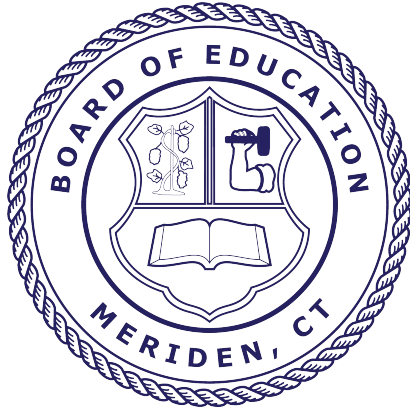




# Welcome

Robert E. Kosienski, Jr.  
Board of Education President  
March 31, 2025



Robert E. Kosienski, Jr., *President*

Kim A. Carbone-Pandiani, *Vice President*

Dr. Steven J. O'Donnell, *Secretary*

Allan E. Pronovost, *Treasurer*

Sheri L. Amechi

Nickimmy C. Hayes

Enileika Lopez-Riddle

Siobhan K. Maloney-Bazinet

Tony A. Martorelli



**Mark D. Benigni, Ed.D.**

*Superintendent*

**Michael S. Grove**

*Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations*

**Louis Bronk**

*Assistant Superintendent for Personnel and Talent Development*

**Patricia L. Sullivan-Kowalski, Ed.D.**

*Assistant Superintendent for Student Supports*

**Barbara A. Haeffner**

*Assistant Superintendent for Teaching and Innovation*



## OUR VISION

Regardless of socioeconomic status or prior learning experiences, all students must be able to access digital resources to expand their world.

## OUR CORE VALUES

- We all learn differently
- Voice and choice matter
- Educational species need to be flexible
- Learning can occur anytime, anywhere

# Our Schools and Students

8,707  
OVERALL  
ENROLLMENT

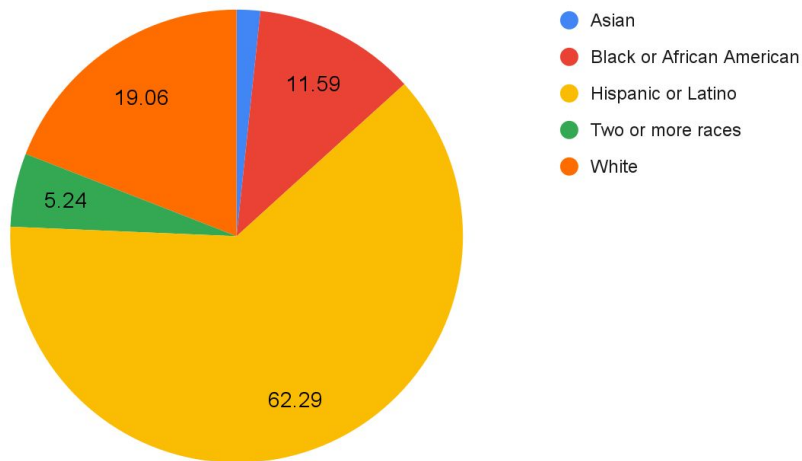
8  
Elementary  
Schools

3  
Middle  
Schools

2  
High Schools

3  
Alternative  
Programs

Race/Ethnicity



- Multilingual Learners 20.0%
- Meal Eligibility 77.8%
- Students with Disabilities 21.5%

EdSight



# Successes

**Congratulations  
Israel Putnam  
Elementary School  
2024 National Blue  
Ribbon School**



# CONGRATULATIONS

## 2024 CT State Schools of Distinction

**Benjamin Franklin**  
Elementary School

**Nathan Hale**  
Elementary School

**Thomas Hooker**  
Elementary School

**Roger Sherman**  
Elementary School

**Israel Putnam**  
Elementary School



SBA English Language Arts  
Districts Meriden Outperformed  
Grades 3-8 Achievement

East Windsor	Putnam	East Hartford	Windham
Ledyard	Plainfield	Torrington	Danbury
Region 4	New Milford	Killingly	Ansonia
Lisbon	Hamden	Willington	Waterbury
Griswold	Sterling	Stamford	Norwich
Sharon	Chaplin	Stratford	New Haven
Windsor Locks	East Haven	Derby	New London
Enfield	West Haven	Bloomfield	Bridgeport
Plymouth	Naugatuck	Sprague	Hartford
Middletown	Norwalk	Manchester	New Britain
Windsor			

SBA Math  
Districts Meriden Outperformed  
Grades 3-8 Achievement

Thomaston	Griswold	Middletown	Sprague
Scotland	Norwalk	Stratford	Ansonia
Enfield	West Haven	Torrington	Norwich
Plainfield	New Milford	Manchester	Waterbury
Sharon	East Hartford	Danbury	Hartford
Windsor	Killingly	Windham	New Haven
Windsor Locks	Stamford	Sterling	New London
Chaplin	East Haven	Hampton	New Britain
Hamden	Naugatuck	Bloomfield	Bridgeport
Region 11	Putnam	Derby	

AP/ECE/Dual Credit Courses		
	2010-2011	2024 - 2025
All Students	184	1,367
Free/Reduced	40	802
Hispanic	25	435
Black	10	216
ELL	1	29
SPED	0	31

Over 30 higher level course offerings.

## Get Ahead with Meriden High Schools Dual Credit Program

By Elizabeth Ken on March 5, 2025 3:03 PM



For high school students looking to get a head start on their college education while saving both time and money, [Meriden High Schools](#) offer an innovative solution that's changing the game for local students: dual credit programs.

The concept is simple yet powerful. Students take college-level courses while still in [high school](#), earning credits that count toward both their high school



# Class of 2024



BROWN

RIT

Rochester  
Institute of  
Technology

COLUMBIA  
UNIVERSITY



Quinnipiac  
UNIVERSITY



SALVE REGINA  
UNIVERSITY



UConn  
UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT

UNIVERSITY  
OF HARTFORD



# Class of 2025



Stanford  
University



BROWN



Cornell University



PRINCETON  
UNIVERSITY

COLUMBIA  
UNIVERSITY



# Challenges

## Meriden Enrollment Projections

School Year	Elementary	Middle School	High School	Total Enrollment
2028-2029	3,542	2,022	3,113	8,839
2027-2028	3,610	2,016	3,011	8,799
2026-2027	3,626	2,045	2,933	8,766
2025-2026	3,629	2,102	2,853	8,746
2024-2025	3,868	2,082	2,757	8,707

# Enrollment Update

	Enrollment as of 8/28/24	Enrollment as of 3/14/25	New Enrollments	Exited Students	Change
SPED	1,618	1,634	101	-85	+16
EL	1,679	1,733	145	-91	+54

Percent of Students Enrolled in Special Education	
School Year	%
2024-2025	21.6
2023-2024	21.4
2022-2023	20.8
2021-2022	20.7
2020-2021	20.9
2019-2020	20.9
2018-2019	20.5
2017-2018	20.0
2016-2017	19.5
2015-2016	18.4

