



Verona Board of Education

Public Budget Hearing 2024-2025

April 30, 2024

Presented by:

Diane DiGiuseppe, Superintendent

Mr. Jorge Cruz, School Business Administrator

BUDGET TIMELINE



| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| December 2023 | Administrative team identifies 2024-2025 budgetary needs |
| January 2024 | Building budgets submitted to Superintendent of Schools for review |
| February - April 2024 | Board of Education Finance Committee meets to discuss budget requests |
| March 12, 2024 | Board of Education Public Meeting adopts the tentative 2024-2025 school budget - <i>Approved by County Supt. on April 11, 2024</i> |
| April 30, 2024 | Adoption of final public budget with Final Budget Presentation |

Mission Statement



To empower our students to cultivate their intellectual curiosity and social responsibility.





Budgetary Goals

- Maintain class sizes within policy guidelines
- Provide Additional Programs for 2024-25:
 - Staffing adjustments to support program enhancements in General & Special Education, the Arts & Athletics
 - Professional Development
- Continue to expand special education at the elementary schools





New for 2024-25

- Additional Special Education Teacher - ES (1.0 FTE)
- Kindergarten Teacher (1.0 FTE)
- ESL (0.5 FTE)
- SAC - VHS (0.5 FTE)
- Expand Professional Development



Projected Increase in Revenue 2024-25

| | |
|------------------------------|----------------|
| 2.52% Inc. in Tax Levy | \$950,232 |
| Proj. Inc. in Other Revenues | \$431,500 |
| Est. Inc. in State Aid | <u>296,995</u> |

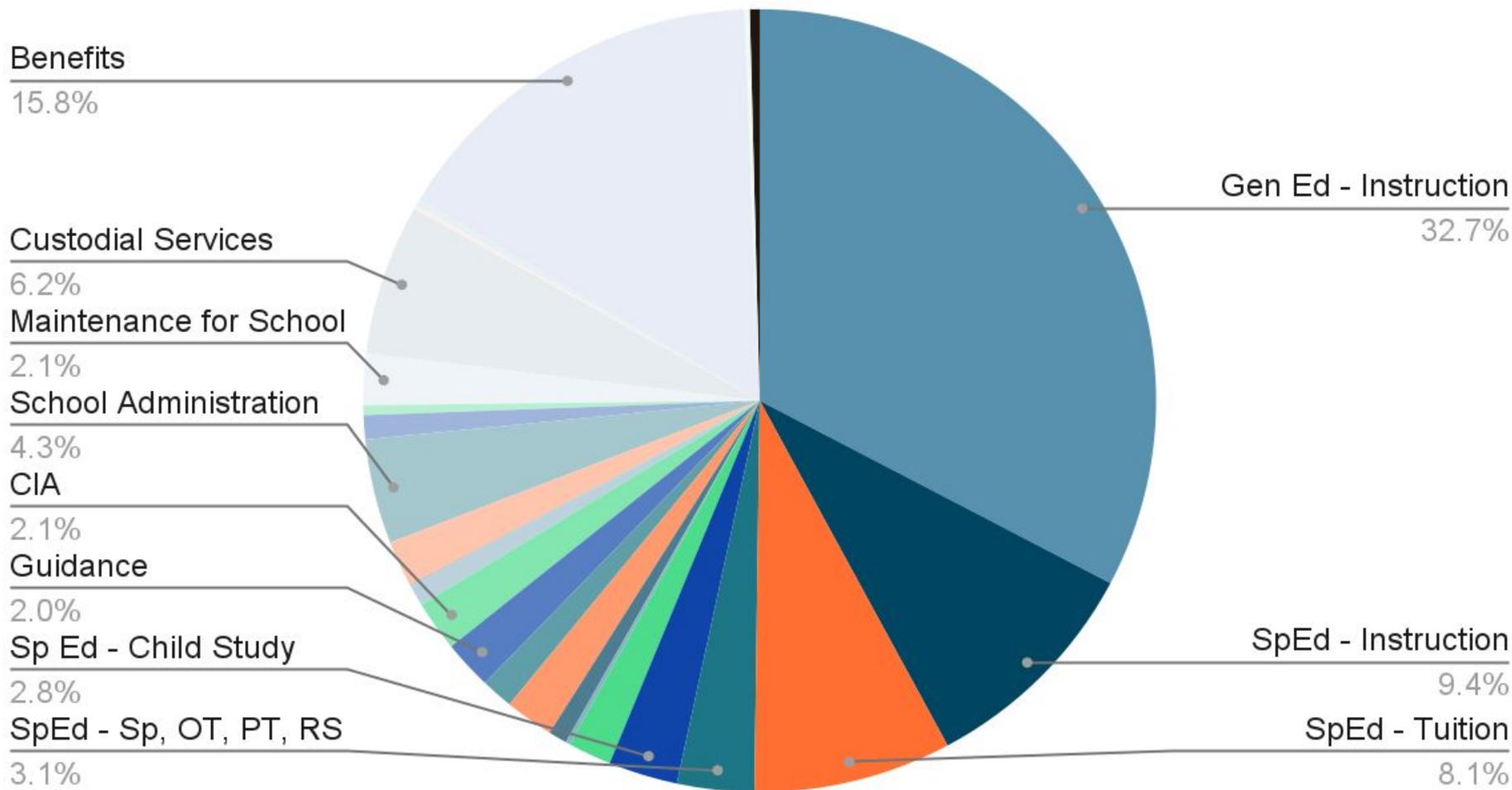
| | |
|--------------------------------|------------------|
| Total Est. Inc. in Revenue | \$1,678,727 |
| Excess Surplus (FY23 Fund Bal) | <u>1,480,087</u> |
| Est. Revenue | \$3,158,814 |

