

recipe for success

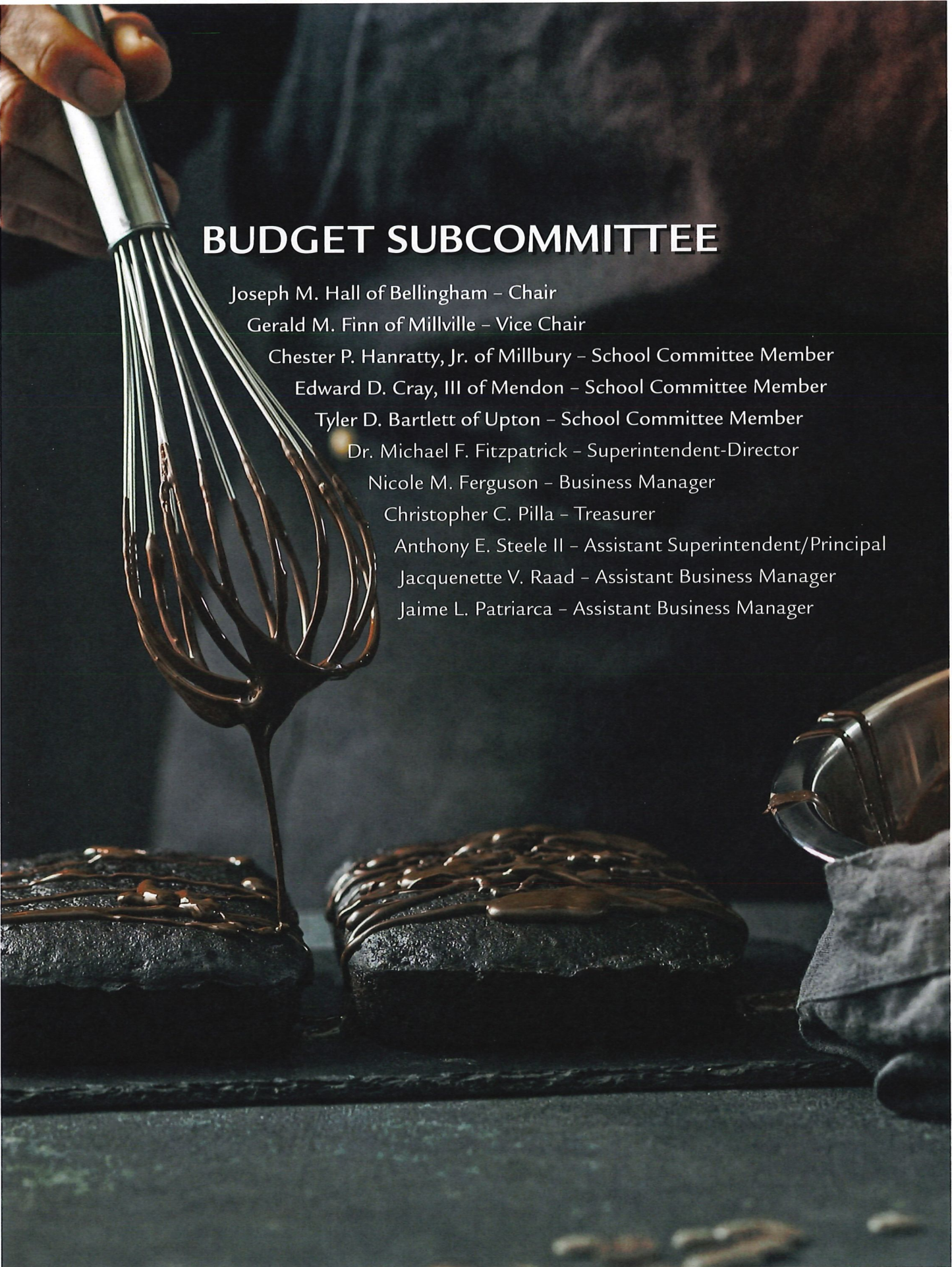
*There is no single recipe for success, but there is
one essential ingredient: PASSION!*

