



**Special Finance Committee  
Hamden Board of Education  
Minutes**

February 27, 2025

Board of Education 60 Putnam Ave. Hamden, CT

1. Call to order and roll call

Chair Peter Downhour called the meeting to order at 4:13 PM

Roll Call - Committee Members Present: Peter Downhour, Mario Ciccarini (4:18 pm arrives), and Christopher Piscitelli-Absent. Additional Board Members: None

Staff Members and Guests: Superintendent of Schools Gary Highsmith, Chief Operating Officer Tom Ariola, Business and Transportation Supervisor Dawn Albiz, and Director of Pupil Personnel Services Mike McDermott

2. Public comments – none

3. Information Items:

- a. Review of 2025-2026 Budget - Chief Operating Officer Tom Ariola presented and answered questions about the proposed budget

Adjustments made to transportation, academics, insurance, gas, furniture, and dues and fees without objection. The final number would remain unchanged from the Superintendent's proposed budget

4. Action Items:

- a. Approve 2025-2026 Budget to full board

Motion by Peter Downhour to recommend to the Board a Budget Request for 2025-2026 of \$101,436,949, an increase of 3.62%.

Second, Mario Ciccarini

All in Favor

Motion Passes

Motion by Peter Downhour to recommend to the Board a capital budget request for 2025-2026 of \$1,500,000.

Second, Mario Ciccarini

All in Favor

Motion Passes

5. Adjourned without objection 4:41 PM