



P.O. Box 9310, Stamford, CT 06904

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www.stamfordpublicschools.org

Tamu Lucero, Superintendent of Schools

To: Board of Representatives
From: Ryan Fealey, CFO
Re: Budget Executive Summary
Date: March 4, 2024

Attached please find a one-page Executive Summary of the Board of Education's 2024-25 Budget. Also included is a summary of position changes, and details related to our Special Education program.

If you have any questions or would like more information, please do not hesitate to contact me at (203) 977-5011, or rfealey@stamfordct.gov.

2024-25 BOARD OF EDUCATION
BUDGET EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

MARCH 4, 2024

Item	\$ Amount	% Increase
BOE Approval	\$333,737,756	6.43%
Pension/OPEB Costs^	\$115,790	0.04%
City Healthcare Cross-charge^	(\$619,967)	-0.20%
City Risk Cross-charge^	(\$386,672)	-0.12%
Net Request*	\$332,846,907	6.15%

^Updated since BOE Approval

*Please note possible increase in number of Kindergarten classrooms if state legislature amends law on birthdate requirement

SUMMARY BY OBJECT

Object	Description	2023-24	2024-25	Variance	Contribution %	Note
100	Salaries and Wages	\$187,699,139	\$196,983,021	\$9,283,882	2.96%	Positions from ESSER offset by reductions due to enrollment projections & scheduling efficiencies
200	Employee Benefits	\$48,719,124	\$51,172,064	\$2,452,940	0.78%	Premium increase of 7% offset by use of \$1m from reserve
300	Educational, Rehabilitative, and Legal Services	\$11,619,032	\$14,040,909	\$2,421,877	0.77%	\$600k for new state mandated HVAC work; \$900k for Special Ed Pupil Services due to IEP requirements
400	Building Upkeep and Repair	\$8,339,956	\$9,191,603	\$851,647	0.27%	\$443k increase in electricity costs
500	Transportation, Out-District Tuition, & Other Svcs	\$46,169,782	\$50,370,341	\$4,200,559	1.34%	\$2.8m increase in transportation costs under new contract; \$480k increase in Property & Casualty premiums from City; \$930k increase in Special Ed Out of District Tuition incl. use of \$1m carryover grant
600	Supplies, Materials, and Heating Fuels	\$9,785,507	\$9,877,869	\$92,362	0.03%	
700	Equipment	\$1,058,953	\$1,034,034	(\$24,919)	(0.01%)	
800	Dues and Fees	\$171,403	\$177,066	\$5,663	0.00%	
Sum		\$313,562,896	\$332,846,907	\$19,284,011	6.15%	



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Board of Education 2024-25 Budget Summary of Proposed FTE Changes

Object	Description	Change in FTE (Operating)	Change in FTE (Grants)	Change in FTE (Net)	Summary*
101	Teachers	(4.2)	(31.1)	(35.3)	43.1 teachers (incl. 19.5 Technology Integration Teachers) from ESSER to Operating; +4.0 Westover 6th Grade; +4.7 Special Education; -20.0 K-5 (State Kindergarten law /enrollment projections); -24.0 High School (Increase max enrollment in electives and other courses where appropriate, more flexibility with PE/Health scheduling, more co-seating or offering low-enrolled courses in alternate years); -12.0 teachers to Alliance Grant; +6.0 Big Picture Learning (Alliance)
103	Teacher Support	6.0	(3.0)	3.0	1.0 School Psych; 2.0 Speech Pathologist; 3.0 Social Workers from ESSER
112	Administration - Non Certified Discretionary	(2.0)	(8.0)	(10.0)	-2.0 Public Affairs, -8.0 Lockwood Pre-K (Grants)
115	Paraeducators	10.0	(20.0)	(10.0)	19.0 Kindergarten Paras from ESSER; 10.0 Special Education Paras; -11.0 Kindergarten due to reduction in classes
117	Security Workers	29.0	(29.0)	0.0	Positions from ESSER
118	Parent Facilitators	23.0	(23.0)	0.0	Positions from ESSER
Sum		61.8	(114.1)	(52.3)	

*For a comprehensive list, please see Section 5 of the Budget Book.

SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAM DETAILS

Enrollment Based Tuition Projection										
	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25P	5 Year Trend	Tuition Costs:	2023-24 Budget	2023-24 Projected	2024-25 Budget
SPS Enrollment	16,335	16,136	16,258	16,402	16,178		District Placements	19,673,960	20,311,084	21,245,134
SPS Growth YoY	0.7%	3.2%	-1.6%	0.6%	-1.4%	0.1%	Agency Placements	733,987	527,885	495,293
Special Education Enrollment	2,447	2,556	2,622	2,830	2,983		Settlements	2,757,850	2,340,467	2,561,963
Special Education Growth YoY	-0.7%	4.5%	2.6%	7.9%	5.4%	5.4%	Other Tuition Expenses	503,613	503,613	551,274
Out of District Students	239	239	237	232	245		23,669,410	23,683,048	24,853,664	
OOD Growth Rate YoY	-4.2%	0.0%	-0.8%	-2.1%	5.8%	-0.1%	Average Costs:	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
OOD as a % of Special Ed	9.8%	9.4%	9.0%	8.2%	8.2%	8.7%	Distict Placement	104,060	112,839	116,789
Placements:	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25P		Agency Placement	74,477	75,412	78,052
District Placements	156	165	171	172	182		Settlement	40,524	43,342	44,859
Agency Placements	9	9	6	6	6		OOD Placement (weighted)	86,976	96,180	99,547
Settlements	74	65	60	54	57		<i>2024-25 Budget grossed up 3.5% for inflation</i>			

Dollar (\$) Based Tuition Projection					
	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25P	5 Year Trend
OOD Gross Tuition Cost	18,701,990	21,274,039	23,683,048	25,212,788	
OOD Tuition Growth Rate YoY	-2.5%	13.8%	11.3%	6.5%	6.5%
OOD Placement Per Pupil Cost (unweighted)	78,251	89,764	102,082	102,755	
Excess Cost Grant	4,386,312	4,813,462	5,517,872	5,546,813	
Excess Cost Grant as a % of Gross Tuition	23.5%	22.6%	23.3%	22.0%	

Need Based Tuition Projection				
	2023-24		2023-24	
	2023-24 Count	Cost	2023-24 Count	2023-24 Cost
Distict Placements	175	20,374,857	173	21,528,618
Agency Placements	6	470,152	6	592,909
Settlements	39	1,674,689	22	1,091,283
Other Tuition Expenses		503,613		397,039
Unknown District Placements post 12/1	3	197,469		
Unkown Agency Placements post 12/1	1	43,990		
Unknown Settlements post 12/1	13	563,446		
New Placement Allowance			15	1,829,883
New Settlement Allowance			28	1,256,050
	237	23,828,217	244	26,695,783

SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAM DETAILS

Contracted Services

	2017-18 Actual	2018-19 Actual	2019-20 Actual	2020-21 Actual	2021-22 Actual	2022-23 Actual	2023-24 Budget	2023-24 Projected	2024-25 Budget	Comments
Assistive Technology	83,706	98,091	91,949	100,360	105,595	100,744	92,000	101,200	102,000	Tiffany Mahoney
Audiology	4,690	61,740	41,500	64,970	56,935	84,000	87,360	87,360	90,720	Cristen McCaughey
ASD Classroom	0	0	0	0	0	0	850,000	859,000	0	Hubbard Day
BCBA/ABA	1,233,308	1,288,932	736,664	876,802	1,018,102	1,057,181	551,460	551,460	561,460	ABS \$102,900, Stepping Stones (EBS) \$150,880, Constellation \$147,680; ESY\$25,000; \$125,000 for Emergent Need; Additional \$70k for BCBA support @ Anchor ; \$189k less than 2021-22 Budget & 134k less than 2021-22 actual
Consulting	65,029	99,800	99,600	128,850	5,184	870	24,000	48,000	24,000	IEP audits, Training, Frankie Jones
Educational Consulting	476,196	176,576	46,075	30,250	22,728	81,080	24,650	25,200	33,000	Various Vendors; Previous 3 year average 33k per year
IEE	189,602	184,960	75,270	76,520	122,290	70,360	134,400	190,050	150,000	30 IEE's @ \$5,000 average cost
Miscellaneous	18,332	54,524	16,020	9,790	18,087	6,147	29,975	2,000	0	
Music/Art Therapy	26,446	88,294	67,193	112,752	111,206	130,312	163,800	163,800	167,400	Concordia University
Nursing	272,931	216,714	154,989	119,580	115,382	235,646	558,365	444,243	445,568	Nursing; Delta T 1 nurse: \$87,170 & 2 CNAs for Team: \$83,176 Total = \$170,346 ; Aveanna 2 nurses: \$182,557.2 & 1 CNA: \$52,159.20 Total = \$234,716.4; Nursing svcs Total 24-25 = \$405,062.4; Additional 10% of budget for emergent need, \$40,506;
OT/PT	1,343,617	1,560,433	1,623,057	1,684,476	1,985,346	2,334,400	2,154,959	2,161,259	2,263,669	Constellation, as per RFP, 33,535 hours @ \$64.26/hr. May need to reassess caseload to update hours requirement.
Professional Development	2,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Psychiatric	0	88,125	33,500	3,400	25,190	65,293	120,000	73,420	150,000	25 Psychiatric evaluations @ \$6,000 each
Psychology	99,150	41,875	11,125	3,400	74,986	39,713	40,000	30,000	40,000	Evaluation support (Nan Gordon, Learning Right)
RBT						0	0	866,834	176,475	RBT coverage for vacancies 3.0 FTE
Reading	20,060	30,013	0	21,902	0	3,900	0	0	0	
Sign Language	60,771	59,586	19,113	46,212	102,834	90,735	115,920	93,310	115,920	CoSign; 180 days x 7 hours per day x \$92/hr
Social Work	4,710	0	0	0	0	41,760	0	0	0	
Software/Program Support	142,498	117,990	98,083	121,230	0	0	0	0	0	
Speech & Language	509,340	807,605	452,121	284,822	358,948	374,784	230,025	232,025	230,025	Contracts for 1.0 FTE Teletherapy; Maternity coverage for 3.0 FTE @ 12 weeks each
TDP Classroom	0	684,394	1,254,038	1,513,408	1,573,644	2,094,740	2,189,489	2,354,000	2,695,800	7 REACH classrooms, 3 elementary, 2 middle, 2 High (Aspire awarded vendor)
Transition	89,902	92,325	38,625	0	3,231	0	0	0	0	
Tutoring	9,050	50,186	109,355	48,813	89,803	213,169	75,000	75,000	100,000	Various Vendors; Average 75k/yr last 4 years
	4,651,337	5,802,163	4,968,277	5,247,537	5,789,491	7,024,834	7,441,403	8,358,161	7,346,037	
Contract Allocation	2017-18 Actual	2018-19 Actual	2019-20 Actual	2020-21 Actual	2021-22 Actual	2022-23 Budget	2023-24 Budget			
Operating Budget	3,484,029	5,250,956	4,268,277	4,801,205	5,789,491	7,441,403	7,346,037			
Medicaid	429,130	295,661	500,000	-	-	-	-			
IDEA sec 611	209,190	255,546	200,000	-	-	-	-			
Total	4,122,349	5,802,163	4,968,277	4,801,205	5,789,491	7,441,403	7,346,037			

***2017-18 Operating budget total includes a credit of \$566,000 for a favorable settlement, and an accrual for \$37,012.*

***Operating Budget Total includes a credit of \$446,332 originally accrued for legal expenses related to Stamford Academy & Trailblazers*

