

File: DBD

## **BUDGET DEVELOPMENT PROCESS**

The first priority in the development of an annual budget will be the educational welfare of the students. However, the HPS District will also attempt to balance the valid interest of the taxpayers.

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 District's goals and objectives.

The budget document shall reflect all sources of revenue. It shall clearly explain how those funds will be used.

In the budget planning process for the District, the Superintendent will strive to:

1. Engage in thorough advance planning, with staff and (other town committees), 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 generally accepted accounting principles for budget development and management.

The School Council Annual School Improvement Plans will serve as a vehicle through which the Committee will receive input and consider the budget impact of School Council planning. School Councils shall annually review their school budget.

The Superintendent will have overall responsibility for budget preparation, including the construction of, and adherence to, a budget calendar, which shall be submitted to the Committee on or before October 1 of each year.

LEGAL REF.: M.G.L. 71:59C

*This policy was updated and approved by the Hingham School Committee on 4/25/22*