

Trumbull Public Schools

Investing in Students

Board of Finance Adopted 2026–2027 Budget

APRIL 8, 2026

Trumbull Public Schools: Our Commitment to Education

EMPOWERING STUDENTS TO ACHIEVE THEIR POTENTIAL

The Trumbull Public School System, in partnership with the community, strives to meet the educational needs of all students within a challenging and supportive academic environment that empowers each student to become a life-long learner and to live and participate in a democratic, diverse and global society.



Budget as a Foundation for Success

INVESTING IN EVERY STUDENT'S FUTURE POTENTIAL



TPS Vision of a Graduate



Critical Thinking & Problem Solving

The ability to use knowledge, facts, and data to effectively solve problems.

Innovation

The ability to look at something familiar and see new possibilities, which leads to curiosity about new learning and the desire to create something original or imaginative.



Communication

The ability to understand others and be understood for a variety of reasons and purposes.

Growth Mindset

The belief that one can improve their intelligence or skills through continued hard work and adapt when faced with challenges.

Collaboration

The qualities and competencies we use to collectively make progress toward common goals or outcomes.

Emotional Intelligence

The aptitude for identifying how and why a person is feeling the way they are and how to regulate and address those emotions.

Self-Efficacy

The belief that you are capable of successfully performing a task or managing a situation.

Integrity

The act of consistently doing the right thing even when it's hard or no one is looking.

Trumbull Public Schools

Board of Education

- Lucinda Timpanelli, Chair
- Marie Petitti, Vice-Chair
- Lisa Nuland, Secretary
- Chris Bandecchi
- Stacey Hepburn-James
- Tammy McGee
- Julia McNamee
- Alison Squiccimarro

- Martin J. Semmel, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools
- Susan C. Iwanicki, Ed.D., Assistant Superintendent of Schools
- Alison Pierce, Business Administrator
- Dean Catalano, Director of Pupil Personnel Services
- Joseph Chella, Director of Human Capital & Talent Development
- Christina Hefele, Director of Digital Learning
- Kevin Dion, Director of Operations

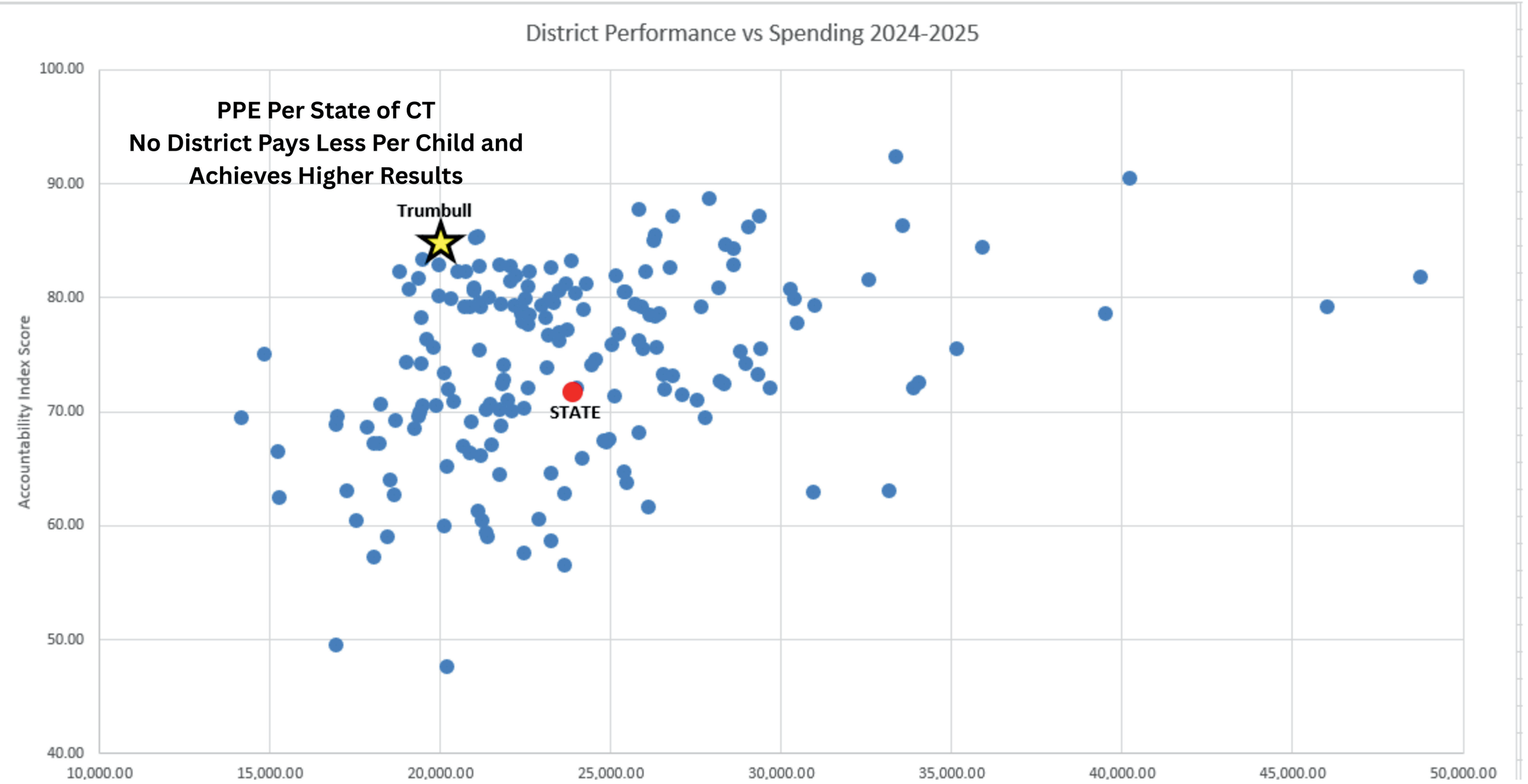
Todd Manuel – Trumbull High School Principal
Bryan Rickert – Hillcrest Middle Principal
Peter Sullivan – Madison Middle Principal
Kevin Chase – Booth Hill Principal
Gary Kunschaft – Daniels Farm Principal
Gina Prisco – Frenchtown Principal
Patsy Horan – Jane Ryan Principal
Debra Ponte– Middlebrook Principal
Jennifer Neumeyer – Tashua Principal
Matthew Wheeler, Ed.D. – TECEC Principal

