

# **TOWN OF SOUTH WINDSOR**

## **MINUTES**

**TOWN COUNCIL/BOARD OF EDUCATION  
VIRTUAL MEETING**

**JOINT BUDGET WORK SESSION**

**DATE: APRIL 7, 2020**

**TIME: 7:00 P.M.**

**1. Call Meeting to Order**

Mayor Paterna called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

**2. Roll Call**

**Town Council**

Members Present: Mayor Andrew Paterna  
Deputy Mayor Liz Pendleton  
Councilor Audrey Delnicki  
Councilor Mary Justine Hockenberry  
Councilor Cesar Lopez  
Councilor Karen Lydecker  
Councilor Lisa Maneeley  
Councilor Janice Snyder

Members Absent: Councilor Erica Evans

Also Present: Michael Maniscalco, Town Manager

**Board of Education**

Members Present: Chairperson Craig Zimmerman  
Vice Chairperson Jessica Waterhouse  
Arthur Adduci  
Anitha Elango  
Beth Esstman  
Michael Gonzalez  
Marek Kozikowski  
James O'Brien  
Michael Paré

Also Present: Dr. Kate Carter, Superintendent of Schools  
Colin McNamara, Asst. Superintendent  
Cheryl Mortensen, Asst. Superintendent  
Chris Chermerka, Business Manager

## **MINUTES**

### **Joint Budget Work Session - Town Council/Board of Education**

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**April 7, 2020**

#### **ITEM:**

#### **3. Public Participation**

Mayor Paterna stated that if any emails are received, they will be sent out to the Council tomorrow.

#### **4. Items for Discussion**

##### **A. Board of Education Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2020/2021**

Chairman Zimmerman started conversations regarding the Board of Education Budget. He thanked the Town Council for continuing to work cooperatively with the Board of Education and hopes everyone will be excited to hear the updated details regarding the 2020/2021 budget.

Dr. Kate Carter, Superintendent of Schools, explained that she is recommending a reduction to the Fiscal Year 2020/2021 Board of Education budget. Based upon current and projected reserve accounts, even with a reduction to the budget, the Board of Education will be able to meet the needs of the school district with newly appropriated dollars in combination with reserve accounts without depleting or undermining the necessary levels of the reserve accounts. In the coming weeks, Dr. Carter stated she would present the recommended reduction to the Board of Education at their April 28, 2020 meeting and then will inform the Council of this reduction. There are some unknowns and variable that must be considered such as that the increasing enrollments will generate some needs that are not accounted for in the originally proposed budget. Due to changing proposed budget. Due to changing conditions, the following will be needed:

- An additional English Learner Teacher
- Timothy Edwards presenting has the need for an additional team and there could be a need for another additional team on top of that.

The two areas in the budget that may be impacted by COVID-19 are Special Education and Healthcare. These two areas were originally driving savings in the current fiscal year.

**(Discussion Continued on the Next Page)**

## MINUTES

### Joint Budget Work Session - Town Council/Board of Education

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April 7, 2020

#### ITEM:

#### 4. A. (Continued)

Dr. Carter then presented the proposed original Board of Education Budget for Fiscal Year 2020/2021 **(Exhibit A)** and the High Level Summary of Fiscal Year 2021 Budget Drivers **(Exhibit B)**.

Answering questions from the Council, Dr. Carter explained that next years 7<sup>th</sup> grade class is in the proposed budget with the need of an extra team. The additional team that was spoken of tonight is for next year's 6<sup>th</sup> grade.

Councilor Snyder stated that there is nothing in this budget that she would take out. All of the requests in the budget are verified by the numbers, the enrollment, and what the children of South Windsor need. Councilor Snyder explained that she would like to see a 0% tax increase.

Mr. Maniscalco explained that the Town is consistently planning and working on how the Town is going to grow in the future. The Planning & Zoning Commission is working on the Plan of Conservation & Development. Also, the 2020 Census is ongoing presently and will help the Town in its plans. Mayor Paterna added that the Town is emphasizing on economic development and with economic development comes residential development.

Mayor Paterna and Councilor Hockenberry spoke in favor of the proposed Board of Education and were pleased that Dr. Carter would be returning with an additional decrease to the budget. Councilor Hockenberry also stated that she would like to see a 0% increase in the whole budget and maybe more if possible.

