

Hanover FY24 Budget

January 11, 2023

Discussion topics

Budget Committee Recommendations

Recommendation #1: FY24 Budget

Recommendation #2: Open Staffing Positions

Recommendation #3: Substitute Wages

Recommendation #4: Grade 6 Reserve Fund

Recommendation #5: Special Education Reserve Fund

State of New Hampshire Adequate Education

Service Staff Negotiations

Budget Committee Recommendations

Hanover Board will adopt budget tonight with district vote on March 7

Budget Process - Hanover Board



September

Sept 14

Hanover
Board
approved
budget
guidelines, 3%
expenditure
cap based on
quick model
developed in
August



November

Nov 1

Budget Committee reviewed first draft budget, expenditures & enrollment only

Nov 21

Budget Committee saw second draft with Hanover Finance Committee



December

Dec 12

Hanover Finance Committee gave feedback on school budgets

Dec 14

Hanover School Board discusses first reading of budget proposal



Jan 4

Hanover Budget Committee made final budget recommendations

Jan 11

Hanover School
Board discusses
second reading of
budget proposal
and adopts
budget



March

Mar 2

District Meeting / Deliberative Session

Mar 7

District Voting Day

Hanover Budget Committee recommendations

On January 4 2023, Hanover Budget Committee met jointly with the Dresden Budget Committee to develop final recommendations for the FY24 budget

Hanover Budget Committee recommended the Hanover Board. . .

- Adopt the budget as presented in December with recommended changes
- 2. Ask Support Staff Negotiations Committee to look into Educational Assistants staffing issues
- **3. Increase substitute wages** without increasing the budget (vacancy management assumption)
- 4. Ask voters to dissolve Grade 6 reserve fund
- 5. Raise \$100K for Special Education reserve fund

Recommended **Budget** FY24 vs FY23 +3.21% Budget change* +\$471,052 +8.08% Net assessment change +\$951,275 * Includes Board/Bridgman

Recommendation #1: FY24 Budget

Recommended changes since December budget presentation



FY24 Budget Changes

Expenditures

-\$100K

Special Ed OOD

-\$143K

Reconsidered 1.0 FTE Certified Staff

-\$31.5K

Removed Retirement Expense

No Budget Change

Increase Substitute Wages (Vacancy management assumption)

<u>Revenue</u>

+\$300K

Balance Carry Forward

+\$381K

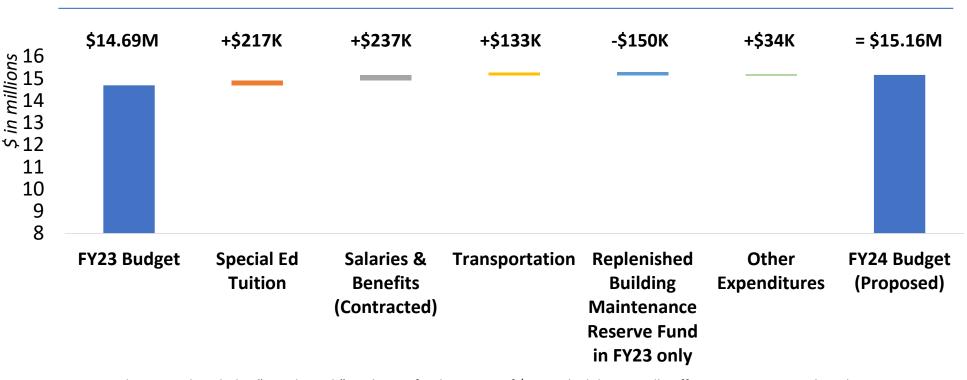
Grade 6 Tuition Reserve

Total Net Assessment Improvement: \$955K

Hanover FY24 Budget is proposed to increase 3.2% or \$471K, driven by special ed tuition, salaries & benefits and transportation

