

District Objectives and System Data



Nicole Maldonado, Grade 12, Stamford High



Victoria Andrzejewski,
Grade 8, Cloonan



Keeniya Hardy, 7th Grade, Dolan



Stamford Public Schools 2023-24 Proposed Budget

Superintendent, Dr. Tamu Lucero
Director of Finance, Ryan Fealey

January 17, 2023



2023-24 Superintendent Budget Request

2022-23 Operating Budget	\$301,843,542
2023-24 Operating Budget	\$313,871,939
Change	3.98%

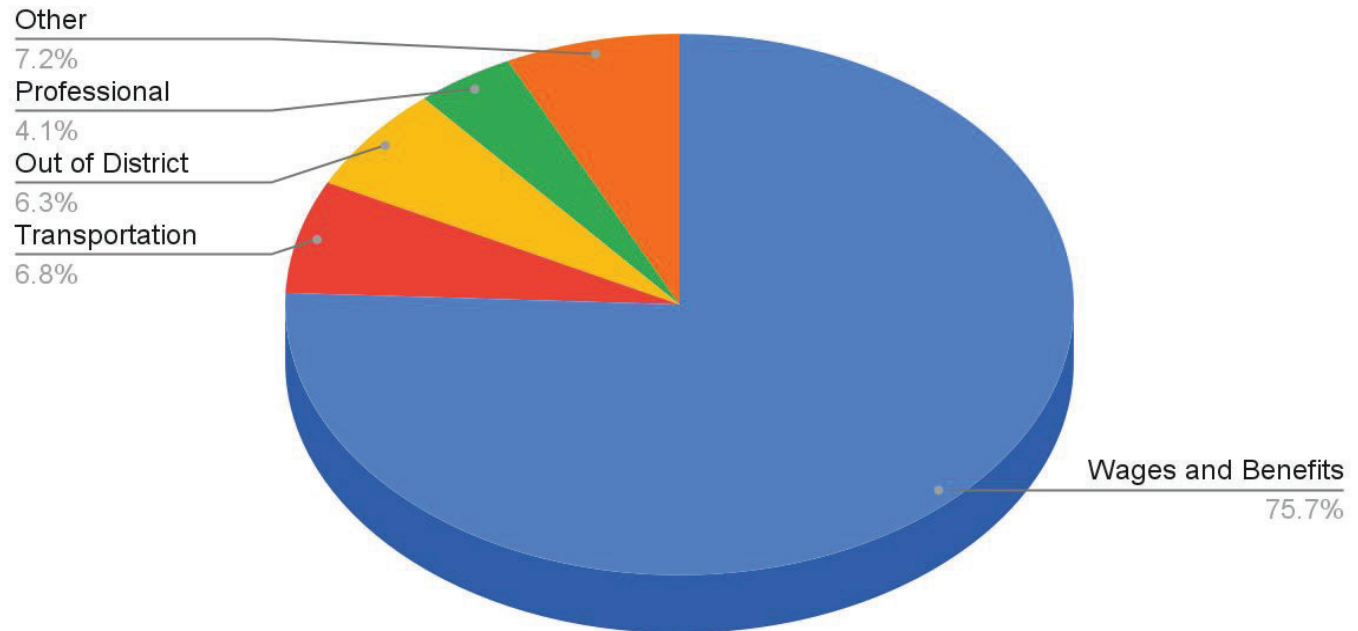
Budget Overview

- The 2023-24 budget request seeks to maintain current programming, while seeking cost savings where appropriate. There is a net reduction in FTE, and there are no new programs that materially increase the budget. The overall budget increase (Operating plus Grants) is **0.03%**, largely due to the expiration of the ESSER II grant.
- The Operating Budget increase of 3.98% is driven by higher costs, especially in healthcare, Out of District tuition, and energy costs.
- Due to these cost pressures, this budget proposes to continue funding the positions currently in ESSER with that same funding source for FY24. If the ESSER positions had been included in the operating budget next year, the budget request would be approximately **6.9%**. In December, Norwalk's BOE approved a **12.7%** increase for 23-24 to account for their "Fiscal Cliff."
- Additional funding has been allocated to address the findings of the curriculum audit (2 Assistant Directors, funding for teacher curriculum committees, curriculum resources).

