



**A rock solid education for
a lifetime of discovery.**

FY27 Budget Information Meeting

FY 27 Budget Vote History

Vote One March 5, 2026

- Overall increase of 3.36 Level Program Budget
- Included reductions in staffing 3.5 due to class size policy
- Summer school and use of \$100,000, in tax stabilization money to fund.
- Move two interventionist positions to the General Operating Budget, not in grants.
- We did not include the building principals recommendations which would have increased the budget by \$872,500 (6.85%)
- Includes Negotiations

Vote Two May 12, 2026

- Approximately 85% of school budget votes have passed.
- BUUSD overall budget increase of 2.73% one of the lowest in 5 years, lower than inflation, lower than many of the districts in Vermont, lower than the Governor's stated expectations
- State Per pupil spending \$10-24,000; BUUSD \$12,748 (below threshold amount \$16,331)
- \$50,000 Savings in combining SRO for two schools
- Moving intervention positions back to grant funds.
- Removal of summer school \$100,000
- Reduction of the per square feet in building and maintenance costs from \$1.00 to \$.85 square feet
- Increase the use of tax stabilization (300,000) and surplus funds(\$269,518)

Vote Three September 15, 2026

- All other school budgets in the state have been passed by voters.
- BUUSD overall budget increase of 2.11% which is well below inflation, lower than many of the districts in Vermont, lower than the Governor's stated expectations
- State Per pupil spending \$10-24,000; BUUSD \$12,648 (below threshold amount \$16,331)
- Reduced overall spending by \$350,000
- Reduction of 4.5 positions (FTE)
- Tax Rate impact from Vote Two to Vote Three
 - Reduced Tax Rate by \$0.044 Barre Town
 - Reduce Tax Rate by \$0.123 Barre City (in conjunction with reappraisal)

Community Input and Outcome

- **Opposition Drivers:** The primary reason for "No"
 - Tax Impact (33.3%)
 - BT down 8.3% or \$0.119 from original
 - BC down 35.5% or \$0.518 from original (reappraisal impact)
 - Followed by concerns over the rate of budget growth compared to the previous year. Budget increase 2.11% year over year
- **Spending Concerns:** Respondents are most worried about
 - Overall Spending Levels (34.7%) Reduced Spending \$750,000 from original budget draft
 - Reduced 11.5 Full Time Equivalents in this Fiscal Year drafts

Community Input and Outcome Continued

- **Desired Growth Rate:**
 - Over 30% of respondents prefer a 0–2% increase
Vote 3 increase is 2.11% year over year
 - 25% find the current proposal acceptable as is.
- **Reserve Fund Utilization:**
 - A clear majority (**69.4%**) advocate for using tax stabilization fund to provide immediate tax relief.
Board is utilizing \$300k tax stabilization funds in current budget

Where Do We Go From Here?

Option 1: Pass the current budget as proposal

- Fund Schools for the year that has already begun
- Move forward as a community to discuss priorities for FY28 Budget process
- Efficiently as possible work to minimize use of the Current Expense Note therefore bypassing additional interest charges

Option 2: Defeat the current budget proposal

- Schools will be forced to operate at 87% of prior years budget until new budget is passed
- Will trigger a clear need for use of the Current Expense Note therefore incurring interest expense at a rate of 4% (Additional Cost to taxpayers)
- Accelerated timeline for revote (Additional Cost to taxpayers)
- May result in decisions being made that can have a negative impact on school communities

Barre Demographics

Barre Town

Barre Town			
	Barre Town	Vermont AVG	Difference
Median Income	\$93,120	\$82,700	\$10,420
Per Capita Income	\$48,474	\$48,856	-\$382
Poverty Rate	2.5%	9.0%	-6.5%

- Median annual income \$10,420 higher than the state average.
- Per capita income flat to state average
- Poverty Rate only 33% of state average which equals less than 200 people in Barre Town are below the poverty line per state data.