Dr. Carter then stated that she believes she will be able to quantify savings due to the COVID-19, but the impacts will be a little harder.

Mr. Pare commented that he feels the budget process is very positive because it engages stakeholders early in the planning process and honors the commitments to the strategic plan. The communications throughout the past few years in every step of the budget process has been reflected in the budget document.

## MINUTES

### Joint Budget Work Session - Town Council/Board of Education

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April 7, 2020

#### ITEM:

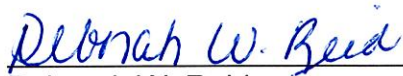
##### 5. Executive Session

None

##### 6. Adjournment

Deputy Mayor Pendleton made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:03 p.m.  
Councilor Maneeley seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.

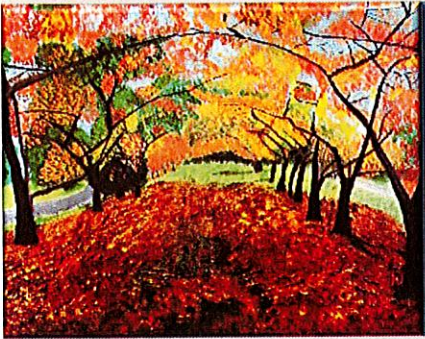
Respectfully submitted,



Deborah W. Reid  
Clerk of the Council



South Windsor Public Schools



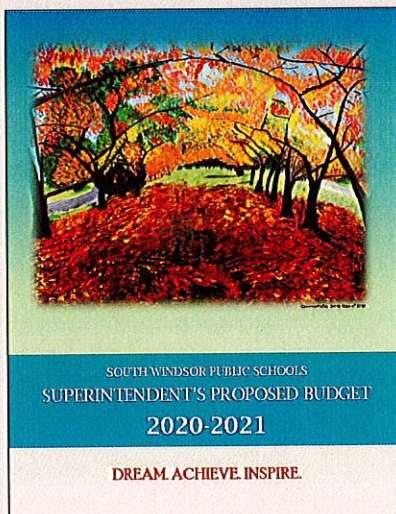
# Board of Education FY 2021 Proposed Budget

**Town Council Presentation  
Tuesday, April 7, 2020**

*presented by*  
Kate Carter, Ed.D.  
Superintendent of Schools



## Proposed 2020-2021 Budget Increase



Proposed Budget:  
**\$77,427,907**

Increase:  
**2.69%**





## Overview of Budget Drivers

### Contractual Obligations/ Maintenance of Operations

- Salary Increases
- Transportation
- Maintenance of Operations

### Increasing Enrollment

- K-5 Teachers
- Math Intervention
- 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Team
- PE, Art and Music
- Portables (PV)

### Special Education *(Mandated Programming/IEPs)*

- SPED Teachers
- Psychologist
- Increased hours for OT/PT

### Strategic Planning

- Library/Media
- World Language
- Math Intervention
- Math Program

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## 2019-2020 Enrollment Update:

**South Windsor Public Schools**  
is the fastest growing district in  
the State of Connecticut!

Source: CSDE EdSight, Student Enrollment

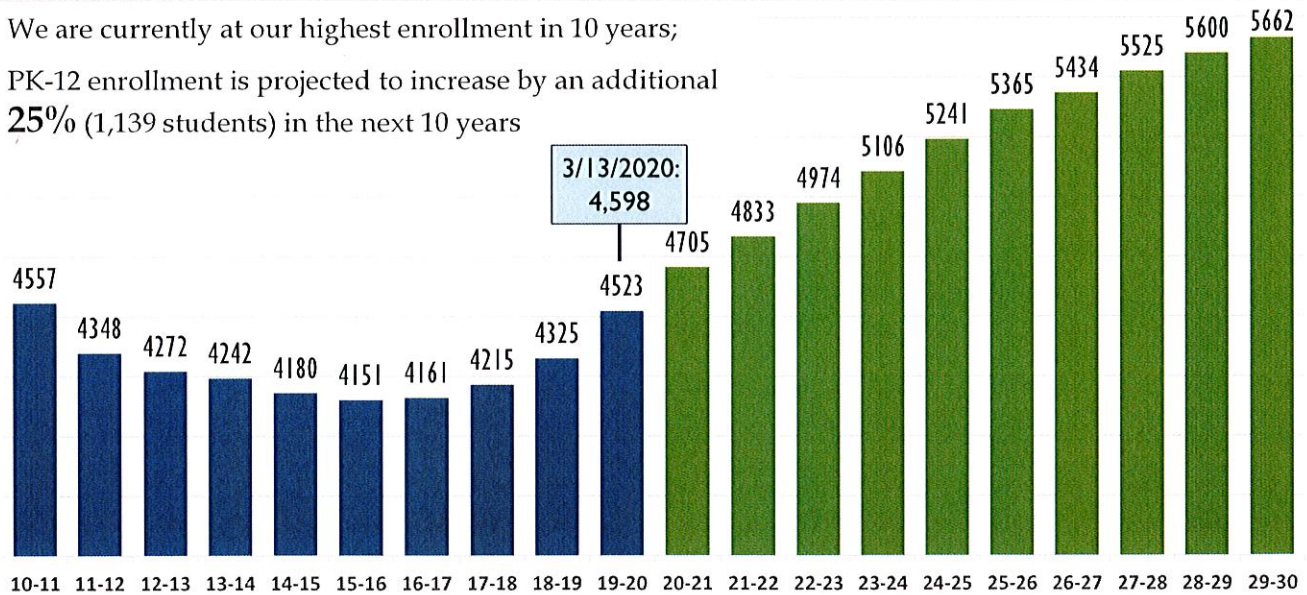
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## Total PK-12 Historical and Projected Enrollment

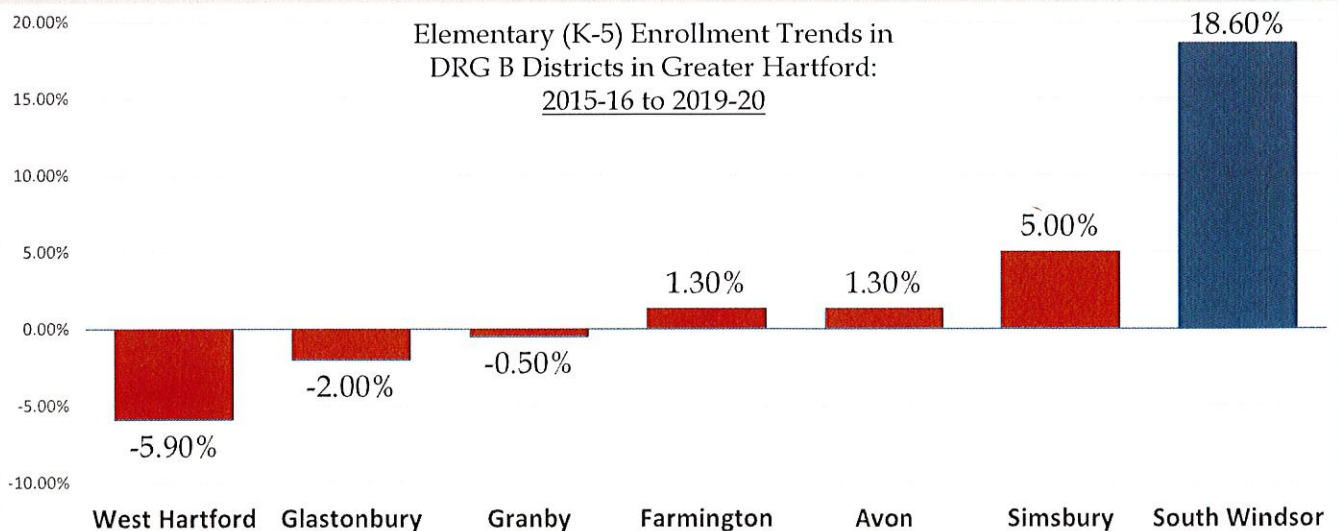
We are currently at our highest enrollment in 10 years;

PK-12 enrollment is projected to increase by an additional  
**25%** (1,139 students) in the next 10 years



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## Hartford County DRG B K-5 Enrollment Trend



