



Artwork by Block Island Students

New Shoreham School Department
Block Island School
Information for the May 4, 2026
New Shoreham Financial Town Meeting

Block Island School Update

Finances - FY25

The school department finished the 2024-2025 fiscal year with an overall fund balance of \$454,336, a decrease of \$311,782 from the prior year. Of that amount, \$35,677 is restricted and \$418,659 is assigned to educational expenditures. Funds related to stage one of the school construction project, educational planning, and the purchase of a mechanical lift have been spent in FY26. Using 3.5% of the current operations budget as a reserve minimum, \$211,421 is set aside for emergency use. That leaves \$168,258 available for use in capital projects.

School Construction and Facilities

State School Construction Process: We have had a busy year with construction at the Block Island School. The interior and exterior work on the gym is complete. We are in the process of developing a new school construction plan. To date, we have submitted and received approval for stage one of the processes following the approved Rhode Island Department of Education School Building Authority regulations. The new plan will consider replacing the 1933 portion of the existing school with state-of-the-art instructional spaces. It is important to note the new plan will be seeking to not only serve the needs of the students and staff, but the whole Block Island community. Completed projects are eligible for 35% reimbursement. Reimbursement proceeds are applied to future projects.

Enrollment:

The October 1, 2025 enrollment of the Block Island School was 122 students, an increase of 3 students over the prior October 1, 2024 count of 119. Fourteen students are expected to graduate on June 7th and we anticipate 4-5 kindergarten students for September 2026. NESDEC (the group that does our enrollment projections) projects small enrollment decreases through 2029, reaching 107 students in that year.

Graduates:

Pursuing an education beyond high school, whether it be enrolling in a 2- or 4-year public or private institution or registering for a certification or job training program, is essential and important. Please celebrate with our fourteen graduating seniors as they pursue their postsecondary plans. As of this week, the Block Island Class of 2026 has received acceptances from over 40 colleges and universities. Some of those are listed below:

Barry University

Coastal Carolina University

College of Charleston

Florida Institute of Technology

Hartwick College

Hawaii Pacific University

Montana State University

New England Institute of Technology

Pace University

Plymouth State University

Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute

Rhode Island College

Roger Williams University

Stetson University

Suffolk University

The American University of Rome

University of Mississippi

University of Rhode Island

University of Vermont

Western Connecticut State University

Discussion

The School Superintendent submitted to the School Committee in public session in January 2026 administration requests. The budget was reviewed in detail and changes in the budget were made by the School Committee in public workshop sessions held in January and February. A public hearing was held on Monday, February 9th and the budget was adopted by the School Committee. The adopted budget was forwarded to the Town Manager. On March 25th, the School Committee adopted budget was reviewed at the Town Council budget workshop.

The adopted Block Island School budget for FY 2026-2027 requests \$6,390,111. This budget request amounts to a 4% increase from the town. This budget is based on revenue assumptions including an increase in the maintenance of effort from the town's appropriation and an increase in state aid funding. It includes the addition of a Math Interventionist, a Physics Teacher, and a Teaching Assistant to meet the needs of our students.

