



February 14, 2024



School Committee
BOS
FINCOMM
FAA

Fiscal Year 2025
Budget Presentation
Dudley-Charlton RSD

Steven M. Lamarche,
Superintendent
Camie Lamica,
Business Services

Agenda



- 1 Relevant Information
- 2 Assumptions/Risks
- 3 Fiscal Year 2025
- 4 Questions



Appreciation



- To our town leaders, we want to take a moment to extend our deepest appreciation for your tireless dedication and unwavering commitment to our towns. Your leadership has been instrumental in guiding us through both challenges and triumphs, always with a vision for a brighter future.
- To our town voters, your active engagement in the democratic process is the cornerstone of our collective strength. Your voices shape the direction of our community, and your participation is invaluable.
- To our broader DCRSD community, it's your spirit of compassion and resilience that truly makes our District shine. Whether it's coming together in times of need, supporting local initiatives, or simply lending a helping hand, your collective efforts embody the essence of what makes our District a special place.



What is the role and purpose of the school budget?

The school budget—and accompanying process—provides school districts and their leaders an opportunity to justify the collection and expenditure of public funds. In its most simple definition, a school budget describes a district's plan for the upcoming year as related to anticipated revenues and expenditures. School budgets allow districts to translate sometimes intangible expectations, missions, operations and objectives into the reality of educating children.

The budget process forces the discussion that will inform choices among various programs competing for the limited available resources.





Relevant Information



Dudley-Charlton Regional School District
February 26, 2020
Charlton Middle School



Fiscal Year 2021

Presented by:
Steven M. Lamarche
Superintendent
Richard Mathieu
Director of Finance & Operations



Dudley-Charlton RSD Fiscal Year 2023

As Presented by:
Steven M. Lamarche
Richard Mathieu



Dudley-Charlton Regional School Committee Meeting
February 9, 2022
Updated March 3, 2022
Charlton Middle School
7:30 PM



4

DCRSD Budget Presentation

Fiscal Year 2022

Stability with an eye for the future



As presented by:
Steven Lamarche
Richard Mathieu

Charlton FINCOMM-March 3, 2021

1



Fiscal Year 2024 Dudley-Charlton RSD

Budget Overview

Presented: January 25, 2023
Charlton Middle School Library

Steven M. Lamarche, Superintendent of Schools
Richard Mathieu, Director of Finance and Operations



Relevant Information



WANTS

NEEDS

QUALITY
EDUCATION FOR
ALL STUDENTS

STUDENT
CENTERED

FEDERAL
REQUIREMENTS

STATE
REQUIREMENTS

DEMOGRAPHIC
REQUIREMENTS

Measuring Wants vs. Needs Cost of Public Education

- a. Contractual Obligations
- b. Employee Benefits
- c. Needs Based Programming
- d. High Academic Standards
- e. Well Rounded Experience –
e.g., Music and Athletics



Relevant Information

Reductions in Personnel FY2021-2024



1.0 FTE DO STEAM Director
5.0 FTE SHRHS Teachers
1.0 FTE Kindergarten Teacher
5.0 FTE Middle School Teachers
1.0 FTE Middle School Librarian
3.7 FTE Elementary Teachers
1.0 FTE DO Data Specialist
1.0 FTE Assistant Superintendent
1.0 FTE School Nurse



19.7 FTE

(1,500,000)



Relevant Information

SY2024-2025 School Committee Goals



Fiscal Reasonability

- *The Dudley-Charlton School Committee will **revise its Capital Plan** to reflect the needs for Shepherd Hill Regional High School.*
- *The Dudley-Charlton School Committee will continue its commitment to seeking **cost-saving opportunities** to ensure a sustainable budget for FY25.*
- *The Dudley-Charlton School Committee will seek input on budget priorities from staff, students, and community members and will educate the constituents on all aspects of the budget development process.*
- *The Dudley-Charlton School Committee will commission an **operational audit** during the 2023-2024 school year.*



Relevant Information

SY2024-2025 School Committee Goals



Enhanced Educational Experience

- *The Dudley-Charlton School Committee will seek to maintain the integrity of a comprehensive educational experience for all students.*
- *The Dudley-Charlton School Committee will ensure that students have access to modern equipment and technologies.*