BOE FY24 Budget (All Funding Sources)

Other

Facility Repair & Maintenance
 Electricity
 Water
 Construction Costs
 Property & GL Insurance
 Telephone Costs
 Postage Costs
 Districtwide Copiers
 Professional Development
 Districtwide Internet Connection
 Classroom Supplies
 Maintenance Supplies
 Gas Heat
 Textbooks/Workbooks
 Districtwide Software
 Instructional Technology
 Classroom and Office Furniture
 Athletic Equipment
 Dues & Fees



Net Reduction in FTE

Object	Category	Change in FTE (Operating)	Change in FTE (Grants)	Net Change in FTE	Note
101	Teachers	(9.4)	(0.7)	(10.1)	Reduce elementary teachers (14.0) based on enrollment projections; reallocate to Special Education and EL (+11.2); Add 4.0 Strawberry Hill 8th grade, 1.0 Strawberry Hill World Language, 2.6 Alternative Ed, Reduce (8.0) Content TOSAs, (2.0) TOSAs reclass to Object 102, Reduce unused contingencies (4.9)
102	Administrative Certified	0.0	5.0	5.0	Add 1.0 Strawberry Hill AP, 4.0 Asst Directors for curriculum support (2 new, 2 reclassified from 101 TOSAs)
103	Teacher Support	3.0	1.0	4.0	Add 3.0 Speech Pathologists (Operating), 1.0 School Psychologist (Grants)
112	Administration - Non Certified Discretionary	1.0	(1.0)	0.0	Add 1.0 BCBA (Board Certified Behavioral Analyst), Reduce (1.0) SPED Data Compliance Specialist
115	Paraeducators	(13.5)	(1.5)	(15.0)	Reduction of (10.0) SPED Paraeducators due to hiring challenges, (6.0) Kindergarten Paras due to enrollment, add 2 New Arrivals Paras, Reduction (1.0) Rogers Instructional Para
Sum		(18.9)	2.8	(16.1)	

Operating Budget by Major Object

	Description	2022-23 \$	2023-24 \$	Variance \$	Cont %	Note
100	Salaries and Wages	\$182,976,642	\$187,774,139	\$4,797,497	1.59%	Contractual increases, reduction in FTE
200	Employee Benefits	\$48,079,766	\$48,851,340	\$771,574	0.26%	10.5% healthcare premium increase, significant declines in projected Pension and OPEB expense
300	Educational, Rehabilitative, and Legal Services	\$10,687,488	\$11,619,032	\$931,544	0.31%	Special Education contracts, T&L curriculum initiatives
400	Building Upkeep and Repair	\$7,822,782	\$8,709,189	\$886,407	0.29%	Increase in electricity and building repair costs
500	Transportation, Out-District Tuition, & Other Svcs	\$43,484,771	\$45,909,276	\$2,424,505	0.80%	Out of District tuition; final year of current transportation contract
600	Supplies, Materials, and Heating Fuels	\$7,996,308	\$9,785,507	\$1,789,199	0.59%	\$1m+ increase in gas heat and bus fuel; curriculum materials
700	Equipment	\$635,069	\$1,058,953	\$423,884	0.14%	\$300,000 for security projects
800	Dues and Fees	\$160,716	\$164,503	\$3,787	0.00%	
Sum		\$301,843,542	\$313,871,939	\$12,028,397	3.98%	

Contribution by Category

Category	Increase	Contribution	Note
Wages and Benefits	\$5,569,071	1.85%	Decrease in FTE, wage increases per contracts, healthcare increase, significant declines in projected Pension and OPEB expense
SPED Tuition and Pupil Services	\$1,973,007	0.65%	Based on IEP requirements, increase in placement cost
Utility/Fuel Costs	\$1,692,861	0.56%	Significant increase due to market conditions (Global demand for natural gas, low US inventories, New England pipeline capacity)
Curriculum (Textbooks/Software/PD)	\$943,542	0.31%	Several subject areas
Security Upgrades	\$300,000	0.10%	Numbering of exterior doors and/or windows to aid first responders, AirPhone systems, cameras and walkie-talkies, RAPTOR visitor management, classroom door locks
Insurance Cross-Charge (City Risk)	\$254,588	0.08%	Projected increase per city risk manager
Other	\$1,295,328	0.43%	Facilities, Transportation, Legal
Sum	\$12,028,397	3.98%	

