

**Hollis Brookline Cooperative School District  
Annual District Meeting  
March 19, 2026**



# School Board Members

- Holly Deurloo Babcock, Chair
- Kate Stoll, Vice Chair
- Beth Williams, Secretary
- Amy Kellner
- Rob Mann
- Tom Solon
- Cindy VanCoughnett

# Budget Committee Members

- Darlene Mann, Chair
- Raul Blanche, Vice Chair
- Dave Blinn
- Tom Enright
- Melanie Levesque
- Brian Rater
- Tony Stanizzi
- Tom Solon, SB representative

# Administration

## SAU Office

- Gina Bergskaug
- Dorothy Flaherty
- Lauren DiGennaro
- Lance Flamino
- Linda Sherwood
- Lance Finamore
- John Boucher

## HBHS

- Jacob Hess
- Yolanda Flamino
- Traci Lane
- Cole Etten

## HBMS

- Patrick West
- Allison Buschmann
- Kathryn Ransom

Superintendent

Asst Superintendent

Asst Superintendent of Student Services

Business Administrator

Asst. Business Administrator

Director of Facilities

Director of Technology

Principal

Assistant Principal

Assistant Principal

Assistant Principal

Principal

Assistant Principal

Special Education Administrator



# Meeting Video

- Stream from:

<https://www.sau41.org>

- Click on Resources > Board Meetings on Demand

# Resources on sau41.org

- Click on “2” in white box
  - Click on “view the Annual Meeting documents”
  - Click on “Hollis Brookline Coop”
  - Click on “FY27 Budget”
- 
- Signed Coop Warrant
  - FY27 MS-27
  - This presentation

# Local Election Results

- COOP School Board, Elect 1 from Brookline

Kate Stoll	540*
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Elizabeth Hamel	384
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- COOP Budget Committee, Elect 1 from Brookline

David Blinn	768*
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\* = winner

# Local Election Results

- COOP School Board, Elect 1 from Hollis  
Cynthia VanCoughnett 1,003\*
- COOP Budget Committee, Elect 1 from Hollis  
Raúl C. Blanche 1,268\*

\* = winner

# Charter Petition Warrant Article

	Yes	No
Hollis	161	778
Brookline	<u>268</u>	<u>741</u>
Totals	429	1,519

Article Fails to Pass

# Political Calendar

- Brookline Annual Meeting – continued  
Saturday, March 28, 9:00 AM, CSDA
- September 8, State-wide Primary Election
- November 10, General Election

# Meeting Rules

# Meeting Rules

- Moderator proposes operating rules
- Must be adopted every meeting
- Change rules by 2/3 vote
- Robert's Rules only a guide
- Rules found in Town Report yellow section
  - Brookline page 224
  - Hollis page page 213

# Speaking at the Meeting

- Come to podium
- Wait to be recognized
- Speak into microphone
- Show card, state name and address
- Speak to Moderator, not voters
- Speak only once until others have spoken

# Speaking at the Meeting

- 2 minutes
- 5 minutes for proposers of amendments
- 10 minutes for sponsors of petition articles
- Time cannot be yielded or transferred

# Who May Speak?

- Registered Voters from Brookline or Hollis
- Members of school administration for presentations or to answer questions
- District Counsel Minutelli
- Others if allowed by majority vote

# **Maintaining Order, RSA 40:7**

No person shall speak in any meeting without leave of the moderator, nor when any person speaking is in order; and all persons shall be silent at the desire of the moderator

# Point of Order

- Bring to Moderator's attention that rules are not being followed
- Appeal Moderator's ruling
- Not for questions or motions
- Indicate which rules are not being followed

# Amendments

- Write down legibly unless short
- Bring to Moderator when proposed
- Dollar amendments in final amounts
- Budget amendments only affect bottom line unless zeroing a line item

# Ending Debate

- May be made only after waiting in line
- Not debatable
- Not after a speech
- Not if insufficient debate
- 2/3 vote required to pass
- If passed, debate ceases

# Motion to Table

- Purpose is to pause consideration of article
- Must be made after article is brought to floor
- Not debatable
- Requires simple majority
- Can be taken off the table by simple majority
- Can be restricted from reconsideration

# Motion to Reconsider

- Purpose is to address new information
- Allows meeting to discuss and vote again
- Motion is debatable
- Requires simple majority
- Must be made by voter on prevailing side

# Restrict Reconsideration

- Does not prevent reconsideration
- Requires any later reconsideration of the motion to be at least 7 days later
- In order at any time speaker has the floor
- Can be applied to any previous vote
- Only after a vote has been declared

# Order of Articles

- Articles in order as listed in warrant
- All articles must be acted on before end of meeting
- Order can be changed by 2/3 vote

# Appeal Moderator's Ruling

- Any interpretation of rules may be appealed unless required by state law
- Immediately after ruling made
- “Point of Order” or “I wish to challenge the ruling”
- Requires a second
- Debatable
- Majority vote to overrule
- Challenge to direct application of rules requires changing the rules, not appeal

# Adopt Rules

Shall the School District vote to  
adopt  
the rules for this meeting  
as proposed by the Moderator?

# **State of the Schools**

# Thank you for your support in FY26



before



## HBMS Centralized Boiler Plant & Conversion to Propane



after



# Thank you for your support in FY26

## HVAC Schedule for HBMS

### Summer 2026

- New ventilation equipment for the North wing
- Full ducting throughout the science wing
- LED lighting throughout the building
- Controls and Integration

### Summer 2027

- South Wing Replacement of Rooftop Units (RTU)
- Gym Energy Recovery Ventilator (ERV) with dehumidification installation
- Controls and Integration

# Thank you for your support in FY26

## Solar Projects

- Full project was safe harbored to be eligible for the 25.5% rebate at completion
- Summer 2026
  - Complete HBHS rooftop solar system with battery
  - Replace HBMS roof
- Summer 2027
  - Complete grid-tied system on HBMS roof

# Academic Accomplishments

What do we value?

## Accomplishments

- AP District Honor Roll
- % Students earning 3 or higher on AP exams
- National Merit Scholars
- High number of Dual Enrollment students earning college credit in high school
- High number of graduates entering the military including Military Academies

# Performing Arts Accomplishments

## **Hollis Brookline Middle School**

### **Invites to...**

- NHBDA Middle Level Honors Band and Chorus Festivals

## **Hollis Brookline High School**

### **Invites to...**

- All New England Choral Festival
- All New England Band Festival
- Monadnock Music Festival
- All-State Modern Ensemble
- Jazz All State- Band and Choral
- Classical All State- Band, Orchestra and Choral

# **Co-/Extra Curricular Accomplishments**

## **Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) and VFW Patriot's Pen**

- District essay winners

## **Spelling Bee Champions**

## **Math Team State Meet:**

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place
- High Scorer Awardee

## **We The People**

- Nationals (2025 and 2026)

## **Robotics**

- On track for consecutive appearance at World Championship

## **Science Olympiad**

- State Meet performance across multiple events

# **Athletic Accomplishments**

## **Hollis Brookline Middle School:**

- **2025 Boys Baseball Tri-County Champions**
- **2025 Girls Lacrosse Tri-County Champions**
- **2025 Boys Track & Field Tri-County Champions**

## **Hollis Brookline High School:**

- **2026 Boys Division II Basketball State Champions**
- **2026 DII Wrestling Meet of Champions champion and 5<sup>th</sup> in New England**

How to Measure and Report

District Performance

NH Student Proficiency  
Data should not be used as  
a Measure of Success:

***WHY NOT?***

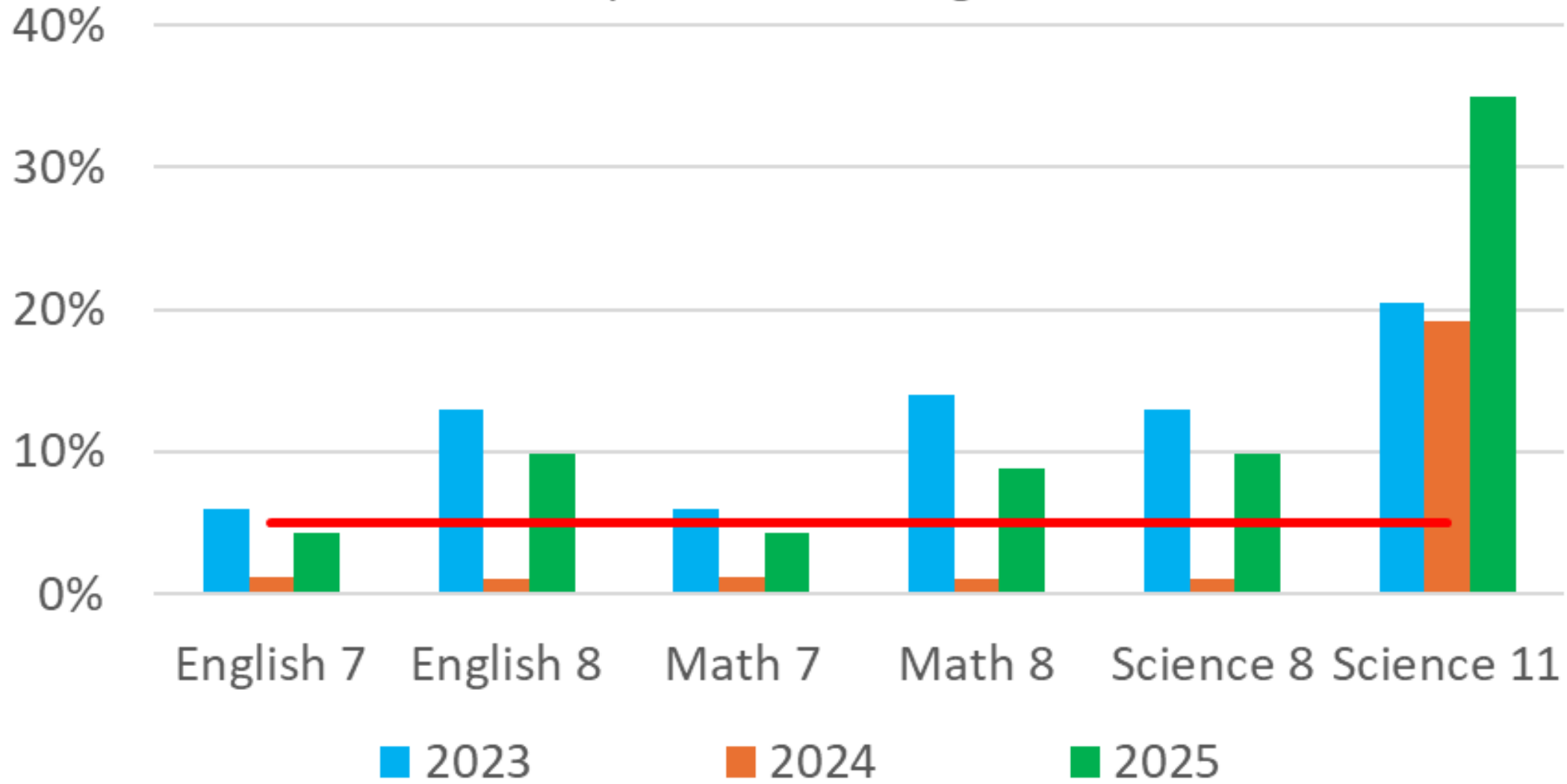
## Parent Opt-Out—NHSAS, DLM or SAT School Day with Essay Only

Under [RSA 193-C:6](#), New Hampshire permits parents to opt-out their public school student from participating in the annual statewide assessments. School districts ensure that a form is made available for parents or legal guardians to complete and sign if they wish to opt their student out of testing.

NH DOE Technical Assistance: Documenting Testing Exceptions for the Statewide Assessments

Source: <https://www.education.nh.gov/sites/g/files/ehbemt326/files/inline-documents/sonh/nhed-ta-documenting-testing-exceptions.pdf>

## Opt Out Percentages

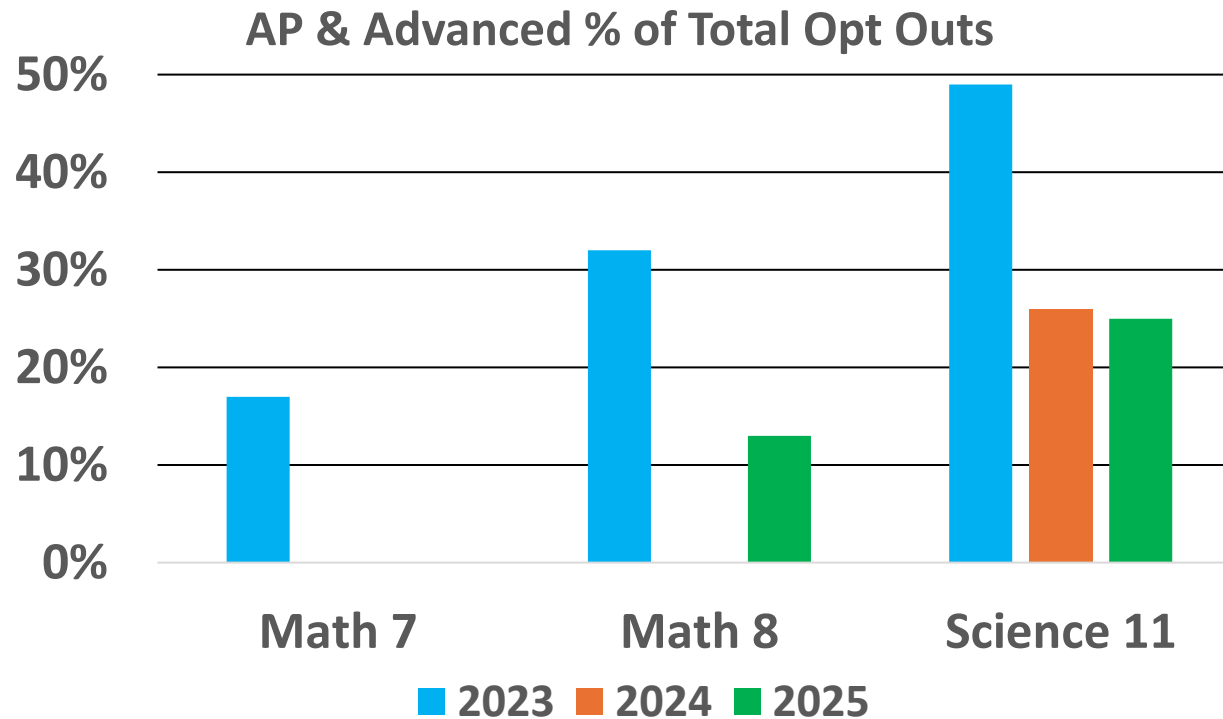


## Possible reasons students opt out:

- Overlapping time frame with AP tests, college boards, other activities
- No apparent value to tests (not “high stakes, no effect on grades or credit)

Does opt out lower average score of students who do participate?

Do a disproportionate number of potentially high-scoring students opt out?



# Questions we should be asking:

**What do proficiency numbers mean and what are their value as metrics?**

**Do they measure “Mission Critical” performance of our school district?**

**What metrics are meaningful and useful measures of school performance?**

# What matters most?

- Keep students in school
- **Successful completion – Graduation**
- Provide a gateway to the “next” stage of life

## Measures of Success

- Truancy Rate – 3yr avg. HBMS: ~0.5% HBHS: ~1.8%
- Dropout Rate – 0.13%
- **Four-Year Graduation Rate – 95.05%**
- College Attendance Post Graduation – 88%
- Entering military – 1.6%
- Entering workforce – 7.4%

# What else do we measure?

## Alternative Testing

- AP
- PSAT / SAT / ACH
- ACT
- IB

## Other Possible Indicators of Success

- Dual Credit Enrollment
- Satisfaction Surveys

## **Summary:**

- **State published proficiency data are distorted by ignoring Opt Out allowance**
- **Published “Proficiency” ratings are misleading without context**
- **Other metrics are better measures of success for students and schools**

