

Mt. Blue Regional School District
227 Main Street
Farmington, ME 04938



“Matching resources to student needs!”

Please be on the lookout for a second mailing which will break down the individual Budget Articles. Based on feedback from voters, we hope the format gives community members a clearer understanding of each Budget Article.

A Message from the RSU 9 School Board

The RSU 9 Board of Directors is presenting its proposed 2026-2027 (FY 27) District Budget, a document thoughtfully developed through the careful, dedicated work of the Board’s Budget Committee. The committee, in collaboration with administrators, focused on identifying and prioritizing essential needs.

To be fiscally responsible, the committee undertook the difficult task of directing the administration to identify potential budget reductions. This objective was carefully framed to be sure that both student well-being and the district’s strategic plan were prioritized. Following a detailed review, the Board voted on Tuesday, April 14th to approve the Budget Committee’s recommended budget for presentation to the voters.

As School Board Chair, I encourage each eligible voter in our district to cast their ballot on the upcoming school budget. Please exercise your civic duty, as your vote directly impacts the quality of education our children receive. Your voice matters in determining the future of our schools, so please take the time to learn about the proposed budget and make an informed decision. Let’s work together to make sure our students have the resources they need to succeed!

*Thank you,
Gwen Doak, RSU 9 Board Chair*

Annual Budget Meeting

Tuesday, May 26, 2026 • 7:00 PM
Bjorn Auditorium • Mt. Blue Campus
129 Seamon Road • Farmington, Maine 04938

We hope you find the information presented in the RSU 9 Budget Review Newsletter helpful. We look forward to your attendance and questions at the Annual Budget Meeting at 7:00 PM on Tuesday, May 26, 2026 in the Bjorn Auditorium at Mt. Blue Campus.

2026-2027 RSU 9 Proposed Budget

\$46,229,943

(FY26 Budget was \$45,548,396)

1.50% increase (budget to budget)
1.29% average increase (to taxpayers)

In March of 2026, a review of a dozen other Western Maine school districts showed overall potential budget increases ranging from 1.10% to 12.39%. The taxpayer increases for these districts range from 2% to 12.7%.

Cost of the RSU 9 Budget to Taxpayers (Including Adult Education)

Town	% Increase or (Decrease) to Local Taxes	\$\$ Increase or (Decrease) to Towns
Chesterville	1.62%	\$19,613
Farmington	3.80%	\$209,161
Industry	(0.45%)	(\$5,018)
New Sharon	(2.29%)	(\$25,885)
New Vineyard	1.58%	\$14,346
Starks	4.76%	\$28,999
Temple	(4.93%)	(\$24,259)
Vienna	3.89%	\$31,730
Weld	(8.80%)	(\$58,061)
Wilton	0.27%	\$8,206

A town’s contribution to a school system is based on State property assessed values. The amounts above are determined by the State funding formula. CTE does not impact the local contribution.

Town	Location
Chesterville	Dave Archer Town Hall
Farmington	Community Center
Industry	Town Hall
New Sharon	Town Office
New Vineyard	Town Office
Starks	Community Center
Temple	Town hall
Vienna	Community Rm/ Fire Dept.
Weld	Multi-Purpose Room
Wilton	Town Office

June 9, 2026 Referendum Polling Locations by Municipality.

**All Polling locations
will be open from
8:00 AM to 8:00PM**

Please contact your town office with any questions about polling locations or hours.

**Local Postal
Customer**

PSRT STD
ECRWSS
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
EDDM RETAIL

*2026 - 2027 Proposed Town Assessments for Education

Town	2025-26 Assessment	Proposed Assessment	Increase (Decrease)	% Change
Chesterville	\$1,207,841.82	\$1,227,455.13	19,613	1.62%
Farmington	\$5,500,235.50	\$5,709,396.47	209,161	3.80%
Industry	\$1,121,002.60	\$1,115,984.38	(5,018)	(0.45%)
New Sharon	\$1,129,866.34	\$1,103,981.80	(25,885)	(2.29%)
New Vineyard	\$908,703.80	\$923,049.31	14,346	1.58%
Starks	\$609,201.21	\$638,200.60	28,999	4.76%
Temple	\$492,232.06	\$467,972.84	(24,259)	(4.93%)
Vienna	\$815,217.55	\$846,947.87	31,730	3.89%
Weld	\$659,906.38	\$601,845.54	(58,061)	(8.80%)
Wilton	\$2,986,948.41	\$2,995,153.94	8,206	0.27%
TOTALS	\$15,431,156	\$15,629,988	\$198,832	1.29%

*(Includes Adult Education)

