

FY25 Budget Hearing

February 03, 2025

Hollis Brookline Cooperative School District

Presented by:

Hollis Brookline Cooperative Budget Committee

FY26 Warrant Summary

Article	Content	Amount
1	HBMS Energy Conservation	\$440,929
2	Operating Budget	\$31,160,427
3	Energy Conservation - Solar	\$220,639
4	HESSA Contract	\$133,419
5	SAU Budget	\$1,171,278
6	Facilities Maintenance Trust	\$300,000
7	Contingency	\$125,000
	Total as written	\$33,551,692
	Anticipated Adjustment (pending passage of HBMS Energy Conservation article)	\$32,636,692

FY26 Warrant Revised

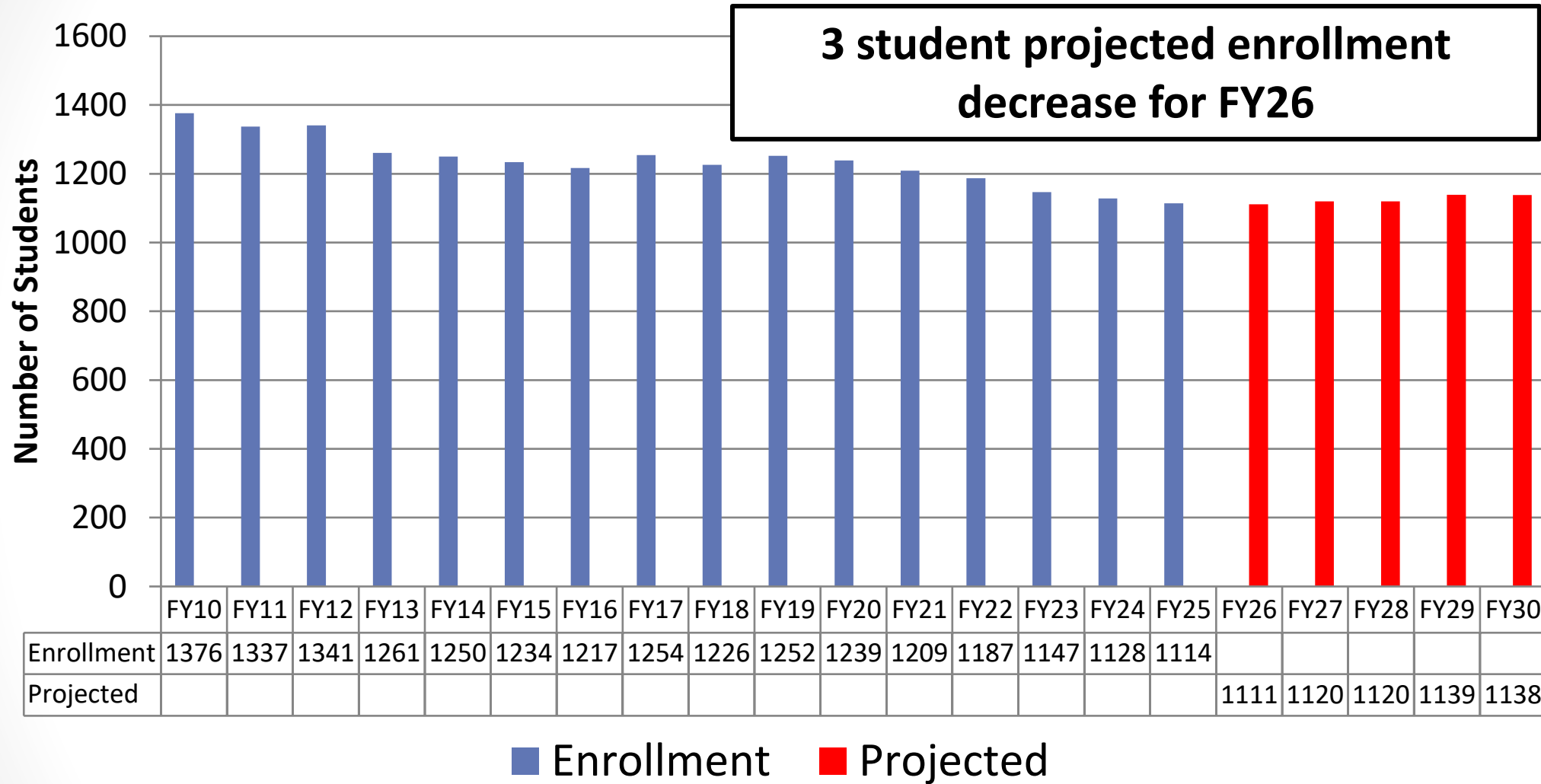
Article	Content	Amount
1	HBMS Energy Conservation (funding change)	\$132,280
2	Energy Conservation – Solar (funding change)	\$55,404
3	Operating Budget	\$31,160,427
4	HESSA Contract	\$133,419
5	SAU Budget	\$1,171,278
6	Facilities Maintenance Trust	\$300,000
7	Contingency	\$125,000
	Total as written	\$33,077,808
	Anticipated Adjustment (pending passage of HBMS Energy Conservation article)	\$32,162,808