Source: Milone & MacBroom; Updated March 2020

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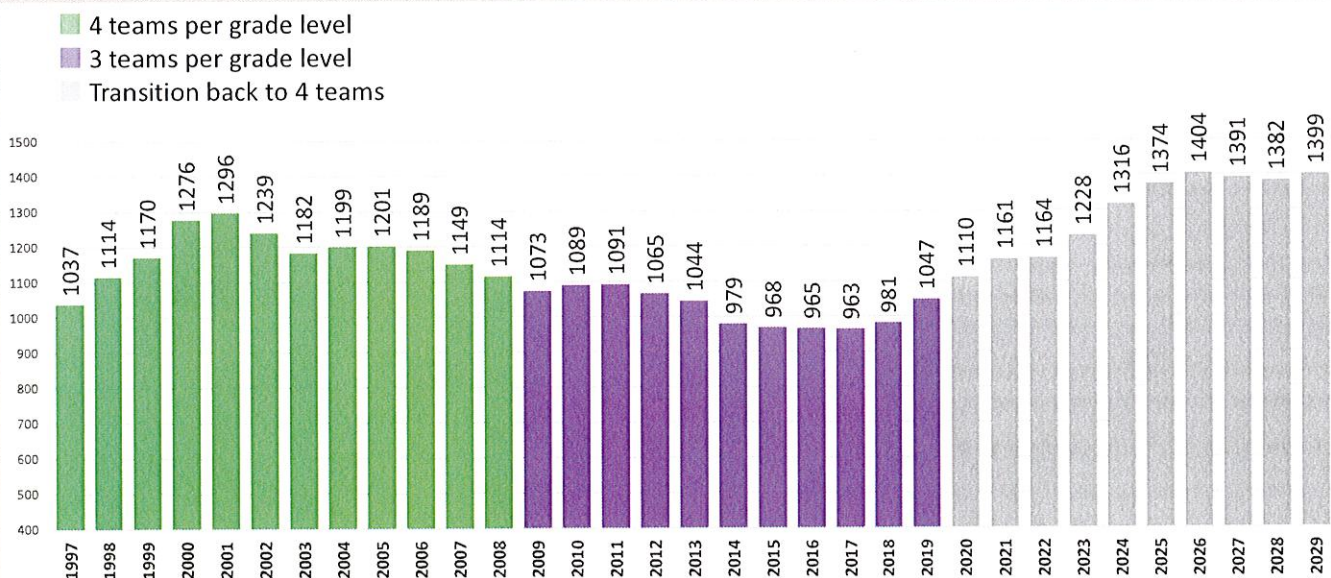


## 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Academic Team

- TEMS utilizes an academic “team” model for its core classes (Language Arts, Math, Science, Social Studies and World Language)
- In 2009, TEMS reduced from four (4) teams per grade level to three (3) due to decreasing enrollment
- The FY 2021 budget calls for the addition of a fourth 7<sup>th</sup> grade team
  - With 3 teams, the average 7<sup>th</sup> grade class size will be **27** students
  - With 4 teams, the average 7<sup>th</sup> grade class size will be **20** students



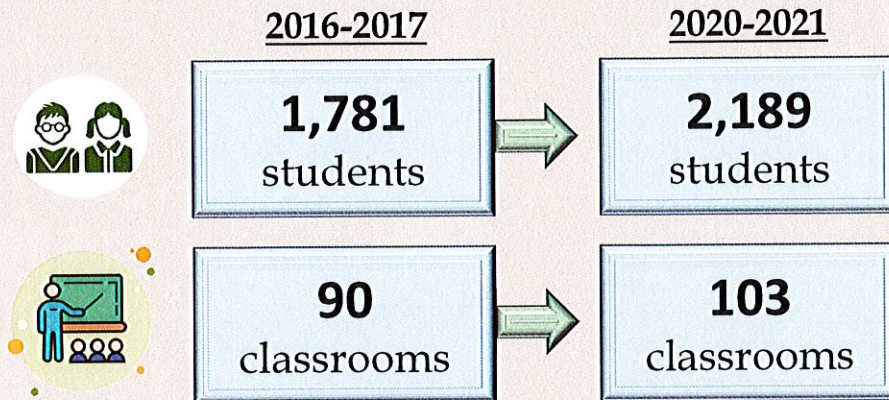
## TEMS Grade 6-8 Historical/Projected Enrollment





## Elementary Math Intervention Support

Next year, our K-5 enrollment will have increased by **408** students and resulted in the addition of **13** classrooms



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## Elementary Math Intervention Support

