

**Ashford Board of Education  
FY 2026-2027 Proposed Budget Snapshot**

<b>2025-2026 BOE approved budget</b>	<b>\$8,853,864</b>
<b>2026-2027 BOE proposed budget</b>	<b>\$9,120,049</b>
<b>\$ Increase</b>	<b>\$ 266,185</b>
<b>% Increase</b>	<b>3.01%</b>

**Budget Assumptions/Costs**

- Medical insurance premiums estimated to increase by 10%
- Heating oil based on 34,000 gallons @ \$2.47/gal.
- Diesel fuel based on 30,000 gallons @ \$2.51/gal. minus contributions from the DPW, Fire/Ambulance Service, and Region 19 Transportation contract.
- Gasoline based on 10,000 gallons @ \$2.39/gal.
- This budget decreases one para-professional position

**Shared Services with Town of Ashford**

- Information Technology services (Savage Systems)
- Heating oil, electricity, diesel fuel, and gasoline (combined capacity for contract negotiations)
- Snow and ice removal
- Youth Services supports students at risk and runs small group activities for our younger grades
- Insurances of health, dental, and property liability (combined capacity for discounts)

**Unfunded/Partially Funded Education Mandates**

There are approximately 380 unfunded mandates requiring districts to establish programs/procedures without additional state funding (Connecticut Association of Public School Superintendents). Examples of these mandates include the following:

- De-escalation training for all staff
- Teacher evaluations
- Annual reporting requirements: teacher evaluation, drill reports, attendance
- Administrator attendance at Planning and Placement Team meetings (PPT)
- CT-SEDS, student data (special education and 504)
- Free menstrual products provided to students in select student restrooms (Grade 3 and higher)
- DCF Mandated Reporter and sexual harassment training
- Diversity training for all administrators and hiring committees
- Annual indoor air quality testing
- New oversight to the Libraries collections by a certified librarian or a library media specialist

## **Budget Process**

Teachers submit their budget needs to the Principal in November. Programs are reviewed to align school and district needs with fiscal resources. The Superintendent works directly with the Business Manager and Administrative Team to refine resource allocations to meet district needs. The Superintendent and Business Manager set up town workshops and invite the public to provide input. They also meet with the finance committee of the BOE on a monthly basis. The Superintendent's proposal is presented to and reviewed by the BOE. Once approved by the BOE, the budget proposal is presented to the BOF.

## **Grants**

The BOE's budget is supplemented by grants. Following is a list of grants and estimated amounts:

- Title I grant (Continuous) **\$ 64,661**
  - Partial Teacher salary and benefits
  - For transportation of homeless students
- Title II Grant (Continuous) **\$ 9,007**
  - PD for collaboration with sending schools to R19
- Title III Grant (Continuous) **\$ 336**
  - Supplies for English Language instruction
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- Title IV grant applied **\$ 10,000**
  - Online subscriptions for engagement
- REAP grant **\$ 34,715**
  - Technology, educational supplies, professional development
- IDEA 611 grant **\$114,986**
  - Salaries: Special Education certified (1.5 FTE)
- IDEA 619 grant **\$ 7,149**
  - preschool partial paraprofessional salary
- Early Start CT **\$108,000**
  - Partially funds our Preschool/early childhood programming
  - Shine Early Learning Funds Programs for Preschool **\$8,640**
- Special Education Expansion and Development (SEED) **\$ 35,502**
  - Funds for Special Education purposes(new program only)
- District Repair and Improvement Project (DRIP) **\$47,683**  
Capital Improvements to the school facility

**Total Anticipated Grant Funds: \$440,679**