



Amherst School District

**FY25 Deliberative Session
Budget and Warrant Articles
February 5, 2024**



Ellen Grudzien

Amherst School District Moderator

Moderators Rules of Procedure

The Moderator will not follow Robert's Rules. The Moderator will use the following general rules of procedure, whose main purpose is to keep things moving, and not get bogged down in procedural quagmires.

1. Every resident who wishes to vote must have checked in with the Supervisors of the Checklist outside the auditorium door and have a colored dot visible on their clothing.
2. The Moderator will take Articles in the order they appear on Warrant unless the Moderator announces the intent to take Articles out of order.
3. Motions to amend must be made in writing and will be voted separately. Amendments will not be allowed to accumulate.
4. Each speaker shall state name and limit their time at the microphone to three minutes. No individual will be allowed to speak a second time until all others wishing to speak for the first time have done so.



Moderators Rules of Procedure

5. Speakers wishing to address the meeting should form a line at the microphones. The moderator will attempt to alternate pro and con points.
6. The moderator will only accept a motion made at a microphone.
7. No motion to call the question shall be accepted by the moderator until there has been sufficient debate on the article.
8. A motion to restrict reconsideration in accordance with RSA 40 Section 10 should be made immediately following the announcement of the vote on that article.
9. The moderator will dispense with reading the warrant at this time; however, each warrant article will be read when it is moved to the floor for deliberation and action. The warrant is also printed in the Voters' Guide. The Annual Report and Voters' Guide to Official Ballot Voting will be sent to all residents prior to March 5th.



Election of Officers



Article 11. Election of Officers (voting by official ballot March 12, 2024)

To the following school district offices:

- a. To choose one (1) School Board Member for the ensuing three (3) years



Superintendent's Address

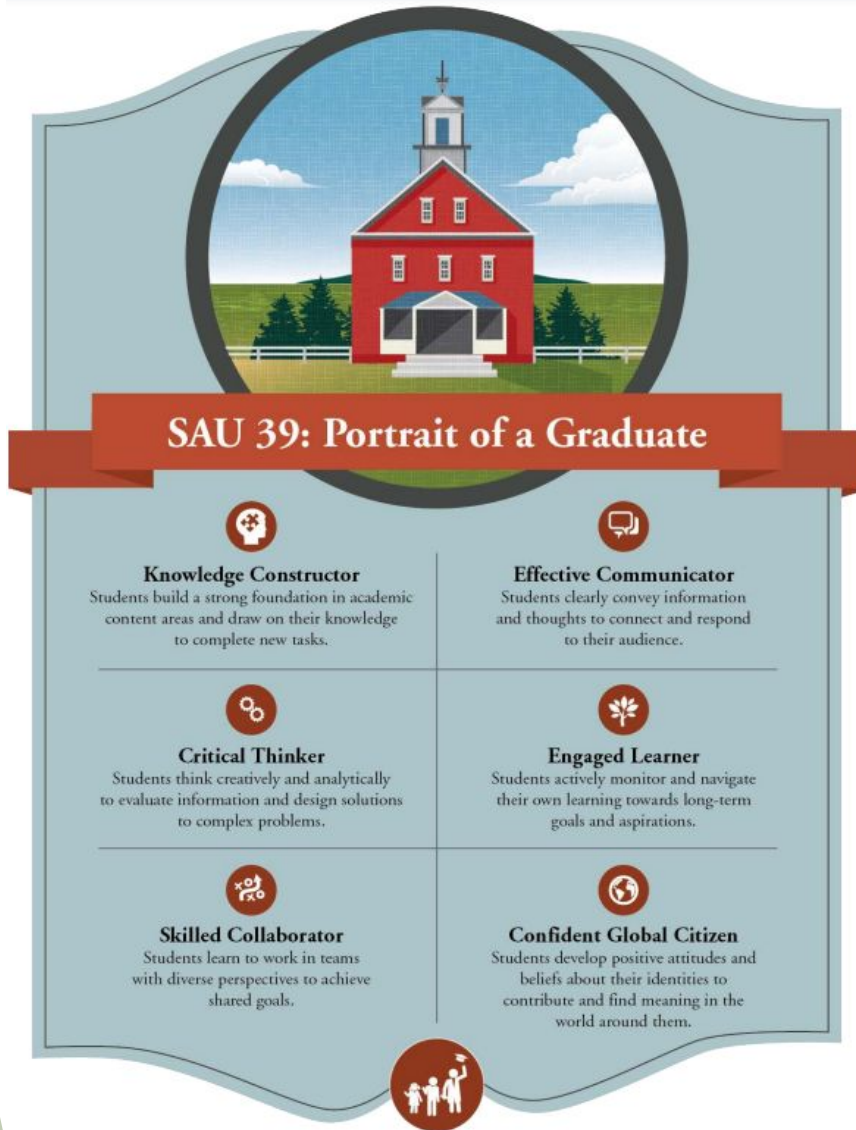
Mike Berry



SAU 39 Mission at Amherst

We engage, challenge, and support all learners.

- Balancing high academic expectations and deep care for students' social-emotional well-being.



Mission

We engage, challenge, and support all learners.



Superintendent Goals 2023-2024



Gain an understanding of:

- ▶ The present level of performance of all the schools in SAU 39.
- ▶ The community's thoughts and insights on the strengths and opportunities for growth in SAU 39.
- ▶ The faculty and staff insights and thoughts on the strengths and opportunities for growth in SAU 39

Superintendent Goals 2023-2024



Engage in a visioning process: Support the Board's work by leading the leadership team in discussing priorities and planning for the next 1-2 years. including but not limited to:

- ▶ A focus on literacy
- ▶ Continue work on educator effectiveness (teacher and support staff evaluation)
- ▶ Increasing instructional time
- ▶ Emphasis on instructional strategies
- ▶ Building trust

Superintendent Goals

2023-2024



- ▶ Investigate and develop a plan to increase and improve communication with the community as the district strives to partner with the community on the mission of SAU 39, SAU, and district initiatives, the budget, data, and policies.
- ▶ Develop and present budgets prioritizing student learning, specifically instructional strategies.
- ▶ Evaluate the current structure of the summer professional development program for the specific needs of the students, staff, school, and district goals aligned with the priorities of SAU 39.

Superintendent Office

Additional Priorities 2023 - and beyond



Mentoring School Leaders

- ▶ 8 of 12 building administrators have three or fewer years of experience.
- ▶ Critically important that current administration receive support - leadership consistency is a priority.