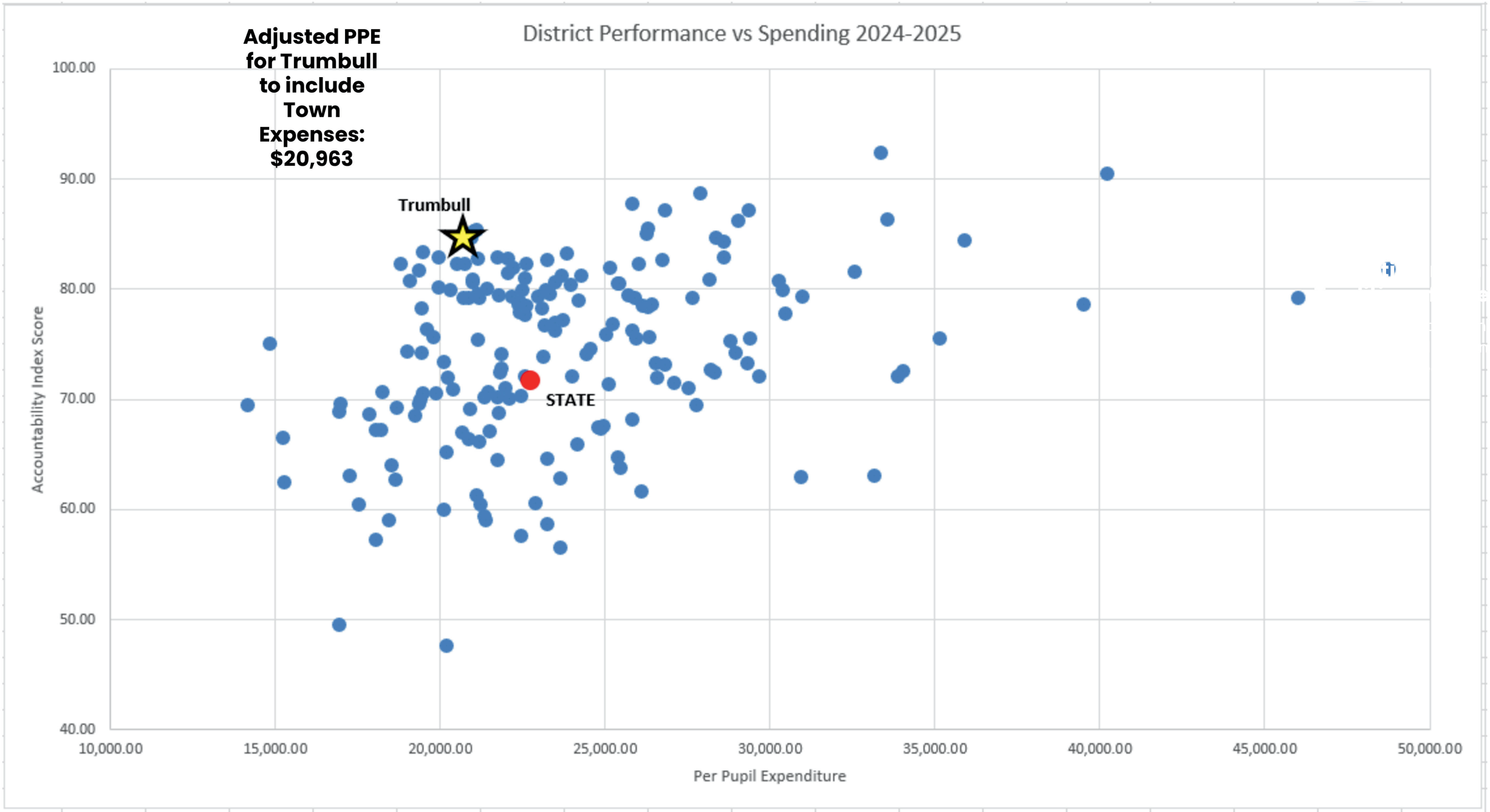



What kind of
SCHOOL DISTRICT
do you want?
Trumbull Public Schools
Science

Tonight's Presentation

- Return on Investment
- Approved BOE Budget
- Approved BOF Budget
- Difference
- Impact on Current Staff/Programming
- Request of TC
- Answer TC Questions


District Performance vs Spending 2024-2025
PPE Per State of CT
No District Pays Less Per Child and
Achieves Higher Results
Trumbull
STATE
Accountability Index Score
100.00
90.00
80.00
70.00
60.00
50.00
40.00
10,000.00
15,000.00
20,000.00
25,000.00
30,000.00
35,000.00
40,000.00
45,000.00
50,000.00


Adjusted PPE for Trumbull to include Town Expenses: $20,963
District Performance vs Spending 2024-2025
Trumbull
STATE
Accountability Index Score
Per Pupil Expenditure
100.00
90.00
80.00
70.00
60.00
50.00
40.00
10,000.00
15,000.00
20,000.00
25,000.00
30,000.00
35,000.00
40,000.00
45,000.00
50,000.00

