

The final FY20 State Budget was approved recently resulting in an additional \$4,607,857 more than the budget approved by the School Committee in June. The following is a summary of the final budget amounts:

Revenue:	Adopted Budget	Final State Budget	Change
State Education Aid and Reimbursement:			
Chapter 70 State Aid	\$271,330,278	\$275,454,036	\$4,123,758
Charter School Reimbursement	\$1,879,990	\$2,734,934	\$854,944
Total State Aid & Reimbursement	\$273,210,268	\$278,188,970	\$4,978,702
Total City Contribution	<u>\$122,194,092</u>	<u>\$122,194,092</u>	<u>\$0</u>
Total General Fund Revenues	\$395,404,360	\$400,383,062	\$4,978,702
Less Tuition Assessments:			
Charter School Tuition Assessment	\$27,017,786	\$27,613,016	\$595,230
School Choice Tuition Assessment	\$3,201,786	\$2,977,401	-\$224,385
Special Education Revenue Offset	\$256,765	\$256,765	\$0
Total Tuition Assessments	<u>\$30,476,337</u>	<u>\$30,847,182</u>	<u>\$370,845</u>
Total General Fund Budget	\$364,928,023	\$369,535,880	\$4,607,857

Overall, the FY20 General Fund Budget increases \$24,477,204 or 7.0% over the FY19 adopted budget of \$345,058,676 to \$369,535,880. This increase is a result of the following:

Inflation (3.75%)	\$13,262,328
Enrollment (189 students)	\$ 1,059,407
Economically Disadvantaged Student Enrollment (310)	\$ 1,233,667
FBRC New Funding	<u>\$ 8,921,802</u>
Total Increase	\$24,477,204

The Administration is grateful to the State Legislature for adopting the Senate version of the State Budget for Education. These funds are necessary to support high quality instruction, college and career readiness programs, and the district's school turnaround efforts. We continue to look forward to final passage of a new Foundation Budget formula that adopts funding for economically disadvantages students at the highest possible levels.

As in the past, these additional funds will be appropriated by the City Council to the Worcester Public Schools later in the year (around November/December) during the tax rate setting process. The actual appropriation by the School Committee will occur at that time.

However, it is necessary to implement these additional funds (positions, technology, supplies, staff development) now in order to be most effective for the start of the school year and to be in place for the entire year.

The adopted FY20 Budget allowed for the following additional positions and spending: 23.4 secondary teachers, 9 guidance counselors, 9 ESL Teachers and 6 ESL Tutors, an Assistant Director of English Learners and Community Engagement, a Chief Diversity Officer, 17 teachers and support positions and 14 instructional assistants to support students with disabilities, 14 elementary positions and pre-K enrichment positions, 4 school adjustment counselors, 2 school psychologists and 1 Wrap-Around Coordinator, district support positions, 2 school nurses, and

funding for instructional supplies, school safety, athletic positions, and building repairs. However, the budget allocation process identified the need for additional spending totaling \$15.1 million.

These additional funds are recommended to be allocated to address many of the outstanding needs within the district. While many needs will still remain, we are hopeful to address many of these in the upcoming annual budgets. The Administration is requesting authority from the School Committee to implement the following budget recommendations (with formal budget adoption to occur later this year):

<u>Account</u>	<u>Amount</u>
500-91111 Teacher Account	
Focused Instructional Coaches (6) To provide instructional support and turnaround efforts at Burncoat High, Burncoat Middle, Forest Grove Middle, Sullivan Middle, Worcester East Middle, and Challenge & Reach Academy.	\$524,772
Elementary Classroom Teachers (4) Elementary Assistant Principal (1)	\$447,310
ESL Teachers (5) (includes 1 Kindergarten Dual Language at Woodland Academy)	\$437,310
Special Education Teachers (2) and convert existing position to Early Childhood Department Head (stipend increase only) Teacher of Deaf and Hard of Hearing and Evaluation Team Chairperson	\$183,062
Health / Drug Educator (1)	\$87,462
Guidance Counselor (2) (0.5 Burncoat Middle / 0.5 Burncoat High, 1 North High)	\$174,924
Secondary Teacher (1) (Worcester East Middle) and convert GCC Evening Program Administrator from hourly paid position to full-time position (increase of \$2,800)	\$89,662
Total Teacher Account	\$1,944,502
500-91115 Instructional Assistants – Line A. Special Education	
10 Special Education Instructional Assistants	\$366,055
500-91116 Athletic Salaries and 500122-9200 Athletics OM	\$130,000
An increase in middle school and freshman sport opportunities. This amount will provide coaching salaries, uniforms, supplies, and transportation costs for events.	
500-91121 Administrative Clerical	
	\$75,000
An additional administrative clerical position for the Department of Special Education is needed to support compliance and administrative support for	

the department.