Math resources for student intervention and instructional coaching for teachers have not grown proportionately with increased enrollment

	MATH (Coaches/Interventionists)	LITERACY (Coaches/Interventionists)
Current 2019-2020	4	11
Projected 2020-2021	7	11

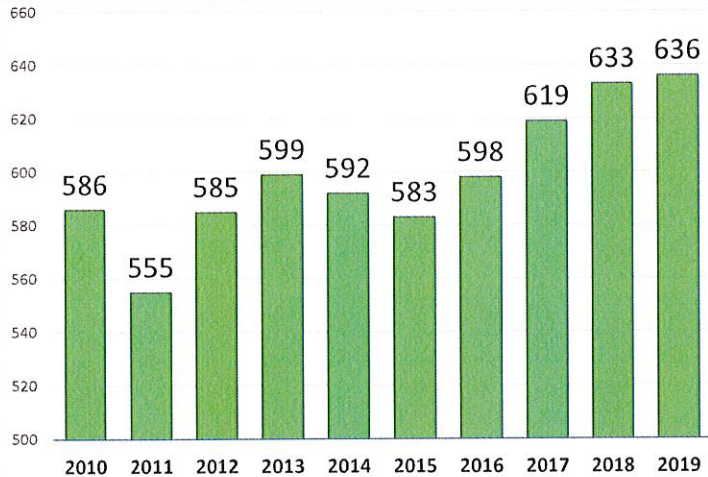
The FY 2021 Budget Proposal calls for the addition of 3.0 FTE to supplement the existing math support for elementary students and staff

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## Increasing Intensity of Student Needs

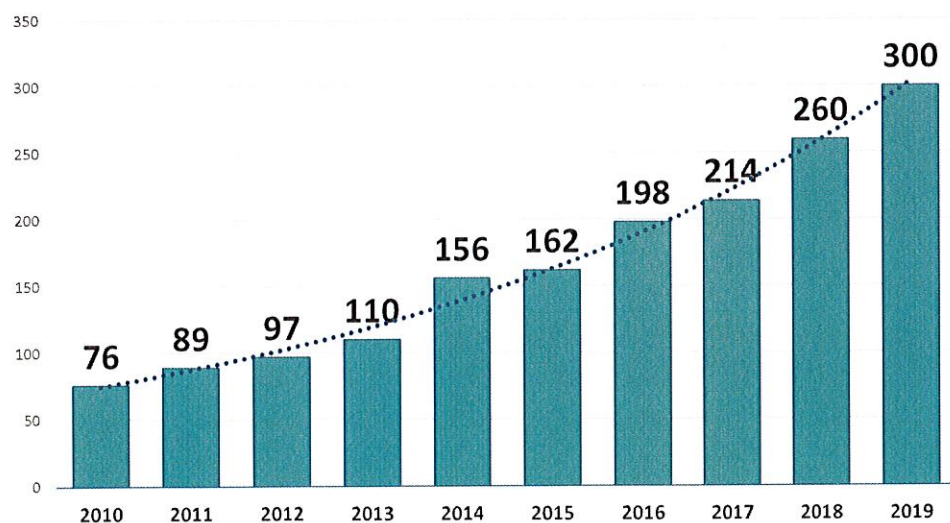
Special Education Enrollment – 2010-2019



- Intensity of student needs drives staffing and resources
  - 1.0 FTE Special Education Teacher - Elementary
  - 1.0 FTE Special Education Teacher - High School
  - 1.0 FTE Psychologist
  - Occupational and Physical Therapy
- Outplacements at a 6-year low

