

Inspiring all children to be resilient, confident, respectful, and prepared to discover and follow their dreams!

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## District Advancement Plan: 22-23 School Year Budget

The Board of Education proposed budget before the Town represents an investment to support our growing school population. Our budget is designed to meet the historical enrollment demands for Preschool, continue student supports for academics and wellness, and meet our financial obligations for special education. Our special education population has increased by over 20% in the last year, with expenses increasing by over 30%. While our total number of students with disabilities remains below the state average, the growing expenses must be funded to meet student needs. We recommend all families and staff become familiar with our budget. Please find the [budget book here](#). You can see a summary of the budget in our [budget flyer here](#). Please find more information in our [budget presentation here](#). You can also watch a [recording of the presentation here](#). Since our presentation, our insurance costs have been reduced by about \$40,000 and this savings has been passed along to the Town.

## Spotlight On: PreSchool

Research supports that students who attend Preschool have higher academic gains over the years and that dollars invested in Preschool are gained back due to reduced need of services for students who attend Preschool over time. We are required to provide Preschool for students with disabilities and, at minimum, an equal number of peers. Our current program is projected to bring in over \$275,000 in tuition dollars to offset the taxpayer impact of Preschool programming. The proposed budget allows for an additional full day classroom for Preschool, which should greatly reduce or eliminate the waitlist for our program and bring in additional tuition dollars. Our program is accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) with a curriculum built on state standards. This prepares students for Kindergarten while being centered on student interest. With a balance between academics and play, our students sure are busy!