**Your HB Coop is  
Producing Real-World  
Success Stories**

*Thank you!*

# Warrant Overview

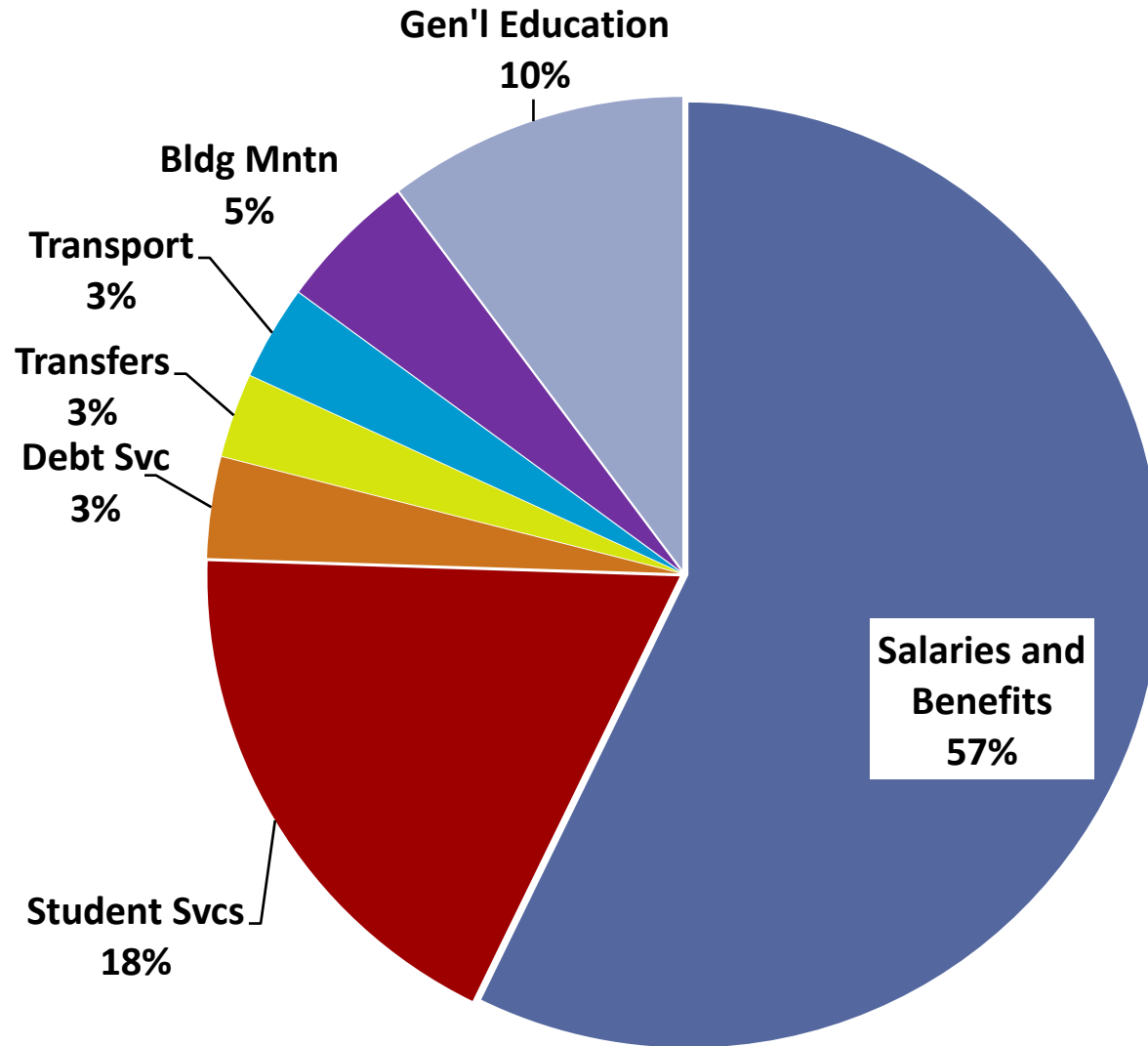
# FY27 Warrant Summary

Article	Content	Amount
1	SAU Budget	\$1,230,494
2	Operating Budget	\$31,716,292
3	HESSA Contract	\$131,512
4	Facilities Maintenance Trust	\$300,000
5	Contingency	\$125,000
	Total as written	\$33,503,298
	<i>% change from prior year</i>	<i>+4.2%</i>
6	Open Enrollment	No Stated Financial Impact

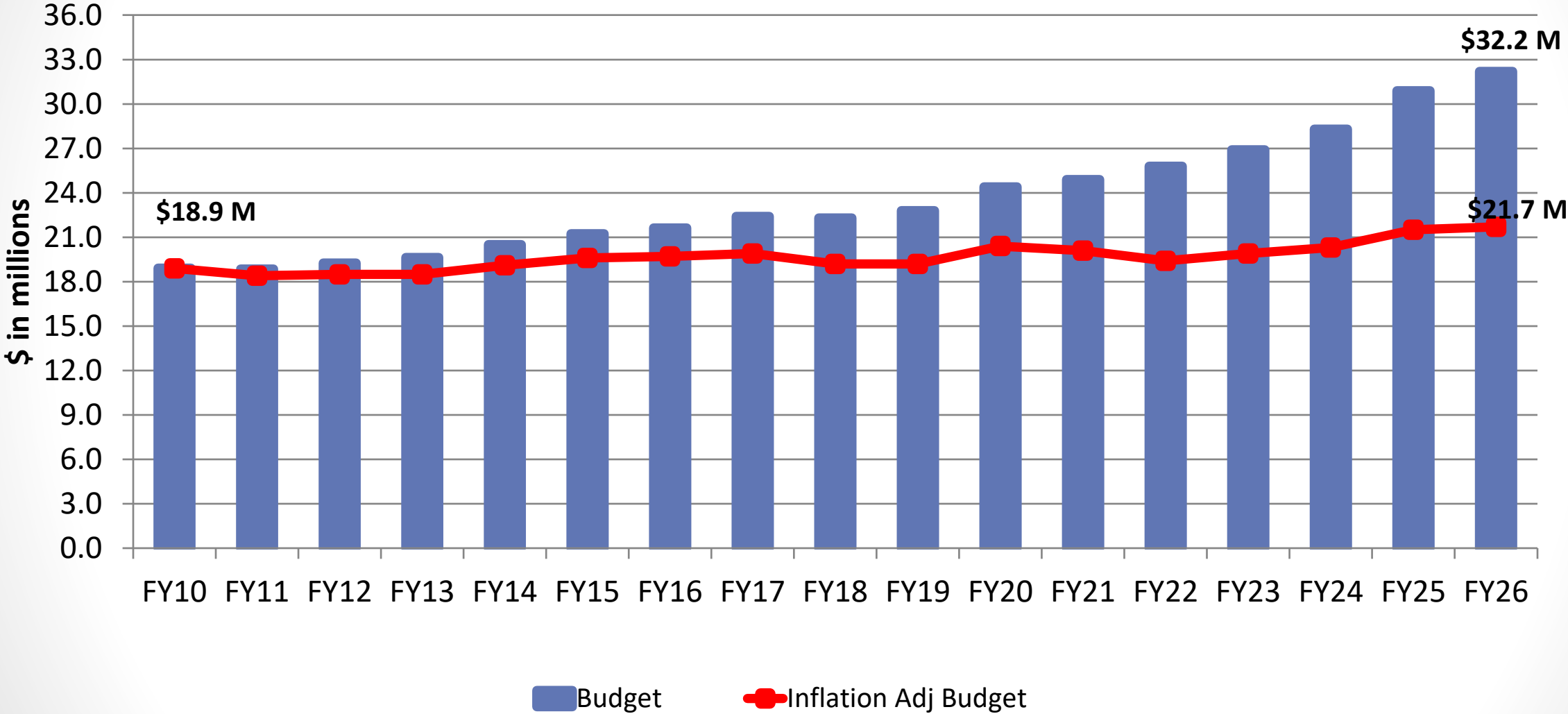
# FY27 Warrant Summary – By Petition

Article	Content
7	Assessment Scores and Rankings on Website
8	Adopt SB2
9	Adopt Budget Cap
10	Tax Impact on Warrant
11	Adopt Tax Cap