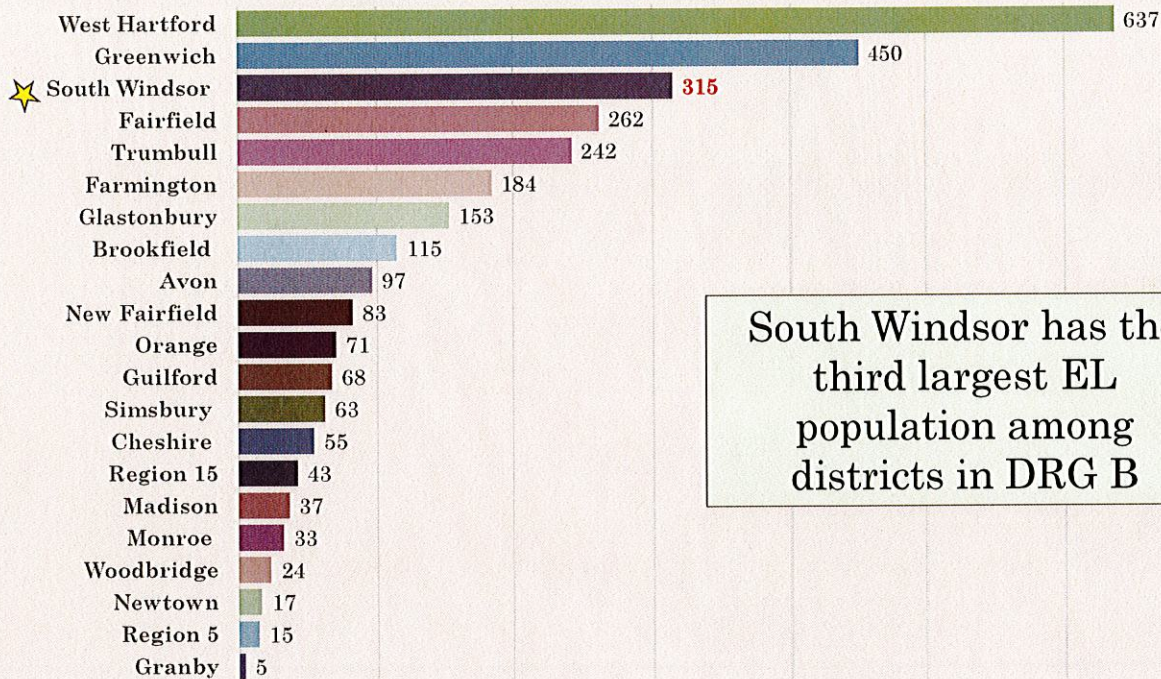
## Increasing Intensity of Student Needs

English Learner Enrollment – 2010-2019



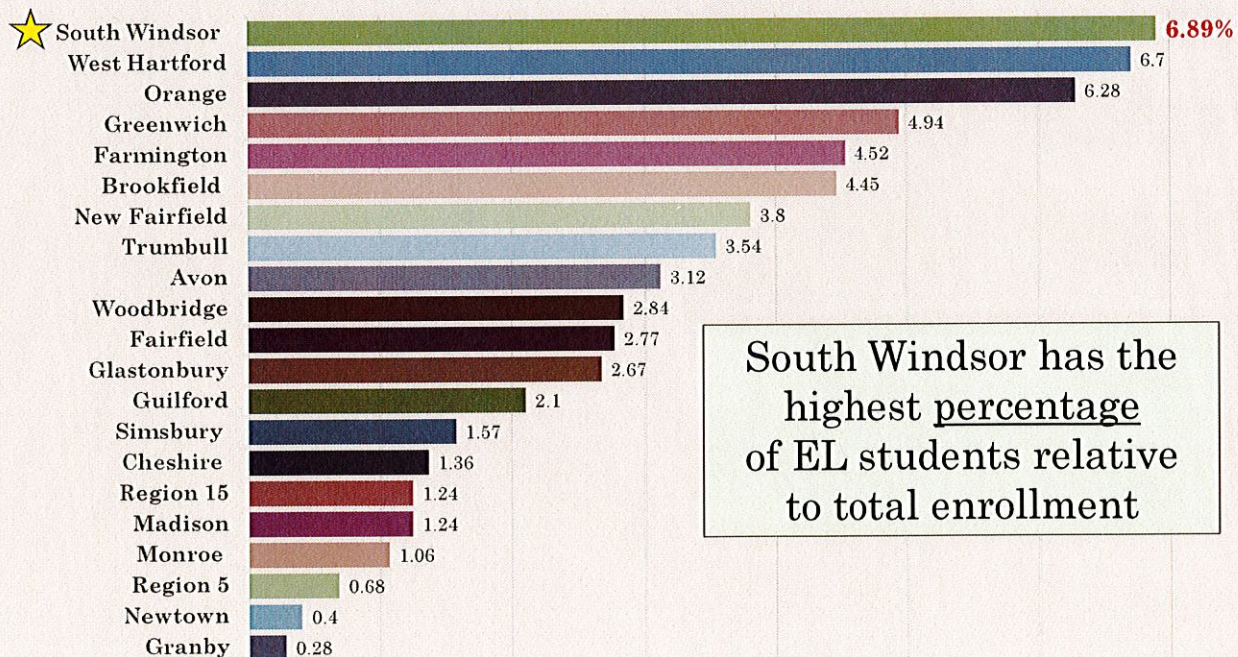


## DRG B: Number of English Learners



13

## DRG B: % of Student Population



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# Efforts to Bend the Cost Curve

