

## **Hingham Public Schools**

### **Guiding Principles for the Development of the FY '17 School Committee's Adopted Budgets**

#### The adopted budget of the School Committee will:

1. reflect the district mission, SC priorities, and community expectations for excellence and equitable access to education for all students, and also respond to identified needs resulting from enrollment growth and new demographic trends, increased mandates, and special education costs, while acknowledging fiscal realities, competing priorities, and other Town-wide needs.
2. reflect known contractual obligations, professional development and mentoring needs, and staff supervision and support provisions to further the district's goal of attracting, developing, and retaining a highly qualified and adequately supported administration, faculty, and support staff.
3. fund state and federal mandates and DESE regulations, including tuitions, transportation and other costs related to special education, ELE laws, MA accountability determinations, MA standards related curriculum adoptions, and expenses related to the new Educator Evaluation System, and other legal mandates including fingerprinting.
4. fund the maintenance of, and capital improvements to, school buildings and properties, acquisition or replacement/upgrading of specialized equipment, and needed infrastructure for technology enhancements.
5. fund projected utilities/energy costs and contracted services (such as those for transportation), preventive maintenance projects, and proactive assessment and planning for facilities and space needs.
6. reflect cost effective approaches to acquiring, managing, and maintaining educational and facilities resources and include appropriate documentation of needs.
7. reflect gross costs as they are known or projected but then offset by anticipated revenues, state and federal grants, circuit breaker and revolving account allocations in functions where they are applicable.

Approved by SC 10/5/2015

Numbering of principles is for reference only and does not represent a priority order.