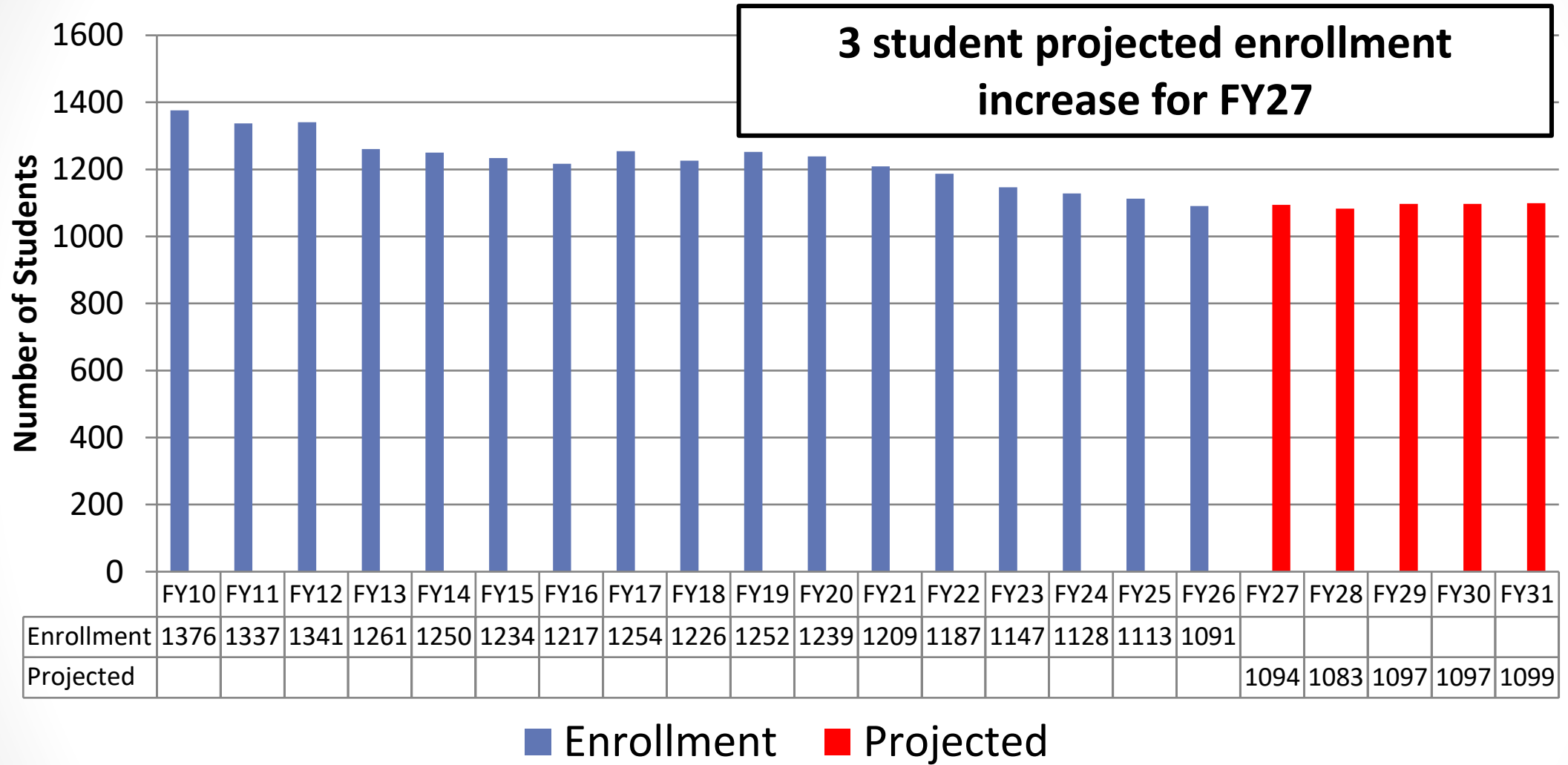
# FY27 Budget Distribution



# Inflation Adjusted Budget

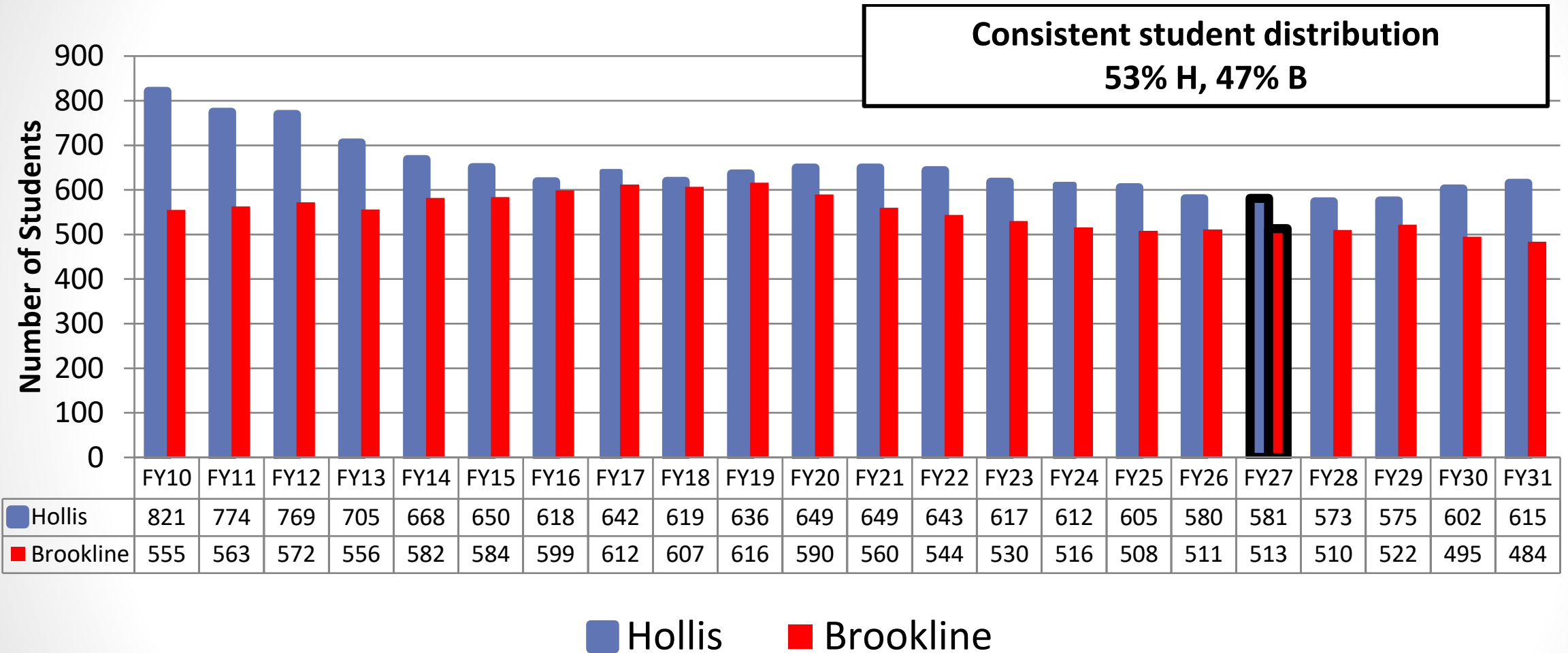


# COOP Student Enrollment



Source: 10/2025 NESDEC

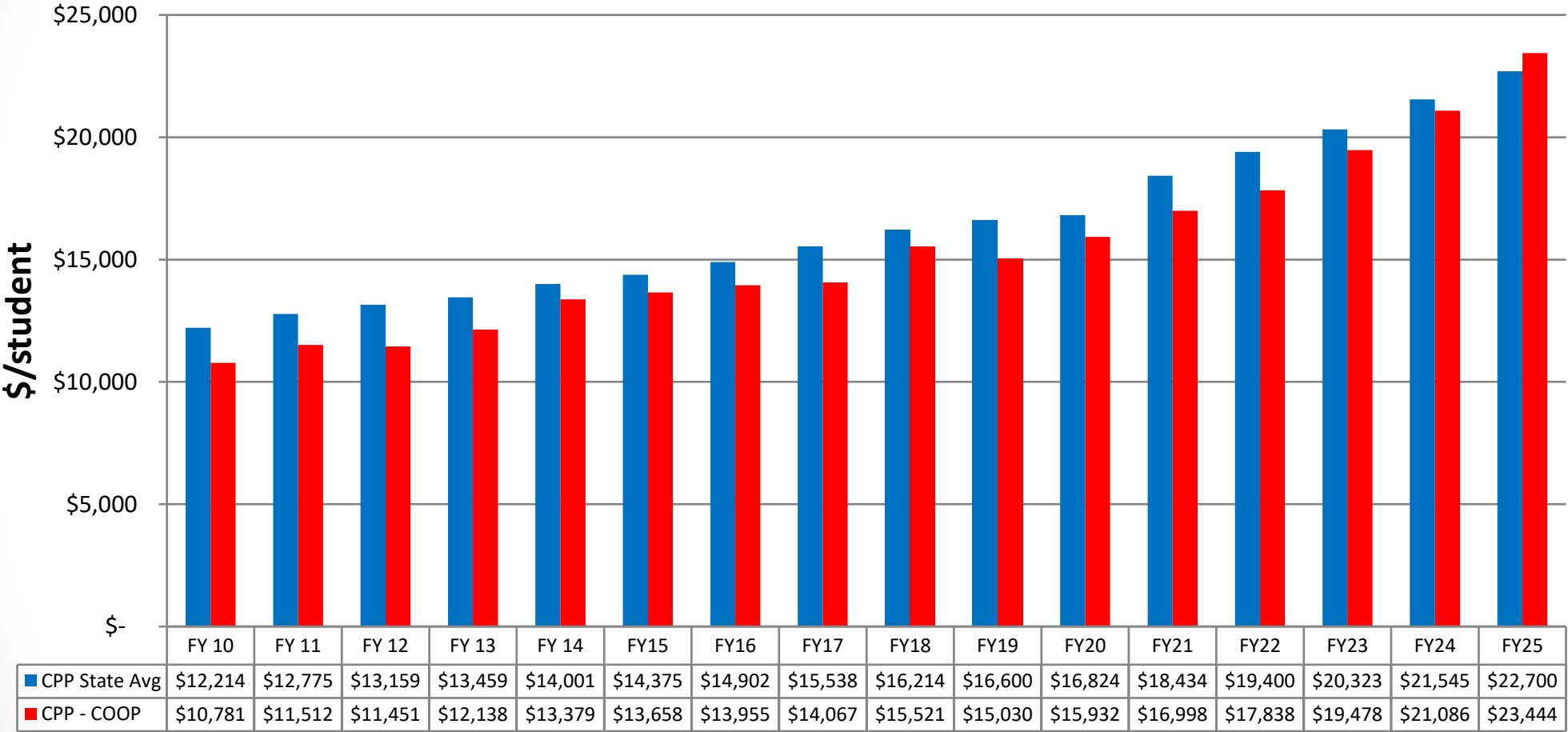
# Enrollment Composition



SOURCE: 10/2025 NESDEC

# Cost per Pupil

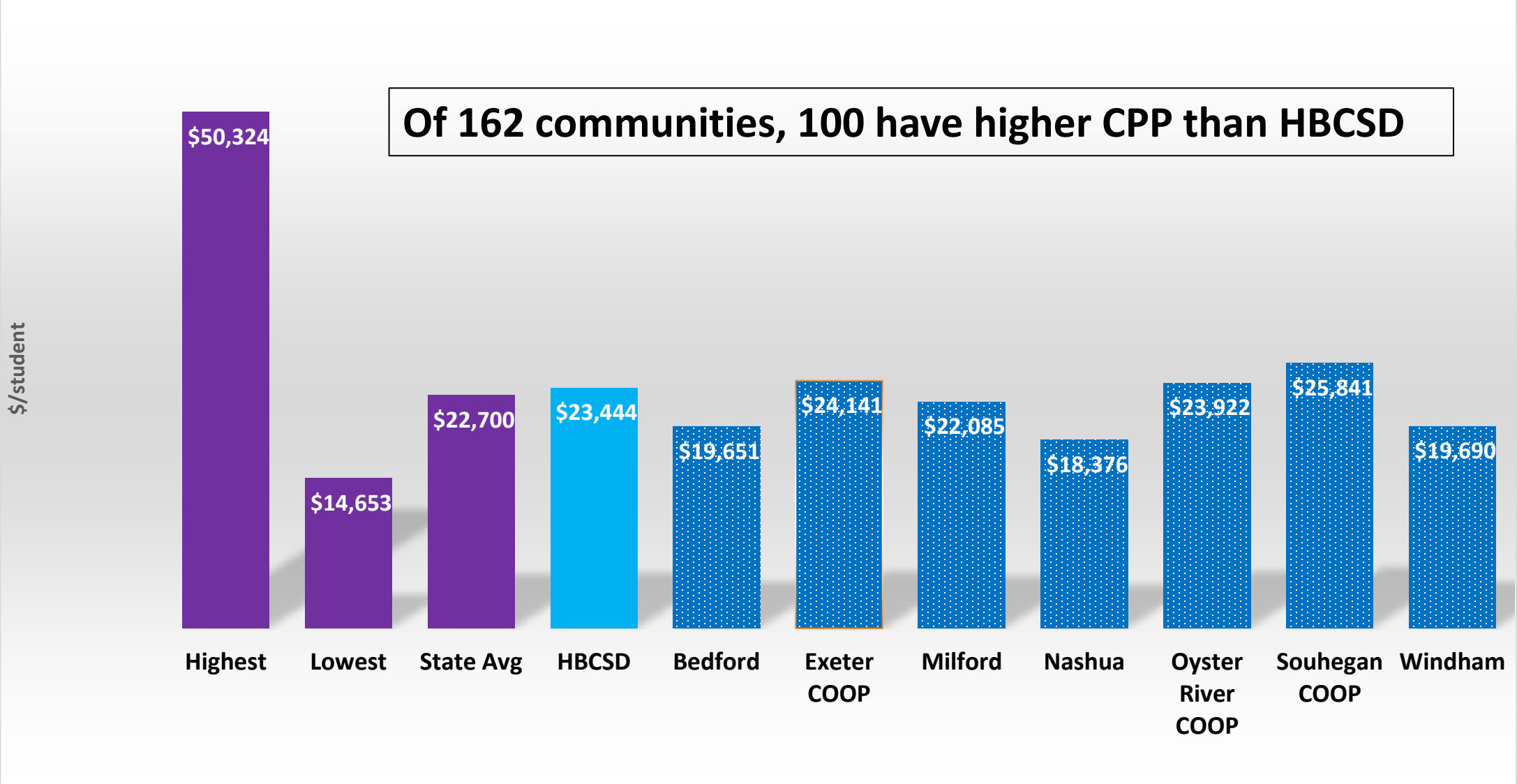
**Historically, COOP CPP consistently underruns state average CPP**



Based on reported actuals through FY25  
