



Gateway Regional School District

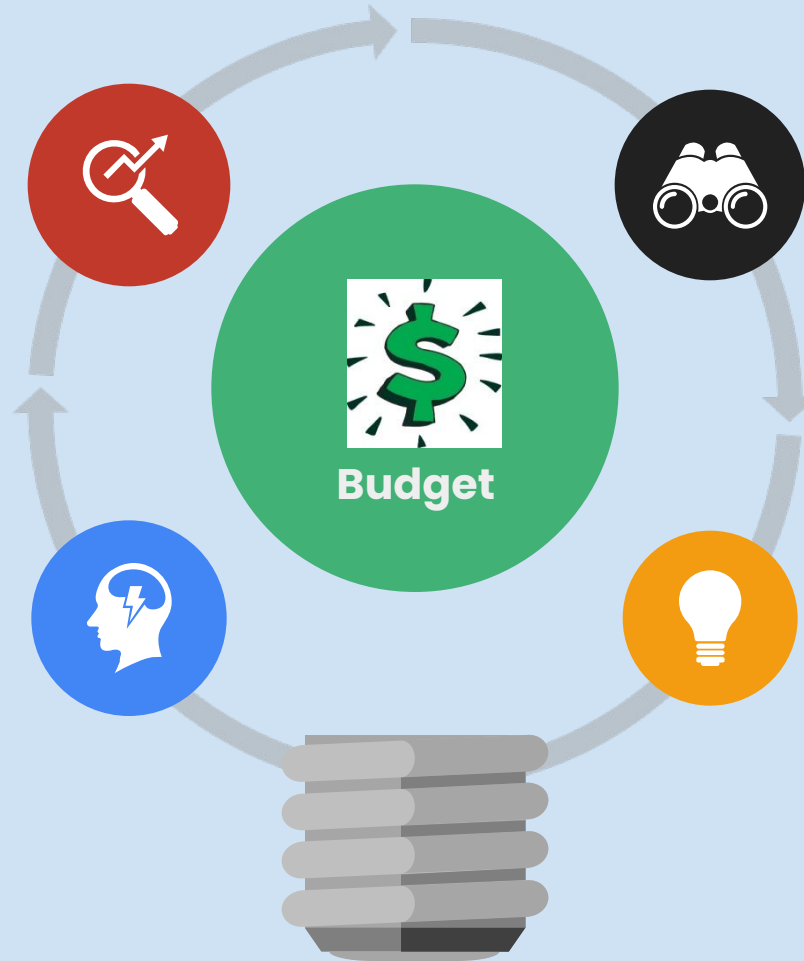
Respect, Learn, Connect

FY '25 Budget Overview - 2.7.24

How We Create Our Budget

Research
Each department looks into its budget and determines its needs by using expense trends and current student data.

Manage
Budget is presented to School Committee for approval and then moved to the towns for approval at annual town meeting.



Analysis
We use data provided by the state and historical data to make data informed decisions when thinking about our future needs.

Action
The Leadership Team reviews budget requests and determines actual needs as well as potential cuts.

Expense Drivers

Student Learning Programs

Expenses that are related to providing an exemplary education that challenges students in an instructional setting appropriate to their needs.

Inflation

Expenses that the district incur continue to rise annually even though inflation has been relatively low in recent years. The trend still is that the increases in expenses outpace increases in revenue.

Technology and Information

The rapid increase in technology has accelerated the need to more frequently replace educational materials and equipment.

Student Learning Options

Economically Disadvantaged Students

Economically Disadvantaged Students

Approximately 32% of Massachusetts school aged children live in families that are low income. These students often require added services from public education.

Special Education

Student needs for special services has increased. Special education programs have been developed within the district in order to keep students with their peers and to reduce the need for out of district placements. The district is currently at 25% special education.

