

PLYMOUTH PUBLIC SCHOOLS
ANNUAL BUDGET

The school department budget is the instrument by which the financial resources of the town are allocated to the many educational programs, and as such, is an important expression of educational policy available to the School Committee. Therefore, all members of the school department should be encouraged to have a voice in the preparation of the budget for presentation to the Annual Town Meeting.

- 1.0 The initial role of the School Committee shall be to establish annual school system budget assumptions and guidelines as to the overall amount of the budget as best it can determine from the recommendations of the Superintendent and its own assessment of the educational needs of the town and the available fiscal resources, ensuring that the necessary funds are appropriated for the district.
- 2.0 The Superintendent and his/her staff shall prepare the budget in such form as to accurately show the proposed allocation of resources among the cost centers and school programs in such form as set out by the Superintendent or as directed by the School Committee.
- 3.0 The budget instrument shall provide meaningful comparisons to the previous year's budget, including -- but not limited to -- previous amounts budgeted, actual, school enrollment, and other valid considerations.
- 4.0 Prior to final approval, the School Committee shall consider the budget in sufficient detail to assure itself that sound fiscal and educational guidelines are met. If any item is approved contrary to the recommendation of the Superintendent, pertinent details shall be included in the minutes. The School Committee will vote a total budget comprised of allocations assigned to cost centers.
- 5.0 Additional funds may be obligated only if voted by the School Committee, contingent upon subsequent approval by a Special Town Meeting or approval by the Finance Committee of a reserve fund transfer.

LEGAL REFS.: M.G.L. 15:1G; 71:38N; 71:59

Adopted:

Information: January 26, 2009
Discussion: January 26, 2009
Adopted: January 26, 2009

Reviewed:

Information: February 7, 2011
Discussion: February 7, 2011
Approval: February 7, 2011

Reviewed:

Information: February 22, 2016
Discussion: February 22, 2016
No Changes: February 22, 2016

Revised:

Policy Committee Meeting Date: November 26, 2019
School Committee Discussion: December 16, 2019
School Committee Approval: December 16, 2019