



South Hadley School District FY27 Budget Update

May 20, 2026



Summary of FY27 Budget Updates

- May 13, 2026 – Town Meeting approved the use of 1,213,111 in free cash to fund the gap for the FY27 Budget.
 - The approved School Committee Budget Request of \$27,500,000 will be in place on July 1, 2026
 - This only funds the budget for 1 year as free cash is not guaranteed to be available for future years.
- May 13, 2026 – Town Meeting also approved an additional \$300,000 for the schools to be used towards strategic investments to try and create positions that would bring in revenue or reverse school choice.

*All budget documents are available on the South Hadley Public School Website

Approved FY27 Budget



FY26 Budget \$25,771,460



FY27 Proposed Budget \$27,500,000



Increase: \$1,728,540



Net Percent Increase 6.71%

Position Saved w/ Town Meeting Vote

Assistant
Superintendent

Assistant
Director of
Student Services

Athletic Director

Assistant
Principal

Mental Health
Coordinator

HS Math Teacher

HS English
Teacher

HS History
Teacher

HS Science
Teacher

HS/MESM Music
Teacher

4 Administrative
Assistants

Programs Saved w/ Town Meeting Vote

High School
Sports

Extracurriculars
at all schools

Electives

Middle and
High School
Music

Honors/AP
Classes

New positions needed for the FY27 Budget

- Increase Multilingual Teacher from .6FTE to 1.0 FTE
- Restore .5 Custodian at HS and .5 Custodian at MESM
- Mosier 1:1 Nurse Per IEP
- Skala 1:1 Nurse per IEP
- Increase 2.5 FTEs for Educational Therapeutic Assistant (ETA)
- Increase Special Education Teacher at Skala

FY27 Positions
moving from
grants to local
\$385,000

Mental Health Coordinator 1.0 FTE

Float Nurse 1.0 FTE

MESM Teacher 2.0 FTE

Educational Team Leader 1.5 FTEs

Special
Education
Increases

Registered Behavior
Technician per IEP

Teacher of the Deaf
Contracted Services per IEP

1:1 Nurse Differential Cost

Additional Out of District
Placements

Grant Funded Positions Being Added

2 Reading
Interventionists
(Skala & Mosier) –
Title 1

1 Math
Interventionists
(Split between Skala
& Mosier) – Title 1

Adjustment
Counselor (MESM) –
Opioid Settlement (1
year continuation

**FY27
Position
Requests
unfilled -
\$725,000**

Media Literacy Teacher - \$70,000

Vocational Director - \$90,000

Kindergarten Support Staff - \$120,000

Educational Team Leader - \$80,000

Psychologist - \$80,000

School Adjustment Counselor - \$80,000

Music Teacher - \$70,000

Assistant Principal - \$95,000

Custodians (1) - \$40,000

Strategic Proposal for use of \$300,000

Vocational Director – High School

- Expands Chapter 74 programming for SH students
- Establishes a tuition in process to generate revenue
- Position would pay for itself with approximately 5 tuition-in students
- Increases access to Perkins funding and Chapter 70 Revenue

Dean of Students and Family Engagement – MESM

- Allows Principal to focus on instructional leadership and classroom visits
- Provides additional support for student behavior, discipline, and school climate
- Strengthens school response to bullying concerns through timely follow-up and family communication
- Builds proactive student programming around conflict resolution, respectful behavior, and bullying prevention

.8 Adjustment Counselor - Mosier

- Reduces counselor caseload, one counselor currently supporting 61 students.
- Provides additional support for students in the Therapeutic Classroom
- Allows for more proactive and preventative student support
- Creates capacity for friendship groups and social-emotional support for Mosier students.

Digital Literacy Teacher - MESM

- Reopens MESM library for student access
- Creates separate dedicated class for digital literacy, research skills, and responsible technology use.
- Allows librarian to support both middle and Mosier school.
- Provides capacity for the librarian to partner with the ETA at Mosier on digital literacy curriculum for elementary students.

On May 20th, 2026, the School Committee approved the position of Vocational Director. The district is requesting community feedback in advance of the June 3, 2026, School Committee meeting concerning the remaining three positions proposed by School Administration. We value community engagement and encourage interested stakeholders to share their input before the committee's continued discussion.

Please email policies@shschools.com to share.

The recording of the 5/20 meeting will be available [here](#) soon, if it isn't already.