
**BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING
MONDAY, MARCH 9, 2026
NHS NORTH BOARD ROOM**

A Budget meeting of the Board of Education was held at the NHS North Board Room on Monday, March 9, 2026. Ms. Lamphier called the meeting to order at 6:32 pm.

Present: Ms. Giglio, Ms. Prinn, Mr. Johnson, Ms. Lewis, Mr. Salvi, Ms. Lamphier, Ms. Raymond, Ms. Lopez, and Ms. Bishop

Also Present: Dr. Andrade, Mr. Poska, Dr. Scarpati, Ms. De Gray, and S. Praturu

- Dr. Andrade and Ms. De Gray presented an executive summary of the FY27 Budget Recommendation.
- Dr. Andrade emphasized the importance of the district's vision; the district's demographics, including the number of students which relates to the number of FTEs; class sizes; and languages spoken.
- Dr. Andrade discussed support for growing ELL and special education populations.
- Ms. De Gray outlined the proposed budget increase, including a 6% request and specific line items like transportation, staffing services, educational assistance, IT infrastructure, and Plant Operations.
- Dr. Andrade suggested long-term planning for technology infrastructure and outdoor classrooms, emphasizing the need for comfortable learning environments and new technologies.

Budget Cuts and Priorities

- Ms. Raymond questioned the impact of different budget percentages on various priorities, such as federal and state mandates.
- Ms. De Gray explained that a 6% increase would allow for some nice-to-haves, but significant staff cuts would be necessary.
- Dr. Andrade suggested prioritizing investments in elementary schools, especially CSI and ATSI schools, and rethinking high school staffing and scheduling.
- Ms. Lopez advocated for prioritizing teachers over technology and suggested creating multiple budget alternatives.

Efficiency and Future Planning

- Mr. Salvi questioned the lack of efficiency measures in the budget and the assumption that a 6% increase will be approved.
- Dr. Andrade acknowledges the need for efficiencies but emphasizes that significant cuts would likely involve personnel reductions.
- Ms. Raymond expressed concern about the potential need to close schools or lay off more staff in the future due to rising costs and declining enrollment.
- Ms. Bishop suggested considering the long-term costs of technology and the need for ongoing investments in infrastructure.
- Ms. Raymond, Ms. Prinn and Ms. Giglio highlighted the importance of advocating for increased state funding for education, noting Nashua's lower per-student spending compared to other districts.
- Ms. Lopez discussed the potential impact of redistricting on school utilization and costs.

Ms. Raymond moved, seconded by Ms. Lamphier, to recommend approval of the fiscal year 2027 School District budget in the amount of \$144,481,666 without benefits, which is a 6% increase from fiscal year 2026 to the Board of Alderman.

So voted by roll call.

Ms. Giglio moved, seconded by Ms. Bishop, to adjourn at 7:32 pm. Motion passes 8-0.

Submitted by Tara C. Kinsella