Top 10 Most Efficient School Districts in Connecticut

Performance vs. Wealth & Spending (All Districts Included)

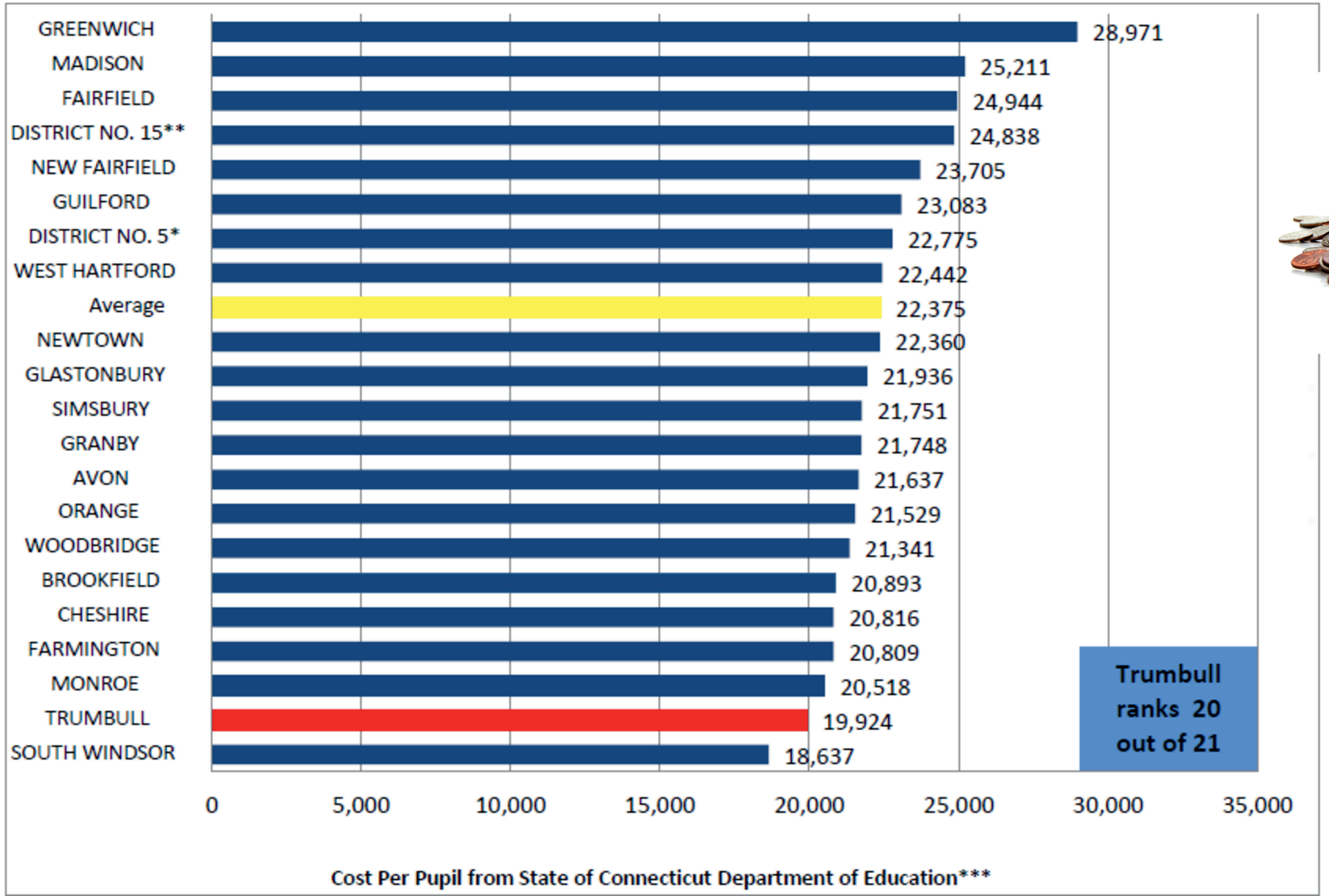
Rank	School District	Above Expected
1	Trumbull	+11.05
2	*Cheshire*	+10.30
3	Farmington	+9.65
4	West Hartford	+8.82
5	Glastonbury	+8.27
6	Ridgefield	+7.85
7	South Windsor	+7.79
8	Fairfield	+7.79
9	Coventry	+7.75
10	Rocky Hill	+6.98

Excellence in Education.

Cheshire PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Trumbull Public Schools

