NORTH READING PUBLIC SCHOOLS

"Pursuit of Excellence"

North Reading School Committee
Fiscal Year 2027 Budget Goals

1. Approve a Fiscal Year 2027 (FY27) budget that reflects support of the district's strategic plan, NRPS 2030, and other strategic initiatives;

2. Continue to explore new opportunities to reduce expenses associated with energy costs (e.g. solar power)

3. Continue to support the development of the plan to reduce the Kindergarten fees leading toward the eventual goal of providing free Full Day Kindergarten and will explore the next steps to increase access to Universal Free Day Pre-K;

4. Continue to review the current structure of user fees for extra-curricular and athletic activities and its impact on families;

5. Develop strategies to restore and preserve positions and educational support systems that were eliminated or reduced in FY'2025 and FY'2026 while also continuing to move the district forward in alignment with NRPS 2030;

6. Review all aspects of school transportation including the bus fees, contracts and rates, the process for route design, and emerging topics such as the electric school bus pilot. The Superintendent will prepare a presentation on this topic for the committee;

7. Continue to collaborate with representatives of the Select Board, Finance Committee, the Town Administrator, and the town's Director of Finance to discuss potential changes to the budget development calendar as a goal with having a revenue guideline budget amount earlier in the process.

Approved 9/9/2024