Historical Special Education Trends

	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	5 Year Trend
Total Budget Expenditures (ED001/EF5)	\$ 275,438,635	\$ 283,194,188	\$ 291,300,494	\$ 302,248,240	\$ 303,438,183	\$ 311,980,127	\$ 313,450,594	\$ 321,077,352	\$ 346,923,836	\$ 362,600,916	\$ 382,046,812	5.4%
All Other District Expenditures (ED001/EF5)	\$ 215,829,715	\$ 219,185,260	\$ 224,390,326	\$ 232,421,665	\$ 228,969,032	\$ 235,253,646	\$ 235,345,754	\$ 239,447,532	\$ 259,673,736	\$ 265,763,205	\$ 277,102,674	
Total Special Ed Expenditures (ED001/EF5)	\$ 59,608,920	\$ 64,008,928	\$ 66,910,168	\$ 69,826,575	\$ 74,469,151	\$ 76,726,481	\$ 78,104,840	\$ 81,629,820	\$ 87,250,100	\$ 96,837,711	\$ 104,944,137	
<i>SpEd as a % of Total Budget</i>	21.6%	22.6%	23.0%	23.1%	24.5%	24.6%	24.9%	25.4%	25.1%	26.7%	27.5%	
<i>SpEd YoY Change</i>		7.4%	4.5%	4.4%	6.6%	3.0%	1.8%	4.5%	6.9%	11.0%	8.4%	8.4%
Total District Enrollment (Oct. 1)	16,069	16,149	16,046	16,172	15,974	16,084	16,652	16,335	16,136	16,258	16,402	
<i>District Enrollment Growth Rate YoY</i>		0.5%	-0.6%	0.8%	-1.2%	0.7%	3.2%	-1.6%	0.6%	-1.4%	0.8%	0.1%
General Education Enrollment (Oct. 1)	14,291	14,305	14,093	14,058	13,813	13,785	14,135	13,888	13,878	13,590	13,518	
Special Education Enrollment (Oct. 1)	1,778	1,844	1,953	2,114	2,161	2,299	2,465	2,447	2,556	2,622	2,830	
<i>SpEd Enrollment Growth Rate YoY</i>		3.7%	5.9%	8.2%	2.2%	6.4%	7.2%	-0.7%	4.5%	2.6%	7.9%	5.4%
<i>Stamford Public Schools ID Rate (Pre K - 12)</i>	11.1%	11.4%	12.2%	13.1%	13.5%	14.3%	14.8%	15.0%	15.6%	16.2%	17.3%	
<i>Stamford Public Schools ID Rate (K - 12 from EdSight.gov)</i>	10.5%	11.0%	11.5%	12.1%	12.7%	13.4%	14.0%	14.2%	15.0%	15.1%		
<i>State of CT ID Rate (K - 12 from EdSight.gov)</i>	12.4%	13.0%	13.4%	13.9%	14.5%	15.0%	15.6%	15.9%	16.3%	16.7%		
OOD Gross Tuition Cost	\$ 12,351,201	\$ 14,825,874	\$ 15,223,458	\$ 16,814,907	\$ 17,608,546	\$ 18,002,039	\$ 19,566,494	\$ 19,175,011	\$ 18,701,990	\$ 21,274,039	\$ 23,683,048	
OOD Tuition Cost (ED001/EF5)	12,260,569	14,735,654	15,092,740	16,624,232	17,549,598	18,002,039	19,535,867	19,164,334	18,648,642	21,265,471		
<i>OOD Tuition Growth Rate YoY</i>		20.0%	2.7%	10.5%	4.7%	2.2%	8.7%	-2.0%	-2.5%	13.8%	11.3%	6.5%
Total OOD Placements	203	214	214	235	223	236	250	239	239	237	232	
<i>OOD Growth Rate YoY</i>		5.4%	0.0%	9.8%	-5.1%	5.8%	5.8%	-4.2%	0.0%	-0.8%	-2.1%	-0.1%
OOD Placement Per Pupil Cost (unweighted)	60,843	69,280	71,138	71,553	78,962	76,280	78,398	80,230	78,251	89,764	102,082	
# OOD Placements If No In District Programs	203	211	223	241	247	262	281	279	292	299	323	
<i>OOD as a % of Total SpEd Enrollment</i>	11.4%	11.6%	11.0%	11.1%	10.3%	10.3%	10.1%	9.8%	9.4%	9.0%	8.2%	8.7%
Distict Placements	125	132	136	155	145	150	160	156	165	171	172	
Agency Placements	27	21	16	15	11	9	11	9	9	6	6	
Settlements	51	61	62	65	67	77	79	74	65	60	54	
<i>*This is an average based on weekly count data</i>												
Average Costs:												
Distict Placement						85,982	94,260	93,763	92,778	104,060	112,839	
Agency Placement						91,683	85,961	76,710	94,927	74,477	75,412	
Settlement						51,029	42,037	48,336	41,694	40,524	43,342	
Out of District Placement (weighted)						74,794	77,348	79,056	78,920	86,976	96,180	
Net Placements between 12/1 and End of year:												
Distict Placements					9	4	9	3	3	(6)	3	
Agency Placements					-	(1)	-	-	(1)	(2)	(1)	
Settlements					10	14	10	15	12	12	13	
Total					19	17	19	18	14	4	14	
Tuition Allocation:												
Operating Budget	\$ 7,905,544	\$ 10,201,391	\$ 10,110,073	\$ 12,230,243	\$ 12,861,994	\$ 13,498,414	\$ 15,080,758	\$ 13,696,558	\$ 15,645,678	\$ 16,026,217	\$ 17,377,386	
Excess Cost Grant	\$ 4,445,657	\$ 4,350,752	\$ 4,767,064	\$ 4,285,984	\$ 4,422,563	\$ 4,328,446	\$ 4,485,736	\$ 5,478,453	\$ 4,386,312	\$ 4,813,462	\$ 5,517,872	
<i>Excess Cost Grant as a % of Gross Tuition</i>	36.0%	29.3%	31.3%	25.5%	25.1%	24.0%	22.9%	28.6%	23.5%	22.6%	23.3%	23.3%
IDEA sec 611	0	273,731	346,321	201,270	323,989	175,179	0	0	0	0	0	
Medicaid	0	0	0	97,410	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Tuition Reserve (Ending Balance as of 6/30)								\$2,022,898	\$3,352,898	\$2,905,737	\$2,117,947	
Cost per InDistrict Sped Student	30,005	30,174	29,722	28,213	29,340	28,466	26,423	28,286	29,585	31,683	31,278	
Cost per Special Education Student	33,526	34,712	34,260	33,031	34,461	33,374	31,686	33,359	34,135	36,933	37,083	
Cost per General Education Student	15,102	15,322	15,922	16,533	16,576	17,066	16,650	17,241	18,711	19,556	20,499	