Includes budget changes since December

Analysis of \$471K expenditure increase

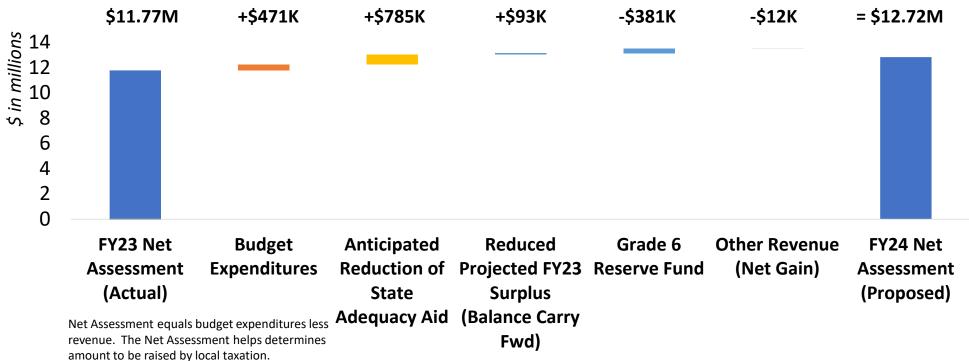


Note: Budget growth includes "passthrough" Bridgman fund expense of \$40K, which has equally offsetting revenue. Budget does not include additional warrant articles that may be presented, including expenditures associated with on-going Service Staff negotiations.

FY24 Net Assessment is proposed to increase 8.1% or \$951K, despite budget up by only 3.2% due to significant revenue changes

Includes budget and revenue changes since December

Analysis of \$951K net assessment increase

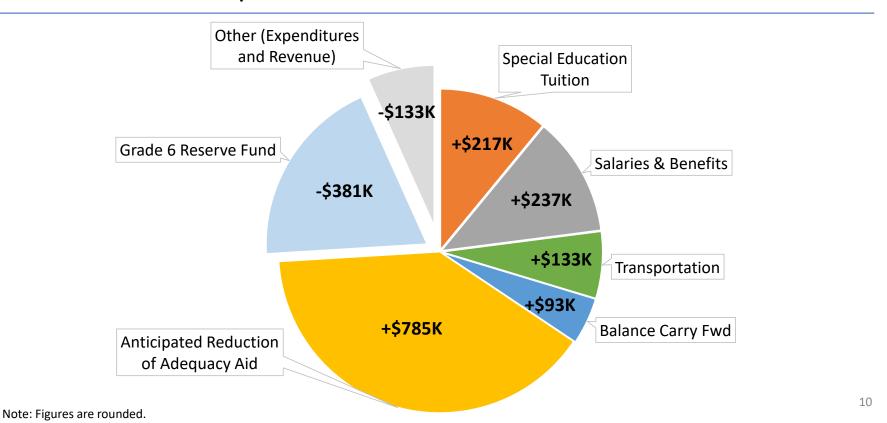


Note: Figures are rounded.

Nearly all the increase is due to uncontrollable events or contracted district agreements

Includes budget and revenue changes since December

Allocation of \$951K increase in Hanover FY24 Net Assessment



The Ray School plans a 1.10 FTE decrease for FY24 staffing

Includes 1.0 FTE reduction in certified staffing since December

Ray School Full-time equivalent (FTE) change from FY23 Budget

	Increase	Decrease	Total FY24 Proposed Budget
Certified Staff	 -1.0 FTE: \$ removed for 1 of 3 open Instructional Specialist/Coaching positions, admin reconsidered structure -0.40 FTE: Spanish reduction 	- 1.40	56.66 FTEs - 1.40
Other Staff	+ 1.00 Occ. Therapy Assts + 0.42 Regular Ed. Aides + 0.28 Special Ed. Aides	- 1.40 Special Ed. Asst (PreK)	47.99 FTEs + 0.30
Total Staff			104.65 FTEs - 1.10

Hanover FY24 budget includes recommended 26 teachers, falls within class size policy guidelines

25 Teachers

26 Teachers

27 Teachers

Recommended

Projections 2023-2024	4 classes	5 classes	5 year average
K- 71	K- 17.75	K- 14.2	K- 71
1- 70	1- 17.5	1- 14	1- 79
2- 85	2- 21.25	2- 17	2- 81
3- 78	3- 19.5	3- 15.6	3- 79
4- 75	4- 18.75	4- 15	4- 84
5- 79	5- 19.75	5- 15.8	5- 80
458			

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458			

Hanover Class Size Board Policy (IIB)

"The School Board will:

Support the principle that students in primary grades (K-2) particularly benefit from small class sizes, within a targeted range of 14 to 20.