Revenue Comparison

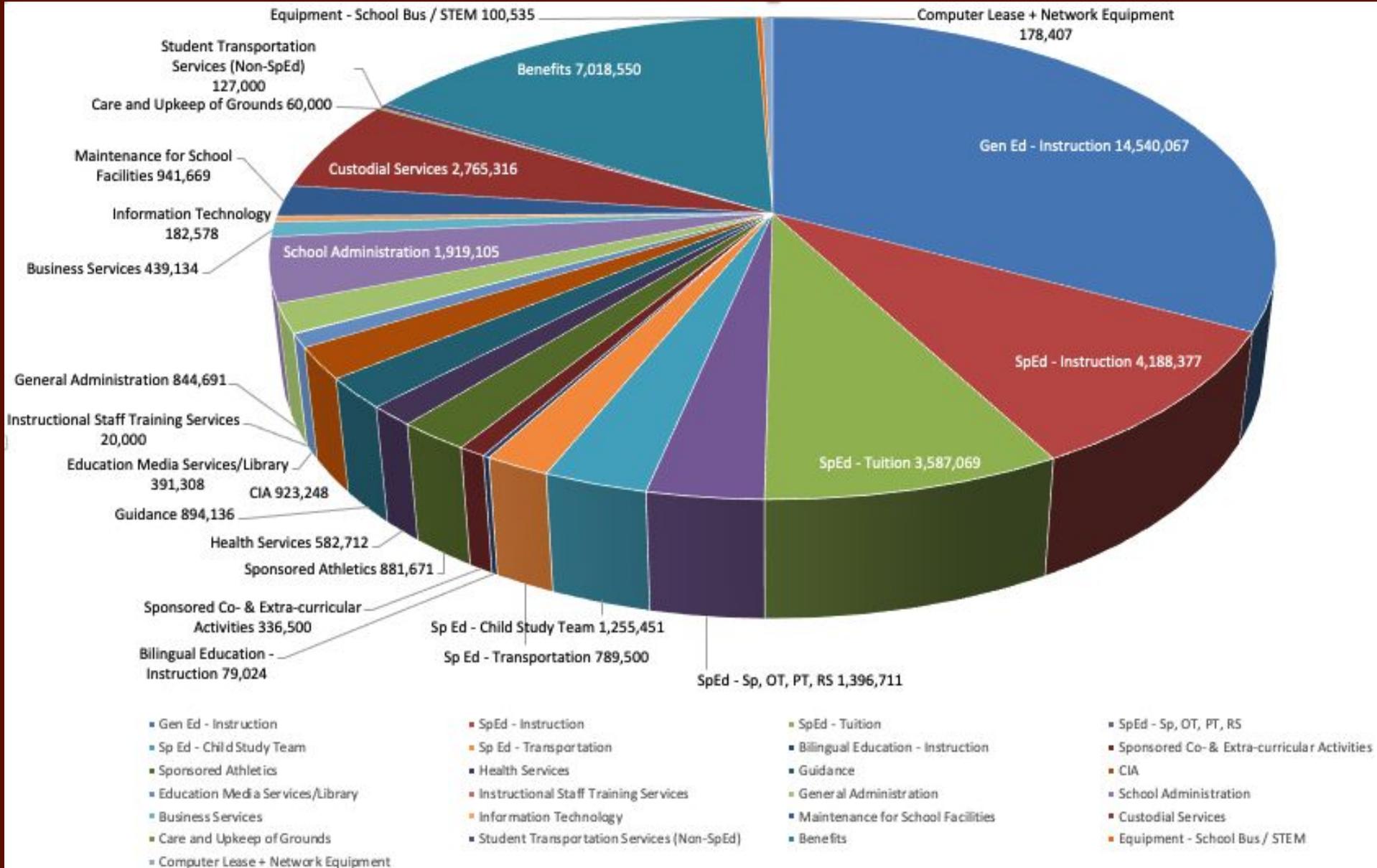
| REVENUE SOURCE | 2022-2023 ADOPTED | 2023-2024 ADOPTED | 2024-2025 BUDGETED | 1 YEAR CHANGE | 1 YEAR % CHANGE |
|-----------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------|---------------|-----------------|
| TAX LEVY | \$36,346,832 | \$37,374,215 | \$38,398,337 | \$752,909 | 2.00% |
| BANKED CAP / HEALTH | \$294,555 | \$271,213 | \$197,323 | (\$73,890) | -27.24% |
| STATE AID | \$2,263,911 | \$2,601,365 | \$2,898,360 | \$296,995 | 11.42% |
| EX AID | \$600,000 | \$668,500 | \$1,000,000 | \$331,500 | 49.59% |
| SEMI | | | \$18,652 | \$18,652 | 100% |
| TUITION REVENUE | \$55,000 | \$110,000 | \$140,000 | \$30,000 | 27.27% |
| MISC. & INT. REVENUE | \$104,000 | \$240,000 | \$310,000 | \$70,000 | 29.17% |
| BUDGETED FUND BALANCE | \$912,938 | \$903,334 | \$1,480,087 | \$576,753 | 63.85% |
| TOTAL | \$40,577,236 | \$42,168,627 | \$44,442,759 | \$2,274,132 | 5.39% |

