



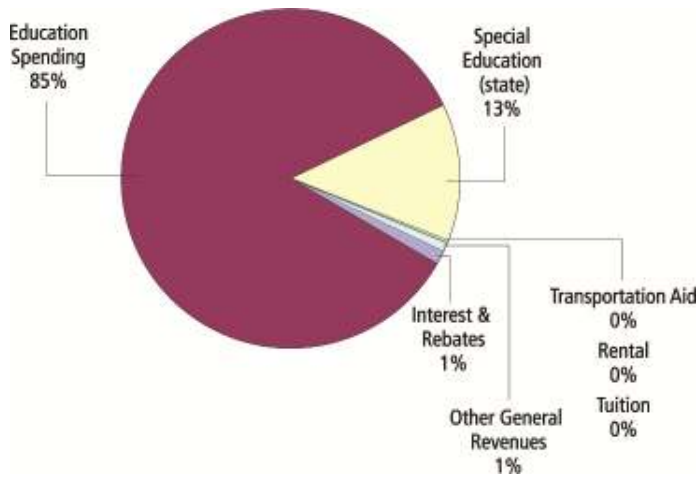
## VOTE: TOWN MEETING DAY MARCH 3, 2015

<b>Proposed FY16 Budget</b>	<b>\$68,595,138</b>
<b>FY15 Budget</b>	<b>\$67,415,369</b>
<b>Budget Increase</b>	<b>1.75%</b>
<b>Tax Increase</b>	<b>2.35%</b>

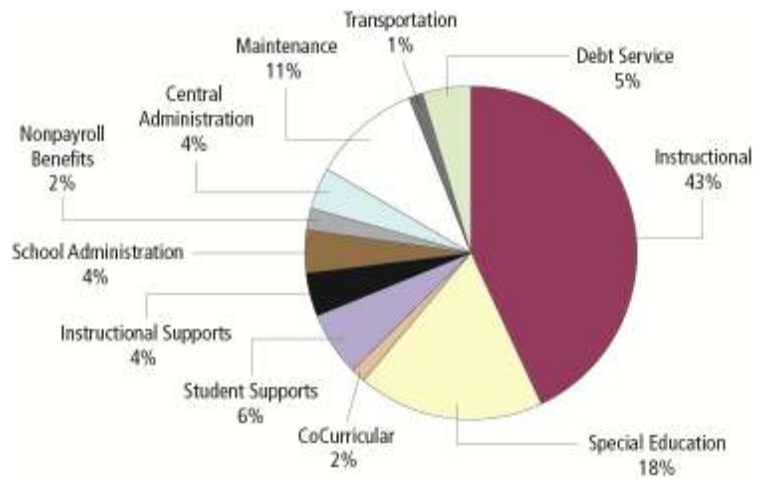
### Taft Ballot Question

*Voters will be asked to dedicate revenue from the lease of the Taft School Building to the relocation of programs currently housed in that space and other infrastructure needs. The intent of this question is to ensure that this revenue is only used for activities consistent with existing agreements and state law.*

### FY16 Revenue Budget



### FY16 Expenditure Budget



### Hypothetical Tax Scenarios

Property Payers	Property Tax Impact
FY16 Estimated Rate (per \$100 of value)	\$1.674
Difference from FY15 (\$1.636)	\$0.038
Tax on \$250,000 homestead	\$4,185
Tax Difference from FY15	+\$95
Income Payers	Income Tax Impact
FY16 Income Cap Percentage	2.84%
Difference from FY15 (2.85%)	-0.01%
Tax on \$50,000 household income	\$1,420
Tax Difference from FY15	-\$5

### Budget Increase Breakdown

FY15 Approved Budget	\$67,415,369
Annual spending obligations not accounted for in FY15 Budget	+\$990,000
Materials, supplies, textbooks, equipment, contracted services, athletics	\$0
Inflation-driven expenses, salaries and benefits	+\$2,764,631
Retirement and staffing model redesign savings	-\$2,164,862
<b>FY16 Proposed Budget</b>	<b>\$68,595,138</b>



## **A NEW APPROACH TO BUILDING THE BUDGET**

Most of the 1.75% increase in the proposed budget will be devoted to ensuring that future budget deficits can be avoided by properly accounting for all of the District's actual spending obligations. The historically low rate of growth for FY16 was the byproduct of a different approach to building a budget. Instead of basing next year's budget on last year's budget, the proposed budget is supported by the following three pillars:

- An appraisal of student needs and the resources required to promote success for all students
- Regionally comparable standards that are generally associated with high-quality schools
- Efficiency and productivity measures designed to reduce growth in spending to a sustainable level in keeping with local economic conditions

### **How does the FY16 Budget serve student needs?**

- Reallocation of special education staff to address a broader range of student needs in literacy and math
- Strengthening of Positive Behavior Support Program and student learning support services through increase in school psychologist staffing
- Full-time guidance counselor in each school K-8; 5 high school counselors
- Part-time social worker in each elementary building; 1 full-time social worker per middle school and high school building
- Maintenance of commitment to addressing needs of English Language Learners
- Maintenance of commitment to addressing diversity and equity needs
- Well established Pre-K program positioned to meet goals of new state Pre-K initiative
- Afterschool and summer academic support programs for elementary and middle school students

### **How does the FY16 Budget support quality educational standards?**

- Primary Grade class size averages  $\leq 20$  and average class sizes in grades 3-12  $\leq 25$  in keeping with Vermont Quality Education Standards
- Increased emphasis on core academic subjects in middle schools
- High school elective offerings that include a comprehensive selection of AP courses
- Maintenance of commitment to award winning elementary magnet schools
- Art and music program offerings that exceed typical school standards
- Physical education program in keeping with State Quality Standards
- Library staffed by full-time librarian in every school
- One-to-one computer to student ratio at the middle and high school levels
- Regionally comparable high school athletics program and other co-curricular activities

### **What efficiency and productivity measures have been utilized to reduce spending growth in the FY16 Budget?**

- Elimination of 7 administrative and other non-instructional positions
- Net reduction of 5 teaching positions through consolidation or elimination of under-enrolled classes
- Reduction of special education staffing to typical student to staff ratio for Vermont given that the percentage of District students identified as having special needs is below the state average
- No budget increase for materials, supplies, textbooks, equipment, contracted services, and co-curricular activities