

Superintendent's Proposed FY2016 Budget

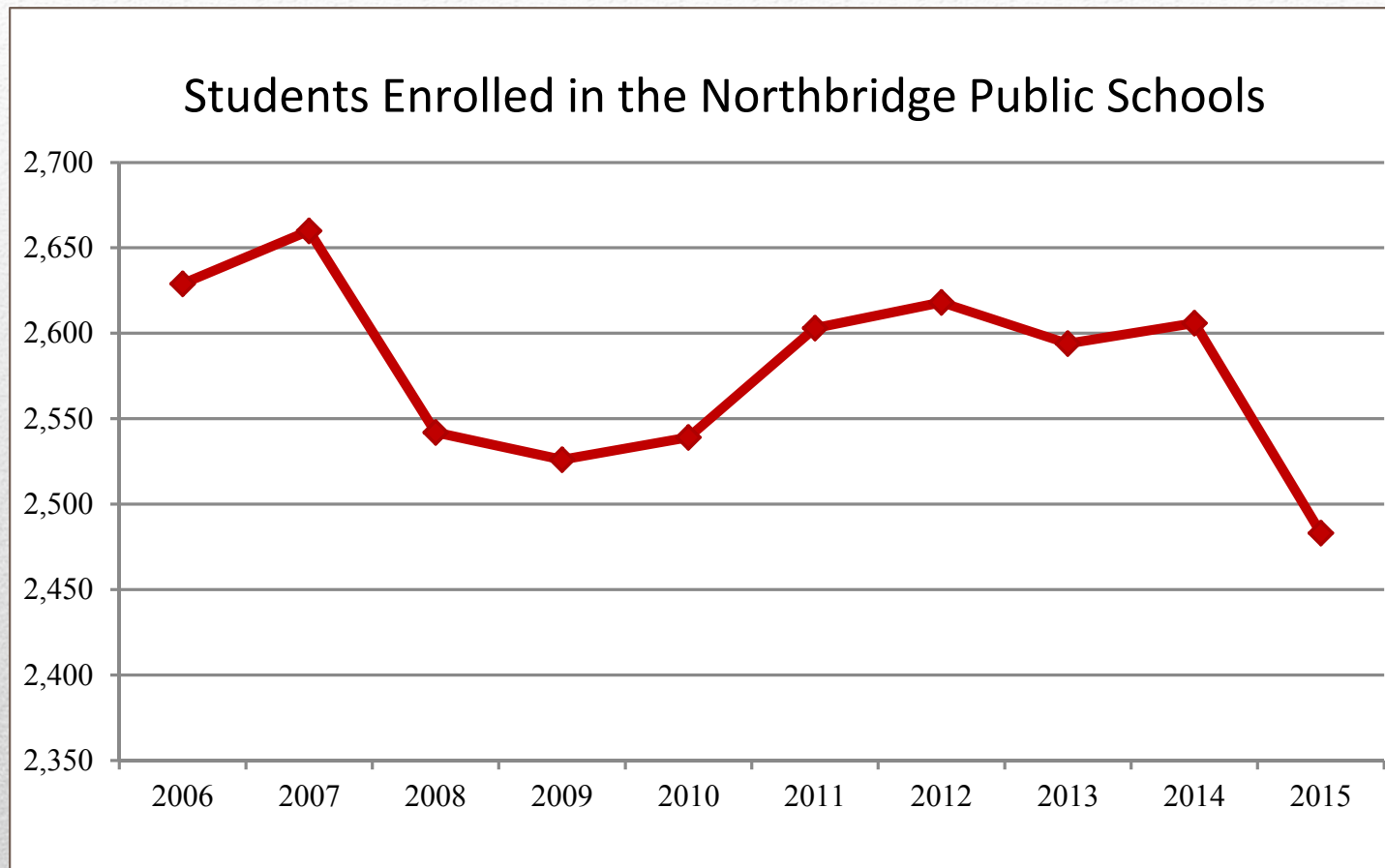
Public Hearing Presentation

March 10, 2015

Mission & Goals

- The mission of the Northbridge Public Schools is to prepare our students to become responsible, contributing members of society by providing a challenging, rigorous educational program which will maximize academic achievement, enable intellectual, physical, social, and emotional development in an atmosphere which promotes creative and critical thinking.
 - District Goals 2013-2015
 1. Develop/establish a data-driven culture which has consistency and fidelity throughout the school district which directs classroom instruction, leading to improved student achievement
 2. Delineate and implement best teacher instructional practices within an aligned PK-12 curriculum to improve student engagement, in-depth comprehension, and achievement.
 3. Develop and implement a tiered system of supports and services that meets the academic, social-emotional, and behavioral needs of all students.
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Enrollment Trends