2024-2025 PROPOSED EXPENDITURES

FY25 Total Expenditures: \$44,442,759



2024-2025 PROPOSED EXPENDITURES



Expenditure Comparison

| | 2022-2023 ADOPTED | 2023-2024 ADOPTED | 2024-2025 BUDGETED | 1 YEAR CHANGE |
|--|----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| SALARIES | \$21,059,045 | \$20,793,859 | \$21,308,144 | 2.47% |
| BENEFITS | \$6,009,763 | \$6,588,182 | \$7,018,550 | 6.53% |
| SPECIAL EDUCATION (Salaries & Programs) | \$9,491,311 | \$10,138,409 | \$11,217,108 | 10.64% |
| GENERAL SERVICES - INSTRUCTION (regular classroom, co-curricular & athletics) | \$979,600 | \$1,050,114 | \$1,967,445 | 87.36% |
| GENERAL SERVICES - SUPPORT (professional development, curriculum writing, custodial and maintenance supplies, leases, etc.) | \$3,037,517 | \$3,598,063 | \$2,931,512 | -18.53% |
| TOTAL | \$40,577,236 | \$42,168,627 | \$44,442,759 | 5.39% |

2024-2025 CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION INITIATIVES

- Professional learning with K-4 teachers focusing on literacy
 - Review elementary literacy programs to support 2024 NJSLs
- Professional learning with K-8, Algebra I, Geometry and Algebra II to support Singapore Math Programs (*Dimensions* K-5 and *Amplify* in grades 6-11.)
- Support new social studies series K-4, History Alive, in year 3 of implementation
- Support inquiry-based science K-8 STC Curriculum
- Year 3 of Language Essentials for Teachers of Reading and Spelling (LETRS) training
- Administer MAP Growth Assessments in math and reading to students in grades 1-8, and Algebra 1 at VHS.
- Curriculum writing - update curricula according to the 5-year cycle