Barre City

Barre City			
	Barre City	Vermont AVG	Difference
Median Income	\$65,625	\$82,700	-\$17,075
Per Capita Income	\$44,125	\$48,856	-\$4,731
Poverty Rate	17.3%	9.0%	8.3%

- Median annual income is -\$17,075 lower than the state average.
- Per capita income is -\$4,731 lower than the state average.
- Poverty rate is almost double the state average meaning that Barre City has 1469 people below the poverty line per state data.

Barre Weighted Average

Barre Weighted Average			
	Barre Town	Barre City	Total
Population	7923	8491	16414
Population Percetage	48.3%	51.7%	100.0%
	Barre	Vermont AVG	Difference
Median Income	\$78,897	\$82,700	-\$3,803
Per Capita Income	\$46,224	\$48,856	-\$2,632
Poverty Rate	10.2%	9.0%	1.2%

- Weighting was calculated by utilizing reported population numbers as last reported out by the State of Vermont.
- Weighted median income is -\$3,803 lower than the state average
- Weighted per capita income is -\$2,632 lower than the state average
- Weighted poverty rate is slightly higher than state average meaning that in total Barre has 1667 people below the poverty line per state data.

What Demographics Tell Us

Barre Weighted Average			
	Barre Town	Barre City	Total
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Population Percetage	48.3%	51.7%	100.0%
	Barre	Vermont AVG	Difference
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Per Capita Income	\$46,224	\$48,856	-\$2,632
Poverty Rate	10.2%	9.0%	1.2%

- Large segment of our population will qualify for some level of Income Sensitivity on their Property Taxes as long as their assessed property value is \$400,000 or less.
- Income sensitivity is based on your Adjusted Gross Income (Taxes), Property Value (Tax Bill), and Education Tax rate
- Income sensitivity is set at 2% of your adjusted Gross Income up to \$89,900 and is capped at a house value of \$400,000
- Click on this link for access to a quick [INCOME SENSITIVITY CALCULATOR](#) provided by the State of Vermont

Budget Vote September 15,
2026

BUUSD FY 27 Budget Vote 3 – Budget Facts

Ballot Article 1

Shall the voters of the school district approve the school board to expend \$57,129,257, which is the amount the school board has determined to be necessary for the ensuing fiscal year?

The Barre Unified Union School District Estimates that this proposed budget, if approved, will result in per-pupil education spending of \$12,648, which is 10.21% higher than per-pupil education spending for the current year.

- The increase from approved FY26 budget to proposed FY27v3 budget is \$1,180,114 or 2.11%
- Majority of the per-pupil education spending increase is due to a drop in LTWADM students - 263
 - Overall increase in Per-Pupil spend \$1,172
 - LTWAD reduction impact \$861 73.5% of impact
 - Budget spend impact \$311 26.5% of impact
- Over the last several years Barre has been lower than most districts on a per-pupil basis. All of this while operating in a high inflation environment. Facing many mandated costs out of their control with double digit increases.

LTWADM = Long Term Weighted Average Daily Membership

Budget History Over Time

						Estimated
	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY25	FY26	FY27
Expenses	\$46,352,501	\$47,254,319	\$49,615,634	\$53,308,337	\$55,949,143	\$57,129,257
	2.90% Increase	1.95% Increase	4.50% Increase	7.40% Increase	4.95% Increase	2.11% Increase
Per Pupil	\$15,334	\$16,252	\$17,978	*11,415	\$11,476	\$12,648
Tax Rates						
BC	\$1.426	\$1.310	\$1.400	\$1.416	\$1.393	\$0.939
BT	\$1.228	\$1.170	\$1.210	\$1.248	\$1.199	\$1.309

* Change in method for calculating students moved to LTWADM

Barre Town Tax Rate Impact

Barre Town 65% of the tax impact comes from CLA change year over year.

