

**WETHERSFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
REFORECAST COMMENTARY
FISCAL YEAR 2026 – AS OF OCTOBER 24TH**

SUMMARY

- The Town Council approved operating budget for fiscal year 2025-26 is \$67,468,339, an increase of \$2,530,536 (3.90%) over the final 2024-25 operating budget (\$64,937,803).
- Expenditures through October 24th total \$16,098,487 with encumbrances and requisitions of \$8,296,844.
- Unbudgeted expenditures, incurred and projected, total \$275,000 for the current period.
- Budgetary savings, realized and projected, total \$305,000 for the current period.
- The current reforecast for 2025-26 is \$67,438,339 or \$30,000 (.04%) under budget.

DETAIL BY MAJOR OBJECT

I. PERSONAL SERVICES - SALARIES

- Unbudgeted expenditures of \$100,000 due to projected increase in substitute paraeducator wages, based on current needs and prior year actuals.
- Budgetary savings of \$175,000 the result of lower cost new hires replacing teacher resignations and retirements along with projected extended unpaid FMLA.

II. PERSONAL SERVICES - BENEFITS

- Unbudgeted expenditures of \$10,000 due to unemployment claims for two individuals who left employment in prior fiscal years (WPS is a reimbursable employer with the Department of Labor and does not contribute to UI unless a claim is established and verified).

III. PURCHASED PROFESSIONAL AND TECHNICAL SERVICES

- Unbudgeted expenditures of \$50,000 due to projected increase in required compensatory services (contracted speech and behavioral providers), based on current needs and prior year actuals.

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DETAIL BY MAJOR OBJECT (CONTINUED)

IV. OTHER PURCHASED SERVICES

- ___ Unbudgeted expenditures of \$115,000 due to net result of changes in placement and services for students at public (\$49,000) and private (\$66,000) facilities.
- ___ Budgetary savings of \$100,000 the result of current outplacement transportation routes (\$50,000) and projected comprehensive review of Licenses and Subscriptions throughout the district (\$50,000).

V. SUPPLIES

- ___ Budgetary savings of \$30,000 the result of controlled spending related to instructional (\$10,000), administrative (\$10,000) and technology (\$10,000) supply accounts.

VARIABLES FOR DISCUSSION

- ___ Unpaid FMLA, LTS positions and new hire teacher salaries are continually analyzed and the potential savings will fluctuate each reporting period.
- ___ Special Education tuition and transportation expenditures will continue to fluctuate, as there are several potential outplacements pending.
- ___ Excess Cost Reimbursement is projected at 70% of eligible costs and will be monitor to determine if the State will fund at the appropriate tier (Wethersfield is identify as a Tier II district for this purpose and should receive 88% reimbursement rate).
- ___ Magnet school enrollment and tuition will not be finalized until late in the calendar year and the total CREC/LEARN placements may be higher than budgeted.