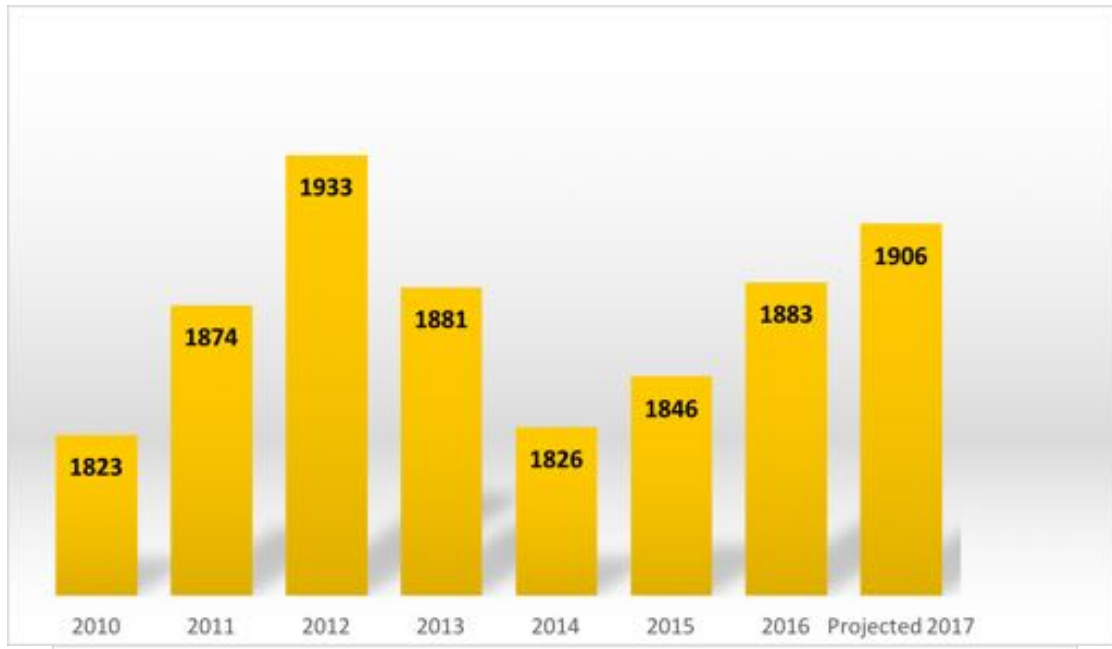
June 13th: **Budget Validation Referendum**

Want to learn more about the FY18 Budget? Go to www.rsu5.org/budget1718

School Enrollment Data

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RSU5 Pre-K – 12 October 1st Enrollment Students Attending RSU5 Schools