Reflects shift in funding from leases to bonds for facilities projects

FY26 Warrant Summary

Article	Content
8	Tax Impact on Warrant
9	Establish Charter Commission
10	Adopt SB2
11	Adopt Budget Cap
12	Adopt Tax Cap

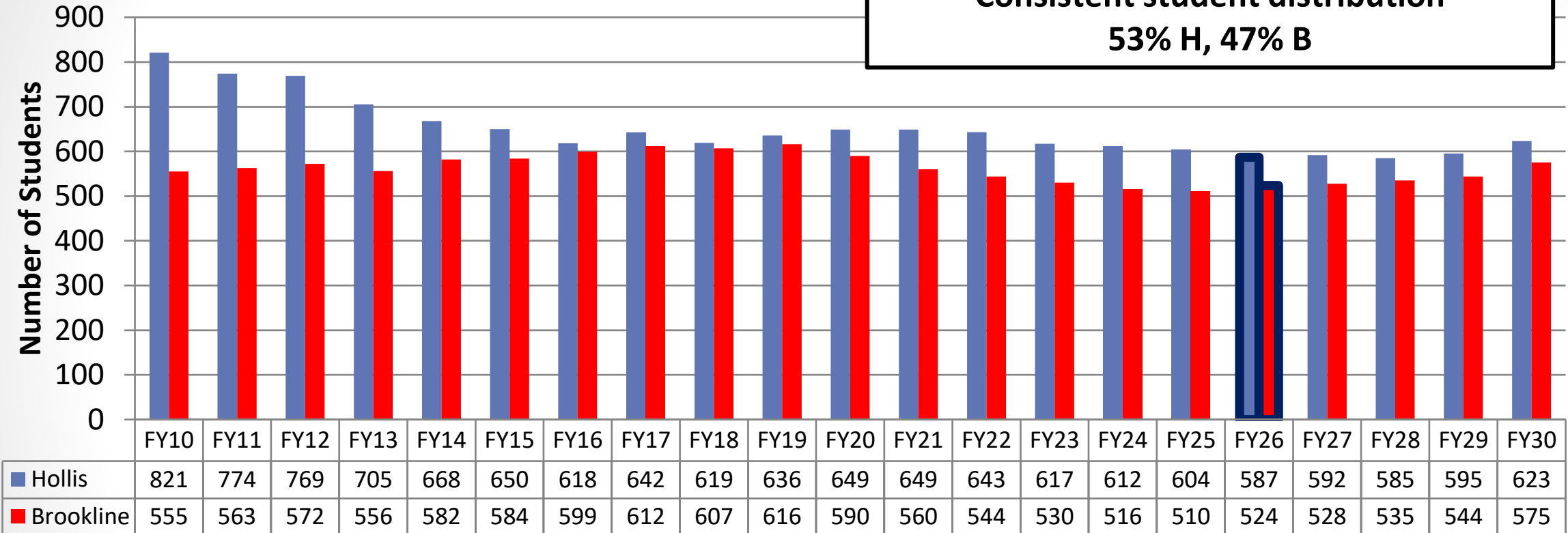
COOP Student Enrollment



Source: 10/2024 NESDEC

Enrollment Composition

