

2026-2027 Budget Presentation (FY27)

January 2026

Referenced and additional documents available on the website:
rivendellschool.org



Future Planning and School Configuration

January 2026

- Board approve consultant, consultant review relevant information
- Formulation of steering committee

February 2026

- Steering committee to develop communication plan
- Create and conduct community survey, review survey results

March/April 2026

- Community forums, additional focus groups if needed
- Steering committee to review surveys, community forums, input

May 2026

- Consultant facilitate analysis and review of reconfiguration
- Identify strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and challenges
- Consultant, superintendent, and steering committee meet



Future Planning and School Configuration

June 2026

- Top option(s) presented to board/community
- Financial review of top options
- Steering committee communication of progress to stakeholders

July 2026

- Complete financial review of top options
- Communication of progress to stakeholders

August 2026

- Final option(s) presented to board by steering committee
- Final opportunity for community input

September 2026

- Board vote on configuration/reconfiguration
- Communicate plan/next steps to community
- Phase II planning



How to Find the 2027 Draft Budget Documents

Navigate to the district website: rivendellschool.org

On the home page, scroll about halfway down until you see this section:

Proposed 2027 DRAFT Budget Documents

[Click here to view budget documents.](#)

[Voters: Click here for more information regarding the 2026 Annual Meeting.](#)

Click on the section that says : *click here to view budget documents*, to see a list of documents. Download documents by clicking on: 

Proposed 2027 DRAFT Budget Documents

[Click here to view budget documents.](#)

 [FY27 DRAFT Budget Allocation Summary](#)



Goals

- Focused budget that maintains quality programs while seeking to improve student outcomes.
- Budget that seeks to meet the needs of all students.
- Recognizes the changing nature of education and focuses on future planning and school configuration.
- Supports school and community initiatives through ongoing partnerships and collaboration.



FY27 Proposed budget – see budget detail

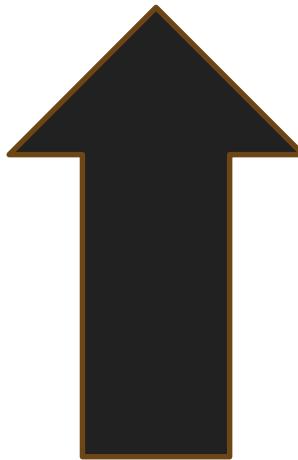
Pressures on the budget:

- Inflation, services, cost to do business (fuel, plowing, electricity, supplies etc)
- Health insurance (7.4% increase)
- Special education needs for children with disabilities.
- Decreases in federal grant funding

Offsetting revenues included in budget:

- Federal grants – net to \$0.00
- Before/afterschool and summer camp programs – net cost \$60,404
- Special education extraordinary expenses – reimbursed expenses net \$0.00

Healthcare - costs are outside our control



12.7 % increase	FY 24
16.2 % increase	FY 25
11.9 % increase	FY 26
7.4 % increase	FY 27

Four years ~ 48.2%



Over the years, we have reduced in many areas, including personnel, to mitigate health insurance cost pressures on the budget



FY 27 Budget Proposal (expenditures)

Reductions:

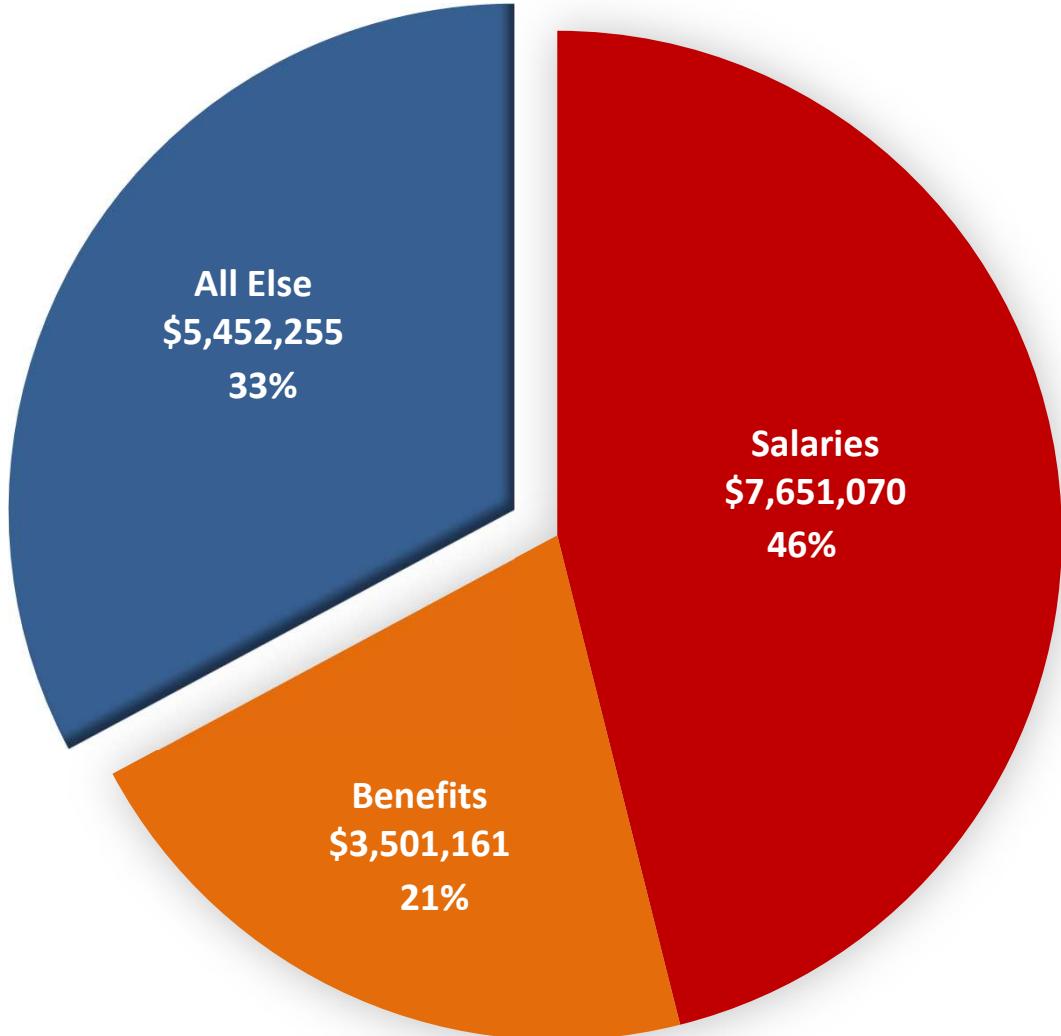
- \$130,000 Bond payment – Payment from Fund Balance approved 03/15/25
- 1.0 FTE reduction in Business Office - unfilled position