 Source: NH DOE December 2025  
 Not adjusted for inflation

# Comparative CPP

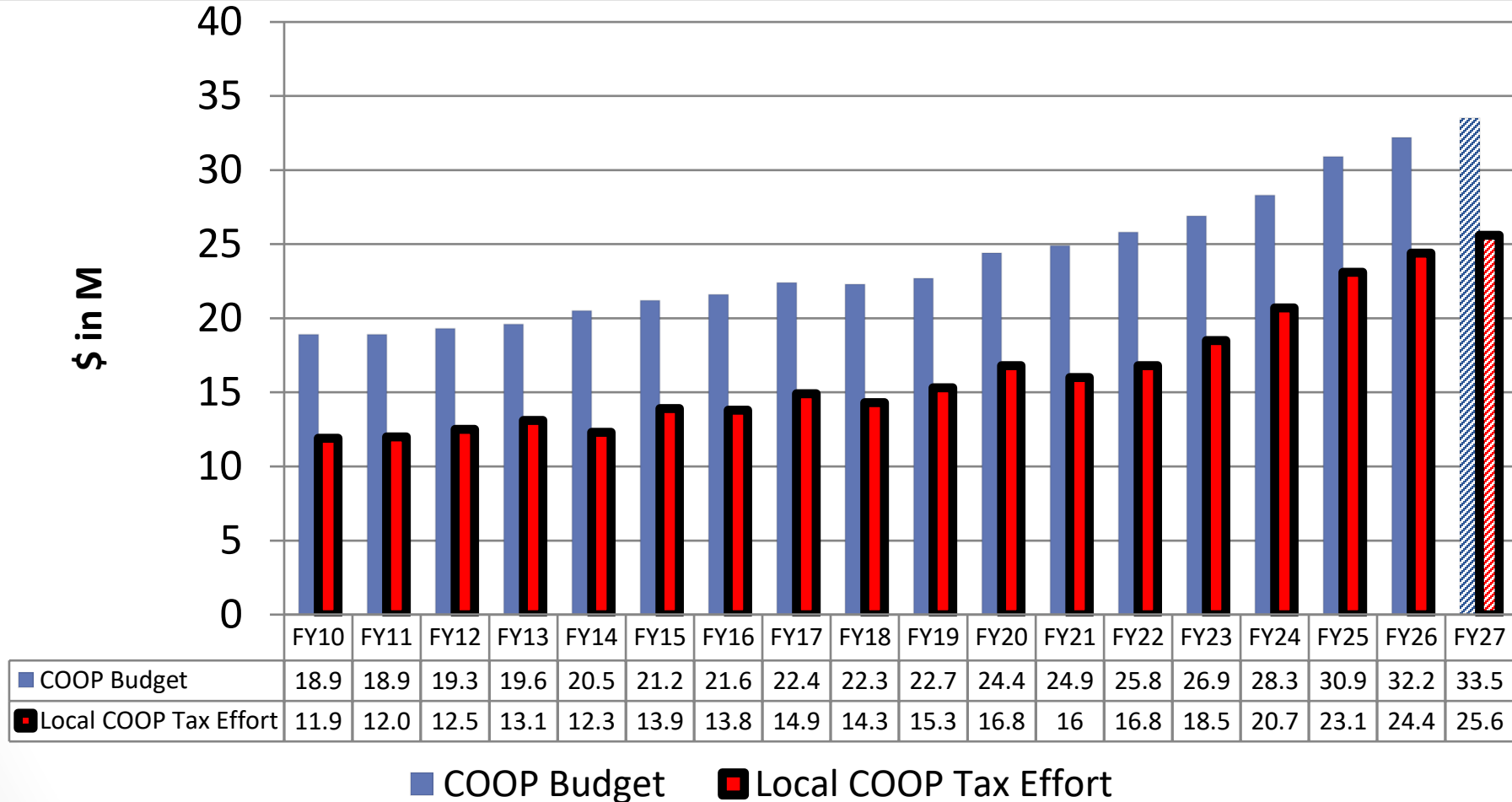
Of 162 communities, 100 have higher CPP than HBCSD



Source: NH DOE FY25 CPP by District

# Local COOP Tax Effort Trend

FY26 Tax Effort lower than estimated due to budget underruns resulting in higher unreserved fund balance



# COOP Revenue & State Aid

COOP REVENUE	FY26	FY27	\$ change
Total COOP Revenue	\$2,381,702	<b>\$2,107,918</b>	(\$273,784)