BVT
Transforming Education

Dr. Michael F. Fitzpatrick
Superintendent-Director

Blackstone Valley Vocational Regional School District
65 Pleasant Street, Upton, MA 01568
www.valleytech.k12.ma.us





BUDGET SUBCOMMITTEE

Joseph M. Hall of Bellingham – Chair

Gerald M. Finn of Millville – Vice Chair

Chester P. Hanratty, Jr. of Millbury – School Committee Member

Edward D. Cray, III of Mendon – School Committee Member

Tyler D. Bartlett of Upton – School Committee Member

Dr. Michael F. Fitzpatrick – Superintendent-Director

Nicole M. Ferguson – Business Manager

Christopher C. Pilla – Treasurer

Anthony E. Steele II – Assistant Superintendent/Principal

Jacquenette V. Raad – Assistant Business Manager

Jaime L. Patriarca – Assistant Business Manager



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School Committee Members

Joseph M. Hall – Bellingham
Joseph A. Broderick – Blackstone
Mark J. Potter – Douglas
Anthony M. Yitts – Grafton
Mitchell A. Intinarelli – Hopedale

Edward D. Cray, III – Mendon
Paul J. Braza – Milford
Chester P. Hanratty, Jr. – Millbury
Gerald M. Finn – Millville
Jeff T. Koopman – Northbridge

James M. Mitchell – Sutton
Tyler D. Bartlett – Upton
James H. Ebbeling – Uxbridge

March 2024

Dear District Partner,

The proposed FY25 operating budget for the Blackstone Valley Vocational Regional School District, which follows, is the product of a Budget Subcommittee dedicated to delivering a sustainable plan, mindful of its thirteen-town District, municipal stakeholders, and taxpayers. The Subcommittee annually employs an all-inclusive, one-time consolidated assessment. As you examine and review the budgetary needs of your regional vocational system detailed within this document, kindly note they are unlike the per-pupil costs at the local K-12 school systems.

While there is no single recipe for success at BVT, fiscal responsibility is an essential ingredient that, when blended with our culture of ingenuity and spirited excellence, allows us to meet the needs of our diverse career pathways in a cost-effective way. A well-developed budget is like a tried and true recipe; we know it by heart and can describe the product and methods that have already been used and found to be successful. But our reviewers, like a friend trying to understand the recipe, need all the details.

As is our long-term past practice, the Budget Subcommittee has seized every resource and examined every opportunity for cost-savings to enhance and protect the investment of District taxpayers. The Subcommittee recognizes that the Commonwealth is gradually shifting the burden of educational funding from Chapter 70 to local municipalities via the absolute minimum obligation calculation of each member town. It is therefore increasingly necessary to maximize every dollar entrusted to the District for quality education of students. That is an obligation we take seriously and to which we are firmly committed.

This fiscal blueprint is built primarily around the amicable negotiation of a new three-year teacher contract, which protects our longer school year and provides salary increases of 2.5% in FY24, 2.75% in FY25, and 3% in FY26. Other contractually agreed items include an OPEB contribution and continuing professional development of teachers. We take pride in the positive working relationships among administration, faculty, and support staff which has resulted in favorable reviews and ultimately in extraordinary student success. For example, the most recent Special Education determination letter from the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education revealed a perfect score in serving some 180 students with special educational needs.

Additionally, our latest five-year placement report showed 97% of our graduates gainfully employed; and MCAS results confirm ongoing improvement, with the percentage of our students scoring in the Exceeding or Meeting Expectations category well above reported state averages. Just as a successful restaurateur thrives on rave reviews of culinary offerings, we hope you will agree there is no better measure of the positive return on your investment than reports like these.

