



Vernon School District



Budget Information



A few updates on important issues:

ACT 46

- Vernon still remains its own district.
- The towns of Brattleboro, Dummerston, Guilford and Putney are now part of the new Windham Southeast School District (WSESD).
- Both Vernon and the WSESD remain under the umbrella of the Windham Southeast Supervisory Union (WSESU).



Windham Southeast Supervisory Union

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Vernon School
District

Windham
Southeast
School District

- Local School Board
- Budgetary authority for our facility.
- Choice for our 7 -12th grade students.

(Formerly the separate districts of
BUHS#6, Brattleboro Town,
Dummerston, Guilford and Putney)

How does the School Board create the budget?

Our goal is to best serve the increasing needs of our 300+ students while balancing affordability for our taxpayers.

We keep an eye out for future legislative changes that may impact us financially.

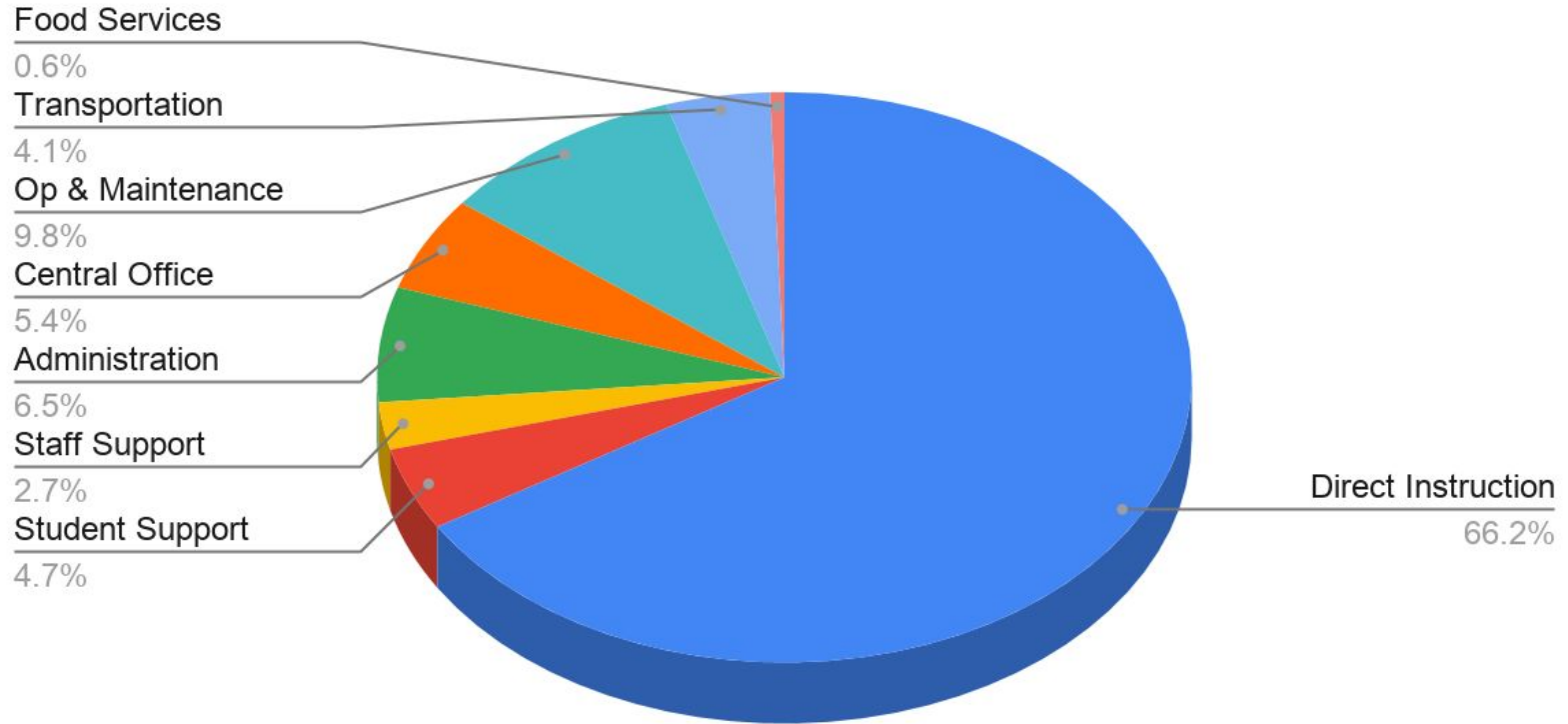
We review each line item to look for all possible reductions.

This is a collaboration between the Board, our Principal, our staff and the Central Office.

The article you are voting on states:

“Shall the voters of the Vernon Town School District approve the School Board to expend **\$6,353,800**, which is the amount the Vernon Town School Board has determined to be necessary for the ensuing fiscal year? It is determined that this proposed budget, if approved, will result in education spending of **\$17,178** per equalized pupil. This projected spending per equalized pupil is **5.8%** higher than spending for the current year.”

How the money will be spent in our building



So why the increase in Per Pupil Spending?

- Tuition that we pay for our 7 - 12 graders is up \$177,607. (see page 58 of your Town Report.)
- Health Insurance is up 10% or \$31,129. These rates are now being negotiated at the state level.
- An increase in Special Education costs of \$327,314. (see page 58 of your Town Report.)

Why such an increase in Special Education?

- We are not unique in this position. The Special Education budget for the Supervisory Union is increasing 20.5% to a total cost of \$14.3 million.
- As we have moved fully to a tuition based system with BUHS, we are now paying for the full costs of our 7-12 grade students.

So can the Board lessen the tax impact?

YES - We chose NOT to add to our capital fund in this budget.

Normally we allocate \$50,000 yearly.

Our capital fund balance is healthy and we feel these funds can be held for one year to lessen the tax impact of the increased costs.

ALSO - We chose to INCREASE the amount of funds used from our General Fund reserve.

For the past 2 years, we allocated \$150,000 of previous fund balances.

This year we have chosen to use an additional \$120,000 for a total of \$270,000.

How this impacts your School tax bill

Housesite Value	Increase* over last year
\$100,000	\$98
\$150,000	\$146
\$200,000	\$195
\$250,000	\$244

*This is the maximum increase if you pay taxes based on assessed value.

Households with income in 2018 of less than \$136,500 were eligible to receive property tax credits applied to their 2019-2020 (FY20) property tax bills. Almost 70% of Vermont resident households received a credit this year.

Voting information - Tuesday, March 3rd

- Early voting has started at the Town Clerk's Office.
- Polls will be open from 7 am to 7 pm on election day.
- Questions – contact Tim at the Town Clerk's office.

Questions about the budget?

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