

The summary of the budget increases and decreases classified by object categories with amount change, percentage change, and as a percentage of the total budget are provided with explanation of what is included in each of the object categories.

Certified Salaries: Certified salaries include the annual salaries for staff members who must be certified with the State of Connecticut to be employed in the public schools. This includes administrators, directors, teachers, special education teachers, school psychologists, speech and language pathologists, guidance counselors, librarians, and social workers. The account also includes the stipends for all extra-curricular positions, coaching positions, and summer school teachers.

Non-Certified Salaries: Non-certified salaries include the annual wages for secretaries, para-educators/instructional assistants, custodians, maintenance workers, and technology staff. This object also includes funding for unsettled contracts/degree changes and for substitute coverage throughout the district.

Employee Benefits: Employee health insurance is the most significant program cost to the benefits object. This object also includes the district's contributions for disability insurance, social security and Medicare, the non-certified pension program, unemployment compensation, and workers' compensation.

Professional/Technical Services: The professional and technical services object includes services for the handicapped, training and in-service, police services, student activities, travel reimbursements, testing and scoring services, and sports officials. In addition, this object includes contracted services for nursing services and medical advisor, technology support, legal services, and contributions to the regional Adult Education program (ERACE).

Public Utilities: This object includes electricity, and water.

Repairs and Maintenance: This object includes repair and maintenance of equipment in all buildings, software upgrades and maintenance for each cost center, and general building maintenance of each school. In addition, this object includes contracts for engineering and technical consultations, the fire and security alarms, snow plowing, septic, and trash.

Rentals: This object includes the cost of welding tanks and postage meters.

Transportation: This object includes the total costs for all transportation in the district, including all regular education and in-district special education transportation, out-of-district special education transportation, summer school transportation for special education, and transportation for the vocational-agricultural and technical school students.

Transportation Athletic/Field Trips: This object includes all other student transportation costs including field trips, student orientation/transition programs, and sporting events.

Liability/Property Insurance: This object includes coverage for property, liability, and athletic insurance.

Communications: Communications includes the actual cost for postage in all cost centers and the cost of phone services.

Advertising and Printing: Advertising and printing includes contractual costs for photocopying machines, printing, and advertising costs.

Tuition: This object includes special education tuition costs and the district cost for students participating in vocational/agricultural programs and other magnet school programs. The bulk of this object is out-of-district placements for special education students.

Staff Development: The staff development object reflects the cost for faculty and staff to attend workshops and conferences as part of the district's overall professional learning objectives and goals. The district is responsible for offering all certified staff at least 18 hours of staff development each year. This is done through in-house professional development days as well as outside conferences and workshops.

Supplies-Instructional: Instructional supplies include core resources and materials critical to the implementation of each curriculum area. Library supplies, periodicals, and library software and online databases are included in this area as well as materials and resources for remedial support, alternative programs, and computer repairs.

Fuel for Heat: This object reflects the cost for either oil or gas to heat the buildings.

Textbooks: The textbook object includes textbook purchases, rebinds, and replacements for existing courses.

Library Books: In addition to library books, this object includes media software for all curriculum areas that are kept in the library collection as well as professional library resources.

Supplies-Other: This supply object covers all other non-instructional supplies including general office supplies, health office supplies, and custodial/maintenance supplies. This object also includes network licensing and athletic uniforms and equipment.

Dues and Fees: Dues and fees include a variety of organizational memberships including the Connecticut Association of Public Schools Superintendents (CAPSS), Connecticut Association of Schools (CAS), New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC), Connecticut Association of School Business Officials (CASBO), Connecticut Interscholastic Athletic Conference (CIAC), and Connecticut Music Education Association (CMEA). This object also includes regional and national school organizations which are listed in the notes pages.