

# North Middlesex Regional School District

Superintendent's Budget Recommendation to the  
School Committee  
FY18 Budget

**North Middlesex Regional School District**



# North Middlesex Regional School District: District Plan Overview 2016-2019

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## *Mission*

To provide a comprehensive educational experience focused on students becoming contributing members of society.

## *Theory of Action*

### **If we...**

- Develop and implement an engaging, rigorous curriculum aligned with state standards
- Strengthen our instructional practices that promote purposeful student engagement in learning
- Provide a school climate that supports the social and emotional well-being of students and staff
  - Sustain and expand partnerships among families, schools, and community
    - Support academic growth by leveraging technology and digital resources to ensure our students are immersed in rich, authentic, relevant learning experiences that utilize *21st Century* skills

**Then,** we will prepare our students to be successful in both education and life.

# Projected Elementary Class Sizes – FY18

Ashby	Section 1	Section 2	Section 3	Section 4	Section 5	Average Class Size
<b>Kindergarten</b>	19	20				<b>19.5</b>
<b>Grade 1</b>	19	20				<b>19.5</b>
<b>Grade 2</b>	17	18				<b>17.5</b>
<b>Grade 3</b>	22	22				<b>20</b>
<b>Grade 4</b>	21	22				<b>21.5</b>

Spaulding	Section 1	Section 2	Section 3	Section 4	Section 5	Average Class Size
<b>Kindergarten</b>	20	20	20	20		<b>20</b>
<b>Grade 1</b>	20	20	20	21		<b>20.25</b>
<b>Grade 2</b>	20	21	22	22		<b>21.25</b>
<b>Grade 3</b>	20	20	20	20		<b>20</b>
<b>Grade 4</b>	21	22	22	23		<b>22</b>

Varnum	Section 1	Section 2	Section 3	Section 4	Section 5	Average Class Size
<b>Kindergarten</b>	20	20	20	20	20	<b>20</b>
<b>Grade 1</b>	19	19	19	19	19	<b>19</b>
<b>Grade 2</b>	21	21	22	22	22	<b>21.6</b>
<b>Grade 3</b>	21	22	22	22	22	<b>21.8</b>
<b>Grade 4</b>	23	24	24	24	24	<b>23.8</b>

