

February 7, 2023

South Hampton
School District FY24
Deliberative Session





Barnard School

Article 01: Operating Budget

Shall the School District raise and appropriate as an operating budget, not including appropriations by special warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately, the amounts set forth on the budget posted with the warrant or as amended by vote of the first session, for the purposes set forth therein, totaling \$2,883,266? Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be \$2,823,931 which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the School District or by law; or the governing body may hold one special meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13, X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only. (Majority vote required.)

NOTE: Warrant Article #1 (operating budget) does not include appropriations in any other warrant articles.

The School Board and the Budget Committee recommend this article.

The proposed FY 2023-24 operating budget reflects an investment at the Barnard School to provide our students an environment that emphasizes the development of the whole person, provides a program of strong academics, and offers a center of community focus.





Barnard School



School Goals

In developing this proposed budget, we have identified the following goals that support Barnard School's mission and vision:

- To emphasize the development of the whole child through academic and SEL programming and supports.
- To continue to develop competency-based teaching and grading practices.
- To provide a culture of community.
- To implement a multi-tiered system of academic and social-emotional support for students.



Budget Priorities



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The proposed FY 2023-24 South Hampton School Budget has been established with the following priorities:

- Continued implementation of a new math program.
- On-going professional development.
- Maintaining the safety and cleanliness of facilities.
- Continued implementation of a robust academic and social emotional curriculum, which includes a multi-tiered system of supports for all students.