Significant Facility Leadership

- ▶ Mont Vernon School District beginning Facility Study Stage
- ▶ Year Three of Amherst School District Proposal
 - ▶ When passed, implementation will add significant work to building and SAU leadership.
- ▶ Souhegan Cooperative School District can move forward with NEASC and State Standard Compliance- Science Labs.

Strategic Planning and Operational Planning

- ▶ Significant community and leadership in engagement process
- ▶ SAU and/or District Level
- ▶ Framework for Progress

Framework for Progress

2023-2025



GOAL I: Improve literacy

GOAL II: Improve Mathematics

GOAL III: Expand and improve the use of instructional time

GOAL IV: Support the improvement of instructional practices

GOAL V: Build and strengthen partnerships

Goal VI: Improve facilities

Improve Literacy



Priorities:

- ▶ Formalize and enhance a culture of literacy in each school.
- ▶ Ensure evidence and research-based practices are implemented in each school.
- ▶ Provide educators with developmentally appropriate and effective curricular resources and professional development to enhance literacy instruction and assessment.
- ▶ Use data to inform instructional decisions to meet the diverse needs of all our students.

Outcomes:

- ▶ Increased use of evidence-based practices in classrooms as measured through classroom observation.
- ▶ 80% of students are able to demonstrate proficiency on state assessments in grades 4, 6, 8, and 11

Improve Mathematics



Priorities:

- ▶ Evaluate the current curriculum and resources, identify gaps and deficits, and revise as needed.
- ▶ Ensure evidence and research-based practices are implemented in each school.
- ▶ Provide educators with developmentally appropriate and effective curricular resources and professional development to enhance mathematics instruction and assessment.
- ▶ Use data to inform instructional decisions to meet the diverse needs of all our students

Outcomes:

- ▶ Increased use of evidence-based practices in classrooms as measured through classroom observation.
- ▶ Students receive targeted support based on their learning data.
- ▶ The curriculum will be aligned through professional development and meeting vertically with K-12 math staff
- ▶ 70% of students are able to demonstrate proficiency on state assessments in grades 4, 6, 8, and 11

Expand/Improve Instructional Time



Priorities:

- Communicate and develop a shared understanding and commitment to the importance of instructional time in SAU39.
- Review unintended outcomes of school-day start and end times.
- Refine master schedules in each building to ensure an appropriate balance of academic and social-emotional needs.
- Analyze the impact of the school year calendar on student learning.

Outcomes:

- Instructional time that supports high academic achievement and deep care for the whole student is measured through an annual audit.
- Increased student attendance through support from parents/guardians and students
- Revised school year calendars and master schedules that reflect best practices.
- Improved student learning outcomes as measured by the statewide assessment.

Improve Instructional Practices



Priorities:

- ▶ Implement with fidelity the agreed-upon Supervision and Evaluation system in SAU 39 with a focus on connecting feedback to research-based practices and resources to support educator growth.
- ▶ Use data to inform instructional decisions at the classroom, school, and district level.
- ▶ Provide high-quality professional development opportunities for educators to continue to improve instructional strategies.
- ▶ Create a supportive classroom and school environment to meet all students' social and emotional needs.

Outcomes:

- ▶ Increased use of evidence-based practices in classrooms as measured through classroom observation.
- ▶ Improved student learning outcomes in all content areas.
- ▶ Documented curriculum and program review cycle for all content areas, programs, and resources.

Build and Strengthen Partnerships



Priorities:

- ▶ Communicate evidence of progress and achievement throughout SAU39.
- ▶ Increase communication and collaboration among the schools to vertically articulate the curriculum
- ▶ Recruit, hire, retain and continuously develop high-quality educators.
- ▶ Ensure transparency in decision-making.
- ▶ Engage families as partners in their children's education.
- ▶ Increase and improve communication about the mission of SAU 39 and district initiatives, budget, data, and policies.
- ▶ Develop and engage in a strategic planning process.
- ▶ Create a review cycle for all district planning documents.

Outcomes:

- ▶ Increased participation in school-sponsored activities
- ▶ Continued development of the SAU data dashboard
- ▶ Communication plan that includes a social media presence, a fully utilized website, and an opportunity for feedback from the school community.

Improve Facilities



Priorities:

- ▶ Develop and implement annual and preventative maintenance programs that ensure quality facilities.
- ▶ Thoroughly assess aging facilities to determine whether they necessitate major renovation or replacement to adequately meet the needs of today's students.
- ▶ Effectively communicate facility needs to the community.

Outcomes:

- ▶ Decrease in time building leadership spends on facility issues and increase time spent on instructional leadership.
- ▶ Increased faculty and student attendance due to better building operations.
- ▶ Increased community confidence as evidence of effective stewardship of SAU assets



School Board Presentation

Tom Gauthier, School Board Chair

Warrant Articles



**Elementary School
Building Bond
\$49,997,214**

**Budget: \$34,055,985
Default: \$33,116,509**

**Capital Facilities Fund
\$675,000**

**Technology Fund
\$75,000**

**Vehicle Fund
\$30,000**

Major Stories-Budgetary Impact



- ▶ Major Cost Driver
 - ▶ Significant Increase in Health and Dental Insurance, 21.8% and 4.7%

- ▶ Continue Support for School Community Needs
 - ▶ Operationalize CBAs approved March 2023
 - ▶ Staffing Changes Based on Student Need and Enrollment
 - ▶ Maintain Target Class Sizes
 - ▶ Small Increase to Administrative Team to Support Teacher/Student Needs
 - ▶ Continued Focus on Literacy
 - ▶ Increase to 16 Buses to Address Timeliness and Instructional Time Issues
 - ▶ Implement Newly Developed Technology Plan
 - ▶ Prioritize Zero Based Budgeting Approach

- ▶ Continue Strategic Investment in Facilities
 - ▶ Bond for Elementary School Project
 - ▶ Capital Needs Projects-Roof and Unit Ventilators at AMS
 - ▶ Preventive Maintenance



Ellen Grudzien

Amherst School District Moderator

Article 12-Bond Warrant Article

Article 12.