# Projected Middle School Average Class Size – FY18

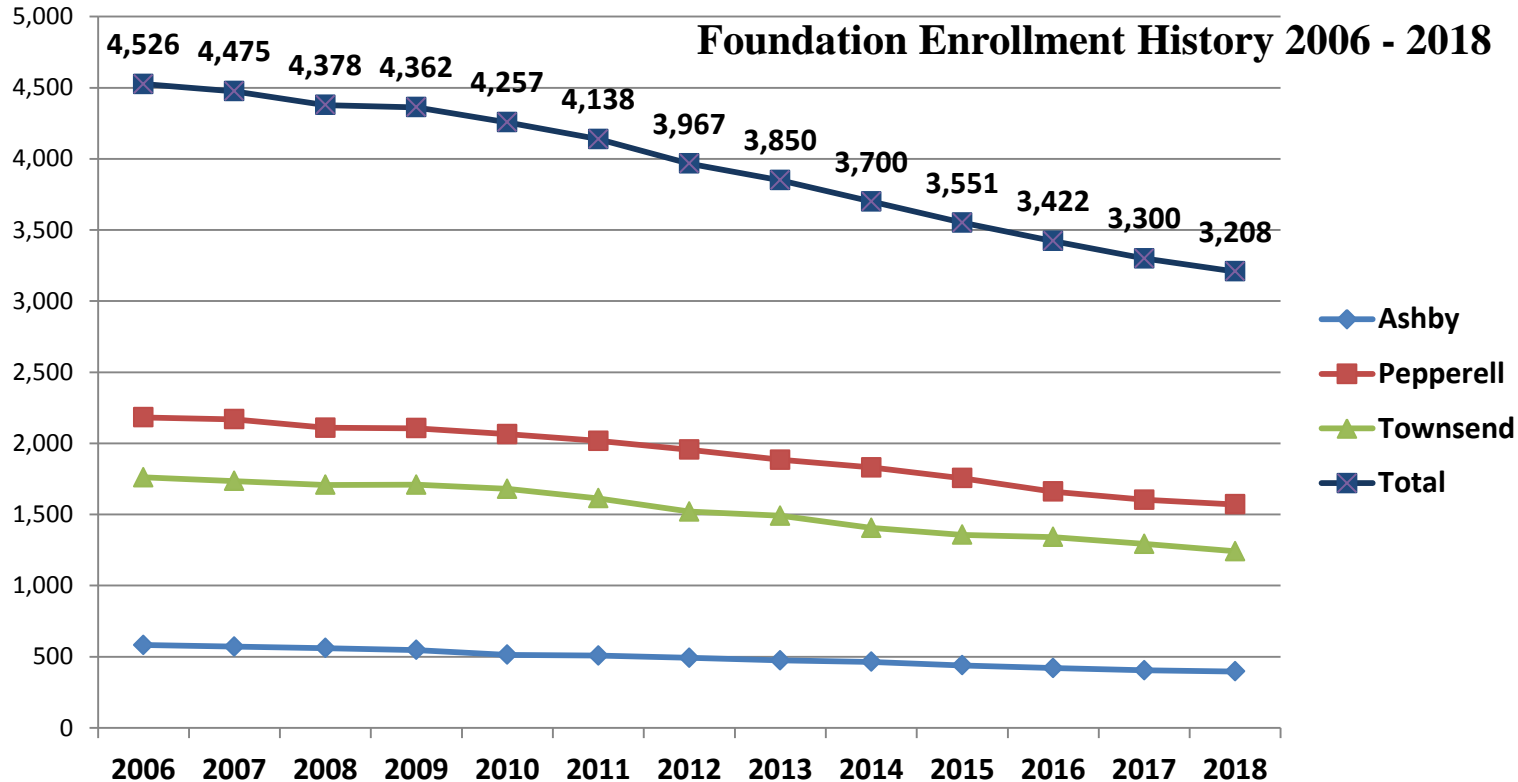
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Hawthorne Brook Middle School	Average Class Size
Grade 5	23.3
Grade 6	22.3
Grade 7	17.8
Grade 8	21

Nissitissit Middle School	Average Class Size
Grade 5	24.2
Grade 6	22
Grade 7	21.3
Grade 8	20.8

# Historical Enrollments



**North Middlesex Regional School District**

# FY18 Enrollment by Town

## Foundation Enrollment

2018 Budget	Enrollment	Apportionment
Ashby	396	12.35%
Pepperell	1,571	48.97%
Townsend	1,241	38.68%
Total	3,208	100%

2017 Budget	Enrollment	Apportionment
Ashby	404	12.24%
Pepperell	1,603	48.58%
Townsend	1,293	39.18%
Total	3,300	100%

# Capital Planning FY18

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## Priority

- DW ~ Upgrade to IP Based Phone System (lease)
- AES ~ Pump Room Upgrades
- HBMS ~ Playfield Renovations
- SECC ~ Playground Repair/Upgrades

## Major Projects

- Completion of the new high school
- Accelerated Repair Projects for Varnum Brook Elementary School, Hawthorne Brook Middle School, and Squannacook Early Childhood Center

# Highlights of FY18 Budget

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## ➤ Administration Changes:

- Employee assistance program
- Technology ~ Network Administrator 1.0 FTE

## ➤ Instructional Changes:

- Contractual salary increases
- HS ~ Technology Teacher ~ Media 1.0 FTE

## ➤ Pupil Services:

- Transportation ~ Special education transportation increases mainly due to in-district programs
- Regular Education Transportation ~ 1 year contract extension

## ➤ Operations & Maintenance:

- Requested custodian to be covered in revolving funds 1.0 FTE
- Savings in utilities (new HS on line)