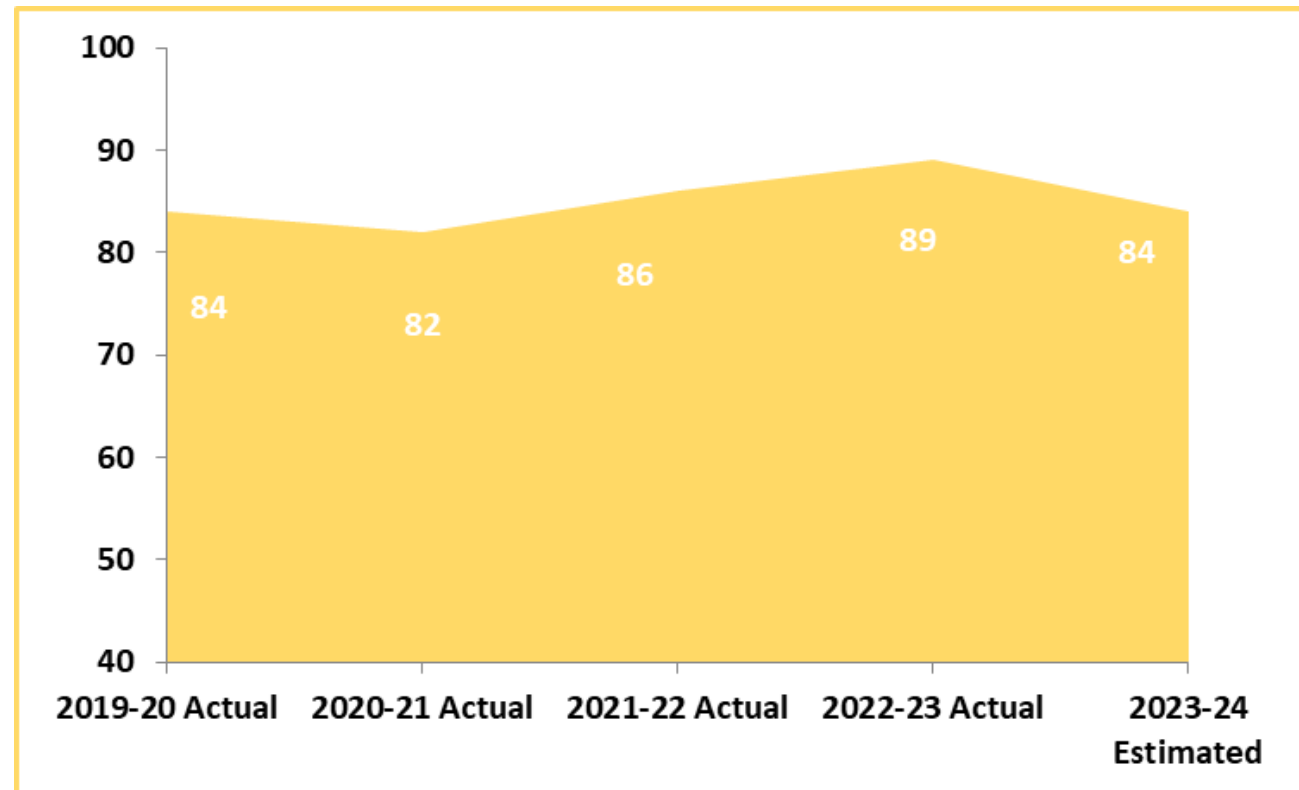


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We anticipate a slight enrollment decrease at the Barnard School from 89 students in 2022-23 to 84 students in 2023-24.



