

FY25 Preliminary Budget Estimates

Report of the Superintendent
February 1, 2024

From Here, Anywhere....

Together

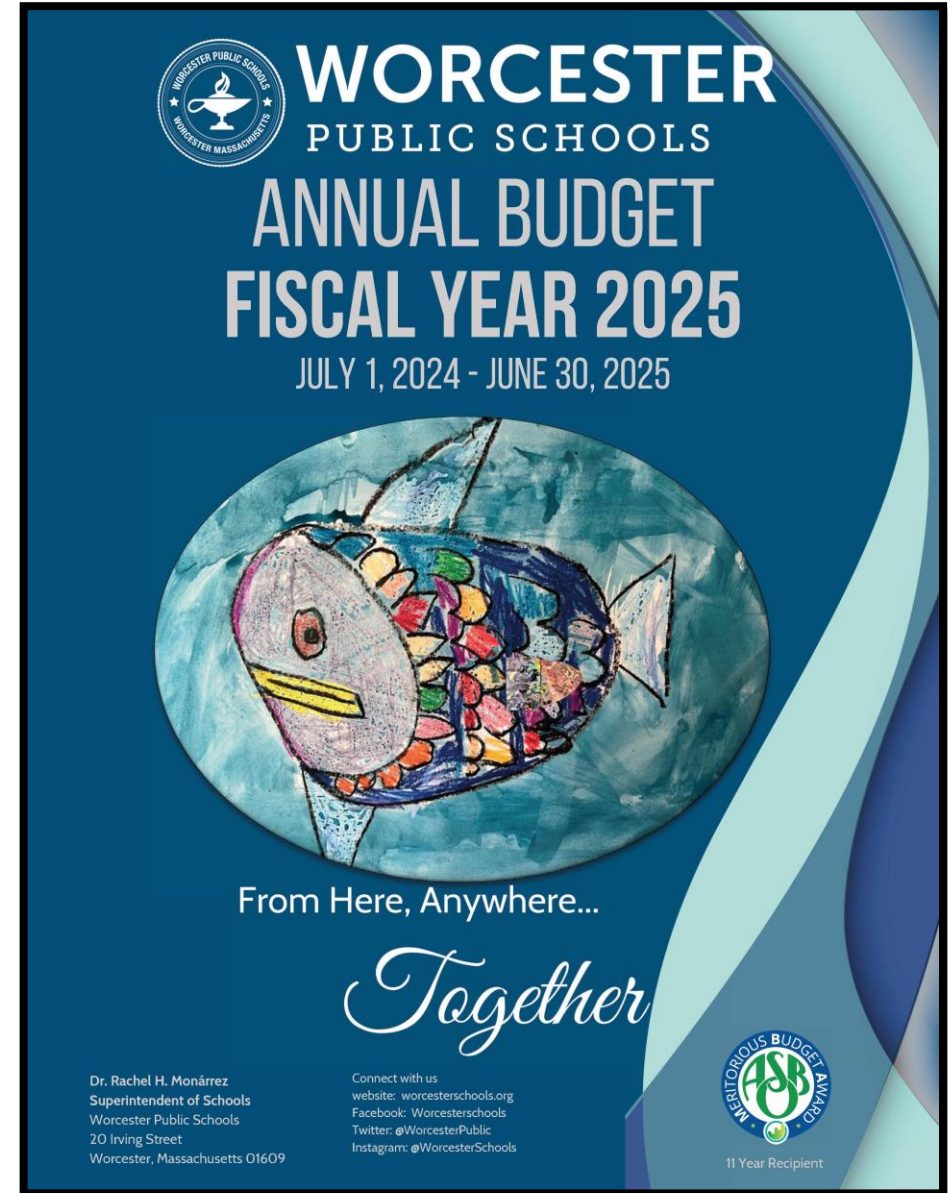


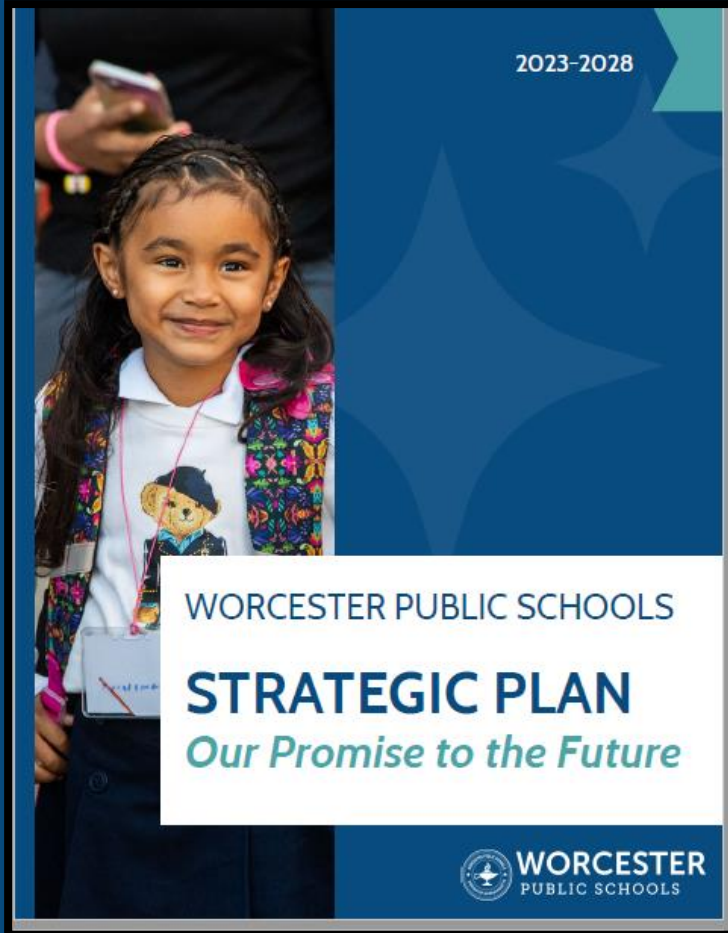
WORCESTER
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Outcomes

The Worcester School Committee will learn about:

- FY25 preliminary revenue estimates from Governor's Budget
- FY25 preliminary cost estimates
- Key assumptions and drivers for revenues and cost assumptions
- FY25 Budget next steps





Strategic Plan

Superintendent's Goals

Ensure district-wide system for recruitment, hiring, and retention of a highly talented, culturally and linguistically competent workforce.