Enrollment Trends

Year	School Choice IN	School Choice OUT
2006	103.2	90.8
2007	88.7	83.8
2008	58.7	100.0
2009	63.5	115.3
2010	81.8	119.3
2011	96.8	100.7
2012	84.6	107.4
2013	90.0	92.4
2014	97.0	102.6
2015	98.0	106.0

2006-2014 Data is based on final June numbers

2015 Data is based on October 1 numbers

Source: DESE website and DESE roster

Enrollment Trends

Year	Total Enrollment	Low Income Students		Special Education Students		ELL Students	
2009	2,526	571	23%	427	17%	7	0.3%
2010	2,539	644	25%	432	17%	12	0.5%
2011	2,603	640	25%	436	17%	11	0.4%
2012	2,619	735	28%	437	17%	20	0.8%
2013	2,594	756	29%	426	16%	19	0.7%
2014	2,606	838	32%	428	16%	21	0.8%
2015	2,483	813	33%	426	17%	35	1.4%

- While total enrollment decreased by 123 students in 2015, the percentage of low income, special education, and ELL students increased.

Additional Support Needed for ELL Students

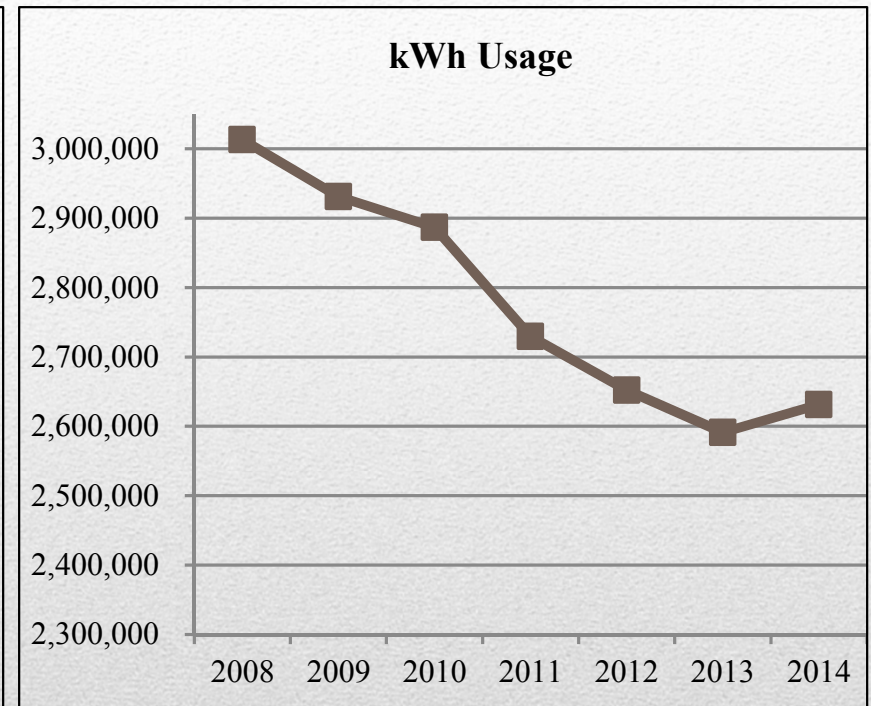
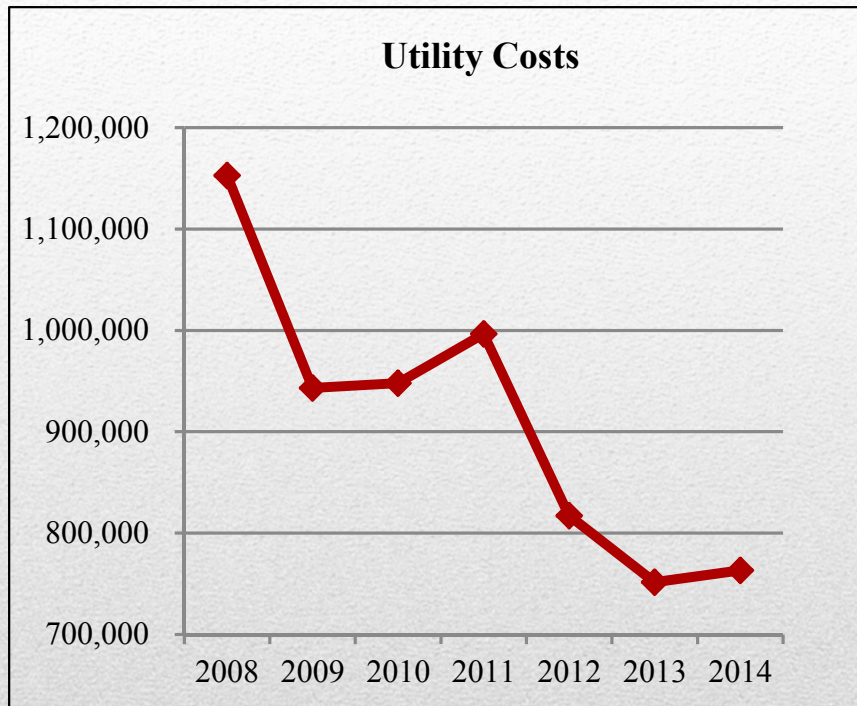
- 35 ELL students
- 9 different languages
- Current Staffing Support:
 - 1.0 FTE ELL Teacher
- Request to add an additional 1.0 FTE Teacher
- ELL teachers help students with language acquisition skills, provide direct instruction to students and consult with teachers on how to support instruction
- By the end of 2015, 24 of our teachers and 10 of our administrators will have completed state mandated SEI training requirements which provide a better understanding of the language acquisition process