Barre Town	2025 Tax	2026 Est. Tax		Variance
Property Value on Tax Bill	\$100,000	\$100,000		\$0
Tax Rate	\$1.199	\$1.309		\$0.110
Tax Dollars	\$1,199	\$1,309		\$110
Variance Due To	CLA Change	Spending	Merger Incent.	Total
	\$0.071	\$0.029	\$0.010	\$0.110
	\$70.97	\$28.97	\$10.00	\$110

Barre Town	2025 Tax	2026 Est. Tax		Variance
Property Value on Tax Bill	\$200,000	\$200,000		\$0
Tax Rate	\$1.199	\$1.309		\$0.110
Tax Dollars	\$2,398	\$2,618		\$220
Variance Due To	CLA Change	Spending	Merger Incent.	Total
	\$0.071	\$0.029	\$0.010	\$0.110
	\$141.94	\$57.94	\$20.00	\$220

Barre Town	2025 Tax	2026 Est. Tax		Variance
Property Value on Tax Bill	\$300,000	\$300,000		\$0
Tax Rate	\$1.199	\$1.309		\$0.110
Tax Dollars	\$3,597	\$3,927		\$330
Variance Due To	CLA Change	Spending	Merger Incent.	Total
	\$0.071	\$0.029	\$0.010	\$0.110
	\$212.90	\$86.90	\$30.00	\$330

Barre Town \$1.309

- CLA change has accounts for 65% of the tax impact for FY27
- If CLA would have remained the same tax impacts would have been as follows:
 - \$100,000 \$32 annually
 - \$200,000 \$63 annually
 - \$300,000 \$95 annually
- Towns / Cities and State are in control of CLA. School Districts are merely downstream users of the data.

CLA = Common Level Appraisal

Barre City Tax Rate Impact

Barre City Grand List adjustment on average is 68% as reported on the City website

FY25 \$100,000 Property Value Estimate

Barre City	2025 Tax Value	2026 Est. Tax Value	Variance
Property Value on Tax Bill	\$100,000	\$168,000	\$68,000
FY26 Property Tax Bill	\$1,393	\$1,578	\$185
Variance Due To	Appraised Value	Tax Rate	Total
	\$947	-\$762	\$185

FY25 \$200,000 Property Value Estimate

Barre City	2025 Tax Value	2026 Est. Tax Value	Variance
Property Value on Tax Bill	\$200,000	\$336,000	\$136,000
FY26 Property Tax Bill	\$2,786	\$3,156	\$370
Variance Due To	Appraised Value	Tax Rate	Total
	\$1,894	-\$1,525	\$370

FY25 \$300,000 Property Value Estimate

Barre City	2025 Tax Value	2026 Est. Tax Value	Variance
Property Value on Tax Bill	\$300,000	\$504,000	\$204,000
FY26 Property Tax Bill	\$4,179	\$4,733	\$554
Variance Due To	Appraised Value	Tax Rate	Total
	\$2,842	-\$2,287	\$554

Barre City \$0.939

- Barre City reappraisal has an oversized impact on total tax bills
- Tax rate down \$0.454 due to CLA change of 48.74%

Annual Tax Bill Impact (Additional \$350,000 Reduction)

Barre Town \$1.309 down **-\$0.01**

Barre City \$0.939 down **-\$0.007**

Barre Town		
Home Value	Est. Impact	Comparison
\$100,000	-\$10.41	Medium Big Mac Value Meal at McDonalds \$14.39
\$200,000	-\$20.82	5 gallons of gas @ VT average of \$4.19
\$300,000	-\$31.23	5 lbs. of ground beef @ Barre average retail price of \$6.50 per lb.

Barre City			
2025 Home Value	2026 Est. Home Value	Est. Impact	Comparison
\$100,000	\$168,000	-\$12.55	Medium Big Mac Value Meal at McDonalds \$14.39
\$200,000	\$336,000	-\$25.10	6 gallons of gas @ VT average of \$4.19
\$300,000	\$504,000	-\$37.65	6 lbs. of ground beef @ Barre average retail price of \$6.50 per lb.