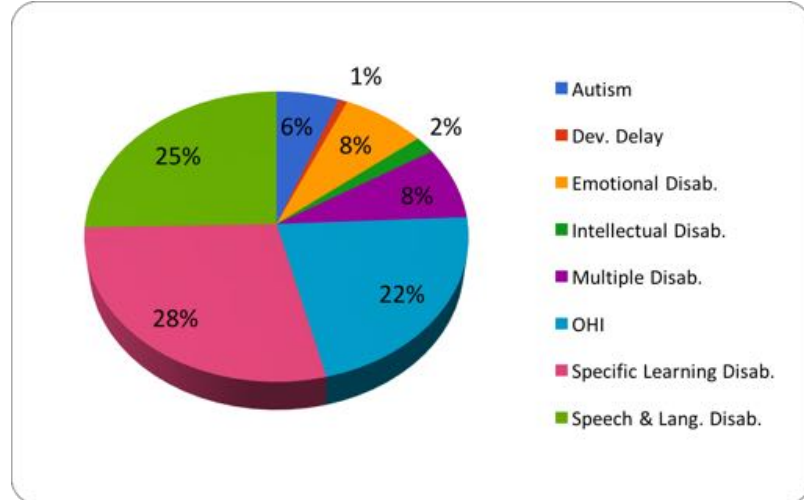


PRE-K – 8 ANTICIPATED TEACHERS/CLASS LOADS PER GRADE

Grade	Durham Community	Morse Street	Pownal Elementary	Mast Landing	Freeport Middle
PK	1 (16,16)	1.5 (16,16,16)	.5 (15)		
K	3 (15)	4 (17)	1 (11)		
1	2 (20)	4 (16-17)	1 (16)		
2	3 (15-16)	4 (17-18)	1 (19)		
3	3 (14-15)		1 (17)	4 (18-19)	
4	3 (16-17)		1 (11)	4 (20-21)	
5	2 (21-22)		1 (22)	4 (18-19)	
6	2 (18-19)				7 (19)
7	2 (23-24)				5 (20-21)
8	3 (17-18)				5 (22-23)
Total Classroom Teachers	24	13.5	6.5	12	17

SPECIAL EDUCATION

RSU5 provides special education services to 260 students. The delivery of services is overseen by Ms. Bonnie Violette, Director of Instructional Support.

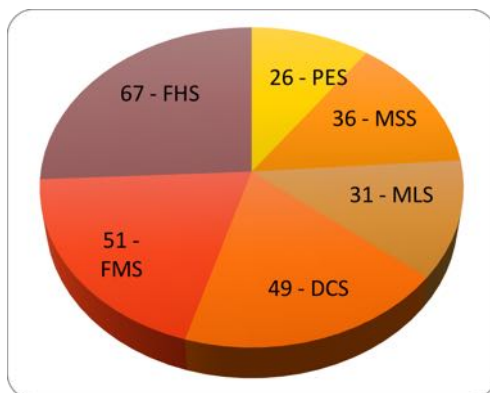


<u>EXCEPTIONALITY</u>	<u># of Students</u>	<u>% of SPED</u>
Autism	15	5.80%
Developmental Delay	2	0.70%
Emotional Disab.	20	7.70%
Intellectual Disab.	5	1.90%
Multiple Disab.	21	8.10%
OHI (Other Health Impairment)	57	21.90%
Specific Learning Disab.	74	28.50%
Speech & Lang. Disab.	66	25.40%
Total	260	100%

HISTORICAL SPECIAL EDUCATION COUNTS

<u>School Year</u>	<u># of Special Education Pupils</u>	<u>% of Total Enrollment</u>
2012-13	298	14.9%
2013-14	296	15.7%
2014-15	274	15.0%
2015-16	273	14.8%
2016-17	260	13.76%

SPECIAL EDUCATION STUDENTS BY SCHOOL



<u>SCHOOL</u>	<u># of Special Education Pupils</u>	<u>Total Pupils Enrolled</u>
Pownal Elementary	26	120
Morse Street	36	236
Mast Landing	31	263
Durham Community	49	438
Freeport Middle	51	315
Freeport High	67	511
Total	260	1883

Benchmarking Against A Peer Cohort

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On this page you will be able to compare our district against the comparison set of districts identified in the RSU5 Strategic Plan. Cohort metrics are taken from the Maine Department of Education's Data Warehouse (www.maine.gov/doe)

District	Average Administrator Salaries 15-16	Average Teacher Salaries 15-16	*Per Pupil Cost 14-15	State of Maine Subsidy Allocations 16-17
RSU5	\$83,759	\$56,971	\$12,978	\$5,910,258
Brunswick	\$87,943	\$58,676	\$13,126	\$10,976,255
Cape	\$87,812	\$69,166	\$13,160	\$2,624,954
Falmouth	\$93,932	\$67,294	\$12,475	\$8,995,525
RSU15 (Gray)	\$91,482	\$49,007	\$10,844	\$9,879,445
RSU51 (Greely)	\$118,245	\$66,480	\$14,223	\$11,883,466
Yarmouth	\$98,538	\$67,714	\$13,119	\$4,144,201
SAD75 (Topsham)	\$93,237	\$52,941	\$13,408	\$14,622,578