To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of forty nine million nine hundred and ninety seven thousand two hundred fourteen dollars (\$49,997,214) (gross budget) to finance the major addition, reconstruction and renovation project for the Wilkins Elementary School building, located at 80 Boston Post Road, Amherst, NH and to authorize the issuance of not more than forty nine million nine hundred and ninety seven thousand two hundred fourteen dollars (\$49,997,214) of bonds or notes under and in compliance with the Municipal Finance Act, RSA 33:1 et seq., as amended; to authorize the School Board to apply for, obtain and accept federal, state or other aid, if any, which may be available for said project and to comply with all laws applicable to said project; to authorize the School Board to issue, negotiate, sell and deliver said bonds and notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon and the maturity and other terms thereof; and to authorize the School Board to take any action or to pass any other vote relative thereto, and further to raise and appropriate an additional sum of one million two hundred forty nine thousand nine hundred thirty dollars (\$1,249,930) for the first year's interest payment on the bond. **3/5 ballot vote required.**

Recommended by the Amherst School Board (5-0)

Recommended by the Amherst School District Ways & Means (advisory budget committee)
(7-0)

Estimated tax impact of passing this article is: \$0.52 per thousand.





Elementary School Building Project
Shannon Gascoyne, School Board Member
Terri Behm, School Board Secretary

Historical Overview

- ▶ 2017: Capital Needs Assessment developed to analyze 20-year cost to operate current Amherst schools
- ▶ 2018: JFAC formed with town volunteers, elected officials, & school administration
- ▶ March 2020: Voters approve \$150,000 Architect & Engineering fees as part of district budget for Amherst facilities design phase
- ▶ 2020: Lavalley Brensinger Architects and Harvey Construction hired to develop facilities options
- ▶ 2020: ASB does not move forward LBA designs to public hearing
- ▶ 2021: Banwell Architect, DEW Construction, and Tighe and Bond engineers were hired to develop facility options



Historical Overview

- ▶ 2022: Warrant article failed for complete renovation of Amherst Middle School and new construction for a consolidated Clark-Wilkins Elementary, PK-5, \$83,000,000
- ▶ 2023: Summer, Small section of roof at AMS
- ▶ 2023: ASB holds hearing and votes to utilize Capital Reserve Funds for Phase II HVAC/Roof at Amherst Middle School to begin Summer '24
- ▶ 2023: Warrant article failed for new construction for a consolidated Clark-Wilkins Elementary, PK-5, \$54,250,179
- ▶ 2024: Reduced footprint, New Wilkins Elementary, 1-5, \$49,997,214



Key Considerations FY25

▶ Defeated Proposals

- ▶ '22 and '23 defeated bond requests for a PK-5 Elementary School

▶ Back to the Drawing Board

- ▶ Community Feedback Surveys and Sessions
 - ▶ Cost, Scope & Clark School
- ▶ Summer '23 Amherst School Board Facilities Retreat
- ▶ Estimate and Fully Cost Two Options
 - ▶ Renovation/Addition
 - ▶ “Build to Suit”
 - ▶ Educational Program revisions for reduced grades (1-5) and refined



Key Considerations FY25

- ▶ **Clark School Remains PK-K**
 - ▶ Explored possibility of early childhood program at SHS
- ▶ **SHS Space Utilization Analysis Completed**



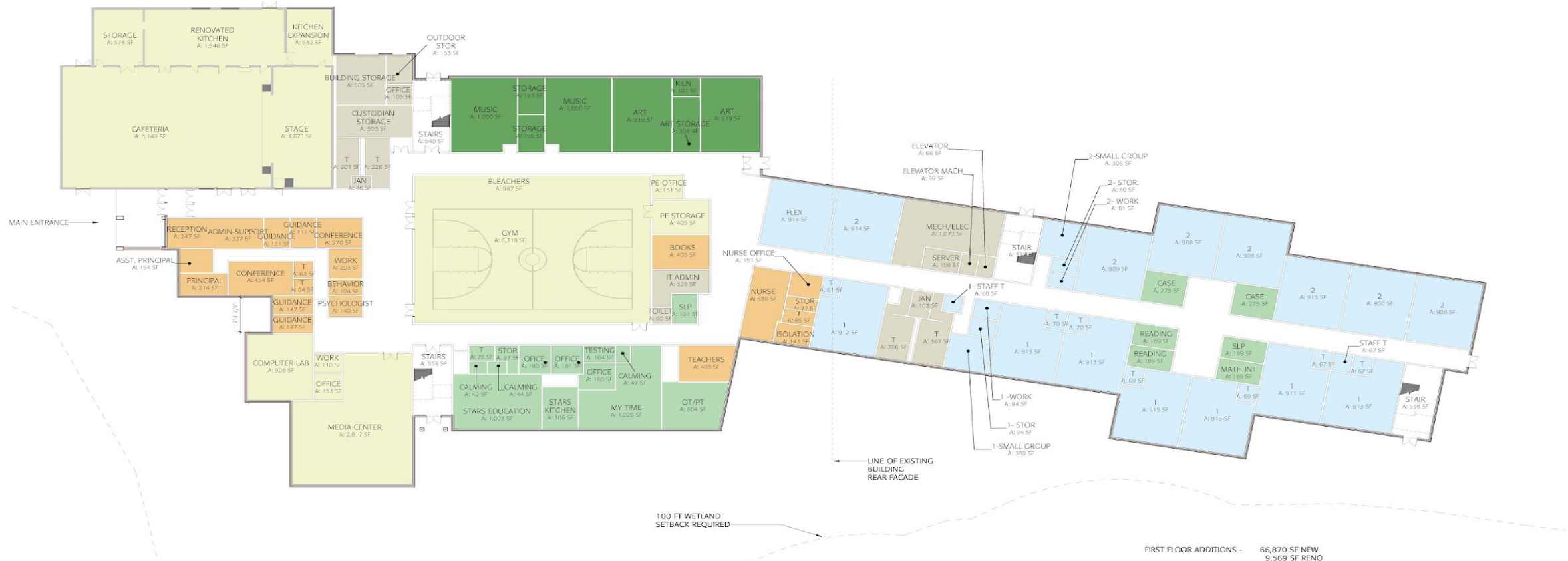
FY25 Facility Project - Wilkins

- ▶ Proposed Article 12 on March 12, 2024 Ballot
- ▶ Total Appropriation Amount: \$49.9M
- ▶ Build to Suit Option: 1st-5th Grades

As Favored by Amherst Buildings and Grounds Committee



Build to Suit - First Floor



OPTION 2 FIRST FLOOR PLAN
1"=20'