(Additional \$350,000 Reduction) Potential Cuts

What types of items would we have to cut to make up additional \$350,000 in budget reductions?

- Non Academic activities or spending
- Field Trips
- Athletics Transportation
- Co-Curricular activities
- Community Focused Activities
 - Concerts
 - Engagement with community sharing student success
 - Events outside of normal school day

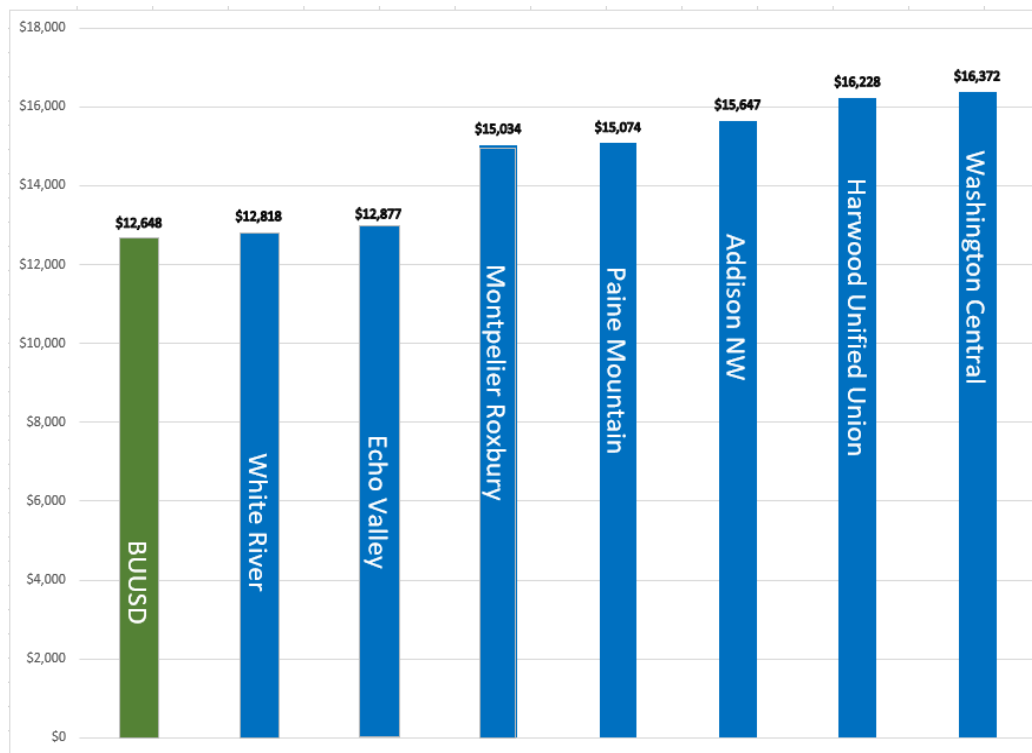
Cost To Borrow Money For The District

Line of Credit Interest costs Per Month / Annualized		
Amount Extended	Monthly Interest	Annualized Interest
\$100,000	\$331.50	\$3,978.00
\$200,000	\$664.92	\$7,979.00
\$300,000	\$998.17	\$11,978.00
\$400,000	\$1,331.50	\$15,978.00
\$500,000	\$1,664.83	\$19,978.00
\$600,000	\$1,998.17	\$23,978.00
\$700,000	\$2,331.50	\$27,978.00
\$800,000	\$2,664.83	\$31,978.00
\$900,000	\$2,998.17	\$35,978.00
\$1,000,000	\$3,331.50	\$39,978.00

- If we extend fully on our Line of Credit (\$6.7M) then we will incur a monthly interest cost of \$22,000

Proposed Per Pupil Spending by District

- BUUSD's per pupil spending is one of the lowest in the state.
- District has worked to balance needs of students with the concerns of taxpayers
- Only school budget in the state still not passed by voters.



Questions?