# Weston Board of Education Proposed 2023 Budget

The mission of the Weston Public Schools, as a caring and supportive community partnership, is to empower each student to achieve success and contribute to our global society by developing and cultivating character, knowledge and creativity through a dynamic learning experience that challenges each student to continually pursue personal excellence.



**Board of Finance** 

March 7, 2022

## **2023 Proposed Operating Budget**



- Ensure the district budget fulfills the community expectations for its children
- Continue Weston's exemplary reputation as one of the highest achieving school districts in both state and nation
- Maximize the funding without overburdening taxpayer

\$56,976,717

An increase of 3.46%

This increase includes \$434,330 or .78% for the funding of dental claims, which had been fully funded from the town's Internal Services Fund this year.

Without dental, the budget increase would be 2.68% or \$1,476,629 from 2022.

## **Strategic Goals**

- Support Weston's Portrait of the Graduate, pre-K-12 journey
- Improve student academic performance
- Ensure that students demonstrate academic growth in math & reading
- Promote an inclusive climate
- Provide students with appropriate social emotional supports
- Fulfill our responsibilities to our students with disabilities
- Support the maintenance, safety and security of our campus
- Maximize financial resources through lens of academic return on investment







### **Our Schools**









#### **Curriculum and Instruction**

- Support 22 sections of grades K-2
- Math Curriculum Instructional Leader (CIL) at HES
- Support 3 sections of Pre-School (IDEA PreSchool)
- Purchase new digital and consumable math resources for all kindergarteners.
- Support 21 sections of Grades 3-5 (one less section grade 5)
- Maintain the staffing levels of math and reading interventionists
- Provide professional development in math & Reading (Title II/ESSER)
- Return to a pure teaming model for English, math, science and social studies (WMS)
- Replace quiet study with Academic Workshop model (WMS)
- Offer new electives: Sustainability, Digital Illustration & Animation, 12th grade English (WHS)
- Implement new State of Connecticut unfunded mandates for graduation (WHS)
- Support a NEASC Coordinator (.2 FTE) (WHS)

## **Our Schools**









### **Digital Learning and Technology**

- Provide all kindergarteners with new IPADS
- Purchase educational software
- Provide licenses for TABLEAU, a data analytics program

### **Special Education**

- Fulfill our responsibilities to students with individualized education plans (IEP).
- Support the position of a district school psychologist to assist in the increased testing demands across the schools.

### **Pupil Personnel Services**

 HES- Reallocate the cost of one of the two school psychologists to staff a school social worker

### **Healthy Learning Environment**

- Promote an inclusive climate through Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports Program (PBIS)
- Support a strong sense of community within grade level teams & schools
- Support Clubs, Theater, Co-curricular programs



# **BUDGET DRIVERS**



ENROLLMENT

STAFFING

SALARIES & BENEFITS

**SPECIAL EDUCATION** 





# **Budget Driver: Enrollment**



Grade	10/1/21 Actual Enrollment	SLAM Medium Projected Enrollment FY 2023	Change
K	126	130	4
1	146	142	(4)
2	154	159	5
HES	426	431	5
3	140	163	23
4	150	148	(2)
5	179	153	(26)
WIS	469	464	(5)
6	176	185	9
7	176	177	1
8	189	180	(9)
WMS	541	542	1
9	184	187	3
10	185	182	(3)
11	184	182	(2)
12	207	184	(23)
WHS	760	735	(25)
In-District	2,196	2,172	(24)
Pre-School	30	30	0
Total	2,226	2,202	(24)

## **Staffing Reallocations & Reductions**



- Hurlbutt Elementary School:Increase of .4 for Lunchroom/Playground Monitors
- Weston Intermediate School: Decrease of 1 Grade Five Section (enrollment)
- Weston Middle School: Decrease of 1.6 FTE (reallocations and strengthening academic grade level team)
- Weston High School: Decrease of 2 FTE (enrollment and reallocations)
- PPS: Increase school psychologist for district

The total increase in salary accounts is \$60,911 representing .11% increase to the 2023 budget. The total cost of salaries is \$33,686,260

#### **CONTRACTUAL OBLIGATIONS - THIRD YEAR OF THREE YEAR CONTRACTS**

- WTA: .75 General Wage Increase (GWI) plus step, and a GWI of 1.7% at maximum step.
- AFSCME: 2.0% GWI plus step.
- WAA: 2.25% GWI

### **Benefits**

The increase in costs for employee benefits (without including dental claims) is \$548,754 representing a 1% increase to the budget.

