



**NM** **FY2026 Budget Presentation**  
Ashby, Pepperell & Townsend Special Town Meetings  
March 10, 2025



# FY2026 Budget

**5.48%**

**Level Services**

\$69,707,869

**Staff 450**

**Average Class Sizes**

Elementary 18-26

Middle 18-29

**Buildings Unoccupied**  
none

**2.25%**

**School Committee Adopted**  
(2/26/25)

**\$67,571,500**

**Staff 429 (-21)**

**Average Class Sizes**

Elementary 23-27

Middle 25-32

**Buildings Unoccupied**  
Ashby Elementary

**Reductions**

☐ Capital

☐ Capital Stabilization

☐ Technology

☐ Curriculum

**0%**

**Level Funding**

\$66,084,143

**Staff 405 (-45)**

**Average Class Sizes**

Elementary 30-36

Middle 35-43

**Buildings Unoccupied**  
Ashby Elementary  
(potential + building)

**+ Additional Reductions**

☐ Programs/Fees



# FY2026 District Grade Configuration



**AES**

Unoccupied for  
2025-26



**SECC**

Grades PK - 1  
Ashby and Townsend  
306



**SMS**

Grades 2 - 4  
Ashby and Townsend  
352



**VBES**

Grades K - 4  
Pepperell  
561



**HBMS**

Grades 5 - 8  
Ashby and Townsend  
446



**NMS**

Grades 5 - 8  
Pepperell  
506



**NMRHS**

Grades 9 - 12  
District  
643

**VBES and NMS**  
district-wide  
special education  
programs

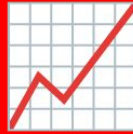


### Student Educational Placements & Needs

3.67% (avg tuition increase)



# Budget Drivers



### Special Education Transportation

5.00% (contract increase)



### Health Insurance

10.00%



### Salary/STEPS/COLA

~ 5.00%



### Bus Transportation

6.00% (contract increase)