FIRST FLOOR ADDITIONS -	66,970 SF NEW 9,569 SF RENO
SECOND FLOOR ADDITIONS -	42,809 SF NEW
TOTAL ADDITIONS-	109,679 SF NEW 9,569 SF RENO
TOTAL BUILDING SF	119,248 SF
* DEMOLITION	41,160 SF



WILKINS ELEMENTARY
80 BOSTON POST ROAD
AMHERST, NH
11/17/23



Build to Suit - Second Floor



OPTION 2- SECOND FLOOR PLAN
1"=20'

FIRST FLOOR ADDITIONS -	66,870 SF NEW
	9,569 SF RENO
SECOND FLOOR ADDITIONS -	42,809 SF NEW
TOTAL ADDITIONS-	109,679 SF NEW
	9,569 SF RENO
TOTAL BUILDING SF	119,248 SF
* DEMOLITION	41,160 SF



WILKINS ELEMENTARY
80 BOSTON POST ROAD
AMHERST, NH
11/17/23



Build to Suit - Site



Conceptual Exterior Front



Anticipated Construction Schedule

- ▶ Summer 2025 - Groundbreaking
- ▶ Spring/Summer 2027 - Construction Complete





Wilkins Elementary School Project Features

Grades 1-5

Project Features

Functional Spaces
Classic Design

Enhanced
Safety & Security

New Systems

Improved Traffic Flow



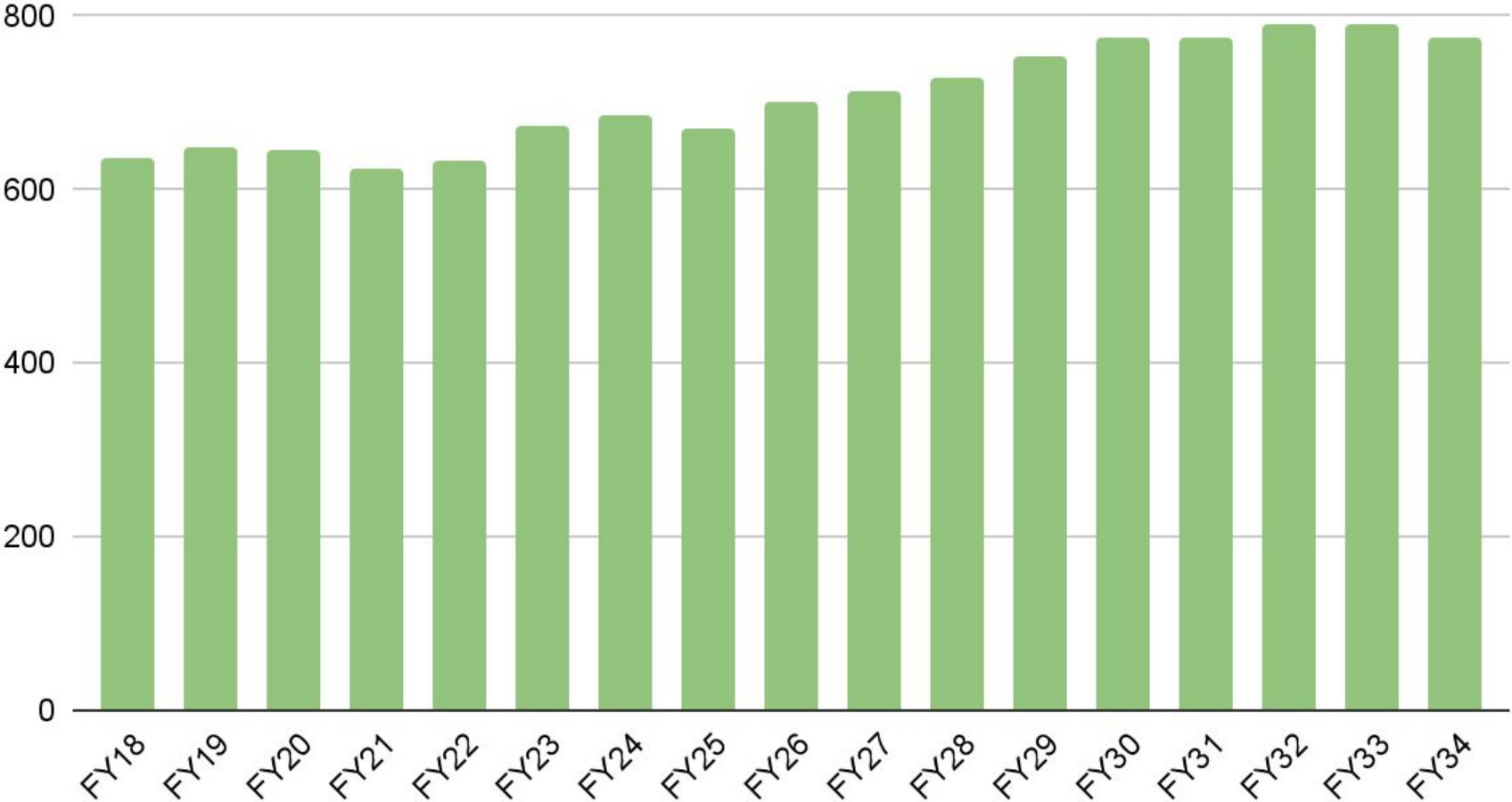


Functional Spaces Classic Design

Supports Current and Future Enrollment



Enrollment Grades 1-5 Current and Projected



**Based on Fall 2023 NESDEC Projections*

Conceptual Exterior Front



Conceptual General Classroom Design



Conceptual Art Classroom Design



Conceptual Individual Instruction Design



Conceptual Corridor Design



Conceptual Music Classroom Design



Conceptual Gymnasium Design





Safety & Security

Safety and Security

- Removes Need for Detached Portables
- Front Entrance Designed to Meet Homeland Security Emergency Management Specifications
- Enhanced Secure Exterior Doors
- Upgraded Alarm and Phone System
- Comprehensive Camera System
- Improved fire safety system (voice evacuation system) in compliance with current code



Safety and Security

- UNSAFE LOCKDOWN GATES
- UNDERSIZED EXIT DOORS
- NON-SMOKE RATED CORRIDOR DOORS





New Systems

Wilkins Facility Systems

MECHANICAL, ELECTRICAL, PLUMBING

- Energy efficient systems
- Updated equipment and better placement for improved maintenance and operations
- Meets current codes and guidelines (current systems grandfathered)
- Consistent all-season temperature control
- Improved ventilation system
- High efficiency condensing equipment
- Low temperature hydronic plumbing system



Wilkins Facility Systems Review

MECHANICAL, ELECTRICAL, PLUMBING

- Better roof drainage and storm water protection system
- Removes glycol antifreeze system
- Adds attic sprinklers
- New main switchboard and panels replace *end of life* (1967) equipment
- Adds an emergency generator
- Exterior emergency egress lighting at exits
- Replacing fluorescent lighting with more efficient LED fixtures
- Automatic lighting controls



Traffic Flow

Wilkins Site - Build to Suit



Removes 75 cars off of Boston Post Rd. during pick-up/drop-off

Increases parking capacity for school and community events



Considerations & Comparisons

What is different in 2024?



