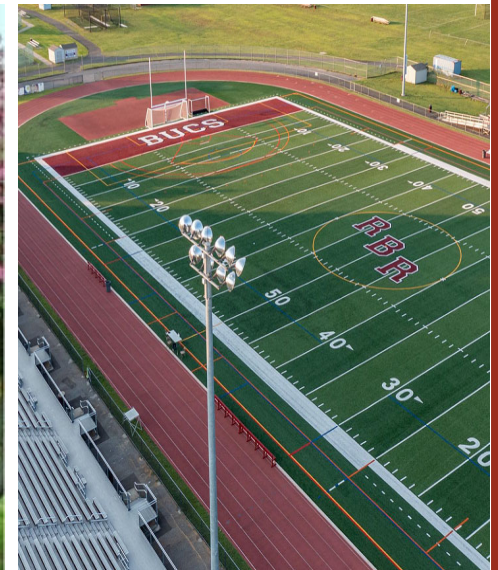


# RED BANK REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

2026-2027 ~ Public Budget Hearing ~ April 29, 2026



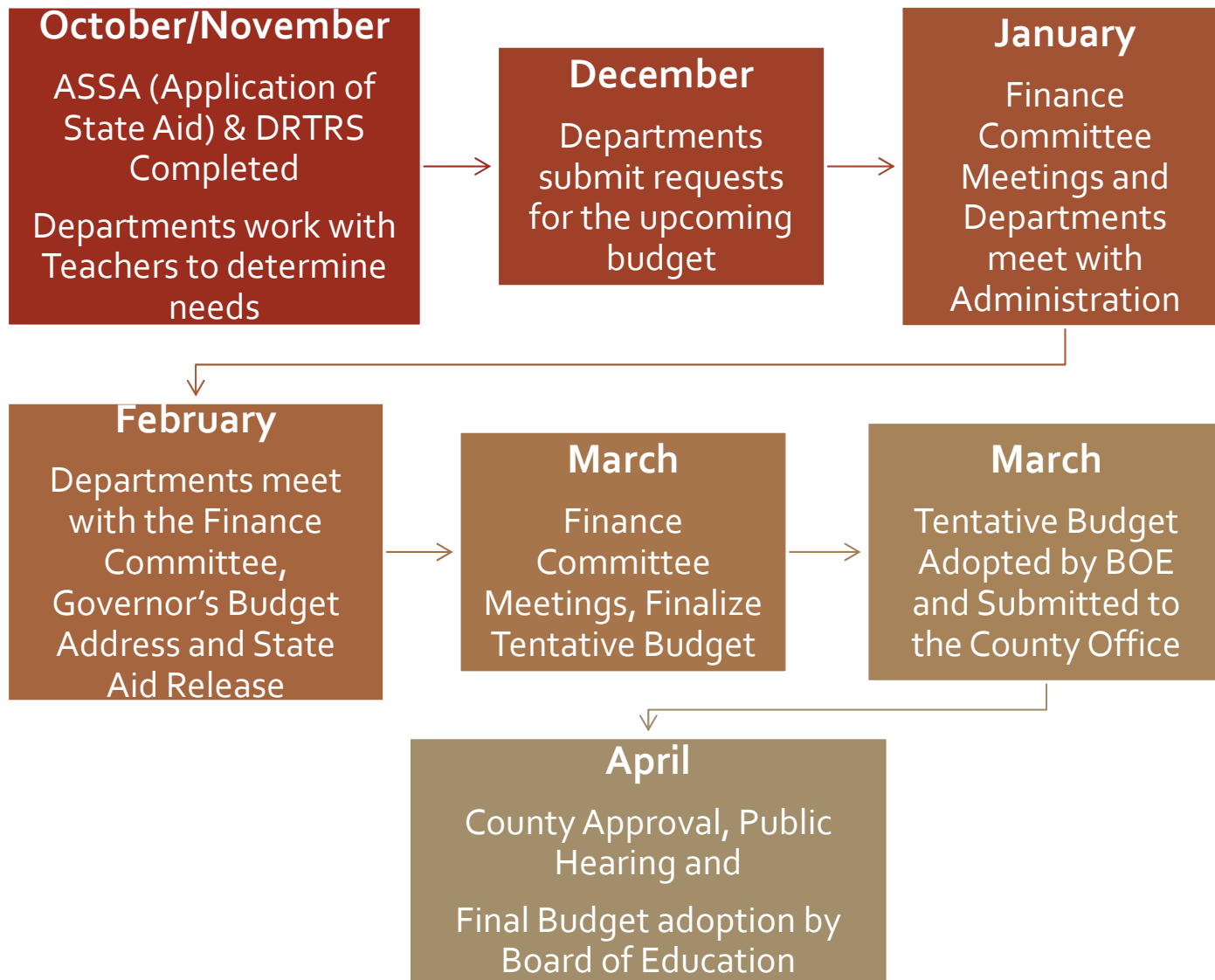
The mission of Red Bank Regional High School District is to ensure academic success, inspire purpose, foster a passion for learning, and encourage meaningful contributions to the RBR community and society.