School	# of Students
NES	10
Balmer School	10
Middle School	8
High School	7

Unfunded/Underfunded Mandates

- In addition to increasing student needs, additional state and federal mandates require reallocated time and resources
 - Anti-Bullying Legislation
 - Common Core – curriculum alignment
 - Curriculum Modules – student assessment
 - District Determined Measures (DDM)
 - Educator Evaluation
 - MCAS - accountability measures
 - McKinney Vento Homeless Transportation
 - NEASC & NAEYC Accreditation
 - New Discipline Bill
 - PARCC
 - RETELL
 - WIDA- New ELL Standards
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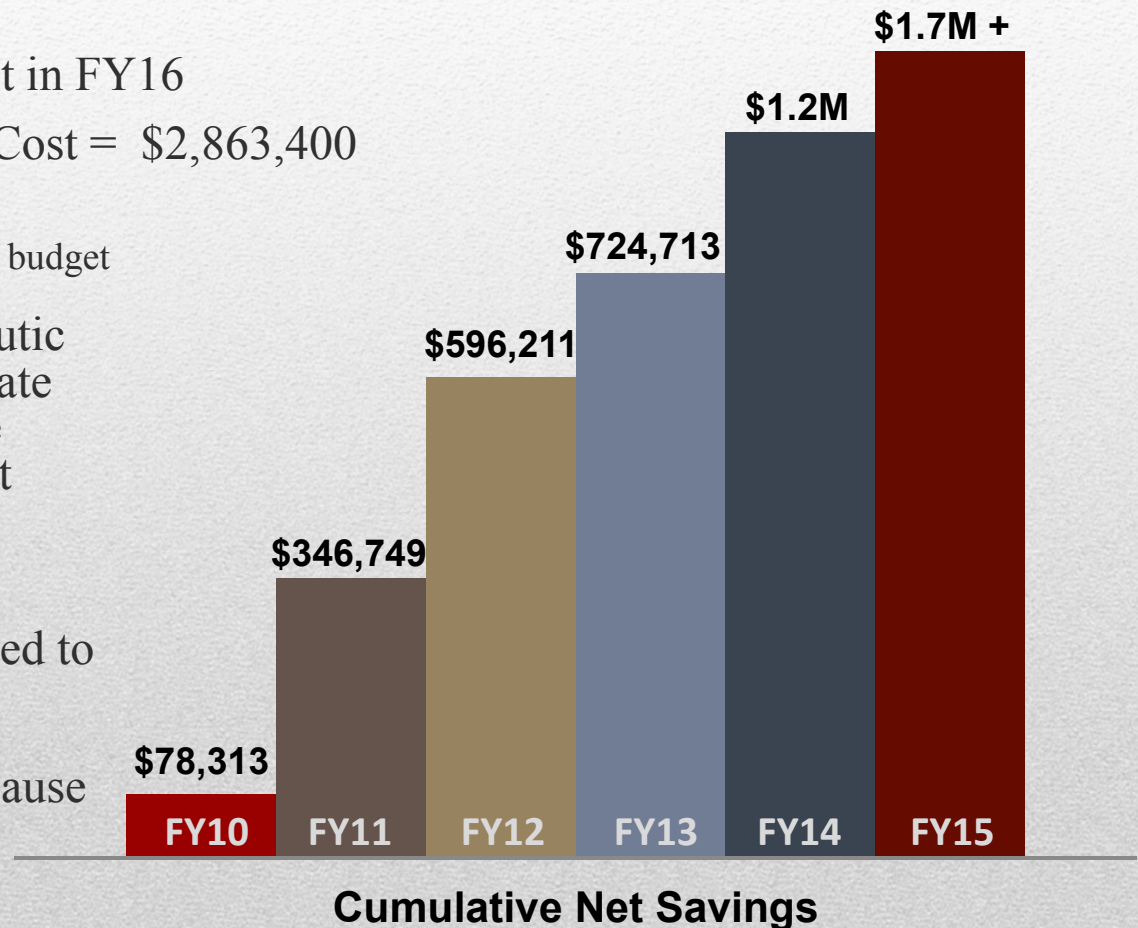
Cost Saving Initiatives: Utilities