*Includes Special Ed & CTE; Excludes Capital

Graduation Rates

District	12-13	13-14	14-15
RSU5	92.1%	92.5%	98.4%
Brunswick	93.8%	89.1%	92.6%
Cape	97%	97.5%	97.8%
Falmouth	93.6%	97.5%	99.4%
RSU15 (Gray)	85%	84.6%	91.9%
RSU51 (Greely)	93.5%	98.1%	97%
Yarmouth	96.8%	97.5%	94.2%
SAD75 (Topsham)	87.5%	78.0%	90%

Free/Reduced School Lunch Eligibility 2015-2016

District	Percent
RSU5	23.3%
Brunswick	33.3%
Cape	5.1%
Falmouth	5.9%
RSU15 (Gray)	33.2%
RSU51 (Greely)	7.9%
Yarmouth	10.4%
SAD75 (Topsham)	37.7%

District Enrollments for State Subsidy

(Includes students attending district schools and out of district placements)

District	13-14	14-15	15-16
RSU5	1891	1832	1851
Brunswick	2399	2358	2336
Cape	1669	1640	1632
Falmouth	2122	2146	2131
RSU15 (Gray)	2031	2015	2004
RSU51 (Greely)	2047	2027	2031
Yarmouth	1473	1514	1577
SAD75 (Topsham)	2515	2483	2413

- ARTICLE: 1** To see what sum the Board will authorize RSU No. 5 to expend for Student and Staff Support (Guidance, Health, Curriculum Development, Improvement of Instruction, Library and Technology).
Regional School Unit Board Recommends: \$3,137,669
- ARTICLE: 2** To see what sum the Board will authorize RSU No. 5 to expend for School Administration (School Administration).
Regional School Unit Board Recommends: \$1,537,851
- ARTICLE: 3** To see what sum the Board will authorize RSU No. 5 to expend for Facilities Maintenance (Operation of Plant, Capital Improvements, Shared Capital Enhancement Projects, Non Shared Capital Renewal Projects, Shared Capital Renewal Projects).
Regional School Unit Board Recommends: \$4,825,085
- ARTICLE: 4** To see what sum the Board will authorize RSU No. 5 to expend for Career and Technical Education (Maine Region 10 Technical High School).
Regional School Unit Board Recommends: \$574,091
- ARTICLE: 5** To see what sum the Board will authorize RSU No. 5 to expend for All Other Expenditures (School Nutrition, Crossing Guards).
Regional School Unit Board Recommends: \$374,829
- ARTICLE: 6** To see what sum the Board will authorize RSU No. 5 to expend for Regular Instruction (Elementary and Secondary, Secondary Tuition, Gifted & Talented and Contingency).
Regional School Unit Board Recommends: \$12,572,199
- ARTICLE: 7** To see what sum the Board will authorize RSU No. 5 to expend for Other Instruction (ESL, Co-Curricular, and Athletics).
Regional School Unit Board Recommends: \$760,097
- ARTICLE: 8** To see what sum the Board will authorize RSU No. 5 to expend for System Administration (Board of Directors, Superintendent, and Business Office).
Regional School Unit Board Recommends: \$841,731
- ARTICLE: 9** To see what sum the Board will authorize RSU No. 5 to expend for Transportation and Buses (Regular and Special Ed Transportation).
Regional School Unit Board Recommends: \$1,486,226
- ARTICLE: 10** To see what sum the Board will authorize RSU No. 5 to expend for Debt Service and Other Commitments (State Supported Debt Service and non Shared Debt).
Regional School Unit Board Recommends: \$1,644,542
- ARTICLE: 11** To see what sum the Board will authorize RSU No. 5 to expend for Special Education (Special Education).
Regional School Unit Board Recommends: \$4,379,996