	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	5 Year Trend
Contracted Services (Gross)	\$ 4,028,683	\$ 4,505,878	\$ 4,991,830	\$ 4,411,569	\$ 4,688,349	\$ 5,788,261	\$ 4,967,477	\$ 5,247,537	\$ 5,789,491	\$ 7,058,965	\$ 8,358,161	
% Increase		11.8%	10.8%	-11.6%	6.3%	21.4%	-14.2%	5.6%	10.3%	21.9%	18.4%	15.2%
Contracted Services Per Pupil Cost	\$ 2,266	\$ 2,444	\$ 2,556	\$ 2,087	\$ 2,170	\$ 2,518	\$ 2,015	\$ 2,144	\$ 2,265	\$ 2,692	\$ 2,953	\$ 2,473
Operating Budget										6,633,669	7,441,403	
IDEA sec 611										241,868	650,000	
Medicaid										183,428	266,758	
Gen Ed Student	15,102	15,322	15,922	16,533	16,576	17,066	16,650	17,241	18,711	19,556	20,499	
Special Ed In District Student	30,005	30,174	29,722	28,213	29,340	28,466	26,423	28,286	29,585	31,683	31,278	
Special Ed Out of District Student (unweighted)	60,843	69,280	71,138	71,553	78,962	76,280	78,398	80,230	78,251	89,764	102,082	
SPS per Pupil Cost (Net Current Expenditures per Pupil)	\$ 16,740	\$ 17,139	\$ 17,424	\$ 18,045	\$ 18,591	\$ 18,934	\$ 19,271	18,897	19,641	20,679	21,023	
<u>Cost Factor</u>												
Gen Ed Student	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	
Special Ed In District Student	2.0	2.0	1.9	1.7	1.8	1.7	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.5	
Special Ed Out of District Student	4.0	4.5	4.5	4.3	4.8	4.5	4.7	4.7	4.2	4.6	5.0	

**Includes Operating Budget, Grants, and In-kind Services from the city as reported on the ED001/EFS report.