Support the principle that in grades 3 through 5, the recommended class sizes can be somewhat larger, with a targeted range of 17 to 22."

Despite having 27 teachers budgeted, Ray School decided in FY23 to staff only 26 teachers in compliance with board policy

Smaller than projected Kindergarten cohort resulted in 26 sections

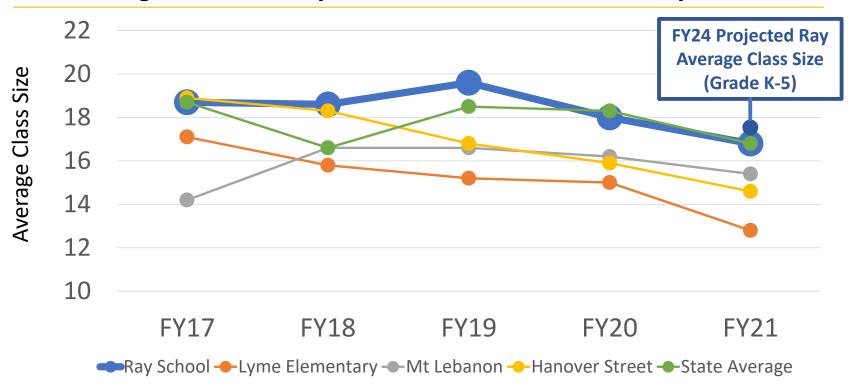
At this time, we are staffing our 457 student enrollment with 26 teachers. The sections and class sizes with 26 teachers are as follows. This staffing holds true to our school vision and our class size guidance while also responding to a lower-than-anticipated enrollment and being fiscally responsible to our taxpayers.

Grade	Total # of Student	Number of Sections	Class Sizes
к	61	4	15/16
1	82	5	16/17
2	83	5	16/17
3	71	4	17/18
4	81	4	20/21
5	79	4	19/20
TOTALS	457	26	

Source: Excerpt from the Ray School Principal's report presented at the August 2022 Hanover School Board meeting

Average class size for FY24 budget higher than neighboring schools and NH state historical averages

Average class size: Ray School vs other NH elementary schools



Note: The average class size is reported for **grades 1-8** by school, where applicable. NH DOE does not report Kindergarten class sizes (at least easily), but does mandate that there should be smaller maximum class sizes for younger students.

Source: NH Department of Education - iExplore

Hanover education property tax rates projected to increase 6.61%

Reflects Dresden budget approved yesterday

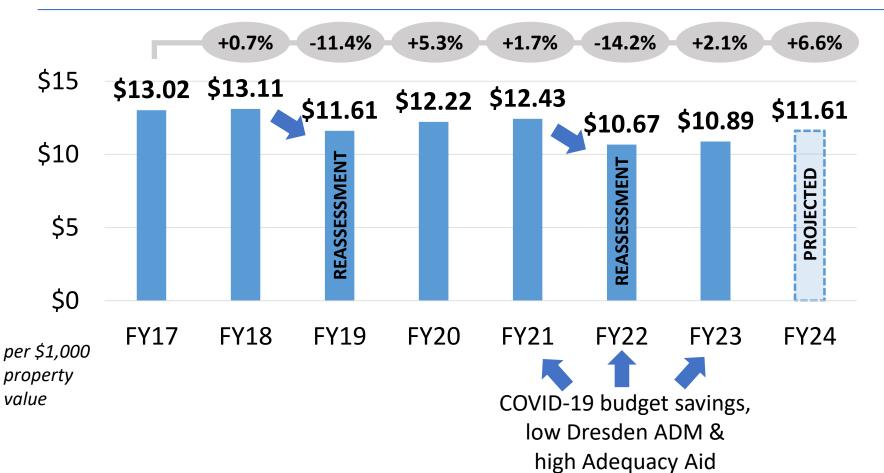
Exhibit 3, V.4 - DISTRICT ASSESSMENTS:	2022-23	2023-24	\$ Chg	% Change
Hanover Assessment (22-23 Adjusted to Actual)	\$11,766,738	\$ 12,718,013	\$951,275	8.08%
Dresden Assessment (without additional articles) 1.9.23	\$17,675,791	\$18,811,747	\$1,135,956	6.43%
	\$29,442,529	\$31,529,760	\$2,087,231	7.09%
		Tax		
ESTIMATED TAX RATES: with adjusted NAV @ \$14M				
Local School Tax Rate (Orig 22-23 Proj. \$9.75)	9.62	10.09	0.47	4.89%
State School Tax Rate (Orig 22-23 Proj. 1.28)	1.27	1.52	0.25	19.69%
Total School Tax Rate (Orig 22-23 Proj. \$11.03)	10.89	\$11.61	0.72	6.61%