Strengthen maintenance protocols and implement school safety recommendations to guarantee the continual modernization of all WPS facilities, cultivating an environment that is both secure and supportive for learning.

Collaboratively lead school teams in identifying and use multiple sources of evidence to assess, respond, and improve outcomes in all schools with an intentional focus on historically underserved youth.

Participation in New Superintendent Induction Program (NSIP) year 2 will have been completed with all required projects submitted

School Growth Plans

Vision of a Learner

Grade 3 Reading Level

Student Engagement

FY25 Major Budget Themes



Enrollment **LEVEL**

Enrollment increased by 32 students overall representing a 0.1% increase



Inflation Rate **LOW**

Low foundation inflation rate of **1.35%** after two years of 4.5%



Student Opportunity Act **Phase-In**

Fourth Year of Six-Year Phase-in of SOA

FY25 new funds will support positions added this year from ESSER



ESSER Funds & Hold Harmless **Phase-Out**

\$7.0 million SOA Bridge Funds from FY24 move to General Fund. ESSER funding ends after this summer.



New Staffing & Resource Needs

Annual Budget adjustment for new positions and spending needs

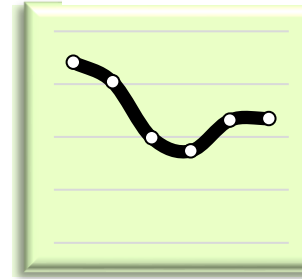


Student Enrollment

Student Enrollment is major factor of Foundation Budget calculation for a school district.



WORCESTER
PUBLIC SCHOOLS



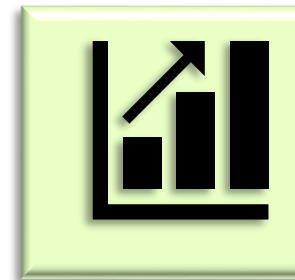
+32 students from
last year (0.1%)

10/1/23: 24,350
10/1/22: 24,318



-112
(-3.3%)

At Grades 7-8
-93 at K-6 Level
(-0.8%)



+99
(+9.3%)

Pre-K Level
Enrollment near Pre-
Pandemic Levels



+138
(1.8%)

Grades 9-12

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Belmont Street School

Student Enrollment

Worcester Public Schools
District-Level Enrollment Data

Enrollment Change by Grade Level **October 1 Enrollments** 2022 and 2023

Level	2022	2023	Change	%
PK-6	13,444	13,450	6	0.0%
Middle School	3,375	3,263	-112	-3.3%
High School	<u>7,499</u>	<u>7,637</u>	<u>138</u>	<u>1.8%</u>
TOTAL	24,318	24,350	32	0.1%

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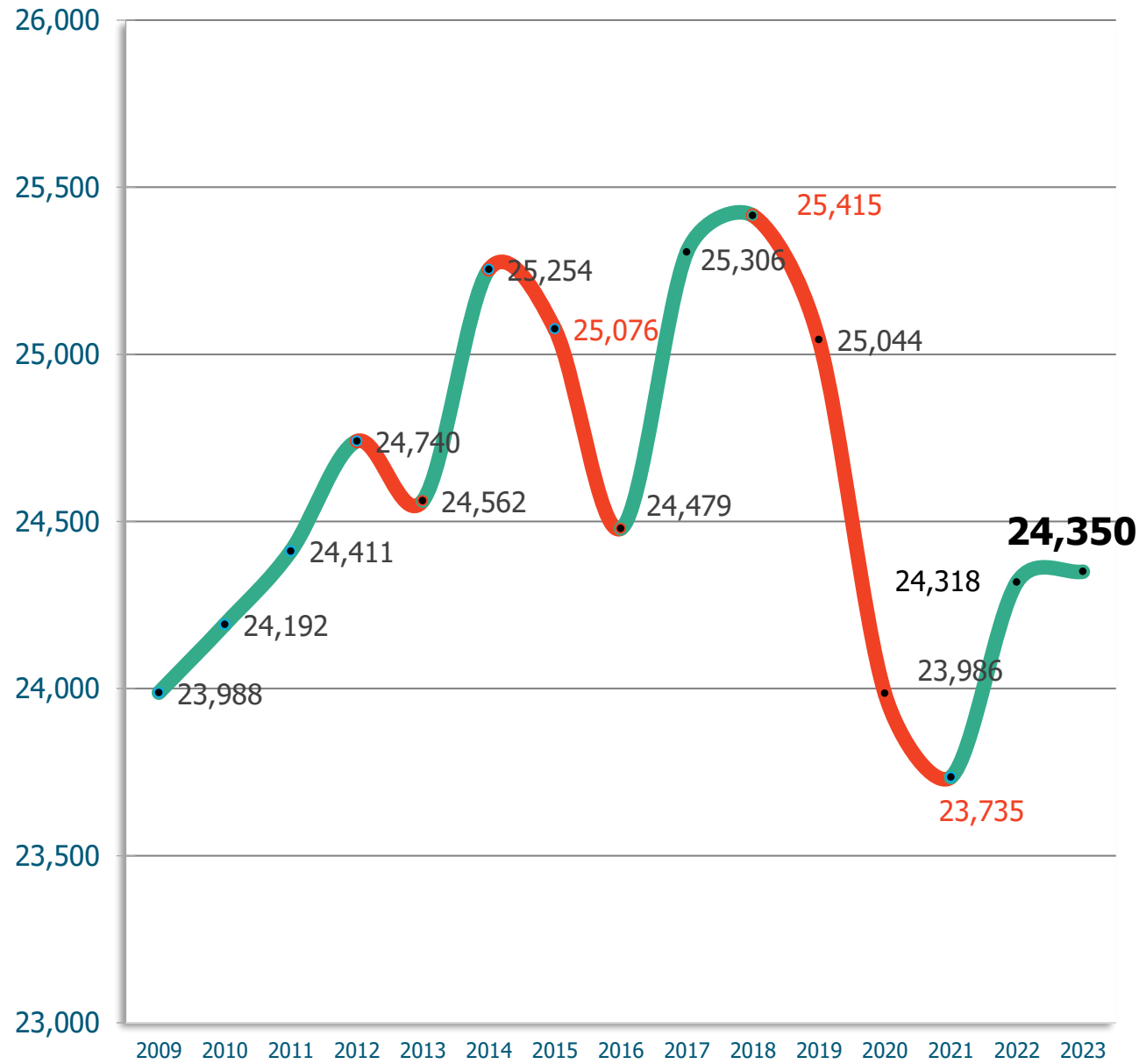
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Belmont Street School

