



MANCHESTER
SCHOOL DISTRICT

NH SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE UNIT 37
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Jennifer Chmiel, Ed.D.
Superintendent of School

To: Manchester Board of School Committee
From: Jennifer Chmiel, Ed.D. *JC*
Date: April 14, 2025
Subject: Budget Update 2026

The purpose of this memo is to share the background information I used to construct my recommendations to meet the Mayor's budget which is a reduction from the Board of School Committee Tax Cap compliant budget.

In this memo I have included three documents for your information:

1. Superintendent Recommendations to meet the Mayor's Budget (Working Document - Not Final)
2. Budget Considerations - 2026 (Working Document - Not Final)
3. Proposed School Based Budget Cuts (Working Document - Not Final)

Please keep in mind, **all staff reductions will be managed through attrition**. We will not be discussing particular staff members or their positions in public this evening. Given the Mayor has noted this is an iterative process we will wait to have individual meetings with any staff member impacted by a transfer due to the reduction in staffing.

It is important for me to note that **I do not believe any of these reductions are in the best interest of our district** as we have been efficiently building a district positioned to meet the needs of our district. I will be proudly sharing a brief list of accomplishments we have recognized over the past few years during my Superintendent Updates this evening.

Statement of nondiscrimination: It is the policy of the Manchester Board of School Committee, in its actions, and those of its employees, that there shall be no discrimination on the basis of age, sex, race, color, marital status, physical or mental disability, religious creed, national origin or sexual orientation for employment in, or operation and administration of any program or activity in the Manchester School District. The Title IX Coordinator is Forrest Ransdell for staff and students.

**Superintendent Recommendations to meet the Mayor's Budget (9.55 million dollar cut from the
Tax Cap Compliant BOSC Approved Budget)**

Areas of Consideration	Total Cost	Impact
Athletics	\$90,090 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stop the expansion of athletics - \$90,090 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decreased access for students • Reduced pipeline • Decreased opportunities for student engagement • Decreased attendance • Lower academic motivation • Increase in behavior issues • Decline of physical activity • Reduce of community involvement
Reduction in Force	\$2,450,000 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 38 School Based Positions (teacher and admin assistant) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ 2.1% of school staff teams 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased class sizes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Widening learning gap ◦ Lowering academic outcomes • Reduced teacher-to-student interactions • Teacher demand increase in the classroom - task overload • Fewer enrichment/elective opportunities •
Reduction in Force - District	\$963,669 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8 positions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ 7.8% of the District Staff Team 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduced efficiency • Increased demand on team • Slower response times • Downshifting to the building level leaders
Transportation	\$342,000 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase to a 2 mile walk out • Charge for High School riders 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attendance • Safety • Decreased real-time status of buses and

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stop the use of the tap on and off system 	ridership <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Logistical and Financial Stress Reduce field trips and enrichment opportunities
Facilities	\$400,000 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduction in scope of services - Aramark 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Decreased Appa Decreased staff (many are our families) Increase in risk of injuries
Supplies	\$133,000 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> For all schools reduce supplies not to include paper and toner 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limited instructional materials Reduce student engagement
Reduce Contract Service Line	\$1,300,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Only use this line when we have exhausted all other recruitment and hiring options
One Time Funds	\$3,871,522	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not fiscally prudent for recurring expenditures BOSC budget proposal reduced one-time funds 50%, an additional \$4.3mil would bring use of one-time funds back to FY25 level Reduces reserves to 6.5%, auditors recommend at least 10% for district our size Health insurance trend rising, will need stable reserves for this type of unknown expenditure Special Education demands on the rise - medically complex cases
TOTAL Reduction	\$9,550,281	

Budget Considerations 2026

Areas of Consideration	Total Cost	Impact
Athletics	\$2,839,419 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elem basketball - \$48,000 • Middle School - \$199,106 • Freshman Sports - \$47,727 • JV Sports - \$247,307 • High School Sports - \$764,527 • Other Athletics Costs (salaries not included above, Insurance, Phone, Advertising, Gas/mileage, utilities, City Chargebacks, Debt Service) \$1,043,710 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decreased access for students • Reduced pipeline for athletics • Decreased opportunities for student engagement • Decreased attendance • Lower academic motivation • Increase in behavior issues • Decline of physical activity • Reduce of community involvement
Reduction in Force	\$2,450,000 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 38 School Based Positions (teacher and admin assistant) or an average of 2.1% of school staff teams 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased class sizes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Widening learning gap ◦ Lowering academic outcomes • Reduced teacher-to-student interactions • Teacher demand in the classroom compounds • Fewer enrichment/elective opportunities
Reduction in Force - District	\$963,669 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8 positions or 7.8% of the District Staff Team 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduced efficiency • Increased demand on team • Slower response times • Downshifting to the building level leaders
Transportation	\$342,000 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase to a 2 mile walk out • Charge for High School riders • Stop the use of the tap on and off system 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decreased student attendance • Increase in tardy and early dismissal rates • Safety • Decreased real time status of buses and ridership

