# Southborough Public Schools School Committee Approved FY 2014 Budget

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Superintendent of Schools
Superintendent's Advisory Committee
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## Southborough School Committee FY 2014 Budget Priorities

#### 1. Provide excellent education:

- Place our highest priority on adequate staffing
- Improve student to teacher ratio by using class size policy as a guideline
- Hire best qualified candidates
- Seek to ensure that students reach their full potential
- 2. Maintain the school facilities to protect the capital investment in the buildings and building systems

## Southborough School Committee FY 2014 Budget Priorities

- 3. Ensure adequate, consistent and reliable funding:
  - To upgrade obsolete computers and networking equipment
  - To position Southborough Public Schools to adopt and integrate 21st Century Skills into our curriculum framework
- 4. Fund high priority items identified by the school councils and building principals when possible

#### FY 2014 Budget Challenges

- Our ability to meet FY 14 budgetary challenges given the one time special education funding savings of nearly \$300,000 in FY 13
- Our ability to continue to meet the complex needs of our current student population
- Our ability to expand training and supervisory responsibilities, especially in light of new state regulations regarding evaluation

## School Committee Approved Budget Summary February 13, 2013

,690,872

FY 13 Approved Budget 16,999,992

Approved Increase 690,880

Percentage Increase 4.06%

#### **FY14 Drivers in the Approved Budget**

#### Mandatory special education increases in the FY14 Budget include:

Tuition outplacements	\$271,373
Special Education transportation	92,779
CASTLE teacher (50%)	25,000
Occupational/physical therapy	48,200
	\$437,352

#### **FY14** Drivers in the Budget (continued)

Contractual obligations for employees (with steps and lanes) before any reductions in staffing

\$410,000

Technology telecommunications, maintenance, and district network administrator

31,128

441,128

**Total Budget Drivers** 

\$878,480

#### **FY14 Budget Reductions**

Reduction of Two Staffing Positions (\$100,000)

Savings from Retirements (\$98,895)

Total Savings in FY14 Budget (\$198,895)

#### What is Not Included in This Budget?

- The need for increased math support will continue to be addressed, but we are unable to reallocate resources for a K-5 mathematics specialist at this time
- Although the approved budget includes some increases in technology, we are unable to implement innovative initiatives fully
- Additional non-instructional support at Trottier Middle School has been put on hold for another year
- Existing resources rather than additional funding will be used to increase administrative support at Finn and Woodward due to increased evaluation demands

#### Planning for the Future

- The budget increase of 4.06% does not meet all identified areas but is expected to maintain quality education in fiscally difficult times
- Further budget reductions will adversely impact the quality of education in our schools
- We will continue to work collaboratively with town officials to present a budget that meets fiscal constraints and maintains quality education
- The needs of students remain our top priority