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## Efforts to Bend the Cost Curve

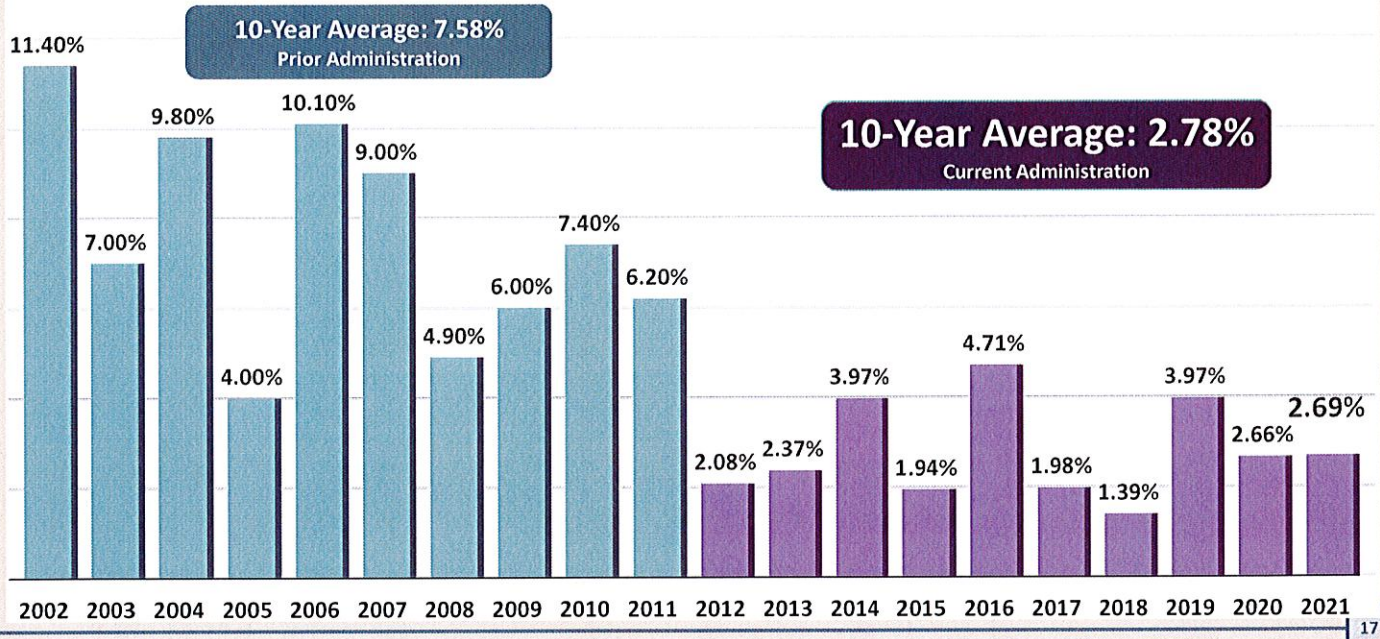
- Contracted with Outside Food Service Provider
- Implemented Medicaid Reimbursement Program
- Partnered with Effective School Solutions
- Converted to Natural Gas and Installed Boiler Controls
- Rolled Out High Deductible Health Plan
- Launched New Employee Wellness Program
- Supported Environmentally Conscious Efforts for Paperless Communications
- Preparing for the Installation of Solar
- Stewardship



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## Historical Overview of Superintendents' Proposed Budget Increases



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## Net Current Expenditures per Pupil (NCEP)

	<u>FY 2019 NCEP</u>	<u>% Increase</u>
DRG B Average:	\$17,979	1.51%
State Average:	\$17,439	2.29%
South Windsor:	\$16,499	— 1.76%

