



February 14, 2024

March 13, 2024



School Committee
Budget Hearing

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



WANTS

NEEDS

QUALITY
EDUCATION FOR
ALL STUDENTS

STUDENT
CENTERED

FEDERAL
REQUIREMENTS

STATE
REQUIREMENTS

DEMOGRAPHIC
REQUIREMENTS

Measuring Wants vs. Needs Cost of Public Education

- Contractual Obligations
- Employee Benefits
- Needs Based Programming
- High Academic Standards
- 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

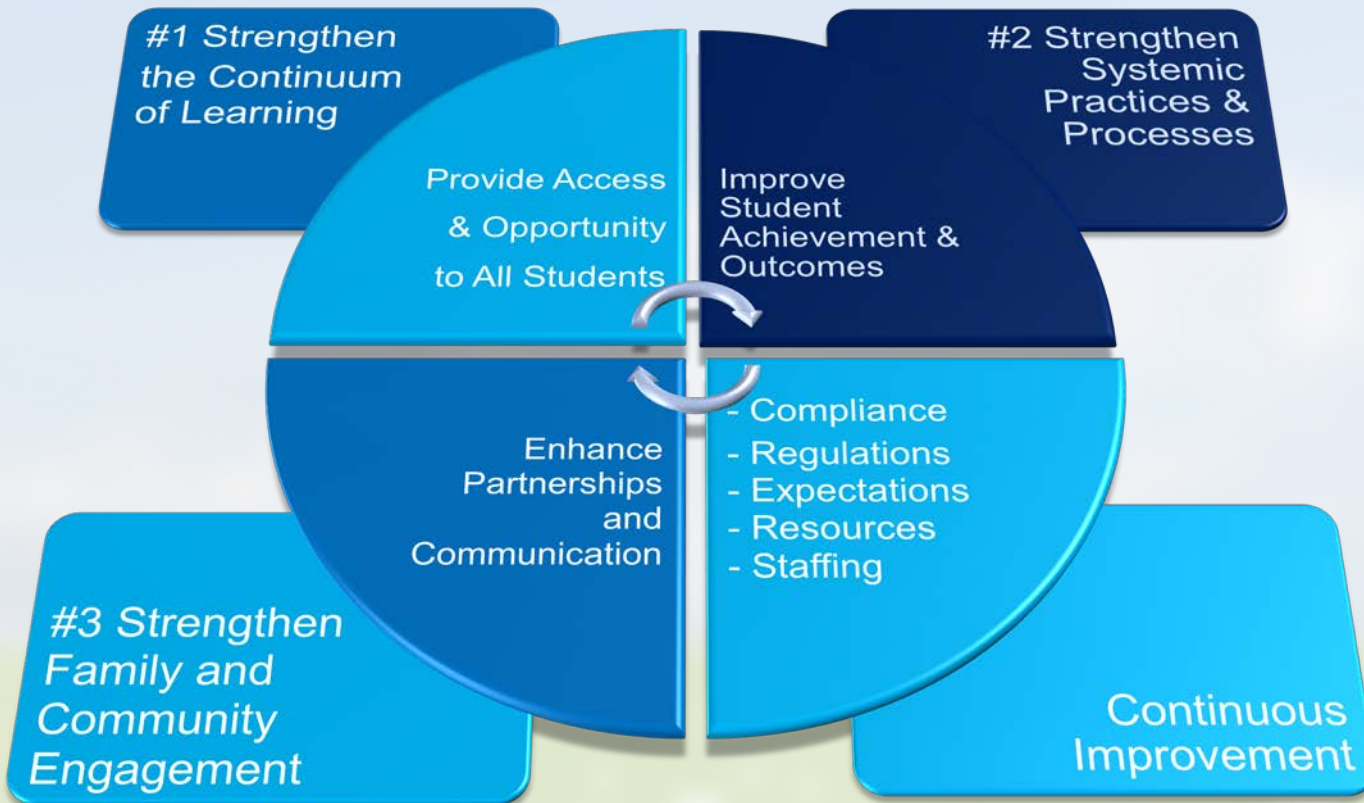


Enhanced Community Outreach and Stakeholder Engagement

- *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 grades 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**



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

\$1,908,319
w/Assistant Superintendent



FY25 Option #2 - #3 + #4 (estimated)



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 \$1,908,319
w/Assistant Superintendent**

**Option #4 \$1,908,319 – (estimated value)
Transportation Reimbursement
Alt (grant) funding for the Assistant Superintendent**





Option #4 (estimated)

**Alt (grant) funding for the Assistant Superintendent
FY25 - \$110,000 (original request)
FY25 Grants – reduce by 50% or (\$55,000)**

**Transportation Reimbursement
Governor's Budget 80%
(if House/Senate 90% (\$350,000))**

- SC can then recommend to.....**
- 1. Reduce FY25 by said amount**
 - 2. Restore Option #2 Items**



FY25 Option #2 - #3 + #4 (estimated)



Option #4 (estimated)

Estimated values

Option #3

\$1,908,319

(55,000)

(350,000)

Option #4 (estimated)

\$1,503,319

Option #4 (estimated)

SC can then recommend to...

