

**Superintendent Report
to the School Boards
School Administrative Unit 7
February 1, 2023**



School Budget Information

Community feedback concerning school budgets is sought via public hearings.

School District Public Budget Hearings Schedule:

- February 6: Stewartstown School District 6:00 pm, Multipurpose Room
- February 7: Colebrook School District 6:00 pm, Cafeteria
- February 8: Columbia School District 6:00 pm Town Offices
- February 13: Clarksville School District 5:00 pm Town Hall
- February 13: Pittsburg School District 6:00 pm Bremer Pond Auditorium

School District Annual Meetings Schedule:

- March 7: Colebrook School District: 6:00 pm Gymnasium
- March 9: Pittsburg 6:00 pm Auditorium
- March 13: Stewartstown School District: 6:00 pm
- March 14: Clarksville School District 6:00 pm - Town Hall
Columbia School District 7:15 pm - Town Hall

Comparison - Appropriation Budget Proposals

District	2019-20 Budget	2020-21 Budget	2021-22 Budget	2022-23 Budget	2023-24 Proposed Budget	Variance	%Inc/(Dec)
Clarksville	\$518,423.	\$486,188.	\$585,957.	\$766,857.	\$645,722.	(\$121,135.)	(15.8%)
Colebrook	\$6,835,950.	\$6,909,825.	\$7,411,920.	\$7,432,346.	\$7,863,267.	\$430,921.	5.8%
Columbia	\$1,580,380.	\$1,465,459.	\$1,462,970.	\$1,417,703.	\$1,358,160.	(\$59,543.)	(4.2%)
Pittsburg	\$3,080,040.	\$3,263,108.	\$3,322,684.	\$3,460,127.	\$3,752,745.	\$292,618.	8.5%
Stewartstown	\$2,624,904.	\$2,759,031.	\$2,834,139.	\$2,008,778.	\$2,925,822.	(\$82,956.)	(2.8%)

*Please note, Colebrook's proposed budget includes new Teacher CBA and Bond;
Pittsburg's proposed budget includes a new Teacher CBA.

State Revenue Decrease Anticipated in 2023-24

The adequacy grant has been reduced in all districts. The net effect has been an increase in local revenue to make up for this shortfall, resulting in estimated increased local tax rates in all school districts.

School Board Update

We are drafting our school calendar for the coming school year. The calendar will be shared with our school boards at individual board meetings in February and will be subsequently adopted by the SAU 7 Board at their next meeting on Thursday, April 13. As in the past, we developed our calendar in consultation with area schools due to our shared collaborative students and CTE schedule.

Our teachers will engage in professional development which continues our focus on curriculum development and instructional improvement during the early release day on Friday, February 10. In keeping with our efforts outlined in the SAU 7 School Board Strategic Plan, we are focusing on implementing competency based education, personalizing teaching and learning, expanding CTE and work study and extended learning opportunities for our students. In short, we need multiple pathways for our students to succeed.

Regional North Point CTE Center Update

As of this date, there has been no change on the part of Canaan concerning participation in the North Point CTE Programs in the coming year.

However, we have robust enrollment from our NH and NEK Choice Schools. CTE recruitment is underway for the 23- 24 school year and we are looking forward to more student participation next year.

Our School Boards and the greater community recognize the need to expand opportunities and update and align the CTE programs with NH expectations and competencies. There are many advantages to our students to participate in CTE programs: (Department of Education website)

- CTE learners and their parents are three times more likely to report that they are very satisfied with their ability to learn real-world skills as compared to non-CTE learners and their parents
- Over 75% of CTE learners enroll in postsecondary education after high school.
- CTE learners have a 10% higher high school graduation rate than non-CTE students.
- 89% of parents think students should receive more education about career choices while in high school.
- Six of the ten hardest-to-fill positions are in technical fields or require a CTE background.
- About half of all CTE learners are enrolled in programs in leading fields such as health care, STEM, and information technology.
- More than twice as many CTE parents report being satisfied with internship opportunities.

Colebrook School Building Project

The Building project will be brought to the voters on Tuesday, March 7 in Colebrook.

There are three main project areas:

1. Renovation of the existing elementary school.
2. Addition of North Point CTE Center and New Academy Classrooms
3. Addition of Gymnasium

There have been articles in the newspaper and information shared with the community at local events. A Parent Group in support of the project has formed and has expanded outreach efforts.

For more information on the project please visit the School District website here:

bit.ly/3XYNKbb