Special Education Program Enrollment							
School Year	CCC	STARS	STEP(S)	SOAR	PRIDE	Venture	TLC
2024-2025	32	154	69	33	129	63	66
2023-2024	37	132	76	60	111	69	59
2022-2023	36	104	74	57	101	55	62
2021-2022	29	96	68	49	82	66	62
2020-2021	24	82	74	43	92	59	58
2019-2020	25	67	67	44	88	72	59
2018-2019	19	68	51	51	120	51	29
2017-2018	25	52	39	50	73	46	32
2016-2017	10	42	39	0	0	40	0
2015-2016	11	39	35	0	0	42	0

# Special Education STARS Program

- 2024-2025 we have an additional 22 students attending our STARS Elementary Programs
- Average Cost for students attending our STARS in-house program \$27,258
  - $\$27,258 * 22 = \$599,676$
- Average cost for Placed Out Tuition with same disability \$153,000
  - District will receive Excess Cost Reimbursement of \$34,265
  - District will pay \$118,735
  - $\$118,735 * 22 = \$2,012,494$
- Saving with in-district STARS Elementary Program
  - **$\$2,612,170 - \$599,676 = \$2,012,494$**

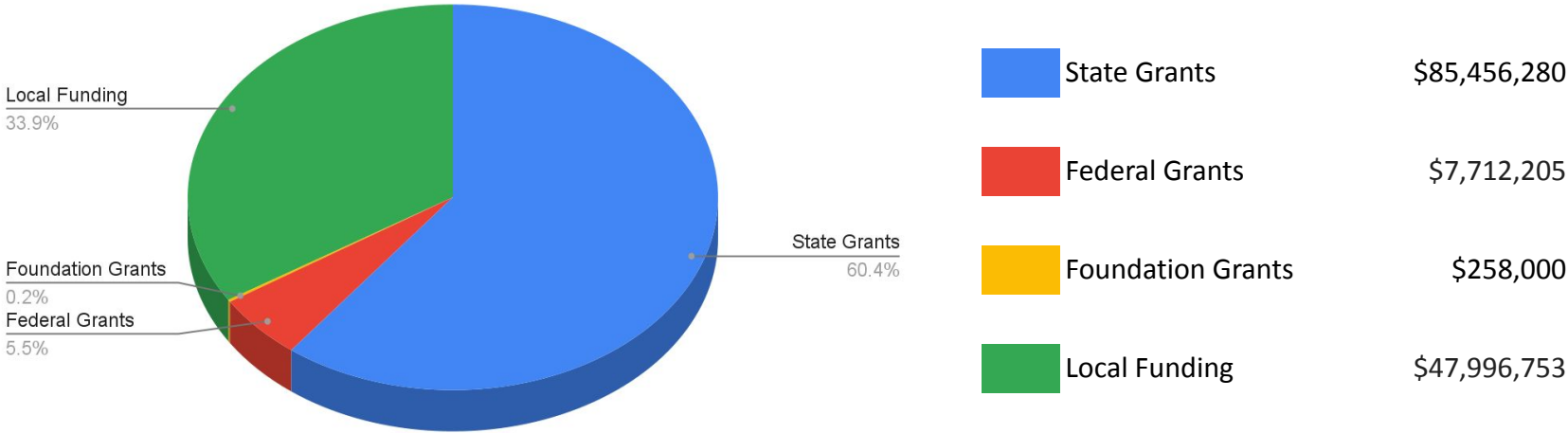
Free and Reduced Priced Meals	
School Year	%
2024-2025	77.8
2023-2024	78.2
2022-2023	77.1
2021-2022	75.6
2020-2021	77.1
2019-2020	76.6
2018-2019	76.8
2017-2018	73.9
2016-2017	71.1
2015-2016	71.2



# Allan E. Pronovost

Board of Education Treasurer

# 2024-2025 Funding Sources



### Federal Grants

IDEA - Special Education	\$2,636,483
IDEA - Pre-School	\$88,267
Perkins Career and Tech Ed	\$226,653
Title 1 - Low Income Students	\$3,861,372
Title II Part A - Consolidated	\$407,342
Title IV - Academic Enrichment	\$280,751
Title III - EL Support	\$211,337
Total	\$7,712,205

### Competitive State Grants

Family Resource Center	\$222,726
Bilingual Grants	\$153,404
Alliance Educator Diversity	\$216,876
Priority School Grant - Reading support	\$961,891
After School Grant - Middle Schools	\$254,100
Extended School Hours - Elementary	\$159,252
Summer School - K - 3 Reading	\$185,535
Total	\$2,153,784

