

TOWN OF BURRILLVILLE

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Burrillville Town Council In Support of Fiscal Year 2024 Proposed Education Aid


- WHEREAS, education spending represents the single largest budget item in most communities; and
- WHEREAS, in 2010, the state government committed to an equitable funding formula for public education; and
- WHEREAS, municipalities and the State have since stepped up to invest even more in our students to benefit the future of Rhode Island and our workforce; and
- WHEREAS, the 10-year phase-in for the education funding formula was completed in fiscal year 2021; and
- WHEREAS, the funding formula created a predictable methodology that has increased state aid to education, improved student outcomes and slowed property tax growth; and
- WHEREAS, municipal leaders have asked for temporary relief in prior years related to enrollment fluctuations due to the COVID-19 pandemic; and
- WHEREAS, enrollment in traditional public and charter schools has decreased statewide by approximately 5,700 students; and
- WHEREAS, day-to-day district operations have not needed to change significantly due to these fluctuations; and
- WHEREAS, the General Assembly charged the Rhode Island Department of Education with reassessing poverty indicators used as part of the funding formula; and
- WHEREAS, the fiscal year 2024 budget includes an updated poverty measure using direct certification based on Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) participation; and
- WHEREAS, the proposed fiscal year 2024 budget increases the student success factor from 40 percent to 42 percent; and
- WHEREAS, Governor McKee proposed an allocation of \$7.9 million for the Public Schools of Choice Fund, a Massachusetts-based model, to compensate school districts experiencing enrollment losses when students move to charter schools; and
- WHEREAS, municipal officials have specifically noted the need for additional funding for special education and transportation, which have not been funded at adequate levels in prior budgets.

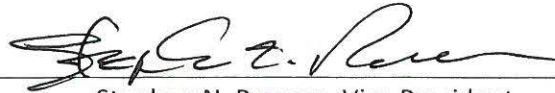
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council of Burrillville strongly encourages the General Assembly to adopt the education funding formula modifications as presented in the fiscal year 2024 budget.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Council of Burrillville strongly encourages the General Assembly to adopt the proposed and increased categorical aid figures as presented in the fiscal year 2024 budget.

Passed as a resolution of the Burrillville Town Council this 22nd day of February, 2023.

ATTEST:


Vicki T. Martin, Town Clerk



Stephen N. Rawson, Vice President
Burrillville Town Council