Maintenance and Safety

Upkeep, maintenance, and utilities for all buildings

Inflation

Technology And Information

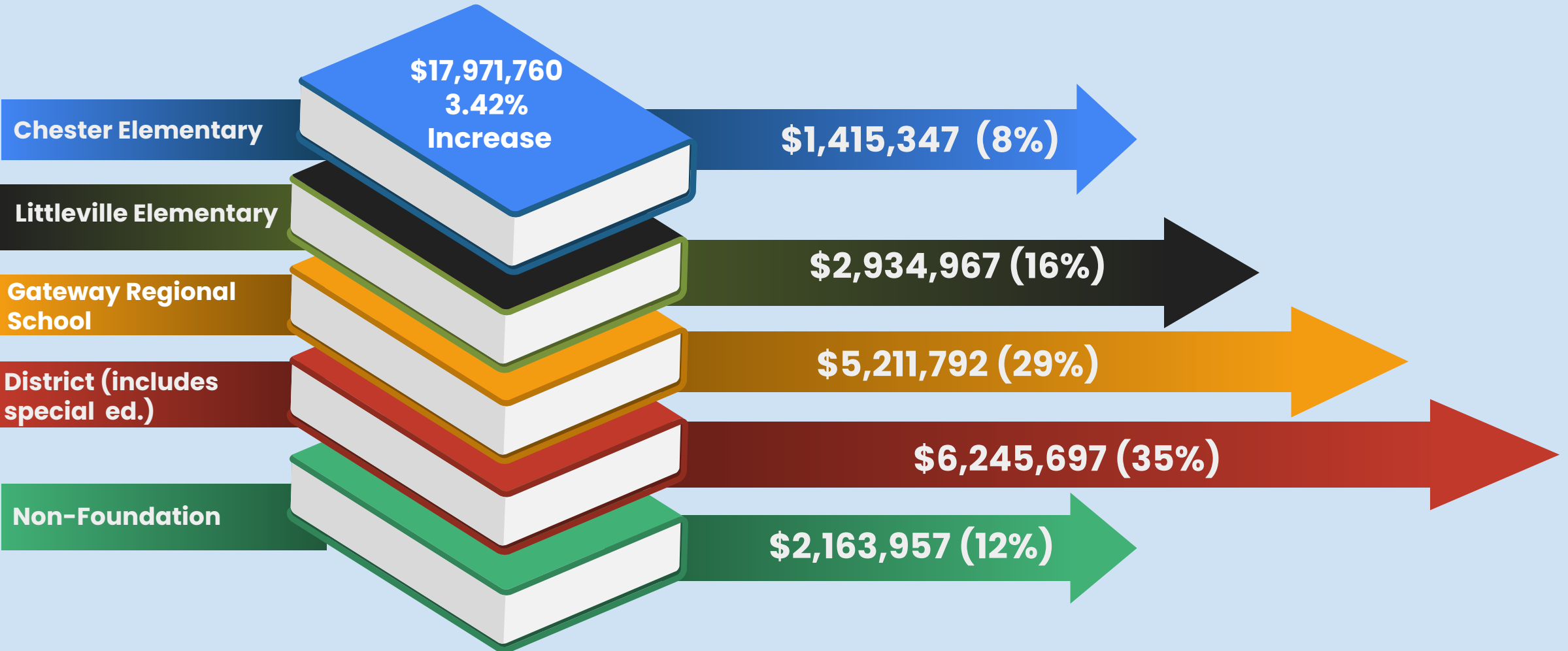
Special Education

Facilities



FY '25 Budget Request - 2.7.24

(Working budget will be posted on [ClearGov](#))



Summary of Proposed FY '25 Budget

FUND - DESCRIPTION	ACTUAL FY '21	ACTUAL FY '22	ACTUAL FY '23	BUDGET FY '24	BUDGET FY '25	\$ CHANGE FROM '24	% CHANGE FROM '24
Chester Elementary School	\$1,168,347	\$1,410,718	\$1,406,696	\$1,351,048	\$1,415,347	\$64,299	4.76%
Littleville Elementary School	\$2,456,865	\$2,864,645	\$2,620,700	\$2,780,246	\$2,934,967	\$154,721	5.6%
Gateway Regional School	\$4,636,527	\$4,629,177	\$5,075,064	\$5,176,929	\$5,211,792	\$34,863	.7%
District Special Education	\$320,173	\$482,566	\$462,769	\$511,421	\$595,445	\$84,024	16.4%
District	\$5,458,452	\$5,106,165	\$5,019,345	\$5,394,563	\$5,650,252	\$255,689	4.7%
Non-Foundation	\$1,843,451	\$1,879,121	\$2,006,912	\$2,163,126	\$2,163,957	\$831	.03%
TOTALS	\$15,883,815	\$16,372,392	\$16,591,486	\$17,377,333	\$17,971,760	\$594,427	3.42%