Student Enrollment

Worcester Public Schools
District-Level Enrollment Data



Note: Chart not scaled to zero to show enrollment trend detail

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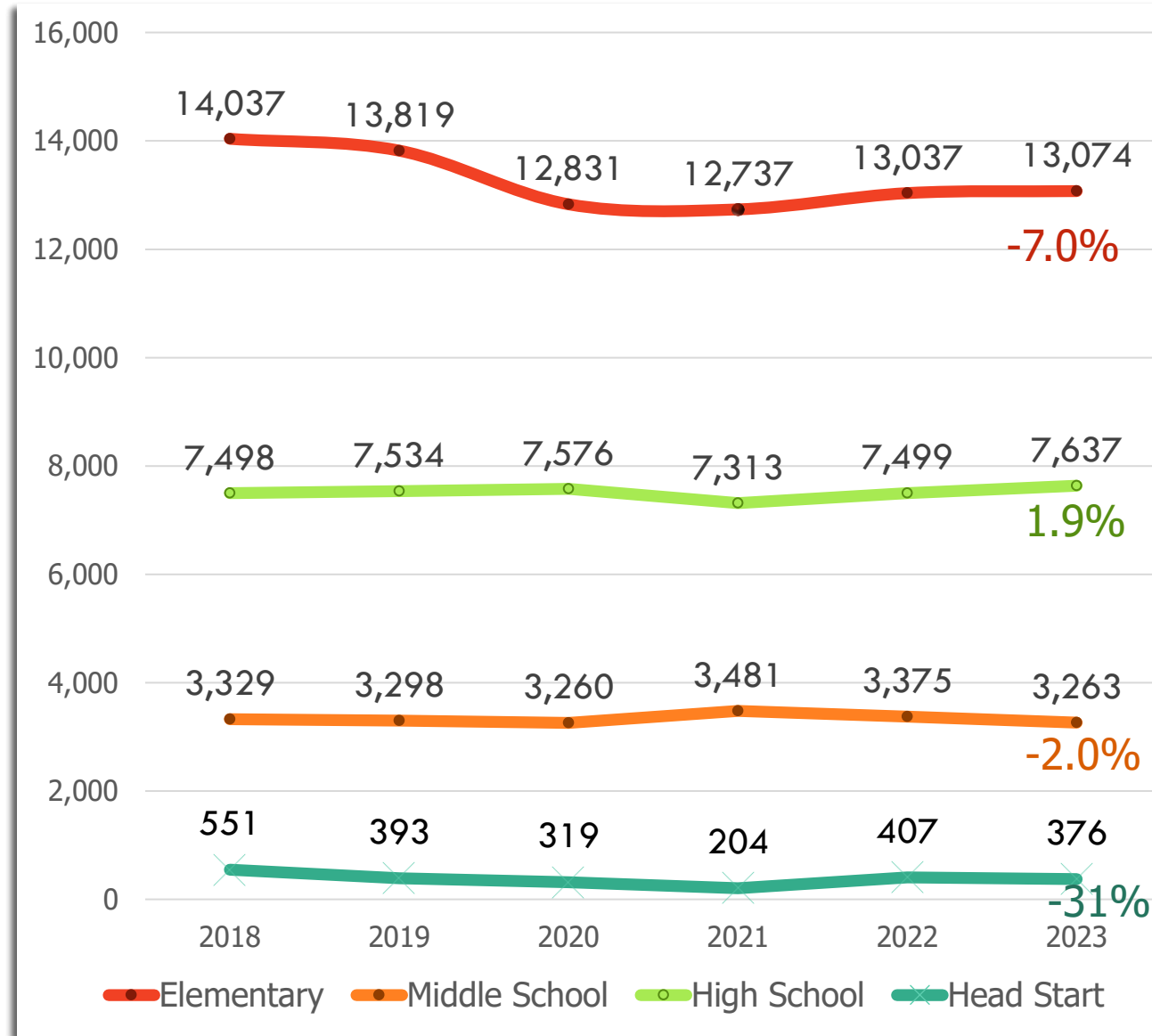