Block Island School FY2027 Budget

	Budgeted FY2026	Projected FY2026	Budgeted FY2027	Change \$	Change %
REVENUES					
41210 Other Taxes - Other Local Governmental Units	\$5,877,667	\$5,877,667	\$6,112,774	\$235,107	4.0%
41920 Contributions and Donations – Private Sources	\$0	\$700	\$0	\$0	
43101 State Aid from RIDE	\$99,435	\$98,506	\$199,991	\$100,556	101.1%
44202 Medicaid Reimbursement	\$25,000	\$45,000	\$35,000	\$10,000	40.0%
45200 Fund Transfer In	\$38,498	\$38,498	\$42,346	\$3,848	10.0%
45301 Sale of Personal and Real Property	\$0	\$15	\$0	\$0	
46401 Special Items	\$0	\$22,000	\$0	\$0	
Total Revenues	\$6,040,600	\$6,082,386	\$6,390,111	\$349,511	5.8%
EXPENSES					
51110 Salary	\$3,588,800	\$3,550,634	\$3,796,398	\$207,598	5.8%
51113 Professional Days	\$38,717	\$40,864	\$40,329	\$1,612	4.2%
51115 Substitute Pay	\$45,000	\$100,000	\$45,000	\$0	0.0%
51133 Longevity (Non-Certified Only)	\$12,552	\$11,648	\$11,900	(\$652)	-5.2%
51134 Sabbatical	\$51,616	\$51,617	\$0	(\$51,616)	-100.0%
51201 Regular Overtime	\$8,500	\$2,000	\$8,500	\$0	0.0%
51309 Tutoring	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$0	0.0%
51323 Detention Coverage	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$0	0.0%
51338 Summer Pay	\$0	\$0	\$10,850	\$10,850	
51401 Stipend - Other	\$3,600	\$0	\$3,600	\$0	0.0%
51403 Stipend - Athletic Dirs./Extracurricular Dirs.	\$14,033	\$14,033	\$14,454	\$421	3.0%
51404 Stipend - Coaches	\$92,774	\$88,760	\$98,586	\$5,812	6.3%
51406 Stipend - Athletic Event Personnel	\$2,400	\$0	\$2,400	\$0	0.0%
51407 Stipend - Mentors	\$3,000	\$0	\$3,000	\$0	0.0%
52101 Health Insurance Premium	\$423,435	\$417,719	\$497,752	\$74,317	17.6%
52102 Life Insurance Premium	\$21,257	\$21,523	\$22,515	\$1,258	5.9%
52103 Dental Insurance Premium	\$22,325	\$20,594	\$23,283	\$958	4.3%
52106 Other Insurance	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$0	0.0%
52109 Medical Buyback Payments	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$0	0.0%
52122 Health and Medical - Self Insured / Retiree	\$38,498	\$38,498	\$42,346	\$3,849	10.0%
52202 Future Benefits	\$29,000	\$29,000	\$34,800	\$5,800	20.0%
52203 Teacher/Administrative Pension - ERSRI	\$382,180	\$420,884	\$428,044	\$45,864	12.0%
52208 MERS Pension (Defined Benefit)	\$46,289	\$46,056	\$50,540	\$4,251	9.2%
52213 Teacher /Admin Pension - TIAA-CREF	\$16,668	\$18,193	\$17,711	\$1,043	6.3%
52218 MERS Pension - TIAA-CREF	\$6,415	\$5,328	\$7,062	\$647	10.1%
52301 FICA	\$239,537	\$239,323	\$250,326	\$10,790	4.5%
52302 Medicare	\$56,021	\$55,971	\$58,544	\$2,523	4.5%
52501 Unemployment Compensation	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$0	0.0%
52710 Workers' Compensation	\$20,967	\$23,733	\$24,791	\$3,824	18.2%
52917 Tuition Reimbursement - Non-Taxable	\$7,000	\$7,000	\$7,000	\$0	0.0%