Major Budget Increases

Insurance/Benefits - \$220K+

Out-Of-District Tuitions - \$121K+

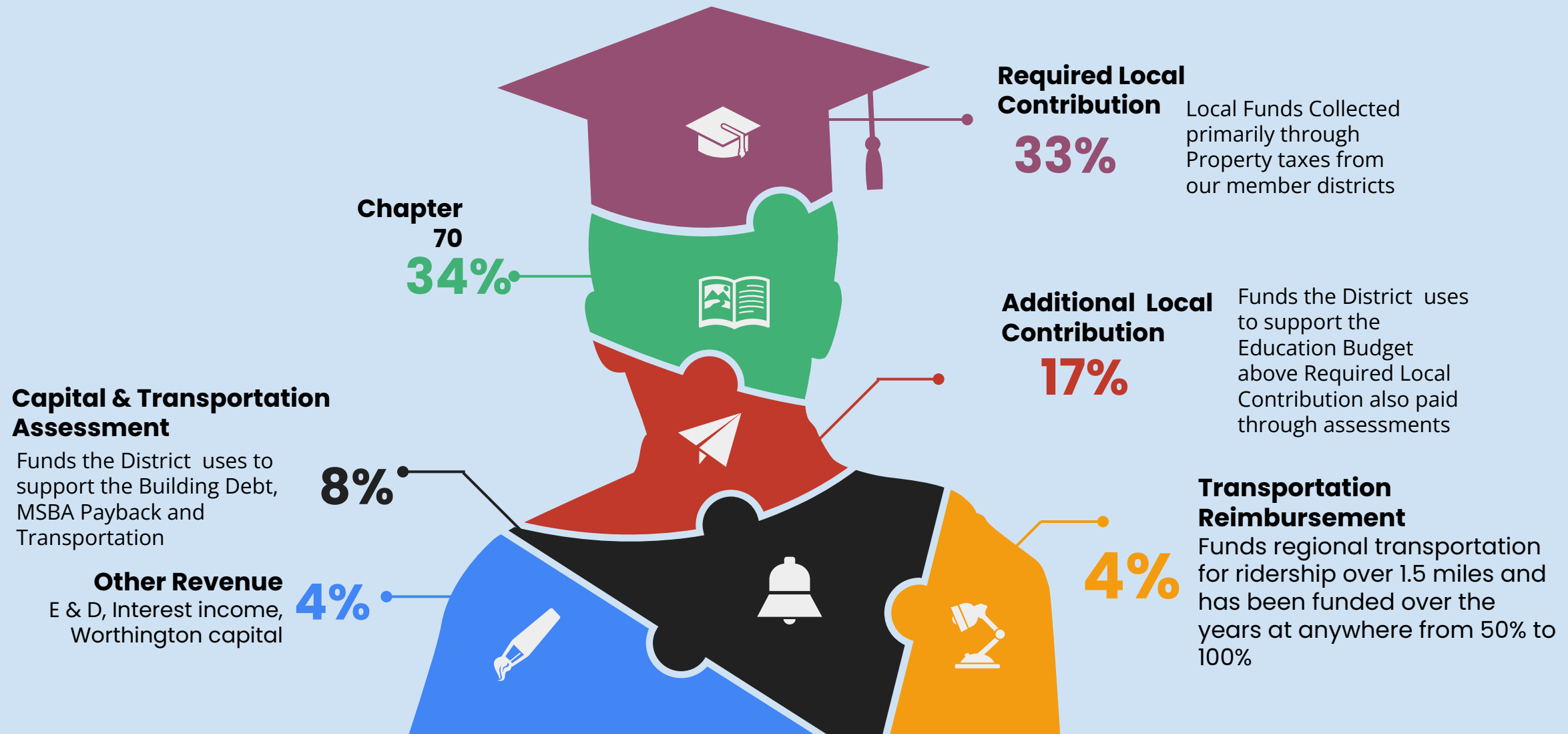
Staffing Shifts - \$100K+



Revenue Projections

	FY '24	FY '25	\$ Change
Chapter 70	\$5,935,146	\$6,215,327	\$280,181
Worthington Obligation	\$76,494	\$54,528	(\$21,966)
Bank Interest	\$40,924	\$80,000	\$39,076
Medicaid Reimbursement	\$72,122	\$73,000	\$878
Charter School Reimb.	\$68,316	\$81,271	\$12,955
Excess & Deficiency	\$421,000	\$421,000	\$0
Regional Transp. Reimb.	\$648,670	\$711,865	\$63,195
Homeless Transp. Reimb.	\$0	\$25,000	\$25,000
Miscellaneous Receipts	\$6,000	\$5,000	(\$1,000)
Total	\$7,268,672	\$7,666,991	\$398,319

Where Does Our Funding Come From?



