

## **Budget Planning**

The major portion of income for the operation of the public schools is derived from the local property taxes, and the School Committee will attempt to protect the valid interest of the taxpayer. However, the first priority in the development of an annual budget will be the educational welfare of the children in our schools.

Budget decisions reflect the attitude and philosophy of those charged with the responsibility for educational decision-making. Therefore, a sound budget development process must be established to ensure that the annual operating budget accurately reflects this school system's goals and objectives.

In the budget planning process for the school system, the School Committee will strive to do the following:

1. Engage in thorough advance planning, with staff and community involvement, in order to develop budgets and guide expenditures in a manner that will achieve the greatest educational returns and contributions to the educational program in relation to dollars expended.
2. Establish levels of funding that will provide high-quality education for all our students.
3. Use the appropriate techniques for budget development and management.

The Superintendent will have overall responsibility for budget preparation, including the construction of and adherence to a budget calendar.

ADOPTED: December 5, 1988

AMENDED: September 11, 2006