A \$500K assessed property would see a \$360 total tax increase (\$30 per month)

Hanover districts had modest tax rate growth over the last few years

Hanover education property tax rates



If the Dartmouth North End housing project is constructed in FY24 then the tax rate may decrease to +5.4%



Image courtesy of Ayers Saint Gross

Source: Dartmouth College, Town of Hanover Assessing Department

+\$30-40M

Dartmouth North End Housing Project Assessment Estimate

+6.6% → +5.4%

Tax Rate Reduction with \$35M additional NAV



A \$500K assessed property would see a \$295 total tax increase (\$24.58 per month)

Budget warrant article recommendation

ARTICLE 5: Shall the District raise and appropriate the amount of Fifteen Million, One Hundred Sixteen Thousand, One Hundred Sixty-Three Dollars (\$15,116,163) for the support of schools, for the payment of salaries for teachers and other school employees, and School District officials and agents, and for the payment of the statutory obligations of the District for the 2023-2024 fiscal year? This sum does not include the funds appropriated in any of the other articles.

Recommendation #2: Open Staffing Positions

Open staffing positions are causing disruptions in educational programming, currently struggling to meet Special Education hours

	RAY SCHOOL	
	Hanover	
Reading/Writi K Teacher (no Spanish Teach Band Teacher	t filled/enrollment)	3.7 1.0 1.0 1.0 0.4 0.3
	54.8 11.27 20.95 2.52 20.1 removed from FY24 Bud Asst (PreK-Gr 5) remove	-

	Dresden	
<u>Position</u> RMS	FY23 Budget	<u>Open</u>
Certified	45.70+0.80	0
Spec Ed Asst	14.8	5 ⁺ (need 3)
Other Staff	16.18	0
HHS Certified Spec Ed Asst	75.41 15	0 4 ⁺
Other Staff	35.59	5
⁺ 2.8 FTE RMS and	1 FTE HHS Special Ed Ass	sist removed from
FY24 Budget	·	

Recommend investigation into Educational Assistant staffing issues and provide appropriate board recommendations

Recommended: Hanover Budget Committee recommends the Support Staff Negotiations Committee begin an investigation into Education Assistant (EA) staffing issues, especially related to special education services, and advise the Board with corrective actions, if any

Not recommended: Further reduce unfilled Educational Assistant positions from the budget. Funds generated by EA vacancies may be used in FY24 to solve staffing issues. Any unused funds will result in surplus against tax assessments in FY25

Recommendation #3: Substitute Wages

Recommend substitute wages move to \$125/day or \$16.67/hour

District/SU	Teacher	Teacher per hour (based on 7.5 hour day)	Support	Support per hour (based on 7.5 hour day)	Primary Towns
SAU 70	\$100/day	\$13.33	\$75/day	\$10.00	
VT Disticts	÷				
Windsor Central	\$125/day	\$16.67	\$13 per hour	\$13.00	Woodstock, Killington
Hartford	\$110/day	\$14.67	\$110/day	\$14.67	Hartford
White River Valley	\$108/day	\$14.44	\$108/day	\$14.44	Sharon, Strafford, Royalton
Springfield	\$110/day (\$120 w/BA)	\$14.67 - \$16.00	\$110/day (\$120 w/BA)	\$14.67 - \$16.00	Springfield
Two Rivers	\$125/day	\$16.67	\$125/day	\$16.67	Mt. Holly, Ludlow, Cavendish
Thetford Academy	\$100/day	\$13.33	.=	-	Thetford
Rivendell	\$125/day	\$16.67	\$125/day	\$16.67	Orford NH, Fairlee & Vershire VT
NH Districts	4				
Lebanon	\$105/day	\$14.00	\$12/hour	\$12.00	
Mascoma	\$13.80/hr	\$13.80	\$12/hour	\$12.00	Canaan, Enfield
SAU 6	\$14.29/hr	\$14.29	\$14.29/hr	\$14.29	Claremont, Unity
SAU 23	\$100/day	\$13.33	\$90/day	\$12.00	Woodsville, Haverhill, Piermont
Kearsarge	\$15.25/hr	\$15.25	\$15.25/hr	\$15.25	Bradford, New London, Newbury, Springfield, Sutton, Warner, and Wilmot
SAU 75	\$100/day	\$13.33	\$100/day	\$13.33	Grantham

