



Special Education Services

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SPECIAL EDUCATION

The FY21 Special Education Budget is designed to build on the investments made within prior school years to bolster district-wide management and school-level supports for students and staff, thereby strengthening our ability to meet the individual needs of students. The Special Education Departmental goals include:

- Increasing the effectiveness of our internal systems for program management
- Developing the capacity of our building based teams to develop and implement student programs
- Developing parent partnerships through increasing transparency and providing information regarding the special education process

Within the salary accounts (1000s), there is an increase of a 0.2 special education teacher for a Weston Middle School and a 0.2 speech language pathologist for grades 6-12. These increases are included in this budget so that the district can program effectively to meet the needs of students.

Professional and Technical Services (3000s) accounts reflect calculated shifts based on current and anticipated student needs, and knowledge of trends within the area of special education. Each account within Professional and Technical Services was analyzed based upon spending in prior years and with the knowledge of certain anticipated costs within these categories for the upcoming year. The request for FY21 is designed to continue meaningful professional development and to provide the supports necessary to work with our students.

Legal representation for special education purposes is accounted for within Professional and Technical Services. Legal service expenses reflect the district's effort to assure an appropriate and comprehensive response when presented with requests for due process or mediation.

There are no substantive changes to Property Services (4000s).

Other Services (5000s) reflects a reduction of approximately 5.75% from the 2018-19 budget and represents a very slight increase from the 2018-19 actual expenditures. This allocation is based on an analysis of current contractual agreements, including out of district placements, and projections for student needs for the 2020-21 school year. This allocation includes four unanticipated placements estimated in sum at \$300,000. The reduction in this account is a result of the vigilance by which this account is monitored. To be clear, the modified level of funding in this account still allows the district to provide services for our most complex learners for whom the services available within our four schools cannot enable these students to make meaningful progress. The district continues to monitor this account with vigilance and can provide updates as we move through the budget process.

Supplies and materials (6000s) and Equipment (7000s) requests have been adjusted based on spending trends and provide district staff and students access to instructional and assessment materials that are valid, reliable, comprehensive, and individualized. These materials allow the district to develop individualized student programs.

In closing, this budget request is student centered and fiscally responsible. It is calculated for the district to continue meaningful progress in providing all our students excellent educational opportunities.

Special Education
Weston Public Schools, Weston, CT

2019-2020 Actual			2020-2021 Projected				
Operating Budget FTE	Other Sources FTE	Total FTE	Program	Operating Budget FTE	Other Sources FTE	Total FTE	Change
Certified Staff							
Classroom Teachers							
2.5	0.5	3.0	Pre-School Special Ed and Typical	2.5	0.5	3.0	0.00
4.0	0.0	4.0	Hurlbutt Elementary School	4.0	0.0	4.0	0.00
5.0	0.0	5.0	Weston Intermediate School	5.0	0.0	5.0	0.00
6.4	0.0	6.4	Weston Middle School	6.6	0.0	6.6	0.20
6.0	0.0	6.0	Weston High School	6.0	0.0	6.0	0.00
Total Classroom Teachers							
Special Subject Classroom Teachers							
0.5	0.0	0.5	Adaptive PE K-12	0.5	0.0	0.5	0.00
1.5	0.0	1.5	Project Challenge	1.5	0.0	1.5	0.00
0.5	0.0	0.5	Enrichment	0.0	0.0	0.0	(0.50)
Support Services							
6.0	1.0	7.0	Speech and Language	6.2	1.0	7.2	0.20
3.0	0.0	3.0	BCBA's	3.0	0.0	3.0	0.00
1.0	0.0	1.0	Behavioral Specialist	1.0	0.0	1.0	0.00
0.5	0.0	0.5	Life Skills/Transition Coordinator	0.5	0.0	0.5	0.00
Total Special Subjects & Support Services Staff							
Administration							
1.0	0.0	1.0	Assistant Superintendent of Pupil Services	1.0	0.0	1.0	0.00
2.0	0.0	2.0	Asst. Dir. of Special Education & Pupil Personnel Ser.	2.0	0.0	2.0	0.00
39.9	1.5	41.4		39.8	1.5	41.3	(0.10)
Non Certified Staff							
Secretarial							
1.0	0.0	1.0	Assistant Superintendent Administrative Assistant	1.0	0.0	1.0	0.00
0.9	0.0	0.9	Centralized School-Based	0.9	0.0	0.9	0.00
Para Educators							
37.9	9.2	47.1	District wide Para Educators	37.9	9.3	47.2	0.01
Other Classified Staff							
0.6	0.0	0.6	Vocational Specialist	0.6	0.0	0.6	0.00
40.4	9.2	49.7		40.4	9.3	49.7	0.01
80.4	10.7	91.1		80.3	10.8	91.0	(0.09)