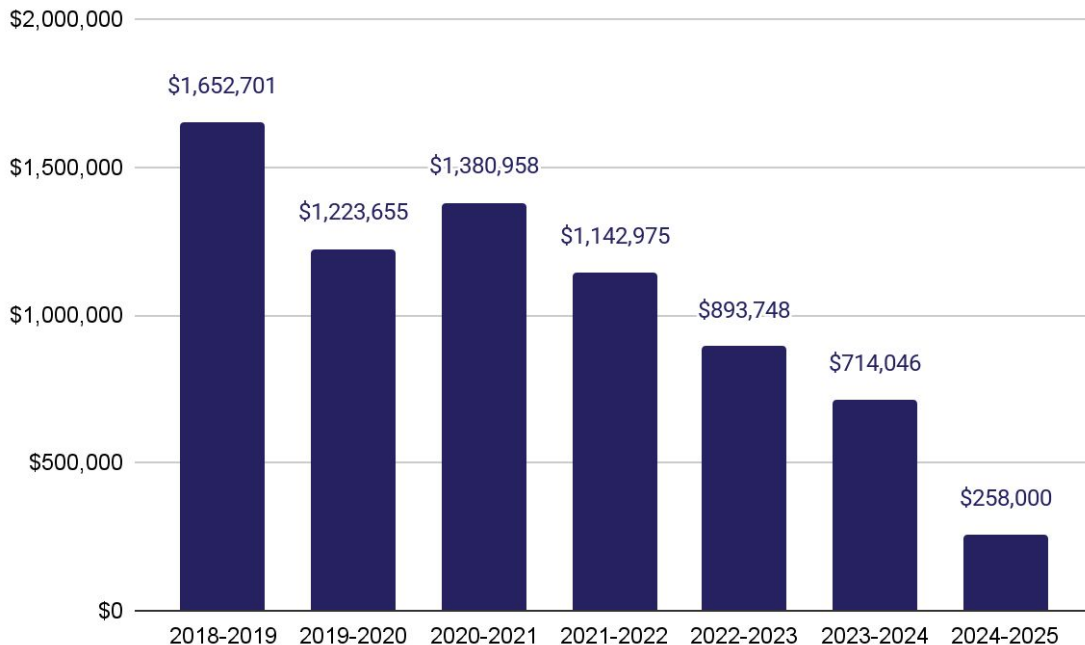
# Competitive Foundation Grants

## 2024-2025

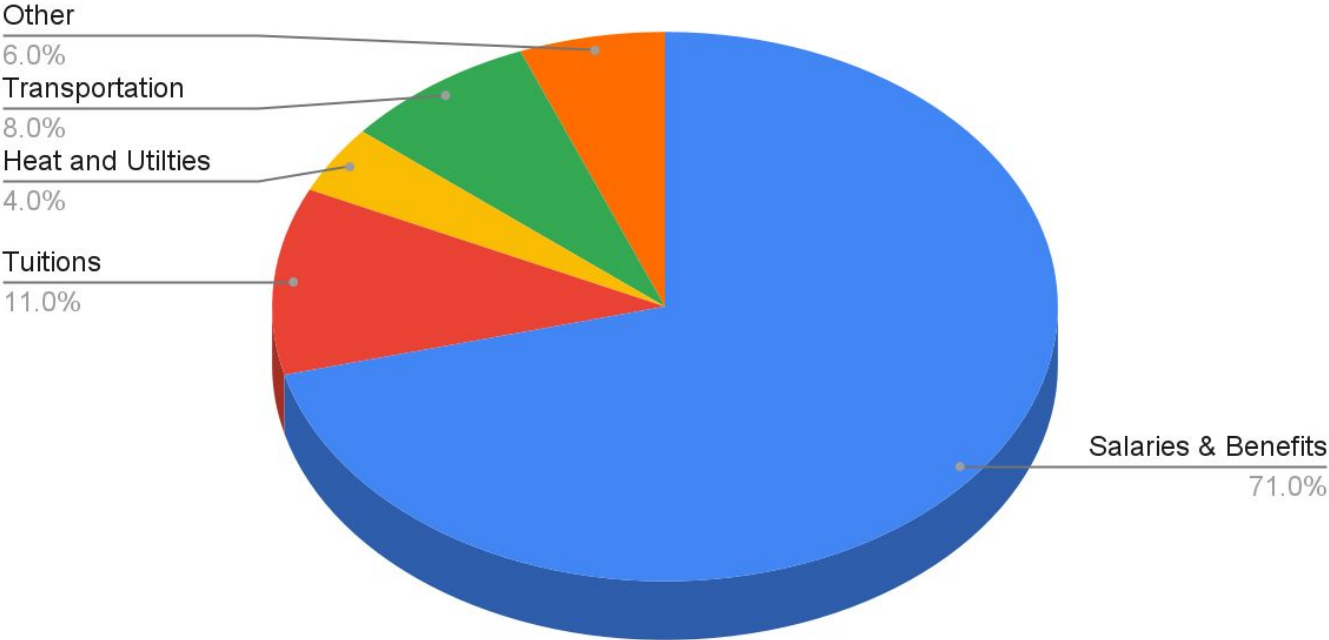
- Dalio Foundation RISE Network
- Burns & McDonnell Foundation

## Previous Funders

- Athlife Foundation
- Nellie Mae Education Foundation
- Wallace Foundation
- Barr Foundation



# Where Our Money Is Spent



# In-Kind Services

## Staff

- Crossing Guards
- School Nurses
- School Resource Officers

## Services

- Unemployment
- Classified Pensions
- Financial System
- Health Insurance
- Workers' Compensation

## Partial Staff

- MIS
- Finance
- Safety and Risk
- Purchasing
- Health

## Net Current Expenditures

Includes	All public elementary and secondary education expenditures, including special education from local, state, and federal sources In-kind services
Excludes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● COVID Grants</li> <li>● Reimbursable regular education transportation</li> <li>● Tuition revenue</li> <li>● Food Services</li> <li>● Capital</li> <li>● Adult Education</li> <li>● Community Services</li> </ul>
Pupil Count	All enrolled students, plus outplaced students, based on October 1 <sup>st</sup> enrollment Includes Pre-K students Splits Open Choice students

