

Student Learning Experience

2025-2026
NORTH PLAINFIELD SCHOOL DISTRICT
BUDGET
April 30, 2025



Michelle Aquino, Superintendent of Schools
Pamela Graziano, School Business Administrator

STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS

Driving the Work!



1- STUDENT EXPERIENCE

To create an experience that allows for the full exploration of interests, life opportunities, and careers while prioritizing well-being



2- FACILITIES & SAFETY

To create innovative, safe, and expanded learning environments in a fiscally prudent manner



3- SCHOOL CLIMATE & CULTURE

Strengthen a climate of respect and inclusion so that all have a sense of belonging



4- TEACHER RECRUITMENT & DEVELOPMENT

Improve student outcomes by strengthening our professional learning practices and staff recruitment/retainment through a data-informed mindset



NORTH PLAINFIELD SCHOOLS



East End School



Stony Brook School



West End School



Somerset School



Middle School



High School



Harrison School

REVISED MISSION & VISION STATEMENTS

Mission: North Plainfield School District is dedicated to prioritizing student learning through the academic experience, extracurriculars and community engagement. We are a diverse student community, guided by our core values.

Vision: We commit to setting high expectations for students to meet grade level standards in a safe and supportive learning environment, aspiring for all students to be enrolled, employed or enlisted upon graduation.

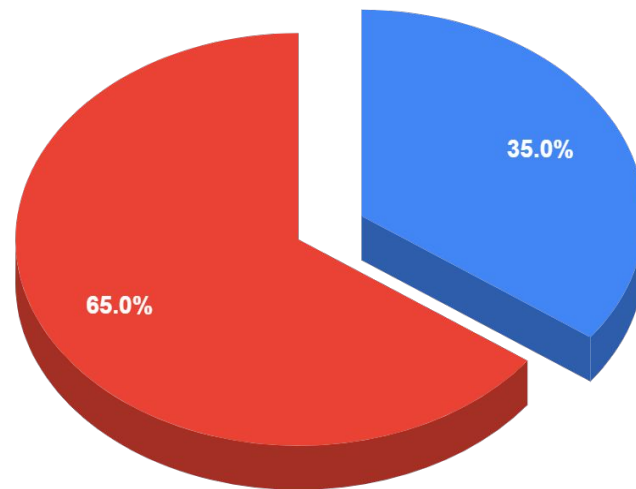
For the 2025-26 School Year





Look Back: OUR 2024-25 BUDGET

- 2024-2025 Total Budget of \$110,786,018
 - ◆ 65% of Budget Relies on State Aid/Federal Aid
 - ◆ 35% of Budget Relies on Local Tax Levy
- The general fund tax levy increase is 2.0%
- School tax levy payment is increased by \$641,698



■ State Aid
■ Local Tax Levy

KEY BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS



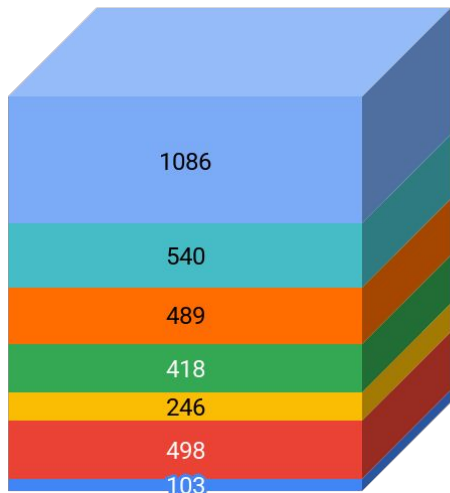
- Reviewing and Analyzing Staffing Needs
- Increasing student enrollment
- Preparing for Negotiations – NPEA
- Managing Health Benefits renewals and insurance lines
- Maintaining Operational Efficiency/Aging Facilities
- Multi-year planning for sustainability of quality program and stabilization of tax impact
- Tax Impact on our Community