- Annual spending on Utilities has decreased by \$390,000 or 34% since 2008
- Despite a small increase in kWh usage in 2014, kWh usage has decreased by over 380,000 kWh since 2008
- With National Grid and NSTAR incentives, the District has completed over \$277,000 worth of energy projects for approximately \$77,000, which have an estimated annual savings of \$105,000
- The Net Metering Agreement we entered into, along with the Town, resulted in credits to our electric bills in FY14 of just over \$25,000

Cost Saving Initiatives: In District Therapeutic Programs

- 31 Students Out of District in FY16
- Tuition & Transportation Cost = \$2,863,400
 - 11.4% of total budget
 - 34% of special education budget
- Created in-district therapeutic programs in FY10 to educate students within their home district and within the least restrictive environment
- Since 2010, at total of 46 students have either returned to the District from OOD placements or have been retained in the District because of these programs



Cost Saving Initiatives: Copiers

- Reduced the number of machines in the District
- Switched manufactures
- Renewed leases at advantageous times
 - Free maintenance promotions
- Taken advantage of state contract pricing
- Switched from supply charge per click to direct supply purchase

Year	Copier Lease & Maintenance Cost
2011	92,265
2016	63,272
Savings	28,993



Cost Saving Initiatives: Transportation Reductions

- Current contract valid through June 30, 2015
- Opportunity to bid a different number of buses
- Fewer buses = lower cost
- Minimum transportation requirement:
 - Gr. K – 6 > 2 miles
- Prior mileage boundaries:
 - NES & Balmer > ½ mile
 - MS > 1 ½ miles
 - HS > 2 miles
- Adopted mileage boundaries:
 - NES & Balmer > 1 mile
 - MS & HS > 2 miles
- Ridership is estimated to decrease by 313 riders from 1,390 riders to 1,077 riders
- Approximately 300+ students will be required to pay a transportation fee

Year	# Buses	Daily Rate
2015	18 buses	257.46
2016	14 buses	288.36

# Buses	Daily Rate	Annual Cost
18 buses	288.36	\$934,286
14 buses	288.36	\$726,667
Year 1 Savings		\$207,619

Additional savings of \$20,259 by reducing HS shuttle run

FY15 Budget Recap

- Increase required to provide level services: \$862,379
 - Increase in Appropriation: \$79,392
 - Less Revolver funds available
 - Override request for \$3,000,000 did not pass
 - Reduced level services operating budget by \$1.1 Million
 - Supplies, contracted services, technology, stipends, extra-curricular activities, golf, hockey, swimming, wrestling, & middle school sports
 - 18.9 FTE's = 21 Positions
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FY16 Expense Increases: Level Services