Rank	District	NCEP	Rank	District	NCEP	Rank	District	NCEP	Rank	District	NCEP
1	SHARON	49,798	42	NEW CANAAN	24,477	83	GUILFORD	21,725	124	PLAINFIELD	19,653
2	DISTRICT NO. 12	38,643	43	EASTON	24,438	84	EAST HAMPTON	21,670	125	STRATFORD	19,651
3	DISTRICT NO. 1	38,444	44	DISTRICT NO. 8	24,430	85	NEWTOWN	21,612	126	FARMINGTON	19,485
4	NORFOLK	38,808	45	DISTRICT NO. 17	24,377	86	NORWALK	21,596	127	PLYMOUTH	19,379
5	CANAAN	36,174	46	RIDGEFIELD	24,216	87	PORTLAND	21,400	128	DISTRICT NO. 10	19,331
6	CORNWALL	36,114	47	MIDDLETOWN	24,191	88	WINDSOR	21,309	129	NORTH HAVEN	19,273
7	KENT	35,336	48	VOLUNTOWN	24,130	89	NORTH BRANFORD	21,282	130	TRUMBULL	19,270
8	WESTBROOK	32,722	49	BARKHAMSTED	24,064	90	NEWINGTON	21,261	131	NEW MILFORD	19,269
9	HARTLAND	30,356	50	MANSFIELD	24,052	91	PRESTON	21,244	132	NORTH STONINGTON	19,172
10	SALISBURY	30,154	51	EAST HADDAM	23,998	92	DERBY	21,218	133	MANCHESTER	19,152
11	HAMPTON	29,920	52	CLINTON	23,983	93	NEW LONDON	21,097	134	WETHERSFIELD	19,114
12	DISTRICT NO. 9	29,609	53	WILTON	23,757	94	GLASTONBURY	21,038	135	LISBON	19,074
13	COLEBROOK	29,074	54	STONINGTON	23,663	95	SUFFIELD	20,981	136	TOLLAND	19,068
14	DISTRICT NO. 11	29,022	55	FAIRFIELD	23,633	96	WINDHAM	20,927	137	STERLING	18,918
15	REDDING	28,876	56	DISTRICT NO. 18	23,630	97	THOMASTON	20,914	138	FRANKLIN	18,889
16	NORTH CANAAN	28,891	57	EAST GRANBY	23,469	98	WEST HARTFORD	20,842	139	VERNON	18,879
17	ESSEX	28,889	58	ANDOVER	23,439	99	COLCHESTER	20,772	140	MONROE	18,858
18	DEEP RIVER	28,498	59	NEW HARTFORD	23,419	100	GRANBY	20,725	141	GROTON	18,762
19	DISTRICT NO. 4	28,452	60	DISTRICT NO. 19	23,370	101	POMFRET	20,725	142	COVENTRY	18,743
20	CHESTER	27,734	61	DISTRICT NO. 15	23,321	102	KILLINGLY	20,677	143	WOODSTOCK	18,742
21	GREENWICH	27,660	62	HAMDEN	23,298	103	SOMERS	20,656	144	SOUTHINGTON	18,653
22	SCOTLAND	27,531	63	EAST LYME	23,234	104	SIMSBURY	20,645	145	ANSONIA	18,542
23	DISTRICT NO. 13	27,386	64	BRANFORD	23,227	105	AVON	20,597	146	EAST HAVEN	18,502
24	CHAPLIN	27,203	65	THOMPSON	23,165	106	ORANGE	20,506	147	SPRAGUE	18,478
25	WESTON	27,085	66	WINDSOR LOCKS	22,868	107	WATERTOWN	20,413	148	BROOKLYN	18,411
26	BLOOMFIELD	27,076	67	WATERFORD	22,683	108	NEW HAVEN	20,304	149	SOUTH WINDSOR	18,133
27	DISTRICT NO. 7	27,052	68	HARTFORD	22,634	109	WOODBIDGE	20,269	150	ELLINGTON	18,067
28	DISTRICT NO. 20	26,777	69	HEBRON	22,463	110	PLAINVILLE	20,235	151	SEYMOUR	17,979
29	OLD SAYBROOK	26,660	70	WALLINGFORD	22,436	111	CROMWELL	20,227	152	BETHEL	17,972
30	BOZRAH	26,532	71	WINCHESTER	22,430	112	TORRINGTON	20,217	153	LEDYARD	17,880
31	DISTRICT NO. 14	26,449	72	BOLTON	22,400	113	CANTERBURY	20,188	154	ENFIELD	17,806
32	SHERMAN	26,415	73	EASTFORD	22,387	114	PUTNAM	20,173	155	SHELTON	17,721
33	WESTPORT	26,343	74	CANTON	22,334	115	CHESHIRE	20,151	156	WATERBURY	17,704
34	EAST WINDSOR	25,899	75	NORWICH	22,094	116	ROCKY HILL	20,013	157	GRISWOLD	17,703
35	DARIEN	25,500	76	COLUMBIA	22,054	117	DISTRICT NO. 16	19,974	158	WOLCOTT	17,424
36	MILFORD	25,393	77	STAFFORD	22,046	118	OXFORD	19,931	159	NAUGATUCK	17,105
37	ASHFORD	25,165	78	DISTRICT NO. 5	21,861	119	BETHANY	19,909	160	NEW BRITAIN	18,833
38	UNION	24,876	79	NEW FAIRFIELD	21,806	120	BROOKFIELD	19,832	161	BRIDGEPORT	16,778
39	MADISON	24,833	80	STAMFORD	21,789	121	MONTVILLE	19,765	162	EAST HARTFORD	16,180
40	LEBANON	24,593	81	MARLBOROUGH	21,765	122	SALEM	19,736	163	WEST HAVEN	16,054
41	WILLINGTON	24,482	82	BERLIN	21,759	123	BRISTOL	19,712	164	DANBURY	15,667
									165	MERIDEN	15,301



<b>Net Current Expenditures Per Pupil (NCEP 1/25)</b> <b>Surrounding Towns</b>				
<b>District ranking out of 165</b>	<b>District</b>	<b>NCEP 1/25 2023-2024</b>	<b>Additional dollars per student above Meriden</b>	<b>Total yearly Increase if funded same as selected district</b>
47	Middletown	\$24,191	\$8,890	\$77,405,230
62	Hamden	\$23,298	\$7,997	\$69,629,879
70	Wallingford	\$22,436	\$7,135	\$62,124,445
82	Berlin	\$21,759	\$6,458	\$56,229,806
115	Cheshire	\$20,151	\$4,850	\$42,228,950
129	North Haven	\$19,273	\$3,972	\$34,584,204
144	Southington	\$18,653	\$3,352	\$29,185,864
164	Danbury	\$15,667	\$366	\$3,186,762
165	Meriden	\$15,301		



# Mark D. Benigni, Ed.D.

Superintendent



Brian P. Daniels  
*City Manager*

## City of Meriden, Connecticut

### OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

142 East Main Street, City Hall

Meriden, CT 06450-5605

Telephone (203) 630-4123 • Fax (203) 630-4274

[bdaniels@meridenct.gov](mailto:bdaniels@meridenct.gov)

March 3, 2025

Mayor Kevin Scarpati  
Members of the Meriden City Council  
142 East Main Street  
Meriden, Connecticut 06450

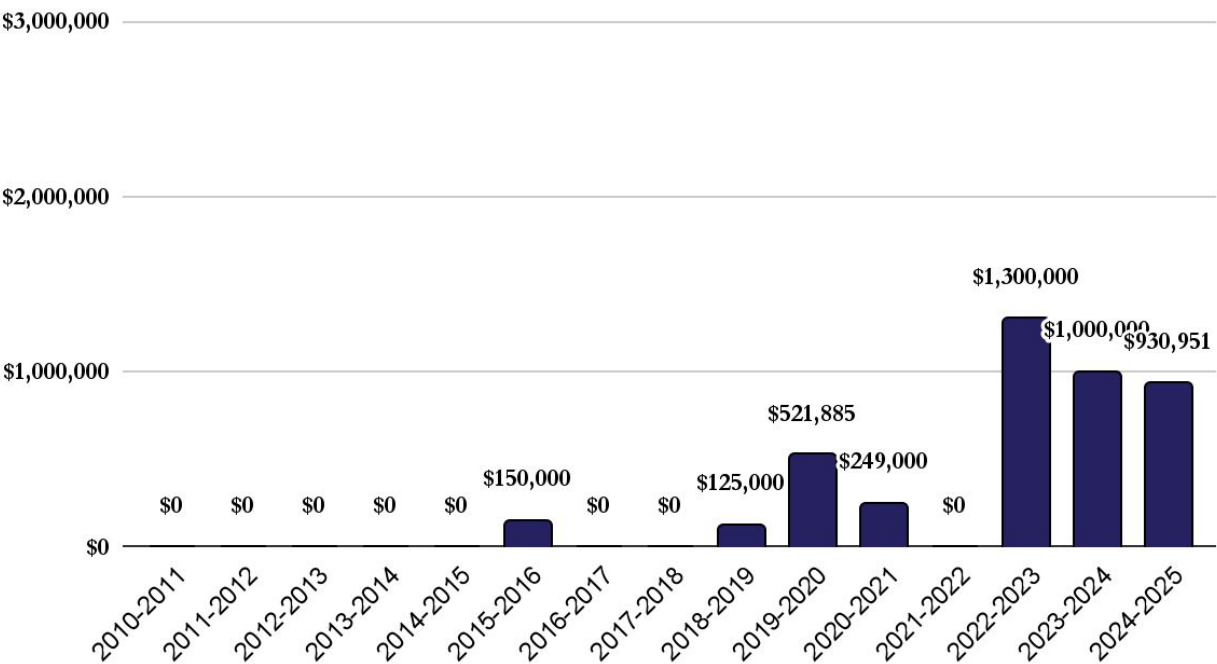
RE: Fiscal Year 2026 Budget Message

Last December the City's AA bond rating – third only to AA+ and AAA ratings – was reaffirmed. This bond rating primarily derives from the City's historically conservative budgeting practices, the level of undesignated reserves, adequate funding of pensions and other post-employment benefits (OPEB), cyber-security, and strong financial management practices. Pursuant to the City Charter, and consistent with these past fiscal practices, I hereby propose a FY26 budget designed to responsibly deliver, in the short and long term, those services necessary to all our residents and local businesses, recognizing the City's financial constraints.