## ➤ Debt Service ~ Final numbers to be determined ~ estimated HS coming online



# Highlights of FY 18 Budget

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## ➤ Insurance, Retirement & Other

- Opt-out savings, program substantially ends
- Overall insurance rates up 12%
- Lease of new phone system

## ➤ Out of District & Assessments:

- Increase in special education out-of-district costs
- Charter School assessment increases
- School Choice assessment increases

# NORTH MIDDLESEX REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

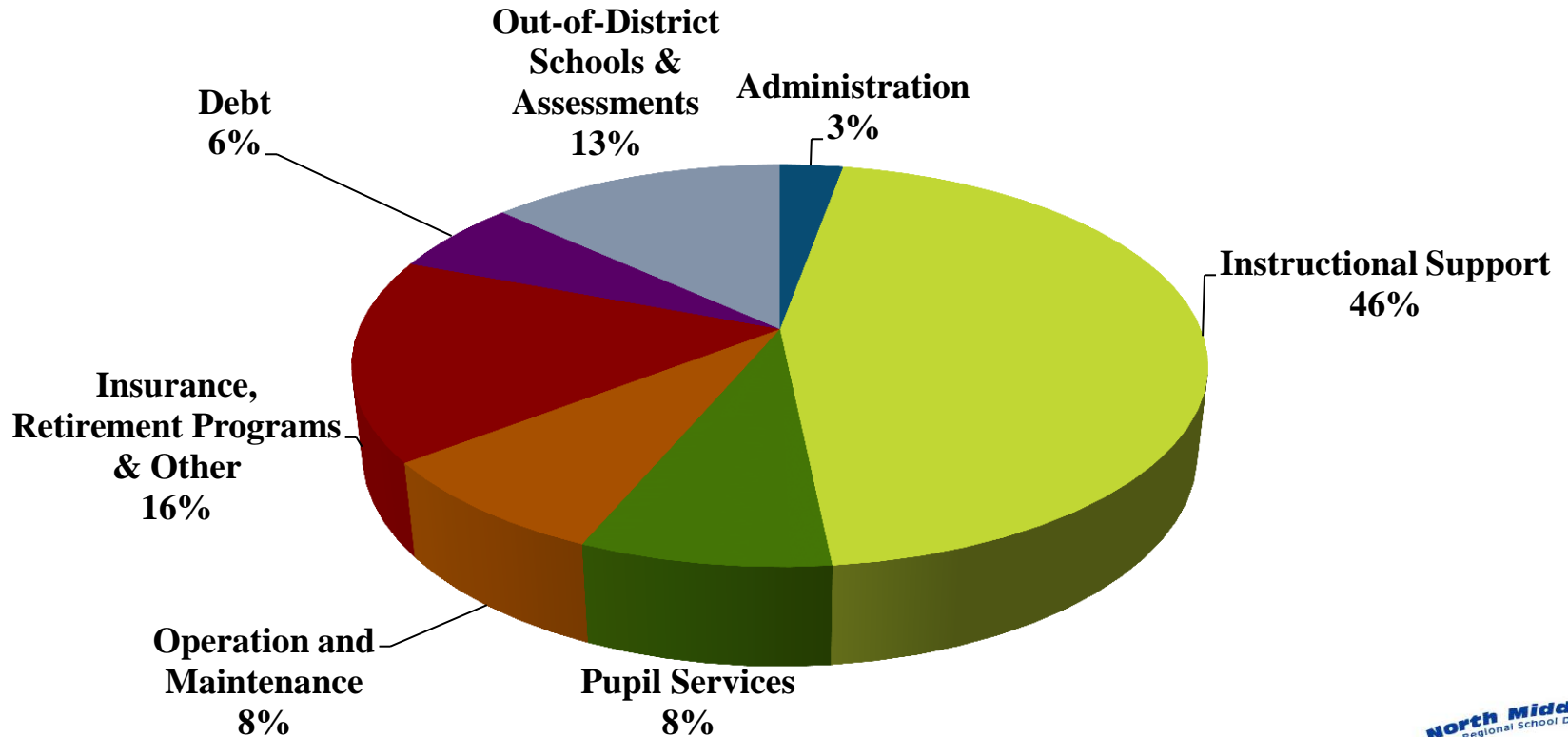


## Fiscal Year 2018 Budget Proposed

2/9/2017

Appropriation Category	FY16 Budget	FY17 Budget	FY18 Proposed	FY18 FTE Proposed
<b>Administration</b>	<b>\$1,302,666</b>	<b>\$1,423,911</b>	<b>1,496,716</b>	<b>15.20</b>
<b>Instructional Support:</b>	<b>\$22,664,044</b>	<b>\$23,223,718</b>	<b>24,070,281</b>	<b>376.20</b>
<i>Instructional Leadership</i>	\$2,102,027	\$2,182,149	2,229,144	23.50
<i>Classroom &amp; Specialist Teachers</i>	\$16,525,569	\$16,700,698	17,425,991	245.20
<i>Other Teaching Services</i>	\$3,077,976	\$3,411,835	3,458,864	107.50