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Logistical and Financial Stress • Reduce field trips and enrichment opportunities
Facilities	\$400,000 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decreased Appa • Decrease staff pool at Aramark 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decreased Appa • Decreased staff (many are our families) • Increase in demand on remaining staff
Supplies	\$133,000 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reductions at all locations based on enrollment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limited instructional materials • Reduce student engagement
Athletics	\$90,090 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pause the expansion of athletics at the middle level <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Middle School Wrestling ◦ Middle School Baseball ◦ Middle School Softball ◦ Middle School Unified Athletics 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decreased access for students • Reduced pipeline for athletics • Decreased opportunities for student engagement • Decreased attendance • Lower academic motivation • Increase in behavior issues • Decline of physical activity • Reduce of community involvement
One Time Funds	TBD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not fiscally prudent for recurring expenditures • BOSC budget proposal reduced one-time funds 50%, an additional \$4.5mil would bring it back to 100% FY25 level • Reduces reserves to 6.5%, auditors recommend at least 10% for district our size • Health insurance trend rising, will need stable reserves for this type of unknown expenditure • Special Education demands on the rise - medically complex cases
Open Retirement Window	TBD <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use one time funds for retirement buyouts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loss of institutional knowledge
Reduce Contract Service Line	\$1,300,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only use this line when we have exhausted all other recruitment and hiring options

Proposed School Based Budget Cuts
Mayor's Budget Reduction of 9.55 Million from the BOSC Approved Tax Cap Compliant Budget
2026

School	Proposed Cut	Percent of Staff	Student Enrollment	Class Size Impact
Bakersville	1 Teacher	1.5%	342	All classes at or under 24 (Grade 4 class 2 at 25)
Beech	1.5 Teachers	1.7%	531	All classes under 22.5
Green Acres	1 Math Coach	1.9%	356	No impact
McDonough	1 Teacher	1.1%	544	All classes at or under 24 (Grade 4 - 1 class at 24)
Northwest	1 Teachers	1.4%	487	All classes at or under 25 (Grade 4 - 1 class at 24)
Parker Varney	1 Teacher	1.3%	427	All classes at or under 24 (Grade 4 - 1 class at 24)
Smyth	1.5 Teachers Math Coach	4.3%	370	All Classes at or under 24
Weston	1 Teacher	1.4%	453	No impact
Elementary Level	1 Shared Elem UA	.07%		TBD
Hillside	3 Teachers Add 1 Admin Asst	1.5%	1070	All classes at or under 24
McLaughlin	3 Teachers	2.4%	890	All classes at or under 23

Parkside	6 Teachers	4.8%	783	All classes at or under 25
Southside	5 Teachers	4.7%	776	All classes under 24
Central	3 Teachers 1 Building position	3.3%	1101	All classes at or under 25
Memorial	2 Teachers 1 Building position	2.2%	1258	All classes at or under 25
West	2 Teachers	2.2%	746	All classes at or under 25
District Office	8 Positions	7.8%		All classes at or under 25

MANCHESTER SCHOOL DISTRICT
REVENUE BUDGET
GENERAL FUND

	FY 2026 MAYOR'S BUDGET	FY 2025 BUDGET	FY 2024 BUDGET	FY 2023 BUDGET	FY 2022 BUDGET	FY 2021 BUDGET	FY 2020 BUDGET
Tuition-Operating	\$ 700,000	\$ 825,000	\$ 700,000	\$ 770,000	\$ 1,509,598	\$ 1,601,856	\$ 2,252,790
Student Activities	25,000	25,000	25,000	35,000	35,000	15,000	35,000
Interest Income Operations	300,000	550,000	550,000	50,000	2,440	150,000	350,000
Indirect Cost	250,000	250,000	200,000	200,000	200,000	200,000	200,000
Impact Fees	277,000	200,000	200,000	200,000	200,000	-	-
Other Local Sources	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
School Building Aid	2,958,418	3,032,991	2,986,145	3,060,961	3,030,966	2,930,712	3,209,050
Area Vocational School	650,000	750,000	675,000	850,000	883,568	920,000	708,365
Special Education Aid	1,500,000	1,563,515	1,700,000	1,100,000	1,053,766	1,376,086	1,378,925
ROTC	105,000	107,214	102,112	100,000	99,000	90,000	90,000
Medicaid	500,000	750,000	750,000	750,000	1,500,000	1,300,000	1,313,967
Differentiated Aid for Charter Schools	500,000	473,387	280,000	246,225	246,225	234,181	166,851
Energy Rebates	-	-	-	-	-	-	200,000
Kindergarten Aid	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	<u>7,775,418</u>	<u>8,537,107</u>	<u>8,178,257</u>	<u>7,372,186</u>	<u>8,770,563</u>	<u>8,827,835</u>	<u>9,914,948</u>
One-Time Funding Source:							
Transfer from Expendable Trust	4,500,000	1,200,000	3,000,000				
Fund Balance FY24	-	7,800,000	-				
	<u>4,500,000</u>	<u>9,000,000</u>	<u>3,000,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Adequate Education Aid	<u>108,192,796</u>	<u>96,523,581</u>	<u>97,765,765</u>	<u>70,495,400</u>	<u>64,673,543</u>	<u>65,737,715</u>	<u>61,280,986</u>
State Tax (raised locally and retained locally)	19,626,112	19,591,182	19,682,274	15,458,857	20,862,186	21,027,451	20,279,588
Local Tax	96,405,599	100,848,055	98,356,311	97,001,685	89,652,965	87,459,003	87,811,456
Total Taxes	<u>116,031,711</u>	<u>120,439,237</u>	<u>118,038,585</u>	<u>112,460,542</u>	<u>110,515,151</u>	<u>108,486,454</u>	<u>108,091,044</u>
Total Revenues	<u>\$ 236,499,925</u>	<u>\$ 234,499,925</u>	<u>\$ 226,982,607</u>	<u>\$ 190,328,128</u>	<u>\$ 183,959,257</u>	<u>\$ 183,052,004</u>	<u>\$ 179,286,978</u>
Tax \$ Increase (Decrease)-Annual	\$ (4,407,526)	\$ 2,400,652	\$ 5,578,043	\$ 1,945,391	\$ 2,028,697	\$ 395,410	
Tax \$ Increase over 6 years	\$ 7,940,667						
Tax % Increase over 6 years	7.35%						
Average Annual Tax % Increase over 6 years	1.22%						