The proposed \$233,072,991 FY26 budget currently presents a 4.85% overall increase in operating expenses compared with the FY25 approved budget of \$222,283,045. As summarized immediately below, 3.88% derives from increases in just seven categories of expenses over which the City and the Board of Education (BOE) have no control, with only a 0.97% (less than 1%) increase in all other City expenses combined:



# City Budget Increases - 15 Years



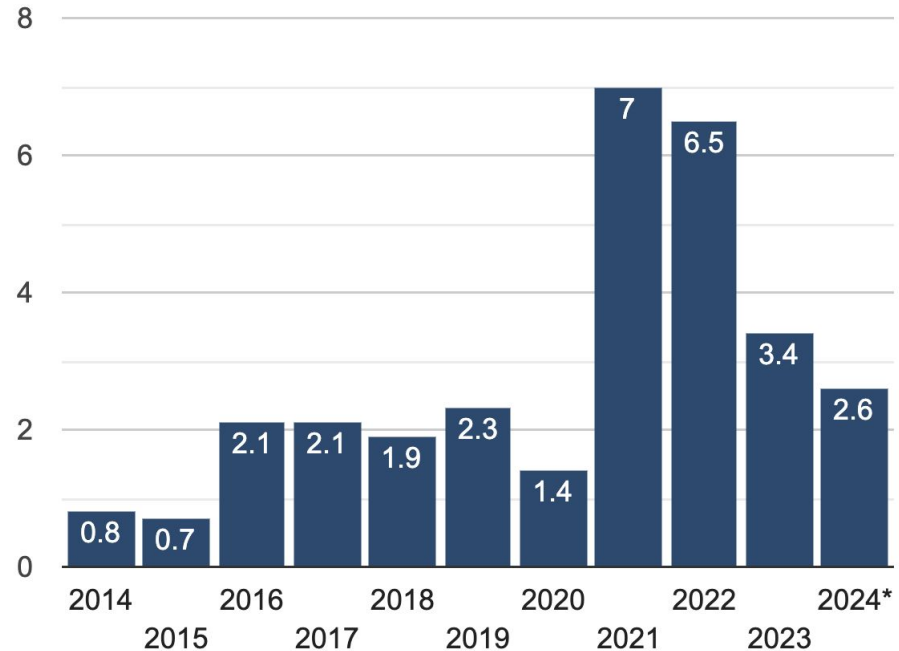
Total increase last 15 years: \$4,276,836  
Average increase per year: \$285,122  
City yearly % increase: Less than 0.28%  
Number of years of no increase: 8

# Factors Influencing Budget

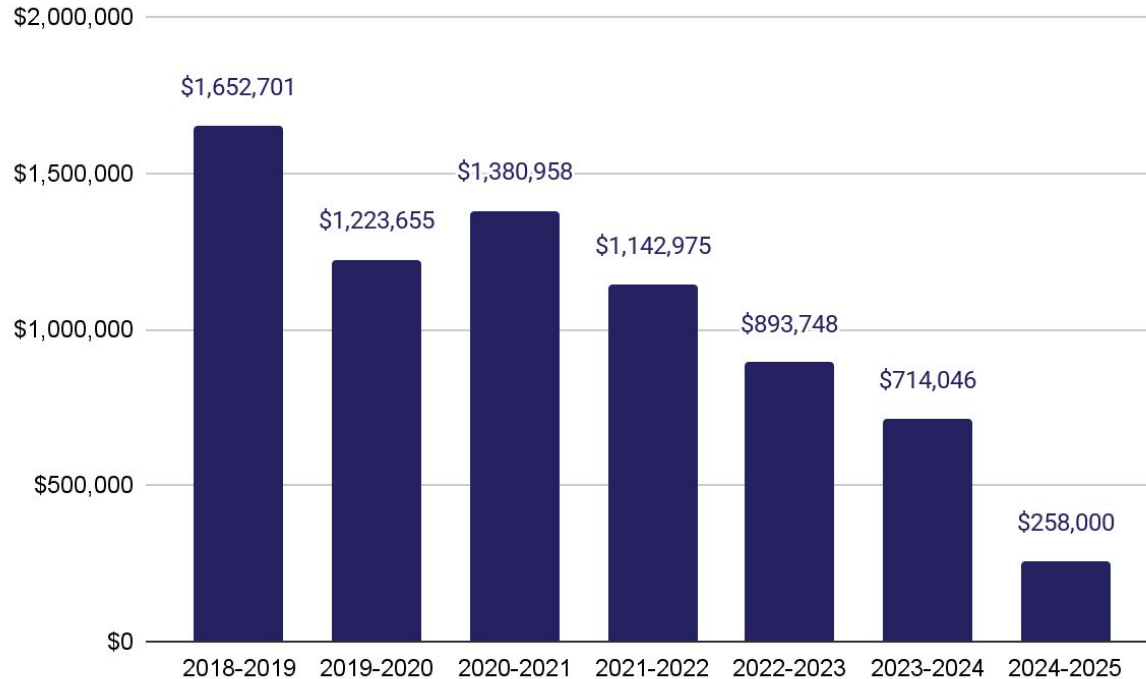
## CT Minimum Wage Increases

- 2024 Increase: 4.6%
- 2025 Increase: 4.2%

Chart: United States Annual Inflation Rates (2014 to 2024)



# Competitive Foundation Grants



## Grant Position Cuts

### RISE Grant

- 3 School Counselors

### Gear-Up Grant

- 2 Tutors
- 1 CCR Coordinator

# 2025-2026 Budget Request

SY 2025-2026  
**BUDGET REQUEST**

---

DISTRICT BUDGET INCREASE 5.72%

**\$7,415,663**

STATE ALLIANCE GRANT INCREASE

**\$4,249,734**

TOTAL REQUEST FROM THE CITY

**\$3,165,929**

---

CITY MANAGER RECOMMENDED

**\$2,307,507**

ADDITIONAL FUNDING NEEDED

**\$858,422**

BOE Approved 3-18-2025

# Reductions in Budget

225 Severance

230 Retirement

# Level-Funded Items in Budget

220 Longevity

321 Instruction

322 Instructional Program Improvements

540 Communications

590 Purchased Services

627 Transportation Supplies

641 Textbooks

642 Library books

# Minor Budget Increases

207 Life/Disability/E.A.P \$389

529 Other Insurance and Judgments \$32,429

580 Travel, Other \$35,595

611 Instructional Supplies \$49,998

613 Maintenance Supplies \$91,000

620 Heat Energy \$34,264

690 Other Supplies and Materials \$33,890

810 Dues and Fees \$51,250

# Budget Drivers

Salaries (Certified and Classified)	\$2,030,478
Health Insurance	\$1,572,356
Tuitions (Including Special Education)	\$1,842,317
Pupil Transportation	\$735,151
Public Utilities	\$258,783
Total:	\$6,643,491

The main budget drivers account for 87% of the budget increase.