500-91122 School-Year Clerical	\$39,672
To provide school clerical (1) support for Special Education Transitions and NCC Young Adult Program at Fanning Building. These programs currently do not have school clerical support.	
500-91123 Non-Instructional Support	\$70,000
To provide an additional Grant Information Specialist position to the Grants Development Office	
500-91133 School Nurses	\$68,675
To provide an additional School Nurse (1) position to support student medical needs in schools.	
500-91134 Educational Support Salaries Line B. English Proficiency Testers	\$20,000
Increase one of the three positions from part-time to full time and provide additional hours of office coverage at Parent Information Center.	
500-91134 Educational Support Salaries Line E. Literacy Tutors	\$211,960
To increase ten literacy tutor positions from 36 to 46 positions to support instruction at elementary classrooms.	
500130-92000 Personal Services Line A. Staff Development	\$37,650
Staff Development for Focused Instructional Coaches, Social Emotional Staff, Technology Training, CPI and Restraint Training, and CPR Training	
500-92204 Educational Supplies – Line B. Educational Materials	\$77,000
Dual Language Curriculum	
500136-92000 Miscellaneous OM – Line A. Fees and Licenses	\$37,812
To provide funds reflecting an increase in costs for the district’s STAR Assessment tool.	
500136-92000 Miscellaneous OM – Line G. Instructional Technology	\$396,000
To provide additional Chromebooks at the Elementary and Middle School Level as well as computers for additional staff added through this budget.	
500136-92000 Miscellaneous OM – Line G. Instructional Technology	\$225,000
To begin the process of developing an RFP for a new student information system and implementation process.	
50136-92000 Miscellaneous OM – Line N. School Nurse Supplies	\$19,862
To provide funds for an increase in School Nurse software to web-based program to allow for greater access for school nurses in district.	
500136-92000 Miscellaneous OM – Line O. School Safety	\$160,000
Sullivan Middle School Security System Upgrade	

500152-92000 Building Maintenance

Sullivan Middle Carpet Replacement (28 rooms)	\$140,000
North High School Phone System Upgrade	\$75,000
Claremont Academy – Additional Student Lockers for enrollment increase	\$50,000
Special Education Office Painting and Carpet Replacement	\$8,400

Amount to cover cost increases and final budget allocation for Title 1 \$455,269

The final FY20 Allocation for Title 1 Federal Entitlement Grant is \$149,579 less than the actual award as well as other cost increases of positions funded in the grant will require some of the costs be removed from the grant and transferred to the General Fund budget totaling this amount.

TOTAL RECOMMENDATION **\$4,607,857**

The FY20 Budget also included the following line item:

	FY19 Adopted Budget	FY19 Final Expenditure s	FY20 Adopted Budget	% Change From Present Budget
(2000) E. Charter School Assessment	\$350,000	\$0	\$350,000	0%
<p>This budget reflects the anticipated increase in charter school tuition assessment that will result from the final state assessment in July. Historically, the charter school tuition assessments included in the House of Representative's budget are lower than the final assessment determined in July. The Administration would utilize these funds for instructional purposes during the summer months should funds become available after the final assessments are known.</p>				

These additional funds are not needed to balance the budget. The Administration recommends a phased approach to restore Kindergarten Instructional Assistants to each Kindergarten classroom. At present, there are 89 Kindergarten classrooms planned for next year. (This amount may increase depending on actual enrollments in September). The budget provides for 63 Instructional Assistant positions. To fully fund these positions, 26 additional positions and more than \$1 million will be needed (salaries and health insurance costs) in the budget. The Administration recommends adding 10 positions in this budget and will look to fund the remaining 16 positions in FY21. These 10 positions would be allocated to schools determined to have the greatest need for additional support.

These allocations reflect requests from building principals and program managers during (and since) the resource allocation process and clearly demonstrate these funds will directly support student instructional and services additional teachers, instructional support, technology, and building maintenance projects. These allocations also reflect the goals, objectives and strategies in the district's Strategic Plan.

Some of the highlights include:

Focus Area	Objective & Strategies	FY20 Budget Item
Culture of Innovation	Target District Supports for High Need Schools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focused Instructional Coaches (6) • Elementary Classroom Teachers (4) • Add Elementary Assistant Principal (1) • Add Literacy Tutors (10) • Add ESL Teachers (5) • Add Special Education Teachers (2) • Add Special Education Instructional Assistants (10) • Add Secondary Teacher (1) • Add Health / Drug Educator (1) • Add School Nurse (1)
Culture of Innovation	Expand Early Learning Supports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Convert existing position to Early Childhood Department Head (stipend increase only) • Increase Kindergarten Instructional Assistants (10)
Academic Excellence	Develop Digital Learning and Computer Science Options	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Curriculum Team to develop curriculum (in Staff Development)
Academic Excellence	Increase Availability and Access of Career Learning Experiences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add Guidance Counselors (2)
Welcoming Schools	Increase Ease of Access to Student Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding to begin process of developing RFP for new student information system and implementation process.
Welcoming Schools	Develop District-wide Expectations to School Culture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add School Clerical to Transitions Program and NCC Young Adult Program (1) • Increase Hours for English Language Testing at Parent Information Center
Technology & Operations	Develop a Strategy to Increase Access to Technology in Classrooms and Increase Access to Devices in All Grades	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expand Elementary Chromebooks • Expand Middle School Chromebooks

The budget also makes investments in school safety equipment and building maintenance projects.

School Committee authority to allow the Administration to proceed with these recommendations will allow for the hiring process to fill positions as soon as possible.