K-8 Enrollment



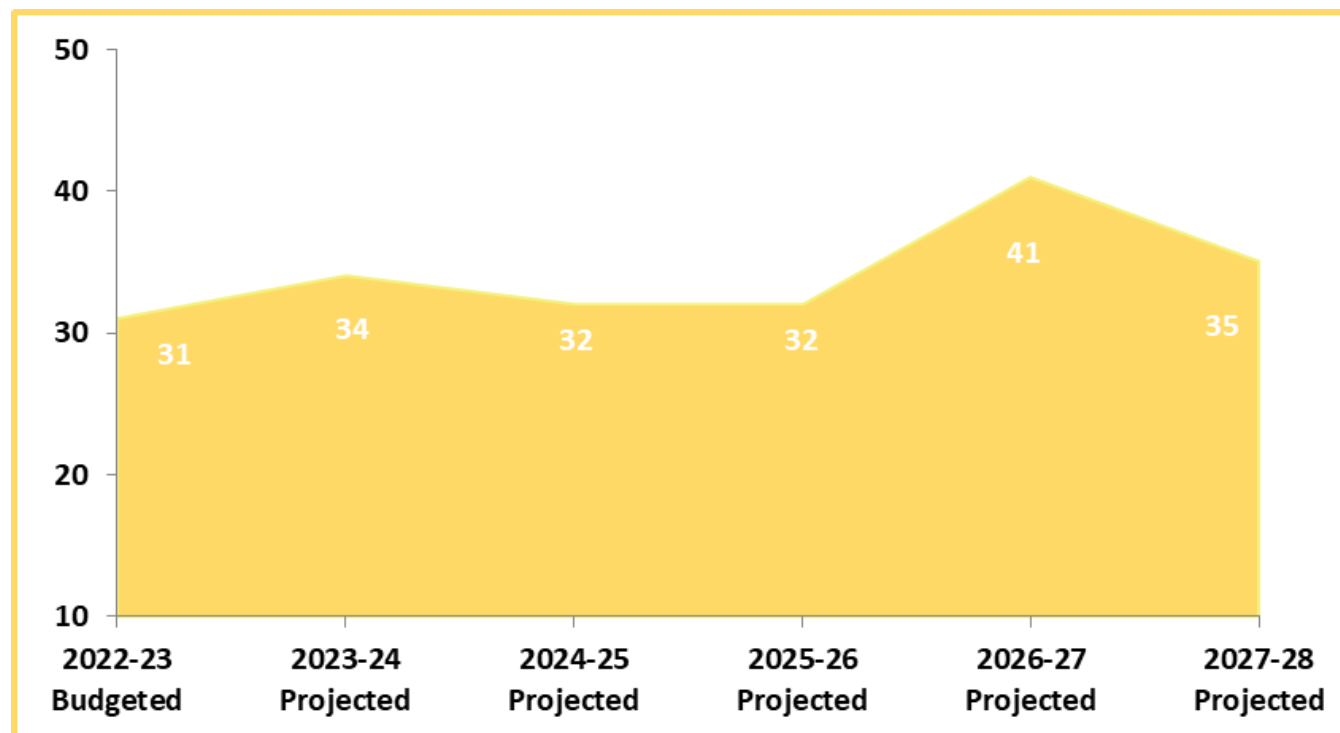


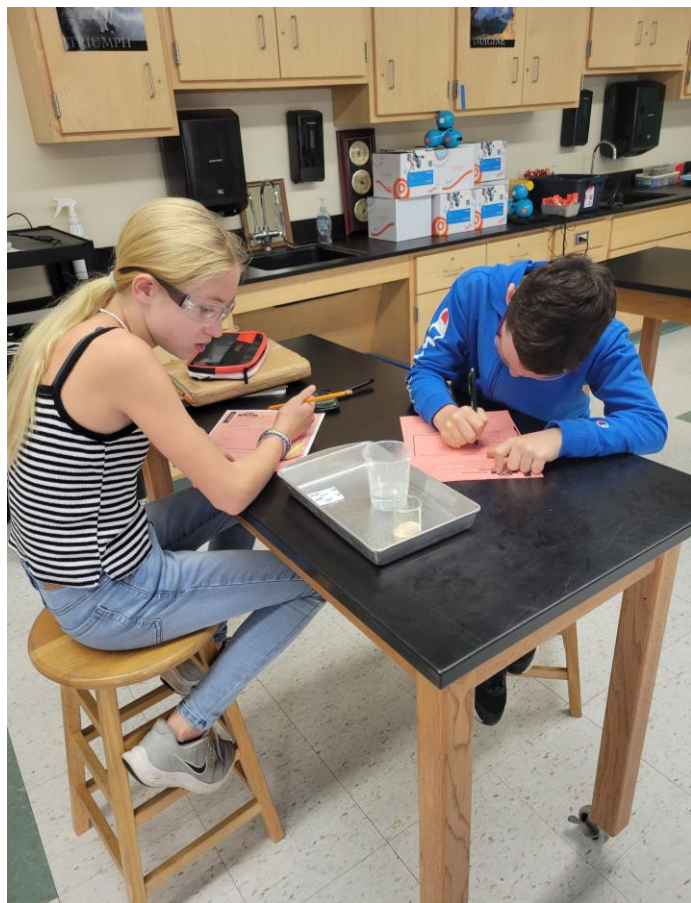
9-12 Enrollment



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South Hampton School District high school enrollment projections, based on actual current student enrollment indicates relatively flat enrollment over the next five (5) years, with an anticipated one year bump in 2026-27.