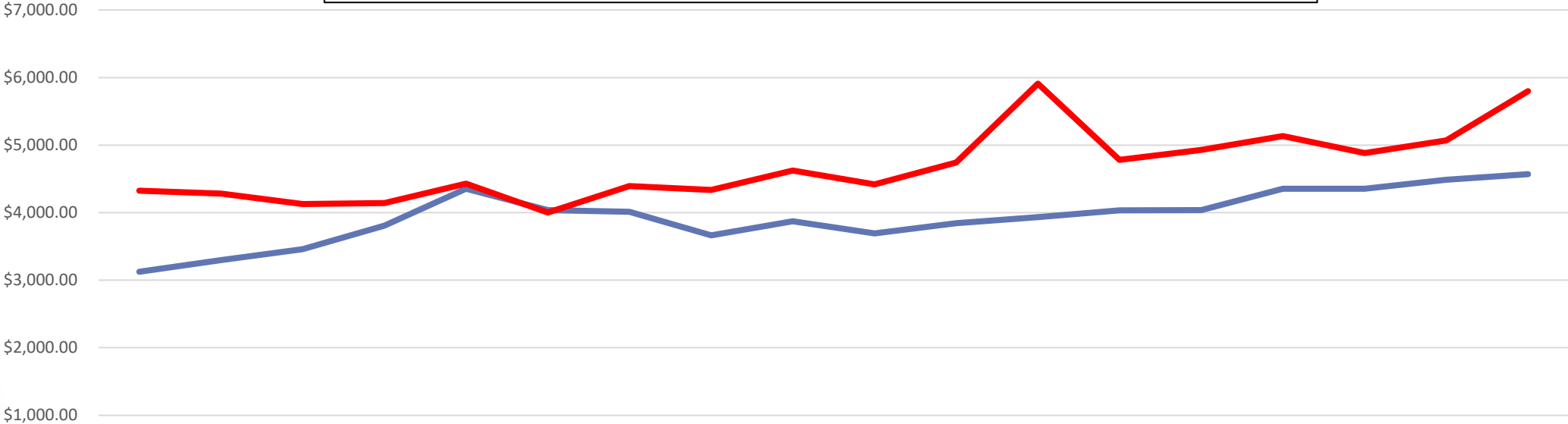
**Lower Unreserved Fund Balance**

STATE AID	FY26 Hollis	FY27 Hollis	\$ Change	FY26 Brookline	FY27 Brookline	\$ Change
Adequacy Grant	\$1,452,199	<b>\$1,385,586</b>	(\$66,613)	\$1,985,912	<b>\$2,431,118</b>	\$445,206
SWEPT	\$1,350,727	<b>\$1,329,583</b>	(\$21,144)	\$629,141	<b>\$603,014</b>	(\$26,127)
<b>TOTAL STATE AID</b>	<b>\$2,802,926</b>	<b>\$2,715,169</b>	<b>(\$87,757)</b>	<b>\$2,615,053</b>	<b>\$3,034,132</b>	<b>\$419,079</b>

**Hollis net decrease in aid  
 Brookline net increase in aid due to  
 Fiscal Disparity Aid**

# State Aid per Student

- Brookline receives greater aid per pupil
- Avg Aid per Pupil is H \$3,868 B \$4,685
- Total Aid range \$4.6M to \$5.7M



	FY10	FY11	FY12	FY13	FY14	FY15	FY16	FY17	FY18	FY19	FY20	FY21	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY25	FY26	FY27
Hollis	\$3,123.68	\$3,298.63	\$3,457.60	\$3,807.26	\$4,353.34	\$4,036.48	\$4,013.95	\$3,663.75	\$3,874.25	\$3,691.72	\$3,842.85	\$3,934.77	\$4,034.97	\$4,036.55	\$4,355.80	\$4,353.35	\$4,486.04	\$4,571.43
Brookline	\$4,325.55	\$4,282.08	\$4,127.79	\$4,141.93	\$4,428.09	\$4,000.47	\$4,392.51	\$4,335.03	\$4,625.41	\$4,420.15	\$4,743.13	\$5,909.61	\$4,783.11	\$4,930.75	\$5,135.01	\$4,882.14	\$5,068.23	\$5,798.25

— Hollis — Brookline

# Drivers of Change in FY27 Tax Effort

Estimated increase in Tax Effort driven predominantly by budget changes.

	\$ impact to Tax Effort \$M	Directional Change	Impact to Tax Effort
Budget	\$1.340	↑	↑
Revenue	\$0.274	↓	↑
State Aid	(\$0.331)	↑	↓
Total Change in Tax Effort	\$1.283	↑	↑

# Summary of Financial Impacts

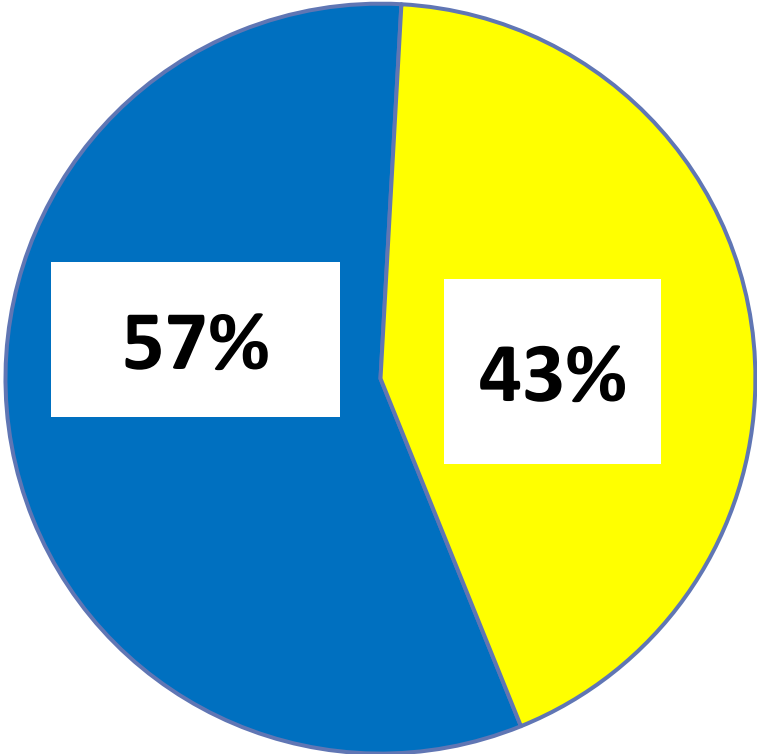
**Increased state aid does not offset the full impact of an increased budget and lower COOP revenue which result in an increase in Tax Effort.**

	FY26	FY27	% change
Total Budget	\$32,162,808	\$33,503,298	4.2%
<i>less</i> COOP Revenue	(\$2,381,702)	(\$2,107,918)	(11.5%)
<b>Amount to be Apportioned</b>	<b>\$29,781,106</b>	<b>\$31,395,380</b>	<b>5.4%</b>
<i>Less</i> Retained Tax (SWEPT) Reimbursement	(\$1,979,868)	(\$1,932,597)	(2.4%)
<i>Less</i> Adequacy Grant	(\$3,438,111)	(\$3,816,704)	11.0%
<b>Local Tax Effort*</b>	<b>\$24,363,127</b>	<b>\$25,646,080</b>	<b>5.3%</b>

\*Local Tax Effort represents amount to be raised by Local COOP tax rate by both Hollis and Brookline.

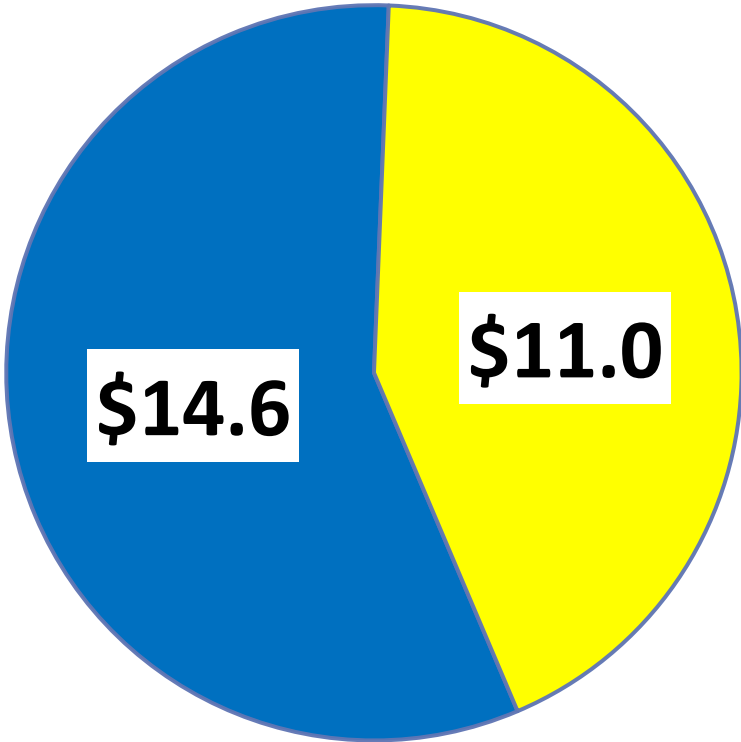
# Local Tax Effort Distribution

Local Tax Effort %



■ Hollis ■ Brookline

Local Tax Effort in \$M



■ Hollis ■ Brookline

# Estimated Tax Impacts by Town

FY27	TOTAL COOP	Hollis	Brookline
Total appropriations	\$33,503,298		
COOP Revenue	(\$2,107,918)		
<b>Net to be Apportioned</b>	<b>\$31,395,380</b>	<b>\$17,336,043</b>	<b>\$14,059,338</b>
Less State Aid	(\$5,749,301)	(\$2,715,169)	(\$3,034,132)
<b>Local Tax Effort</b>	<b>\$25,646,080</b>	<b>\$14,620,874</b>	<b>\$ 11,025,206</b>
<b>FY27 EST COOP Local Tax Rate/k</b>		<b>\$6.28</b>	<b>\$9.48</b>
FY26 COOP Local TAX RATE/k		\$5.94	\$9.06
% change in Local COOP Tax Rate		5.8%	4.6%
COOP Tax Rate as % of Total Tax Bill		31%	38%
% change in Total Tax Bill		1.8%	1.7%