ENROLLMENT

Increase of 8.55%

3380



2019-20

NPHS ↑ 5.9%

NPMS ↓ -1.7%

SSS ↓ 0.4%

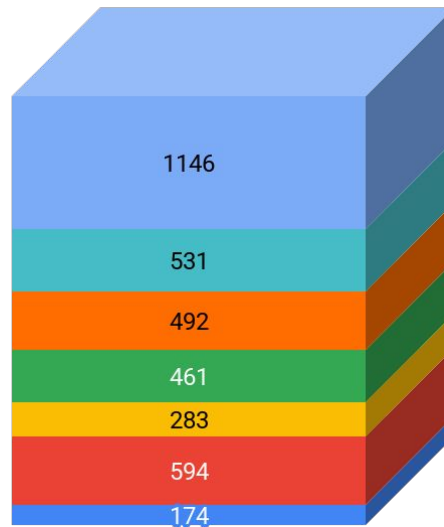
EES ↑ 8.6%

SBS ↑ 14.2%

WES ↑ 19.3%

PK PROVIDERS ↑ 67.0%

3681

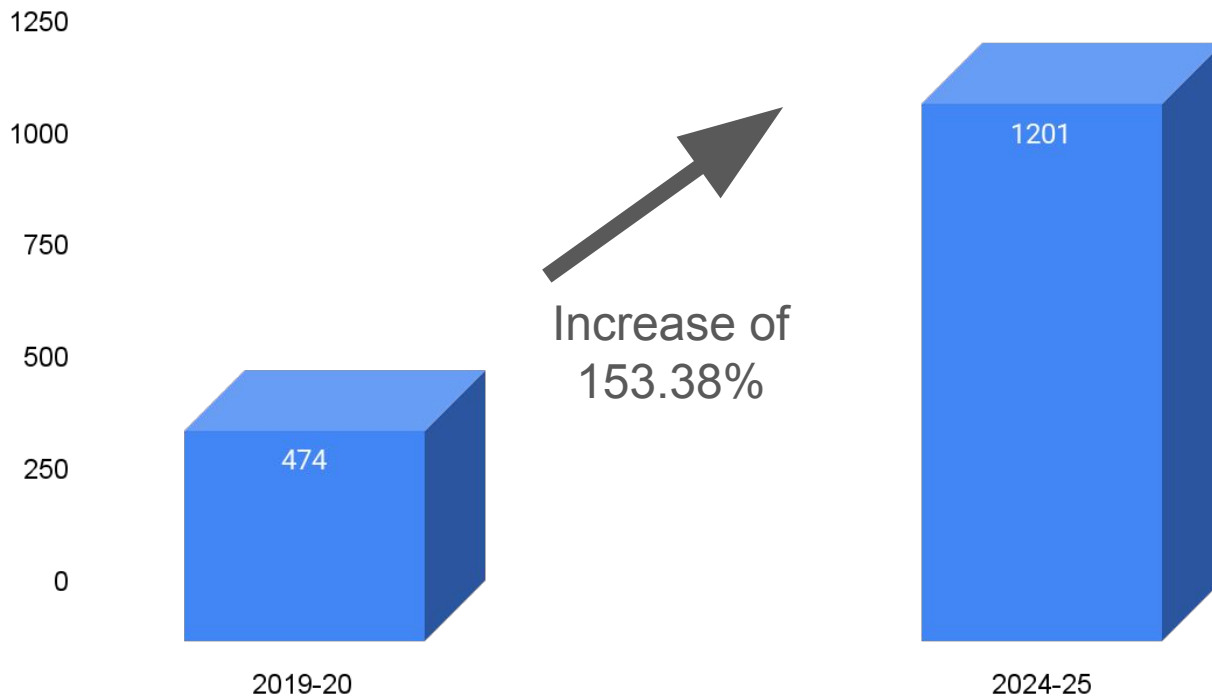


As of 04/23/2025



Multilingual Learners ENROLLMENT

ML Growth 2019-2024





RETURN ON YOUR INVESTMENT BUDGET 2024-2025

KEY TAKEAWAYS - Continued Commitments



Innovative **communication** allowing greater transparency and community engagement



Strengthening instructional practices to support student achievement



Building staff capacity through strategic professional learning



Providing a **safer** environment for students and staff



Data is utilized to identify, improve & expand academic & co-curricular opportunities

