

Boonton Township Board of Education



2024 - 2025 Tentative School Budget March 13, 2024

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Budget Timeline

- Governor’s budget message - February 27
- Release of State Aid figures – February 29
- Tentative Budget approved by board – March 13
- Tentative Budget submitted to NJDOE – March 20
- Last day for budget to be approved by County Superintendent – April 19
- *Public Hearing and adoption of the Proposed Budget – May 1 *Last opportunity to make budget changes

- **November 5th election - 3 Three-Year board seats** – Board Candidate packets available on the New Jersey School Boards Association website @ www.njsba.org/candidacy. ***Deadline to file petitions with the County Clerk is the last Monday in July.***

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District Goals

- Strengthen and improve the relationship of RVS with it's families, community and Mountain Lakes School District so that the expertise of each can be utilized to its fullest potential.
- Create an academic environment where all students can succeed.
- Foster a safe and welcoming inclusive school that promotes student curiosity and leadership while reflecting values of community in an increasingly diverse world.

Budgetary Goals

- Maintain quality programs, appropriate staffing levels, and meet state and federal requirements while keeping tax increases as low as possible.
- Maintain appropriate class sizes.
- Keep up with facility maintenance and improvements.
- Maintain schedule of technology replacements and upgrades.
 - Computers, Promethean boards, iPads, Servers, Wireless Network.

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Considerations in Budget Development

- Enrollment and Staffing Projections
- Revenue Sources
 - Tax Levy (2% CAP) – **Approx. 90% of budget**
 - State Aid – **Approx. 6% of budget**
 - Tuition (Pre-K program) – **Approx. .4% of budget**
 - Balance – Misc., Budgeted Fund Balance - **Approx. 3.6% of budget**
- Expenses
 - BTEA & Other Non-Affiliated Staff Salaries/Benefits – **Approx. 54%**
 - Mtn. Lakes Send/Receive Tuition & Special Education OD Tuition – **Approx. 33%**
 - Transportation Costs – **Approx. 5%**
 - Other – Administrative, Insurance, Facility, Classroom Supplies, Equipment, Textbooks, Sports and Co-curricular, Capital & Maintenance, Building Security, Technology Replacements, Other – **Approx. 8%**

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Budget Considerations

- RVS enrollment increase (in concert with 2022 demographic study)
- MLHS tuition rate – **Additional \$182,748** - (192 @ \$18,347 to 198 @ \$18,714) (6 student increase in budgeted enrollment). Current enrollment 187.
- State Aid funding – **\$69,679 increase.**
- 2% “CAP” on Local Tax Levy = **\$291,965 increase.**

– Additional Considerations and Planning

- Anticipated benefits (health/dental) and insurance (liability/WC) increases. (10% - 12%)
- Anticipated Teacher salary increases (BTEA contract expires June 30, 2025).
- Addition of 1 Teacher in the elementary grades

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- **Cost Containment Measure Highlights**

- **Cooperative Purchasing & Shared Services Examples**

- (ACT) Telecommunications, (ACES) gas & electric utilities, (ED-Data) supply & services purchasing, NJ Broadband Consortium (internet Access), (NJSIG) insurance services, transportation jointures – ESCNJ, MCECSC, HCECSC, Parent transportation, E-rate refunds for telecommunication – **Annual savings = Excess of \$100,000.**

- **Shared Services/Consolidated Positions**

- Snow plowing (Boonton Twp.), Facility (Recreation Department), RVA Fields
 - Class III Police Officer in addition to daily police presence
 - Purchase of bus fuel (Boonton Twp.-gasoline), (Mtn. Lakes Borough – Diesel fuel)
 - Bus repairs and inspections (W. Milford BOE)
 - Transportation – MCECSC (Regular, S/E, Votech, ESY), Joint regular route bid with the Kinnelon School District for better tiered pricing
 - Superintendent/Principal/Curriculum Coordinator, School Safety Specialist
 - Assistant Principal/Curriculum Director/Testing Coordinator/Staff Development
 - Special Ed. Director/Learning Disabilities Teacher Consultant
 - Social Worker/School Counselor
 - Business Administrator/Facilities Director/Transportation

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Grade Level Enrollment (as of 1/31/24)				
	Current 2023-2024		Projected 2024-2025	
Grade	Enrollment	Sections	Enrollment	Sections
Pre-K	15	n/a	16	n/a
MD	3	n/a	5	n/a
K	44	3	46	3
1	49	3	47	3
2	38	2	50	3
3	48	3	38	2
4	26	2	50	3
5	40	3	29	3
6	44	3	42	3
7	39	3	45	3
8	59	3	45	3
Total	*405		413	
*417 projected (8 students either moved out or placed out of district during the current year)				

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– Special Education

- Out of District Placements (**Current 16 - Projected - 16**). Current: 3 placements over \$100,000. 1 student aging out. 5 students projected over \$100,000
 - Associated transportation costs, Instructional Aides and Increasing Out of District tuition costs.
- **In District Placements**
 - **Pre-School** - Current 15 (5 tuition students) – Projected 16 (includes 6 General Ed tuition students).
 - **Multiple Disabilities (MD)** – Current 3 – Projected 5.