Rate impact shared at Public Hearing H \$6.22/k B \$9.39/k

# Estimated Total Tax Rates

Assumes all articles pass as written	HOLLIS FY27 EST	\$ Change from Prior Year	% Change from Prior Year	BROOKLIN E FY27 EST	\$ Change from Prior Year	% Change from Prior Year
<b>COOP Local</b>	<b>\$6.28</b>	<b>+.34</b>	<b>5.8%</b>	<b>\$9.48</b>	<b>+.42</b>	<b>4.6%</b>
COOP SWEPT	\$0.58	0	-	\$0.52	-.03	(4.6%)
K-6 Local	\$6.67	+.32	5.0%	\$8.79	+.04	0.5%
K-6 SWEPT	\$0.67	+.05	8.1%	\$0.56	-.02	(3.6%)
Town	\$4.53	+.26	6.1%	\$5.52	+.79	16.8%
County	\$1.12	0	-	\$0.97	0	-
<b>TOTAL (\$/k)</b>	<b>\$19.85</b>	<b>\$0.95</b>	<b>5.0%</b>	<b>\$25.84</b>	<b>\$1.20</b>	<b>4.9%</b>

*Every 1% change in valuation will reduce % rate change from prior year by 1%*

# SAU Budget

**Article 1.** Shall the District vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$1,230,494** as the Hollis Brookline Cooperative School District's portion of the SAU budget of **\$2,560,328** for the forthcoming fiscal year? This year's adjusted budget of **\$2,540,642** with **\$1,221,033** assigned to the school budget of this school district will be adopted if the article does not receive a majority vote of all the school district voters voting in this school administrative unit.

**The school board recommends this article (6-0-0). The budget committee recommends this article (5-0-0).**

Estimated Tax Impact	HOLLIS	BROOKLINE
\$/K	\$.30	\$.45
\$/100K	\$30	\$45

# SAU Budget

	FY26 Budget	FY27 Proposed Budget	\$ change	% change	FY27 Adjusted Budget
Budget	\$2,447,505	\$2,564,328	+\$116,823	4.8%	\$2,544,642
Appropriation	\$2,438,355	\$2,560,328	+\$121,973	5.0%	\$2,540,642
COOP Portion	\$1,171,278	\$1,230,494	+\$59,216	5.1%	\$1,221,033

Major Drivers	\$ Increase over FY26 Budget	Details
Salaries	+\$67,693	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3.5% increases</li> <li>• Aligned to NE region CPI</li> </ul>
Benefits	+\$44,550	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Health Insurance rates + 15.1%</li> <li>• Dental Insurance rates + 4.4%</li> </ul>
Operations/ Maintenance	+\$3,840	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inspections, Liability, Inspections</li> </ul>
Other	+\$740	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Equipment/Software</li> </ul>

# Article 1

## SAU Budget

\$1,230,494 for COOP district

Total SAU Budget \$2,560,328

Default \$1,221,033 for COOP district

Default Total \$2,540,642

# Operating Budget

**Article 2.** To see if the school district will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of **\$31,716,292** for the support of schools, for the payment of salaries for the school district officials and agents and for the payment of statutory obligations of the district. This appropriation does not include appropriations voted in other warrant articles. Majority vote required.

**The school board recommends this article (6-0-0). The budget committee recommends this article (5-0-0).**

Estimated Tax Impact	HOLLIS	BROOKLINE
\$/K	\$6.05	\$9.13
\$/100K	\$605	\$913

# Summary of Operating Budget Changes

	FY26 Budget	FY27 Budget	\$ Change	% Change
Op Budget	\$30,566,531*	\$31,716,292	\$1,149,761	3.8%

Proposed Operating Budget is ~\$377K below BC Guidance of \$32,093,820

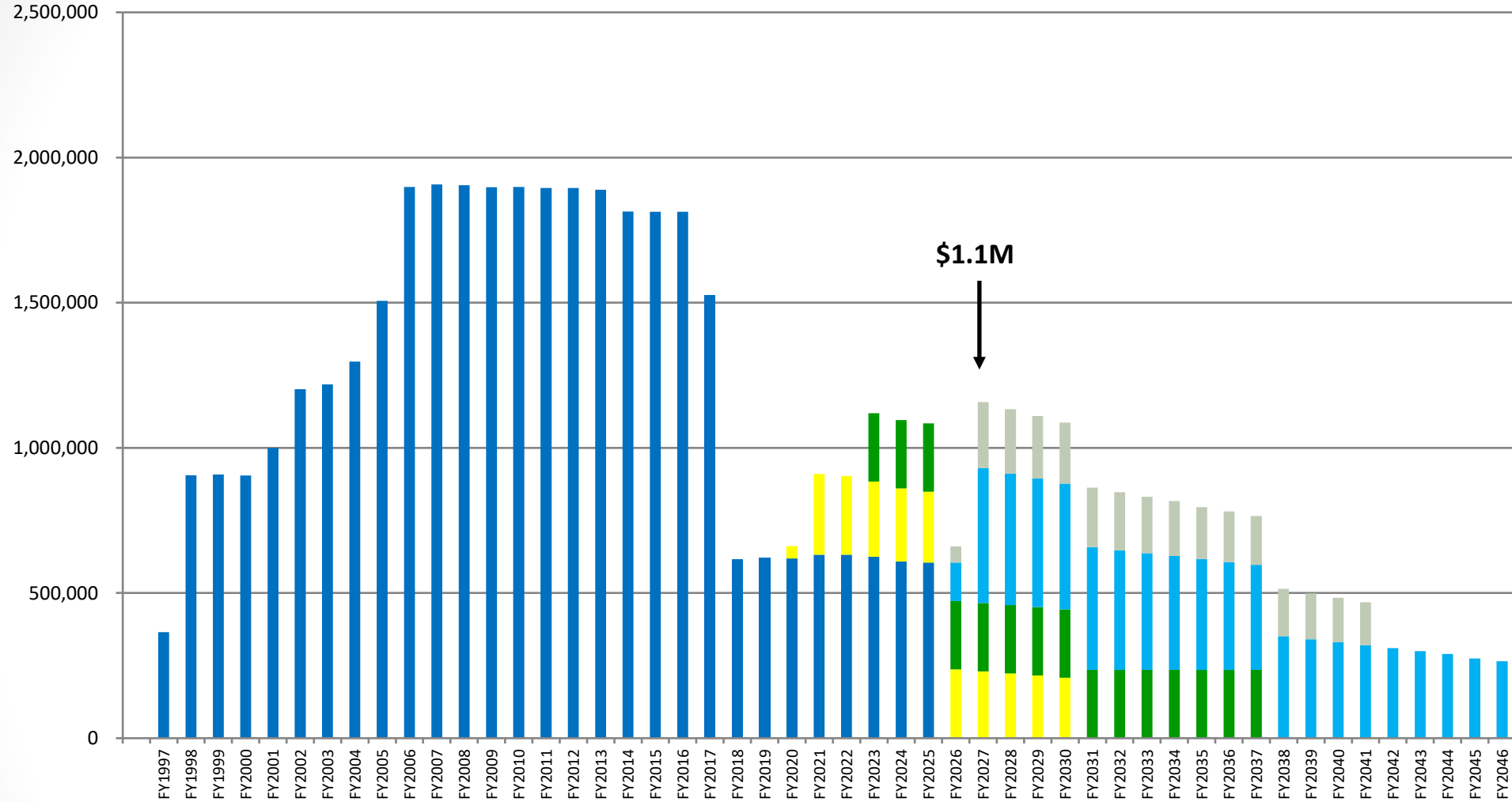
- Guidance Budget increased by 2%
- Special Education costs, Salaries increased by collective bargaining, Debt Service excluded from guidance budget

\* FY26 Operating Budget reflects Operating Budget plus previously approved Professional & Support Staff articles