MANCHESTER SCHOOL DISTRICT
REVENUE BUDGET
GENERAL FUND

	FY 2026 BOSC BUDGET	FY 2025 BUDGET	FY 2024 BUDGET	FY 2023 BUDGET	FY 2022 BUDGET	FY 2021 BUDGET	FY 2020 BUDGET
Tuition-Operating	\$ 700,000	\$ 825,000	\$ 700,000	\$ 770,000	\$ 1,509,598	\$ 1,601,856	\$ 2,252,790
Student Activities	25,000	25,000	25,000	35,000	35,000	15,000	35,000
Interest Income Operations	300,000	550,000	550,000	50,000	2,440	150,000	350,000
Indirect Cost	250,000	250,000	200,000	200,000	200,000	200,000	200,000
Impact Fees	277,000	200,000	200,000	200,000	200,000	-	-
Other Local Sources	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
School Building Aid	2,958,418	3,032,991	2,986,145	3,060,961	3,030,966	2,930,712	3,209,050
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Special Education Aid	1,500,000	1,563,515	1,700,000	1,100,000	1,053,766	1,376,086	1,378,925
ROTC	105,000	107,214	102,112	100,000	99,000	90,000	90,000
Medicaid	500,000	750,000	750,000	750,000	1,500,000	1,300,000	1,313,967
Differentiated Aid for Charter Schools	500,000	473,387	280,000	246,225	246,225	234,181	166,851
Energy Rebates	-	-	-	-	-	-	200,000
Kindergarten Aid	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	<u>7,775,418</u>	<u>8,537,107</u>	<u>8,178,257</u>	<u>7,372,186</u>	<u>8,770,563</u>	<u>8,827,835</u>	<u>9,914,948</u>
One-Time Funding Source:							
Transfer from Expendable Trust	4,500,000	1,200,000	3,000,000				
Fund Balance FY24	-	7,800,000	-				
	<u>4,500,000</u>	<u>9,000,000</u>	<u>3,000,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Adequate Education Aid	<u>108,192,796</u>	<u>96,523,581</u>	<u>97,765,765</u>	<u>70,495,400</u>	<u>64,673,543</u>	<u>65,737,715</u>	<u>61,280,986</u>
State Tax (raised locally and retained locally)	19,626,112	19,591,182	19,682,274	15,458,857	20,862,186	21,027,451	20,279,588
Local Tax	105,955,880	100,848,055	98,356,311	97,001,685	89,652,965	87,459,003	87,811,456
Total Taxes	<u>125,581,992</u>	<u>120,439,237</u>	<u>118,038,585</u>	<u>112,460,542</u>	<u>110,515,151</u>	<u>108,486,454</u>	<u>108,091,044</u>
Total Revenues	<u>\$ 246,050,206</u>	<u>\$ 234,499,925</u>	<u>\$ 226,982,607</u>	<u>\$ 190,328,128</u>	<u>\$ 183,959,257</u>	<u>\$ 183,052,004</u>	<u>\$ 179,286,978</u>
Tax \$ Increase-Annual	\$ 5,142,755	\$ 2,400,652	\$ 5,578,043	\$ 1,945,391	\$ 2,028,697	\$ 395,410	
Tax \$ Increase over 6 years	\$ 17,490,948						
Tax % Increase over 6 years	16.18%						
Average Annual Tax % Increase over 6 years	2.70%						