



MILTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

# Budget Update

3.19.25

Milton Public Schools | 25 Gile Road | Milton, MA 02186

# FY'24/FY'25 Budget History



## Fiscal Year 25 Budget Approved

School Department Town Meeting  
Appropriation: \$67,225,233



## Fiscal Year 25 Budget begins

Budget lines appropriated in accordance with budget proposal from May.



## Fiscal Year 24 Deficit Identified/Addressed

School Department prior year Operating Budget deficit identified early July

Deficit was addressed using one time funds (Circuit Breaker, Medicaid Reserves, Chargebacks)



## Fiscal Year 25 Projected Deficit Identified

Second quarter report identified *projected* deficit as of **June 30, 2025**

Issues are a continuation of the structural deficit within the school budget

# What is a structural deficit?

A structural deficit means that recurring expenses consistently exceed recurring revenues (i.e., budget appropriation)

Examples: Substitute/Class Coverage, Utilities

## Substitutes

Fiscal Year	Budget	Expenditure	Variance
FY'23	663,000	812,174	-149,174
FY'24	702,800	1,121,793	-418,993
FY'25	534,542	1,019,430	-484,888
FY'26 - Proposed	1,034,436		

## Utilities (Heat, Light, Water)

Fiscal Year	Budget	Expenditure	Variance
FY'23	1,475,934	1,799,215	-323,281
FY'24	1,385,000	1,904,681	-519,681
FY'25	1,438,000	2,006,540	-568,540
FY'26 - Proposed	1,904,682		

How does a structural deficit happen within a budget?

Structural deficit(s) can occur for a number of reasons, which include

- The budget is based on past budget numbers and not actual expenses
- Rising costs and demographic changes



# FY'25 Budget - Recap

As of the quarter two report (12/31/2024), projecting a \$2.296 million deficit at the end of the school year (June 2025).

This number is based on: known costs (salary and expense), projected expense for salaries (estimate - not systemic), known encumbrances (Open POs), known costs not encumbered.

Areas of concern: Special Ed transportation, utilities, substitute teacher budget

Action steps shared, starting early February to address the projected current year deficit:

- Purchase Order freeze
- Hiring freeze
- Allocate a portion of custodial salaries to food service account (\$75,000)
- Reduced consolidated facilities purchase orders (\$78,000)
- Circuit Breaker supplemental funding for transportation reimbursement (Governor's supplemental budget FY'25 - need to verify timing) (\$488,894)
- Utilize offsets: Community Schools, Medicare, Building Use (\$600,000)
- Substitute coverage: utilize current staff efficiently instead of paying for substitutes.

With the above actions, the new projected deficit is \$883,326.



# FY'25 Budget - Possible Additional Actions

Projected Deficit Balance:	\$883,326
<i>Considered, not enacted</i>	
Cancel Spring Sports	\$150,000
Spring sports surcharge—additional revenue (based On spring sports registration numbers)	\$20,000
<del>Push 2nd half stipend payments to July</del>	<del>\$160,000—Need to discuss with counsel</del>
Would need to be agreed upon with the union	
<del>Push spring sports stipend payments to July</del>	<del>\$150,000—Need to discuss with counsel</del>
Would need to be agreed upon with the union	
End stipend committee work	\$1,800
End grade level facilitator stipends	\$1,800
Request RTU capital funding reallocation	\$75,000
Requires capital approval	
Request chromebook capital funding reallocation:	\$391,000
Requires capital approval	
HRS Staff Reductions	
<i>Moving forward with</i>	
Correct water bill issue at HS	\$76,000 - should have clarity next week
-Possible meter issue	
Additional offset from Community Schools	\$50,000
Means fees increase 15% increase for FY26	
Additional offset from Transportation	\$50,000
Pulls FY26 fees into FY25	
Large group sub coverage	\$24,000
<b>NEW TOTAL</b>	<b>\$683,326</b>



# FY'25 Budget - Impact on FY'26

In the FY'26 proposed budget, many of the budget lines that were historically underfunded have been adjusted, based on prior year actuals and projected increases.

In some instances, costs continue to increase, so adjustments will be made to account for known expenses

## Ex) Special Education

Special Education: Budget Category	Budget	Expense	Variance - Budget to Actual	Circuit Breaker Utilization	Net Op Budget Variance
<b>FY'26: Original Budget Projection</b>					
FY'26 Tuition	4,912,342	6,912,342		2,000,000	
FY'26 Transportation	2,660,198	2,660,198			
FY'26 Contracted Service	846,000	846,000			
<b>FY'26 Total</b>	<b>8,418,540</b>	<b>10,418,540</b>	<b>(2,000,000)</b>	<b>2,000,000</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>FY'26: Updated Budget Projection (as of 3.13.25)</b>					
FY'26 Tuition	4,912,342	6,912,342		2,000,000	
FY'26 Transportation	2,660,198	3,012,490		352,292	
FY'26 Contracted Service	846,000	1,219,145		373,145	
<b>FY'26 Total</b>	<b>8,418,540</b>	<b>11,143,977</b>	<b>(2,725,437)</b>	<b>2,725,437</b>	<b>-</b>



# FY'25 Budget - Impact on FY'26

In the FY'26 proposed budget, many of the budget lines that were historically underfunded have been adjusted, based on prior year actuals and projected increases.

In some instances, costs continue to increase, so adjustments will be made to account for known expenses

## Ex) Special Education

Special Education: Budget Category	Budget	Expense	Variance - Budget to Actual	Circuit Breaker Utilization	Net Op Budget Variance
<b>FY'26: Original Budget Projection</b>					
FY'26 Tuition	4,912,342	6,912,342		2,000,000	
FY'26 Transportation	2,660,198	2,660,198			
FY'26 Contracted Service	846,000	846,000			
<b>FY'26 Total</b>	<b>8,418,540</b>	<b>10,418,540</b>	<b>(2,000,000)</b>	<b>2,000,000</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>FY'26: Updated Budget Projection (as of 3.13.25)</b>					
FY'26 Tuition	4,912,342	6,912,342		2,000,000	
FY'26 Transportation	2,660,198	3,012,490		352,292	
FY'26 Contracted Service	846,000	1,219,145		373,145	
<b>FY'26 Total</b>	<b>8,418,540</b>	<b>11,143,977</b>	<b>(2,725,437)</b>	<b>2,725,437</b>	<b>-</b>



# FY'26 Override Budget

## 5.7 Million Increase to Operating Budget

To account for the \$700,000 delta between a 5.7 million increase and our original 6.4 million level service increase to the operating budget, we propose the following:



# Revisions to Level Service

Attrition Based on Enrollment -300,000

(2) Elementary, (1) Secondary

Bus -95,000

General Expenses -10,000

Family Liaison -84,205

Program Design -350,000

Nurse Admin Assist -12,000

Athletic Fees -45,000

Circuit Breaker -100,000

---

**-996,205**

ELA Curriculum +250,000

ELL Support +30,000

---

**-716,205**