VT minimum wage: \$12.55 (increasing to \$13.18 on 1/1/2023)

NH minimum wage: \$7.25

<u>Teacher</u>

Min: \$13.33 (SAU 70, 23 & 75, TA)

Average: \$14.60

Max: \$16.67 (Rivendell, Two Rivers, Windsor Central)

Support

Min: \$10.00 (SAU 70)

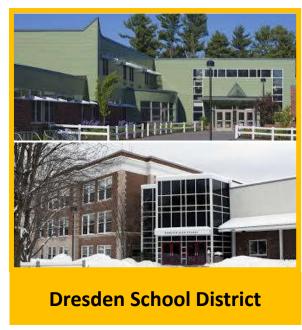
Average: \$13.77

Max: \$16.67 (Rivendell, Two Rivers)

Recommendation #4: Grade 6 Reserve Fund

In March 2021, Hanover and Dresden voters approved designating Hanover Grade 6 students as Dresden students

Hanover Grade 6 reserve fund no longer needed



Voted to amend the articles of agreement to expand Dresden to Grade 6 education if member district designates Dresden as <u>exclusive</u> provider



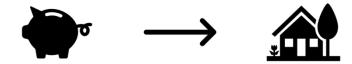
Hanover School District

Voted to designate Dresden School District as <u>exclusive</u> provider of Grade 6 education, contingent upon the passage of the Dresden warrant article

Recommend to dissolve Grade 6 reserve fund and return \$381K

Hanover Grade 6 reserve fund no longer needed

Recommended: Prepare separate warrant article to dissolve the Grade 6 reserve fund and return remaining funds to offset taxation



\$381K remaining in Grade 6 Reserve Fund to be returned to Hanover property taxpayers

No <u>additional</u> tax impact as the Budget Committee assumed voters would approve this warrant article and already included the revenue in the prior budget and tax rate materials

Grade 6 tuition reserve fund warrant article recommendation

ARTICLE 7: To see if the school district will vote to discontinue the 6th Grade Tuition Fund that was created on March 6, 2007. Said funds, with accumulated interest to date of withdrawal, are to be transferred to the municipality's general fund. (Majority vote required) [currently projected at \$381,000]



Other reserve balances reviewed, recommended +\$100K in Special Education reserve fund

Recommended: Prepare warrant article to request \$100K to fund Special Education reserve fund, may be separate from Grade 6 tuition warrant article

New legislation requires school districts to provide special education costs until 22nd birthday, instead of 21st birthday (NH House Bill 1513 signed into law June 2022)



- Tuition has increased for out of district (OOD) placements. The annual tuition cost for one residential program now runs over \$300K
- Special Education reserve fund balance has not been adjusted in 7 years (FY17), currently projected at \$223K for FY23 year end balance

Special Education reserve fund used to fund



L.5 Out of District Placements

Special Education reserve fund can now fund



0.74 Out of District Placements

+\$100K to Special Education reserve fund can then fund



Depending on warrant article, there may be no projected tax rate impact or an additional +\$0.03 to the tax rate

Option 1: Special Education warrant article asks to fund \$100K (in effect from

Grade 6 reserve funds)	Tax Rate <u>Change (\$)</u>	Tax Rate Change (%)
Hanover School Tax Rate (as built)	+0.72	+6.61%
Add: \$100K Special Education Reserve Fund	+0.03	
Total Hanover School Tax Rate	+0.75	+6.89%



