

Curriculum and Instructional Improvement



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CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

Weston Public Schools is recognized for its excellence in education and innovative approaches to teaching and learning. The district's Strategic Plan and Master Planning Team actualize the vision and district framework in guiding the work ahead of us. The district is committed to meeting the needs of all learners through a rich set of curricular and co-curricular experiences, which are facilitated by highly-trained educators who care deeply about the success of their students. Priorities have been established in this budget to provide the necessary resources, training, and materials to continually improve our educational program.

Several multi-year initiatives serve as priorities for the 2015-16 budget development process, including a continuation of preK-12 math and writing goals. The overall focus in math is for students to develop a deep understanding of math concepts and strong procedural fluency to be effective problem solvers. There are allocations in this budget for math textbooks and teacher training for making the desired shifts in instruction. In writing, the district continues with its goal to improve writing achievement and further align writing instruction across the district. At the elementary level, there has been an emphasis on improving writing stamina and volume with our young writers through the writers' workshop model, while at the secondary level, teachers in English and social studies are involved in the development and implementation of a writing portfolio process in grades eight and ten.

In addition, the district has begun a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) initiative to enhance programs for students in these fields. The initial examination of our STEM program has resulted in three recent improvements to curricular offerings in the areas of robotics, computer programming, and high school science course sequencing. Through a grant made possible by the Weston Education Foundation, Weston Intermediate School and Weston Middle School have started after-school robotics programs that would be sustained with requests in this budget proposal. Further, the Board has recently approved an expansion of computer programming offerings based on strong student interest. Beginning in 2015-16, all students will take biology as they enter Weston High School, which will increase elective options for students that were not possible when they took a course sequence beginning with geophysical science. The proposed budget includes resources to support these immediate enhancements to our STEM programming.

The curriculum and instruction cost center includes staffing for curriculum coaching and technology integration that is essential to an exemplary professional development program. As in previous budgets, a cadre of curriculum instructional leaders (CIL) has been included in the staffing plan. The primary responsibilities of a CIL are to provide coaching to teachers, supporting their growth, working with them to plan curriculum, and facilitating small and large group professional development activities. Similarly, technology integrators serve a vital role in the ongoing professional development of teachers in helping them incorporate educational technology into instruction. While Technology Integrators are reflected in the Technology Cost Center, the services they provide to staff are vital to the district's goals of continuous improvement by providing daily coaching opportunities to our staff. Lead by the Director of Technology and Digital Learning and Innovation, this staff propels the district forward in the use of cutting-edge technology. In summary, this staffing model continues to effectively advance the district's instructional initiatives by providing the necessary professional coaching support to our faculty.

**CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTIONAL IMPROVEMENT
STAFFING**

<u>2014-2015 Actual</u>		<u>2015-2016 Projected</u>	
<u>Staff</u>	<u>Program</u>	<u>Staff</u>	<u>Change</u>
CERTIFIED STAFF			
Administration			
1.00	Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum & Instruction	1.00	0.00
District Curriculum & Instructional Leaders			
<i>Kindergarten through Grade 5:</i>			
1.00	Language Arts & Social Studies	1.00	0.00
1.00	Math & Science	1.00	0.00
<i>Grades 6 through 12:</i>			
0.50	Language Arts	0.50	0.00
0.50	Social Studies	0.50	0.00
0.50	Math	0.50	0.00
0.50	Science	0.50	0.00
<i>Kindergarten through Grade 12</i>			
0.60	Visual & Performing Arts	0.60	0.00
0.40	World Language	0.40	0.00
0.40	Health & Physical Education	0.40	0.00
5.40	Total District C & I Leaders	5.40	0.00
<u>6.40</u>	TOTAL CERTIFIED STAFF	<u>6.40</u>	<u>0.00</u>
NON-CERTIFIED STAFF			
Clerical			
1.00	Administrative Assistant	1.00	0.00
<u>1.00</u>	TOTAL NON-CERTIFIED STAFF	<u>1.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
7.40	TOTAL STAFF	7.40	0.00

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**CURRICULUM
AND
INSTRUCTIONAL IMPROVEMENT**
Weston Public Schools, Weston, CT

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2015	2016	Differ. to
	Expended	Expended	Expended	Budget	Expected	Approved	Expected

CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION - EXISTING

<u>OBJECT BUDGET SUMMARY</u>							
I. Salaries							
Administrators*	148,605	174,000	177,480	177,480	181,473	181,473	
Teacher Leaders	459,913	489,255	444,804	499,674	485,416	503,301	17,885
Substitute Teachers	40,865	32,697	29,654	28,000	28,000	23,000	-5,000
Stipends/Curriculum Work	119,221	164,182	115,786	128,564	134,655	136,249	1,594
TOTAL CERTIFIED	768,604	860,134	767,724	833,718	829,544	844,023	14,479
Clerical*	57,942	64,302	58,282	58,282	59,594	59,594	
TOTAL NON-CERTIFIED	57,942	64,302	58,282	58,282	59,594	59,594	0
TOTAL SALARIES	826,546	924,436	826,006	892,000	889,138	903,617	14,479
II. Non-Salary Objects							
Professional Ed. Services	31,720	33,124	50,629	52,000	32,200	7,815	-24,385
Professional Tech. Services	129,993	122,513	144,249	131,100	125,840	104,450	-21,390
Training	43,475	43,941	28,986	49,270	53,752	51,270	-2,482
Reimbursable Expenses	4,672	5,373	5,924	5,500	6,000	6,000	0
Materials	79	694	2,704	5,825	4,954	5,825	871
Dues & Fees	7,250	18,165	18,758	25,349	25,349	21,655	-3,694
TOTAL NON-SALARY	217,189	223,810	251,250	269,044	248,095	197,015	-51,080
TOTAL BUDGET	1,043,735	1,148,246	1,077,256	1,161,044	1,137,233	1,100,632	-36,601
% Over FY 2015 Budget	-5.20%			% Over FY 2015 Expected			-3.22%

PROGRAM IMPROVEMENT - NEW

<u>OBJECT BUDGET SUMMARY</u>							
Stipends	0	0	0	0	0	9,211	9,211
Professional Tech. Services	0	100,000	0	0	0	1,500	1,500
Training	0	0	1,993	3,400	3,306	0	-3,306
Materials	0	4,415	15,945	2,900	2,672	1,450	-1,222
Software	0	0	15,725	0	0	0	0
Books	65,839	18,709	82,683	73,745	76,657	58,665	-17,992
Equipment	60,938	1,442	2,389	12,320	13,054	2,500	-10,554
TOTAL NON-SALARY	126,777	124,566	118,735	92,365	95,689	73,326	-22,363
TOTAL BUDGET	1,170,512	1,272,812	1,195,991	1,253,409	1,232,922	1,173,958	-58,964
% Over FY 2015 Budget	-6.34%			% Over FY 2015 Expected			-4.78%

***Note: The Assistant Superintendent of Schools, the Administrative Assistant to the Assistant Superintendent of Schools and the Data Specialist are not represented by a collective bargaining group. See the note on page 99.**

**CURRICULUM
AND
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Comparison of FY 2015 Expected to Budget & Comparison of FY 2016 Approved to FY 2015 Budget

	<u>FY 2015</u>				
	<u>Expected</u>	<u>Differ. to Budget</u>	<u>2015 Budget</u>	<u>2016 Approved</u>	<u>Differ. to Budget</u>
<i>CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION - EXISTING</i>					
Non-Salary Objects					
Professional Ed. Services	32,200	-19,800	52,000	7,815	-44,185
Professional Tech. Services	125,840	-5,260	131,100	104,450	-26,650
Training	53,752	4,482	49,270	51,270	2,000
Reimbursable Expenses	6,000	500	5,500	6,000	500
Materials	4,954	-871	5,825	5,825	0
Dues & Fees	25,349	0	25,349	21,655	-3,694
<i>PROGRAM IMPROVEMENT - NEW</i>					
Non-Salary Objects					
Professional Development	0	0	0	1,500	1,500
Materials	3,306	-94	3,400	0	-3,400
Software	2,672	-228	2,900	1,450	-1,450
Books	0	0	0	0	0
Equipment	76,657	2,912	73,745	58,665	-15,080
TOTAL NON-SALARY	<u>330,730</u>	<u>-18,359</u>	<u>349,089</u>	<u>258,630</u>	<u>-90,459</u>
Percent Change		-4.96%			-25.91%



**CURRICULUM
AND
INSTRUCTIONAL IMPROVEMENT**

Key Budget Facts

<u>Enrollment</u>	
Projected 2015-16	2,404
Change - 10/1/14	(18)

<u>SAT Mean Scores</u>	
Reading	592
Math	598
Writing	594

<u>Staffing</u>	
Certified F.T.E.	6.40
Non-Certified F.T.E.	1.00
Total	7.40

Why Did the Budget Change?

CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTIONAL IMPROVEMENT

<u>Object Description</u>	<u>Reasons For Budget Changes</u>	<u>Differ. to Expected</u>	<u>Percent Change</u>
Administrator	Non-represented staff salary increase TBD*		
Teacher Leaders	Contractual general wage increase	5,328	
	Contractual step increase	8,290	
	Staff on partial leave of absence during FY 2015	4,267	
		17,885	3.68%
Substitute Teachers	Reduction based on planned release time for professional dev.	-5,000	-17.86%
Stipends/Summer	Contractual general wage increase	1,594	1.18%
Clerical	Non-represented staff salary increase TBD*		
Prof. Ed. Services	Change of service provider from Westport to Norwalk	-24,385	-75.73%
Prof. Tech. Services	Based on program needs, and 2nd referendum reductions (15k)	-21,390	-17.00%
Training	Based on program needs, see details below	-2,482	-4.62%
Reimbursable Exp.	No change	0	0.00%
Materials	Increased need for professional development materials	871	17.58%
Dues & Fees	Increase in Tri-State PADI membership & services	3,300	
	New membership for the Harvard Business Review	100	
	Increase in Education Week	46	
	Non-recurring charge for Tr-State Math Visitation in FY 2015	-7,140	
		-3,694	



**CURRICULUM
AND
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SELECT ACCOUNT DETAILS

Teacher Leaders, Stipends & Curriculum Work:

Curriculum & Instruction Leaders:	
Salaries	503,301
Stipends	76,414
Curriculum Development Priority Areas:	59,835
Grades 2 & 3 Spanish	
Grades 3 - 5 Math	
Grades 6 - 12 Social Studies	
Grades 9 - 12 English	
AP Latin 4	
Coding Course	
 Substitute Teachers	 23,000

Total Teacher Leaders & Curriculum Development 662,550

Training

Hurlbutt Elementary School	1,275
Weston Intermediate School	1,025
Weston Middle School	5,900
Weston High School	7,170
Special Education	8,000
Pupil Personnel Services	2,500
Nurses	900
Technology	5,500
District Wide Initiatives	6,000
District Administration	8,000
Business Office	2,500
Facilities (includes Energy Ed.)	2,500

Total Training 51,270

Professional Technical Service:

In-Service Days

Math Training	12,500
Instructional Practices (Formative Assessment/Feedback)	10,500

Consulting Services

Grades K - 6 Literacy Instruction (Readers Writers Workshop)	10,000
Performance Assessment/AIM	6,000
Digital Learning	6,500
Project Challenge	4,000
Writing Instruction	6,000
STEM	3,500
Summer Institute for Literacy	5,000

Testing & Evaluation

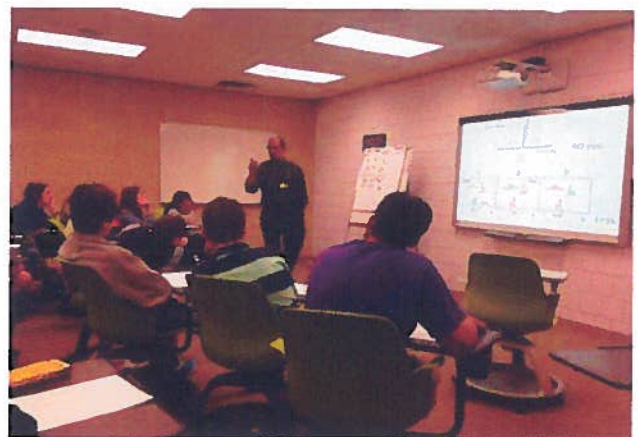
NWEA Map Testing	20,000
NWEA Dashboard	5,000
OLSAT& Naglieri Grades 2 - 5	7,100
Writing Portfolio Scoring	4,500
Diagnostic Assessment - Math	3,850

Total Professional Technical Services 104,450

Dues & Fees:

Tri-State Consortium	7,240
Tri-State PADI	6,800
CES - Leadership Program	2,550
Educational Leader 21	3,000
ASCD	1,385
Marshall Memo	400
Harvard Business Review	100
Phi Delta Kappa	95
Education Week	85

Total Dues & Fees 21,655



**CURRICULUM
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INSTRUCTIONAL IMPROVEMENT**
New and/or Multi-Year Initiatives

Robotics Program - Weston's Intermediate & Middle Schools:

Stipends	9,211
Registration Fees & Travel	1,500
Materials	1,450
Equipment	<u>2,500</u>
	14,661