- A budget is a plan that balances the educational needs of the school district while being fiscally responsible.
- Plan development must manage expenditures within the Tax Levy Cap, Fund Balance, and Reserves.
- Future budgets must be considered while making current decisions for sustainability purposes.
  - Plans may change as priorities arise or for emergencies and therefore may change budget allocations.
  - Budgets must be managed by consistently reviewing revenue projections to ensure spending does not exceed available funds.



# BUDGET TIMELINE





# NAVIGATING UNCERTAINTY

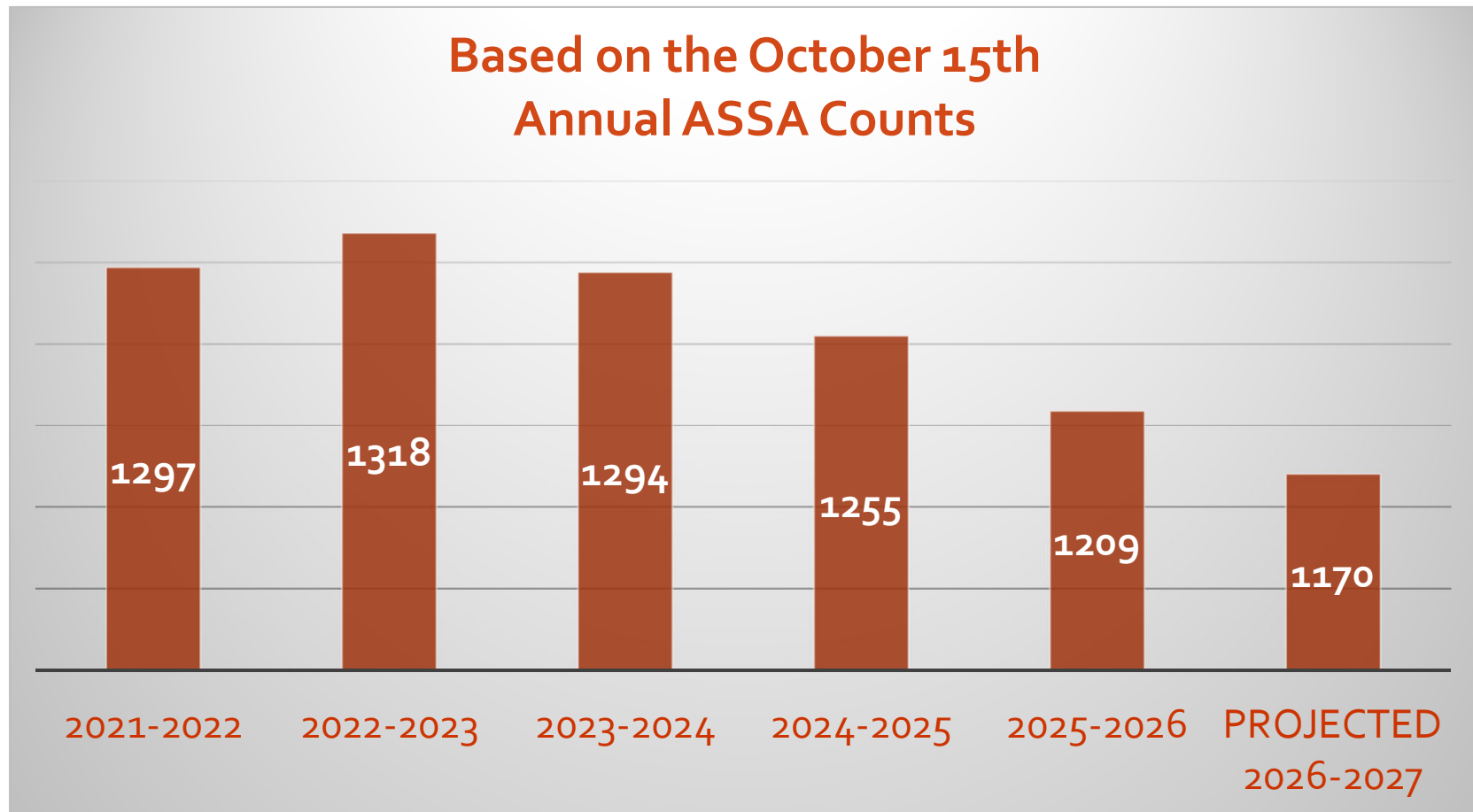
- Revenue Drives Expenditures
- Health Benefits-Rising Costs
- Potential Shifts in Federal Support for Public Schools
- Districts were directed to budget Federal Grants at 75% of the prior year allocation
- The State will finalize its fiscal budget by June 30<sup>th</sup>. While we do not anticipate any changes, there is potential for adjustments
  - Declining Enrollment
  - State Aid