Belmont Street School

Student Enrollment

Worcester Public Schools
District-Level Enrollment Data

FIVE YEAR ENROLLMENT TRENDS



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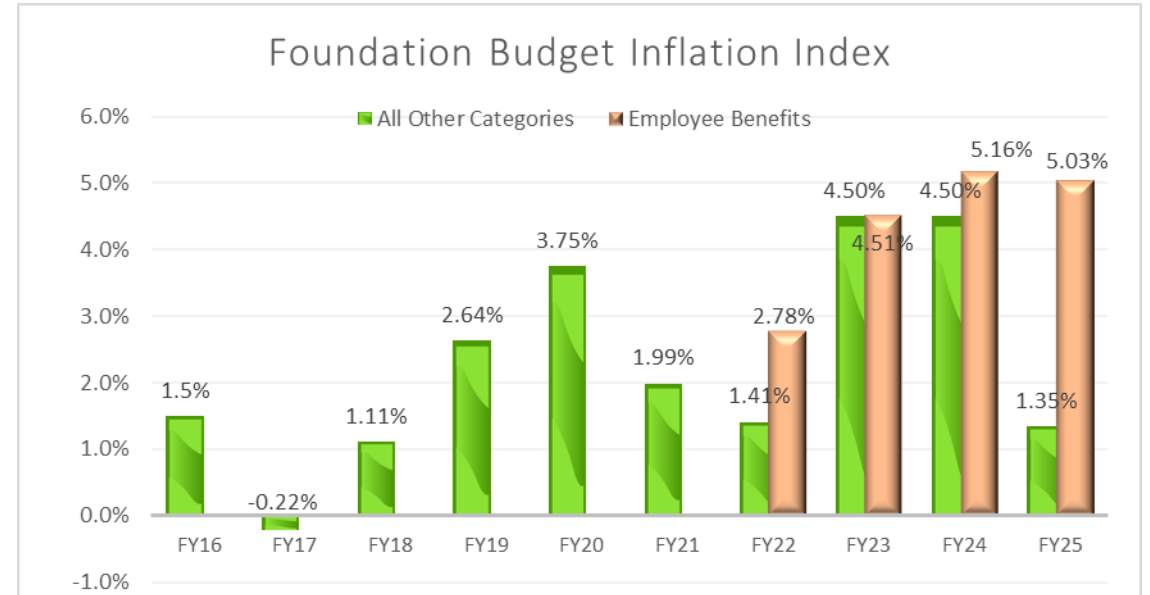
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Belmont Street School

Foundation Budget Inflation Rate

Change in the Per Pupil Rate Annually based on Implicit Price Deflators for Gross Domestic Product for State and Local Governments



FY25 Rate: 1.35%

Employee Benefits Inflation Rate: 5.03%

Inflation provides \$8.7 million in funding for FY25.

Each 1% change in the inflation rate equals \$4.8 million.

Inflation rate capped at 4.5% by Chapter 70 statute.

Actual inflation rate for previous two years, were 5.9% and 9.3%

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Sullivan Middle School

Foundation Budget Inflation Rate

Change in the Per Pupil Rate Annually based on Implicit Price Deflators for Gross Domestic Product for State and Local Governments

ENROLLMENT & INFLATION FUNDING SUMMARY

(\$ in millions)

YEAR	Enrollment	Inflation	Total Increase
FY25	\$1.3	\$8.7	\$10.0
FY24	\$11.3	\$19.7	\$31.0

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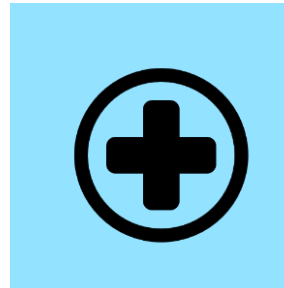
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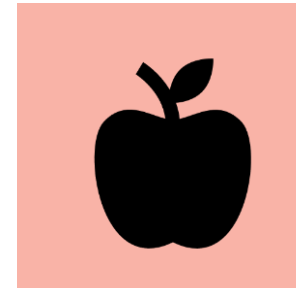
Student Opportunity Act

Chapter 132 of the Acts of 2019

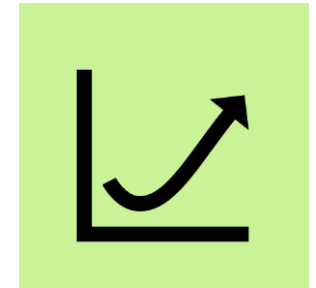
Formula Changes to be phased in over six- year period.



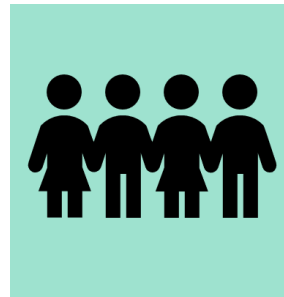
Benefits & Fixed Charges



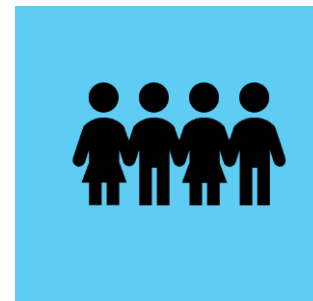
Guidance and Psychological Services



Special Education OOD Tuition Rate



English Learners



Low Income

Change from 10 to 12 tiers, higher rates, and revert back to previous low income calculation of students. (**Worcester is tier 11 of 12**)



Formula Changes

Phase in of assumed in-district special education enrollment to 5% for vocational students and 4% for non-vocational students.