# Exploring Options to Offset Staffing Reductions & Class Size Increases

## Revenue Generating

Full-Day Kindergarten Fee

Extra-Curricular Fees

## Cost Savings

Health Insurance Opt Out

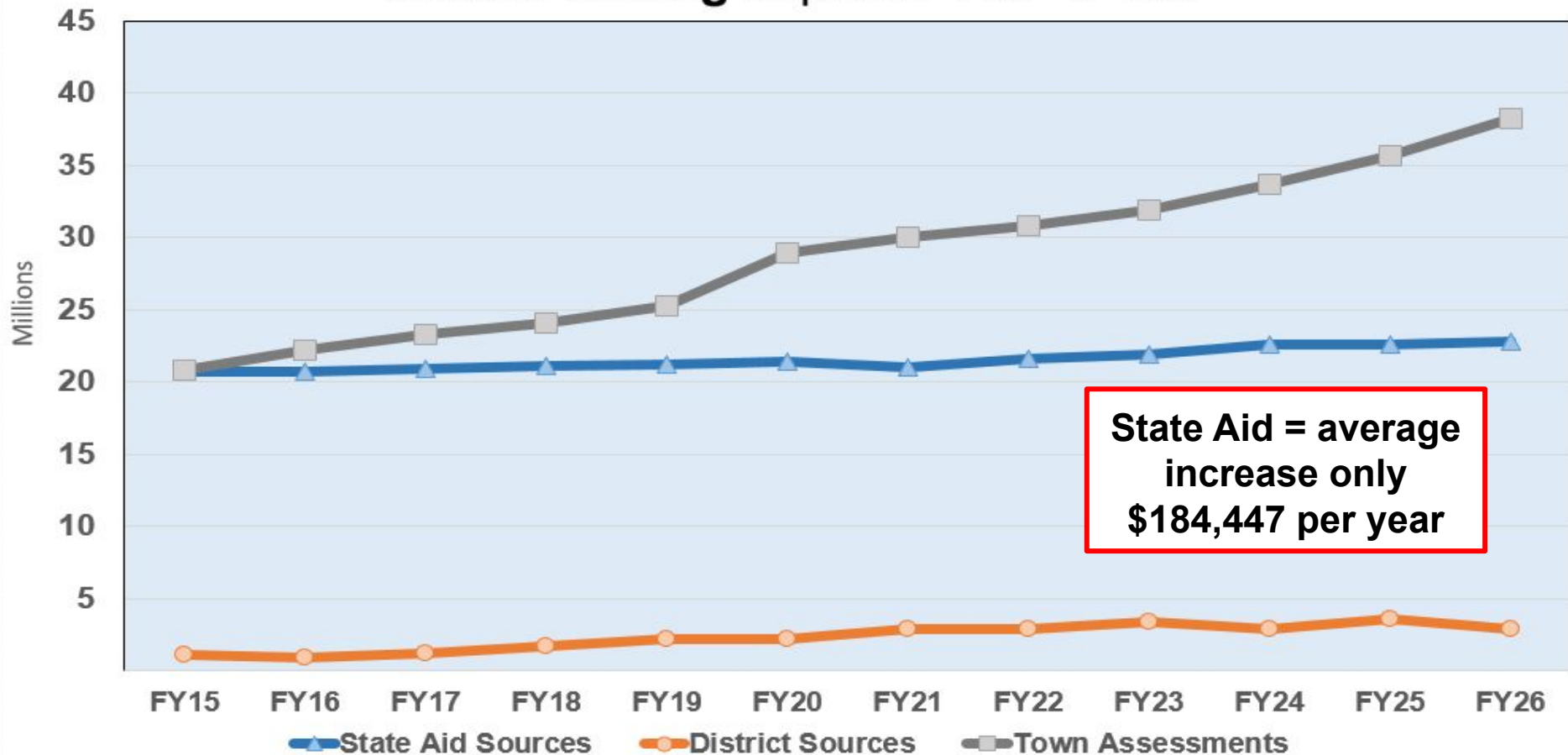
Offer Early Retirement

Eliminate Middle School Athletics

Lease/Loan Payoffs in FY25 for  
savings in FY26



## State Funding Impact FY15 - FY26





# Town Assessments

NMRSD School Committee Approved Budget of \$67,571,500  
(2.25% increase from FY2025)

	Townsend	Ashby	Pepperell	Total
Operating Assessment	\$12,593,706	\$4,381,753	\$17,531,513	\$34,506,972
Transportation Assessment	\$1,443,720	\$489,631	\$1,833,915	\$3,767,266
Total	\$14,037,426	\$4,871,384	\$19,365,428	\$38,274,238
Debt Service (excluded debt)	\$1,256,104	\$495,990	\$1,826,817	\$3,578,911



# Ashby Assessment

NMRSD School Committee Approved Budget of \$67,571,500  
(2.25% increase from FY2025)

Operating Assessment	\$4,381,753	
Transportation Assessment	\$489,631	
Total	<b>\$4,871,384</b>	← 6.38%
Debt Service (excluded debt)	<b>\$495,990</b>	← -12.67%





# Pepperell Assessment

NMRSD School Committee Approved Budget of \$67,571,500  
(2.25% increase from FY2025)

Operating Assessment	\$17,531,513	
Transportation Assessment	\$1,833,915	
Total	<b>\$19,365,428</b>	← 7.11%
Debt Service (excluded debt)	<b>\$1,826,817</b>	← -16.88%



# Townsend Assessment

NMRSD School Committee Approved Budget of \$67,571,500  
(2.25% increase from FY2025)

Operating Assessment	\$12,593,706	
Transportation Assessment	\$1,443,720	
Total	<b>\$14,037,426</b>	← 7.76%
Debt Service (excluded debt)	<b>\$1,256,104</b>	← -5.93%