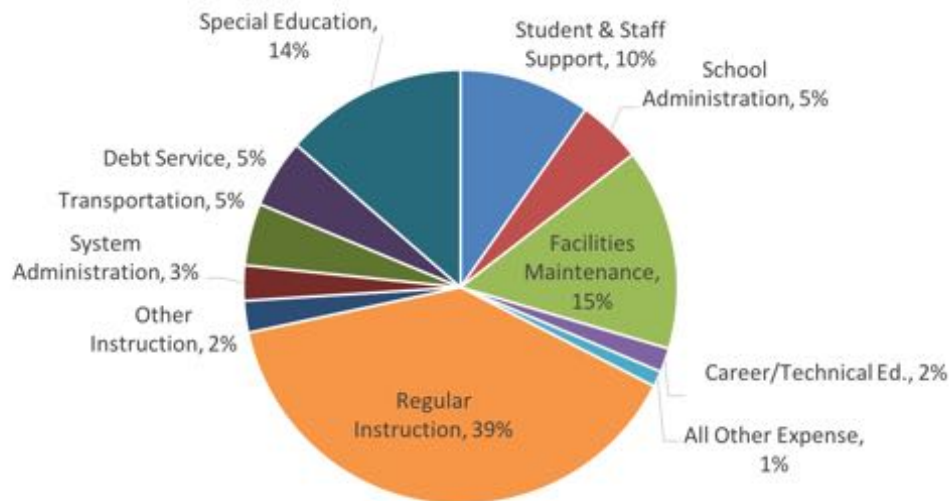
Total Operating Budget Articles 1-11 \$32,134,317

Adult Education \$103,000

Total RSU5 Operating Budget including Adult Education \$32,237,317

FY18 Proposed Budget Breakdown by Cost Center

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Capital Improvement Plan for FY18

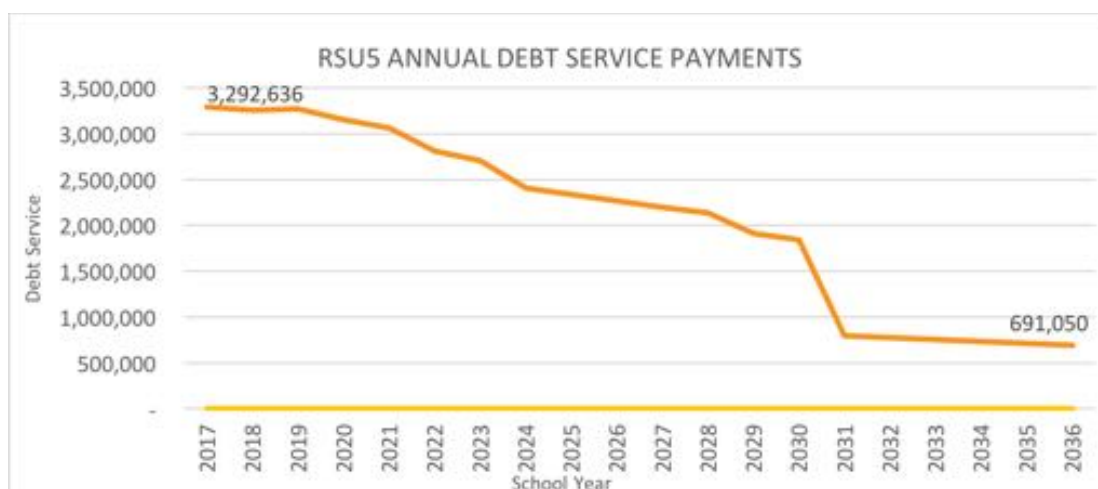
Anticipated Capital Unexpended Capital Reserve Fund Balance (March 2017) \$500,000

Anticipated 2017-2018 Capital Items

Middle School Roof Over Office and Locker Rooms	\$40,000
Mast Landing Windows	\$130,000
Mast Landing Boilers (2)	\$60,000
Morse Street Doors and Locks	\$110,000
Morse Street Playground Repairs	\$10,000
TOTAL	\$350,000

DEBT SERVICE

The chart below illustrates the projected debt service obligations through 2036. In FY18, Principal & Interest are \$3,292,636 and in 2036, the last payment in the FHS project will be \$691,050.