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Sullivan Middle School

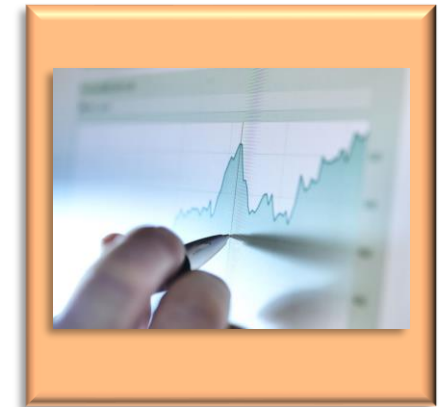
Foundation Budget Factors

FY25 Budget Impact for the Worcester Public Schools



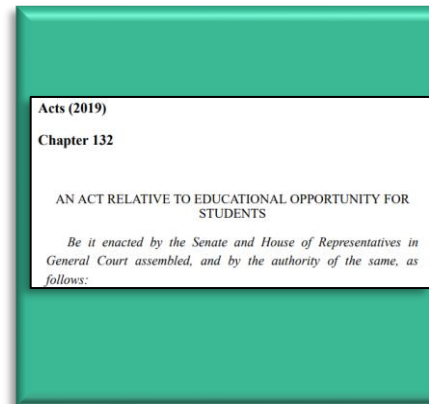
Enrollment

\$1.3 million



Inflation

\$8.7 million



Student Opportunity Act

\$16.8 million



\$26.8 million

From Here, Anywhere...

Includes resident charter school and school choice students in all of these calculations





Doherty Memorial High School

Foundation Budget Factors

FY25 Budget Impact for the Worcester Public Schools

Foundation Budget Change from FY24

Inflation \$8,655,476

Student Enrollment \$1,347,488

Total Change \$10,002,964

Student Opportunity Act Funding **(Year 4 of 6)** **\$16,795,751**

FY25 Foundation Budget Change \$26,798,716

Includes resident charter school and school choice students in these calculations

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**WORCESTER TECHNICAL
HIGH SCHOOL**



Worcester Technical High School

Foundation Budget Factors

FY25 Budget Impact for the Worcester Public
Schools

Foundation Budget Change from FY24

FY24 Foundation Budget **\$477,974,879**

FY25 Foundation Budget **\$504,773,594**

Increase from FY24 \$26,798,716

Includes resident charter school and school choice students in these calculations

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Progress of the Student Opportunity Act Funding Phase-In

Category	YEAR 1 FY22 Phase-In Increase	YEAR 2 FY23 Phase-In Increase	YEAR 3 FY24 Phase-In Increase	YEAR 4 FY25 Phase-in Increase	TOTAL Phase-in Amount To Date
Benefits and Fixed Charges	\$3,108,924	\$3,509,562	\$3,887,336	\$3,962,820	\$14,468,642
Guidance and Psychological Services	\$407,250	\$691,149	\$720,831	\$752,845	\$2,572,075
Special Education	\$282,639	\$295,495	\$625,725	\$311,662	\$1,515,521
English Learners	\$568,740	\$590,398	\$607,906	\$674,297	\$2,441,341
Low Income Rate	\$8,789,926	\$8,127,734	\$10,553,003	\$11,094,127	\$38,564,790
1/6th Phase-in Totals	\$13,157,478	\$13,214,338	\$16,394,800	\$16,795,751	\$59,562,367
Low Income Student Count	\$7,580,283	\$1,817,261	\$0	\$0	\$9,397,544
Total	\$20,737,761	\$15,031,599	\$16,394,800	\$16,795,751	\$68,959,911



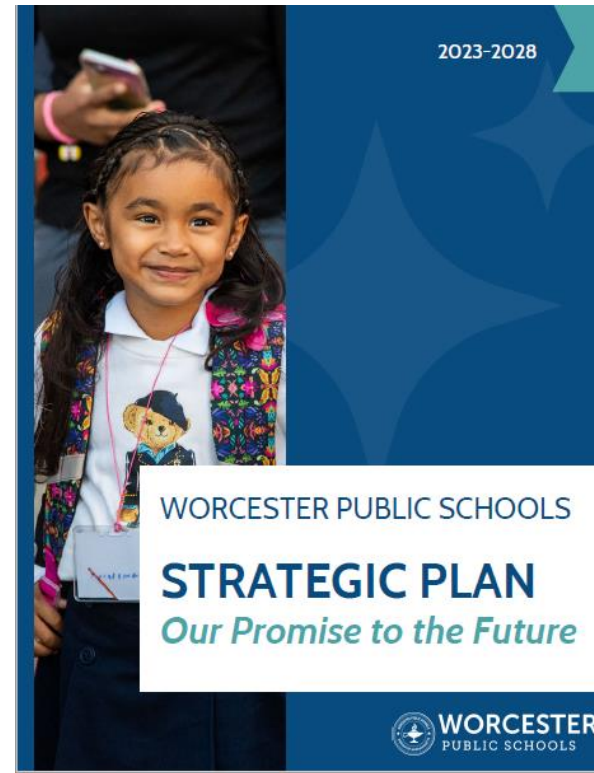
Student Opportunity Act

Chapter 132 of the Acts of 2019

Formula Changes to be phased in over six- year period.

New Student Opportunity Act Plans

- The first set of three-year plans end this year
- New SOA plans are due by April 1, 2024
- School Committee will need to approve new plan



WPS Strategic Plan



SOA Plan



Resource Allocation Recommendations

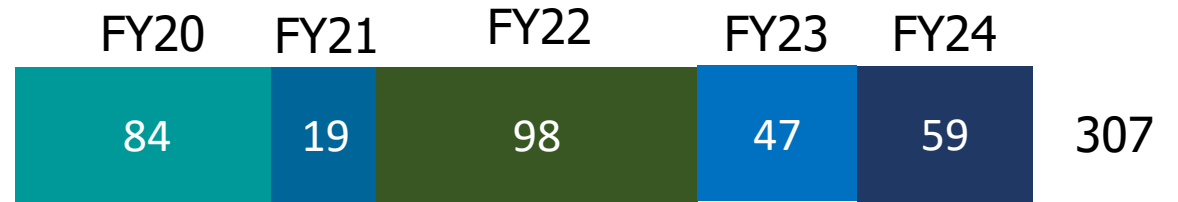
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Before SOA:

720 Non-Special Education Teacher Gap



Student Opportunity Act

Progress of Funding Phase-In

Other Key Factors:

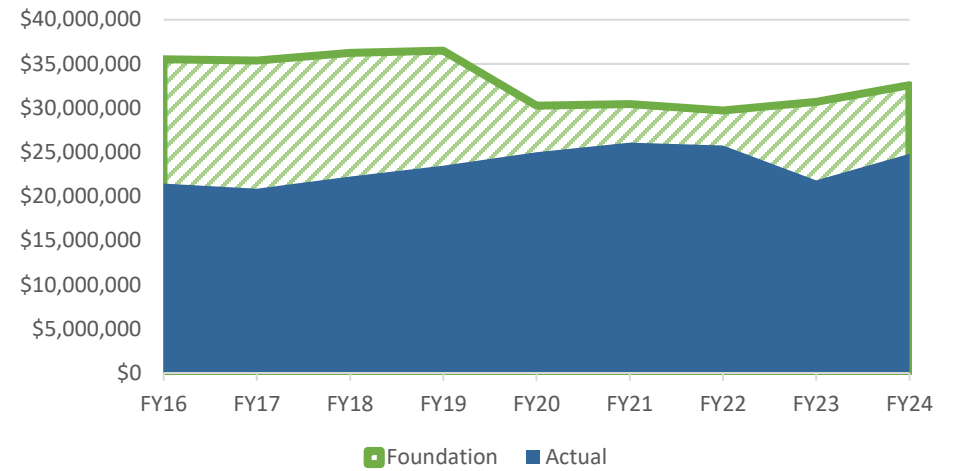
- Facilities, Professional Development, and Supplies & Materials have been primarily funded by ESSER and not reflected in SOA funding.
- Special Education actual needs continue to significantly outpace the changes in the SOA formula



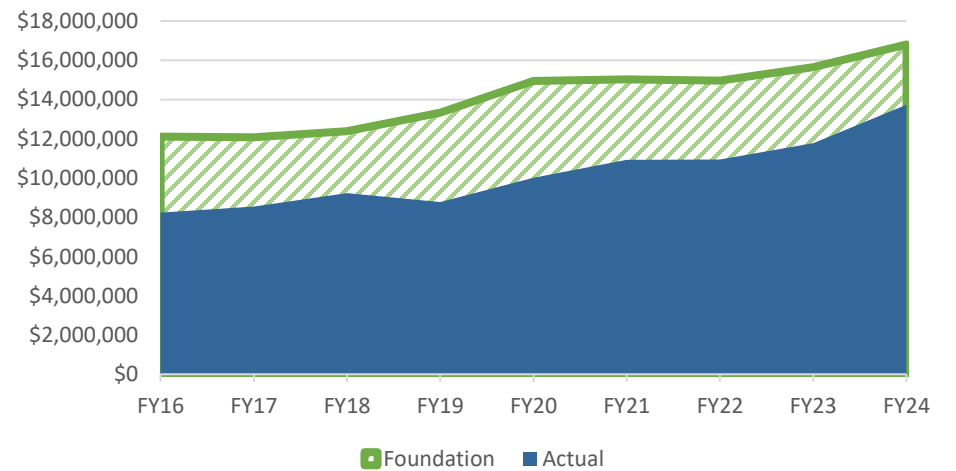
Student Opportunity Act

Progress of Funding Phase-In

Operations & Maintenance



Administration*



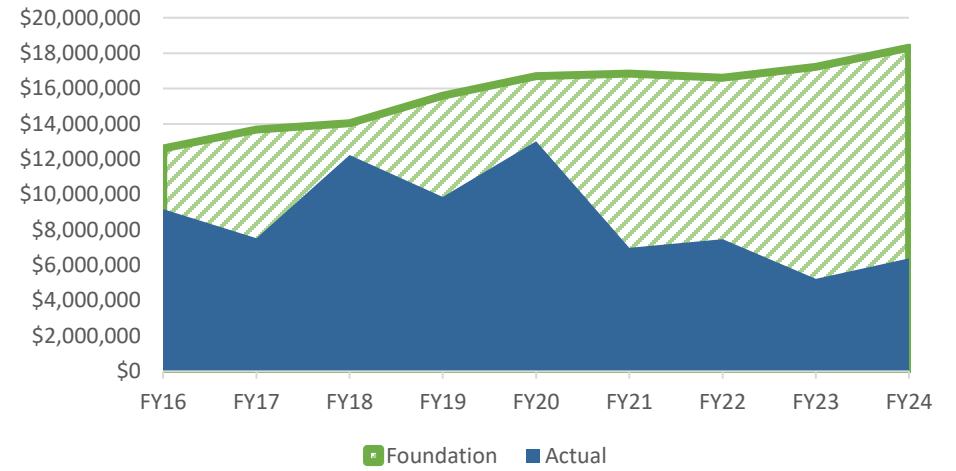
* Includes City of Worcester indirect spending on administration for net school spending



