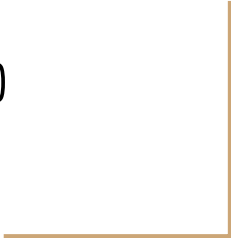


Fall River Public Schools
Finance Department
FY 2027 Budget

Prepared by,
Kevin Almeida, CFO



Budget Rationale

The Finance Department will prioritize **continuous improvement of financial policies and procedures** while monitoring departmental efficiencies to enhance the experience for schools, departments, employees, and vendors.

During FY27 we will:

- Continue reviewing and refining internal processes.
- Monitor spending to ensure responsible use of district funds.
- Realign several positions within the budget to ensure student needs are met.
- Maintain strong fiscal oversight to ensure alignment with district priorities and responsible budgeting.

The **Bookkeeping Department** monitors district spending to ensure expenditures remain within budget and that purchases are made at the most competitive pricing.

The **Payroll Department** ensures employees are paid accurately and on time by adhering to employee contracts and collective bargaining agreements.

Needs Assessment

Academic Needs

We are working with the **Office of Instruction** to identify and evaluate instructional materials moving forward. Additionally, all subscriptions will be reviewed to ensure they are being used effectively and are supporting student outcomes.

Social-Emotional Needs

Over the last several years, the district has increased social-emotional supports across all schools through the addition of various FTEs, including:

- School Adjustment Counselors
- SEL Liaisons
- Contracted services such as **Cartwheel**
- Partnerships with community organizations

Operational Needs

We continue to review operational needs to ensure district facilities remain safe, functional, and up to date. Preventative maintenance is ongoing to ensure equipment remains operational and reliable.

Enrollment Trends

Enrollment continues to be closely monitored. While the district experienced enrollment increases in previous years, we have seen a **decline this year**. This trend will continue to be monitored as it may impact future staffing and funding decisions.

Current Staffing & Structures

We are continuously monitoring FTE allocations to ensure schools receive **equitable staffing levels** across the district.

Over the past several years, staffing has been leveled across schools to ensure comparable supports district-wide.

To meet student needs we will continue to:

- Evaluate staffing structures
- Review district resources
- Identify any inefficiencies or gaps

Staffing and programs will be aligned to ensure that resources are directed toward the areas of greatest student need.

Any **reallocations, reductions, or new positions** are reflected within the proposed budget.

Strategic Allocation of Resources

At this time, there are **no conversions or reallocations of funds directly impacting the Finance Department**.

However, the department will continue to review contracts and expenditures to identify potential cost savings where possible.

Positions / Structural Changes

There are **no additional positions or structural changes** proposed within the Finance Department for FY27.

Alternative Funding Sources

The district will continue to explore:

- Grant opportunities
- Partnerships
- Reallocation of existing expenditures to alternative funding sources where appropriate

Finance Department Impact & Accomplishments

FY26–FY27 Department Highlights

The Finance Department continues to strengthen financial operations, internal controls, and service to schools and departments across the district.

Key Accomplishments

- Strengthened internal financial procedures to improve efficiency and accountability.
- Improved monitoring of district expenditures to ensure compliance with budget and procurement requirements.
- Streamlined invoice processing and vendor payment systems to improve turnaround time.
- Increased oversight of open purchase orders and vendor statements to maintain accurate financial records.
- Maintained accurate and timely payroll processing for all district employees in accordance with contracts and collective bargaining agreements.
- Strengthened collaboration with school and department leaders to improve budget planning and spending transparency.
- Continued focus on fiscal responsibility while supporting district priorities and student needs.

Cost Savings & Operational Efficiencies

Ensuring Responsible Stewardship of District Resources

The Finance Department continuously reviews processes and expenditures to identify opportunities for cost savings and operational improvements.

Efficiency Initiatives

- Ongoing review of vendor contracts to ensure competitive pricing.
- Monitoring district-wide subscriptions and services to eliminate underutilized resources.
- Strengthening purchasing oversight to ensure compliance with procurement regulations and best pricing.
- Increased tracking of open purchase orders to improve budget accuracy.
- Reviewing operational expenditures for potential reallocation to more effective funding sources.
- Leveraging grants and external funding opportunities where available.

Result

These efforts support the district's commitment to **responsible fiscal management while maximizing resources available for students and schools.**

Finance Department Role in Supporting Schools

Supporting the District's Educational Mission

While the Finance Department does not directly provide instructional services, it plays a critical role in ensuring schools have the financial resources and systems needed to support students.

The department supports the district by:

- Ensuring timely and accurate payroll for all employees.
- Processing vendor payments to maintain essential services for schools.
- Monitoring district spending to ensure funds are used effectively.
- Supporting administrators with budget planning and financial reporting.
- Ensuring compliance with state procurement laws and district policies.
- Maintaining financial transparency and accountability.

Goal:

Provide strong financial management that allows school leaders to focus on **teaching, learning, and student support.**

Last Name	First Name	Org-Object-Project	Staff Assignment	Total Salary	Location	Comment
ALMEIDA	KEVIN	26565000-511200-	Chief Financial Officer	181,692.00	Finance	
SILVA	SANDRA	26565000-511200-	Payroll Manager	83,045.00	Finance	
FALCON	KIMBERLY	26565000-511215-	Clerk - Payroll	45,977.00	Finance	
GAGNE	JEANNE	26565000-511215-	Clerk - Payroll	56,553.00	Finance	
JONES	KATHERINE	26565000-511215-	Clerk - Payroll	50,481.00	Finance	
ABDOW	CHRISTINE	26565000-511200-	Procurement Specialist	62,457.00	Finance	
CLEGG	COURTNEY	26565000-511215-	Clerk - Bookkeeper	52,929.00	Finance	
FERREIRA	DEBORAH	26565000-511215-	Clerk - Bookkeeper	54,547.00	Finance	
LOPES	GRACE	26565000-511215-	Clerk - Bookkeeper	47,441.00	Finance	
MACHADO	TELMA	26565000-511215-	Clerk - Bookkeeper	52,698.00	Finance	
PEREIRA	MARIA	26565000-511215-	Clerk - Bookkeeper	52,055.00	Finance	
FURTADO	GORETTI	27070000-511215-ADMIN	Administrative Assistant (.5)	30,540.00	Finance	
		TOTAL SALARIES-OPERATING		770,415.00		
GEHAN	STACY	34508100-511250-SY26	Financial Manager (.5)	54,703.00	Finance	TITLE I
GEHAN	STACY	34848100-511250-SY26	Financial Manager (.5)	54,703.00	Finance	TITLE II
		TOTAL SALARIES-GRANTS		109,406.00		
		26565000-513000	Overtime	20,000.00		
		28484000-530005	Contingency	200,000.00		
		26565000-530400	Legal Services	300,000.00		
		26565000-551000	General Classroom Supplies	350,288.00		
		26565000-563200	Audit of Municipal Accounts	10,000.00		
		26565000-573100	Dues, Memberships	4,500.00		
		TOTAL EXPENSES-OPERATING		884,788.00		
		TOTAL FINANCE-OPERATING		1,655,203.00		
		TOTAL FINANCE-GRANTS		109,406.00		