DRG B District Per Pupil Expenditures 2024-25



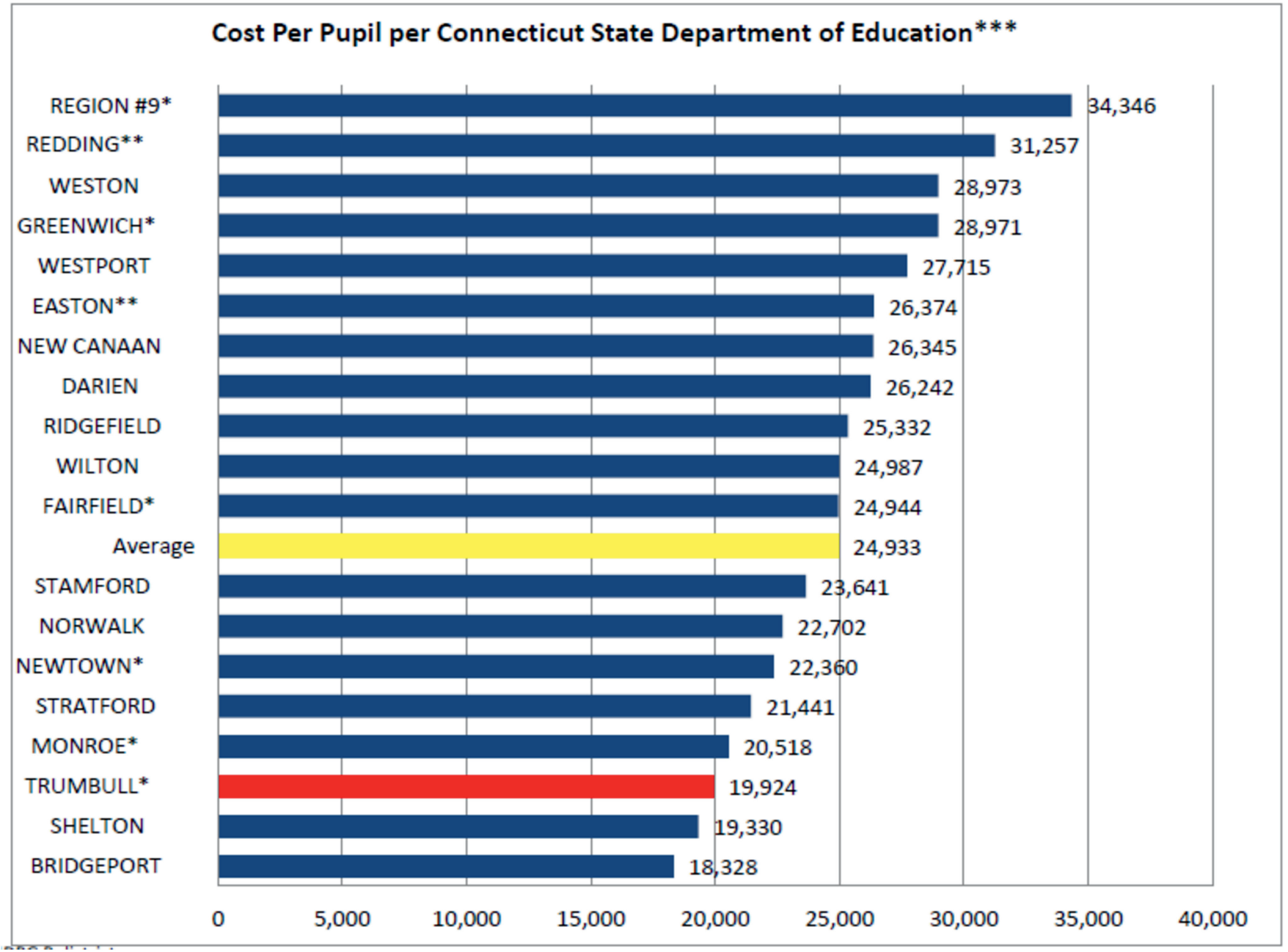


*District 5 - Orange, Bethany, Woodbridge - Grades 7 - 12
**District 15 - Southbury, Middlebury - Grades PK - 12
***Based on CT State Department of Education Bureau of Grants Management

Area District Per Pupil Expenditures 2024-25

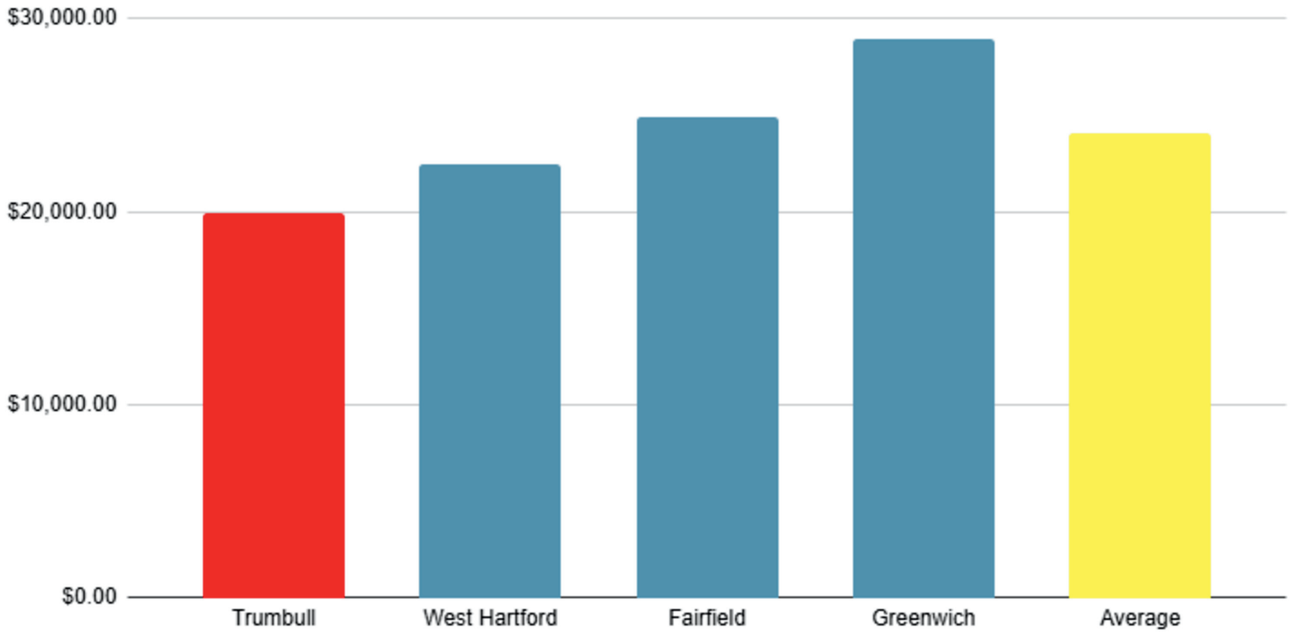


- *DRG B District
- **Easton, Redding have PK-8 schools; they regionalize for high school at Joel Barlow
- ***Based on CT State Department of Education Bureau of Grants Management