# ENROLLMENT TRENDS

Based on the October 15th  
Annual ASSA Counts





# 2026-2027 BUDGET

**\$39,676,067**

**General  
Fund/Operating  
Budget**

Includes \$2.73M  
withdrawal from  
Capital Reserve Fund

**\$1,330,146**

**Special Revenue  
Fund**

(Grants, Student  
Activities,  
Scholarships)

**\$1,473,500**

**Debt Service Fund**

(Referendum  
Finance Payments)

**TOTAL 2026-2027 Budget: \$42,479,713**



# REVENUE SOURCES

Tax Levy	\$29,134,396	73.43%
Tuition/Transportation	\$ 3,800,900	9.58%
State Aid & Reimbursements	\$ 2,486,497	6.27%
Fund Balance	\$ 699,274	1.76%
Maintenance Reserve	\$ 600,000	1.51%
Miscellaneous	\$ 200,000	.50%
Unemployment Reserve	\$ 25,000	.06%
Capital Reserve	\$ 2,730,000	6.88%
<b>General Fund Total</b>	<b>\$39,676,067</b>	<b>100%</b>

Tax Levy Percentage for most other school districts range from 78% to 90%. RBR's tuition program supports exceptional educational options while reducing local costs.



# STATE AID

Transportation  
\$468,110  
Increased  
\$54,885

Special Education  
\$1,480,850  
Increased  
\$72,226

Security  
\$331,082  
Increased  
\$1,948

**Total State Aid Increased \$129,059**

- The District was fortunate to receive an increase in State Aid for 2026-2027
- The State will be working on a new funding formula, however, it may take years to pass legislation.
- In 2025-2026, RBR was awarded an additional \$50,000 of State Aid for Mental Health after June 30th, however, that funding is not guaranteed annually.



# GRANTS

## Special Revenue Fund

### Federal Grants \$448,301

The State has required school districts to project 75% of the prior year's awards.

**ESEA**– Titles I, II and III: Support Intervention Programs such as Summer Slam, Tutoring/After School Programs, PD, Multilingual student needs and programs etc.

**IDEA** – Supports Special Education Costs such as Tuition for schools for the disabled and related services.

### State Grants \$706,845

**SBYSP** – Supports the Source Program

**Other State Grants** – Non-Public educational services flow through Public School Districts





# BUDGET CHALLENGES

- State's Funding Formula and 2% Tax Cap
  - Unfunded Mandates
- Increased Scope of Student Needs, Special Education Costs
  - Contractual Impacts
  - CPI Increases (Consumer Price Index)
- Maintenance of Building and Technology-costs for supplies, equipment and service-labor increases
  - Insurance Package, Liability Coverage, Workers Comp
- Utility Costs – Electricity, Gas, and Water rates are all increasing
  - Technology support and programing needs





# HEALTH BENEFITS

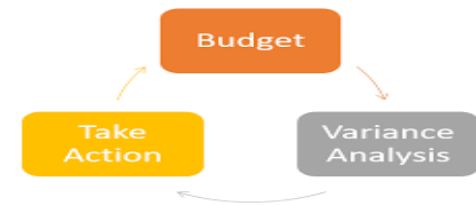


- The total cost of Benefits include pensions, health benefits, taxes, workers comp, tuition reimbursement, etc.
- For Health Benefits, RBR was fortunate to leave the NJ State Health Benefits Group.
- Many other school districts were not able to leave and they are facing a possible increase of approximately 40%.
  - RBR contracted with NJ Solutions Health Insurance Fund with an 18-month rate lock.
- Rate increases were absorbed in the 2025-2026 school year, allowing for only a small increase in the 2026-2027 budget year.
  - Looking forward, the 2027-2028 budget will be challenging with a renewal effective July 1, 2027.



