

SCHOOL DEPARTMENT BUDGET BACKGROUND

On January 28, 2009, the FY10 Fairhaven Public School District Budget recommendation from the Superintendent of Schools to the Fairhaven School Committee was \$17,607,120. This was presented as our level service budget, the budget necessary to maintain all existing services and activities in the system at the same level as this current year. On Saturday May 2, 2009, town meeting appropriated a 2010 budget figure of \$16,452,674 for the Fairhaven Public Schools. This figure was \$1,154,446 less than the original level service figure.

The Reduction in Services resulting from this process were the elimination of the Director of Instructional Services position, six (6) classroom teacher positions, six (6) paraprofessional positions, seven (7) cafeteria aide positions, the elementary Instructional Media Aide position, two (2) guidance counselor positions, one (1) maintenance position, one (1) secretarial position, and one (1) technology maintenance position.

Over and above the elimination of the twenty-five (25) positions listed above, the elimination and/or restructuring of Academic Coordinators (6-12), District-Wide Academic Coordinator/Director positions, the re-structuring of the guidance department, the elimination and/or consolidation of approximately seven (7) Athletic Programs, and the elimination and/or consolidation of approximately eleven (11) Student Activity Programs took place.

This was the second time in five years that the school department was forced to go deep with painful reductions in services and difficult personnel decisions. Careful planning, finding efficiencies within the system, and making reductions have been exhausted. Significant and extensive reductions in personnel have been executed. As a result, the school department's ability to absorb budget reductions beyond our level service figure does not exist.