Increases - critical areas:

(see Exp Budget
with Notes)

➤ \$ 64,298 benefits (primarily health insurance)	(5200)
➤ \$ 431,594 special education (transportation, tuition & contracted services)	(58,66,68)
➤ \$ 32,800 operations increase (purchased services & supplies)	(186,187)
➤ \$ 69,616 instructional improvement (teacher training)	(116)

Breakdown by
Major Categories
of FY27
Proposed
Expenditure
Budget Totaling
\$16,604,486

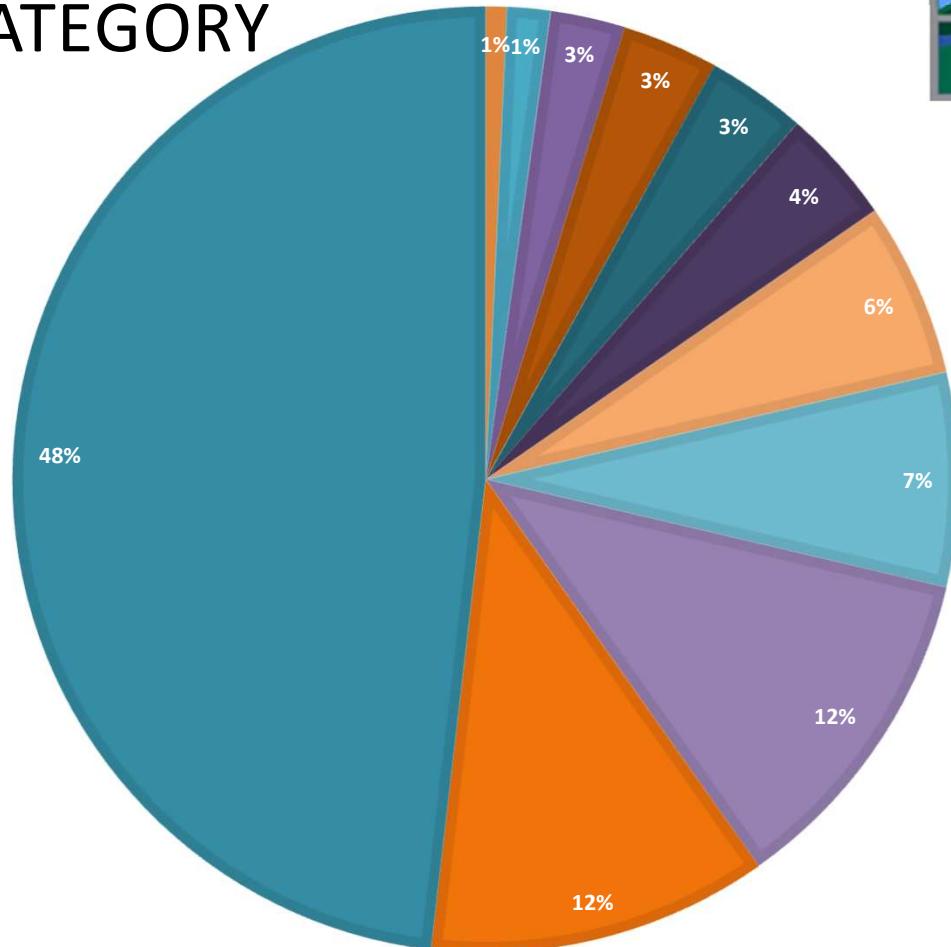




"ALL ELSE" BY SUB-CATEGORY

Clockwise from the top:

- Community Services with Offsetting Revenue
- Other
- Student Support & Enrichment
- District & School Administration
- Food Services & Grants
- PK - 12 General Instruction
- Career & Technical Education
- Technology
- Transportation
- Operations & Grounds
- Special Education



10

Cost per Pupil Calculations

3 Different Calculations:

- General education for all students educated at the 3 in-district schools
- Special education for all identified Special Ed students
- Total proposed expenditure budget divided by all enrolled students, regardless of where they attend school.