Budget Revenues & Impact

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS' ADOPTED FY18 BUDGET IMPACT

	Assessed 2016-2017	Proposed 2017-2018	Difference	
<u>RSU Operating Budget</u>				
Total Operating Budget	\$30,908,672	\$32,134,317	\$1,225,645	
Adult Education Budget	\$100,000	\$103,000	\$3,000	
Total RSU Operating Budget w/Adult Ed	\$31,008,672	\$32,237,317	\$1,228,645	3.96%
<u>Less: State and Non-Shared Debt</u>				
F-Non-Shared Local Debt	\$176,207	\$169,708	\$(6,499)	
D- State Supported Debt	\$1,331,957	\$1,313,563	\$(18,394)	
D-Non-Shared Local Debt	\$206,547	\$202,782	\$(3,765)	
Total State and Non-Shared Debt	\$1,714,711	\$1,686,053	\$(28,658)	
<u>Less: Local Revenues</u>				
Shared Revenue*	\$1,100,391	\$1,330,192	\$229,801	
State Aid	\$4,578,301	\$4,366,304	\$(211,997)	
Total Revenues	\$5,678,692	\$5,696,496	\$17,804	
<u>Less: RSU Plan Required Local Contribution</u>	\$15,830,728	\$16,235,412	\$404,684	
Total Additional Local Monies Required	\$7,784,541	\$8,619,355	\$834,814	
Net Impact to Taxation Districtwide	\$23,615,269	\$24,854,768	\$1,239,499	5.25%

Through budget deliberations, the budget expenditures were decreased from 4.86% to the adopted budget of 3.96%.

*SHARED REVENUE

Town of Freeport Hunter Road Field Maintenance	\$87,291
State Agency	\$32,000
Medicaid	\$5,000
Misc / Interest	\$19,900
Laugh & Learn	\$10,200
Contingency	\$214,541
Undesignated Fund Balance	\$961,260
Total Shared Revenue	\$1,330,192

Morse Street School by Julie Nickerson

Last year we were fortunate enough to have funds approved for a four-day “Responsive Classroom” training. Thirty members of staff from Morse Street and Mast Landing met last summer to receive this wonderful training in *Responsive Classroom Practices*. *“The Responsive Classroom approach is a way of teaching that emphasizes social, emotional, and academic growth in a strong and safe community”* (Center for Responsive Schools). As a follow-up to this training, this year we have been deepening our knowledge and use of positive language to maximize learning and engagement. Increasing our guidance counselor from 0.8 to full time has helped tremendously. This has allowed flexibility in supporting the social-emotional needs of our students. Students are being supported both in the classroom during whole group lessons and out of the classroom in smaller intervention groups.

This year our budget reflects the work we are doing to strengthen early intervention in our schools. We are proposing that we expand our current Pre-K program to offer a third session, hopefully providing Pre-K to all families who would like to take advantage of the program. To do this we need an additional 0.6 Pre-K teacher and 0.6 Ed Tech. Morse Street Pre-K will replicate the full day model that is currently being successfully implemented in Durham. Increasing our sessions will support a more balanced start to kindergarten and will provide students with readiness skills in literacy and numeracy as well as familiarity with the school environment.

As we continue to strengthen our RTI (Response to Intervention) process we are requesting an RTI teacher. This teacher would primarily focus on Tier 2 math support and additionally support literacy. The need for Tier 2 support in math has been identified before, and continues to present itself as a need. The RTI support allows us to ensure that students are meeting proficiency from the onset of their Pre-K-12 journey. Providing quality intervention assistance to students early will ensure that foundational skills are strong, laying the groundwork for students to meet proficiency as work demands increase throughout the schools.

Mast Landing School by Emily Grimm

The staff at Mast Landing School work to create an engaging and caring community for its 260 students. Students engage in meaningful and rigorous academics as they develop their content knowledge and skills while also having frequent and varied opportunities to extend their learning in creative ways, both in and outside of the building. Third graders engage in a week of experiential learning at Wolfe’s Neck Farm School. Fourth grade students study engineering through onsite visits from career experts, engage in hands-on exploration at Family Engineering Night, and visit the Boston Science Museum. Fifth grade students deepen their understanding of the American Revolution through travel to historic sights in Boston. These experiences not only enrich the curriculum, but help students widen their perspectives and identify new interests through education.