During the 2026-2027 Budget Process

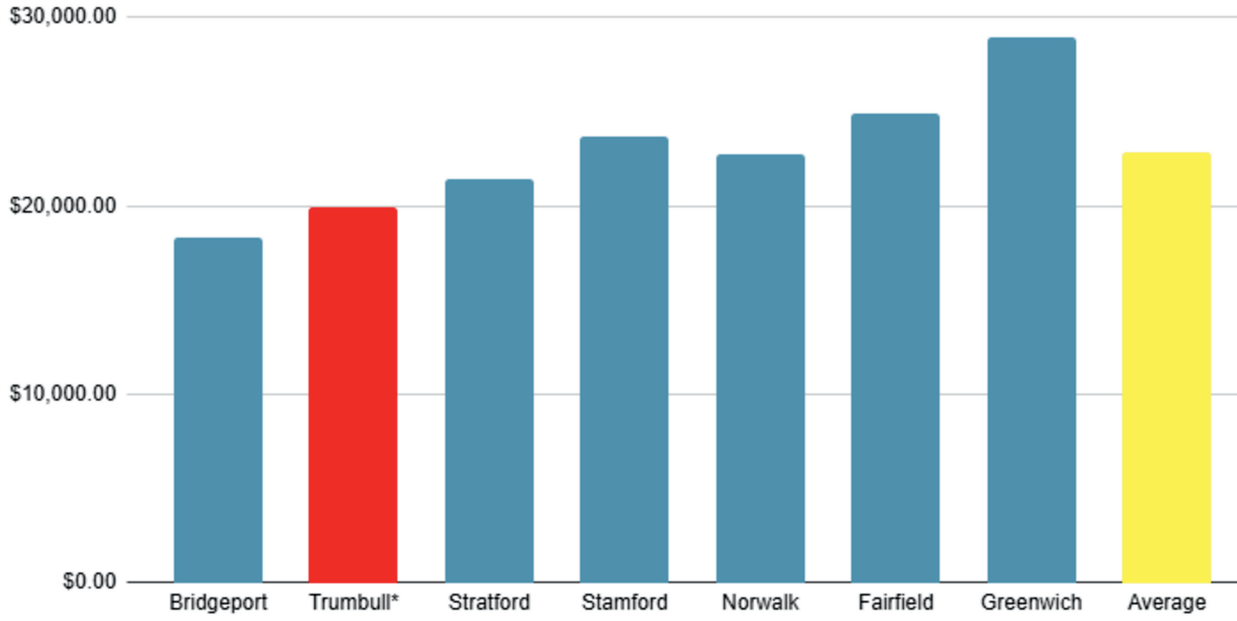
DRG B Districts-
2024-2025 Per Pupil Expenditures
District Enrollment Equal or Greater to TPS



Average for Selected DRG B Districts	$24,070	Per Student
Trumbull	$19,924	Per Student
Difference	$4,146	Per Student
Funding Needed to Achieve Average!	**$28,470,582**	

Updated for 25-26:
Funding Difference Now $28 MM

Area Districts-
2024-2025 Per Pupil Expenditures
District Enrollment Equal or Greater to TPS



Average for Selected Area Districts	$22,850	Per Student
Trumbull	$19,924	Per Student
Difference	$2,926	Per Student
Funding Needed to Achieve Average!	**$20,092,842**	

Updated for 25-26:
Funding Difference Now $20 MM

Board of Education Adopted 2026-2027 Budget

$137,773,114; a YTY increase of $8,595,475 or 6.65%

Budget request includes:

- Contractual increases of salaries Currently 40.19% of total request Or $3.45 MM
- Medical insurance rate increase estimate from State Comptroller is 15.0% for State Partnership Plan 2.0 (SPP).Currently 38.42% of total request Or $3.3 MM
- Increases to Elementary staff (3.0 FTE) to adhere to BOE guidelines
- Adds World Language (2.0 FTE) to provide Spanish exposure in Grade 5
- Includes anticipated savings of $635,000 through staff turnover
- Utility costs, primarily electricity, due to higher rates and the public benefit charge.
- Includes Athletics budget with $400K revenue offset (PTP fees + gate receipts)
- Transportation budget based on estimated 4.5% contractual increase and additional buses

Last year, the BOE approved a 5.89% increase, but ultimately received a 3.73% increase. How did that translate to reductions?

- $75,000 Pay to Play Increased from $165 to $190
- $290,000 of Non-Lapsing Account Paid for Bookworms
- $300,000 of Non-Lapsing Account Used to Decrease Technology Budget
- $207,000 Increased Expectation for Excess Cost Reimbursement after Special Legislation Passed in CT
- $80,000 Eliminated DFS Grade 2 FTE
- $80,000 Eliminated FTE for Madison Middle School Intervention
- Eliminated significant dollars in supplies, furniture, textbooks across the district

First Selectman Budget For BOE

Shared March 2, 2026

4.00%

Board of Finance Approved Budget

March 24, 2026

4.39%

The Board of Finance was the only Board that could increase the BOE Budget!

