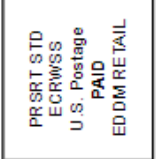


Cost Per Pupil (Continued)

The New Hampshire Department of Education calculates Cost per Pupil based on current expenditures as reported on each school district's Annual Financial Report (DOE-25). Cost per Pupil represents current expenditures less tuition and transportation costs. Any food service revenue is deducted from current expenditures before dividing by Average Daily Membership (ADM) in attendance. Capital and debt service are not current expenditures and are not included. Source: <https://www.education.nh.gov> ⇒ Data Reports ⇒ Public Reports ⇒ Financial Reports.



ARTICLE 2 - BY PETITION

Shall the Town vote to implement the Hillsdale K-8 Singapore Math Dimensions curriculum in the Pelham School District?

ARTICLE 3 - BY PETITION


Shall the Town vote to remove the position of the 2nd Assistant Principal at Pelham High School (a non-union position recently established in the school year 2023-2024) with a proposed salary of \$107,000 in order to help reduce the school budget and focus on teacher retention?

ARTICLE 4 - BY PETITION

Shall the Town vote to have the School Board do a ten year study to determine the influx of students on the school system and the tax impact on the taxpayers of Pelham for the next ten years?

ARTICLES 2-4 BY PETITION - EXPLANATION

The School Board does not explain petition warrant articles. We do not want to inadvertently explain something inaccurately as these are not articles put forth by the Board.

VO**TE**
TUESDAY, MARCH 11, 2025
7:00 AM – 8:00 PM
PELHAM HIGH SCHOOL
PLEASE ENTER VIA
THE STUDENT ENTRANCE

*****ECRWSS*****

Local
Postal Customer



2025 VOTER GUIDE

To Our Friends and Neighbors, the Residents of Pelham,

We put together this Voter Guide to help you make an informed decision on Election Day. The guide includes the School District Warrant Articles and provides an explanation.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to us at psb@pelhamsd.org or visit us at www.pelhamsd.org for additional information. All of the details from the budget process can be found under *School Board* ⇒ *Voting & Elections* ⇒ *Budget Information*. School Board members, school administrators, and SAU staff are happy to answer any questions you may have.

Our hope is that this guide provides you with the information necessary to cast a well-informed vote. Election Day is Tuesday, March 11, 2025, between 7:00 AM and 8:00 PM, at Pelham High School. We appreciate your support and look forward to seeing you at the polls.

Respectfully yours,

Pelham School Board

Troy Bressette, Chair *G. David Wilkerson, Vice Chair*
Garrett Abare *Rebecca Cummings*
Darlene Greenwood

ARTICLE A - ELECTION OF OFFICERS

To elect by ballot the following School District Officers:

- School Board Member 3-Year Term
- School Board Member 3-Year Term

ARTICLE 1 - OPERATING BUDGET

Shall the Pelham School District raise and appropriate as an operating budget, not including appropriations by special warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately, the amounts set forth on the budget posted with the warrant or as amended by vote of the first session of the annual school district meeting, for the purposes set forth herein, totaling Forty-Four Million, Eighty-Two Thousand, Four Hundred Eleven Dollars (\$44,082,411)? Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be Forty-Three Million, Three Hundred Forty-Nine Thousand, Sixty-Eight Dollars (\$43,349,068), which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Pelham School District or by law; or the Pelham School Board may hold one special meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13 X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only. (Majority vote required)

Recommended by the School Board (5-0-0)
Recommended by the Budget Committee (9-0-0)

ARTICLE 1 - EXPLANATION

Article 1 is about the operating budget, which is the funding the School Board determined necessary to provide quality educational programming for our students next year. The proposed budget is only \$733,343 (1.7%) more than the default budget. The default budget is the budget that would be adopted if the proposed budget does not pass. It is the previous year's budget adjusted for one-time expenditures, debt service, and other obligations. The Board used the following commitments as the framework for developing the budget.

- Maintain programming and adherence to class size guidelines.
- Maintain long-term plans for technology, instructional materials, and capital maintenance.