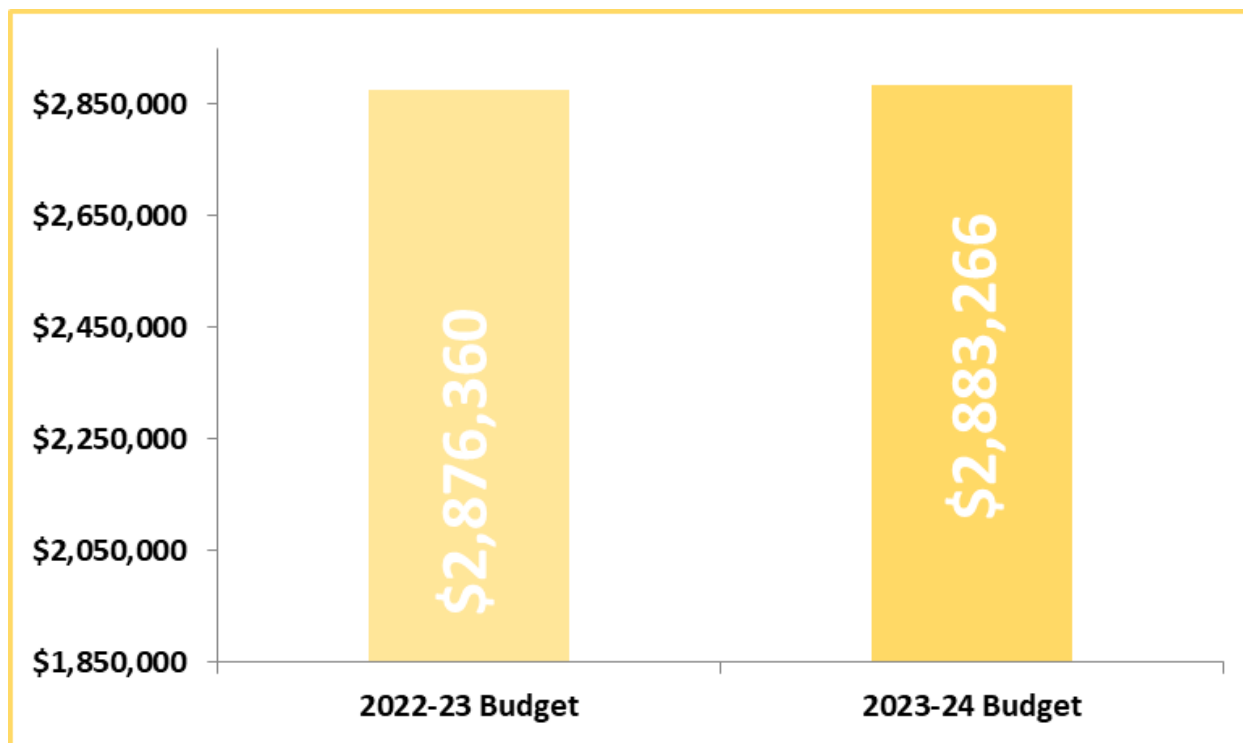


Proposed Budget



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The FY 2023-24 proposed South Hampton School District operating budget is \$2,883,266. This reflects an increase of +0.24% or a +\$6,906 increase from the FY 2022-23 budget of \$2,876,360.





Budget Drivers



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The following are the significant budget drivers in the proposed 2023-24 South Hampton School District operating budget - ***Increases***:

- Cost escalation across multiple accounts due to price inflation; including supplies, books, equipment, food service, software, repair/maintenance, technology hardware, contracted services, furniture, etc.
- Increase in electricity and heating fuels due to shift in energy markets.
- SAU-wide non-union staff salary cost of living adjustment (COLA) benchmarked to inflation (CPI).
- Increase in custodial and administrative support.
- Substantial increase in high school tuition.
- Investment in math curriculum and staff professional development.
- Technology replacement cycle implementation.



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Budget Drivers

The following are the significant budget drivers in the proposed 2023-24 South Hampton School District operating budget - **Reductions**:

- Significant decrease in special education tuition costs for out of district placements to service students with specialized needs per their individualized educational plan (IEP).
- Reduction of 1.0 FTE educational associate, based on services required for students requiring special services per their IEP.
- Slight under-budgeting high school tuition account with the provision to utilize tuition stabilization expendable trust if necessary.
- Slight under-budgeting technology equipment account with the provision to utilize technology expendable trust if necessary.
- New Hampshire Retirement System employer contribution percentage reduced.



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Cost of Living Adjustment

COST OF LIVING ADJUSTMENT

Embedded in the South Hampton School District operating budget is a salary cost of living adjustment (COLA) for all non-union staff members. The administration recommends an SAU-wide COLA based upon documented inflation, in order to maintain competitive compensation to retain our talent and allow us to hire new high-quality personnel. Additionally, aligning salaries across the SAU ensures competitive balance within competing schools in SAU 21.

The SAU benchmarks the cost of living adjustment to the consumer price index (CPI-U) for the Portsmouth region. The CPI saw an increase of 7.0% from July 2021 to July 2022 for our specific geographic region. As such, based upon current data showing previous year inflation, the proposed cost of living adjustment is 7.0% for the 2023-24 school year. This consistent practice equalizes any inequality, by utilizing the same time-frame and index.

Portsmouth CPI-U (July 2021 - July 2022)	7.00%
United States CPI-U (July 2021 - July 2022)	8.50%
Social Security 2023 Cost of Living Adjustment	8.70%



Barnard School



Budget in Detail

GENERAL EDUCATION

Budget: \$678,343

Decrease: -\$4,534 (-0.67%)

The decrease in General Education reflects a staffing change that resulted in hiring of a new staff member at lower cost. Additionally, please note that teacher salary steps and cost of living adjustments are not included in the operating budget, but are embedded in the proposed CBA warrant article. The decreases were offset by increases due to price inflation in our supplies and rental/lease equipment accounts.