This year the staff has participated in a collaborative focus on learning about and implementing the Responsive Classroom framework in our school community. Responsive Classroom *“is a way of teaching that emphasizes social, emotional, and academic growth in a strong school community”* through the domains of engaging academics, positive community, effective management, and developmental awareness (Center for Responsive Schools). As part of these efforts, all students now begin the day with Morning Meeting, a “soft landing” for students to start their school day, during which they build community, practice social skills, and engage in social-emotional learning.

(MLS continued)

Summary of Budget Requests:

Last year's additions to Mast Landing's budget have enabled us to more effectively support students holistically. A full-time nurse ensures students' health needs can be attended to when needed. The transition to a full-time school counselor has resulted in development and implementation of a comprehensive guidance curriculum. All MLS students now have access to this curriculum which supports their social and emotional well-being. Through budget allocations in both last year's and this year's budget, all teachers will have the opportunity to engage in a four-day intensive Responsive Classroom training to deepen our collective skills, creating a developmentally appropriate, engaging, and positive school climate for students.

Pownal Elementary School by Lisa Demick

In the 2017-2018 RSU5 school budget, a big change for Pownal Elementary School is a proposed shift to all-day kindergarten and a restructuring of Pre-K. Currently only three percent of schools statewide still have half-day kindergarten programs. Curriculum expectations assume access to a full day program. We will have more flexibility in balancing the demands of curriculum requirements with time for social-emotional activities like recess and choice time. Extended time expands opportunities for early interventions for students who need them. Research shows that preventing early school failure is much better than trying to help struggling students catch up.

At PES, we continue to work to enrich and personalize learning for students in ways that are fiscally responsible. Restructuring Pre-K and kindergarten will eliminate the midday bus, allowing for a savings that can be reallocated to more directly impact student achievement. Additional requests for the 2018 fiscal year will be accomplished through a reallocation of positions. In addition to reallocations, we are actively seeking opportunities to secure outside funding. We are happy to share that in the 2017 school year, we acquired multiple grants totaling over \$10,000 to assist in meeting building-based initiatives. Through multiple methods, we are working to provide an excellent educational experience while being mindful of the financial implications for all students at Pownal Elementary School.

Durham Community School by Will Pidden

We really appreciate the budget consideration from last year that allowed us to broaden our student offerings across a range of academic subjects and grade levels.

- The two added stipends for co-curricular activities allowed us to offer an environmental club and a writing club.
- The environmental club has already made a difference in the recycling efforts at school. Their impetus allowed the school to finally access single stream recycling and this has reduced waste at the school. For next year their focus is on reducing cafeteria waste.
- The writing club has provided a forum for students with an interest in writing, allowing them to write on topics of interest, in genres that appeal to them, while getting feedback and support.

(DCS continued)

- With the additional equipment money, we purchased replacement parts for the robotics kits used in STEM classes and also upgraded the security cameras in the building.
- The Kindergarten Jump Start summer program was reinstituted and provided support for those students entering kindergarten who may have needed a boost with their literacy skills before entering school.
- The additional half-day of music contributed to the continued growth in student participation in music. The band increased by 45% and the chorus by 110%!

All these initiatives had a positive impact and will continue to do so.

Summary of FY 2017/2018 budget considerations:

The focus of our budget requests for the coming year is to increase student support. One is for an additional educational technician and one is for a 0.5 math teacher.

We are requesting consideration of a full-time Ed Tech III to pilot a behavior intervention role in our primary grades. The focus of the work would be to support students who need behavioral/executive functioning interventions by acting as a coach to address deficit skill areas, as well as providing check in/check outs, coordinating movement breaks, and reinforcing support. RSU5 Instructional Support Director Bonnie Violette has used this model successfully in another school district, and found it not only supports students and staff, but also reduces referrals to special education. We have been developing strategies and measurement tools through a grant with the Department of Education and this position would allow us to implement the model more effectively.

