

## BUDGET PLANNING

The major portion of income for the operation of the public schools is derived from local property taxes, and the School Committee will attempt to protect the valid interest of the taxpayers. However, the first priority in the development of an annual budget will be the educational welfare of the children in our schools.

Budget decisions reflect the attitude and philosophy of those charged with the responsibility for educational decision-making. Therefore, a sound budget development process must be established to ensure that the annual operating budget accurately reflects this school system's goals and objectives.

In the budget planning process for the school system, the School Committee will strive to:

1. Engage in thorough advance planning, with staff and community involvement, in order to develop budgets and guide expenditures in a manner that will achieve the greatest educational returns and contributions to the educational program in relation to dollars expended.
2. Establish levels of funding that will provide high quality education for all our students.
3. Use the best available techniques for budget development and management. The Superintendent will have overall responsibility for budget preparation, including the construction of **the school department budget calendar in coordination with the city's budget calendar**, and adherence to **the school department and city budget calendars**.

SOURCE: MASC

City Charter (#4)

Subcommittee discussion and revision: 4.6.2016

1<sup>st</sup> reading by school committee 5.11.2016

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2<sup>nd</sup> reading and adoption by school committee 6.08.16