
Subject: A Message to the Barre Community Regarding the School Budget Vote

Dear Parents, Caregivers, Neighbors and Community Members,

I want to express my sincere appreciation to everyone who participated in the recent school budget vote. Whether you cast your ballot at the polls or through an absentee process, your engagement is vital to the health and future of our community.

While we are disappointed that the proposed FY27 budget was not approved, we hear the community's concerns regarding affordability and sustainability. We recognize that external pressures—including significant changes in student demographics, rising health insurance premiums, and a substantial decrease in our long-term weighted average daily membership—have created a complex financial landscape for both the district and our taxpayers.

The Barre Unified Union School District remains dedicated to providing equal educational opportunities for all our students across our four schools. Our top priority remains the same: balancing the increasing needs of our students with the fiscal realities of our community.

Next Steps

The Board and Administration will debrief the budget vote at their meeting on Monday March 9, 2026. Our goal is to present a revised plan that continues to support student learning and safety while addressing the community's call for fiscal restraint.

We are committed to transparency throughout this process and will provide clear, easy-to-understand information regarding the revised budget and its impact on our schools. We encourage you to visit our website, attend information and budget meetings and to reach out with any questions.

Thank you for your continued support of our students, our staff, and the Barre Unified Union School District.

Sincerely,

JoAn Canning
Superintendent of Schools