1. Reduce FY25 by said amount
2. Restore Option #2 Items



FY25 Options



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

#1

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

#2

\$1,908,319
w/Assistant Superintendent

#3

#4

Estimated
\$1,503,319

Requires SC vote

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



FY25 Summary/Options



FISCAL YEAR 2025 SUMMARY

Total	\$	3,663,183	\$	2,471,319	4.36%	Option #1
FY25 Variance		\$ (1,191,864)				
			\$	(563,000)		Option #2
		\$ (1,754,864)	\$	1,908,319	3.30%	Option #3
		estimated	\$	(405,000)		
		estimated	\$	1,503,319	2.65%	Option #4
FY25 Variance		\$ (2,159,864)	estimated			



FY25 Admin Recommended Budget

\$59,322,638



FY25 Budget - Initial 2/14/24 - REDUCED BUDGET - \$1.9

Assessments					
	FY24	FY25	\$ Change	% Change	
DCRSD	\$ 58,321,624	\$ 59,322,638	\$ 1,001,014	1.72%	
Charlton (53.29%)					
Minimum	12,737,269	13,953,628	1,216,359	9.55%	
Transportation	898,862	1,178,392	279,530	31.10%	
Additional	3,092,951	2,978,433	(114,518)	-3.70%	
Subtotal Operating	16,729,082	18,110,453	1,381,371	8.26%	
Capital					
Sewer Charges	25,776	25,776	-		
Shepherd Hill Field (Debt Excl)	83,023	68,904	(14,119)		
Sept. 2022 Capital (Voluntary)	1,500,000	-	(1,500,000)		
Sept. 2022 Capital - BAN Interest/Bond	-	272,467	272,467		
Subtotal Capital	1,608,799	367,147	(1,241,652)	-77.18%	
Total Assessment - Charlton FY25	18,337,881	18,477,600	139,719	0.76%	
Dudley (46.71%)					
Minimum	7,409,875	8,077,755	667,880	9.01%	
Transportation	774,997	1,032,889	257,892	33.28%	
Additional	2,666,734	2,610,670	(56,064)	-2.10%	
Subtotal Operating	10,851,606	11,721,314	869,708	8.01%	
Capital					
Sewer Charges	9,224	9,224	-		
Shepherd Hill Field (Debt Excl)	77,161	64,039	(13,122)		
Sept. 2022 Capital - BAN Interest/Bond	-	351,313	351,313		
Subtotal Capital	86,385	424,576	338,191	391.49%	
Total Assessment - Dudley - FY25	10,937,991	12,145,890	1,207,899	11.04%	
Total Assessment	29,275,872	30,623,490	1,347,618	4.60%	



FY25 Estimated Assessments All-in with Alt Funding/Reimbursement



FISCAL YEAR 2025 SUMMARY

Total Increase	\$	3,663,183	\$	2,471,319	4.36%	Option #1
FY25 Variance		\$ (1,191,864)				
			\$ (563,000)			Option #2
		\$ (1,754,864)	\$ 1,908,319	3.30%		Option #3
		estimated	\$ (405,000)			
			\$ 1,503,319	2.65%		Option #4
FY25 Variance		\$ (2,159,864)	estimated			

Option #3	3.30%	\$	1,908,319		
			Charlton	Operating Assessment	\$ 1,381,371
			Dudley	Operating Assessment	\$ 869,708
0.00%	0.00%	\$	(405,000)	Estimate All-in	\$ (405,000)
			Charlton	Operating Assessment	\$ 1,165,962
			Dudley	Operating Assessment	\$ 680,897
					estimated
					estimated



FY25 BUDGET Meeting Schedule



~~Wednesday, February 14, 2024~~

~~SC Budget – All Boards~~

~~Wednesday, March 6, 2024~~

~~SC Budget Workshop~~

Wednesday, March 13, 2024

SC Budget Hearing

May 20, 2024

Town Meetings Charlton and Dudley

