

A Special Meeting - Budget Workshop of the Ellington Board of Education was held on Saturday, January 18, 2025, in the Ellington High School Library Media Center, 37 Maple Street, Ellington, CT.

The meeting was called to order at 8:02 a.m. by Chair Jennifer Dzen.

PRESENT Chair Jennifer Dzen, Vice-Chair Kerry Socha, Secretary Jennifer Mullin, Gary Blanchette, Marcia Kupferschmid, Angela Moser, Miriam Underwood, Steve Viens, Dr. Lenora Williams, (8:30 a.m.)

ABSENT Michael Young

ALSO PRESENT Oliver Barton, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction
Alisha Carpino, Director of Finance and Operations
Aaron Fliss, Director of Information Technology
Greg Kliman, Director of Facilities
Dr. Kristy LaPorte, Director of Special Services
Dr. Scott V. Nicol, Superintendent of Schools
Stephanie Veturis, Coordinator of Accounting
Carolyn Yakaitis, Coordinator of Human Resources
Ellington Public Schools Administration

TOWN OFFICIALS Mary Cardin, Board of Selectman, Liaison to the Board of Education
Doug Harding, Board of Finance Chair
Dan Keune, Board of Finance Vice-Chair, Liaison to the Board of Education
Liz Nord, Board of Finance and Permanent Building Committee

AGENDA ITEMS

2025-2026 Saturday Budget Workshop

Dr. Scott Nicol, Superintendent of Schools

Dr. Nicol began the meeting by welcoming the Board, Elected Officials, and EPS Administration for attending the important workshop discussions. He expressed gratitude to everyone who contributed to preparing for this special session. Dr. Nicol announced that Ms. Alisha Carpino, Director of Finance and Operations, would present to the Board. She will review the budget and line items and facilitate questions regarding the 2025-2026 budget year.

Budget Presentation

Ms. Alisha Carpino, Director of Finance and Operations

Ms. Carpino presented the proposed budget for the 2025-2026 school year to the Board of Education. She reviewed the main factors influencing the budget, which totals \$48,200,266. This represents a net spending increase of 3.18%. Notably, no new positions have been added, and the budget takes into account the right size of accounts as well as special revenue for Special Education. Key budget drivers include funding for instructional services and supplies, salaries and benefits, operational costs, travel and transportation, and tuition. Specific accounts were noted for increases and decreases and a historical analysis was done to right-size for this next cycle. The complete presentation will be made available on our [website](#).

The floor was opened for Q & A and the next review opportunity is at the Finance Committee meeting scheduled for Wednesday, January 22 at 5:45 p.m. at the Central Office.

A special acknowledgment to the Food Service team for their role in providing breakfast and to the custodial and maintenance team at Ellington High School for their work in efficiently setting up and taking down the space for the busy budget meeting calendar.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION

First: M. Underwood

Second: J. Mullin

To adjourn the Special Meeting of the Board (9:46 a.m.)

Motion unanimously carried.

DRAFT