**GOAL 1:
STUDENT
EXPERIENCE**

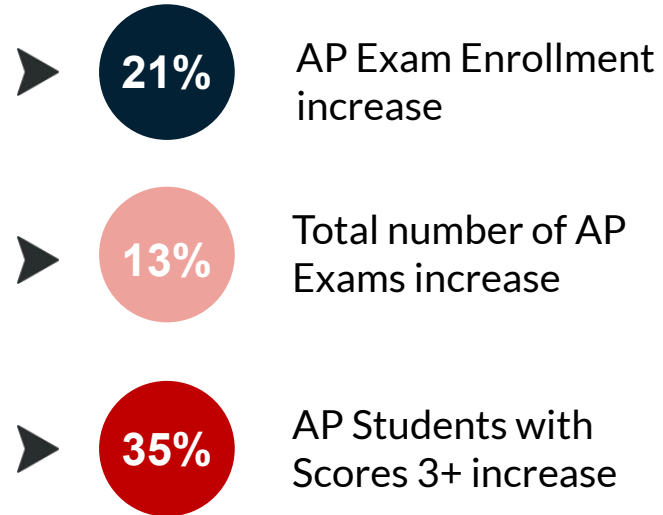


EQUITABLE OPPORTUNITIES FOR LEARNING

Return on Investment Budget 2024-25

College Admission and Post-Secondary Plans

Graduated Class of 2024	310
Percentage Attending:	
4-year college:	33.9%
2-year college:	38.2%
Technical/Career School:	9.5%
Military:	3.2%
Employment:	9.9%
Undecided:	5.2%



Concurrent Enrollment

➔ Enrollment increase of 131% from 23-24 to 24-25

GOAL 1: STUDENT EXPERIENCE



EQUITABLE OPPORTUNITIES FOR LEARNING

Return on Investment Budget 2024-25

Athletic Highlights

- New Weight Room Completed
- New Softball Outfield Fence
- New HS Gymnasium Bleachers
- New HS Championship Banners Installed
- Implementation of MS Football & MS Boys Volleyball
- New MS Sound System Installed
- HS Girls Volleyball -

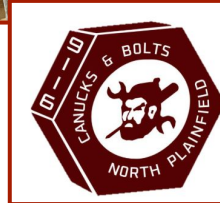
**GMC 2024
Blue Division
Champions**



Program Highlights

FPPA Music Education

**Two Consecutive Years receiving the
Best Communities for Music Education
designation from The NAMM
Foundation ('22-23 & '23-24)**



Canucks & Bolts First Robotics Team

2023: Rookie Season

- **Rookie All-Star Award**
- **Rookie Inspiration Award**

2024: Second Season

- **Second Place Finals Champion**

2025: Third Season

- **Mid-Atlantic Creativity Award**

**GOAL 1:
STUDENT
EXPERIENCE**



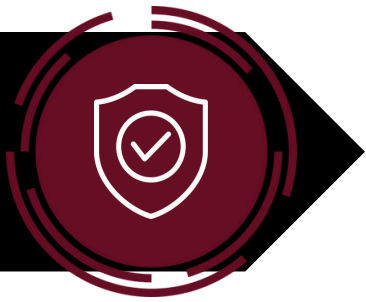
EQUITABLE OPPORTUNITIES FOR LEARNING

Return on Investment Budget 2024-25

- **30** New Pre K Seats
- **76%** Increase in Seal of Biliteracy over 3 years
- **75%** G&T increase in ML Enrollment
- **21%** G&T increase in Dual Enrollment

iReady Fall-Winter	ELA	Math
Grades 1-8	75% Growth	67% Growth
2025 NJGPA Preliminary Results	Coming Soon	Coming Soon

**GOAL 2:
FACILITIES &
SAFETY**



SAFE & EFFICIENT SCHOOLS

Return on Investment Budget 2024-25



35 Additional
Cameras



Door Ajar System



Eastern Datacomm Phone System



Bus Cameras



LENS Security System



3M Window Film-15 windows



Additional Security Officers



Revolution - 911 and Lockdown Notification



**GOAL 2:
FACILITIES &
SAFETY**



SAFE & EFFICIENT SCHOOLS
Return on Investment Budget 2024-25

- ◆ Additional Crossing Signs for Student Safety
- ◆ Paving Maintenance Plan
- ◆ Middle School Main Office with Vestibule
- ◆ Stony Brook Staff Bathroom & Classroom

- ◆ Somerset 2 Additional Classrooms
- ◆ High School Beautification (Tile Painting)
- ◆ West End Track (2024-25 waiting on DEP Permits)

