

Groton Public Schools

Board of Education FY26 Budget

April 23, 2025



Board of Education

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GPS BoE Budget Priorities

Increase Student Achievement:

- Enhance Literacy instruction K-12; focus on Science of Reading for K-5
- Increase rigor and relevance in math instruction K-12 based on Connecticut Core Standards
- Add High Dose Tutoring
- Amplify GPS Science Curriculum K-12 with Next Generation Science Standards



College and Career Readiness:

- Align STEAM enrichment opportunities K-12 to Career Pathways 9-12 with community partners
- Continue to Increase participation in AP, IB, ECE
- Expand National Naval Defense Cadet Corps (NNDCC) with the goal Naval Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (NJROTC), which would then be fully funded by Department of Defense.



GPS BoE Budget Priorities

Instructional Equipment:

- Continue to upgrade classroom technology, infrastructure, and student computer devices (supported by DOD supplement in the past)

Special Education and SEL:

- Provide high quality Special Education services to students in preschool-grade 12 (additional special education teacher needed based on enrollment)
- Address Social Emotional Learning (SEL) needs of all students PreK-12 with mental health supports (additional social worker for NEA and CB)

School Safety and Security:

- Expand School Resource Officers and Security Personnel @ FHS & GMS; expand partnership with police departments for security at the elementary schools (potential SROs with grant opportunity)



Board of Education FY26 Budget

	<u>FY25 Budget</u>	<u>FY26 Budget</u>	<u>Increase (Decrease)</u>	<u>%</u>
Salaries & Wages	53,994,462.00	57,042,729.52	3,048,267.52	5.6%
Employee Benefits	13,413,020.13	14,779,014.00	1,365,993.87	10.2%
Purchased Services	2,372,326.00	2,470,676.68	98,350.68	4.1%
Property Services	906,174.00	1,047,211.96	141,037.96	15.6%
Trans, Ins, Comm, Tuition	12,806,410.87	12,910,608.65	104,197.78	.8%
Supplies	4,308,032.00	5,219,751.14	911,719.14	21.2%
Equipment	74,050.00	443,470.80	369,420.80	498.9%
Dues & Fees	84,009.00	98,097.81	14,088.81	16.8%
Contingency	<u>---</u>	<u>349,999.88</u>	<u>349,999.88</u>	<u>---</u>
Total	87,958,484.00	94,361,560.44	6,403,076.44	7.28%

FY 26 Board of Education Budget Obligations and Needs		
Contractual & Obligations:	Increases:	Notes:
Salaries and Wages	\$ 3,048,267.52	includes 1.2 million nurses and health aides, 5 tutors, 1 Social Worker, 1 SPED Teacher
Employee Benefits	\$ 1,365,993.87	Includes health care and OBEP obligations
Transportation and Tuition	\$ 104,197.78	All contractual or required by law
Contingency	\$ 349,999.88	For Negotiations (two contracts)
Purchased Services	\$ 98,350.68	Special Education requirements
Property Services	\$ 141,037.96	Required costs for water/sewer/trash/repairs/rental fee
Supplies	\$ 828,906.14	Computer supplies, electricity and heating
Equipment	\$ 281,462.00	Student Devices and truck replacement
Dues and Fees	\$ 14,088.81	
Total Obligations	\$ 6,232,304.64	
IT software, devices and services previously covered by DOD funding now obligations of the board		
Additional Needs:		
Supplies	\$ 82,813.00	
Equipment	\$ 87,958.80	
Total Additional	\$ 170,771.80	
Total FY26 Budget	\$ 6,403,076.44	
Town Council Proposed	\$ 4,046,091.00	
Deficit	\$ 2,356,985.44	