



On February 9, 2021 the South Kingstown School Committee adopted the FY22 Proposed Budget. The links and back up documentation for the SKSD FY22 Budget is provided here:

SKSD FY22 Budget Website

https://www.skschools.net/departments/finance_business/f_y22_budget_information

FY22 Proposed Budget Report

https://www.skschools.net/UserFiles/Servers/Server_59359/File/District/FY22Budget/SKSD_Budget_Report_FY22_Version3_March2021.pdf

FY22 Budget Update from March 30,2021 School Committee Meeting

[https://go.boarddocs.com/ri/soki/Board.nsf/files/BZLSSQ741D9B/\\$file/Final_SC_Budget_Update_NotesForMeeting.pdf](https://go.boarddocs.com/ri/soki/Board.nsf/files/BZLSSQ741D9B/$file/Final_SC_Budget_Update_NotesForMeeting.pdf)

Revenue Update

Town Appropriation for Education

We have been working on closing the budget gap between the School Committee Adopted Budget and the Preliminary Town Appropriation for Education. The Fiscal Year 2021/22 Proposed Budget included a request from the Town for an additional 1.89% funding from the prior year. The Town of South Kingstown Preliminary Budget proposed level funding from FY 2020/21 which resulted in **budget variance of \$ 1,058,301.**

State Aid for Education

We also received updated data from Rhode Island Department of Education on the Governor's Proposed Budget which included a reduction to State Aid Categorical Funding (**budget variance of \$48,524**).

| South Kingstown Public Schools-Updated State Aid for Education | | | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Description | FY 2021/22 Proposed Budget | | Updated | Variance* |
| | 2020-2021 | 2021-22 | 2021-22 | |
| | Budgeted | Proposed (11/15/2020) | 3/11/21 Update | |
| State Education Aid | | | | |
| Formula Aid for Education | \$4,402,447 | \$4,559,972 | \$4,559,972 | \$0 |
| High Cost Special Education | \$142,614 | \$142,614 | \$119,650 | (\$22,964) |
| Group Home Aid | \$119,996 | \$119,996 | \$94,436 | (\$25,560) |
| | \$4,665,057 | \$4,822,582 | \$4,774,058 | (\$48,524) |

* The Updated 3/11/2021 data resulted in a Budget Variance that will need to be reconciled

Expenditure Update

ESSER II Updates

On the expenditure side of the FY 2021/22 School Budget, we are exploring every option to reduce expenditures to close the budget variance. Rhode Island Department of Education (RIDE) has provide us with preliminary information for the upcoming ESSER II grant application. The guidance does identify that at least 50% of the funding will need to be used for overall acceleration activities and at least 25% of the proposed funding will need to used for summer activities (additional details are listed within this memo). We believe that the remaining funds can be used for expenditures to

prepare, prevent, and respond to COVID-19. A proposed reduction to the FY 2021/22 School's General Fund Budget would be to move the expenditures for staff hired to respond to the pandemic (2 custodial staff members and the additional increase of .40 for 3 teacher assistants) to ESSER II Grant. **This would result is an estimated savings/decrease in General Fund budget of \$132,863.**

Health/Dental Premium Updates

We have contacted The Trust to provide us with the final increase for health and dental premiums. The Director of Employee Benefits was not able to provide those figures to us ad the will be meeting with their Board of Trustees in the upcoming weeks to review and approve the finalized premiums.

The Trust did provide us with a updated range of 3%-5% increase for health and possible 0% increase in dental premiums. The FY 2021/22 School Budget estimated a 6% increase in health and 4.5% increase in dental premiums. Based on the updated range we are **projecting an estimated savings/decrease in the projected budget of \$116,089.**

Reduction in Staffing Updates

We have reviewed staffing and scheduling with Building Principals and Directors. Based on early projections, there are possible reductions in staffing resulting in a **estimated savings/decrease in the projected budget of \$389,313.**

OPEB Updates

We had an intial virtual meeting with the Town and the Actuary regarding possible changes to the Actuarially Determined Contribution (ADC) for other post employment benefits. We are exploring a few options and will have a recommendation in the coming weeks.

Transportation Updates

The transportation vendor is working over April vacation to review possible savings by exploring options including locations of stops, start times, consolidation of bus routes, and statewide bussing. We are hopeful to have a report from the company in the coming weeks.

Other Additional Reductions

We are continuing to explore any and all options for additional budgetary savings.