SPECIAL EDUCATION

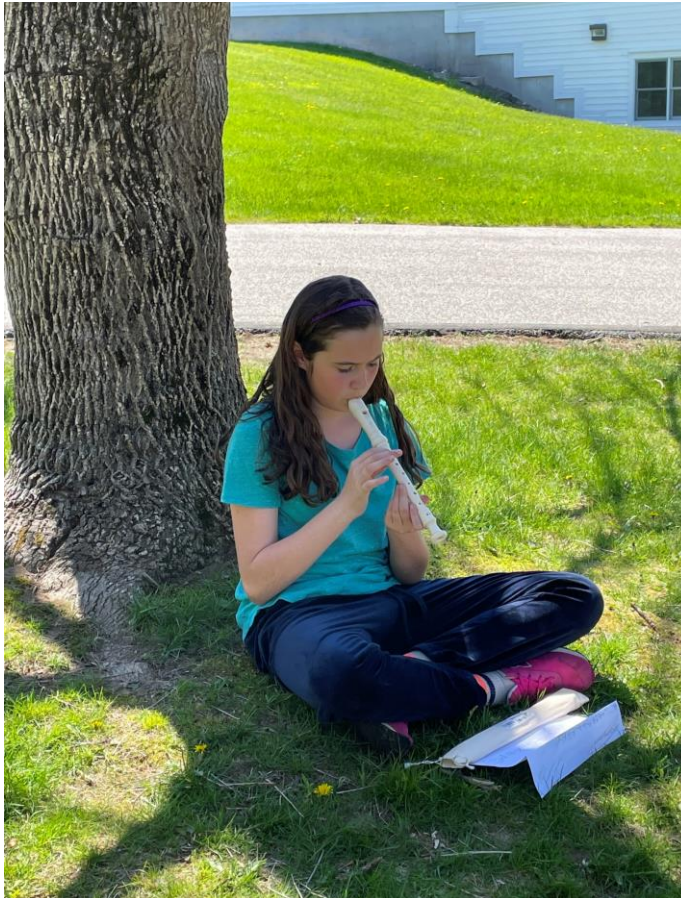
Budget: \$411,633

Decrease: -\$159,292 (-38.70%)

The Decrease in Special Education is primarily due to the reduction of an out of district placement tuition and reduction of a 1.0 FTE educational associate. Further, we have recognized savings in professional services due to a reduction in student need, per individual education plans (IEPs), and a slight reduction in teacher salaries due to a lower salary from a staffing change.



Barnard School



Budget in Detail



STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Budget: \$21,543

Increase: +\$5,510 (+25.58%)

The increase represents the addition of extracurricular stipends based on student participation, and the school resuming overnight field trips with associated stipends. Slight increases in officials and supplies represent increased student participation and cost escalation.

GUIDANCE

Budget: \$75,907

Increase: +\$0.00 (+0.00%)

There is no increase budgeted for the guidance account.

HEALTH

Budget: \$77,194

Increase: +\$490 (+0.63%)

The increase in Health reflects the purchase of AED battery requiring replacement every 4 years.



Barnard School



Budget in Detail



OTHER STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

Budget: \$1

Increase: +\$0 (+0.00%)

The Other Student Support Services account is kept open for potential future need.

IMPROVEMENT OF INSTRUCTION

Budget: \$20,410

Increase: +\$5,809 (+28.46%)

The increase in the Improvement of Instruction account reflects the investment in the new i-Ready math program, after a successful pilot period, and requisite professional development for teachers in reading instruction, the new math program, and competency-based teaching practices.

EDUCATIONAL MEDIA

Budget: \$195

Increase: +\$13 (+6.67%)

The Educational Media budget is essentially level-funded, and is for the salary of the library facilitator to maintain our book collection.