Despite ongoing inflationary pressure, the Subcommittee has held this operational budget request to an overall increase of 3.9%. Strategies which have made this possible include holding the budget impact of the newly identified employee health insurance premium to an increase of 4.5%, mitigating increasing electric costs via solar farm credit offsets, and a systemwide electric analysis which resulted in savings of roughly 125,000 kilowatt hours annually. We have secured local subsidies for school vans which provide transportation to community work projects and sporting events, refurbished our athletic fields at minimal cost with donations and volunteer labor of alumni and staff, and maintain our facility with on-campus trade specialists and student learning experiences. We continue to pursue federal, state, and local grant opportunities and donations through individual and business partnerships.

While school enrollment statewide is declining, interest in enrolling at BVT remains strong. Our latest official student count includes 17 more students than in the previous cycle. As mentioned during last year's budget presentations, in order to better respond to that demand on a campus that is now at maximum capacity, we now seek approval of a new bond. This will allow us to pursue eligibility of state funding via the newly reopened MSBA Accelerated Repair Program as the District's current bond obligation concludes in FY25. Details on that separate endeavor are included within this budget packet for your thoughtful consideration.

Respectfully offered,



Dr. Michael F. Fitzpatrick
Superintendent-Director

MFF/dp

Budget Subcommittee Membership:

Joseph M. Hall of Bellingham, Chair
Gerald M. Finn of Millville, Vice Chair
Edward D. Cray, III of Mendon
Chester P. Hanratty, Jr. of Millbury
Tyler D. Bartlett of Upton
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Anthony E. Steele, II, Asst. Superintendent-Director/Principal
Dr. Michael F. Fitzpatrick, Superintendent-Director
Jacquenet V. Raad, Asst. Business Manager, Resource Person
Jaime L. Patriarca, Asst. Business Manager, Resource Person

BLACKSTONE VALLEY VOCATIONAL REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Upton, Massachusetts

GENERAL FUND FY 2025

SUMMARY OF REVENUES, ASSESSMENTS AND EXPENSES

	2022-2023 Budgeted	2023-2024 Budgeted	2024-2025 Proposed	Change From Prior Year	% Change
Revenues: State Aid/Other					
CH 70, School Aid	8,564,738	9,194,104	9,240,096	45,992	
CH 71, Regional Transportation	1,312,325	1,432,650	1,638,769	206,119	
Fee Revenue	60,000	60,000	60,000	-	
Investment Income	30,000	33,000	55,000	22,000	
Unreserve Fund Balance*	225,000	100,000	100,000	-	
Other Miscellaneous Revenue	60,000	60,000	60,000	-	
Other Funding Source (excess PY Ch71)	210,000	60,000	340,000	280,000	
Sub-Total State Aid/Other Revenues	10,462,063	10,939,754	11,493,865	554,111	5.07%
Revenues: Member Assessments					
Transportation (Cost over State Aid)	807,567	892,013	799,034	(92,979)	
Capital Equipment	153,278	83,450	-	(83,450)	
Retiree Medical	1,060,022	1,119,664	1,349,819	230,155	
Minimum Contribution	13,631,634	14,213,597	15,285,237	1,071,640	7.54%
Additional Revenue (Offset)/Assess	1,167,276	1,683,330	1,163,583	(519,747)	
Sub-Total Non-Debt Assessments	16,819,777	17,992,054	18,597,673	605,619	
Debt (Expansion/Renovation)	408,300	392,050	375,950	(16,100)	
Total Member Assessment	17,228,077	18,384,104	18,973,623	589,519	3.21%
Total All Revenues	27,690,140	29,323,858	30,467,488	1,143,630	3.90%
	-	-	-		
Expenses:					
1000 Administration	1,356,888	1,419,098	1,403,834	(15,264)	
2000 Instruction	15,069,257	15,986,271	16,520,776	534,505	
3000 Other School Services	3,472,106	3,784,198	3,945,765	161,567	
4000 Facility/Building Operations	2,278,537	2,433,004	2,512,278	79,274	
5000 Fixed Charges	4,941,774	5,205,787	5,698,885	493,098	
7000 Acquisition of Fixed Assets	153,278	83,450	-	(83,450)	
Sub-Total Expenses	27,271,840	28,911,808	30,081,538	1,169,730	4.05%
8000 Debt (Bond Principal & Interest)	408,300	392,050	375,950	(16,100)	
8000 Debt RAN Interest	5,000	5,000	5,000	-	
9000 School Choice Payments	5,000	15,000	5,000	(10,000)	
Sub-Total Expenses	418,300	412,050	385,950	(26,100)	-6.33%
Total Expenditures	27,690,140	29,323,858	30,467,488	1,143,630	3.90%