**Consistent student distribution
53% H, 47% B**

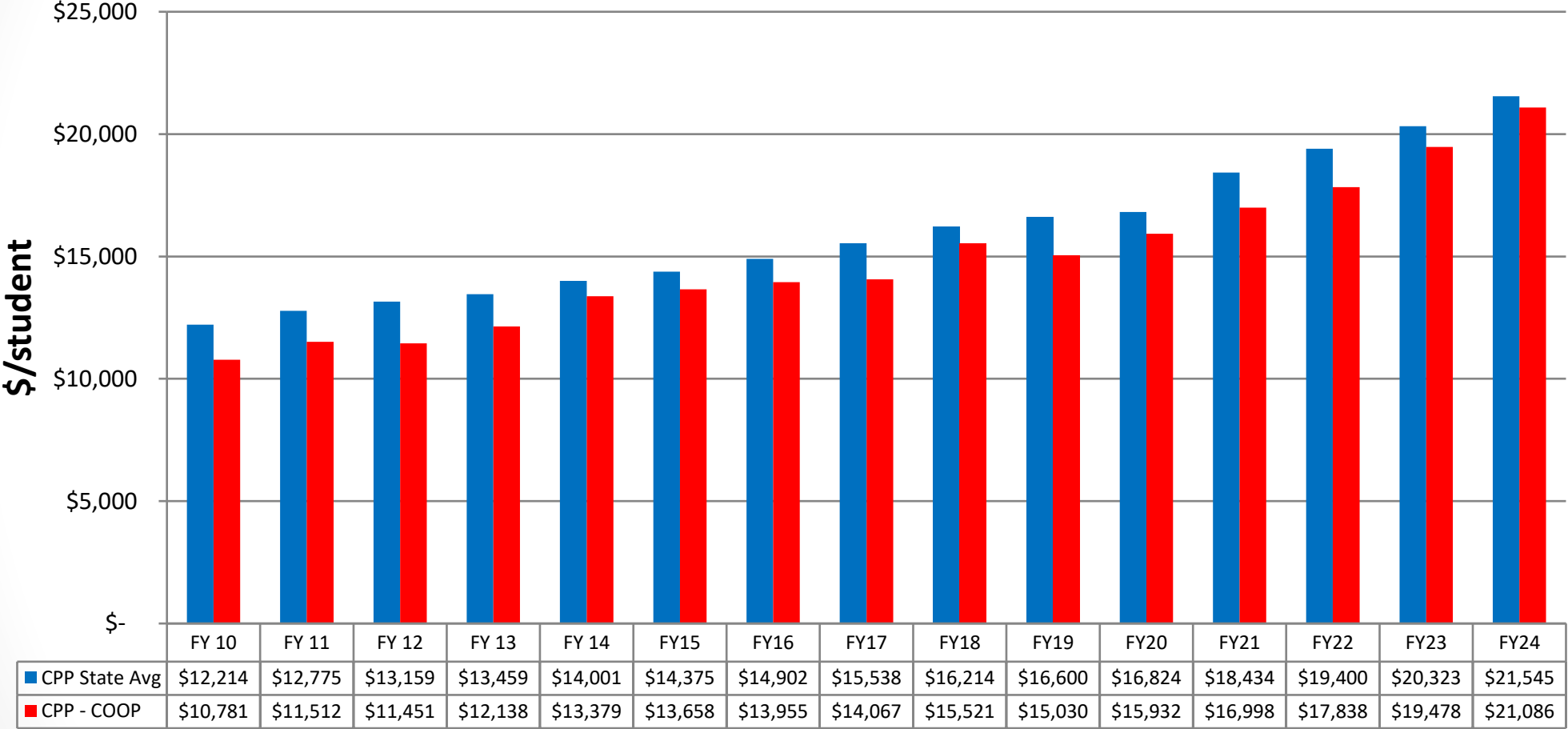


■ Hollis ■ Brookline

SOURCE: 10/2024 NESDEC

Cost per Pupil

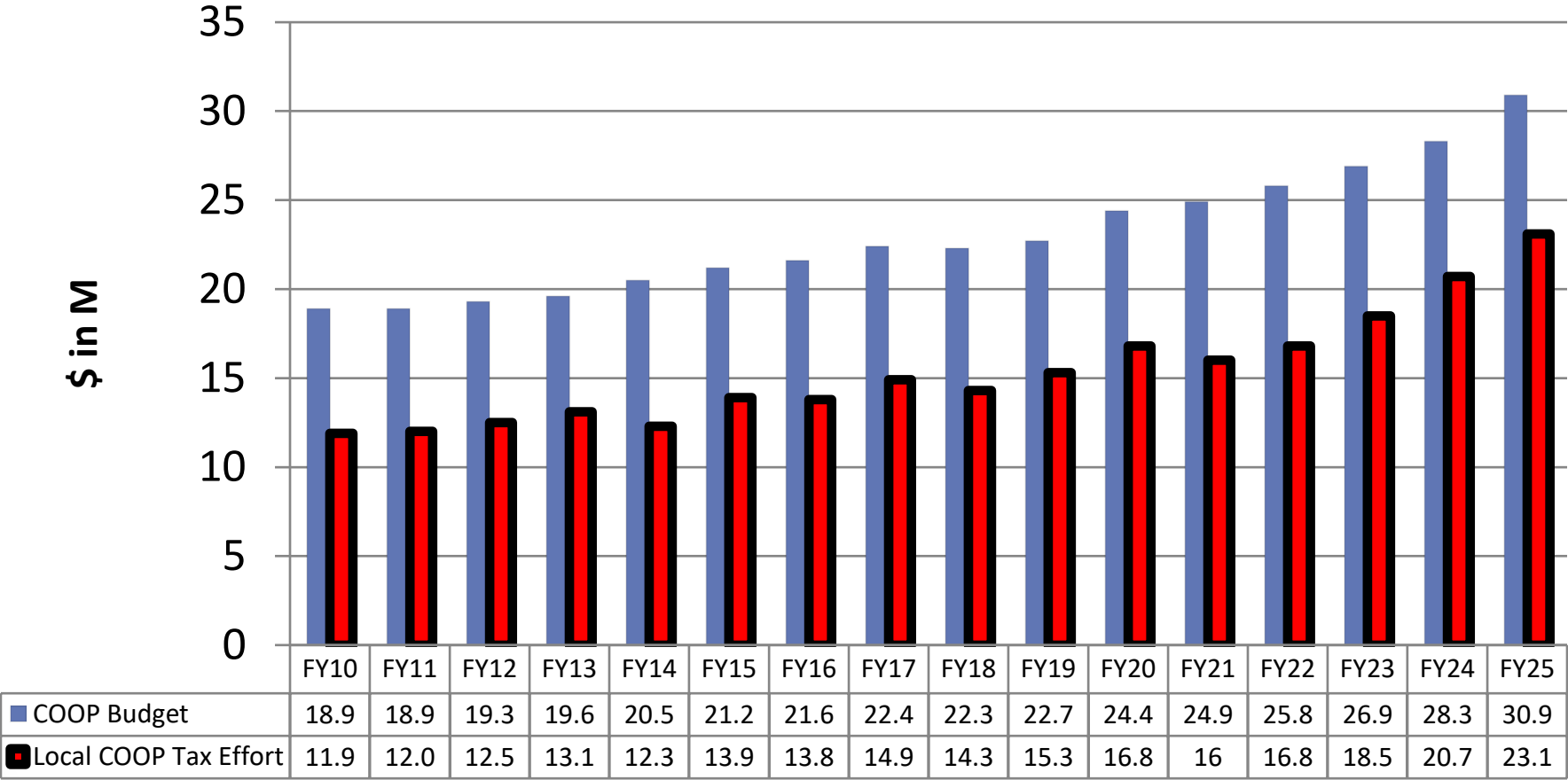
COOP CPP consistently underruns state average Cost per Pupil



Based on reported actuals through FY24
 Source: NH DOE December 2024
 Not adjusted for inflation

Local COOP Tax Effort Trend

FY25 Tax Effort lower than estimated due to budget underruns resulting in higher unreserved fund balance



■ COOP Budget ■ Local COOP Tax Effort

COOP Revenue & State Aid

COOP REVENUE	FY25	FY26	\$ change
Total COOP Revenue	\$2,398,791	\$1,632,000	(\$766,791)