The Difference:

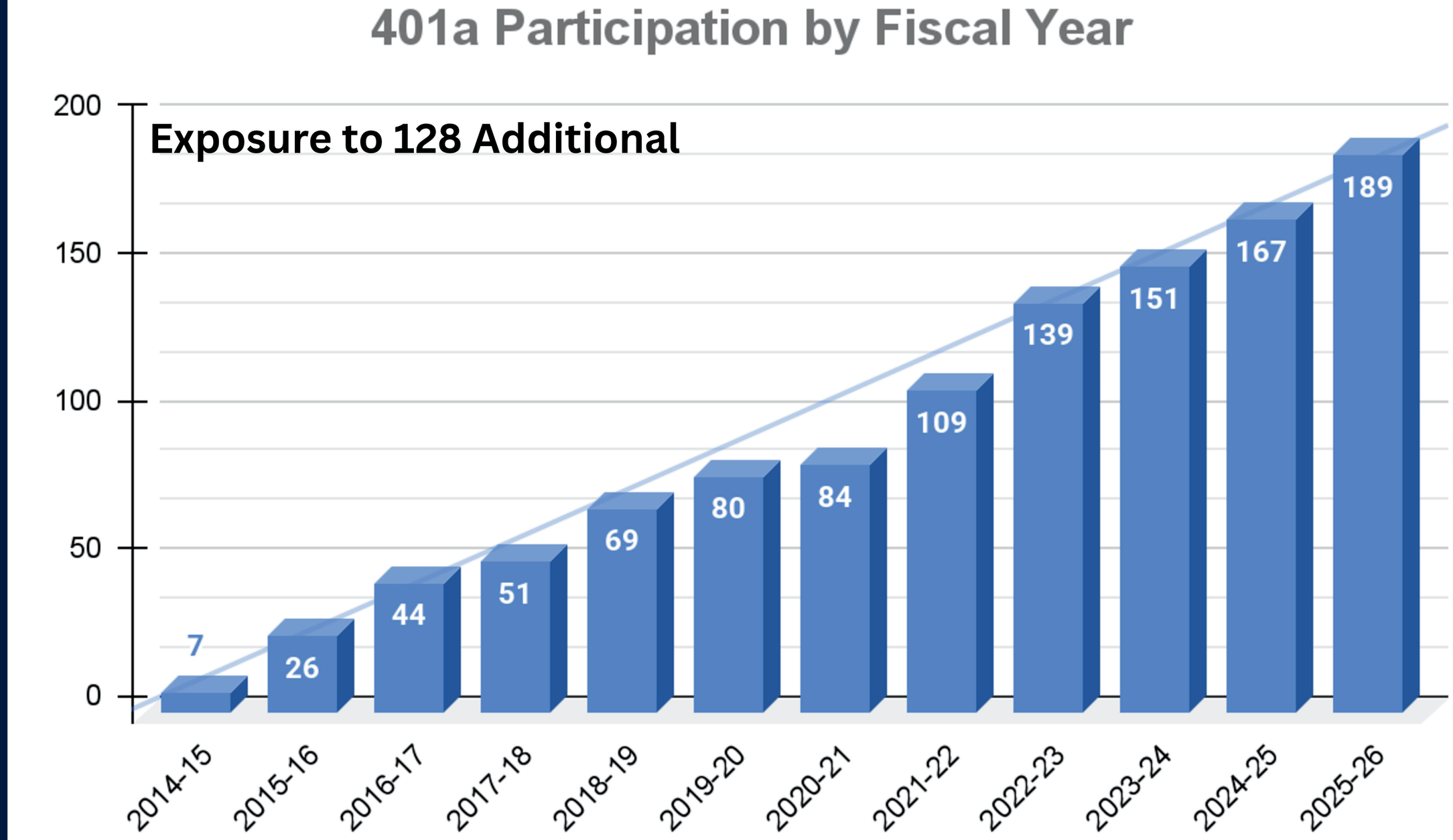
BOE Approved Budget:	$137,773,114 (6.65%)
BOF Approved Budget:	- $134,844,746 (4.39%)
Difference:	$2,928,368

