



## Town of Concord

Finance Committee  
22 Monument Square  
Concord, Massachusetts 01742-0535

**To:** Kerry Lafleur, Concord Town Manager  
Jennifer Barrett, Concord Chief Financial Officer  
Ryan Ferrara, Assistant Concord Chief Financial Officer  
Dr. Laurie Hunter, Superintendent, Concord Public Schools  
Andrew Hercheck, Chair, Concord School Committee  
Tracey Marano, Chair, Concord-Carlisle Regional School District Committee

**From:** Lois Wasoff, Chair, Concord Finance Committee

**Cc:** Mark Howell, Chair, Concord Select Board  
Lyndsey Lis, Vice Chair, Concord Finance Committee  
Don Kupka, Chair, Guidelines Subcommittee, Concord Finance Committee  
Robert Conry, Assistant Superintendent of Finance & Operations, Concord Public Schools

**Date:** Monday, December 15, 2025

**Re:** Final Guideline for Fiscal Year 2027

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At our December 11<sup>th</sup> meeting, the Concord Finance Committee approved setting a final overall target of a 1.9% increase in spending subject to guidelines for fiscal year 2027 (FY27), over the FY26 spending approved at Annual Town Meeting in June 2025. This translates to final guidelines for the individual budget units as follows

Budget Unit	FY27 final guideline for spending subject to guideline, \$	FY27 final guideline, % change versus FY26 approved
Concord Public Schools	\$48,941,915	2.75%
Concord-Carlisle Regional School District	\$24,109,441	-0.79%
Town	\$34,520,861	2.50%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$107,572,217</b>	<b>1.90%</b>

Our deliberations were informed by the materials provided to us by the Town Finance Department and the Schools, and we want to express our appreciation for their consistent cooperation and responsiveness to our requests for information. We were also very aware of the concerns expressed by many citizens about increases in property taxes over the last several years. We think it is important to note that the -0.79% guideline for CCRSD was consistent with the request made by the School Committee and reflects the impact on Concord's allocated share of the budget of an enrollment shift that increased Carlisle's allocation. This in turn lowered the overall guideline number for FY27.

The Town and School final FY27 operating budgets are still in development. These final guidelines, which were the result of extensive discussions and were approved by a unanimous vote of the Finance Committee, are being set now to inform that process. To meet these guidelines, CPS will have to identify \$90,501 in reductions, and the Town will have to identify \$151,555 in reductions, from the draft budgets presented to us in December. We look forward to hearing about the steps being undertaken by the budgeting entities to achieve these goals and to identify efficiencies in this and future fiscal years at our public hearings on the budget warrant articles in March.

As always, we pledge to maintain an open, collaborative dialogue. Please feel free to send any questions to me at [lwassoff.fincom@icloud.com](mailto:lwassoff.fincom@icloud.com) or to the Finance Committee's Guidelines Chair, Don Kupka, at [DKupkaFC@gmail.com](mailto:DKupkaFC@gmail.com).