Elimination of Building Aid, Lower Unreserved Fund Balance

STATE AID	FY25 Hollis	FY26 Hollis	\$ Change	FY25 Brookline	FY26 Brookline	\$ Change
Adequacy Grant	\$1,390,949	\$1,455,614	\$64,665	\$2,012,884	\$1,969,759	(\$43,125)
SWEPT	\$1,358,364	\$1,352,120	(\$6,244)	\$609,848	\$632,117	\$22,269
TOTAL STATE AID	\$2,749,313	\$2,807,734	\$58,421	\$2,652,695	\$2,601,876	(\$20,856)

Estimated minimal net increase in aid

Summary of Financial Impacts

The combination of an increased budget, lower COOP revenue, and minimal state aid increases result in an increase in Tax Effort.

	FY25	FY26 AS WRITTEN	FY26 ADJUSTED
Total Budget	\$30,898,845	\$33,077,808	\$32,162,808
<i>less</i> COOP Revenue	(\$2,398,791)	(\$1,632,000)	(\$1,632,000)
Amount to be Apportioned	\$28,500,054	\$31,445,808	\$30,530,808
<i>Less</i> Retained Tax (SWEPT) Reimbursement	(\$1,968,212)	(\$1,984,237)	(\$1,984,237)
<i>Less</i> Adequacy Grant	(\$3,403,833)	(\$3,425,373)	(\$3,425,373)
Local Tax Effort*	\$23,128,009	\$26,036,198	\$25,121,199

*Local Tax Effort represents amount to be raised by Local COOP tax rate by both Hollis and Brookline.

Apportionment

95% ADM/5% EV on operating costs, 100% EV on capital costs +\$1H

FY26 Apportionment	FY25 ADM est	2024 EV est	Net App %	Local Tax Effort %
Hollis	54.7%	68.3%	55.4%	56.4%
Brookline	45.3%	31.7%	44.6%	43.6%

ADM = Average Daily Membership, EV = Equalized Value

Estimated Tax Impacts by Town

FY26 - ADJUSTED	TOTAL COOP	Hollis	Brookline
Total appropriations	\$32,162,808		
COOP Revenue	(\$1,632,000)		
Net to be Apportioned	\$30,530,808	\$16,981,783	\$13,549,025
Less State Aid	(\$5,409,610)	(\$2,807,734)	(\$2,601,876)
Local Tax Effort	\$25,121,199	\$14,174,049	\$10,947,150
FY26 EST COOP Local Tax Rate/k		\$6.08	\$9.36
FY25 COOP Local TAX RATE/k		\$5.68	\$8.65
% change in Local COOP Tax Rate		7.0%	8.2%
% change in Total Tax Bill		2.3%	3.1%

Adjusted for change to financing of facilities projects and adjustment to operating budget

Public Hearing

Public Hearing

- Introduce the articles with stated financial impact to be voted on at District Meeting
- Public Input may be provided per article
- After Public Hearing of all articles, the Budget Committee and School Board will deliberate and take positions on all warrant articles
- Amount of budget article may be amended by Budget Committee
- 10% Maximum Allowable Appropriation limits the maximum appropriation amount which may be recommended at the District Meeting

Public Input

- Input is restricted to Hollis and Brookline residents of voting age
- Exception may be made for administration or others as necessary for clarification
- Input will be requested per article
- Once recognized, please state your name and address for the record
- Any questions should be directed to the Chair
- Speaking time of 2 minutes and cannot be yielded
- May speak again to an article after all others have had an opportunity
- Please be brief if your point has been made by others

HBMS Energy Conservation

Article 1. To see if the School District will vote to authorize the School Board to enter into a 20-year lease purchase agreement for \$5,291,200 to finance the acquisition and installation of energy conservation equipment (HBMS boilers, controls, LED lighting and other end of life rooftop units) and related building improvements at Hollis Brookline Middle School; and to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$440,929** for payments due under the lease purchase agreement during the 2025-2026 fiscal year; the annual lease payments over the 20 year term is estimated to be \$440,929 per year. This lease purchase agreement will contain an escape (non-appropriation) clause. (Majority vote required.) Estimated. **The school board recommends the appropriation 0-0-0. The budget committee recommends this appropriation 0-0-0.**