- The following increases would be needed to provide the same level of services in FY16 as were provided in FY15 (with the exception of reduced transportation):

Salaries	\$ 332,667	1.8%	Steps & Lanes Does not include COLA % Limited retiree savings
Out of District Placements	\$ 408,609	16.6%	7 new placements Net increase of 4 tuitions 6 students have moved in from other towns
Transportation	\$(122,977)	-10.5%	Savings from reduced number of buses offset by increase in bus daily rate
Technology	\$(104,915)	-32.6%	One-time purchase of switches in 2015
All Other	\$ (24,745)	-0.9%	
Total Increase	\$ 488,638	1.97%	

- If transportation had not already been reduced, the total increase would have been \$696,257 or 2.81%
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Initial FY16 Revenue Estimate

Revenue	2015	2016	Increase/ (Decrease)	%
Chapter 70	15,214,206	15,262,906	48,700	0.32%
Town Contribution	6,115,237	6,566,537	451,300	7.38%
Appropriation	21,329,443	21,829,443	500,000	2.34%
Grants	1,212,639	1,136,659	(75,980)	-6.27%
Revolvers	2,243,817	1,933,863	(309,954)	-13.81%
Total Revenue	24,785,899	24,899,965	114,066	0.46%

- Minimum Chapter 70 increase per student decreased from \$25 per student to \$20 per student
 - Funding eliminated for the Full Day Kindergarten Grant
 - Original FY 15 Allocation \$97,200
 - 9C cuts reduced the FY15 Allocation to \$75,980
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- Revolvers = amount budgeted to be spent from revolvers, not amount of anticipated incoming revenue
 - Using \$1,933,863 from revolvers would result in a projected \$1M ending revolver balance

FY16 Budget Gap

Level Services FY16 Operating Budget	25,274,537
Initial FY16 Revenue Estimate	24,899,965
FY16 Budget Gap	(374,572)
Requested Addition: ELL Teacher	50,058
FY16 Budget Gap after Addition	(424,630)

Closing the Gap: Fees

- In order to reduce the budget gap, additional revenue is needed
- Increasing fees = increased revenue

Discretionary Fee Category	Current Fee	FY 2016 Fee	Projected Revenue Increase
Pre-School - 2 day	\$ 1,395	\$ 1,530	4,590
Pre-School - 4 Day	\$ 2,196	\$ 2,610	13,248
Pre-School - Open to other Towns	no	yes	25,920
Athletic Fee	\$ 200 w/caps	\$ 250 w/o caps	40,250
Activity Fee	\$ 25 w/caps	\$ 35 w/caps	5,190
Transportation Fee	0	200 w/caps	40,960*
Parking Fee	\$ 5	\$ 50	5,000
School Facility Rental		~20% increase	6,610
Total Projected Revenue Increase			\$ 141,768

*An additional \$20,000 of projected revenue is anticipated and will be utilized to pay for a part-time transportation coordinator and related expenses

Closing the Gap: Reductions

- **Conferences: \$23,025**
 - Professional Development will occur in-house. \$10,000 will remain budgeted for required specialized training that must be sought outside the District.
 - **Director of Educational Technology Stipend Position: \$20,000**
 - Duties of the Director of Educational Technology will be assumed by current Administrative and Technology Support Staff.
 - **Physical Therapy: \$5,000**
 - Reduction based upon current needs. Line item remains funded at \$54,250.
 - **Psych Contracted Services: \$5,000**
 - Reduction based upon current needs. Line item remains funded at \$5,000.
 - **Extended Day Access: \$3,500**
 - “Teen Night Out” program – no longer funded through a grant; lack of participation. Line item remains funded at \$2,500.
 - **Assistive Technology Contracted Service: \$38,500**
 - This service will be provided in house by an Instructional Technology Specialist. This reduces the Instructional Technology Specialist FTE's from 2.0 to 1.5.
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Closing the Gap: Reductions

- **Balmer Special Education Teacher: \$21,693**
 - The Pathways program will be restructured resulting in a Special Education Teacher being reduced and a Behavior Technician being added.
- **Balmer/Middle School Instructional Coach: \$74,057**
 - The Instructional Coach that services grades 4 and 5 will be reduced. This will leave 3.0 FTE's coaches in the District: 1 each at NES, Balmer, and MS.
- **Middle School Band & Chorus Stipend: \$4,667**
 - Band and Chorus will be offered during the day, which reduces the need for a stipend for after school activities.
- **Middle School Department Head (1 of 5): \$5,517**
 - The English and Social Studies Department Heads will be consolidated into a Humanities Department Head.
- **Middle School Grade 5 Teacher: \$47,290**
 - The current grade 4 class has 24 less students than the current grade 5 class. Reducing this teacher will not impact class size.