The cost of dental claims is \$434,330 representing a .79% increase

The total cost of benefits is \$10,989,015 representing a 1.79% increase to the 2023 budget

### **Contributing Factors:**

- District portion of municipal employee retirement services \$1,324,006 representing a .22% increase to the budget
- District Early Retirement Incentive Plan-final year- \$130,080

Benefits include social security, unemployment, medicare, tuition reimbursement, life and disability insurance, WTA sick bank

### **Health Insurance**



BARGAINING GROUP	PREMIUM COST SHARE 2022-2023	
Administrators	20% Medical & 21% Dental	
Teachers	18.5% Medical & Dental	
Support Staff AFSCME	13.5 % Medical & Dental	

CT State Partnership Plan has increased by 6.5%

District Cost for Health Insurance (with dental) \$9,810,243

Mitigated by Employee Cost Share \$1,677,851

### Medical Plan Highlights

- CT State Partnership Plan Anthem Network
- In Network/ Out of Network Options
- 3 Levels (Employee only/ Employee +1/ Family)
- No deductible for In Network
  - o \$15 Co-Pay
  - 4 Tier RX Plan
- Out of Network Deductible \$300/\$900
  - OUt of Pocket Maximums
  - 80/20 Cost Share after Deductible

## **Special Education Budget Drivers**



- We are still actively working through the academic and social-emotional challenges students are facing as a result of the pandemic
- The proposed budget responds to the following:
  - Need for increased academic support at the HS level through the Alternative Pathways program
  - Restructuring mental health support provided to students: districtwide psychologist, social worker at HES, and continued consultation for mental health staff through the grant
  - Preparation for the rollout of the new IEP which will be introduced statewide on July 1, 2022 though the addition of district wide clerical support, also funded through the grant
  - Placement needs of students who require more intensive supports and services than can be provided within the district

# **Grant Highlights**

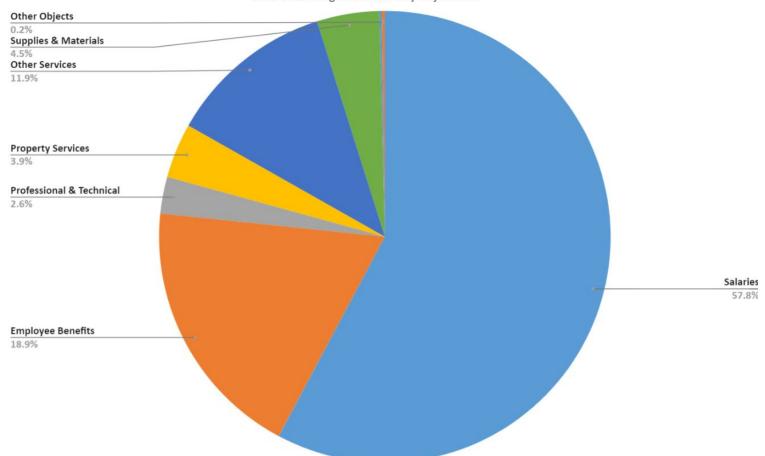


Title One	\$61,192	Academic success
Title Two	\$30,220	Professional development
Title Four	\$10,000	District & school improvement
IDEA & IDEA PreSchool	\$498,861	Certified staff & paras
ESSER	\$345,434	Academic/ social emotional Support
SPED ESSER	\$175,248	Special education services

**TOTAL \$1,120,955** 



#### 2022-2023 Budget Allocation by Object Code



## **Our Schools**































### **WESTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

Our commitment to excellence and continued, purposeful innovation will make Weston Public Schools the standard in designing educational pathways and environments that cultivate empowered citizens of the global community.









# **Capital Budget Proposal 2022-2023 - Facilities**



<b>Description of Project</b>		J	FY 2023	
1	WHS: C-5 Air Handler Replacement	\$	70,411	
2	District-Wide Security Initiatives	\$	54,920	
3	WHS, WMS, WIS, and HES Core Building: Duct Work Cleaning, Tri-annual	\$	265,000	
4	WIS: Add Double Extension Door to Gym	\$	25,000	
5	WIS: Tennis Court Repairs	\$	50,525	
6	WMS: Replace/Rebuild as New 16 Heating and Cooling Pumps Feeding Entire S	\$	65,000	
7	WIS and WHS: Fire Panel Replacement	\$	125,100	
8	WHS: HVAC for Weight Room and Dance Studio	\$	90,000	
9	HES: Reline Chimney, North House and Core	\$	30,000	
10	HES/WMS: Hire Consultant for Bathroom Renovations	\$	40,000	
11	WMS: Replacement of Art Room Multi-Bay Sinks	\$	18,929	
12	District-Wide: Paving	\$	550,000	
13	WHS: Hire Consultant to Mirror C & D Wings to E Wing	\$	50,000	
14	HES: Hire Consultant for North House HVAC	\$	50,000	
15	WMS: 7th and 8th Grade Student Locker Replacement*	\$	110,000	
16	HES: Repoint Brick, North House	\$	72,000	
	Total:	\$	1,666,885	
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<sup>\*</sup> Old quote, needs to be updated