HBMS Energy Conservation – revised language

Article 1. To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,291,200 (gross budget) for the design, acquisition, and installation of energy conservation equipment (HBMS boilers, controls, LED lighting and other end of life rooftop units) and related building improvements at Hollis Brookline Middle School (the “Project”); to authorize \$5,291,200 of such sum to be raised through the issuance of bonds or notes in accordance with the Municipal Finance Act (RSA Ch. 33); to authorize the School Board to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the date, maturities, interest rate, and other details of such bonds or notes; and to authorize the School Board to apply for, accept, and expend any federal, state, or private funds that may become available in respect of the Project to reduce the amount that must be bonded or to pay debt service on such bonds or notes; and to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$132,280** for the first year’s principal and interest payment on the bonds or notes issued. 3/5 ballot vote required. **The school board recommends the appropriation 6-0-0. The budget committee recommends this appropriation 8-0-0.**

Estimated Tax Impact	HOLLIS	BROOKLINE
\$/K	\$.03	\$.05
\$/100K	\$3	\$5

HBMS Energy Conservation

Boiler - \$5,291,200			
	Lease	NH Bond Bank	Diff
Interest Rate	5.45%	3.84%	
Term	20 YR	20 YR	
YR 1 Payment	\$440,929	\$132,280	
YR 2 Payment	\$440,929	\$464,271	
YR 3 Payment	\$440,929	\$452,872	
Total 1st 3 Yrs	\$1,322,787	\$1,049,423	
Total Interest	\$3,527,383	\$2,160,207	\$1,367,176
Prepayment	Possible	No	

Energy Conservation - Solar

Article 2. To see if the School District will vote to authorize the School Board to enter into a 15-year lease purchase agreement for \$2,216,155 to finance the acquisition and installation of energy conservation equipment (solar panels) and related building improvements at Hollis Brookline Middle School and Hollis Brookline High School; and to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$220,639** for payments due under the lease purchase agreement during the 2025-2026 fiscal year; the annual lease payments over the 15 year term is estimated to be \$220,639 per year. This lease purchase agreement will contain an escape (non-appropriation) clause. (Majority vote required.) Estimated. **The school board recommends the appropriation 0-0-0. The budget committee recommends this appropriation 0-0-0.**

Energy Conservation – Solar - revised language

Article 2. To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$ 2,216,155 (gross budget) for the design, acquisition, and installation of energy conservation equipment (solar panels) and related building improvements at Hollis Brookline Middle School and Hollis Brookline High School (the “Project”); to authorize \$ 2,216,155 of such sum to be raised through the issuance of bonds or notes in accordance with the Municipal Finance Act (RSA Ch. 33); to authorize the School Board to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the date, maturities, interest rate, and other details of such bonds or notes; and to authorize the School Board to apply for, accept, and expend any federal, state, or private funds that may become available in respect of the Project to reduce the amount that must be bonded or to pay debt service on such bonds or notes; and to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$55,404** for the first year’s principal and interest payment on the bonds or notes issued. 3/5 ballot vote required. **The school board recommends the appropriation 6-0-0. The budget committee recommends this appropriation 8-0-0.**

Estimated Tax Impact	HOLLIS	BROOKLINE
\$/K	\$.01	\$.02
\$/100K	\$1	\$2

Energy Conservation - Solar

Solar - \$2,216,155			
	Lease	NH Bond Bank	Diff
Interest Rate	5.49%	3.59%	
Term	15 YR	15 YR	
YR 1 Payment	\$220,639	\$55,404	
YR 2 Payment	\$220,639	\$228,002	
YR 3 Payment	\$220,639	\$221,441	
Total 1st 3 Yrs	\$661,917	\$504,847	
Total Interest	\$1,093,431	\$646,787	\$446,644
Prepayment	Possible	No	

Operating Budget

Article 3. To see if the school district will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of **\$31,160,427** for the support of schools, for the payment of salaries for the school district officials and agents and for the payment of statutory obligations of the district. This appropriation does not include appropriations voted in other warrant articles. Majority vote required. **The school board recommends this article 6-0-0. The budget committee recommends this article 8-0-0.**