Chapter 70 Foundation Formula

The goal of **Chapter 70 Formula Aid** is to ensure that every district has sufficient resources to meet its foundation budget spending level through an equitable contribution of local property taxes and state aid.

There are cost rates associated with **11** different spending categories (e.g., teacher compensation, professional development, building maintenance, etc.)

Local Income Effort is based on residents' income. The Income percentage is 1.4299%
=1.4299% X Residential Income



There are **13** enrollment categories and demographic groups that make up a district's enrollment numbers. The state totals the different categories (e.g., economically disadvantaged or students from low income families, special education, and limited English proficiency students).

Local Property Effort is based on property values. The property percentage is .3902% of the equalized property valuation of the community.
= .3902% X Equalized Property Values

Required Local Contribution is a measurement of how much local tax revenue a city or town can reasonably raise and dedicate to the operation of its K-12 Schools.

Student Number Comparisons March 2023 to February 2024

TOWN	3/1/23 Census	2/1/24 Census	Change in Census
Blandford	97	100	+3
Chester	127.5	127	-0.5
Huntington	290	265	-25
Middlefield	22	26	+4
Montgomery	76.5	67	-9.5
Russell	214	208	-6
Totals	827	793	-34

Census Percentage Comparisons

March 2023 to February 2024

TOWN	3/1/23 Census %	2/1/24 Census %	Change in Census %
Blandford	11.729	12.610	.881
Chester	15.417	16.015	.598
Huntington	35.067	33.417	(1.65)
Middlefield	2.660	3.279	.619
Montgomery	9.250	8.449	(.801)
Russell	25.877	26.230	.353
Totals	100.00	100.00	

Minimum Contribution Comparison

Town	FY '24	FY '25	\$ Change	% Change
Blandford	\$955,717	\$1,008,110	\$52,393	5.48%
Chester	\$917,452	\$944,681	\$27,229	2.97%
Huntington	\$1,573,659	\$1,605,967	\$32,308	2.05%
Middlefield	\$232,844	\$266,194	\$33,350	14.32%
Montgomery	\$772,096	\$782,027	\$9,931	1.29%
Russell	\$1,184,721	\$1,285,271	\$100,550	8.49%
Totals	\$5,636,489	\$5,892,250	\$255,761	4.54%

Total Assessment Comparisons

	STATUTORY	STATUTORY	STATUTORY	STATUTORY
TOWN	FY '24	FY '25	\$ INC./(DEC.)	% INC./(DEC.)
Blandford	\$1,480,258	\$1,564,544	\$84,286	5.69%
Chester	\$1,606,927	\$1,651,352	\$44,425	2.76%
Huntington	\$3,141,916	\$3,080,516	(\$61,400)	(1.95%)
Middlefield	\$351,804	\$410,866	\$59,062	16.79%
Montgomery	\$1,185,771	\$1,154,838	(\$30,933)	(2.61%)
Russell	\$2,341,985	\$2,442,653	\$100,668	4.30%
Totals	\$10,108,661	\$10,304,769	\$196,108	1.94%

GATEWAY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

February 1, 2024 CENSUS

TOWN	Pre Sch.	Kdg.	1	2	3	4	5	Total Pre-5	6	7	8	Total	9	10	11	12	Total	Out of District Spec. Needs	TOTAL PRE-12	School Choice	Charter School	TOTAL	PERCENT
BLANDFORD	14	8	5	4	3	3	12	49	6	4	10	20	6	2	3	7	18	0	87	13	0	100	12.610%
CHESTER	14	7	11	7	5	13	9	66	5	9	7	21	11	8	7	6	32	0	119	7	1	127	16.015%
HUNTINGTON	19	16	17	24	18	15	22	131	21	18	15	54	11	13	7	10	41	4	230	27	8	265	33.417%
MIDDLEFIELD	2	3	1	2	1	0	2	11	3	4	2	9	0	0	1	0	1	0	21	5	0	26	3.279%
MONTGOMERY	4	9	6	4	5	4	3	35	6	2	1	9	3	2	0	6	11	0	55	12	0	67	8.449%
RUSSELL	9	10	20	5	10	12	11	77	19	20	21	60	15	7	11	10	43	1	181	26	1	208	26.230%
TOTAL	62	53	60	46	42	47	59	369	60	57	56	173	46	32	29	39	146	5	693	90	10	793	100.000%