A \$500K assessed property would see an additional \$15 tax increase or \$375 total

Option 2: Special Education warrant article asks to fund up to \$100K from surplus (undesignated fund balance), if available

No known, projected tax rate impact. \$100K to be paid from FY23 surplus/UDFB



A \$500K assessed property would not see an additional projected tax increase

Special Education reserve fund warrant article recommendation Option 2: Use fund balance

ARTICLE 8: Shall the district vote to appropriate up to One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000) to be added to the Capital Reserve Fund for the Education of Persons with Disabilities established at the District Meeting of March 19, 1986, with said funds to come solely from any year-end unassigned general fund balance?

State of New Hampshire Adequate Education

State is required "to provide a constitutionally adequate education to every educable child in the public schools in New Hampshire" 🖍

How the State of NH calculates cost of Hanover's FY24 "adequate" education

	Base K-12 Adequacy	Free & Reduced Meals	Special Education	English Language Learners	Grade 3 Reading	Total Cost of Hanover Adequate Education
Per pupil cost	\$3,866.18	\$1,933.08	\$2,079.89	\$756.43	\$756.43	NH State FY22 Avg per pupil cost (PreK-12) \$23,042.85*
Number of eligible students (ADM)	1,085.29	39.44	159.37	32.18	6.00	\$4,632,507.52
T otal	\$4,195,926.49	\$76,240.68	\$331,461.67	\$24,340.10	\$4,538.58	- OR - \$4,268.45 per pupil

Court ruling on the State of NH's constitutional obligation to guarantee adequate education funding. Claremont School District v. Governor ("Claremont I"), 138 N.H. 183 (1993)

^{*} Average per pupil cost includes all district expenditures, including debt service, capital costs, tuition, and transportation costs. Source: New Hampshire Department of Education

Part of the State's funding for an adequate education comes from a statewide property tax

How the State of New Hampshire plans to fund an adequate education in FY24



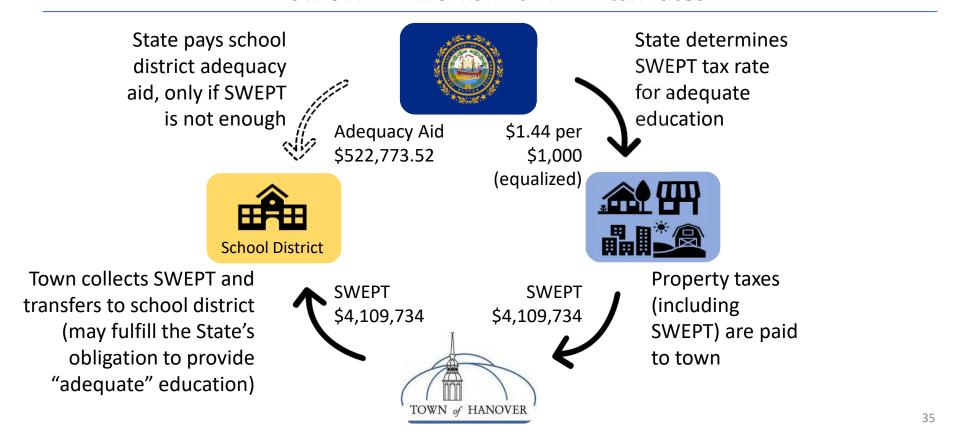
Total FY24 State Adequate Education: \$962M

Note: Figures are rounded Source: New Hampshire Department of Education that are equal in valuation and uniform

in rate"

If SWEPT amount raised by local properties not enough to fund adequate education, then the State uses other taxes to pay districts

How SWEPT works with FY24 tax rates



Wow, I finally understand my state tax bill, the FY24 SWEPT rate will be \$1.44 per \$1,000. . . Wait, why does the budget say \$1.52?!