2024-2025 CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION INITIATIVES

- Full Year Pilot - The Positivity Project Character Education at HBW
- District-wide Professional Development
 - Taxonomy of the Standards (Year 2)
 - Working in Professional Learning Communities
 - Focused Teacher Instructional and Evaluation Model
 - Differentiating Instruction
 - Multi-Tiered System of Supports/Response to Intervention
 - Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging

SPECIAL SERVICES 2024-2025 PLANS

| PROGRAM CONTINUITY | ADDITIONAL SERVICES | INITIATIVES |
|---|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Language Sensory Social Program (LSS) (PreK-8) • Learning Language Disability Program (LLD) (PreK-12) • Resource Room Replacement (RR) (2-12) • Supplemental Instruction Push in and Pull out (SI) (PreK -4) • In Class Instruction (ICI) (3-12 as needed) • Supplemental Aides and Services (PreK-12) • Extended School Year (ESY) (PreK-12) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Related Services (PreK-12) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speech/Language • Counseling • OT • PT • 1.5 FTE District Behavior Analyst • Elementary Academic Success and Engagement Program - ASE Counselor • Professional Development to support District's initiatives & programs • Sensory Rooms • CarePlus NJ Therapeutic Services (5-12) • Purchases of supplies and materials for instructional purposes | <p>Development of VHS LLD Life Skills Program</p> <p>Increase ICI in grade 4</p> <p>Additional staff member based upon department needs</p> <p>Paraprofessional and Registered Behavior Technician Monitoring and Training</p> |

COMPARABLE DISTRICTS

(Based on most recent update on State data website Taxpayers Guide to Education Spending 2023)

| SCHOOL DISTRICTS | BUDGETARY PER PUPIL COST | CLASSROOM SUPPLIES | EXTRA-CURRICULAR | AVERAGE PROPERTY TAXES |
|------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|------------------|------------------------|
| BERKELEY HEIGHTS TWP | \$20,729 | \$144 | \$756 | \$13,381 |
| CALDWELL-WEST CALDWELL | \$19,090 | \$508 | \$652 | \$12,068 |
| GLEN RIDGE BORO | \$17,679 | \$405 | \$626 | \$22,605 |
| KINNELON BORO | \$23,136 | \$272 | \$778 | \$16,427 |
| MADISON BORO | \$18,318 | \$337 | \$591 | \$14,301 |
| MAHWAH TWP | \$22,855 | \$389 | \$638 | \$9,794 |
| NEW PROVIDENCE | \$17,574 | \$480 | \$640 | \$15,265 |
| RAMSEY BORO | \$24,957 | \$474 | \$677 | \$14,589 |
| VERONA BORO | \$17,069 | \$284 | \$614 | \$13,258 |

Tax Levy Increase

| Fund | 2022-2023 | 2023-2024 | 2024-2025 | 1-Yr Increase |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| General Fund | \$36,641,387 | \$37,645,428 | \$38,595,660 | \$950,232 |
| Debt Service | \$3,777,290 | \$3,818,579 | \$3,824,183 | \$5,604 |
| Total | \$40,418,677 | \$41,464,007 | \$42,419,843 | \$955,836 |

Estimated Impact on Homeowners

| Town Total Value | 2024 Budget Tax Levy | Rate | Avg. Home | School Taxes on Avg. Home | Increase Over Prior Fiscal Year |
|------------------|----------------------|---------|-----------|---------------------------|---------------------------------|
| \$2,400,934,100 | \$42,419,843 | 0.01767 | \$434,575 | \$7,678.10 | \$161.12 |

Impact on Avg. Homeowner: \$161.12

BUDGET FACTS

- The general fund tax levy increase is 2.52% compared to prior year
- Tax increase is approximately \$161.12 per household
- The 2024 average assessed home is \$434,575
- The average school tax paid by residents last year was \$7,517
- Tax rates per \$100 of assessed valuation is \$1.77 for schools

Questions