TOWN	Pre Sch.	Kdg.	1	2	3	4	5	Total Pre-6	6	7	8	Total	9	10	11	12	Total	Total Pre-12
EXCHANGE	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TUITION	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	3
SCHOOL CHOICE	0	2	3	7	5	5	0	22	9	3	5	17	3	3	5	4	15	54
TOTAL	0	2	3	7	5	5	1	23	10	3	5	18	3	4	5	4	16	57
GRAND TOTALS	62	55	63	53	47	52	60	392	70	60	61	191	49	36	34	43	162	750

VOCATIONAL	West. Voke	Smith Voke	Total Voke
TOWN			
BLANDFORD	4	6	10
CHESTER	3	4	7
HUNTINGTON	10	29	39
MIDDLEFIELD	0	2	2
MONTGOMERY	1	2	3
RUSSELL	7	7	14
TOTAL	25	50	75

*Preschool role models and at-risk children

School Choice, Charter and Vocational are February 1 preliminary numbers

Vocational student interest for FY '25

Current students expressing interest in vocational schools for FY '25
(Student count as of 2/1/24)

Deadline for applications - April 1

Town	Potential New Enrollees for FY '25	Seniors Graduating June 2024
Blandford	5	4
Chester	0	1
Huntington	8	6
Middlefield	2	1
Montgomery	0	0
Russell	9	2
Total	24	14

FY '25 Vocational Information for Gateway Towns

	Required Baseline Contribution	Adjusted Required Contribution	Reduction in Minimum Contribution to GRSD due to vocational	Ch. 70 Paid Directly to Towns for Vocational Offset	Total Net School Spending For Vocational	Vocational Foundation Enrollment	Ch. 70/GRSD Minimum Local Contribution Relief Per Vocational Student
Blandford	\$1,181,217	\$1,008,110	\$173,107	\$77,411	\$250,518	13	\$19,271
Chester	\$1,004,462	\$944,681	\$59,781	\$72,014	\$131,795	7	\$18,828
Huntington	\$1,871,554	\$1,605,967	\$265,587	\$420,912	\$686,499	37	\$18,554
Middlefield	\$289,148	\$266,194	\$22,954	\$13,290	\$36,244	2	\$18,122
Montgomery	\$847,449	\$782,027	\$65,422	\$21,162	\$86,584	5	\$17,317
Russell	\$1,391,544	\$1,285,271	\$106,273	\$207,425	\$313,698	14	\$22,407
Total	\$6,585,374	\$5,892,250	\$693,124	\$812,214	1,505,338	78	

Closing the gap to reach goal of 2% assessment increase needs offset with other funding sources

- ❖ ESSER III - Funding out-of-district tuition, extended day learning, professional development, etc. - \$554K
- ❖ School Choice - Funding all technology staff and related expenses, paraprofessionals, and paraprofessional/nurse, tuition/transportation - \$720K
- ❖ Rural School Aid - Funding \$832K
- ❖ State and federal grants funding used to supplement budget and programming - Currently funding - \$1.8M
- ❖ Tuition from incoming students for vision program funding vision supplies partial salaries of assistant special education director and vision staff - \$300K



How We Will Continue The Discussion?

Research

Continue to research options to fund Gateway as well as stay on top of future recommendations from the state about best practices.



Manage

Manage budgets as well as work on plans for the future based on student needs



Improvement

Continue to invest in the education of Gateway students. Also, make data informed decisions when it comes to students' education.



Analysis

Continue to use DESE provided data as well as historical data to analyze our own spending trends, using this data for district to district comparisons.



Action

Work closely with school committee and town officials to determine not only the needs of the school district but also the needs of the member towns.

What's next?

The district administrative team is continuing to look at staffing needs and programming as part of the final budget

March 1 census will be completed for calculation of final assessments

Finalizing revenue projections

Updating line items with as current information as possible (i.e. heating oil, health insurance, staffing, electricity, etc.)

ClearGov will be updated with proposed final version for adoption

Links & Questions

LINKS

[Initial FY '25 Working Budget on ClearGov](#)

[FY '25 Preliminary Cherry Sheets - Municipal & Regional](#)

[FY '25 Preliminary Chapter 70 Aid](#)

QUESTIONS

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