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Budget in Detail

TECHNOLOGY

Budget: \$67,037

Increase: +\$16,019 (+23.90%)

The Information Technology increase reflects staff cost of living adjustment, an increase in software and internet/telephone costs due to cost inflation, and an investment in technology equipment replacement cycle. With the relatively new 1:1 device program, we are implementing a replacement cycle to maintain level funding going forward, and mitigate the need for a technology expendable trust. We underbudgeted by \$5,000, and plan to utilize the trust if needed.

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Budget: \$21,957

Increase: +\$2,762 (+12.58%)

The increase in the Board of Education account reflects an increase in our legal account, audit services, advertising, and the cost of living adjustment for district officers.



Barnard School



Budget in Detail

SAU SERVICES

Budget: \$67,440

Increase: +\$6,216 (+9.22%)

The increase in SAU services reflects the SAU central office budget allocation. The allocation is based on districts' enrollment and valuation. Whereas, the SAU budget was level, South Hampton saw a relative increase in enrollment versus a decrease in enrollment at other SAU 21 schools. The SAU 21 model provides an aligned, high functioning structure that utilizes economy of scale, operational efficiencies, and shared personnel – to provide cost, performance, and efficiency benefits to each individual district; while embracing individual school district identity and autonomy.

SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION

Budget: \$168,747

Increase: +\$23,646 (+14.01%)

The increase in the School Administration account is due to adjusting the administrative salary schedule in 2022-23, staff cost of living adjustment, step increases, a slight increase in supplies costs, and an increase of contract days for our administrative assistant to effectively help school operations.



Barnard School



Budget in Detail

BUILDINGS

Budget: \$168,671

Increase: +\$29,017 (+17.20%)

The increase in the Buildings account is due to a significant change in energy markets resulting in an anticipated increase in electricity and heating fuel costs. Further costs include staff cost of living adjustments, and generalized price inflation for facilities supplies, cleaners, contracted work, and materials. Additionally, we have proposed slightly increasing the facilities director's hours, so there is more coverage during school days, in an effort to maintain clean and safe facilities.

GROUNDS

Budget: \$12,980

Increase: +\$1,880 (+14.48%)

The increase in grounds reflects the replenishing of playground wood chips, which are required every other year.



Barnard School



Budget in Detail



TRANSPORTATION

Budget: \$75,056

Increase: +\$5,407 (+7.20%)

The increase in transportation is primarily due to special education transportation, based on student need for in-district and out of district transportation. The remainder of the increase reflects year 5 of the 5-year contract with First Student to supply general education, athletic, field trip, and other transportation services.

EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

Budget: \$540,421

Decrease: -\$5,449 (-1.01%)

The decrease in employee benefits reflects a staff health insurance plan election changes, and the reduction in NHRS employer contribution percentage. The reductions were offset by increases to health insurance premiums (5.8% GMR) and increased dental insurance, 403b match and FICA costs.



Barnard School



Budget in Detail

HIGH SCHOOL TUITION

Budget: \$473,230

Increase: +\$79,012 (+16.70%)

The increase in High School Tuition reflects the addition of three (3) high school students, and reverting to normal tuition levels after under-budgeting the account by \$35,000 in 2022-23 with the intention to utilize the tuition stabilization expendable trust. Note: this account was under-budgeted by \$5,000.

INTERFUND TRANSFER

Budget: \$1

Increase: +\$0 (+0.00%)

No increase to the Interfund Transfer is budgeted.

FOOD SERVICE

Budget: \$2,500

Increase: +\$400 (+16.00%)

The increase in the Food Service fund reflects price inflation, an increase in food and supplies costs.



Barnard School



Default Budget



Default Budget: \$2,823,931

(-\$59,335 less than the proposed operating budget of \$2,883,266)

The amount of the same appropriations as contained in the operating budget authorized for the previous year, reduced and increased, as the case may be, by debt service, contracts, and other obligations previously incurred or mandated by law, and reduced by one-time expenditures contained in the operating budget and by salaries and benefits of positions that have been eliminated in the proposed budget. For the purposes of this paragraph, one-time expenditures shall be appropriations not likely to recur in the succeeding budget, and eliminated positions shall not include vacant positions under recruitment or positions redefined in the proposed operating budget, as determined by the governing body, unless the provisions of RSA 40:14-b are adopted, of the local political subdivision. In calculating the default budget amount, the governing body shall follow the statutory formula which may result in a higher or lower amount than the proposed operating budget.