Analysis of Health Insurance Premiums

	Estimated Cost	Increase vs FY23	Contribution to Budget Increase
2023-24 Health Insurance Cost Projection (Current)	\$37,865,929	\$2,798,210	0.93%
2023-24 Health Insurance Cost Projection (Self-Insurance)	\$40,247,554	\$5,179,835	1.72%

Note: Estimates from Gallagher 12.2022

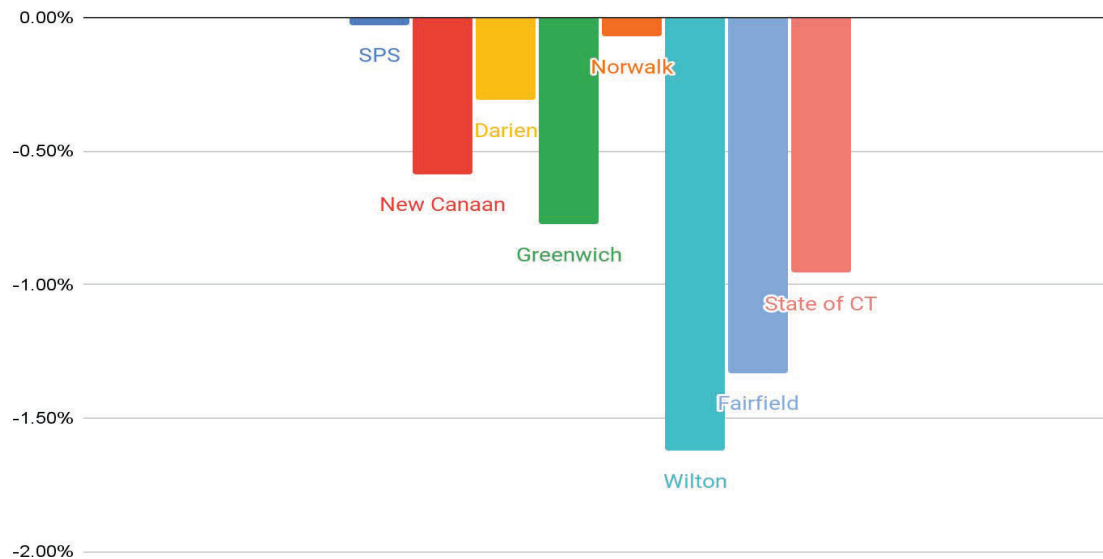
Enrollment Projections

Enrollment projections are calculated internally, as well as by Powerschool Predictive Enrollment Analytics, and are based on historical trends and birth rate analysis.

- Overall enrollment in FY24 is projected to increase from 16,258 students to 16,390, an increase of 132 students, or 0.81%. Special Education and EL projections will be discussed in the presentation on those programs later in the month.
- For additional context, for the 5 year period ending 2022, SPS enrollment was essentially flat (down 0.03%). Over the same period, enrollment statewide as well as in many districts decreased, as reflected in the chart below:

Public School Enrollment Trend 2016-2022

Data per CT EdSight



Recent Operating Budget Growth

Year	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
BOE Operating Budget	\$248,574,216	\$255,113,422	\$263,903,563	\$269,736,292	\$272,790,679	\$283,069,806	\$285,555,203	\$293,586,146	\$301,843,542	\$313,871,939
Superintendent Requested % Change	2.93%	3.93%	4.98%	3.58%	1.48%	5.03%	6.52%	6.34%	4.56%	3.98%
Approved % Change	1.43%	2.63%	3.45%	2.21%	1.13%	3.77%	0.88%	2.81%	2.81%	3.98%
% Change CPI-U	1.66%	-0.03%	1.46%	2.23%	2.28%	1.71%	1.37%	5.39%	8.20%	?