Relevant Information

SY2024-2025 School Committee Goals

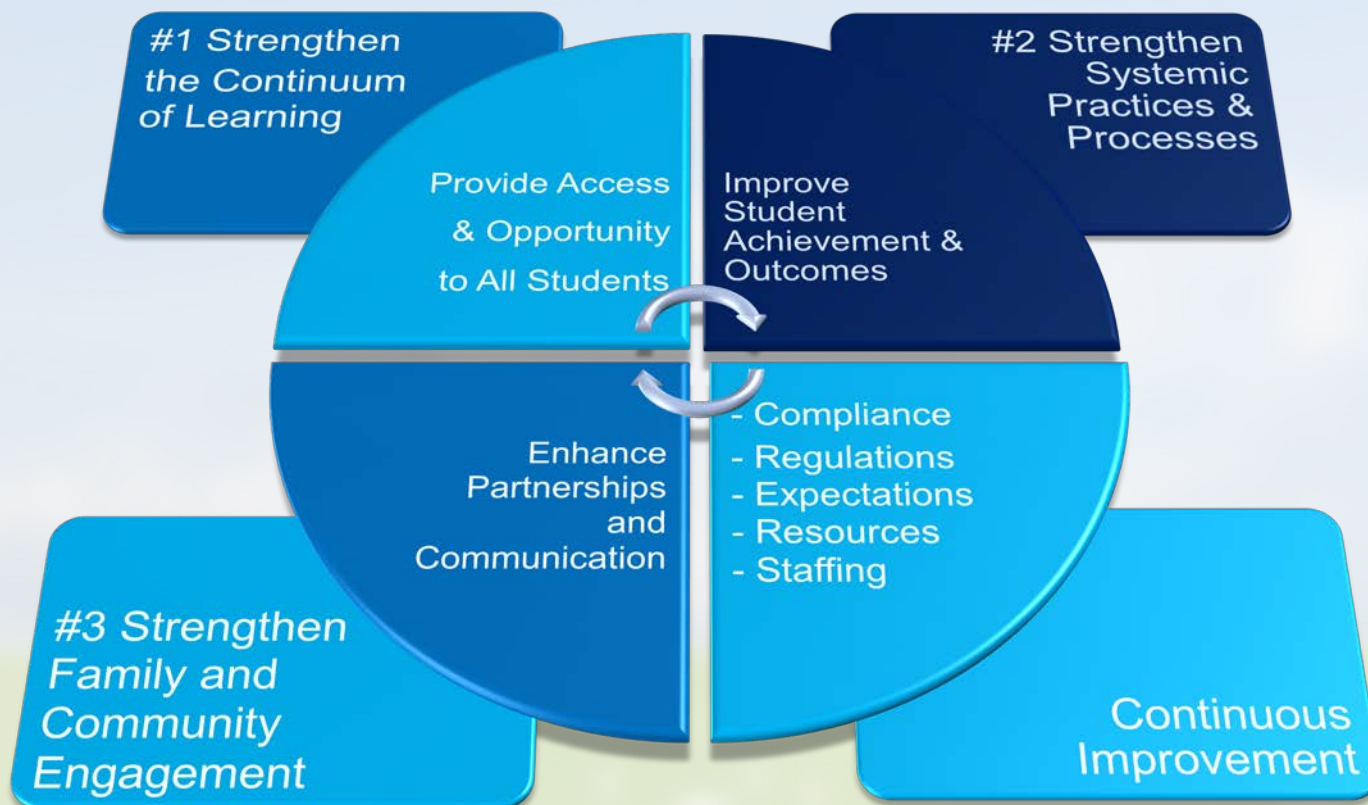


Enhanced Community Outreach and Stakeholder Engagement

- *The Dudley-Charlton School Committee will increase outreach to our communities by strengthening our working relationships with local boards and expanding our presence at school and community events.*
- *The Dudley-Charlton School Committee will continue to provide opportunities for all stakeholders to be cognizant of the resources available to our students and families within the district, as well as any major initiatives within the District.*



Relevant Information District Plan



Relevant Information

FY25 School Committee Budget Priorities



1. Maintain existing staff size and programs without reductions

- Maintain foreign language staffing 5-12
- Restore 0.5 FTE librarian at each middle school
- Maintain average class size of 22 for Grades K-8
- Maintain co-curricular programs
- Retain kindergarten aides
- Add accounting/data specialist
- Explore full day pre-k programs
- Add new technologies to support learning
- Complete an “*Operational Audit*” of administrative/management services



Relevant Information

FY25 School Committee Budget Priorities



2. Continue to look for innovative ideas for cost savings without impact to programs

- Explore in-district specialized transportation rather than contracted service model
- Explore outcomes from the capital plan architectural review of all school facilities
- Explore solar power options for all DCRSD schools

3. Work with the communities of Dudley and Charlton to find recurring revenues to support annual sustainable budget increases for the District while providing support for prudent fiscal planning

- Reduce annual usage of Excess and Deficiency support to \$500,000 per year, and increase contingency line item so that budget matches usage
- Reduce reliance on School Choice by 20% (\$180,000)



Relevant Information Assumptions/RISK



- **Minimum Chapter 70 for FY2025**
- **Excess & Deficiency stable for FY2025**
- **School Choice/Charter Assessments stable FY2025**
- **Level funded supplies/technology (FY21-FY24)**
- **State Reimbursements remain stable for FY2025**
 - **Transportation, Circuit Breaker, Medicaid, McKinney Vento**