In conjunction with Freeport Middle School, we are requesting a position to provide extension math options for high achieving/proficient students that allow them to access advanced math offerings in their middle school setting. We are proposing a full time role that is split 0.5/0.5 between the schools that would meet this need for students in the middle school grade range.

In the current format, there are a number of options for math students at Freeport High School that require certain prerequisites to be met. There is currently a math curriculum team reviewing the progression for students from 5th grade to 10th grade with a view to creating transparency, consistency and equity across the RSU, particularly for high achieving math students.

Freeport Middle School by Ray Grogan

Freeport Middle School's budget focuses on the RSU5 goal of *Student Achievement Through Improved Student-Centered Teaching and Learning*. The budget considerations from last year broadened our support for students. The added teachers increased literacy and math support, allowing the school to focus on improved student learning and the transition to a proficiency-based system.

The requested budget for next school year will allow us to continue to emphasize student achievement, focusing on differentiation for all learners and keeping class sizes low. As part of the ongoing work to align and strengthen the math pathway for students through both middle schools, we are requesting a position to be shared with Durham Community School that would provide extended math opportunities for students. The budget also has transferred a teaching position from Mast Landing School due to an increased enrollment of thirty-three students in our building next year.

Freeport High School by Jen Gulko

Freeport High School offers a supportive environment where students are challenged and encouraged to reach their maximum potential. Our students have demonstrated high levels of success in the classroom, in athletic competitions, in the arts and in our school and local community. Our staff is making the shift to implementing proficiency-based practices, where students will demonstrate their skills and knowledge related to standards in each of the content areas. Teachers continue to provide students with the opportunity to develop and demonstrate complex and higher-order thinking skills while deepening their understanding of content knowledge. We are looking forward to welcoming the Class of 2021 as our first class to receive proficiency-based diplomas.

Our athletic teams continue to make our school and community proud, as they not only have been successful in their competitions, but some of our teams have also been recognized for their strong sportsmanship qualities. Our visual and performing arts students have been recognized in statewide competitions, such as the MLTI (Maine Learning Technology Initiative) screensaver competition where six Freeport High School students won out of a total of twenty students statewide. A group of our choral students had the honor of performing in Augusta for the swearing in ceremony of the new Speaker of the House. Our drama students gave an incredible performance in the fall musical, *Letters at Sea*, which was written and directed by FHS drama teacher Simon Skold who is also an alumnus. Many of our students participate in a wide variety of community service events, as they work to contribute to the community both in and out of our school walls. We are also incredibly excited about our expansion and renovation project to the school building. Students are loving the new spaces, especially the brand new cafeteria and twelve new classrooms, including a new band and chorus room and a new fitness center. We are ecstatic for the grand opening in the fall of 2017 when the entire project will be complete. FHS students and staff are proud of the work that we continue to do to support our students in reaching high levels of success and to prepare them for life beyond high school.

FHS is requesting to increase an ELA teacher from a 0.5 to .75 position, allowing for a literacy support class and a math support class. This additional position will support students who are not identified with a disability. These students would take a math and/or ELA support class in conjunction with their main math or ELA class.

FHS would like to add five stipends for the FHS Student Assistance Team (SAT team). This team would meet twice a month to discuss at-risk students (academically, behaviorally or socially at risk) and create needed action plans. The team will meet after school and would assist struggling students who are at risk of failing or even dropping out. FHS is also requesting funds for new online biology texts and math textbooks that will provide a seamless transition for students from middle to high school in math. We believe that these updated curriculum materials will be a critical resource in supporting our efforts to boost student achievement.



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FY18 BOARD OF DIRECTORS' ADOPTED BUDGET BROCHURE

Annual Budget Meeting, Wednesday, May 24, 2017,
6:30pm, Freeport High School Gymnasium

Budget Validation Referendum, Tuesday, June 13, 2017
Polls Open in Durham, 8am – 8pm, Durham Community School
Polls Open in Freeport, 7am – 8pm, Freeport High School
Polls Open in Pownal, 8am – 8pm, Mallet Hall

The detailed 2017-2018 Board of Directors' Adopted Budget is
available online at the district's website @ www.rsu5.org/budget1718