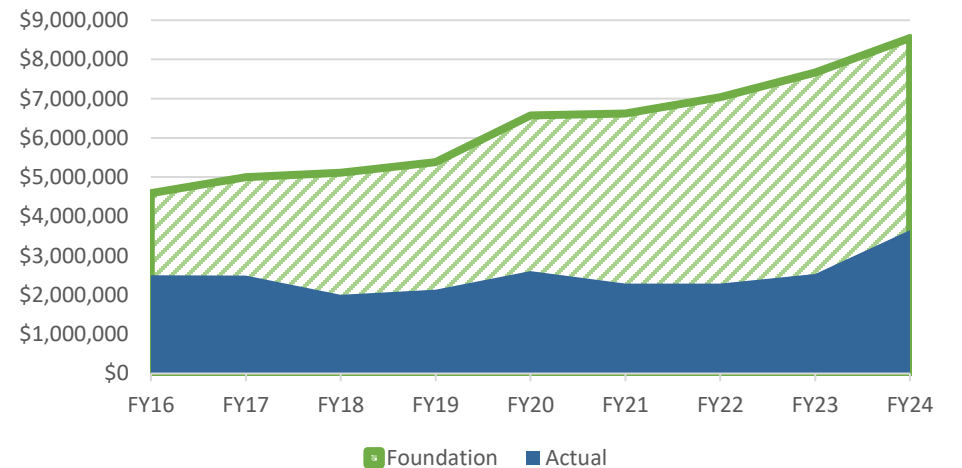
Student Opportunity Act

Progress of Funding Phase-In

Instructional Materials & Technology



Professional Development



FY25 General Fund Budget

Going from Foundation Budget to Expected Operating Budget

	FY24	FY25	Change	%
Chapter 70 State Aid	\$357,541,905	\$377,102,598	\$19,560,693	5.5%
City Contribution	<u>\$138,539,441</u>	<u>\$145,777,463</u>	<u>\$7,238,022</u>	<u>5.2%</u>
Sub-Total	\$496,081,346	\$522,880,061	\$26,798,715	5.4%

FY25 General Fund Budget

Going from Foundation Budget to Expected Operating Budget

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City Contribution	<u>\$138,539,441</u>	<u>\$145,777,463</u>	<u>\$7,238,022</u>	<u>5.2%</u>
Sub-Total	\$496,081,346	\$522,880,061	\$26,798,715	5.4%
Less: Charter School Tuition	-\$39,930,237	-\$43,130,207	-\$3,199,970	8.0%
Add: Charter Reimbursement	\$9,817,253	\$10,080,759	\$263,506	2.7%
Less: School Choice Tuition	-\$3,889,162	-\$3,813,931	\$75,231	-1.9%
Less: State Special Education Assessment	<u>-\$216,629</u>	<u>-\$305,970</u>	-\$89,341	41.2%
Total Tuition Assessments	<u>-\$34,218,775</u>	<u>-\$37,169,349</u>	<u>-\$2,950,574</u>	8.6%
TOTAL GENERAL FUND BUDGET	\$461,862,571	\$485,710,712	\$23,848,141	5.2%

FY25 Budget Planning

FY24 ANNUAL BUDGET



Special Revenue Funds: Federal Grants

The district's ESSER plan uses the amount expected to be received through new Student Opportunity Act (SOA) funding to provide new spending for positions, programs, and services over three years to accelerate the district's SOA initiatives for the district. To avoid spending shortfalls created by this plan, the Administration has capped this spending at \$13.2 million annually, representing the amount expected to be received in the subsequent year through the state's foundation budget formula. Details of the FY24 spending are as follows:

ESSER: Student Opportunity Act Bridge Funds



Account	Account Name	Description	FTE Count	FY24 Budget
91110	Administration Salaries	Director of Alternative Programs	1.00	\$150,000
91110	Administration Salaries	Director of School Climate and Culture	1.00	\$150,000
91110	Administration Salaries	Assistant Principal - Uinversity Park	1.00	\$130,454
91110	Administration Salaries	Dean of Students - Burncoat High	1.00	\$129,007
91110	Administration Salaries	Dean of Students - Doherty High	1.00	\$129,007
91110	Administration Salaries	Dean of Students - South High	1.00	\$129,007
91110	Administration Salaries	Dean of Students - Technical High	1.00	\$129,007
91111	Teacher Salaries	Focused Instructional Coach	6.00	\$552,825
91111	Teacher Salaries	Preschool Teachers	6.00	\$533,613
91111	Teacher Salaries	School Psychologist	5.00	\$444,678
91111	Teacher Salaries	Board Certified Behavioral Analysts (BCBA)	5.00	\$444,678
91111	Teacher Salaries	Focused Instructional Coach for DEI	4.00	\$368,550
91111	Teacher Salaries	Chapter 74 Teachers - Doherty High	3.00	\$266,807
91111	Teacher Salaries	School Adjustment Counselors	3.00	\$180,000
91111	Teacher Salaries	Student Support Teachers	2.00	\$120,000
91111	Teacher Salaries	Dual Language Teacher	2.00	\$177,870
91111	Teacher Salaries	Mathematic Teacher	2.00	\$177,870
91111	Teacher Salaries	English Teacher	1.00	\$88,936
91111	Teacher Salaries	Media Arts Teachers	1.00	\$88,936
91115	Instructional Assistant Salaries	Preschool Instructional Assistants	12.00	\$446,681
91115	Instructional Assistant Salaries	Climate and Culture Specialists	8.00	\$297,787
91121	Administrative Clerical Salaries	School Attendance Support	20.00	\$1,000,000
91123	Non Instructional Support Salaries	Administrative Trainers	3.00	\$225,000
91133	Nursing & Clinical Care Salaries	School Nurses	2.00	\$164,123
91133	Nursing & Clinical Care Salaries	Certified Nursing Assistants	2.00	\$65,880
500135	Instructional Materials	Educational Technology	0.00	\$1,615,455
500135	Instructional Materials	Elementary ELA Curriculum	0.00	\$1,000,000
500135	Instructional Materials	Preschool Classroom Furniture & Curriculum	0.00	\$100,000
500136	Miscellaneous Educational OM	Student Mental Health Services	0.00	\$3,328,385
500136	Miscellaneous Educational OM	Student Information System Support Software	0.00	\$321,500
500136	Miscellaneous Educational OM	Technology Service - Student Hot Spots	0.00	\$110,460
500136	Miscellaneous Educational OM	Technology Hardware for New Positions	0.00	\$90,961
TOTAL NEW SPENDING FROM ESSER			94.00	\$13,157,475