**GOAL 2:
FACILITIES &
SAFETY**



127: High School Woodshop to STEM Room



**GOAL 2:
FACILITIES &
SAFETY**



ROD GRANT

ROD Grant Allocations: **65%** State Funded and 35% LEA funded

East End Addition	State Funding	District Funding	Total
3 Classrooms & Elevator	\$2,549,830.46	\$1,393,899.54	\$3,943,730.00

Roof	State Funding	District Funding	Total
High School	\$770,737.08	\$421,333.92	\$1,192,071
East End	\$198,874.53	\$128,717.47	\$307,592
Stony Brook	\$251,920.97	\$136,716.03	\$389,637

HVAC	State Funding	District Funding	Total
High School	\$1,207,253.46	\$659,961.54	\$1,867,215
Somerset	\$315,647.17	\$172,552.83	\$488,200
Stony Brook	\$1,548,238.40	\$846,365.60	\$2,394,604

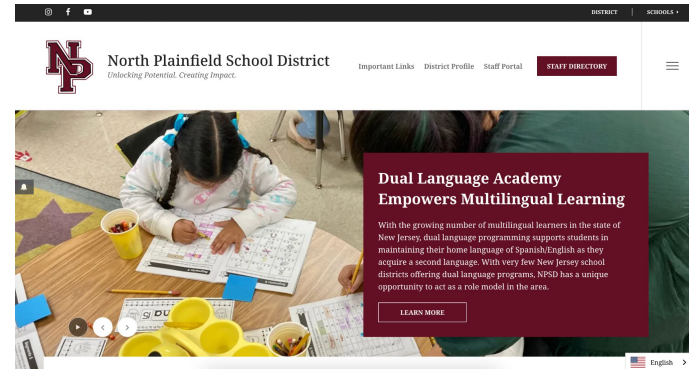
**GOAL 3:
SCHOOL
CLIMATE &
CULTURE**



Communication, Trust & Community Engagement

Return on Investment Budget 2024-25

- ◆ New Finalsite **website** Launched July 2
- ◆ Monthly **Newsletters** Community & Staff
- ◆ Monthly **Alumni Spotlight**
- ◆ Monthly **Videos**
 - Monthly Minute with Michelle
 - Making a Difference Through C.A.R.D
(staff recognition)



**GOAL 4:
TEACHER
RECRUITMENT &
DEVELOPMENT**



Recruitment & Retention of High Quality Staff

Return on Investment Budget 2024-25

Providing Support

- Decrease in lost prep coverages
- Adding pay for after hours event chaperones/supervision
- District paid mentors for all new certificated staff
- Choice PD sessions
- Additional training for paraprofessionals

Opportunities for Staff

- Received Minority Teacher Development grant
- Partnerships with TCNJ & KEANetwork
- For NP by NP

Visibility & Branding/Pride

- Increased participation in job fairs and advertising platforms
- Referral bonus incentive (5 paid this year)



CELEBRATIONS

188%

increase in Spanish
speaking staff since 2019

93%

of staff have rated
professional learning as
CONDUCTIVE to their
professional growth