BLACKSTONE VALLEY VOCATIONAL REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Upton, Massachusetts

***EXCESS & DEFICIENCY FUNDS**

E&D funds are generated by maximizing federal, state and local grant opportunities, as well as aggressively pursuing donations through individual and business partnerships. Each revenue stream is examined for its synchronous relationship with the District's ambitious college and career mission, which closely aligns with the Governors education and workforce development initiatives. Additionally, the District realizes cost savings through investments in utility efficiencies, identifying and securing rebates, sound purchasing practices, and by providing technical services via on-campus trade specialists and students. Each identified sources provides savings that directly contribute to E&D and reflect the District's commitment to fiscal austerity.

As shown on page A-1, the District applied \$100,000 of available reserve funds to reduce the assessment impact to its municipal partners. Additionally, within its FY25 financial planning, the District expects to self-fund several potential activities that could not be supported within the identified revenues, or which fall into such categories as unanticipated fiscal deficiencies, emergencies, new state mandates, capital grant matching requirements, facility/campus renovations, and capital equipment. Therefore, and with full disclosure, the District alerts local stakeholders of (potential) FY25 utilization of up to \$750,000 of Department of Revenue Certified E&D funds.

Many necessary operational and capital expenditures were intentionally excluded from the FY24 budget, pending feasibility review and final determination of absolute necessity. These items include, but are not limited to, capital repairs, capital equipment/technology upgrades to modernize skilled trade programs (Chapter 74 Construction Technology, Electrical, Electronics) and significantly advance direct care skill development (Chapter 74 Dental Assisting & Health Services) academic and vocational classroom/workroom updates, enhancements to building security, extraordinary health insurance expenses and technology infrastructure upgrades. The District prioritizes and schedules each project upon successful identification of funding streams, including E&D, grant funds, and other targeted donations. Identified funding stream complement operational and capital budgets proposed to our member communities. In keeping with prudent fiscal management, diligent efforts to replenish E&D funds ensure the best opportunity to fund critical, one-time expenditures.

For general stakeholder awareness, the Massachusetts Department of Revenue closely monitors and annually certifies E&D funds to ensure compliance with the five percent operational budget threshold. In all cases, the Regional School Committee shall vote, in open session, on the use of E&D funds for strategically targeted items. If any citizen has concern with this spending plan, the district invites you to share your comments and related rationales via mfitzpat@valleytech.k12.ma.us.

BLACKSTONE VALLEY VOCATIONAL REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
Upton, Massachusetts