8-Year CAGR BOE		2.46%	Assumes 3.98% for 2023-24
8-Year CAGR CPI-U		2.80%	
9-Year CAGR BOE		2.63%	

Note: CPI-U is as of September

Source: https://www.bls.gov/regions/mid-atlantic/data/consumerpriceindexhistorical_us_table.htm

Per Pupil Spending

FAIRFIELD COUNTY NCEP		
District	Average Daily Membership 2021-22	NCEP 2021-22
Redding	1,215	\$26,621
Greenwich	8,378	\$26,311
Weston	2,208	\$24,262
Sherman	387	\$24,170
Westport	5,278	\$24,149
Darien	4,708	\$23,180
Wilton	3,715	\$22,980
Ridgefield	4,564	\$22,394
New Canaan	4,154	\$22,164
Easton	1,303	\$21,953
Norwalk	11,881	\$21,396
Fairfield	9,359	\$21,581
New Fairfield	2,081	\$21,314
Stamford	16,034	\$20,679
Newtown	4,073	\$20,035
Bridgeport	18,972	\$18,748
Stratford	7,068	\$18,721
Monroe	3,377	\$17,837
Trumbull	6,772	\$17,628
Bethel	3,126	\$17,507
Shelton	Not Yet Available	
Danbury	Not Yet Available	
Average	6,096	\$21,677

Grant Budget by Source

Grant	23-24 Budget	% of Total
Alliance/PSD Grant	\$11,147,837	21.6%
ESSER III	\$10,631,736	20.6%
Title I-IV	\$10,239,384	19.8%
Magnet Grant	\$10,026,663	19.4%
Excess Cost Grant	\$5,292,024	10.2%
Other	\$4,350,472	8.4%
Sum	\$51,688,116	100.0%

2-Year Budget Plan (FY24/FY25)

- Primary projected budget considerations for FY25 are ESSER-funded positions, healthcare, and transportation.
- The Superintendent is working with staff and other stakeholders to compile a Master Staffing Plan to assist in budget construction for FY25 and beyond.
- The variables displayed below would lead to a requested increase of 6.71% for FY25. With a 3.98% increase in FY24 and a 6.71% increase in FY25, the 10-year operating budget growth trend would still barely be above 3%.

	2024-25
Prior FY Operating Budget	\$313,871,939
2.8% Base Increase (Not Incl Below Items)	\$7,116,621
ESSER Positions	\$8,497,500
Healthcare (7%)	\$2,649,637
Transportation (12%)	\$2,790,979
Sum	\$334,926,676
% Increase	6.71%
10-Year CAGR BOE (Assumes 3.98% for FY24 and 6.71% for FY25)	3.03%

Additional Information per Board request

- Transportation
- Security
- Building Administration
- Central Office Staffing

Transportation

- FY24 is the final contract year for both in-district and out-of-district service.
- The in-district contractual increase is 1%, and the out-of-district increase is about 5%, though that figure will vary based on the location of placements.
- Bus fuel is estimated to cost \$3.95/gallon for 310,000 gallons for FY24, compared to \$3.02/gallon budgeted for FY23. Through 11/30, we have paid an average of \$4.15/gallon. We will monitor the forward market through the Spring, and lock-in at a lower price if possible.
- The combination of the above factors leads to an increase of about 2.8% for this program.

Security

- The budget for FY24 contains 53 security workers, which includes the 15 added last summer.
- 26 of the 53 FTE are funded in the Operating Budget, and 27 are funded using ESSER III grant dollars.
- \$300,000 has been included in the FY24 Operating Budget request for security upgrades. Some examples of potential upgrades include: numbering of exterior doors and/or windows to aid first responders, replacing aging AirPhone systems to control visitor access, purchasing additional cameras and walkie-talkies, adding RAPTOR systems at buildings, and replacing classroom door locks.

Grade Level	Schools	Security FTE
K-8 (Incl. Apples)	14	16
Middle	5	11
High (Incl. Anchor)	4	26

Building Administration

- All Elementary schools, with the exception of Stillmeadow and Westover, have 1 Principal and 1 Assistant Principal (AP). Stillmeadow and Westover have 2 APs. A 2nd AP for Strawberry Hill is included in the budget request for FY24.
- All Middle Schools have 1 Principal and 2 Assistant Principals, except for Scofield, which has 1 AP. Scofield has a Teacher Leader for Student Support (TLSS).
- At the High School level, Stamford High has 4 APs, Westhill 4, and AITE 2. Stamford High and Westhill also have Deans of Students. The Career Pathways Program has an AP as well.
- The number of APs at a given school is determined by a number of factors, including enrollment, staff size, the population of Special Education, English Learner, and free/reduced students, and whether the building contains specialized programs.