# 101 Certified Salaries

Certified: \$49,727,945

Increase: \$ 1,452,739

- Contractual salary increases
- No new certified staff

# 151 Classified Salaries

Classified:     \$13,777,372

Increase:     \$    577,739

- No additional staff
- Salary Increase - Negotiations in the Spring
- Reduction of Central Office custodian and van driver

# Salary Increases GWI

	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-2026
Teachers (max step)	1.33%	2.67%	2.06%	1.53%
Administrators	2.25%	2.25%	2.25%	3.00%
Clerical	2.25%	2.25%	2.25%	
Custodians	2.25%	2.25%	2.25%	
Paraprofessionals	2.25%	2.25%	2.25%	
Family-School Liaisons	2.25%	2.25%	3.00%	3.00%

CT Minimum Wage Increases: **2024 Increase: 4.6%, 2025 Increase: 4.2%**

# 201 Health Insurance

Health Insurance:           \$14,760,555

Increase:                   \$1,572,356

- Rates increasing by 10%
- \$1.5 million of Rx rebates used to offset rate increase
- \$500,000 of Rx rebates used to build reserve fund
- MDG (City and BOE Health Consultant) reviewed the State Plan
  - Does not provide first year savings
  - Runoff cost \$5.7 million
  - Reserves \$1.4 million

# 213 Social Security

Social Security:      \$957,996

Increase:              \$ 98,636

- 7.65% FICA/Medicare on athletics/extracurriculars/tutors/substitutes
- 1.45% Medicare for teachers and administrators
- City provided in-kind service for Classified Staff and now funding will be moved to the Board

# 330 Other Professional Technical Services

Other Professional Technical Services:                \$1,022,893

Increase:    \$ 321,287

Items Increasing from 2024

- Contracted Special Educational Services \$161,077
- Software Licenses \$117,070

# 410 Public Utilities

Public Utilities:      \$2,879,632

Increase:              \$258,783

- Estimated rate increase: 25% on Eversource rate per City Purchasing - \$0.288 kWh
- Solar generated 1,861,972 kWh for a savings of \$410,189
- Pulaski, Washington, Lincoln, Maloney and Platt have solar

# 430 Repairs/Maintenance Services

Repairs/Maintenance Services:     \$2,158,551

Increase:                                 \$266,150

- Maintenance repairs increase by 8%
- Instructional repairs: music, copiers, and school equipment increase by 10%
- Additional Improvement Cost:
  - \$26,703 gym sound panels for Thomas Hooker
  - \$59,500 AC for cafeteria Thomas Hooker
  - \$42,000 for abatement of six classrooms Putnam

# 510 Pupil Transportation

Pupil Transportation: \$8,709,668

Increase: \$735,151

New Britain Transportation increase: 3.79%

First Student Transportation increase: 7.5%

# 560 Tuitions

Tuitions: \$12,269,969

Increase: \$1,842,317

	2023-24	2024-25	Budgeted 2025-26	Difference	% Difference
Magnet Schools	\$1,056,531	\$444,801	\$444,801	-0-	0.0%
Special Education	\$8,460,623	\$9,457,480	\$11,299,797	\$1,842,317	19.48%
Vocational Agriculture	\$525,371	\$525,371	\$525,371	-0-	0.0%
Total	\$10,042,525	\$10,427,652	\$12,269,969	\$1,842,317	17.67%

# Outplaced Student Costs for High Tuition Schools

Student	Tuition	Transportation	Total
Student 1	\$222,417	\$11,479	\$233,896
Student 2	\$218,090	\$7,776	\$225,866
Student 3	\$185,015	\$22,901	\$207,916
Student 4	\$192,405	\$9,335	\$201,740
Student 5	\$169,902	\$23,094	\$192,996
Student 6	\$173,910	\$13,873	\$187,783
Student 7	\$174,000	\$9,335	\$183,335
Student 8	\$173,910	\$8,937	\$182,847
Student 9	\$155,980	\$21,204	\$177,184
Student 10	\$161,595	\$8,728	\$170,323
			\$1,963,886



SY 2025-2026  
**BUDGET REQUEST**

---

DISTRICT BUDGET INCREASE 5.72%

**\$7,415,663**

STATE ALLIANCE GRANT INCREASE

**\$4,249,734**

TOTAL REQUEST FROM THE CITY

**\$3,165,929**

---

CITY MANAGER RECOMMENDED

**\$2,307,507**

ADDITIONAL FUNDING NEEDED

**\$858,422**

BOE Approved 3-18-2025



# Michael S. Grove

Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations

# Capital Improvement Projects

2025/2026 - 2029/2030

# Completed Capital Improvement Projects 2024-2025

- Administrative Offices (22 Liberty St.) Roof Replacement
- Washington Middle School Boilers and Controls
- Lincoln Middle School Chiller



# Current Capital Improvement Projects

## Edison Middle School Roof

- Updated Estimate
- RFP for an Architect



## Washington Middle School Chiller

- Designed
- Going out to bid Spring 2025



# CIP Requests 2025/2026 - 2029/2030

## Edison Middle School Roof Replacement

- Edison Roof Replacement: 23 years old
- Updated Project Cost \$5,946,600
- Additional Funding required \$1,994,600
  - State Reimbursement \$1,516,898
- City Estimated Total project cost after State Reimbursement \$1,486,650



# CIP Requests 2025/2026 - 2029/2030

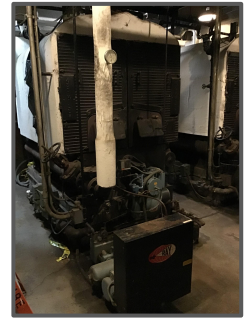
## Lincoln Middle School Parking Lot Mill/Pavement:

- Cost \$813,000
- 106,000 sf of parking lot
- 2950 linear ft curbing
- Repair catch basins



# CIP Requests 2025/2026 - 2029/2030

- FY 2026/2027  
John Barry Elementary School Roof: 27 years old; estimate \$2,645,000
- FY 2027/2028  
Edison Middle School Boilers: 23 years old; estimate: \$850,000
- FY 2028/2029  
Benjamin Franklin Elementary Parking Lot Mill and Pavement Project \$480,000



# School Building Facility Updates



**Kevin M. Scarpati**  
Mayor

City of Meriden  
**Office of the Mayor  
and City Council**

142 East Main Street, Meriden, CT 06450  
kscarpati@meridenct.gov | 203-630-4125

March 17, 2025

Dear Meriden Board of Education Members and Superintendent Benigni,

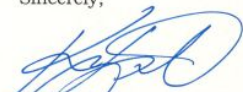
We look forward to greeting you and your team for your upcoming budget presentation before the Meriden City Council's Finance Committee on March 31, 2025, during which, we anticipate hearing about the successes and challenges facing our Meriden Public Schools.