Estimated Tax Impact	HOLLIS	BROOKLINE
\$/K	\$6.02	\$9.25
\$/100K	\$602	\$925

Operating Budget

planned amendment by SB at District Meeting pending passage of Article 1

Article 3. To see if the school district will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of ~~\$31,160,427~~ \$30,245,427 for the support of schools, for the payment of salaries for the school district officials and agents and for the payment of statutory obligations of the district. This appropriation does not include appropriations voted in other warrant articles. Majority vote required. **The school board recommends this article 0-0-0. The budget committee recommends this article 0-0-0.**

Estimated Tax Impact*	HOLLIS	BROOKLINE
\$/K	\$5.83	\$8.95
\$/100K	\$583	\$895

*Assumes (\$915K) adjustment to Operating Budget

Summary of Operating Budget Changes

	FY25 Budget	FY26 Budget	\$ Change	% Change
Op Budget	\$29,304,017*	\$31,160,427	\$1,856,410	6.3%
Adj Op Budget**		\$30,245,427	\$941,410	3.2%

Category	Purpose
Staff (FTE)	+2 FTE for Student Services
Academics	Replacement classroom equipment, textbooks
Technology	Phased chromebook, laptop, flat panel replacements Firewall security
Maintenance/Safety	Paving, flooring, ductwork, window replacements, classroom, painting, ceiling tiles, speed bumps, fire pump

* FY25 Operating Budget reflects Operating Budget plus previously approved Professional & Support Staff articles

** Adj reflects reduction of \$915K for facilities project included in HBMS Energy Conservation article

Major Changes – INCREASES/DECREASES

2/3/2025

Category	FY26 Budget	\$ change	% change	Purpose
Benefits	\$3,124,576	\$317,519	12.7%	GMR increase 8.9%, Dental +5%, census changes
Student Svcs	\$6,418,964	\$660,886	11.5%	Program changes
Athletics	\$778,690	\$77,098	11.0%	Field maintenance, uniforms
Facilities	\$301,500			Paving, flooring, ductwork, window replacements, classroom painting, ceiling tiles, speed bumps, fire pump
New Items	\$384,555			Academic program changes, classroom furniture/equipment, revised stipend structure, software, safety
Repl. Computers	\$232,600	(\$33,970)	(12.7%)	Staff/student laptops, interactive flat panels
Buildings & Grounds	\$1,035,895	(\$588,380)	(36.2%)	Completion of HS projects
Staff Retirement	\$24,191	(\$65,585)	(73.1%)	Fewer planned retirements

Support Staff Contract

Article 4. To see if the school district will vote to approve the cost items for the first year of a three-year collective bargaining agreement reached between the Hollis Brookline Cooperative School Board and the Hollis Education Support Staff Association for the 2025-26, 2026-27 and 2027-28 school years, which calls for the following increases in support staff salaries and benefits at the current staffing levels:

Fiscal Year	Estimated Increase
2025-26	\$133,419

and further to raise and appropriate a sum of **\$133,419** for the first fiscal year (2025-26 school year), such sum representing the additional costs attributable to the increase in support staff salaries and benefits required by the new agreement over those that would be paid at current staffing levels. Majority vote required. **The school board recommends this article 6-0-0. The budget committee recommends this article 7-0-1.**

Estimated Tax Impact	HOLLIS	BROOKLINE
\$/K	\$.03	\$.05
\$/100K	\$3	\$5

SAU Budget

Article 5. Shall the District vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$1,171,278** as the Hollis Brookline Cooperative School District's portion of the SAU budget of **\$2,438,355** for the forthcoming fiscal year? This year's adjusted budget of **\$2,389,654** with **\$1,147,885** assigned to the school budget of this school district will be adopted if the article does not receive a majority vote of all the school district voters voting in this school administrative unit. **The school board recommends this article 6-0-0. The budget committee recommends this article 8-0-0.**

Estimated Tax Impact	HOLLIS	BROOKLINE
\$/K	\$.28	\$.44
\$/100K	\$28	\$44

SAU Budget

FY25 Budget	FY26 Proposed Budget	\$ change	% change	FY26 Adjusted Budget
\$2,434,995	\$2,438,355	\$3,360	0.1%	\$2,389,654

Budget Drivers	\$ Increase over FY25 Budget	Details
Salaries	+\$12,326	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4% increases • Projected savings of \$31K due to turnover in Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent positions
Benefits	(\$5,456)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health Insurance rates + 8.9% • Dental Insurance rates + 5.0%