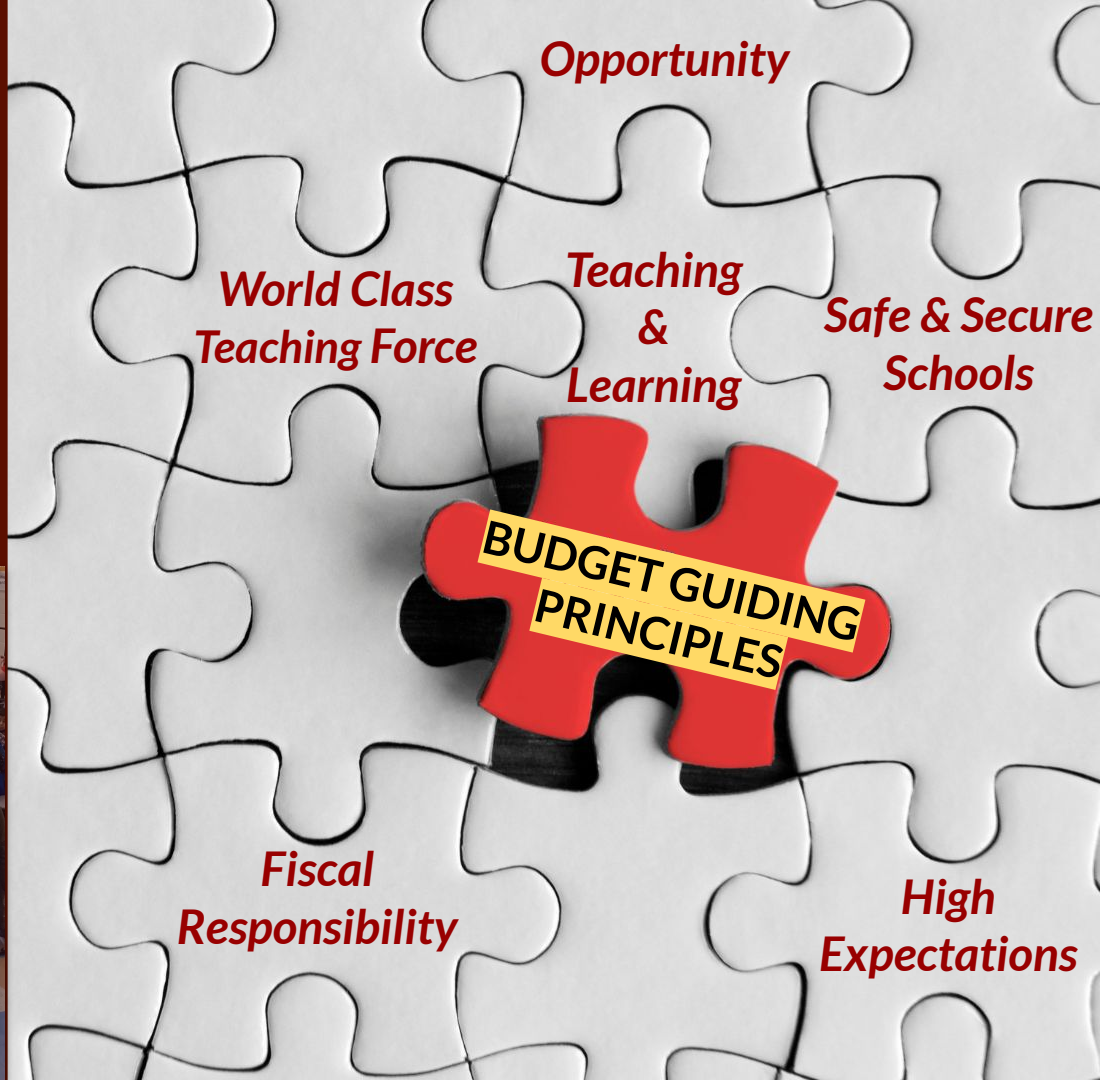
Approx 90%

reduction in teacher
coverages due to increased
substitutes

86%

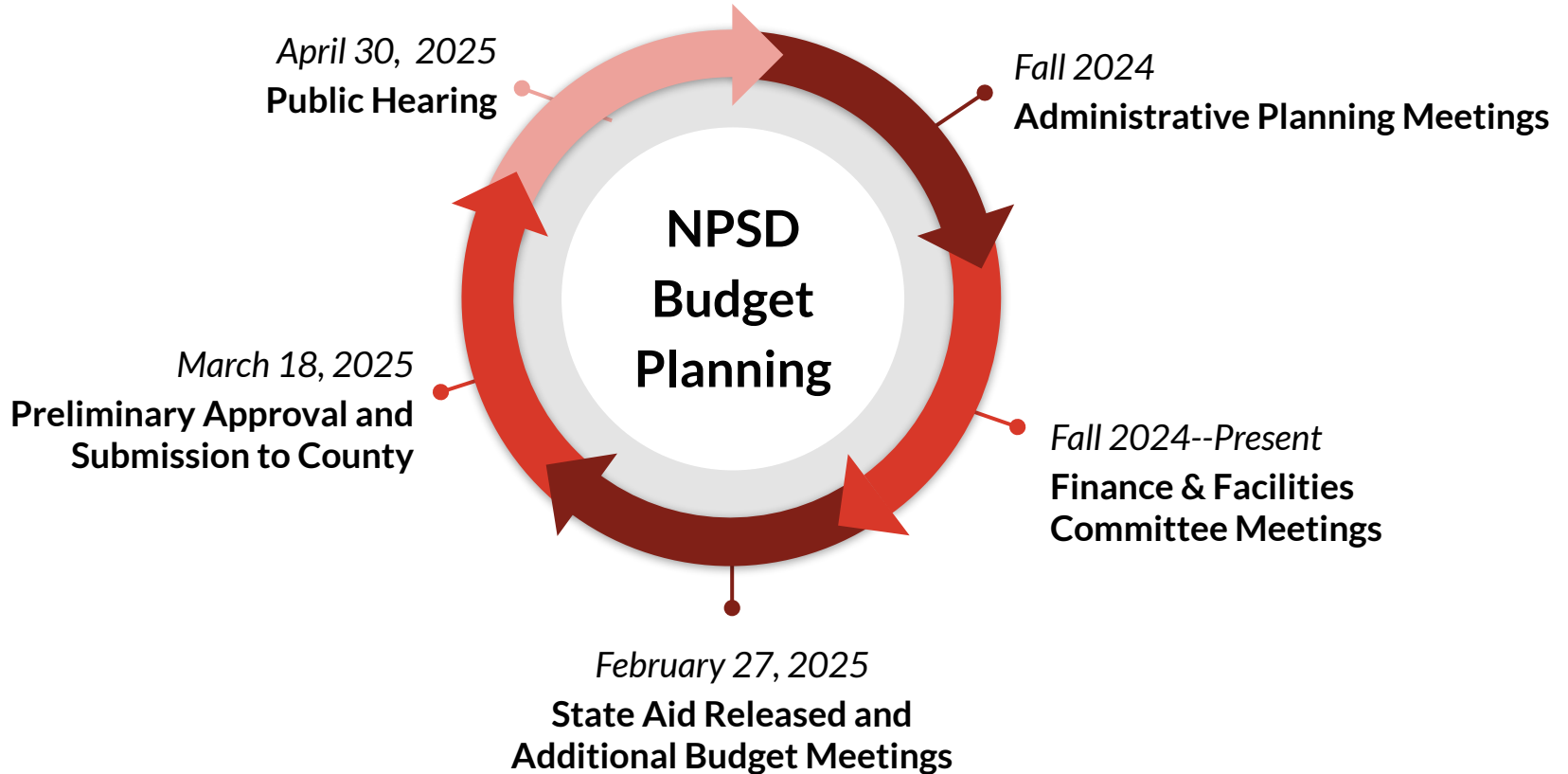
of new teachers offered
re-employment have been
RETAINED since last year

**BUDGET PLANNING
2025-206
CONTINUING OUR
COMMITMENT**





DELIBERATE, PURPOSEFUL & COLLABORATIVE





ADDITIONAL POSITIONS



1- STUDENT EXPERIENCE

- Dance Teacher
- ESL Teacher
Elementary
- PE Strength
- ESL Teacher
Somerset
- MS LLD Teacher *



3- SCHOOL CLIMATE & CULTURE

- MS Math
Interventionist
- Somerset LCSW
- Elementary Bilingual
Teacher *
- Somerset Bilingual
Teacher-SS



2- FACILITIES & SAFETY

- MS Head Custodian
- Operations Night
Supervisor
- Harrison School FT
Security Guard

East End Assistant Principal*

**Cost Neutral*

GOAL 1: STUDENT EXPERIENCE



New Courses

- >>> Graphic Design 2
- >>> Honors Dance Performance & Composition
- >>> Strength & Conditioning



16 Advanced Placement Courses

- >>> Adding AP Calculus BC



Free Full Day PreK 3-4

- >>> 20 Classrooms Total
- >>> PreK-3 and PreK-4



Dual Language Immersion

- >>> PreK-8
- >>> Honors Spanish 3 and 4

