

# BOLTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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May 2, 2023

Dear Parents/Guardians and Staff,

The Board of Finance will set the budget for referendum this Thursday, May 4<sup>th</sup>, and after that, by law, I will no longer be allowed to communicate information about the budget. The Board of Finance meeting is open to the public at 7:15 PM at Town Hall or you can access the meeting by dialing 1- 929-205-6099 meeting ID 861 8871 5299.

**The Budget Referendum will be held on Tuesday, May 23<sup>rd</sup> at St. Maurice Church in Ryba Hall from 6:00 AM to 8:00 PM.**

As a reminder, the Board of Education's budget request for next year does not include any new positions or programs. Further, it does not add back World Language for grades 5 and 6, which we lost this year after four budget referendums and reductions to the Board of Education's budget. Below please find an overview of the budget drivers for the revised 6.27% increase.

Source	Specifics
<b>Contractual Obligations</b> (62% of proposed 6.27% increase)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Contractual Salary Increases</li><li>Medical/Dental Insurance</li><li>No New Positions</li></ul>
<b>Special Education</b> (33% of proposed 6.27% increase)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Mandated Programming</li><li>Transportation</li><li>Outplacements</li></ul>
<b>Increased Costs in Maintenance of Operations</b> (5% of proposed 6.27% increase)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Building Operations</li><li>Instructional Needs</li><li>Repairs and Maintenance</li><li>School Insurance</li><li>Transportation</li><li>Technology for Students</li><li>Technology Support and Maintenance</li></ul>

The Board of Education and the Board of Finance in their deliberations have recognized that this is a "bare bones" budget to keep current staffing and programs in place and meet our mandated special education obligations. Although the Board and I do not want to eliminate any of the listed positions or programs, please note that should reductions to the revised Board of Education's Requested 2023-2024 Budget increase of 6.27% be made by the Board of Finance and the voters, the Board of Education will need to consider cutting this list of positions and programs for next year. These potential reductions will impact every student in the Bolton Public Schools and I believe will forever change the landscape of the education in Bolton that you have come to expect. The list of potential reductions is below.

<b>Program / Position Potential Reductions</b>	<b>\$ Amount / % Reduction to Proposed Budget Request</b>
<b>BCS Middle School Sports</b>	<b>\$42,856 – Total 0.28% – Reduction</b>
<b>BCS Extracurricular Activities</b>	<b>\$18,942 – Total 0.12% – Reduction</b>
<b>BHS Sports</b>	<b>\$213,134 – Total 1.41% – Reduction</b>
<b>BHS Extracurricular Activities</b>	<b>\$55,400 – Total 0.37% – Reduction</b>
<b>7 Teacher Positions</b>	<b>\$569,844 – Total 3.76% – Reduction</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$900,176 – Total of Reductions to Proposed Budget Request 5.94% – Total of Reductions to Proposed Budget Request</b>

The Board of Education’s 2023-2024 Proposed Budget, without the above reductions, supports our 2020-2025 BPS Strategic Plan priorities which include maintaining BPS as a high performing school district, focusing on student success, maintaining small class sizes that promote the personalization of learning, fostering a caring culture, supporting the talent development of our students and staff, and being good stewards of the public’s investment in education.

Preparing our community’s children for a bright, prosperous future is one of the most important investments we can make. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions you may have regarding the Bolton Board of Education’s 2023-2024 Proposed Budget. Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,

*Kristin B. Heckt*

Kristin B. Heckt  
Superintendent of Schools