Barnard School

Article 02: Seacoast Education Association Collective Bargaining Agreement

To see if the School District will vote to approve the cost items included in the collective bargaining agreement reached between the South Hampton School Board and the Seacoast Education Association for the following increases and reductions in salaries and benefits at the current staffing levels:

Year	Estimated Salary Increase	Estimated Health/ Dental Insurance Costs	Estimated Salary Driven Benefits Increase	TOTAL Estimated Costs
2023-24	\$68,718	\$568	\$18,000	\$87,286
2024-25	\$46,618	\$75	\$12,155	\$58,848
2025-26	\$40,960	\$75	\$10,654	\$51,689
2026-27	\$36,188	\$75	\$9,443	\$45,706

and further to raise and appropriate the sum of \$87,286 for the 2023-24 school year, such sum representing the additional costs attributable to the increase in salaries and benefits required by the new agreement over those that would be paid at current staffing levels in accordance with the current collective bargaining agreement. (Majority vote required.)

The School Board and the Budget Committee recommend this article.

NOTE: In order for this article to be adopted, it must be approved by the voters of the school districts of Hampton Falls, North Hampton, Seabrook, South Hampton and the voters of the Winnacunnet Cooperative School District (which includes Hampton voters).



Warrant Articles



Barnard School

Seacoast Education Association (SEA) Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA)

Year 1: \$87,286; Year 2: \$58,848; Year 3: \$51,689; Year 4: \$45,706

SEA employees, our amazing teachers, represent the greatest impact to our students learning growth – providing essential personalized instruction, teaching, and experiences to our students – both in general education and special education.

Passage of the CBA is critical for the South Hampton School District and the SAU's retention of our best teachers and our ability to hire new high-quality teachers. It is incredibly important that we are able to compete with area school districts, or we are at risk of losing teachers due to uncompetitive compensation. When contracts fail, teachers do not receive pay increases or steps. And, this further perpetuates a compensation differential with surrounding SAU's.

The proposed CBA warrant article will need approval from each member district, including the North Hampton, Hampton Falls, Seabrook, South Hampton, and Winnacunnet ballots. Should it fail on any ONE of these ballots, it will fail for all our districts. This will result in our tremendous teachers receiving no salary step or cost of living adjustment.



Barnard School

Article 03: Roof Expendable Trust

To see if the School District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$15,000 to be added to the existing Roof Expendable Trust fund for the purpose of repairing or replacing roofs on the South Hampton School District Buildings.

The School Board and the Budget Committee recommend this article. (Majority vote required.)



Barnard School



Warrant Articles



Roof Expendable Trust: \$15,000 (Raise & Appropriate)

The administration proposes issuance of a warrant article to raise and appropriate \$15,000 to fund the roof expendable trust.

The South Hampton School District has worked with a roofing consultant and determined that the roof on the new section of the main building will need to be replaced within five (5) years.

We propose contributing to the roof expendable trust over the next few years to help fund the roof project.

Current Balance: \$15,681

Target: \$100,000



Barnard School

Article 04: Building Maintenance Expendable Trust

To see if the School District will vote to raise and appropriate \$25,000 to be added to the existing Building Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund, with up to \$25,000 to be funded from the June 30, 2023 unassigned fund balance available for transfer on July 1, 2023. No additional amount to be raised from taxation.

The School Board and the Budget Committee recommend this article. (Majority vote required.)



Warrant Articles



Barnard School

Building Maintenance Expendable Trust: \$25,000 (Unreserved Fund Balance)

The administration proposes funding the Building Maintenance expendable trust with \$25,000, utilizing unreserved fund balance, for the March 2023 ballot.

The intent is to build the balance of the building maintenance expendable trust in order to supplement the cost of future projects such as boiler replacement, and to maintain a balance for potential unanticipated building needs.