STUDENT EXPERIENCE *Opportunities*

- **34 Clubs Offered (9-12) [37 next year]**
 - Business
 - Dance
 - Student Athletic Training
- **12 Clubs Offered (7-8) [16 next year]**
 - *Provide greater opportunities*
 - *Stipend allotment \$5000*
 - *Animation*
 - *Dungeons & Dragons*
 - *Science Olympiad*
 - *FIRST Tech Challenge (FTC)*
- **18 Clubs Offered (5-6)**
- **8 Clubs Offered (K-4)**
- **21 HS Sports Offered [22 next year]**
- **11 MS Sports Offered [12 next year]**
 - **Add Cheer (Fall) - \$10,000 Start Up**

**GOAL 1:
STUDENT
EXPERIENCE**



CURRICULUM & PROFESSIONAL LEARNING



**GOAL 4:
TEACHER
RECRUITMENT &
DEVELOPMENT**

Language Arts Literacy

- Adopt Program (Grades K-2)
- Language Arts Merge (Grade 8)
- Unified Writing Model (Grades 9-12)

Math

- GoMath continues (Grade K-5)
- Pilot Program (Grades 6-8)

Science

- OpenSciEd continues (Grades 6-8)
- Curriculum revisions (Grades 9-12)

Social Studies

- Pilot Program (Grades 3-4)
- Curriculum revisions (Grades 9-12)

Fine, Practical & Performing Arts

- Course updates (Grades 9-12)

Special Education

- Co-teaching

Focused Instructional Techniques continues...