Relevant Information FY24



Level **Service** Budget
Required Fixed Costs
Increases

**FY24 Final
\$56,622,986**

- Contractual Obligations
 - ~~\$1,285,000~~ - **\$1,303,877**
- Transportation
 - $\$400,000 + \$150,000 =$ **\$550,000**
- OSD – Out of District Placements
 - $\$430,000 + \$225,000 =$ **\$655,000**
- Employee Benefits and Insurance
 - ~~\$500,000~~ - **\$493,470**
- Line Items – Utilities
 - ~~\$450,000~~ - **\$435,836**
- Instructional Technology
 - ~~\$300,000~~ - **\$75,000**
- Restoration/ESSER Transition
 - **\$150,000**



Fiscal Year 2024



Relevant Information FY24/FIXED COSTS +



Level **Service** Budget
Required Fixed Costs
Increases

**FY24 Final
\$56,622,986**

- Contractual Obligations
 - ~~\$1,285,000~~ - **\$1,303,877** —→ **\$1,350,754**
- Transportation
 - ~~\$400,000~~ + \$150,000 = **\$550,000** —→ **\$124,463**
- OSD – Out of District Placements
 - ~~\$430,000~~ + \$225,000 = **\$655,000** —→ **Within Budget**
- Employee Benefits and Insurance
 - ~~\$500,000~~ - **\$493,470** —→ **\$725,000**
- Line Items – Utilities
 - ~~\$450,000~~ - **\$435,836** —→ **Within Budget**
- Instructional Technology
 - ~~\$300,000~~ - **\$75,000** —→ **Within Budget**
- Restoration/ESSER Transition
 - **\$150,000** —→ **\$161,102**

FY25

+ Assistant Superintendent
\$110,000

\$2,471,319 - 4.36%

Fiscal Year 2024



FY25 Summary/Options



FISCAL YEAR 2025 SUMMARY

ITEMS	Fiscal Year 2024		Fiscal Year 2025		
Contractual Obligations	\$	1,303,877	\$	1,350,754	
Transportation	\$	550,000	\$	124,463	
OSD - Out of District Placements	\$	655,000	14%	Within Budget	
Employee Benefits & Insurance	\$	493,470	\$	725,000	9%
Line Items - Utilities	\$	435,836		Within Budget	
Instructional Technology	\$	75,000		Within Budget	
Restorative/ESSER	\$	150,000	\$	161,102	
Assistant Superintendent			\$	110,000	
Total	\$	3,663,183	\$	2,471,319	4.36% Option #1
FY25 Variance		\$ (1,191,864)			
			\$	(563,000)	Option #2
			\$	1,908,319	3.30% Option #3
FY25 Variance		\$ (1,754,864)			

5.76% - 4.40%



FY25 Options



**Level Services
\$2,471,319
w/Assistant Superintendent**

**1.0 FTE Elem, 2.0 FTE MS,
1.0 FTE HS, 3.0 FTE Paras,
Technology, Late buses**

**\$1,908,310
w/Assistant Superintendent**



FY25 Option #2 - #3



Option #2

1.0 FTE Elem – class size	\$68,000
2.0 FTE MS - Spanish	\$130,000
1.0 FTE HS – course selection	\$55,000
3.0 FTE Paras – library +	\$110,000
Technology – building requests	\$100,000
<u>Late buses – secondary</u>	<u>\$100,000</u>
	(\$563,000)

Option #3 \$1,908,310
w/Assistant Superintendent



FY25 Options



Level Services
\$2,471,319
w/Assistant Superintendent

**1.0 FTE Elem, 2.0 FTE MS,
1.0 FTE HS, 3.0 FTE Paras,
Technology, Late buses**

\$1,908,310
w/Assistant Superintendent

<u>Fees</u>	<u>estimated</u>
PreK -	\$14,000
Athletics	
MS -	\$20,000
HS -	\$35,000
<u>HS Parking -</u>	<u>\$ 5,000</u>
<u>Total -</u>	<u>\$69,000</u>



FY25 Summary/Options



FISCAL YEAR 2025 SUMMARY

ITEMS	Fiscal Year 2024		Fiscal Year 2025		
Contractual Obligations	\$	1,303,877	\$	1,350,754	
Transportation	\$	550,000	\$	124,463	
OSD - Out of District Placements	\$	655,000 14%	<i>Within Budget</i>		
Employee Benefits & Insurance	\$	493,470	\$	725,000 9%	
Line Items - Utilities	\$	435,836	<i>Within Budget</i>		
Instructional Technology	\$	75,000	<i>Within Budget</i>		
Restorative/ESSER	\$	150,000	\$	161,102	
Assistant Superintendent			\$	110,000	
Total	\$	3,663,183	\$	2,471,319 4.36%	Option #1
FY25 Variance	\$	(1,191,864)			
			\$	(563,000)	Option #2
			\$	1,908,319 3.30%	Option #3
FY25 Variance	\$	(1,754,864)			



FY25 BUDGET Meeting Schedule



Wednesday, February 14, 2024

SC Budget – All Boards

Wednesday, February 28, 2024

SC Budget Workshop

Wednesday, March 13, 2024

SC Budget Hearing

Wednesday, March 27, 2024

SC Budget Workshop - *tentative*

May 20, 2024

Town Meetings Charlton and Dudley



FY25 BUDGET

