2023-2024 Budget Proposal

Goals to be Served by the Budget

To support the objectives outlined in the Strategic Plan by:

- Preserving and building upon the high standards of education in LOL while remaining fiscally responsible to our communities.
- Supporting the ongoing renewal of curriculum, instruction, assessment, and staff development activities in response to the expectations of state and national standards.
- Continuing to plan and provide technology infrastructure and applications that are consistent with highly effective and efficient programming and operational standards.
- Maintaining high facility standards for all district buildings and grounds.
- Maintaining a dynamic and responsive approach to programming needs and mandates in special education.
- Maintaining both compliance and reasonability in response to state and federal mandates.

What is a budget?

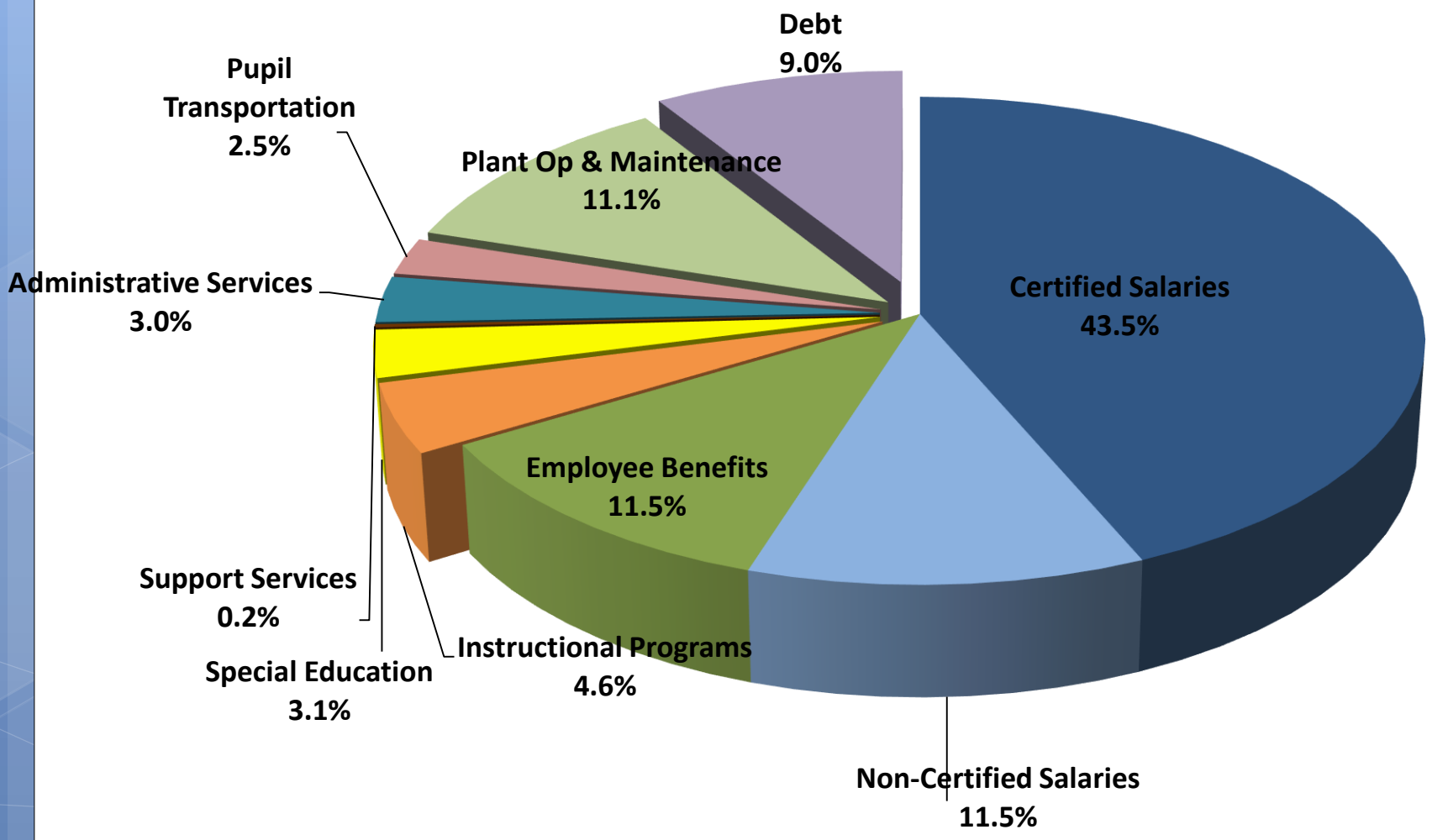
- **Sec. 10-222. Appropriations and budget.** Each local board of education shall prepare an itemized estimate of the cost of maintenance of public schools for the ensuing year and shall submit such estimate to the board of finance in each town or city having a board of finance, to the board of selectmen in each town having no board of finance or otherwise to the authority making appropriations for the school district, not later than two months preceding the annual meeting at which appropriations are to be made.
- A BUDGET IS NOT ONLY A PLAN, IT IS A STATEMENT OF VALUES AND PRIORITIES