Projected FY24 Hanover School Tax Rate

Exhibit 3, V.4 - DISTRICT ASSESSMENTS:	2022-23	2023-24	\$ Chg	% Change
Hanover Assessment (22-23 Adjusted to Actual)	\$11,766,738	\$ 12,718,013	\$951,275	8.08%
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	Hanover Tax			
ESTIMATED TAX RATES: with adjusted NAV @ \$14M				
Local School Tax Rate (Orig 22-23 Proj. \$9.75)	9.62	10.09	0.47	4.89%
State School Tax Rate (Orig 22-23 Proj. 1.28)	1.27	1.52	0.25	19.69%

Short version: The net assessed property valuation in the budget is not equalized.

Why the projected SWEPT in the FY24 budget book is \$1.52 not \$1.44, answer lies in the net assessed valuation (NAV)

State equalizes assessed property values every year for state taxes

- New Hampshire towns do <u>not</u> reassess all properties every year (i.e., update to current market rates)
 - Towns must perform a reassessment of all properties every 5 years to reflect "market value" at the time of the assessment (RSA 75:8a)
- In order to raise SWEPT funds that are "equal in valuation and uniform in rate", the State of New Hampshire must equalize the town-reported property values across the state
 - Otherwise it would not be fair if the same rates were applied to Town A with property assessments conducted in 2017 and Town B with assessments conducted in 2022

\$2.869B

\$2.702B

Hanover FY24 *Equalized* Property Valuation (updating Hanover FY22 assessment to market)

Hanover FY24 Projected Property Valuation (largely based on FY22 reassessment)

SWEPT rate: \$1.44 per \$1,000

SWEPT rate: \$1.52 rate per \$1,000

Why big adequacy aid reduction in FY24

Last year the State decided to cut the FY23 SWEPT rate and raise more education funds from other taxes

FY23 Hanover adequacy aid was high due to SWEPT rate cut



For one year, NH State decided to cut the FY23 SWEPT rate by \$100 million to \$1.28 per \$1,000 of equalized property value

AND

Pay school districts a one-time "hold harmless" adequacy aid grant (from surplus in other tax revenue sources)

FY23 Hanover adequacy aid payment: \$1.3M +\$1M more than prior year FY24 Hanover adequacy aid payment: \$522K -\$785K less than prior year

Approximately 80% of school districts receive adequacy aid, the rest do not ("excess" SWEPT districts)

List of "excess" SWEPT districts

- Alton
- Bartlett
- Bridgewater*
- Cambridge*
- Carroll*
- Center Harbor* •
- Clarksville*
- Dix's Grant*
- Dixville*

- Easton*
- Eaton*
- Errol*
- Franconia*
- Freedom
- Gilford
- Hale's Location*
- Hampton
- Harrisville*

- Hart's Location*
- Hebron*
- Holderness
- Jackson*
- Lincoln
- Martin's Location*
- Meredith
- Millsfield*
- Moultonborough

- New Castle*
- New London
- Newbury
- Newington*
- North Hampton
- Odell*
- Pinkham's Grant*
- Pittsburg*
- Portsmouth

- Randolph*
- Rye
- Sandwich
- Success*
- Sugar Hill*
- Sunapee
- Tuftonboro
- Waterville Valley*
- Wentworth's Location*
- Wolfeboro



high property tax base and / or low student enrollment



^{*} School district has less than 100 student membership (ADM). Note: Hanover ADM is 1,085.29

Takeaways on State of New Hampshire adequacy aid

State of New Hampshire is required to pay for an adequate education, not the full cost of a student's public education

\$4,268.45

\$23,042.85

FY24 Hanover

FY22 NH State

per pupil *adequate* education cost

average per pupil actual cost (PreK-12)

2 Lower SWEPT rate and higher enrollment bring more adequacy aid







Lower SWEPT Rate

► Higher Enrollment

More Adequacy Aid

Service Staff Negotiations

Final projected FY24 Hanover school tax rate assuming all warrant articles pass

ESTIMATE OF TAX RATE

IMPACT OF HANOVER SPECIAL ARTICLES:

Article 2 Bridgman Fund (includ

Article 3 School Board & Offic

Article 4 Service Staff Cont St

Article 7 Special Ed Reserve

Total Estimated Tax Rate w/s

IMPACT OF DRESDEN SPEC

Article 4 Service Staff Cont St

Will be presented after non-public session

IF all of the warrant article school tax rate calculation