# MAXIMIZING EFFICIENCY

- Staffing to support the instructional program
  - Utilize grants for majority of professional development
- Participation in purchasing co-ops for supplies and equipment, purchased services, insurance and utilities
- Shared services agreements with neighboring school districts and municipalities for the SRO, transportation, food service, athletic co-ops, and professional development
  - Chromebook-warranties increased from 4 to 6 years
- Continued evaluation of purchasing procedures and practices to identify areas for improved efficiency





# BUDGET vs. Prior Year

- Non-Essential technology projects and purchases were reduced
- Non-Essential maintenance and capital projects that cannot be funded through the restricted legal reserves were reduced
  - Resignations-1 Math vacancy not being filled
- 1 New Technology Position added to strengthen tech and cyber security, programming, services and projects

## Changes from Tentative Budget

The District increased the interest revenue amount for the Capital Reserve by \$50,000 and the Maintenance Reserve by \$10,000 for a total budget increase of \$60,000.





# SUPPORTED PROGRAMS

**Maintaining Optimal Class Sizes:** 80%+ of core classes have enrollment of 20 or less

**Extensive Enriched Curriculum:** Pre AP, AP, Dual Enrollment, International Baccalaureate

**Four Year Academies:** AOIT, Engineering, Finance, Visual & Performing Arts, Early Childhood

**Co-Curricular and Athletics:** 30 Clubs, 20 Sports at multiple Levels for Freshman, JV and Varsity



# EXPENDITURES – GENERAL FUND

Category	Expenditures	%	Prior Year	Change
<b>Regular Instruction</b> (Salaries, EWEF, Curriculum, Inst Tech & Security, Hardware, Software, Supplies, Textbooks, Programs, Purchased Ed Services)	\$11,864,848	29.90%	\$11,652,638	\$212,210
<b>Benefits</b> (Health, Pension, Taxes, Unemployment, Tuition Reimbursement, Workers Comp, Retirement Payout)	\$ 6,603,402	16.64%	\$ 6,554,345	\$ 49,057
<b>Operations, Facilities, Security</b> (Maintenance, Security, Custodial, Insurance, Utilities)	\$ 3,937,070	9.92%	\$ 3,876,963	\$ 60,107
<b>Tuition</b> (Special Ed Placements, Settlements, Voc School)	\$ 3,568,801	9.00%	\$ 3,559,923	\$ 8,878
<b>Transportation</b> (Gen and Spec Ed, Voc & Non Public)	\$ 3,036,158	7.65%	\$3,018,533	\$ 17,625
<b>Special Education</b> (Self Cont. Classrooms, ICS/RR, CST, Relate Services )	\$ 2,692,835	6.79%	\$ 2,588,521	\$104,314
<b>Student Services</b> (Guidance, Nursing, Source)	\$ 1,600,304	4.03%	\$ 1,447,305	\$152,999
<b>Sports/Extra-Curricular</b>	\$ 1,033,105	2.60%	\$ 1,034,496	\$ (1,391)
<b>Central Services</b> (Business Office & Tech Dept.)	\$ 1,021,453	2.58%	\$ 869,314	\$152,139
<b>School Administration</b> (Principal, VPO Offices)	\$ 841,237	2.12%	\$ 836,942	\$ 4,295
<b>General Administration</b> (BOE & Superintendent- Includes Salaries, Atty, Audit, Architect, Telephone, Dues, PD, Insur.)	\$ 707,791	1.79%	\$ 631,010	\$ 76,781
<b>Capital</b> (Projects, Equipment & SDA Fees)	\$ 2,769,063	6.98%	\$ 51,663	\$2,717,400
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$39,676,067</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>\$36,121,653</b>	<b>\$3,554,414</b>