Facilities Maintenance Expendable Trust

Article 6. To see if the school district will vote to raise and appropriate up to the sum of **\$300,000** to be added to the previously established School Building and Facilities Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund. The sum to come from the Hollis Brookline Cooperative School District's June 30, 2025 unassigned fund balance, available on July 1, 2025. Majority vote required. **The school board recommends this appropriation (6-0-0). The budget committee recommends this appropriation (8-0-0).**

Estimated Foregone Tax Impact	HOLLIS	BROOKLINE
\$/K	(\$.07)	(\$.11)
\$/100K	(\$7)	(\$11)

Fund Utilization

FY26	in \$K
Beginning Balance	\$158,069
FY25 Proposed Funding	\$300,000
HBHS – Elevator (yr 2 of 3)	(\$68,000)
HBHS Roof – Phase 10	(\$80,000)
HBMS Roof	(\$150,000)
Ending Balance	\$160,069

Additional \$301.5K in facilities maintenance items included in Operating Budget.

Contingency

Article 7. To see if the school district will vote to establish a contingency fund for the current year for unanticipated expenses that may arise and further to raise and appropriate up to **\$125,000** to go into the fund. This sum to come from the unassigned fund balance available on July 1, 2025, and no amount to be raised from taxation. Any appropriation left at the end of the year will lapse to the general fund. Majority vote required. **The school board recommends this appropriation (6-0-0). The budget committee recommends this appropriation (8-0-0).**

Estimated Foregone Tax Impact	HOLLIS	BROOKLINE
\$/K	(\$.03)	(\$.05)
\$/ \$100K	(\$3)	(\$5)

Petition Warrant Article

Article 8. Petition Warrant Article. Shall we adopt the provisions of RSA 32:5 V-b, requiring that the annual budget and all special warrant articles having a tax impact, as determined by the school board, shall contain a notation stating the estimated tax impact of the article? The determination of the estimated tax impact shall be subject to approval by the governing body. **The school board motion to recommend this article FAILED 0-6-0. The budget committee motion to recommend this article FAILED 1-7-0.**

Petition Warrant Article

Article 9. Petition Warrant Article. Shall a charter commission be established for the sole purpose of establishing official ballot voting under the current form of government? **The school board motion to recommend this article FAILED 0-6-0. The budget committee motion to recommend this article FAILED 0-8-0.**

Petition Warrant Article

Article 10. Petition Warrant Article. Shall we adopt the provisions of RSA 40:13 (known as SB 2) to allow official ballot voting on all issues before the Hollis Brookline Cooperative School District on the second Tuesday of March? 60% majority vote required. **The school board motion to recommend this article FAILED 0-6-0. The budget committee motion to recommend this article FAILED 0-8-0.**

Petition Warrant Article

Article 11. Petition Warrant Article. Shall we adopt the provisions of RSA 32:5-d, and implement a budget cap whereby the school board (or budget committee) shall not submit a recommended budget that is higher than 27,000 dollars per pupil cost times the average daily membership in residence of the school district as of October 1 of the year immediately preceding the proposed budget year plus an annual increase for inflation using CPIU for the Boston-Cambridge-Newton MA-NH area published by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics as of January 1. Requires a 3/5ths majority of the school district. **The school board motion to recommend this article FAILED 0-6-0. The budget committee motion to recommend this article FAILED 0-8-0.**

Petition Warrant Article

Article 12. Petition Warrant Article. Shall we adopt the provisions of RSA 32:5-b, and implement a tax cap whereby the governing body (or budget committee) shall not submit a recommended budget that increases the amount to be raised by local taxes (this year's base), that is higher than the prior fiscal year's actual amount of local taxes raised (last year's base), adjusted for inflation using the inflation index CPI-U for the Boston-Cambridge-Newton MA-NH area published by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics and the change in attendance, in accordance with RSA 32:5-b 1-b? **The school board motion to recommend this article FAILED 0-6-0. The budget committee motion to recommend this article FAILED 0-8-0.**

Other School District Business

Article 13. To transact any other business which may legally come before said meeting.

Budget Committee Recommendations