53203 Occupational Therapists	\$0	\$6,333	\$0	\$0	
53213 Evaluations	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$0	0.0%
53218 Student Assistance	\$16,500	\$3,143	\$0	(\$16,500)	-100.0%
53221 Virtual Classrooms	\$15,000	\$17,000	\$15,000	\$0	0.0%
53222 Web-based Instructional Programs	\$15,500	\$15,500	\$15,500	\$0	0.0%
53223 Instructional Teacher Consultants	\$7,326	\$0	\$0	(\$7,326)	-100.0%
53301 Prof Dev. Training Services	\$10,950	\$11,274	\$11,450	\$500	4.6%
53302 Curriculum Writing	\$2,000	\$0	\$2,000	\$0	0.0%
53303 Conference & Workshops	\$8,000	\$8,000	\$8,000	\$0	0.0%
53401 Annual Audit	\$29,000	\$31,800	\$36,000	\$7,000	24.1%
53402 Legal Services	\$10,000	\$15,000	\$10,000	\$0	0.0%
53412 Dentists	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$0	0.0%
53414 Medicaid Claims Provider	\$850	\$2,250	\$850	\$0	0.0%
53416 Purchased Services Athletic Officials	\$18,093	\$19,000	\$18,250	\$157	0.9%
53501 Data Processing Services	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$14,000	(\$1,000)	-6.7%
53502 Other Technical Services	\$75,000	\$75,000	\$75,000	\$0	0.0%
53503 Testing	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$0	0.0%
53705 Freight & Postage	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$0	0.0%
53706 Catering	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$0	0.0%
54201 Rubbish Removal	\$7,000	\$7,000	\$7,000	\$0	0.0%
54202 Snow Plowing Services	\$1,000	\$1,370	\$1,000	\$0	0.0%
54204 Groundskeeping Services	\$9,000	\$9,000	\$10,000	\$1,000	11.1%
54205 Rodent & Pest Control	\$400	\$412	\$400	\$0	0.0%
54311 Maintenance & Repairs - Equipment	\$4,500	\$4,500	\$4,500	\$0	0.0%
54312 Maintenance & Repairs - General	\$12,000	\$24,000	\$12,000	\$0	0.0%
54314 Maintenance & Repairs - Vehicle	\$5,000	\$1,000	\$3,205	(\$1,795)	-35.9%
54320 Maintenance & Repairs - Tech	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$0	0.0%
54321 Maintenance & Repairs - Electrical	\$10,000	\$15,000	\$10,000	\$0	0.0%
54322 Maintenance & Repairs - HVAC	\$15,000	\$20,000	\$15,000	\$0	0.0%
54324 Maintenance & Repairs - Plumbing	\$10,000	\$30,000	\$10,000	\$0	0.0%
54402 Water Charges	\$5,500	\$5,500	\$5,500	\$0	0.0%
54403 Telephone	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$0	0.0%
54405 Sewer Charges	\$5,500	\$5,500	\$5,500	\$0	0.0%
54407 Internet Connectivity	\$2,800	\$2,584	\$2,800	\$0	0.0%
54601 Renting Land and Buildings	\$28,000	\$28,000	\$28,000	\$0	0.0%
54602 Rental of Equipment and Vehicles	\$2,600	\$2,600	\$4,180	\$1,580	60.8%
54901 Other Purchased Property Services	\$0	\$0	\$2,400	\$2,400	
54902 Alarm and Fire Safety Services	\$15,000	\$50,000	\$15,000	\$0	0.0%
55110 Purchased Student Transportation	\$40,600	\$20,000	\$39,800	(\$800)	-2.0%
55121 Vehicle Registration	\$800	\$80	\$800	\$0	0.0%
55201 Property and Liability Insurance	\$35,493	\$36,082	\$38,462	\$2,969	8.4%
55204 Student Accident Insurance	\$1,500	\$1,080	\$1,500	\$0	0.0%
55206 Fleet/Vehicle Insurance	\$4,259	\$4,555	\$4,692	\$433	10.2%
55401 Advertising Costs	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$0	0.0%
55801 Board Travel	\$200	\$0	\$200	\$0	0.0%
55803 Travel & Mileage Staff	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$0	0.0%

55807 Travel Students	\$27,000	\$8,000	\$27,000	\$0	0.0%
55809 Travel Teachers	\$1,500	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$1,500	100.0%
56101 Instructional Supplies & Materials	\$35,550	\$30,000	\$54,900	\$19,350	54.4%
56113 Graduation Supplies	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$0	0.0%
56115 Medical Supplies	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$0	0.0%
56116 Athletic Supplies & Materials	\$6,750	\$2,000	\$3,850	(\$2,900)	-43.0%
56117 Honors/Awards Supplies	\$7,025	\$7,025	\$7,025	\$0	0.0%
56202 Transportation Fuel	\$500	\$1,000	\$500	\$0	0.0%
56204 Propane	\$2,000	\$2,500	\$2,000	\$0	0.0%
56207 Maintenance Supplies/Parts	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$0	0.0%
56209 Heating Fuel	\$75,000	\$75,000	\$75,000	\$0	0.0%
56214 Paint	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$0	0.0%
56215 Electricity	\$65,000	\$65,000	\$65,000	\$0	0.0%
56216 Lumber and Hardware	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$0	0.0%
56219 Custodial Supplies	\$9,000	\$9,000	\$9,000	\$0	0.0%
56401 Public Textbooks	\$5,000	\$7,000	\$5,000	\$0	0.0%
56402 Library Books	\$6,000	\$6,000	\$6,000	\$0	0.0%
56404 Subscriptions & Periodicals	\$700	\$700	\$700	\$0	0.0%
56407 Web-Based Software and Databases	\$2,600	\$2,600	\$2,600	\$0	0.0%
56501 Technology related supplies	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$0	0.0%
57305 Equipment	\$4,550	\$0	\$4,400	(\$150)	-3.3%
57306 Furniture and Fixtures	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	
57309 Technology Hardware	\$38,000	\$8,000	\$32,000	(\$6,000)	-15.8%
57311 Technology Software	\$12,100	\$18,000	\$28,000	\$15,900	131.4%
58101 Professional Organization Fees	\$11,045	\$9,060	\$11,045	\$0	0.0%
58102 Athletic Registrations, Fees & Dues	\$3,725	\$6,000	\$6,000	\$2,275	61.1%
59100 Fund Transfer Out - Lunch	\$42,400	\$52,400	\$44,171	\$1,771	4.2%
Total Expenses	\$6,040,600	\$6,076,425	\$6,390,111	\$349,511	5.8%