As a part of this important discussion, in addition to your general budget request, we respectfully ask you to prepare and present your larger facility and infrastructure needs, specifically as it relates to school buildings and capital improvements.

The Mayor and Meriden City Council stands committed to our continued support of our students and families. We look forward to a constructive dialogue and helping address matters of concern facing the MPS community.

Please do not hesitate to reach out should you have any questions before our meeting later this month.

Sincerely,



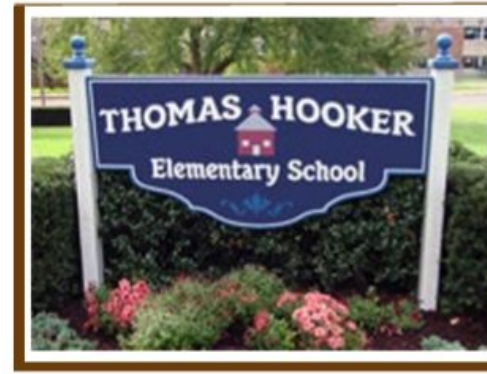
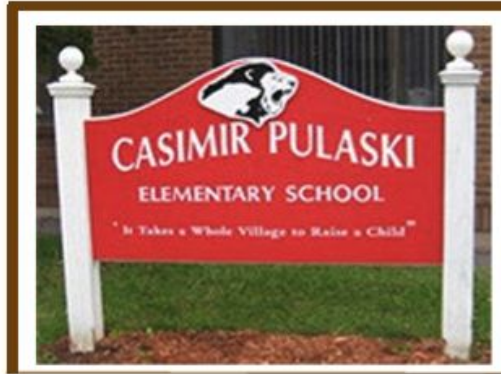
Kevin M. Scarpati  
Mayor



Sonya Jelks  
Majority Leader



Dan Brunet  
Minority Leader



## CITY OF MERIDEN

Casimir Pulaski Elementary School and  
Thomas Hooker Elementary School

CONDITION ASSESSMENTS FINAL REPORT  
June 4, 2021

### Silver Petrucelli & Associates, Inc.

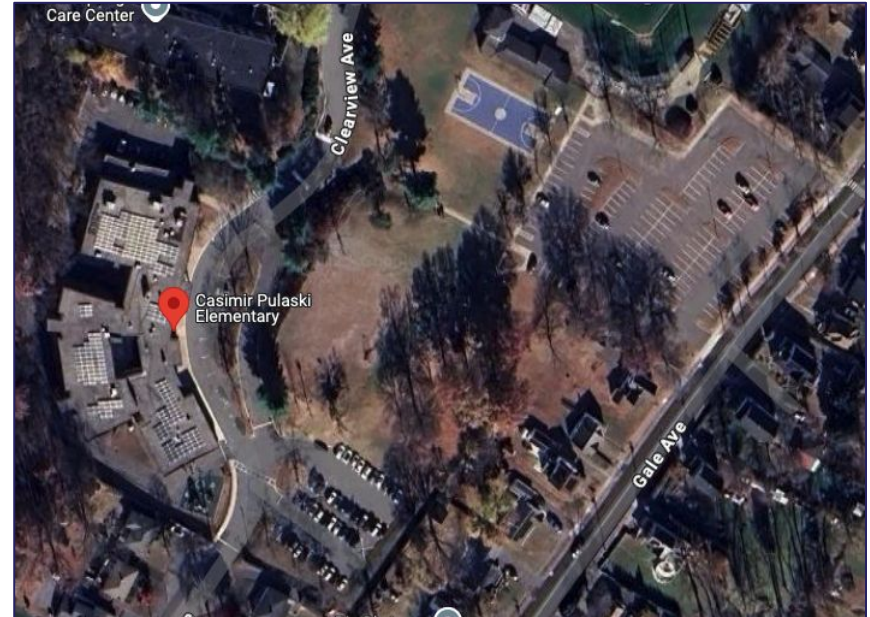
*Architects / Engineers / Interior Designers*

3190 Whitney Avenue  
Hamden CT 06518



# Pulaski School Considerations

- Built into a hillside
- Dense residential neighborhood
- Access road divides parking lot and parent drop off
- Parking and the grass playground is located at CEPPA Field
- Significant decline at the back of the building
- No room for site expansion



# Pulaski School Current Conditions

- Over Crowded (No room STARS Program Pulaski move students Hanover)
- Pulaski Elementary has three levels
- Classrooms on top floor are divided by temporary walls
- Elevator is not handicap accessible



# Pulaski School Current Conditions

- Small K-1 playground onsite
- Outdoor gym classes and recess held at Ceppa Field
- Limited Parking on Site and parent parking and drop off at Ceppa Field
- Access road goes through school property



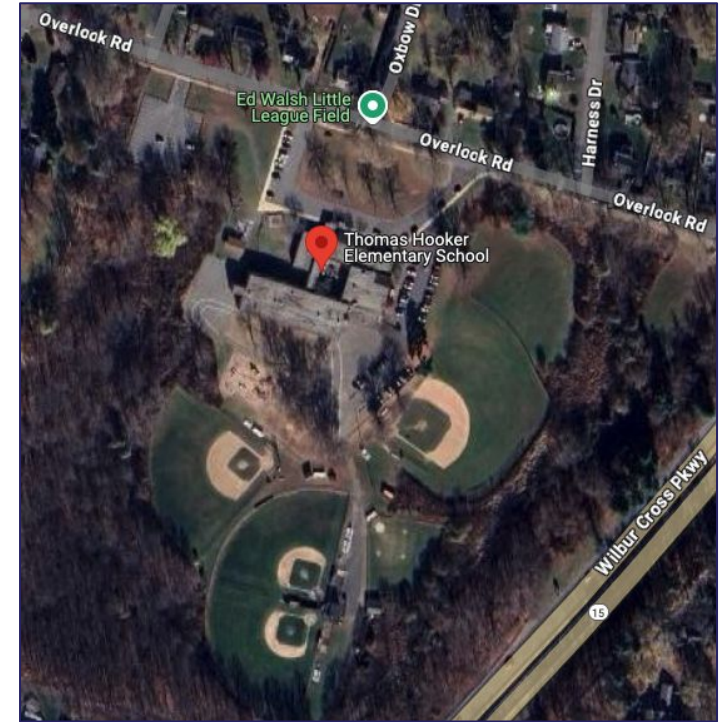
# New Pulaski School

AI generated image



# Thomas Hooker Expansion and Renovation

- Expand cafeteria, auditorium/gym
- Playground expansion
- Add air conditioning to all classrooms
- Upgrade heating system
- Improve handicap accessibility with elevator
- New energy efficient windows