# Major Changes – INCREASES/DECREASES

Category	FY27 Budget	\$ change	% change	Purpose
Bonds	\$1,155,263	\$529,598	84.7%	Full year principal and interest expenses
Benefits	\$4,049,049	\$510,926	14.4%	Health increase 15.1%, Dental +4.4%
Salaries	\$11,058,571	\$227,274	2.1%	Contracted increases
Athletics	\$726,066	\$30,153	4.3%	Field maintenance, facility rental
Facilities	\$391,000	\$89,500	29.7%	Flooring, ductwork cleaning, ceiling tiles, floor machines, exterior cleaning
New Items	\$192,973	(\$191,582)	(49.8%)	Academic/Classroom equipment, laptops, lighting, security cameras
Student Svcs	\$6,124,618	(\$318,220)	(4.5%)	Program changes

# Long Term Debt Payment Schedule



HBHS/MS

FIELD

HVAC HBHS

ENERGY - HBMS

SOLAR

## Article 2

Operating Budget

\$31,716,292

# Support Staff Contract

**Article 3.** To see if the school district will vote to approve the cost items for the second year of a three-year collective bargaining agreement reached between the Hollis Brookline Cooperative School Board and the Hollis Education Support Staff Association for the 2025-26, 2026-27 and 2027-28 school years, which calls for the following increases in support staff salaries and benefits at the current staffing levels:

Fiscal Year	Estimated Increase
2026-27	\$131,512

and further to raise and appropriate a sum of **\$131,512** for the second fiscal year (2026-27 school year), such sum representing the additional costs attributable to the increase in support staff salaries and benefits required by the new agreement over those that would be paid at current staffing levels. Majority vote required.

**The school board recommends this article (6-0-0). The budget committee recommends this article (4-0-1).**

Estimated Tax Impact	HOLLIS	BROOKLINE
\$/K	\$.03	\$.05
\$/100K	\$3	\$5

# Support Staff Contract

## Contract Elements:

- Salary Increase of 2.75% + step on step
- Salary Increase of 3.4% off step
- Insurance Cap changes:
  - Single increases \$83 from \$1,040 to \$1,123
  - 2 Person increases \$140 from \$1,758 to \$1,898
  - Family Increases \$157 from \$1,968 to \$2,125
- Not Sanbornized

## Article 3

HESSA Collective  
Bargaining Agreement  
\$131,512

# Facilities Maintenance Expendable Trust

**Article 4.** To see if the school district will vote to raise and appropriate up to the sum of **\$300,000** to be added to the previously established School Building and Facilities Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund. The sum to come from the Hollis Brookline Cooperative School District's June 30, 2026 unassigned fund balance, available on July 1, 2026. Majority vote required.

**The school board recommends this appropriation (6-0-0). The budget committee recommends this appropriation (5-0-0).**

Estimated Foregone Tax Impact	HOLLIS	BROOKLINE
\$/K	(\$.07)	(\$.11)
\$/ \$100K	(\$7)	(\$11)

# Maintenance Fund

## Purpose

- A stand alone account to segregate funds for major maintenance and allow carry over to spread costs over multiple budget cycles
- Alleviates major financial spikes due to non-routine maintenance costs

## Funding

- Unassigned fund balance or surplus

## Oversight

- Major Expenditures proposed by the Administration
- School Board evaluates after a Public Hearing
- School Board makes final approval of expenditures

# Fund Utilization

FY27	in \$K
Beginning Balance	\$160,069
FY27 Proposed Funding	\$300,000
HBMS – Ductwork cleaning	(\$20,000)
HBMS Roof – Phase 3 of 5	(\$150,000)
HBHS Track Resurfacing	(\$130,000)
Ending Balance	\$160,069

Additional \$391K in facilities maintenance items included in Operating Budget.

## Article 4

Facilities Maintenance  
Trust Fund  
\$300,000

# Contingency

**Article 5.** To see if the school district will vote to establish a contingency fund for the current year for unanticipated expenses that may arise and further to raise and appropriate up to **\$125,000** to go into the fund. This sum to come from the unassigned fund balance available on July 1, 2026, and no amount to be raised from taxation. Any appropriation left at the end of the year will lapse to the general fund. Majority vote required.

**The school board recommends this appropriation (6-0-0). The budget committee recommends this appropriation (5-0-0).**

Estimated Foregone Tax Impact	HOLLIS	BROOKLINE
\$/K	(\$0.03)	(\$0.05)
\$/100K	(\$3)	(\$5)

# Contingency Fund

## Purpose

- To cover unanticipated major expenses that might arise during the school year

## Funding

- Unassigned Fund Balance or surplus

Unused funds are intended to fund the following year's contingency fund

## Article 5

Contingency Fund  
\$125,000

# Open Enrollment

**Article 6.** Shall the Hollis-Brookline Cooperative School vote to adopt an open enrollment school program, designating the Hollis-Brookline Cooperative High School (HBHS) as an open enrollment school pursuant to NH RSA 194-D, for the purpose of enabling the district to admit non-resident students to HBHS, with one hundred percent (100%) of its eligible resident pupils permitted to attend HBHS and zero percent (0%) of its resident pupils in grades 7-12 permitted to attend open enrollment schools located outside of the District, and further, to limit the number of non-resident pupils who may attend HBHS under the provisions of RSA 194-D to no more than 4 students total, with no more than 1 non-resident student being admitted to each grade (9-12), with zero (0) non-resident students permitted to attend Hollis Brookline Cooperative Middle School.

**The school board recommends this article 6-0-0. The budget committee recommends this article 4-1-0.**

# Open Enrollment

## History

RSA 194-D was first established in 2009 in an effort to allow students to attend public schools outside their resident district, with funding following the student. Prior to the fall of 2025, only two districts had adopted open enrollment.

## Why Now?

In the fall of 2025, the NH Supreme Court ruled that a sending district is required to pay tuition under RSA 194-D:5, I, even if the sending district has not adopted open enrollment.

## Consequence

Without this article, the District faces unplanned, significant financial exposure.

# Open Enrollment

## Plan of Action:

- Article 6 protects the Hollis Brookline Cooperative School District from unanticipated financial impacts of the new interpretation of the law
- Preserves budget stability
- Protects programs
- Retains local control
- Ensures Hollis and Brookline tax dollars remain in Hollis and Brookline

## **Article 6**

# Open Enrollment

# Petition Warrant Article

**Article 7. Petition Warrant Article.** To see if the Cooperative School District will vote to require the Hollis Brookline School Board to prominently display current and previous year state assessment scores and state rankings on the school district website header, visible on every page, with said information to be updated within thirty (30) days of the official release of scores by the New Hampshire Department of Education.

**The school board does not recommend this article 6-0-0.**

## Article 7

# Assessment Scores and Rankings on Website

# Petition Warrant Article

**Article 8. Petition Warrant Article.** Shall we adopt the provisions of RSA 40:13 (known as SB2) to allow official ballot voting on all issues before the Hollis Brookline Cooperative School District on the second Tuesday of March?

**The school board does not recommend this article 6-0-0. The budget committee does not recommend this article 5-0-0.**

**Article 8**

**SB2**

# Petition Warrant Article

**Article 9. Petition Warrant Article.** Shall we adopt the provisions of RSA 32:5-e, and implement a budget cap whereby the school board (or budget committee) shall not submit a recommended budget that is higher than 27,500 dollars per pupil cost times the average daily membership in residence of the school district as of October 1 of the year immediately preceding the proposed budget year plus an annual increase for inflation using CPI-U for the Boston-Cambridge-Newton MA-NH area published by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics as of October 1. Requires a 3/5ths majority of the school district.

**The school board does not recommend this article 6-0-0. The budget committee does not recommend this article 5-0-0.**

## **Article 9**

# Budget Cap

# Petition Warrant Article

**Article 10.** Shall we adopt the provisions of RSA 32:5 V-b, requiring that the annual budget and all special warrant articles having a tax impact, as determined by the school board, shall contain a notation stating the estimated tax impact of the article? The determination of the estimated tax impact shall be subject to approval by the governing body.

**The school board does not recommend the article 6-0-0. The budget committee does not recommend this article 4-1-0.**

## **Article 10**

# **Tax Impact on Warrant Articles**

# Petition Warrant Article

**Article 11. Petition Warrant Article.** Shall we adopt the provisions of RSA 32:5-b, and implement a tax cap whereby the governing body (or budget committee) shall not submit a recommended budget that increases the amount to be raised by local taxes (this year's base), that is higher than the prior fiscal year's actual amount of local taxes raised (last year's base), adjusted for inflation using the inflation index CPI-U for the Boston-Cambridge-Newton MA-NH area published by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics and the change in attendance, in accordance with RSA 32:5-b, 1-b?

**The school board does not recommend the article 6-0-0. The budget committee does not recommend this article 5-0-0.**

## **Article 11**

# Local Tax Cap

# Other School District Business

**Article 12.** To transact any other business which may legally come before said meeting.