**2026-2027 Revenue

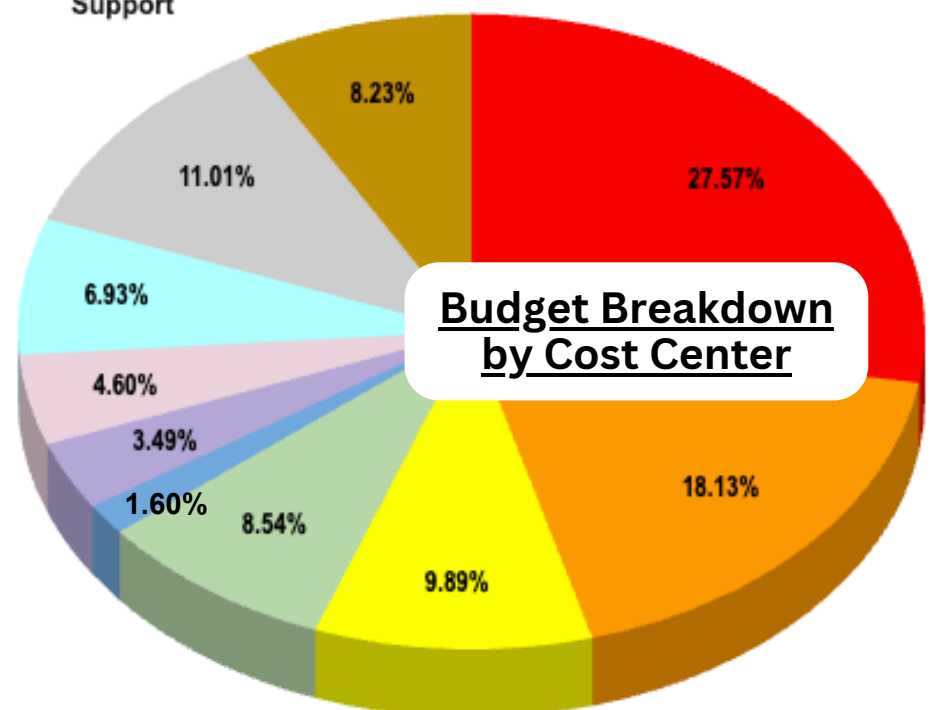
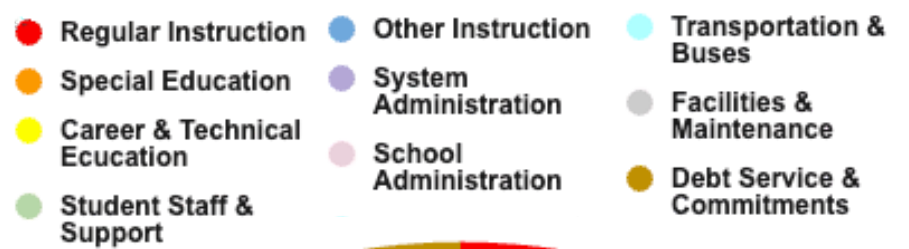
State Allocation:	\$27,215,492
Local Contribution:	\$15,417,113
Balance Forward:	\$1,200,000
CTE Carry Forward:	\$750,359
Other Revenue:	\$1,646,980

** (Does not include Adult Education)

Articles & Voting Information

The following table corresponds to Articles 1-11, to see what sum the RSU will be authorized to expend for individual cost centers.

Budget Category	Proposed Budget 2026-2027	\$\$ Increase/ (Decrease)	% Change
1. Regular Instruction	\$12,747,346	(\$382,555)	(2.91%)
2. Special Education	\$8,382,418	\$280,636	3.46%
3. Career & Technical Education	\$4,573,477	\$302,073	7.07%
4. Student Staff & Support	\$3,949,167	\$247,047	6.67%
5. Other Instruction	\$737,414	\$56,515	8.30%
6. System Administration	\$1,613,903	\$87,811	5.75%
7. School Administration	\$2,128,267	\$140,655	7.08%
8. Transportation & Buses	\$3,205,387	\$46,842	1.48%
9. Facilities & Maintenance	\$5,087,918	(\$28,937)	(0.57%)
10. Debt Service & Commitments	\$3,804,646	(\$68,540)	(1.77%)
11. All Other Expenditures	\$0	\$0	0.00%



Article 12: State/Local EPS Funding Allocation: Provides the district with state subsidy for the 2026-2027 school year. The school Board recommends amounts set forth in the table below.

Municipality	Total Appropriated (By Municipality)	Total Raised (District Required Assessment) by Municipality
Chesterville	\$3,131,622.29	\$904,423.09
Farmington	\$11,700,738.00	\$4,206,842.16
Industry	\$1,286,925.38	\$822,288.34
New Sharon	\$2,483,485.53	\$813,444.50
New Vineyard	\$1,505,048.32	\$680,128.41
Starks	\$872,491.78	\$476,061.66
Temple	\$697,993.43	\$344,815.41
Vienna	\$1,140,471.40	\$624,054.75
Weld	\$430,013.81	\$430,013.81
Wilton	\$7,911,630.82	\$2,206,912.75
Total	\$31,160,420.76	\$11,508,984.84

Article 13: Non State Funded School Construction Debt Service: Provides funds to pay for non-State funded school construction projects that were previously approved by the Regional School Unit No 9 voters, such as the local share of W.G. Mallett School and Mt. Blue Campus. The School Board recommends **\$191,815**.

Article 14: Additional Local Funds: Local money that must be raised beyond the State/Local EPS funding Allocation and other receipts to fund the budget. The School Board recommends **\$3,716,313**.

Article 15: Summary Article: Authorizes the district to spend the money appropriated in the previous expenditure articles. The School Board recommends **\$46,299,943**.

Article 16: Adult Education: The School Board recommends appropriating \$723,868 and raising **\$212,875** as the local share.

Article 17: Other Grants and Other Receipts: Authorizes the district to expend state, federal and other aid grants it may receive during the fiscal year provided these funds do not require expenditure of local funds not previously appropriated.

Article 18: Cost Center Transfers: Authorizes the School Board to transfer amounts exceeding 5% of the total appropriation for any cost center to another cost center or among other cost centers for the 2026-2027 fiscal year. Provided that transfers shall not be permitted to increase the authorized total school budget.

Article 19: Additional State Subsidy Funds: Authorizes the School Board to use all or part of the additional state subsidy to increase expenditures for school purposes in cost center categories approved by the School Board, increase the allocation of finances in a reserve fund approved by the School Board and/or decrease the local cost share expectation for local property taxpayers for funding public educations.

Article 20: Transfer from Account Balances: Authorizes the School Board to transfer up to **\$100,000** to the Technology Reserve Fund from available fund balances, including revenues from sales of RSU-purchased electronic devices, at the end of the 2025-2026 fiscal year, and to expend from said Reserve Fund as needed at the discretion of the School Board.