Financial

FY24 ANNUAL BUDGET WORCESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS

161

Budget Item

Amount

FY25 General Fund Budget Change

\$23,848,141

Transfer FY24 SOA Bridge Funds from ESSER to General Fund

-\$13,157,475

FY25 General Fund Baseline Budget Increase

\$10,690,666

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FY25 Budget Planning

Budget Item	Amount
FY25 Baseline Budget Increase [from previous slide]	\$10,690,666
Estimated Salary Increases	\$23,981,000
Estimated Health Insurance Increase	\$4,246,965
City of Worcester Retirement Assessment	\$1,911,015
Special Education Tuition Increase	\$1,638,973
All other accounts	\$1,049,000
TOTAL ESTIMATED COST INCREASES	\$32,826,953
TOTAL ESTIMATED BUDGET GAP	\$22,136,287



Key Areas of Impact

FY25 BUDGET PLANNING



SOA & Strategic Plan



Student Enrollment



Enrollment Shift Adjustments



New Positions and Programs Needed



ESSER Phase-Out



Staffing Shortages & Vacancies



Equitable Resources & Educational Programs



Family & Community Engagement



Climate & Culture



Acquire & Retain Talent



Health & Wellness



Modernized & Safe Facilities



FY25 Budget Calendar



February-March

School & District Resource Allocation Meetings to develop budget priorities and recommendations



February 7

Presentation to Worcester Equity Roundtable



March 5

Presentation to Teacher Advisory Committee



March 7

Presentation to Superintendent's Student Advisory Committee



March 13

Presentation to Family & Community Engagement Roundtable



March 27

Presentation to Citywide Parent Planning Advisory Committee



May 10

FY25 Budget to be submitted to School Committee and posted on district website



May

Joint Meeting of the Finance, Operations, and Governance Committee with the City Council Education Committee



May/June

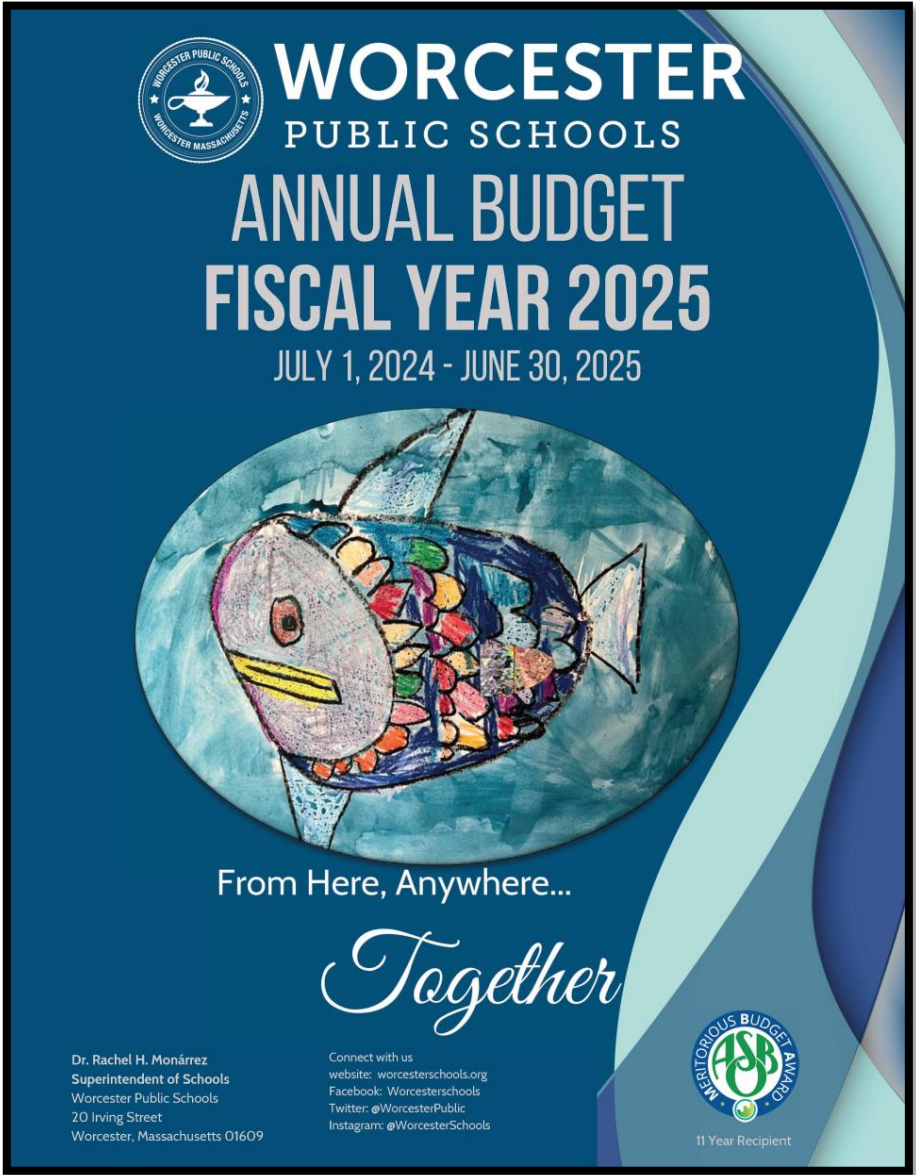
Budget Hearing with the Worcester City Council



June 6 & 20

School Committee Budget Hearings





WORCESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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FY25 Budget Cover
 Artwork by Arlo Frutaan
 Grade K/1
 Roosevelt Elementary School