2023 Proposal (FY24)	2024 Proposal (FY25)
Bond Amount: \$54,250,179 (\$56.3M 4% escalation)	Bond Amount: \$49,997,214
Total Cost (25 year level debt): \$103,384,725	Total Cost (25 year level principal): \$76,247,088
Grades PK-5	Grades 1-5
146,229 sq.ft	119,248 sq. ft
Eliminates need for Clark School	Maintains Clark School PK & K
Larger footprint on site	Smaller footprint on site

55,242 sq.ft Wilkins Current Square Footage

What are the costs at Wilkins?

STATUS

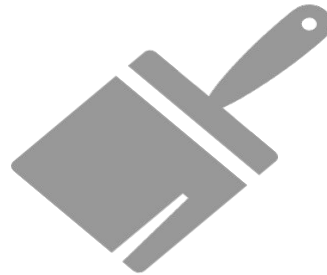
QUO



Maintain Status Quo

**5th grade remains at AMS*

\$33,134,904



Renovation/Addition

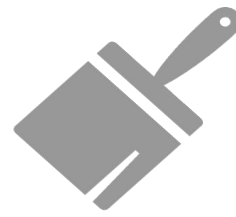
\$46,066,363



Build to Suit

\$49,997,214





Renovation/Addition

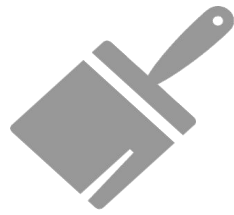
- Addresses all items in the Maintain Status Quo
- Creates better Education Space
- Undersized instructional spaces
- Inefficient instructional and support locations



Build to Suit

- Costs are similar to Renovation/Addition Option
- Potential for the Most Energy Efficient Facility
- Simplest Construction Phasing

- Accomplish Deferred Maintenance Projects
- Replace Heating/Ventilation System
- Replace Lighting Systems
- Replace Security System
- Refurbish Kitchen Equipment
- Repair/Replace Roof



Renovation/Addition

- Replace Windows
- Replace/Renovate Plumbing
- Portable/Temp Classrooms to accommodate lack of classrooms
- Does not bring 5th grade out of AMS
- Multiple additions while operating school
- Extensive repair of existing elements and systems while retaining older walls
- Smaller play field
- Space below existing foundation remains untouched
- Closer to wetland setback



Build to Suit

- New building systems and envelope
 - Longer life
 - Lower maintenance
 - Higher energy efficiency
 - Dehumidification/temp. control
 - Improved air quality
- Spaces ideal sizes to match program
- Relocates main office to more secure front entrance area

Existing to Proposed Space Comparison

Instructional Spaces	Existing Rooms	Proposed Rooms
Grades 1-5*, Music and Art, Library, Gym, Technology	27	43
Net square footage increase to meet needs	24,330	

**5th grade is currently at Amherst Middle School*

**Music is currently taught on the stage in the cafeteria*

**PE currently takes place in the cafeteria (MPR)*

**Technology is currently on a cart*

**Four 4th grade classrooms are in detached portable buildings behind Wilkins*

Existing to Proposed Space Comparison

Student Services	Existing Rooms	Proposed Rooms
My Time Program, Literacy/Math Intervention & Enrichment, Speech Language Pathology*, Occupational/Physical Therapy, Stars Program, Calming Spaces, Flex Rooms**	8	32
Net square footage increase to meet needs	7,206	

**SLP/Intervention & Enrichment currently exist in shared spaces*

***Flex Rooms used for Student Services and/or Instructional Spaces as needed*



Financing

Bond Financing Process

- ▶ Engaged NH Municipal Bond Bank (NHMBB)
- ▶ Current Proposal is Level Principal, 25 Year Term
- ▶ 4% Interest Rate (estimate)