Total Reductions: \$248,249

FTE's Reduced: 2.0

Closing the Gap: Revolvers

FY16 Budget Gap		424,630
Additional Fee Revenue	—	141,768
Budget Reductions	—	248,249
Additional Revolver Funds Needed		34,613

Revolver Starting Balance FY16		1,506,050
Projected Revenue FY16	+	1,589,581
Projected Expense FY16	—	2,130,244
Revolver Ending Balance FY16		965,387

Superintendent's Recommended FY16 Budget

Level Services FY16 Budget	25,274,537
Proposed ELL Teacher	+ 50,058
Transportation Coordinator & Expenses	+ 20,000
Budget Cuts	- 248,249
Recommended FY16 Budget	25,096,346

Recommended Funding Sources		
Chapter 70	15,262,906	61%
Town Contribution	6,566,537	26%
Grants	1,136,659	5%
Revolvers	2,130,244	8%
Total Revenue	25,096,346	100%

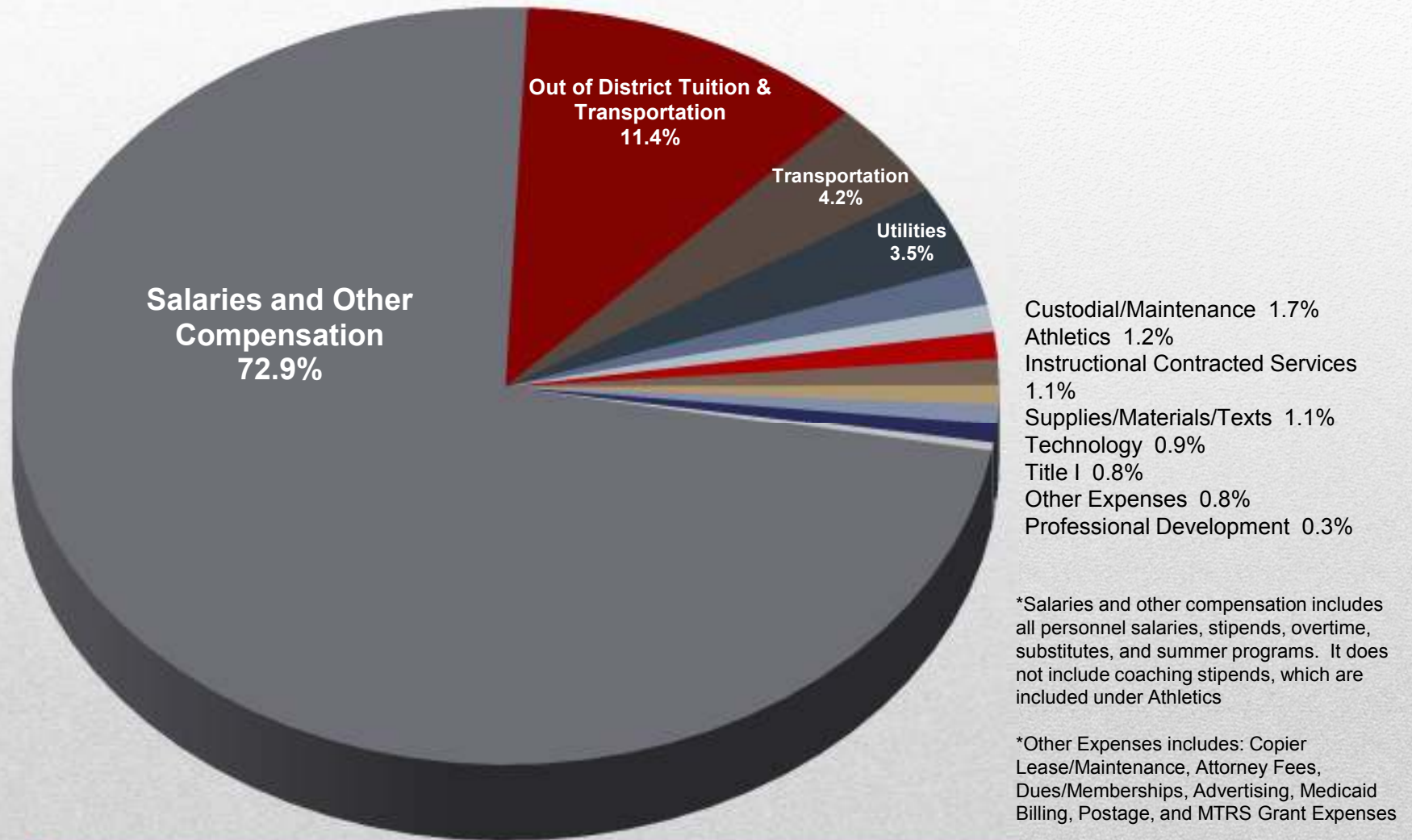
FY2016 Operating Budget

Category	FY 2015	FY 2016	Increase/ (Decrease)	% Change
Salaries*	18,080,763	18,304,549	223,786	1.2%
Supplies/Materials/Texts	279,687	277,494	(2,193)	-0.8%
Professional Development	112,332	85,520	(26,812)	-23.9%
Instructional Contracted Services	314,776	284,114	(30,662)	-9.7%
Athletics	277,715	289,641	11,926	4.3%
Technology	321,495	216,579	(104,915)	-32.6%
Utilities	890,084	890,594	510	0.1%
Custodial/Maintenance	460,863	421,557	(39,306)	-8.5%
Transportation	1,170,116	1,047,139	(122,977)	-10.5%
Out of District Tuition & Trans	2,454,791	2,863,400	408,609	16.6%
Title I	214,728	209,928	(4,800)	-2.2%
Other Expenses	208,547	205,831	(2,716)	-1.3%
	24,785,898	25,096,347	310,448	1.25%

*Contracts have not yet been negotiated for FY2016

Other expenses includes: copier lease/maintenance, attorney fees, dues/memberships, advertising, Medicaid billing, postage, and MTRS grant expenses

FY2016 Operating Budget



Looking Ahead: FY2017

Revolver Starting Balance FY17	965,387
Projected Revenue FY17	1,589,581
Projected Expense FY17	1,589,581
Revolver Ending Balance FY17	965,387

Revolvers Available for use in FY17	1,589,581
Revolvers Available for use in FY16	2,130,244