**18** towns in DRG B had a higher NCEP than South Windsor;  
only **2** towns had a lower NCEP

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## DRG B: Three-Year NCEP Comparison

#8	FY 2017		#15	FY 2018		#19	FY 2019	
	Greenwich	21,203		Greenwich	21,672		Greenwich	22,221
	Guilford	18,378		Madison	19,885		Madison	20,403
	Madison	18,094		District No. 5	19,051		New Fairfield	18,628
	Orange	17,972		District No. 15	18,496		District No. 5	18,613
	District No. 5	17,746		Guilford	17,996		Fairfield	18,524
	Woodbridge	17,650		Fairfield	17,926		District No. 15	18,372
	District No. 15	17,245		Orange	17,895		Orange	17,984
	<b>South Windsor</b>	<b>17,060</b>		Glastonbury	17,791		Guilford	17,960
	Fairfield	17,005		Monroe	17,789		Woodbridge	17,793
	Monroe	16,774		Newtown	17,592		Newtown	17,789
	Simsbury	16,618		Woodbridge	17,467		Avon	17,678
	Newtown	16,551		Avon	17,416		Monroe	17,635
	Farmington	16,470		Simsbury	17,117		Simsbury	17,451
	Avon	16,239		New Fairfield	17,048		Glastonbury	17,244
	Glastonbury	16,085		<b>South Windsor</b>	<b>16,794</b>		Farmington	17,185
	New Fairfield	15,987		Farmington	16,718		West Hartford	17,001
	Trumbull	15,980		West Hartford	16,582		Trumbull	16,660
	West Hartford	15,761		Cheshire	16,369		Cheshire	16,514
	Cheshire	15,598		Trumbull	16,036		<b>South Windsor</b>	<b>16,499</b>
	Granby	15,252		Brookfield	15,900		Granby	16,172
	Brookfield	14,524		Granby	15,511		Brookfield	15,635

\* Information from CSDE as of 1/23/2020

## Statewide NCEP

FY 2017

**79**

districts spent more

**86**

districts spent less

FY 2018

**104**

districts spent more

**61**

districts spent less

FY 2019

**122**

districts spent more

**43**

districts spent less

In FY 2019, **74%** of the districts in the state of Connecticut **spent more** per pupil than South Windsor



## South Windsor Board of Education

# High Level Summary of FY 2021 Budget Drivers

### NOTABLE DRIVERS OF INCREASE

#### Contractual Salary Increases and Maintenance of Operations

• Contractual Salary Increases and Benefits	\$1,700,000	
• Transportation	60,000	
• Maintenance of Operations (0.12% of overall budget)	100,000	<b>\$1,860,000</b>

#### Increasing Enrollment

##### Elementary

• 3.0 FTE K-5 Teachers	\$176,000	
• 0.7 FTE Music Teacher	41,000	
• 0.5 FTE Physical Education Teacher	30,000	
• 0.6 FTE Visual Arts Teacher	35,000	
• 2.0 FTE Elementary Math Interventionists	118,000	

##### Middle School

• 5.0 FTE 7 <sup>th</sup> Grade Team Teachers (ELA, Math, Science, SS, WL)	\$294,000	
• 1.0 FTE Music Teacher	59,000	

##### Infrastructure/Supplies

• Portable classrooms at Pleasant Valley	\$193,000	
• Supplies	48,000	<b>\$994,000</b>

#### Special Education (Mandated Programming/IEP Requirements)

• 1.0 FTE Elementary Special Education Teacher	\$59,000	
• 1.0 FTE High School Special Education Teacher	59,000	
• 1.0 FTE School Psychologist	65,000	
• Increased hours for Occupational and Physical Therapists	47,000	<b>\$230,000</b>

#### Strategic Planning Initiatives

• Position Upgrade: 2.0 FTE Certified Library Media Specialists	\$40,000	
• 1.0 FTE Elementary Math Interventionist	59,000	
• 1.0 FTE Elementary World Language Teacher	59,000	
• Materials and Resources for New Math Program	70,000	<b>\$228,000</b>

### NOTABLE OFFSETS

• Retiree Savings	(\$273,000)	
• Special Services (Outplacements)	(\$410,000)	
• Healthcare	(\$600,000)	<b>(\$1,283,000)</b>

**NET TOTAL INCREASE: \$2,029,000**