Tax Impact and Total Cost-Level Principal 25 Years



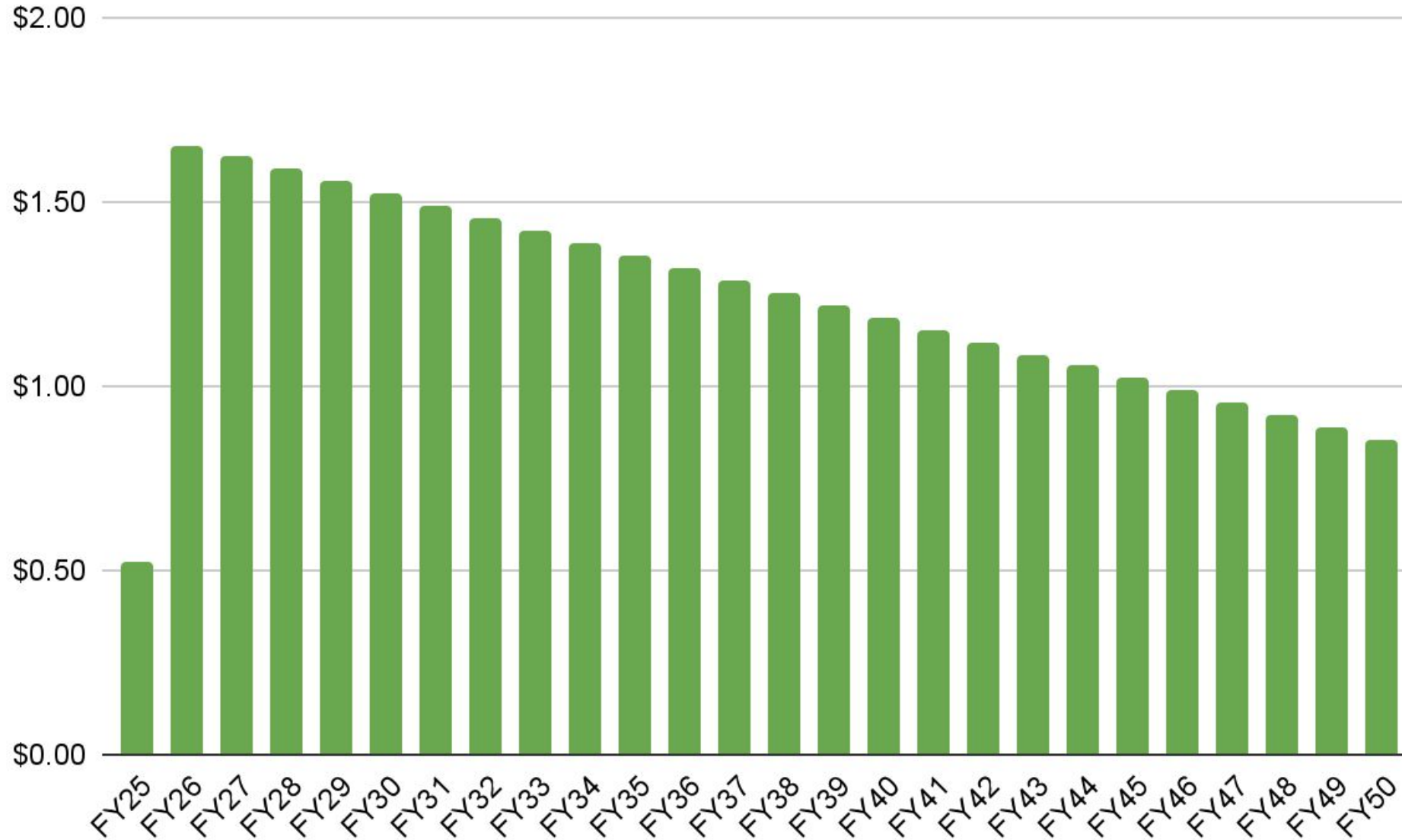
Tax Impact and Cost Assumptions	
Payment Type	Level Principal
Assessed Valuation	\$2,390,811,306
Average Home	\$482,000

Total Cost	\$76,247,088
Bond Amount	\$49,997,214
Term *	25 Years
Interest Rate *	4.0%

Year	FY25	FY26	FY27	FY87	FY29	FY30	FY31	FY32	FY33	FY34	FY35
Est. Tax Impact	\$0.52	\$1.66	\$1.62	\$1.59	\$1.56	\$1.52	\$1.49	\$1.46	\$1.42	\$1.39	\$1.36
Est. Cost/ Ave Home	\$252	\$798	\$782	\$766	\$750	\$734	\$718	\$702	\$685	\$669	\$653

**NHMBB using 4.0% for 25-year term bonds for budgeting purposes*

Bond Financing - Level Principal



State Aid Update



2023 Project (24/25 Projects)	2024 Revised Project
Ranked 7th	Application window is closed for the 24/25 biennium
\$13 million available this biennium	Substantial changes to plan requires a new application; Next application period April 2025
Unlikely to receive aid, even with favorable ranking	



Impact on Student Learning

Our Mission: To Engage, Challenge, and Support *All* Learners

Impact on Student Learning

- ▶ **Research and evidence based instructional strategies drive ASD**
- ▶ **Buildings impact the ability to implement great instruction**
 - ▶ Loss of instructional time
 - ▶ High noise/high distraction
 - ▶ Programming driven by the lunch schedule
 - ▶ Lack of temperature control
 - ▶ Classroom size



Features

▶ **Functional Spaces with Classic Design**

- ▶ Developmentally appropriate educational space Grades 1-5
- ▶ Space designed to meet curriculum and student needs
- ▶ Aligned tightly with current and projected enrollment

▶ **Enhanced Safety & Security**

- ▶ Removes Need for Detached Portables
- ▶ Front Entrance Designed to Meet Homeland Security Emergency Management Specifications
- ▶ Comprehensive Camera, Alarm, Phone, and Improved Fire Safety Systems

▶ **New Systems**

- ▶ Addresses aging, out of compliance, end of life systems with energy efficient systems
- ▶ Provides excellent indoor air quality and temperature control

▶ **Improved Traffic Flow**

- ▶ Removes 75 cars from Boston Post Road
- ▶ Expands parking capacity





Ways and Means Committee



Ellen Grudzien

Amherst School District Moderator

Article 13-Operating Budget

Article 13.

Shall the Amherst School District raise and appropriate as an operating budget, not including appropriations by special warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately, the amounts set forth on the budget posted with the warrant or as amended by vote of the first session, for the purposes set forth therein, totaling thirty four million fifty five thousand nine hundred eighty five dollars (\$34,055,985)? Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be thirty three million one hundred sixteen thousand five hundred nine dollars (\$33,116,509) which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Amherst School District or by law; or the governing body may hold one special meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13, X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only? **Majority vote required.**

Recommended by the Amherst School Board (5-0)

Recommended by the Amherst School District Ways & Means (advisory budget committee) 7-0)

Estimated tax impact of passing this article is: \$0.56 per thousand.

Estimated tax impact of not passing this article is: \$0.17 per thousand.

**NOTE: Warrant Article 13 (operating budget) does not include appropriations proposed in any other warrant articles.*





Budget Review

Tom Gauthier, School Board Chair

FY25 Proposed Operating Budget



FY24 Operating Budget*	\$32,796,681
FY25 Operating Budget	\$34,055,985
\$ Change	\$1,259,304
% Change	3.8%

**Excludes FY24 CRF Special Warrant Article- \$605,000*

Budget Comparison by Fund



Fund	FY24 Operating (Default)	FY25 Proposed	\$ Change	% Change
General	\$31,838,938	\$32,947,356	\$1,108,418	3.3%
Food Service	\$644,743	\$776,629	\$131,886	0.4%
Grants	\$313,000	\$332,000	\$19,000	0.1%
TOTAL	\$32,796,681	\$34,055,985	\$1,259,304	3.8%

Budget by Category



FY24 Operating Budget	\$32,796,681	% Change
CW-Administration/Curriculum	\$341,696	1.0%
Facilities	\$271,737	0.8%
Student Services-Incl Transportation	\$194,380	0.6%
Technology	\$138,379	0.4%
School Nutrition Services	\$131,886	0.4%
Capital/Misc.	\$64,124	0.2%
Transportation -Regular Ed	\$62,066	0.2%
AMS-Administration/Curriculum	\$36,036	0.1%
Grants	\$19,000	0.1%
Total Change	<u>\$1,259,304</u>	<u>3.8%</u>
FY25 Proposed Budget	\$34,055,985	