- **What I Need (WIN) Period** (Grades K-4)
- **Small Group Instruction** (Grades 5-12)
- **Sheltered Instruction** (Grades 7-12)
- **AP Training** (Grades 9-12)

**GOAL 4:
TEACHER
RECRUITMENT &
DEVELOPMENT**



RECRUITMENT & DEVELOPMENT

- **KEANetwork**
- **Mentors** for all new staff regardless of certification status
- **50% reimbursement** for college credits
- **TCNJ partnership** for **ESL/Bilingual certification**

- **Stipend** for paraprofessionals in self contained classrooms
- **Paid summer training** and **paid after-school professional learning**
- **For NP, by NP**

**GOAL 3:
SCHOOL
CLIMATE &
CULTURE**



**CURRICULUM &
PROFESSIONAL
LEARNING**
*Teacher Development
& Support*



**GOAL 4:
TEACHER
RECRUITMENT &
DEVELOPMENT**



Multi-year initiative including Professional Learning, planning and implementation



One unified Curriculum Planning, Development & Management Platform



Unique Learning System (ULS) provides standards-based curriculum for students with moderate to severe disabilities



Continued tiered identification through data teams and progress monitoring



Data Warehouse (District)

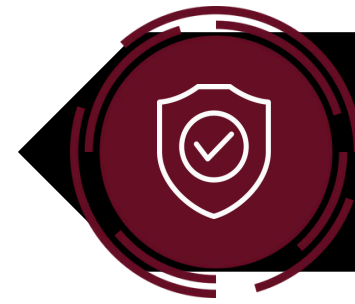


Benchmark assessments (Gr. K-8)

GOAL 1: STUDENT EXPERIENCE



COMMITMENT TO TECHNOLOGY



GOAL 2: FACILITIES & SAFETY

Student and Parent Engagement

- Google Workspace Suite For Education: Built for Teachers & Students
- Genesis Parent & Student Portal Access

Network Improvements

- Internet Speed 10GB
- Expanded Access Point Routers for a wider range of wireless coverage
- Districtwide Cisco Switch Upgrades to Enhance Network Backbone



Protecting our Schools

- Lightspeed Content Filter
- Go Guardian Student Filters
- Mitel Phone System integrated with LENS Security

Student Devices

- 1:1 Chromebooks for all Students in Grades K-12
- Additional Promethean Active Panels in Classrooms

**GOAL 2:
FACILITIES &
SAFETY**



CAPITAL PROJECTS 25-26



Health & Safety



Enrollment

- Roof Replacement/Repair - West End School- \$1.5 million
- Continued HVAC Replacements - Somerset School = \$2.3 million
- Elevator Modernization - High School- \$1.8 million
- Tennis Court Replacement - East End - \$1.0 million
- Window Replacement - Somerset- \$100,000
- Year 1 of Door Replacement Project - District-Wide- \$1.0 million
- West End Track and Turf (24-25 Budget) - \$6.5 million

**GOAL 2:
FACILITIES &
SAFETY**



COMMITMENT TO IMPROVED FACILITIES

→ West End Pre K Expansion Grant
3 Additional Classrooms 66.7 % State Funded

● Total Approved Project
\$5,411,815

● State Share
\$3,630,455.34

● Local Share
\$1,792,359.66

**GOAL 2:
FACILITIES &
SAFETY**



COMMITMENT TO IMPROVED FACILITIES PLANS

→ District Wide Site Work
Retaining walls, pavers,
beautification



→ Drop Ceiling and Floor
Replacement Multi-Year Plan-
20 per year

→ Complete District Wide Paving
62.5% complete
EES/MS/WES Rear 25-26

→ Complete Audio Visual Project
75% schools complete
East End & Stony Brook 25-26