Key Budget Increases

The Pelham School District faces key budget increases that are related to legal and contractual obligations. These are outside the control of the Board. The overall budget reflects an increase of \$1,647,292 over the 2024-2025 adopted budget (3.9%). This is less than the increases from health insurance, the teachers contract, and special education. This is because the Board reduced expenses in other areas such as personnel.

Non-Discretionary Budget Increases		
Cost Item	Explanation	Increase
Health Insurance	Increase in health insurance premiums. This is the portion funded by the District.	\$669,464
Teachers Contract	Increase in the teachers contract for year 2. The contract was approved by voters in March 2024.	\$635,257
Special Education (OOD)	Increase tuition (\$78,382) and transportation (\$327,018) for out-of-district (OOD) students.	\$365,938
Total		\$1,670,659

Enrollment Data

Enrollment					
Year	21-22	22-23	23-24	24-25	25-26*
Elementary (Pre-K–5)	715	756	752	752	777
Middle (6-8)	383	356	339	349	340
High School (9-12)	580	581	556	512	472
Total	1,678	1,693	1,647	1,613	1,589

*Projected. Source: Superintendent's October 1 Enrollment Projections.

Goals 2024-25

The Pelham School Board has set four goals that establish the short- and long-term strategic direction for the District.

- Improving Student Performance in Mathematics
- Strengthening Student Connections
- Improving Student Performance in Literacy
- Making Pelham the Best Place to Work

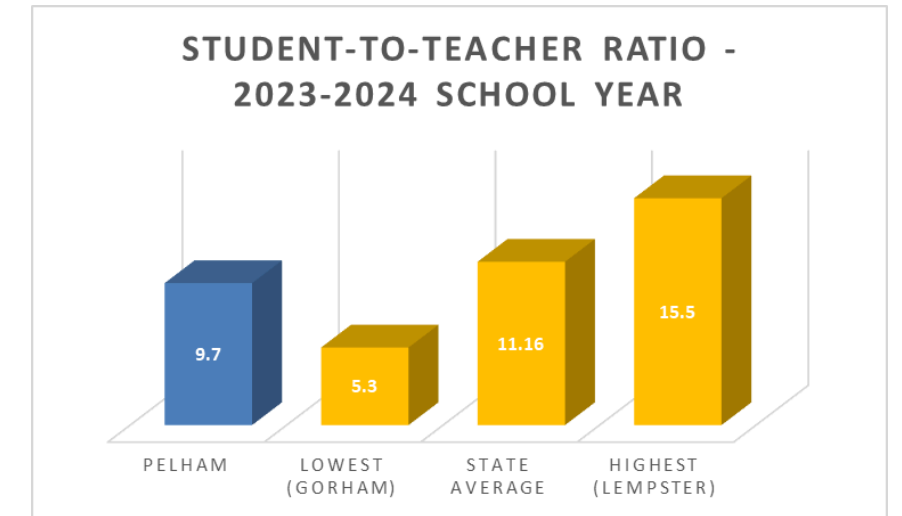
Personnel Adjustments

Given enrollment declines and increases in key budget areas, the Pelham School Board reduced staffing levels in this budget. Overall, for the Proposed FY26 Budget, personnel is reduced by **(\$203,421)**. This includes the following reductions:

- Pelham High School
 - Business Teacher Position
 - Part-Time Reading Specialist Position
- Pelham Memorial School
 - Special Education Teacher (50% in the operating budget and 50% funded through a grant)
- Pelham Elementary School
 - Special Education Teacher Position
 - Classroom Teacher Position

The budget also includes additional personnel based on need. This includes three instructional assistants to support students with learning disabilities and an additional custodian at PMS given the doubling of the building's size due to the renovation.

Student-To-Teacher Ratio



This chart shows the Student-to-Teacher Ratio for the Pelham School District compared to the average across the state as well as the highest and lowest ratios. The number of teachers is defined as the full-time equivalent for grades K-12 of subject-specific teachers at all grade levels, as well as special education and regular classroom teachers. Please note that Student-to-Teacher Ratio is not a measure of average class size.

Cost Per Pupil

The School Board remains committed to fiscal responsibility. As measured by cost per pupil, the Pelham School District is 147th out of 161 districts in New Hampshire for 2023-24. The average cost per pupil in New Hampshire was \$21,545. Pelham's cost per pupil was \$18,458.