ADJUSTMENTS

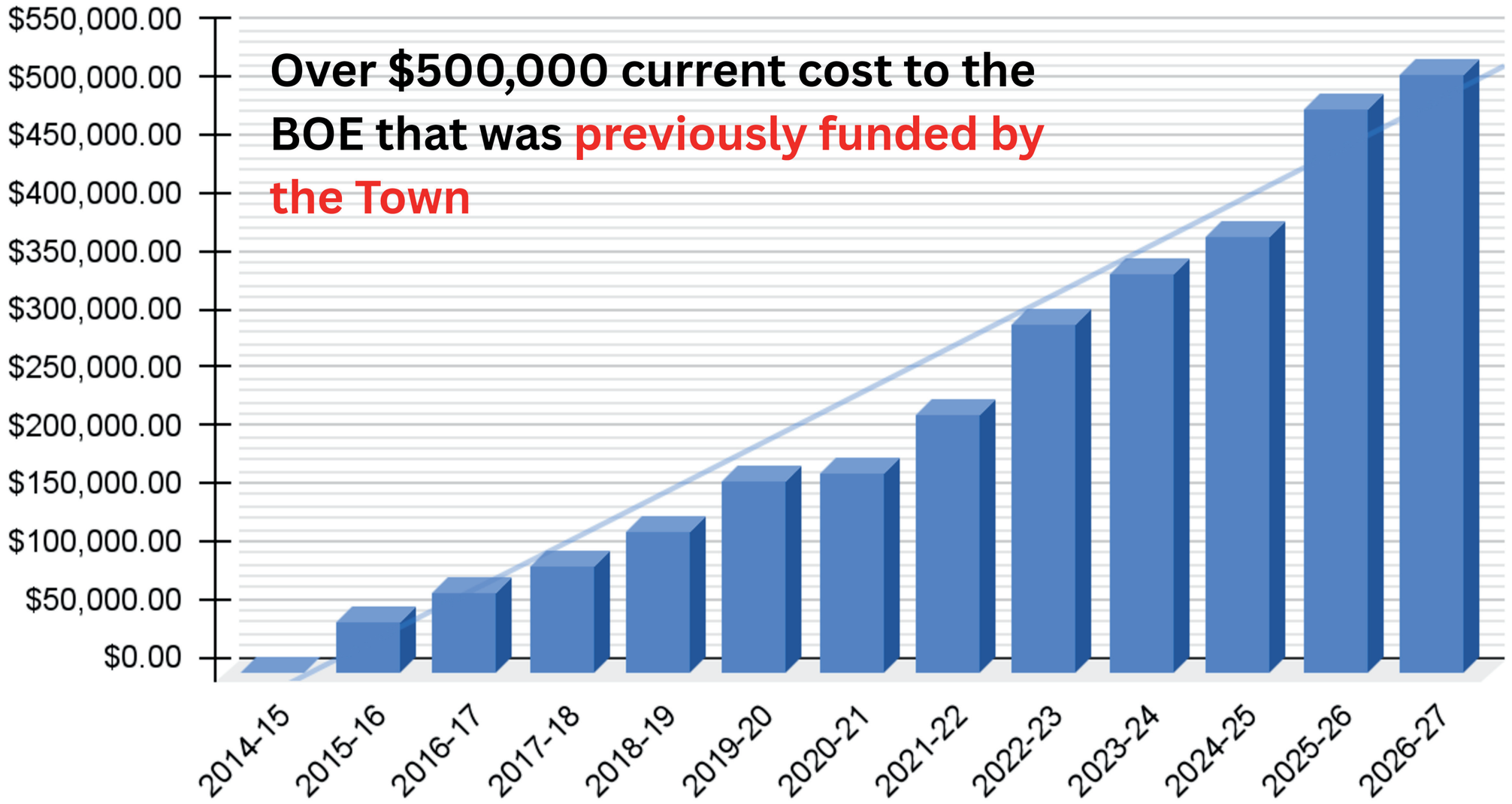
Difference:	$2,928,368
Adjustment:	
Insurance Cost (15% ➡ 12.5%)	($680,000)
Required Reduction:	$2,248,368

Possible Reductions @ 4.39%

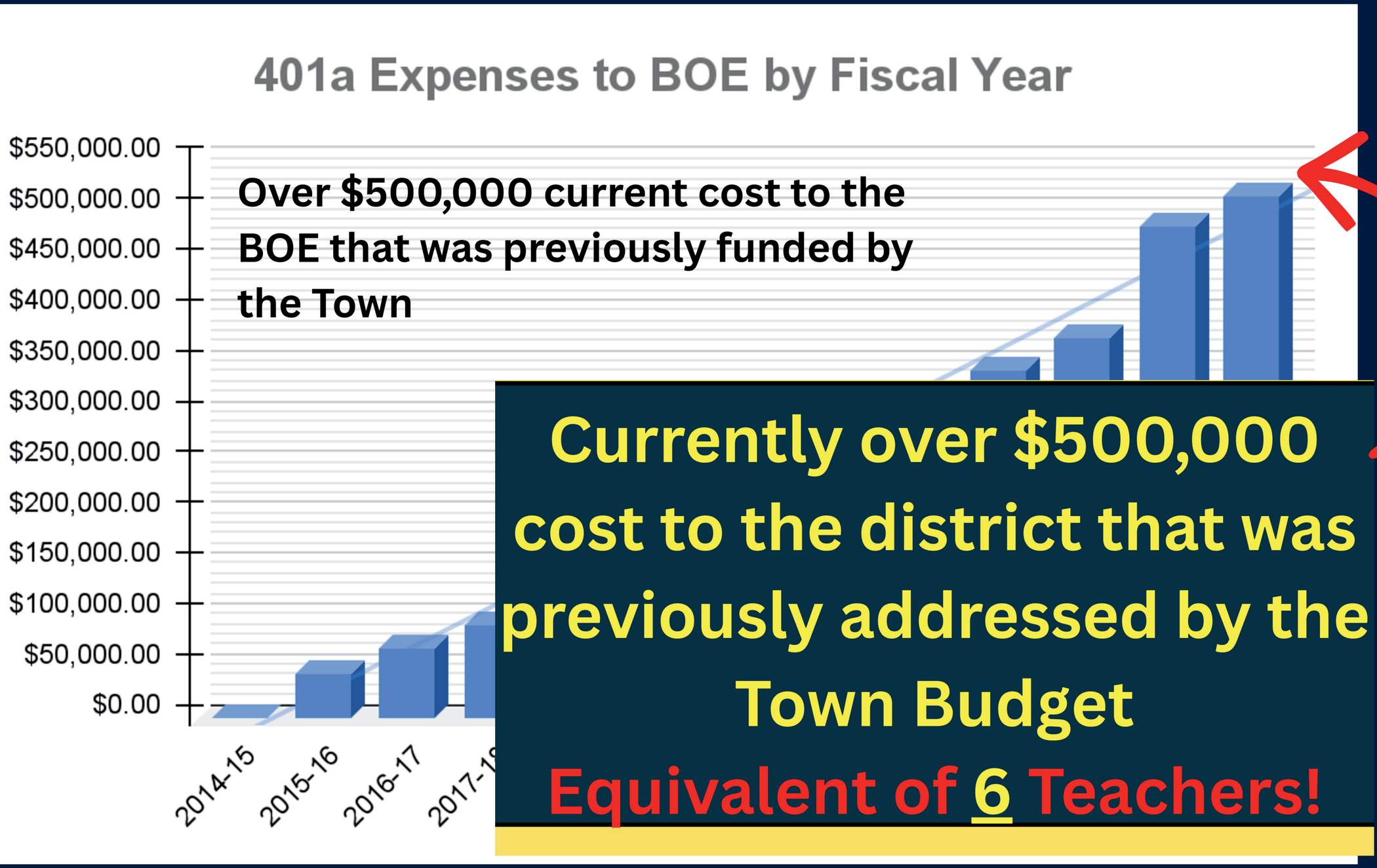
7 Teacher Positions (7.0 FTE's)	$630,000	Increase class size Elem/HS; Student Support
All New Staff (7.0 FTE's)	$542,000	Elem Enroll Increases; No Payroll Support, No ISS at THS
Technology Reduction	$225,000	Prolong 5 Year Technology Plan
Use Non-Lapsing Account	$200,000	Unexpected Facility Failures Cannot be Covered
Long Hill Support Staff (2.0 FTE's)	$205,000	More work for others; potential burnout, longer response rate
Textbook Reduction	$100,000	Middle School Math 1 year purchase; Eliminate Fun Readers
Various Supply Accounts	$95,000	Fewer Instructional Supplies
Secondary School Activities, Advisors & Comp Exp.	$90,000	Fewer Opportunities for Students
Raise Pay to Play by $40-50	$70,000	Additional Costs Given to Parents
Curriculum Writing/Professional Dev	$47,000	Fewer Course Updates and New Courses
Electricity Reduction	$25,000	Reduction in Public Benefits; Appliance Audit
Security Guards 12mo-> 10mo	$16,000	Leaves one 12 month Security Guard; Less Security at THS
Total	$2,245,000	


