



Stamford Public Schools

EXCELLENCE IS THE POINT



Ashley Vasquez, Grade 12, Stamford High

DR. TAMU LUCERO
Superintendent of Schools

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Mission Statement:

The mission of the Stamford Public Schools is to provide an education that cultivates productive habits of mind, body and heart in every student.

Board of Education 2025-26 Budget, January 2025



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Dr. Tamu Lucero, Superintendent of Schools

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Attached is the proposed 2025-26 Operating Budget in the amount of **\$347,108,125** which represents a **4.95%** increase over the 2024-25 budget.

In developing the annual budget, our goal is always to ensure that students continue to have access to the programs, services, and supports necessary for a quality education while also demonstrating that the District is operating as a responsible steward of the community's tax dollars. For FY26, our goal was to request a "status quo" increase of about **3%**, which is the 10-year average increase approved by the Board of Representatives.

As we prepared the FY26 budget, we identified more than **\$5** million in cuts that are reflected in the Superintendent's Proposed Budget. However, significant cost increases in areas out of the district's direct control—including student transportation (**+9%**), out of district special education services (**+15%**), electricity (**+12%**) and employee healthcare (**+8%**)—necessitated the requested increase of **4.95%**. Without the significant increases in the aforementioned areas, the requested increase would have been only **3.12%**.

Stamford Public Schools is a vibrant and diverse school community, and we are proud to provide programs that offer access and opportunity for all learners, from our highest achievers to those who struggle academically. The FY26 budget will support more than 16,000 students and more than 2,400 teachers, administrators, and staff at 23 sites across Stamford. Every dollar committed to Stamford Public Schools supports our mission to provide an education that cultivates productive habits of mind, body, and heart in every student.

On behalf of everyone at Stamford Public Schools, thank you in advance to Mayor Simmons and the members of the City Boards for considering the Board of Education's budget request.

Sincerely,

Dr. Tamu Lucero
Superintendent of Schools