<i>Professional Development</i>	\$192,550	\$162,550	165,556	-
<i>Instructional Materials, Equipment &amp; Technology</i>	\$765,922	\$766,486	790,726	-
<b>Pupil Services:</b>	<b>\$3,907,965</b>	<b>\$4,163,884</b>	<b>4,233,816</b>	<b>30.58</b>
<i>Guidance, Counseling &amp; Testing</i>	\$1,189,231	\$1,322,695	1,267,573	18.50
<i>Pupil Services</i>	\$2,718,734	\$2,841,189	2,966,243	12.08
<b>Operations &amp; Maintenance</b>	<b>\$4,227,767</b>	<b>\$4,251,245</b>	<b>4,304,388</b>	<b>29.50</b>
<b>Insurance, Retirement Programs &amp; Other</b>	<b>\$7,906,440</b>	<b>\$8,069,309</b>	<b>8,597,517</b>	<b>4.00</b>
<b>Debt</b>	<b>\$770,766</b>	<b>\$1,055,063</b>	<b>3,139,328</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Out-of District Schools &amp; Assessments</b>	<b>\$6,301,616</b>	<b>\$6,487,101</b>	<b>7,008,161</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total General Fund Appropriation</b>	<b>\$47,081,264</b>	<b>\$48,674,231</b>	<b>\$52,850,207</b>	<b>455.47</b>
	2.55%	3.38%	8.58%	
	\$46,310,498	\$ 47,619,168	\$ 49,710,879	
Increase without Debt Service		2.83%	4.39%	