401a Participation by Fiscal Year
Exposure to 128 Additional
200
150
100
50
0
7
26
44
51
69
80
84
109
139
151
167
189
2014-15
2015-16
2016-17
2017-18
2018-19
2019-20
2020-21
2021-22
2022-23
2023-24
2024-25
2025-26

401a Expenses to BOE by Fiscal Year



Over $500,000 current cost to the BOE that was previously funded by the Town


401a Expenses to BOE by Fiscal Year
$550,000.00
$500,000.00
$450,000.00
$400,000.00
$350,000.00
$300,000.00
$250,000.00
$200,000.00
$150,000.00
$100,000.00
$50,000.00
$0.00
2014-15
2015-16
2016-17
Over $500,000 current cost to the BOE that was previously funded by the Town
Currently over $500,000 cost to the district that was previously addressed by the Town Budget
Equivalent of 6 Teachers!

August 2011 BOE Meeting Minutes

Addendum B

Agenda Item IV—Reports (out of order)

B. Town Pension Plan Update – Mr. Iassogna noted that the Town is pursuing a significant modification with regard to the Town Pension Plan. Town Chief of Staff Dan Nelson reviewed the Defined Contribution Plan, similar to a 457 Plan and noted it was an amendment to the Town's Pension Plan. He noted that this plan has already received Town Council approval and one bargaining unit of the Town now participates in this new plan. New hires for the Board of Education who are not affiliated with any bargaining unit would no longer be eligible for the Town's current pension but would be offered this new plan, whereby the employee would contribute to his own plan and the Town would contribute up to 5% of employee's salary in a matching amount of the employee contribution (i.e. if employee contributes 4% of his salary, Town would match contribution). Any employee participating in this plan would be able to take their monies with them if they no longer were employed by the Town/Board. **Mr. Nelson also noted that the expenses for this plan would be funded from the Town's side of the budget.**



BRING THE NON-CERTFIED RETIREMENT EXPENSE <u>BACK</u> TO THE TOWN BUDGET

KEEP BOF APPROVED INCREASE OF 4.39%

THIS WILL REDUCE CUTS!


What kind of
SCHOOL DISTRICT
do you want?
Trumbull Public Schools
Science

Request

- Recognize the Trumbull Public Schools for its Effectiveness and Efficiency
- Keep Entire Board of Finance Adopted Budget for BOE
- Remove 401A Expense from BOE Budget

What can you do now?

- Provide Public Comment to Town Council
  - Monday, April 27, 6:00 PM
    - Hybrid Meeting in Council Chambers
    - Comments taken via Zoom
  -

Can I Do Anything Else?



- Reach out to your State Elected Officials
  - Ask them to increase the Education Cost Share Grant
  - Ask them to fully fund the Excess Cost Reimbursement Grant (Special Education Reimbursement)
  - Ask them to stop adding unfunded mandates!

State Contact Info



- Governor Ned Lamont, 1-800-406-1527, 860-566-4840, Governor.Lamont@po.state.ct.us
- Lieutenant Governor Susan Bysiewicz, 860-524-7384, ltgovernor.Bysiewicz@ct.gov
- State Senator Sujata Gadkar-Wilcox (22nd district), 860-240-0425, Sujata.gadkar-wilcox@cga.ct.gov, gadkarwilcox@senatedems.ct.gov
- State Representative David Rutigliano (123rd district), 860-240-8700, David.Rutigliano@housegop.ct.gov
- State Representative Sarah Keitt (134th district), 860-240-8585, Sarah.Keitt@cga.ct.gov
- State Representative Ben McGorty (122nd district), 860-240-8757, Ben.McGorty@housegop.ct.gov
- State Representative Tony Scott (112th district), 800-842-1423, 860-240-8700, Tony.Scott@housegop.ct.gov

THANK YOU!