Rivendell Interstate School District Proposed FY27 Budget Analysis			
Student Count (Educated in building)		390	1
	"as of "	December 31, 2025	2
SpEd Count (all students)		96	3
	"as of "	December 1, 2025	4
Department	Budget	Notes	5
Total General Education Costs	10,766,493	excludes Special Ed costs	27
Total Special Education Costs	4,639,126	Includes all Special Ed costs	33
Total Transportation & Debt Service*	483,932	traditionally excluded from 'per pupil' calculations	34
*To/From school transportation only			37
			38
Total General Fund Budget	15,889,551		39
Grants	331,551	Net zero	40
Food Service	383,385	Net Deficit after est rev of (300K)	41
Total Expenditure Budget	16,604,487		42
Per Pupil Cost (PPC) Calculations			
All enrolled Students (regardless of location)			43
	"as of "	December 31, 2025	44
Department	PPC	Notes	45
Total General Education Costs	27,606	Line 27 divided by Line 1	46
Total Special Education Costs	48,324	Line 33 divided by Line 3	47
Total Expenditure Budget	39,526	Line 42 divided by Line 44	48



Please note:
None of these calculations include off-setting revenue.



Budget Comparison - FY26 to FY27

FY26 Approved Expenditure Budget	\$ 15,832,064
FY27 Proposed Expenditure Budget	<u>\$ 16,604,486</u>
Proposed Increase (4.88%)	\$ 772,422

FY26 Approved Net Budget (before adjustments)*	\$ 12,275,134
FY27 Proposed Net Budget (before adjustments)	<u>\$ 12,690,082</u>
Proposed Increase (3.38%)	\$ 414,948

*Adjustments may include warrant articles, use of Fund Balance, prepaid items, adequacy adjustments)

FY26 Net Budget (after adjustments)*	\$ 11,414,962
FY27 Proposed Net Budget (w/use of \$ 450,000 UFB)	<u>\$ 12,240,083</u>
Resulting Increase	\$ 825,121

*Adjustments include use of Fund Balance (\$580K) & adequacy adjustments (\$280,171)

Use of Unassigned Fund Balance



- The Electorate can vote, by warrant article or special meeting, to use money from the unassigned fund balance to address specific needs (unexpected or anticipated repairs, capital needs, technology etc.)
- The Electorate can vote, by warrant article, to use money from the unassigned fund balance to buy down the tax rate.
- In FY26, the Electorate committed \$1,633,413 from the unassigned fund balance for general repairs, a variety of other projects and the reduction of taxes.
- The projected unassigned fund balance after the FY25 audit and the FY26 commitments is estimated at \$1,100,000 (~650K after 450K used to reduce FY27 taxes)

Tax calculations – General Methodology



Step 1 – The budget is divided between Vermont and New Hampshire
see Revenue & Net Assessments document

Vermont Calculation (simplified)

- VT Net Assessment (aka Education Spending)
- Divided by LTWADM (Long-term weighted average daily membership)
- Divide result above by Adjusted Property Yield
- Result is Equalized Homestead Rate
- Divide result by Adjusted CLA (Town CLA, Common Level of Appraisal, divided by Statewide adjustment)
- Result is Estimated VT Local Education Tax Rate per \$100 Valuation

New Hampshire Calculation

- New Hampshire Net Assessment
- Subtract SWEPT (Statewide Education Property Tax – part of Adequacy Aid)
- Divide SWEPT by Grand List less utilities
- Result is State Ed Property Tax Rate
- Divide remaining Assessment by Grand List with Utilities
- Result is Local Ed Property Tax Rate
- Combined rates are total NH Ed Property Tax Rate per \$100,000 Valuation

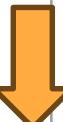
See Tax Rate Calculations document

14



Tax Rate Estimates (assumes approval of \$450,000 to reduce taxes)

**Estimated Tax Rate per
\$100,000 valuation**

	Fairlee	Vershire	West Fairlee	Orford
ADM (students) % of RISD	109.475 29.17%	76.000 20.25%	81.650 21.75%	108.225 28.83%
ADM % change from FY26	- 0.47%	- 0.20%	3.57%	- 2.90%
FY2026	\$1,249	\$1,270	\$1,710	\$1,206
FY2027 Proposed w/\$450K from UFB	\$1,457	\$1,348	\$1,945	\$1,195
% change in CLA (VT only)	- 9.13%	- .17%	- 6.81%	
Change in Tax Rate	16.7% 	6.2% 	13.7% 	-0.9% 



Questions?