Overall Budget Summary

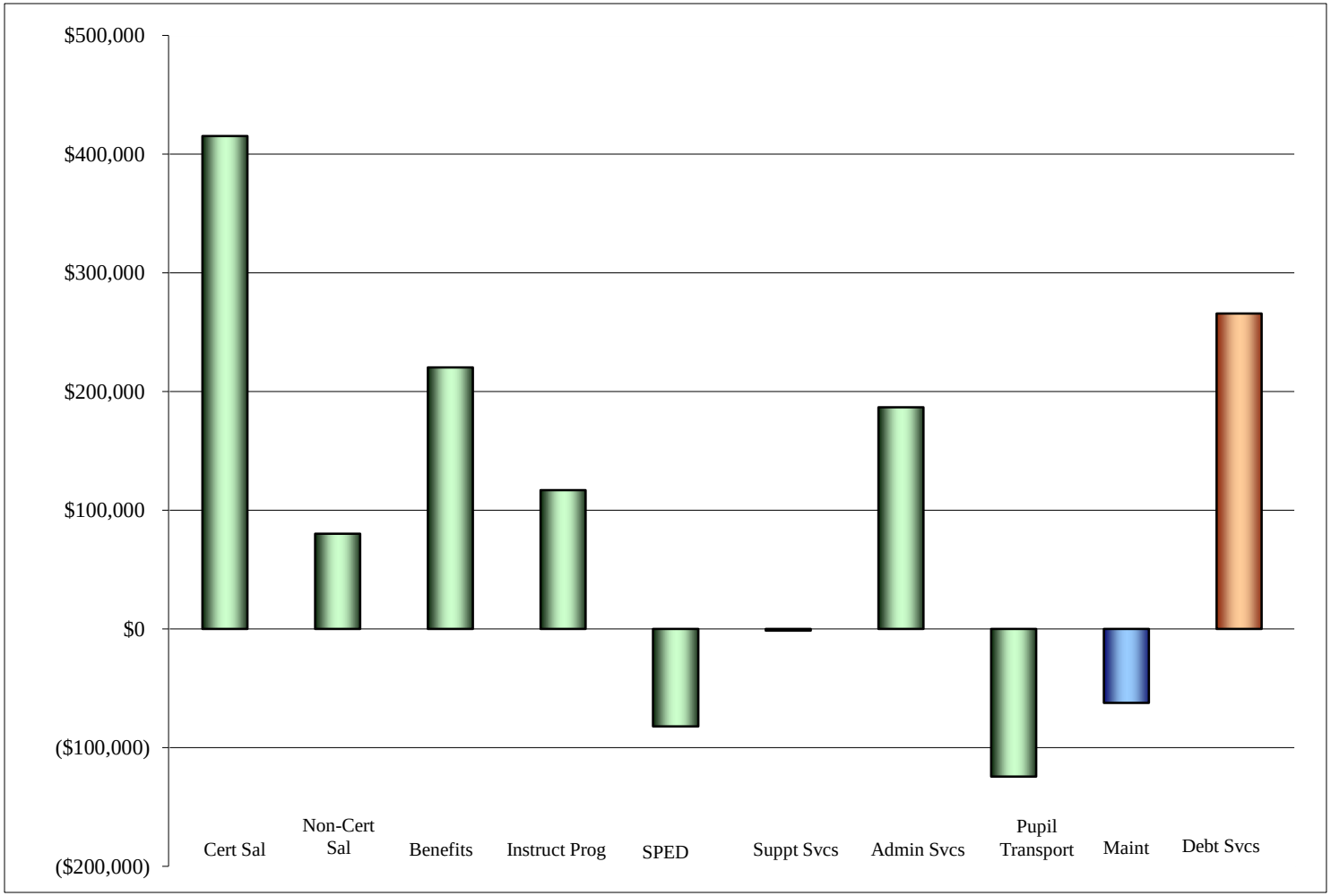
	21-22 Actuals	22-23 Budget	23-24 Budget	$ Increase or (Decrease)	% Inc or (Dec) by Line Item
Certified Salaries	14,864,155	15,173,165	15,588,415	415,250	2.74%
Non-certified Salaries	3,788,426	4,028,842	4,108,877	80,035	1.99%
Employee Benefits	4,110,605	3,894,186	4,114,462	220,276	5.66%
Instructional Programs	1,309,153	1,530,976	1,647,801	116,825	7.63%
Special Education	936,359	1,206,983	1,124,665	(82,318)	(6.82)%
Support Services	71,584	81,861	80,232	(1,629)	(1.99)%
Administrative Services	964,742	905,689	1,092,238	186,549	20.60%
Pupil Transportation	716,346	1,002,825	878,441	(124,384)	(12.40)%
Plant Op & Maintenance	3,581,229	4,042,274	3,979,901	(62,373)	(1.54)%
OPERATING BUDGET	30,342,599	31,866,801	32,615,032	748,231	2.35%
Debt Service	3,045,763	2,963,663	3,229,313	265,650	8.96%
TOTAL BUDGET	$33,388,362	$34,830,464	$35,844,345	$1,013,881	2.91%