– Enrollment History

Vo-Tech – 2023/24 Current 10 - *Projected 11* Charter School – 2023/24 Current 2 - *Projected - 2*

RVS – 2023/24 Current 405 as of 1/31/24 - Projected 417 (*8 students either withdrew or placed out of district after September)

15/16	16/17	17/18	18/19	19/20	20/21	21/22	22/23	*23/24	**24/25
452	444	427	410	401	392	391	386	405	413

MLHS - 2022/23 budgeted 192 students/185 as of 1/3/24 (*2 students withdrew after September)

15/16	16/17	17/18	18/19	19/20	20/21	21/22	22/23	*23/24	**24/25
263	259	262	261	241	238	230	203	185	198

**Projected

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Staffing

Staff	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
**Teachers PK-8	47.50	47.50	48.50
Nurse	1	1	1
Aides	12	13	13
Administration	4	4	4
*Support Staff	12.80	12.80	12.80
Total Staff	77.30	78.30	79.30

** Includes Psychologist, Speech, Guidance Counselor, Reading & Library/Media Specialists.

*Includes Secretarial, Technology, Custodial & Transportation.

1 additional teacher at the elementary level.

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Replacement/Renewals:

- In-wall lunch tables/frames Approx. - \$55,000.
- Student Chromebooks Grades 3 – 5 and Teacher MacBooks Approx. \$42,000
- Textbooks – Digital Math Renewal grades K-5, Elementary Reading Approx. \$50,000

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Five-Year General Fund Tax Levy History

Year	Tax Levy	Difference
2024-2025	\$14,890,236	2.00%
2023-2024	\$14,598,271	2.00%
2022-2023	\$14,312,030	2.00%
2021-2022	\$14,031,402	2.00%
2020-2021	\$13,756,276	2.00%

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State Aid History

School Year	Aid	Students	Per Student
2024-2025	\$942,734	624	\$1,511
2023-2024	\$873,055	*595	\$1,467
2022-2023	\$804,128	593	\$1,356
2021-2022	\$706,858	628	\$1,126
2020-2021	\$618,184	630	\$981
2019-2020	\$597,554	679	\$880
2018-2019	\$554,841	691	\$803
2017-2018	\$500,781	709	\$706
2016-2017	\$474,134	724	\$654
*ASSA 10/13/23			

Enrollment Includes Mountain Lakes HS and other Resident Out of District Students

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Revenues	*2023/2024 Current	2024/2025 Estimated	\$ Change	% Change
Local Tax Levy General Fund	14,598,271	14,890,236	291,965	2.00%
Tuition	61,600	63,000	1,400	2.27%
Misc. Revenue (Athletic Fees) & other	8,700	8,700	0	0.00%
State Aid General	873,055	942,734	69,679	7.99%
Extraordinary Aid/NP Trans. Aid	167,331	0	-167,331	-100%
Budgeted Fund Balance	280,000	563,859	283,859	101.38%
W/D from Capital Reserve	178,955	0	-178,955	-100%
Special Revenue (State & Federal)	175,206	131,925	-43,281	-24.70%
Adj. Prior year's Encumbrances	233,883	0	-233,883	-100%
Total	\$16,577,001	\$16,600,454	\$23,453	0.14%

*Budget as of 2/1/23

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Expenses	*2023/2024 Current	2024/2025 Estimated	\$ Change	% Change
Current Expense	15,293,065	16,072,965	779,900	5.10%
Capital Outlay	1,108,730	395,564	-713,166	-64.32%
Total General Fund	16,401,795	16,468,529	66,734	0.41
Special Revenue (State & Federal)	175,206	131,925	-43,281	-24.70%
Total	\$16,577,001	\$16,600,454	\$23,453	0.14%

***Budget as of 2/1/23**

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5 Year General Fund Operating Budget History

Year	Expenditures	Difference
2024-2025	\$16,468,529	0.41%
2023-2024	\$16,401,795	-0.72%
2022-2023	\$16,520,657	*9.71%
2021-2022	\$15,059,312	1.79%
2020-2021	\$14,795,447	2.33%

*Includes Capital Reserve withdrawal

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Administrative Spending Limit

- (a) 2024-25 Regional Limit = \$2,776/pupil
- (b) Boonton Township 2023-2024 Adjusted Limit = \$2,655/pupil
- (c) Boonton Township 2024-2025 Admin. Spending = **\$2,544/pupil**

The 2024-2025 administrative spending (c) must be less than the lower of the Regional Limit (a) or District's 2023-2024 Adjusted Limit (b). The proposed budget is **\$232 below the Regional limit** and **\$111 below the district's 2023-2024 Administrative Per Pupil cost**.

NOTE: In addition to salaries, Administrative spending includes but is not limited to legal, auditing, professional/technical services, postage, district phone system, liability insurance, NJSBA dues, supplies, graduation expenses, payroll and data processing services, network system maintenance etc.

What is the Estimated 2024 Tax Impact on the Average Boonton Township Home?

Base Budget	2023 Tax Year	2024 Tax Year	\$ Change
Average Home Value	\$528,081	\$529,107	\$1,026
Estimated Tax Rate/\$100 of Assessed Value	\$1.662	\$1.689	\$27.24
Estimated Average Home Taxes	\$8,777	\$8,938	\$161

Note: To estimate the tax impact on your house, divide your 2024 Assessed Value by 100 and multiply by the Estimated 2024 tax rate. Compare that amount to your school portion of your 2023 tax bill.

The school district and the township have different fiscal years (July to June vs. January to December). As a result, the tax increase reflects one half of the district's 2023-24 (January –June) tax levy and one half of the 2024-25 (July – December) tax levy.