→ Tile Painting Plan Continued
HS Completion



**GOAL 3:
SCHOOL
CLIMATE &
CULTURE**

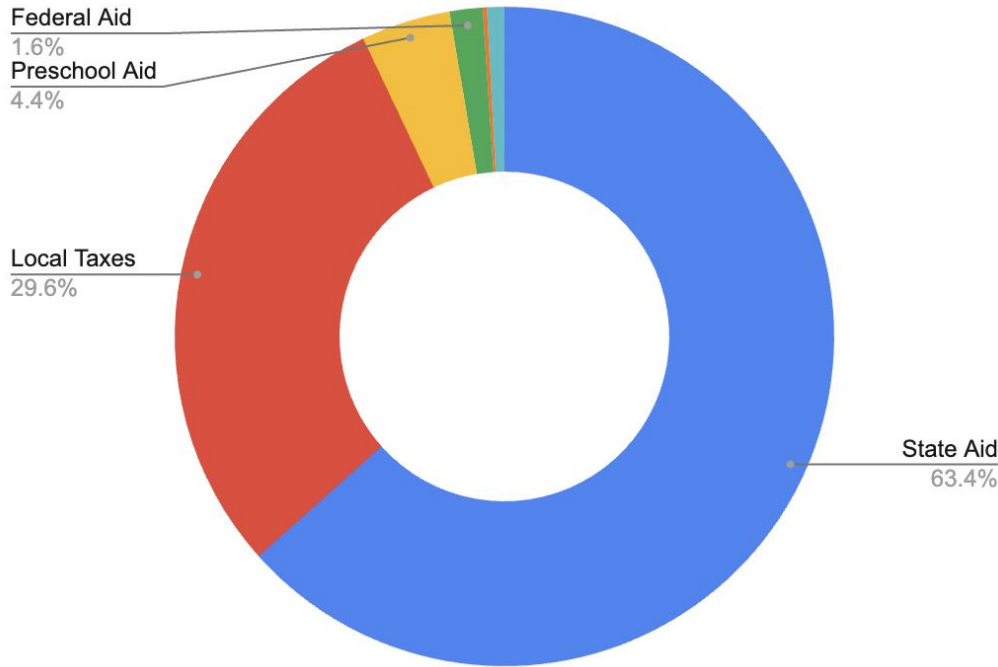


COMMITMENT TO IMPROVED HEALTH, SAFETY, & SECURITY

- District Wide Burglar Alarm Improvements
- 1 Replacement School Bus
- LED Light Pedestrian Crossing Sign
- Trailer Canopies at West End & Middle School
- Lift Replacement HS
- Raptor Visitor System - District Wide Plan-completed at MS



WHERE DOES YOUR SCHOOL BUDGET REVENUE COME FROM? 2025-2026



∴ **STATE AID** -
\$71,569,148 (64%)

LOCAL TAXES -
\$33,381,124 (30% vs 35% last year)

PRESCHOOL AID -
\$4,939,833 (4%)

FEDERAL AID -
\$2,589,687 (1.6%)

MISCELLANEOUS REVENUE -
\$231,000 (0.2%)



HOW ARE MONIES ALLOCATED?



64%

Salaries/
Benefits

4%

Facilities

16%

Capital Outlay

14%

Supplies/Text
PD

Other/Support

3.0%

Transportation



BUDGET SUMMARY 2025-2026

	General Fund	Special Revenue	Debt Service	Total	% Change
2025-2026 Total Expenditures	\$112,858,144	\$7,529,520	\$958,700	\$121,346,364	
Less: Anticipated Revenues	\$79,477,020	\$7,529,520	\$0	\$87,006,540	
Taxes to be Raised	\$33,381,124	\$0	\$958,700	\$34,339,824	1.7%

Less than the allowable 2%



TAX IMPACT 2025-2026

**School Taxes *decreased* by \$10.82/month
= \$129.85/year on the Average Household**

- 2024 North Plainfield Average Household Price \$ 225,507
 - Up from \$224,819 in 2022
- Rateables increased in NP since 2022
- Local Tax Levy Decrease (Taxpayer portion down)
 - Local Taxpayer Contribution (2024-2025) - 35%
 - Local Taxpayer Contribution (2025-2026) - 30%





North Plainfield School District

STUDENT LEARNING EXPERIENCE

Questions?

Thank You