2023-2024 Proposed Budget

$35,844,345 2.91% increase



2023-2024 Budget Drivers (Increase/Decrease)



Historical Perspective

2019-2020	$35,084,758	
2020-2021	$34,711,631	-1.06
2021-2022	$34,874,548	+0.47
2022-2023	$34,830,464	-0.13
2023-2024	$35,844,345	2.91

2019-2020	$35,084,758
2023-2024	$35,844,345
	+$759,587

That is an average annual increase over four years of $189,897 or 0.5% per year

Comparisons

• Old Saybrook	4.94%
• Guilford	4.78%
• Madison	2.65%
• Waterford	~6-7%
• Westbrook	3.91%
• East Lyme	6.97%
• Stonington	7.8%

The operations/program budget reflects:

- Continued adherence to class size guidelines
- Addition/ reduction of staff to account for enrollment shifts
- Continuance of existing academic and extracurricular activities
- Adjustments for anticipated changes in the special education population
- Adequate funding for maintenance and repair of buildings and grounds
- Scheduled replacement of technology and equipment
- Program improvements that are consistent with high academic and operational standards

Facilities Proposed Projects

Capital Projects	2023 – 2024
Upgrade Middle School Auditorium Sound	$150,000
Repairs to Main Campus Water Tank	$51,000
High School Irrigation Expansion	$42,500
High School Middle Field Bleachers	$40,000
Lyme School Basketball Court	$30,000
High School Turf Field Bleachers	$100,000*
Project Totals	$413,500

**Financed with undesignated fund*



What's next?

- Opportunity for public comment
- Board action on the proposed budget