Budget by Personnel / Non Personnel



	FY24 Operating Budget	\$32,796,681	% Change
Personnel	Benefits-Health & Dental	\$816,463	2.5%
	Salaries/Other Benefits	(\$22,402)	(0.1%)
Non Personnel	Facilities	\$133,536	0.4%
	Technology	\$128,698	0.4%
	Food Service	\$119,737	0.3%
	Transportation (reg. ed.)	\$62,066	0.2%
	Administration	\$24,862	0.1%
	Student Services	\$2,166	0.0%
	Curriculum	(\$16,049)	0.0%
	Misc./Grants	\$10,227	0.0%
	Total Change	<u>\$1,259,304</u>	<u>3.8%</u>
		FY25 Proposed Budget	\$34,055,985

Proposed Staffing Changes



Position-Salary and Benefits	Cost
Add AMS LEA Representative (.6 FTE) *	\$75,306
Add 1 Kindergarten Paraprofessional-CW*	\$53,296
Add .4 Library Assistant -CW*	\$10,471
Decrease 1 Lunch/Recess Monitor-CW**	(\$9,751)
Decrease Paraprofessionals ** <i>(based on projected student need)</i>	(\$203,266)
1 Regular Ed Teacher-AMS **	(\$114,389)
TOTAL	(\$188,333)

* *Not included in Default*

***Eliminated from Default*

Enrollment & Class Size Targets



Grade Level	Targets			FY24 Current - Oct 1			*FY 25 Projected		
	Min	Goal	Max	Enrollment	Teachers	Ratio	Enrollment	Teachers	Ratio
Kindergarten	15	17	19	107	6	17.8	128	7	18.3
Grade 1	16	18	20	135	8	16.9	120	7	17.1
Grade 2	16	18	20	137	8	17.1	144	7	20.6
Grade 3	18	20	22	131	6	21.8	138	7	19.7
Grade 4	18	20	22	129	6	21.5	137	6	22.8
<u>Sub-Total</u>				<u>639</u>	<u>34</u>	<u>18.8</u>	<u>667</u>	<u>34</u>	<u>19.6</u>
Grade 5	20	22	24	153	8	19.1	131	6	21.8
Grade 6	20	22	24	136	6	22.7	156	7	22.3
Grade 7	20	22	24	184	8	23	170	8	21.3
Grade 8	20	22	24	172	8	21.5	184	8	23
<u>Sub-Total</u>				<u>645</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>21.5</u>	<u>641</u>	<u>29</u>	<u>22.1</u>
Total				<u>1,284</u>	<u>64</u>	<u>20.1</u>	<u>1,308</u>	<u>63</u>	<u>20.8</u>

Minimum or Below	Above Minimum	Maximum or above
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Default Calculation

Tim Theberge, School Board

FY25 Default Calculation



FY24 Voted Budget (Default)	\$33,401,681
Remove Special Warrant Article	<u>(\$605,000)</u>
	\$32,796,681
Employer Paid Salary/Benefits <i>(regular ed. and student services)</i>	\$255,434
Food Service (non-salary/benefits) - <i>offset by revenue</i>	\$112,596
Grants - <i>offset by revenue</i>	\$19,000
Debt Service Interest	(\$8,288)
SAU 39 Assessment	(\$11,080)
Student Services <i>(out of district tuition, transportation, other required services)</i>	(\$47,834)
TOTAL CHANGE	\$319,828
<u>FY25 Default Calculation</u>	<u>\$33,116,509</u>

FY25 Default to Proposed Budget Calculation



<u>FY25 Default Calculation</u>	<u>\$33,116,509</u>	
Facilities	\$272,487	0.8%
AMS-Administration/Curriculum	\$233,512	0.7%
Technology	\$138,278	0.4%
CW-Administration/Curriculum	\$131,706	0.4%
Capital/Misc.	\$90,624	0.3%
Transportation	\$62,066	0.2%
School Nutrition Services	\$10,803	0.0%
<u>TOTAL CHANGE:</u>	<u>\$939,476</u>	
<u>FY25 Proposed Budget</u>	<u>\$34,055,985</u>	<u>2.8 %</u>

Proposed Budget Items at Risk



FY25 Default Calculation	\$33,116,509	Notes
Salaries and Benefits Non Union Wage/Benefit Increase (incl. Health & Dental) Long Term/Short Term/Nurse Subs .6 AMS LEA Representative Kindergarten Paraprofessional .4 Library Assistant Other Wage/Benefits-Stipends, Interscholastic <u>Total</u>	\$250,371 \$92,870 \$75,306 \$53,296 \$10,471 \$56,313 <u>\$538,627</u>	
Facilities (non personnel)	\$133,536	Utility increases, Prev. Maint., Security, Repairs & Maintenance, Supplies
Technology (non personnel)	\$128,698	Equip Replacement, WAN, Supplies
Bus Contract	\$62,066	Contract Increase/Fuel Cap
St.Anselms Fellows	\$50,000	Instructional Support
Other-Admin/Curriculum	\$26,549	Furniture, Equipment, Materials, Supplies, Phone, Printing, etc.
Total	\$939,476	
FY25 Proposed Budget	\$34,055,985	



Revenue Review

Tom Gauthier, School Board Chair

Projected Revenue



<u>Revenue Summary</u>			
<u>Revenue</u>	<u>FY24</u>	<u>FY25</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Food Service	\$636,673	\$776,629	\$139,956
Grants	\$313,000	\$332,000	\$19,000
Other Federal/State/Local	\$2,089,571	\$2,240,772	\$151,201
Voted from Fund Balance (warrant articles) <i>(Projected for FY25)</i>	\$605,000	\$780,000	\$175,000
Fund Balance to Offset Tax Rate <i>(Projected for FY25)</i>	\$772,229	\$385,000	(\$387,229)
Subtotal Revenues	\$4,416,473	\$4,514,401	\$97,928

Projected Tax Rate Impact-Budget



	FY24	FY25	Difference	Est. Tax Impact
Total Appropriation Budget & Warrant Articles (Excl. Bond)	\$33,401,681	\$34,835,985	\$1,434,304	
Less: Revenue	\$4,416,473	\$4,514,401	\$97,928	
Less: Adequacy Aid	\$3,293,528	\$3,254,645	(\$38,883)	
Less: Statewide Property Tax	\$2,435,700	\$2,472,779	\$37,079	
Tax Effort	\$23,255,980	\$24,594,160	\$1,338,180	\$0.56
Valuation	\$2,390,811,306			



Ways and Means Committee



Ellen Grudzien

Amherst School District Moderator

Article 14-Capital Reserve Expendable Trust Fund



Article 14.