# FY18 Budget Breakdown



# Assumptions in FY18 Budget

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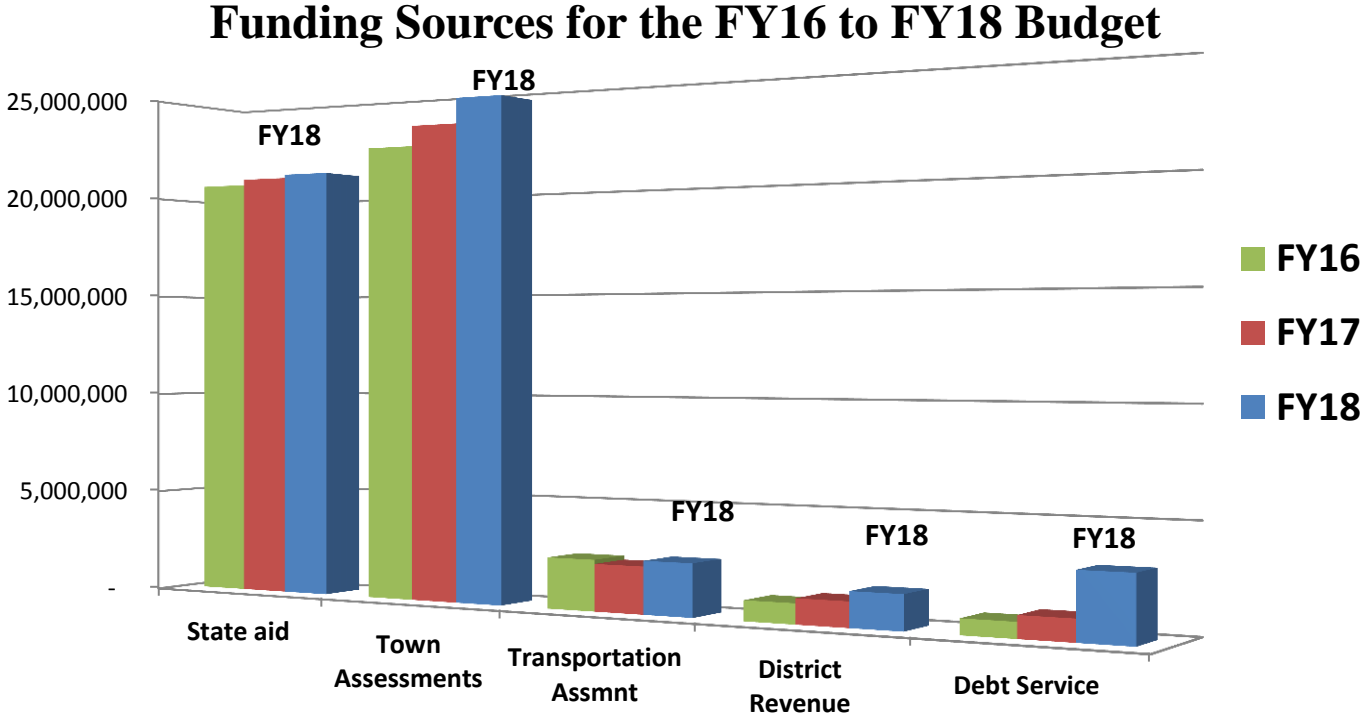
- Revenue projected is using Governor's numbers for Chapter 70 funding, Chapter 71 transportation reimbursement, charter school and school choice reimbursements
- Collective bargaining for teachers, nurses, paraprofessionals, clerical ~ year 3
- Effort to keep new requests at a minimum knowing revenue constraints
- Utilization of revolving funds to support athletics, before & after school programs, preschool, tuition-in students and building use funds
- School Choice In – (students into district) at the same level as other years
- Cafeteria program remains self-sustaining relying on fees
- Athletics relies on 70% general fund and 30% revolving fund
- Preschool remains located at VBES for FY18

# Assumptions in FY18 Budget

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- 75% / 25% contribution rate district wide
- Assumes slight reduction of Federal IDEA Special Ed Grant, 262  
Preschool Grant supports one teacher
- Natural Gas & Electric estimates of usage for new high school. The renewal of utility contracts at approximately the same rate
- Renewal contract with existing special education transportation vendor
- Governor's numbers with increase in charter school enrollment

# Funding Sources for the FY16 to FY18 Budget





<b>North Middlesex FY18 Budget - Revenue Sources</b>	
State Aid	21,139,298
Other District Revenue (including School Choice In)	1,640,443
MSBA Debt Payments	0
<b>Total State Aid &amp; Other</b>	<b>22,779,741</b>
Town Assessments	
Ashby	2,975,268
Pepperell	12,274,739
Townsend	9,239,413
<b>Total Assessments</b>	<b>24,489,420</b>
Transportation Assessment	
Ashby	309,448
Pepperell	1,227,632
Townsend	969,759
<b>Total Transportation Assessment</b>	<b>2,506,839</b>
DEBT Assessment	
Ashby	440,885
Pepperell	1,502,577
Townsend	1,061,413
Use of Bond Premium	69,333
<b>Total Debt Assessment</b>	<b>3,074,208</b>
<b>TOTAL ALL GENERAL FUND REVENUE</b>	<b>\$ 52,850,208</b>