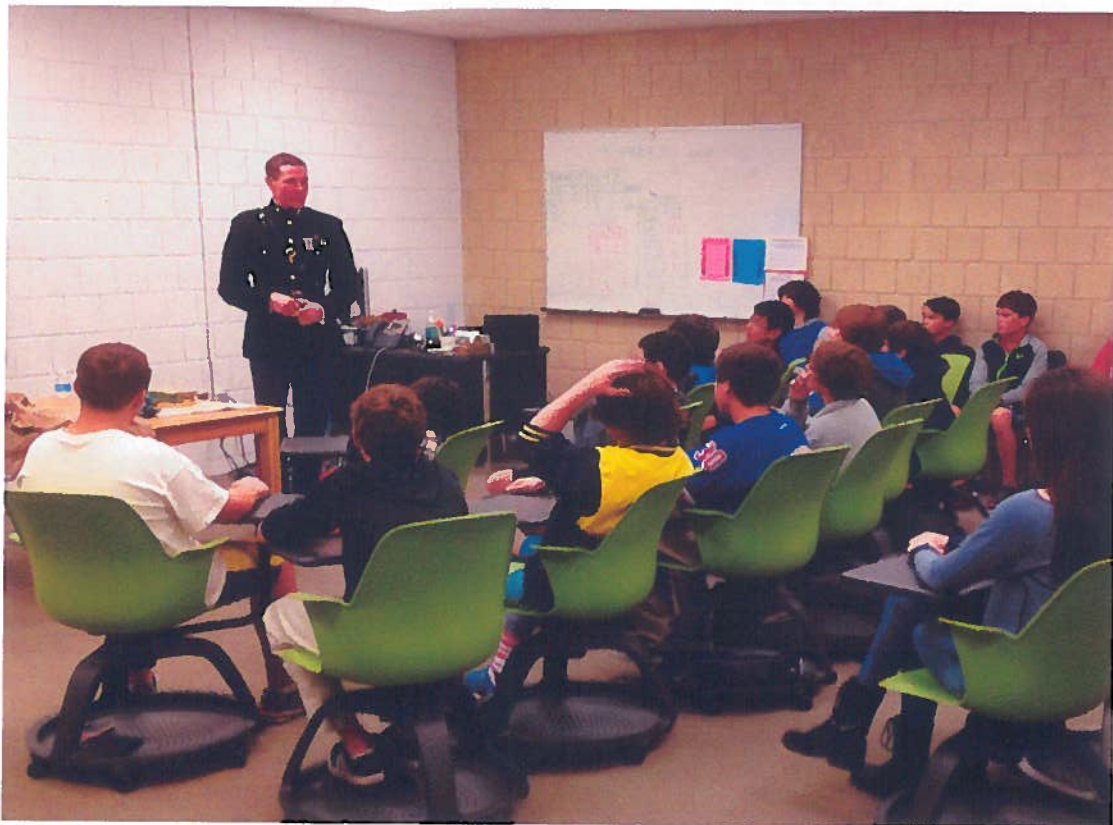
Books:

Grade 6 Pre-Algebra	8,500
AP Latin	4,400
Grade 7 Social Studies	21,562
Algebra 2 - Weston High School*	2,000
AP US History	18,053
Coding	2,700
ELA	<u>1,450</u>
	58,665



Total New and/or Multi-Year Initiatives **73,326**

*Eliminated 22,000 for 2nd referendum budget reduction



WESTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Curriculum Renewal Cycle

Year 1 and 2
Research and Development

- *Align curriculum with frameworks and standards*
- *Review literature, research, best practices*
- *Develop units*
- *Identify materials and resources*
- *Determine PD needs*
- *Year 2 PD preparation*
 - *Data driven*
 - *Research proven practices*
 - *New technology*
 - *Student needs*

Year 3
Implementation

Put curriculum into practice

Ongoing Professional Development

Year 4
Monitoring

How are we doing?

Is it in place?

Year 5
Evaluation

Assess success +/-

WESTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Curriculum Revision Plan

Revision Year 2012	Revision Year 2013	Revision Year 2014	Revision Year 2015
K-12 Math & Business	K-5 Social Studies	6-12 Social Studies 6-12 English K-12 Visual Arts/Music	K-5 Language Arts K-12 Physical Ed. & Health K-12 Guidance K-12 World Language

Revision Year 2016	Revision Year 2017	Revision Year 2018	Revision Year 2019
K-12 Math & Business			
K-5 Social Studies			
6-12 Social Studies 6-12 English K-12 Visual Arts/Music			
K-5 Language Arts 6-12 Physical Ed. & Health K-12 Guidance K-12 World Language			
K-12 Science & PLTW 3-8 Project Challenge			

WESTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Curriculum Renewal Resource Requirement Schedule

2013-2014	2014-2015	2015-2016	2016-2017
Science (K-12) Phase One	Science (K-12) Phase Two	Science (K-12) Phase Three	
Mathematics (K-12) Phase One	Mathematics (K-12) Phase Two	Mathematics (K-12) Phase Three	
	Social Studies (K-12) Phase One	Social Studies (K-12) Phase Two	Social Studies (K-12) Phase Three
	Language Arts (6-12) Phase One	Language Arts (6-12) Phase Two	
		World Language (K-12) Phase One	World Language (K-12) Phase Two