Below is a summary of the possible reductions to date-

| Fiscal Year 2021/22 Proposed Budget Reconciliation as of 4/9/2021* | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|
| Revenue | |
| Municipal Appropriation (Town Council Preliminary) | (\$1,058,301) |
| State Aid for Education(Update Governors Proposed Budget) | (\$48,524) |
| Current Variance-Revenue | (\$1,106,825) |
| Expenditures | |
| COVID Related Staffing to ESSER (Pending Grant Application and Approval) | \$132,863 |
| Health/Dental Insurance (Estimated Savings-Final Figures TBD) | \$116,089 |
| Proposed Reduction in Staff (Estimated Reduction) | \$389,313 |
| OPEB Actuarially Determined Contribution | TBD |
| Transportation | TBD |
| Other Additional Reductions | TBD |
| Total Proposed Expenditure Reductions to Date | \$638,265 |
| Total Budget Variance to Date | (\$468,560) |



**Prepared for Management Discussion Purposes Only and is Subject to Change*

Under Review for Possible Budget Reductions (shared March 30, 2021)

Review of All Proposed Budget Request

- Prioritize Purchases that Support the Programmatic Goals
- Delay Requests until Other Funding Sources can be Found
- Shift Staff from the General Fund to Grants
- Shift Special Education Tuition from the General Funds to Grants

Review Funding of Proposed Budget Request

- Coordinate Resources from Local, State, and Federal Funding Streams
- Reduction of COVID Expenditures Anticipating Additional Federal Funds
- Leverage Fund Balance to Support the Capital Plans
- Leverage Fund Balance for One Time Expenditures (Tuition-Students Aging Out)

Review of School Operations

- Review Student Activity Funds/Private Donations
- Review and Adoption of Policies and Procedures
- Inventory Control (Use of Supplies on Hand Before Purchasing)
- Position Control (Align budgeted FTEs with actual FTEs)

Budgeted Staffing

- Review of Scheduling Staff/Students
- Review of Open Positions
- Review of Retirements

Budgeted Inventory Supplies/Materials

- Review on Inventory (Instructional/Custodial)
- Explore Bulk Purchasing

Other Funds Sources (Grants/Private Donations)

- Other Funding for Operational Cost (In Addition to Previous Budget Reductions)
- Review of ESSER Guidelines/Restrictions

Continued Analysis of Budget/School Operations

- Efficiency Audit/Financial System Training
- Internal Analysis of Staffing (Budgeted versus Actual)
- Review of All Contracted Services
- Budget Freeze and Reductions

Additional ESSER Grant Funding

ESSER II/CRRSAA LEA GRANT

We have received preliminary guidance from Rhode Island Department of Education (RIDE) on ESSER II Grant funding. We have uploaded the preliminary guidance within Boarddocs and below is a summary of the guidance-

When completing the application for ESSER II funds, RIDE strongly encourages LEA to align their strategy, planning, and spending to the following five LEAP Absolute Priorities-

1. Energize our school communities-students and educators-by launching a back-to-school campaign and statewide toolkit with attention to students who are chronically absent, overaged and under credited, and are from low income or highly-mobile families.
2. Ensure all students have access to high-quality and personalized support from adults, both during the school day and through extended learning, partnerships for before/after school, or summer learning opportunities

3. Universally screen all students and align resources to need
4. Improve and support student transitions, across grades and systems
5. Close the digital divide

RIDE also noted the following allocation percentages as a guide and floor (rather than a ceiling)-

- Overall Acceleration Activities –at least 50%
- Summer Activities-at least 25%

RIDE has released an anticipated amount for South Kingstown Schools-\$1,344,338

ESSER III/ARP LEA GRANT

Rhode Island Department of Education has not released preliminary guidance for ESSER III-but RIDE did provide Federal guidance. The document has been uploaded to Boarddoc and below is a summary-

- A State must subgrant not less than 90 percent of its total ESSER/ARP allocation to local educational agencies (LEA)
- An LEA must reserve at least 20 percent of funds to address learning loss through the implementation of evidence-based interventions and ensure that those interventions respond to students' social, emotional, and academic needs and address the disproportionate impact of COVID-19 on underrepresented student subgroups
- The remaining funds may be used for a wide range of activities to address needs arising from the coronavirus pandemic

RIDE has released an early estimated amount for South Kingstown-\$3,019,191