Current Balance: \$50,483

Target: \$150,000

Important Note: Funding for the Building Maintenance Expendable Trust comes from any potential available year-end fund balance – not raised via additional taxation.



Barnard School

Article 05: Special Education Expendable Trust

To see if the School District will vote to raise and appropriate \$20,000 to be added to the existing Special Education Expendable Trust Fund, with up to \$20,000 to be funded from the June 30, 2023 unassigned fund balance available for transfer on July 1, 2023. No additional amount to be raised from taxation.

The School Board and the Budget Committee recommend this article. (Majority vote required.)



Barnard School



Warrant Articles

Special Education Expendable Trust: \$20,000 (Unreserved Fund Balance)

The administration proposes funding the Special Education expendable trust with \$20,000, utilizing unreserved fund balance, for the March 2023 ballot.

Budgeting and associated funding for special education continues to present fiscal challenges to the district. The Special Education Expendable Trust was established for the purpose of funding special education costs. As such, it is beneficial to replenish the Special Education Expendable Trust to safeguard and mitigate future unexpected costs.

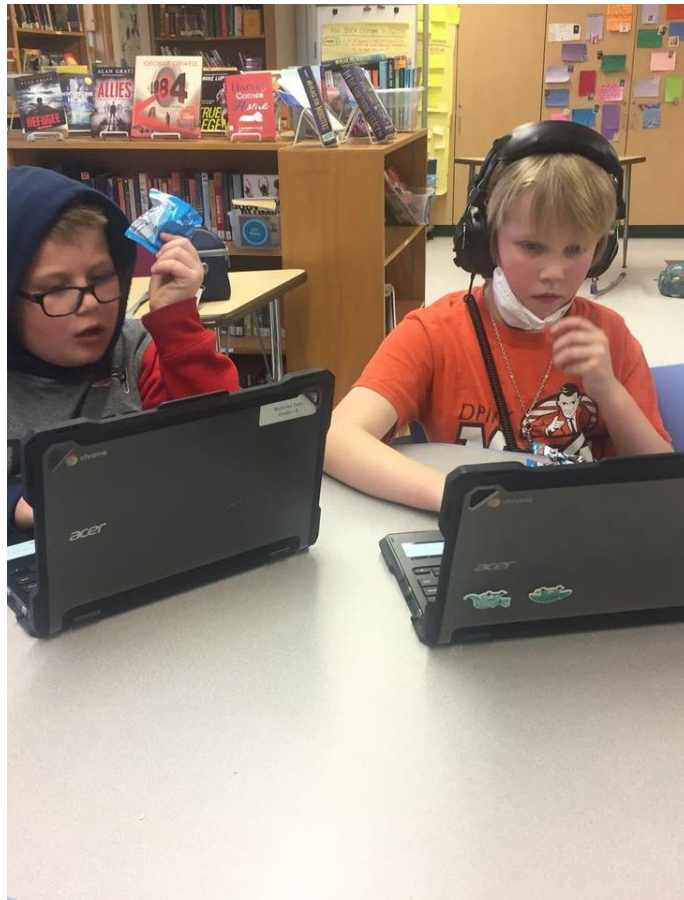
Current Balance: \$135,687

Target: \$400,000

Important Note: Funding for the Special Education Expendable Trust comes from any potential available year-end fund balance – not raised via additional taxation.



Barnard School



Warrant Articles

IMPORTANT NOTE: Homeland Security Upgrades: N/A

In 2021-22, the South Hampton School District identified security improvements per the Homeland Security Audit report recommendations. The cost for the upgrades was a total of \$60,000. At that time, the school board developed a plan to address these security improvements with a three (3) year security upgrade plan with \$20,000 each year for the three year time period.

However, The South Hampton School District applied for security upgrades via the State of New Hampshire's Security Action for Education (SAFE) grant, and we received notification that the Barnard School has been awarded funds totaling \$57,250 for specific security projects.

As such, we are able to fund all our security projects utilizing the SAFE grant funding, and will not be issuing a warrant article for Homeland Security upgrades.

Thank You!

Thank you to the school board, budget committee, teachers, parents, students, staff, and community for the outstanding support of the Barnard School!