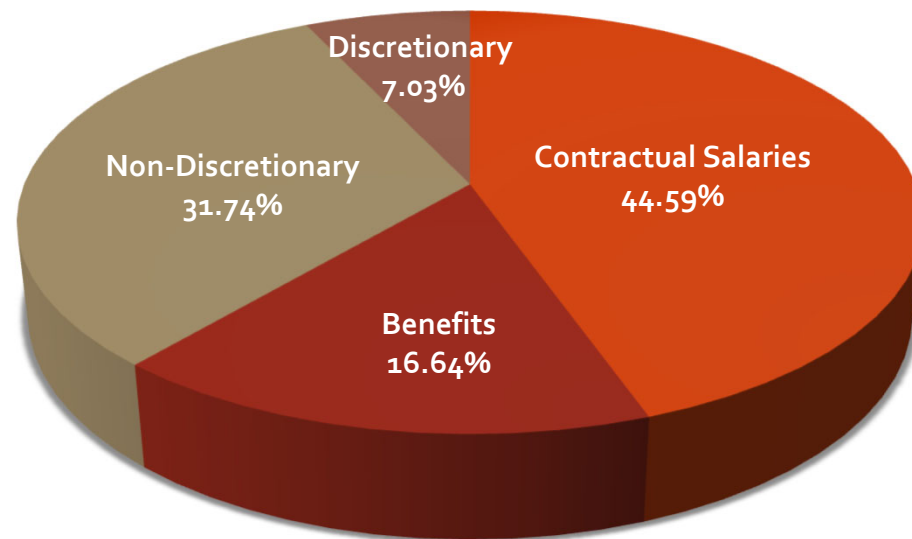
# FIXED & NON-DISCRETIONARY vs. DISCRETIONARY COSTS

## Discretionary

Non-Mandated Curriculum  
Revision  
Non-Required Professional  
Development  
Info Technology Projects,  
Hardware/Software  
Buildings & Grounds Projects  
Security  
Program Resources  
Instructional Supplies  
Professional Services  
Athletics & Extra Curricular  
Programs

## Non-Discretionary

Salaries & Benefits  
Out of District Tuition, Transportation  
Utilities, Insurance  
Legal Costs, Auditing Fees  
Building & Grounds-Operations  
Technology-Operations  
Security

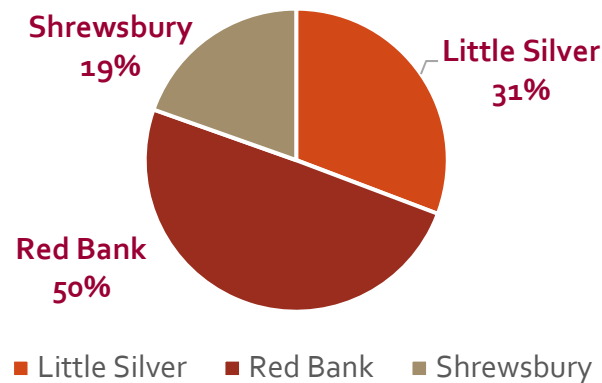




# REGIONAL TAX ALLOCATION PER TOWN

TOWN	EQUALIZED VALUATION	K-8 ENROLLMENT	REGIONAL ENROLLMENT	REGIONAL PERCENT	REGIONAL EQUALIZED VALUATION	2026-2027 PERCENT SHARE	Prior Year 2025-2026	Change from Prior Year
Little Silver	\$ 2,824,640,127	678.00	252.50	27.14%	\$ 766,607,330	30.76763%	28.5344%	2.2332%
Red Bank	\$ 3,541,994,067	1,152.00	618.50	34.93%	\$ 1,237,218,528	49.65552%	50.1681%	-0.5126%
Shrewsbury	\$ 1,919,627,583	452.00	154.00	25.41%	\$ 487,777,369	19.57685%	21.2975%	-1.7207%
<b>Red Bank Regional</b>	<b>\$ 8,286,261,777</b>	<b>2,282.00</b>	<b>1,025.00</b>		<b>\$ 2,491,603,227</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	

- The State calculates the apportionments by utilizing enrollment from the October 15<sup>th</sup> Student Count and the equalized valuations
  - The State Releases a notice of apportionment that the District must follow





## Tax Levy- General Operating Budget Estimated per \$100 Assessed Value

<u>TOWN</u>	<u>ESTIMATED Tax Levy per \$100</u>	<u>Average Assessed Home</u>	<u>ESTIMATED TAX PER Average Assessed Home</u>
Little Silver	\$ 0.291	\$ 1,269,366	\$ 3,694
Red Bank	\$ 0.430	\$ 651,977	\$ 2,804
Shrewsbury	\$ 0.328	\$ 1,009,134	\$ 3,310

- Total Tax Levy Increase 2%
- ESTIMATE - Based on recently released Preliminary 2026 Rateables and Average Home Values reported by each Municipal Tax Assessor
  - The School District Does Not Set The Tax Rate



# QUESTIONS?