# Closing Remarks

Robert E. Kosienski, Jr.  
President, Board of Education



Student Enrollment	
School Year	Enrollment
2024-2025	8,707
2023 - 2024	8,789
2022 - 2023	8,630
2021 - 2022*	8,521
2020 - 2021	8,118
2019 - 2020	8,163
2018 - 2019	7,973
2017 - 2018	7,933
2016 - 2017	7,949
2015 - 2016	7,993

Enrollment does not include students who are residents of Meriden who are attending interdistrict magnet schools, charter schools, or Connecticut Technical High Schools.

EdSight

# 2025-2026 Draft Budget

Funding	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	Difference	% Difference
Board	\$102,182,340	\$103,182,340	\$104,113,291	\$111,528,954		
Alliance	\$15,368,137	\$17,875,239	\$25,453,927	\$25,453,927		
Total	\$117,550,477	\$121,057,579	\$129,567,218	<b>\$136,982,881</b>	<b>\$7,415,663</b>	<b>5.72%</b>

Increases	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
Board	\$1,300,000	\$1,000,000	\$930,951
Alliance	\$2,210,946	\$2,507,102	\$7,578,688
Total	\$3,510,946	\$3,507,102	\$8,509,639

# 207 Life/Disability/E.A.P

Life/Disability/E.A.P:       \$49,222

Increase:                       \$ 389

	2024-2025	2025-2026
Life	\$64,823	\$64,388
Disability	\$5,106	\$5,930
Alliance	(\$21,096)	(\$21,096)
Total	\$48,833	\$49,222



# 529 Other Insurance and Judgments

Other Insurance and Judgments: \$131,285

Increase: \$32,429

	2024-2025	2025-2026
Student accidents/extracurriculars	\$21,771	\$54,200
Off-site insurance: CCRC, Success, Venture, Work Experience	\$ 2,085	\$2,085
Insurance claims deductible	\$75,000	\$75,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$98,856</b>	<b>\$131,285</b>

# 560 Special Education Tuitions

	2022-23 Actual	2023-24 Actual	2024-25 Estimate	2025-26 Budgeted
Special Education	\$9,049,216	\$9,987,235	\$12,687,226	\$13,377,520
Excess Cost	(\$1,283,910)	(\$2,077,723)	(\$3,092,351)	(\$2,077,723)
Board Cost	\$7,765,306	\$7,903,512	[Budgeted \$9,457,480] <b>\$9,594,875</b>	\$11,299,797
Excess Cost Percentage of Reimbursement	78.92%	71.42%	78.8%	

## Special Education Program Enrollment

School Year	CCC	STARS	STEP(S)	SOAR	PRIDE	Venture	TLC
2024-2025	32	154	69	33	129	63	66
2023-2024	37	132	76	60	111	69	59
2022-2023	36	104	74	57	101	55	62
2021-2022	29	96	68	49	82	66	62
2020-2021	24	82	74	43	92	59	58
2019-2020	25	67	67	44	88	72	59
2018-2019	19	68	51	51	120	51	29
2017-2018	25	52	39	50	73	46	32
2016-2017	10	42	39	0	0	40	0
2015-2016	11	39	35	0	0	42	0

EdSight

# 510 Pupil Transportation

Contracted Increases 2025-2026	
NBT	3.79%
First Student	7.5%

- 4 MPS drivers to support out of town homeless students

Number of Vehicles	Type 1	Type II	Vans	Wheelchair	Aides
NBT		4	27	6	27
First Student	47	14			14
Private Contractors			16		

# 560 Special Education Tuitions

- Average Increase tuitions is 14.7%
- Tuitions increased from \$116,441 to \$133,566
- 7 additional outplaced students in 2024-2025

Year	Excess Cost Submitted
2024-2025	\$6,867,516
2023-2024	\$5,104,062
2022-2023	\$3,381,058

- Excess Cost reimbursement starts at 4.5 times above a districts NCEP
- For Meriden that amount is \$68,832

# 580 Travel, Other

Travel, Other: \$510,193

Increase: \$35,595

First Student Increase 7.5%

	2024-2025	2025-2026
Staff	\$54,348	\$58,424
College/Career	\$3,900	\$4,192
Special Education	\$7,550	\$8,116
Field trips	\$17,865	\$19,205
<b>Athletics</b>	<b>\$280,529</b>	<b>\$301,569</b>
Vocational Ed	\$5,700	\$6,128
<b>MHS/PHS Band</b>	<b>\$104,706</b>	<b>\$112,559</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$474,598</b>	<b>\$510,193</b>

# 611 Instructional Supplies

Instructional Supplies: \$198,819

Increase: \$49,998

- Educational Software
- Teaching Supplies
- Art Supplies
- Music Supplies
- Paper

# 620 Heat Energy

Heating: \$1,516,327

Increase: \$ 34,264

	Price 2024-2025	Price 2025-2026
Heating Oil	\$2.7276	\$2.4535
Natural Gas	\$1.48	\$1.85
Diesel	\$2.60	\$2.5750
Gasoline	\$2.41	\$2.3925



# 690 Other Supplies and Materials

Other Supplies and Materials: \$522,005

Increase: \$33,890

Average Increase of 4.1% - Alliance flat funded causes a Board increase of 6.94%.

	2024-2025	2025-2026
Athletic Supplies	\$279,912	\$291,380
Office Supplies	\$322,009	\$335,211
Health Supplies	\$17,114	\$17,816
Music Supplies	\$85,310	\$88,808
Testing Supplies	\$57,744	\$60,112
Special Education	\$64,768	\$67,420
Alliance	(\$338,742)	(\$338,742)
Total	\$488,115	\$522,005



# 613 Maintenance Supplies

Maintenance Supplies: \$1,285,034

Increase: \$ 91,916

General supplies: Average of 5% increase on items

- Green cleaning supplies
- General parts, flooring, paper products, fertilizer
- 40 Additional Walkie Talkies - \$19,800
- Nathan Hale blacktop for playground - \$18,000

# 810 Dues and Fees

Dues and Fees:      \$129,416

Increase:              \$51,250

Memberships and dues for public schools' associations and organizations.

# Pulaski School Current Conditions

- Limited Parking on Site and parent parking and drop off at Ceppa Field
- Access road goes through school property