Shall the Amherst School District raise and appropriate the sum of up to six hundred seventy five thousand dollars (\$675,000) to be added to the Amherst School District Capital Facilities Repair, Maintenance and Improvement Expendable Trust Fund, previously established in March 2003? This sum to come from the June 30, 2024 unassigned fund balance (surplus) available for transfer on July 1, 2024. No amount to be raised from new taxation. **Majority vote required.**

Recommended by the Amherst School Board (5-0)

Recommended by the Amherst School District Ways & Means (advisory budget committee) (7-0)

Estimated new tax impact of passing this article is: \$0.00 per thousand.

Estimated new tax impact of not passing this article is: -\$0.28 per thousand.



Capital Reserve Fund

Jason White, School Board Vice Chair

Capital Reserve Expendable Trust Fund



Capital Facilities Fund Warrant Article

\$675,000

- ▶ Year 5 of 20-Year Capital Needs Assessment Plan (CNA)
 - ▶ Established March 2003
 - ▶ Current Balance: \$2,100,000
 - ▶ Projects for FY24: \$1,800,000
 - ▶ Planned Annual Balance: \$100,000/building (\$300,000 total)

- ▶ Add to Existing Expendable Trust Fund
 - ▶ Priority-Roof and Unit Ventilator Project
 - ▶ CNA to be adjusted in future years if Bond passes

Capital Needs Assessment Funding Plan*



<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Contribution</u>	<u>Withdrawal</u>	<u>Balance</u>
FY23 Balance			\$1,500,000
FY24	\$605,000	\$1,800,000	\$305,000
FY25	\$675,000	\$10,000	970,000
FY26	\$675,000	\$1,340,000	\$305,000
FY27	\$675,000	\$380,000	\$600,000
FY28	\$550,000	\$322,000	\$828,000

- ▶ **FY24-Roof and Unit Ventilators**
- ▶ **FY25-AMS Outdoor Courts**
- ▶ **FY26-AMS Emergency Generator; Clark Sealcoat, Boilers, Emergency Lights, Ext. Walls, Multipurpose Walls & Ceilings; Wilkins Boilers, HVAC, Lighting, Ext. Walls, Caulking Trim, Soffit, Fascia**
- ▶ **FY27-AMS Roof PVC Membrane**
- ▶ **FY 28-AMS Elevator, Radio Systems; Clark Int. Walls/Ceilings/Floors; Wilkins Sealcoat, Lighting, Radio**

**In accordance w/current CNA; subject to change based Elementary School Building Project*



Ways and Means Committee



Ellen Grudzien

Amherst School District Moderator

Article 15-Technology Expendable Trust Fund



Article 15.

Shall the Amherst School District establish a Technology Expendable Trust Fund per RSA 198:20-c, V for the purpose of purchasing, updating, maintaining, and replacing hardware, software, services, and technology infrastructure, and to raise and appropriate the sum of up to seventy five thousand dollars (\$75,000) to be placed in this fund? Further, to name the Amherst School Board as agents to expend from said fund. This sum to come from the June 30, 2024 unassigned fund balance (surplus) available for transfer on July 1, 2024. No amount to be raised from new taxation. **Majority vote required.**

Recommended by the Amherst School Board (5-0)

Recommended by the Amherst School District Ways & Means (advisory budget committee) (7-0)

Estimated new tax impact of passing this article is: \$0.00 per thousand.

Estimated new tax impact of not passing this article is: -\$0.03 per thousand.



Technology Fund

Jason White, School Board Vice Chair

Technology Fund Warrant Article



- ▶ SAU39 Technology Plan for FY24-FY27
 - ▶ Supports vision and strategy for technology use in educational environment
 - ▶ Leverages technology as catalyst for innovation, collaboration, and student success

- ▶ Technology Fund supports long term savings for infrastructure
 - ▶ Telecommunications (telephones, alarms systems)
 - ▶ Network (Switches, Firewall, Access Points)
 - ▶ Wide Area Network (Interconnection between buildings)

- ▶ Funding Plan (FY25-FY27)
 - ▶ FY25-\$75,000
 - ▶ FY26-\$75,000
 - ▶ FY27-\$75,000



Ways and Means Committee



Ellen Grudzien

Amherst School District Moderator

Article 16 Vehicle Expendable Trust Fund



Article 16.

Shall the Amherst School District establish a Vehicle Expendable Trust Fund per RSA 198:20-c, V for the purpose of purchasing new vehicles, replacing existing vehicles, and for vehicle repairs, and to raise and appropriate the sum of up to thirty thousand dollars (\$30,000) to be placed in this fund? Further, to name the Amherst School Board as agents to expend from said fund. This sum to come from the June 30, 2024 unassigned fund balance (surplus) available for transfer on July 1, 2024. No amount to be raised from new taxation. **Majority vote required.**

Recommended by the Amherst School Board (5-0)

Recommended by the Amherst School District Ways & Means (advisory budget committee) (7-0)

Estimated new tax impact of passing this article is: \$0.00 per thousand.

Estimated new tax impact of not passing this article is: -\$0.01 per thousand.



Vehicle Fund

Jason White, School Board Vice Chair

Vehicle Fund Warrant Article

- ▶ Planned Savings to Replace, Fund Major Repairs, and Purchase New Vehicles

- ▶ New Vehicle(s)
 - ▶ Passenger Van(s) for athletic/co-curricular transport
 - ▶ Reduce reliance on bus company

- ▶ Replace Current Fleet of Facilities Vehicles
 - ▶ 2002 Sedan (replace 2027)
 - ▶ 2008 Minivan (replace 2028)
 - ▶ 2008 Truck (replace 2029)
 - ▶ 1995 Tractor (replace 2026 w/Gator)
 - ▶ Plow/Snowblower attachment





Ways and Means Committee



Ellen Grudzien

Amherst School District Moderator

Next Steps

March 12, 2024: District Voting

Location: Souhegan High School Gymnasium

Time: 6:00 am-8:00 pm