# State Revenue/District Revenue ~ FY18

	FY17	FY18	Change	Percent
STATE AID REVENUE	Adopted	Estimates	FY17 to FY18	FY17 to FY18
Chapter 70 Aid	19,991,993	20,171,653	179,660	0.90%
Chapter 71 Transportation Aid	869,000	858,362	-10,638	-1.22%
Charter Reimbursement	110,606	109,283	-1,323	-1.20%
<b>Total State Aid Revenue</b>	<b>20,971,599</b>	<b>21,139,298</b>	<b>167,699</b>	<b>0.80%</b>

	FY17	FY18	Change	Percent
DISTRICT REVENUE	Adopted	Estimates	FY17 to FY18	FY17 to FY18
Excess & Deficiency (E&D)	490,000	883,000	393,000	80.20%
Medicaid Reimbursement	220,000	220,000	0	0.00%
School Choice	467,037	528,943	61,906	13.26%
Investment Income	8,000	8,500	500	6.25%
Other - Bond Premium	0	0	0	100.00%
<b>Total District Revenue</b>	<b>1,185,037</b>	<b>1,640,443</b>	<b>455,406</b>	<b>38.43%</b>



# Projected Local Revenue

## Operating & Transportation - FY18

	FY17	FY18	Change	Percent
	Adopted	Estimates	FY17 to FY18	FY15 to FY16
<b>Total Operating Assessment</b>				
Ashby	2,869,099	2,975,268	106,169	3.70%
Pepperell	11,687,718	12,274,739	587,021	5.02%
Townsend	8,695,208	9,239,413	544,205	6.26%
<b>Total Operating Assessment</b>	23,252,025	24,489,420	1,237,395	5.32%

	FY17	FY18	Change	Percent
	Adopted	Estimates	FY17 to FY18	FY17 to FY18
<b>Transportation Assessment</b>				
Ashby	274,316	309,448	35,132	12.81%
Pepperell	1,088,437	1,227,632	139,195	12.79%
Townsend	877,947	969,759	91,812	10.46%
<b>Total Transportation Assessment</b>	2,240,700	2,506,839	266,139	11.88%

# Total Assessments & Long-Term Debt Service

	FY17	FY18	Change	Percent
TOTAL LOCAL REVENUE	Adopted	Estimates	FY17 to FY18	FY17 to FY18
Ashby	3,143,415	3,284,716	141,301	4.50%
Pepperell	12,776,155	13,502,371	726,216	5.68%
Townsend	9,573,155	10,209,172	636,017	6.64%
<b>Total Local Revenue</b>	<b>25,492,725</b>	<b>26,996,258</b>	<b>1,503,533</b>	<b>5.90%</b>

## Long-term Debt Assessment \*\*

Ashby	201,250	440,885	239,635	119.07%
Pepperell	584,342	1,502,577	918,235	157.14%
Townsend	239,278	1,061,413	822,135	343.59%
Premium Used for Interest Payment		69,333	69,333	
<b>Total Long-Term Debt Assessment</b>	<b>1,024,870</b>	<b>3,074,208</b>	<b>2,049,338</b>	<b>199.96%</b>

\*\*Draft Only for Debt Service

# FY18 Budget Drivers/Challenges Summary

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- **Benefits /Contractual Obligations**

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- **Facilities and FY18 Capital Needs**

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- **Staffing Levels to Support Technology & Facilities**
  - **Declining Enrollments**
  - **State Aid**

# Conclusions

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- Continue to maintain mental health supports for students with special needs and social/emotional needs
- Includes operational cost estimates for the new high school
- Includes an EAP (Employee Assistance Program)
- Shift in teaching staff to Nissitissit Middle School to meet diverse level of needs of the students
- Dedicated line for ELL students that addresses curriculum assessment, and instructional needs
- Maintain low-class sizes in elementary and middle schools

# Input Welcome

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Questions/Comments

Email comments/questions to

[info@nmrsd.org](mailto:info@nmrsd.org)

Call 978-597-8713 x 1404