Decreased Available Revenue FY17	(540,663)

Decreased Available Revenue FY17 + any increase in FY17 Budget = FY17 Budget Gap

FY17 Budget Gap = Necessary Increase in FY17 Appropriation

Summary

- It would cost the District an additional \$488,638 to provide the same level of services in FY16 as it provided in FY15 (with the exception of reduced transportation services)
 - Chapter 70 increased by a minimum of \$20 per student, or \$48,700, and the Town Contribution increased by \$451,300 resulting in the school department's appropriation increasing by \$500,000
 - Funding for the Full Day Kindergarten Grant was eliminated resulting in a \$75,980 decrease in budgeted grant funds
 - When totaling available revenue and projected expenses, and adding in the cost for an additional ELL teacher, the budget gap for FY16 totaled \$424,630
 - In order to close this gap, the District increased fees, made budget reductions, and utilized additional revolver funds
 - The Superintendent's recommended operating budget for FY16 reflects a 1.25% or \$310,448 increase over FY15; however, contract negotiations for FY16 have not been settled at this time
 - The largest increase to the FY16 budget is the increase in out of district tuition and transportation, which increased by 16.6% or \$408,609
 - The District appreciates the increase in appropriation for FY16, but cautions that before factoring in any increases to the FY17 budget, the District will already be down over \$500,000 in available revenue for FY17 due to a larger amount of revolver funds being spent in FY16 than are available to be spent in FY17
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Important Upcoming Dates

- Presentation to Finance Committee - March 11, 2015
 - School Committee Votes on the Budget - March 24, 2015
 - Finance Committee Public Budget Hearing - March 25, 2015
 - Annual Spring Town Meeting - May 5, 2015
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