Spending Compared to State Average

Scaled to SPS 2021-22 Budget \$

	SPS	State Average	Variance
Instruction	\$192,435,956	\$184,126,493	\$8,309,463
Support Services	\$53,294,953	\$54,823,218	(\$1,528,265)
Central Office	\$4,537,575	\$10,086,295	(\$5,548,720)
Student Transportation/Plant Operations	\$43,317,662	\$41,708,083	\$1,609,579
Other*	\$0	\$2,842,058	(\$2,842,058)
Sum	\$293,586,146	\$293,586,146	

*Food Service and Enterprise Operations (i.e. activities that are financed and operated like a private business, for example a school bookstore)

Source: Connecticut State Department of Education. Per Pupil Expenditures by Function, 2020-21 (latest available data as of 1/6/2023).
Available from: https://public-edsight.ct.gov/overview/per-pupil-expenditures-by-function---district?language=en_US

Central Office Staffing

Superintendent's Office (6)

*Superintendent
#Public Affairs Officer
#Communications Manager
#Board Secretary
#Executive Secretary
#Special Asst to the Superintendent

Teaching & Learning (16.2)

*Assoc. Superintendent
*Director of Curriculum (Elem)
*Director of Curriculum (Secondary)
*Director of Innovative Programs
*Coordinator for College & Career
*Coordinator of Technology Integration
*Coordinator of Summer School & Extended Day
*Asst Director for STEM (K-5)
*Asst Director for STEM (6-12) (Budgeted FY24)
*Asst Director for Humanities (K-5)
*Asst Director for Humanities (6-12) Budgeted FY24)
*TOSA for Tiered Support/Data
*TOSA for Technology
*Elementary Literacy Coach (0.2)
#Data Management Clerk (Innovative Programs)
#Office Support Specialist (2)

*Certified Staff (35.2)

#Non-Certified (Support) Staff (52)

Facilities (7)

#Director of Facilities (2)
#Facilities Manager (3)
#Account Clerk
#Administrative Coordinator

HR (14)

#Executive Director of HR
*Director of Talent, Recruitment & Retention
*Coordinator of Talent Acquisition & Development
#Safety, Compliance & Employee Relations Manager
#HR Generalist (3)
#HR Assistant (2)
#HRIS Assistant (2)
#Executive Secretary
#Mail and File Clerk

School Development (11)

*Assoc. Superintendent
*Executive Director of Access & Opportunity
*Director, OFCE
#Manager of Student Information Systems
#School Family Resource Facilitator
#Customer Service Specialist
#Parent Facilitator
#Data Coordinator
#Research Analyst (2)
#Office Support Specialist

Finance & Transportation (12)

*Director of Finance
#Director of Transportation
#Management Analyst (2)
#Accounting Supervisor
#Grants Analyst
#Position Control Data Coordinator
#Transportation Coordinator (2)
#Administrative Coordinator
#Office Support Specialist
#Copy Machine Operator

Intervention & Student Support (21)

*Assoc. Superintendent
*Director of Special Education
*Asst. Director of Special Education (4)
*Coordinator of English Learners
*TOSA for SPED Professional Development
*TOSA for EL Professional Development (3)
#Paraeducator/EL Screener (2)
#Support Services Account Specialist
*Out of District Team (3)
#Office Support Specialist (3)
#Executive Secretary

Budget Schedule

Thursday, January 17: Budget Overview

Tuesday, January 31: Departmental Presentations

Kevin McCarthy
Dr. Michael Fernandes

Facilities
Special Education, Student Support Services,
English Learners, Apples, Interscholastic
Athletics

Amy Beldotti
Dr. Lori Rhodes

Teaching & Learning
Alternative Ed, Adult Ed, Family Engagement,
Research, Magnet Schools

Thursday, February 2: “Rollover” for Presentations if needed

Tuesday, February 7: BOE Budget Workshop Meeting

Thursday, February 23: Special Board Meeting- BOE votes on budget