COMBINED ASSESSMENTS FOR FY2025 BY TOWN

<i>Town</i>	<i>Enrollment</i>	<i>Operation Ratio ¥</i>	<i>Minimum Contribution</i>	<i>Transportation Capital Equip Retiree Med Δ</i>	<i>Additional Assessment</i>	<i>Debt *</i>	<i>FY25 ASSESSMENT</i>
Bellingham	76	0.06027	\$ 1,019,670	\$ 129,512	\$ 70,129	\$ 18,422	\$ 1,237,733
Blackstone	56	0.04441	\$ 558,358	\$ 95,428	\$ 51,674	\$ 34,587	\$ 740,047
Douglas	126	0.09992	\$ 1,517,300	\$ 214,715	\$ 116,266	\$ 34,211	\$ 1,882,492
Grafton	104	0.08247	\$ 1,402,103	\$ 177,225	\$ 95,965	\$ 40,603	\$ 1,715,896
Hopedale	71	0.05631	\$ 807,260	\$ 120,992	\$ 65,516	\$ 7,895	\$ 1,001,663
Mendon	75	0.05948	\$ 1,168,094	\$ 127,807	\$ 69,206	\$ 9,775	\$ 1,374,882
Milford	160	0.12688	\$ 1,183,881	\$ 272,649	\$ 147,639	\$ 40,226	\$ 1,644,395
Millbury	90	0.07137	\$ 1,082,677	\$ 153,368	\$ 83,047	\$ 30,076	\$ 1,349,168
Millville	26	0.02062	\$ 243,398	\$ 44,307	\$ 23,992	\$ 11,279	\$ 322,976
Northbridge	158	0.12530	\$ 1,676,322	\$ 269,245	\$ 145,793	\$ 59,400	\$ 2,150,760
Sutton	89	0.07058	\$ 1,375,925	\$ 151,664	\$ 82,125	\$ 22,181	\$ 1,631,895
Upton	93	0.07375	\$ 1,400,144	\$ 158,481	\$ 85,815	\$ 13,158	\$ 1,657,598
Uxbridge	137	0.10864	\$ 1,850,105	\$ 233,460	\$ 126,416	\$ 54,137	\$ 2,264,118
TOTALS	1,261	1.00000	\$ 15,285,237	\$ 2,148,853	\$ 1,163,583	\$ 375,950	\$ 18,973,623

¥ **Definition of Operation Ratio:** Apportionment of operating costs is per Section IV, paragraph E of the District agreement: "town's pupil enrollment in the...school on October 1 of the year preceding the year for which the apportionment is determined bears to the total pupil enrollment from all member towns of the district on the same date."

* **Definition of Debt:** Apportionment of debt costs is per Section IV, paragraph D(2) of the district agreement: "...shall be determined by computing the ratio which the sum of its pupil enrollments in the...school on October 1 of the three years next preceding the year in which the Committee votes to authorize the incurring of capital costs bears to the sum of the pupil enrollments of all the member towns in the... school on October 1 of the same three years... the ratio shall not be changed during the period..the obligations are outstanding..."

Δ Represents cost functions that are **not** included in the development of the Foundation Budget.

Total expenditures reflect an increase of 3.90%

Total member assessments sustained a 3.21% increase over prior year which is driven by a 7.54% escalation in state mandated minimum contributions. Of the 3.90% expenditure increase, 83% is attributed to wages, health insurance, transportation and technology devices. The District works diligently to cultivate external partnerships, revenue sources and operational efficiencies that maintain facilities, enhance curriculum, and support college and career readiness.

**DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
PRELIMINARY FIGURES**

BLACKSTONE VALLEY VOCATIONAL REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Upton, Massachusetts

LONG-TERM BORROWING - BOND PRINCIPAL AND INTEREST PROJECT ASSESSMENT OVERVIEW

<i>Town</i>	<i>Project Ownership</i>	<i>Assessment FY2022</i>	<i>Assessment FY2023</i>	<i>Assessment FY2024</i>	<i>TOTAL FY25 PORTION</i>
Bellingham	4.9%	\$ 21,063	\$ 20,007	\$ 19,210	\$ 18,422
Blackstone	9.2%	\$ 39,546	\$ 37,564	\$ 36,069	\$ 34,587
Douglas	9.1%	\$ 39,116	\$ 37,155	\$ 35,677	\$ 34,211
Grafton	10.8%	\$ 46,424	\$ 44,096	\$ 42,341	\$ 40,603
Hopedale	2.1%	\$ 9,027	\$ 8,574	\$ 8,233	\$ 7,895
Mendon	2.6%	\$ 11,176	\$ 10,616	\$ 10,193	\$ 9,775
Milford	10.7%	\$ 45,994	\$ 43,688	\$ 41,949	\$ 40,226
Millbury	8.0%	\$ 34,388	\$ 32,664	\$ 31,364	\$ 30,076
Millville	3.0%	\$ 12,896	\$ 12,249	\$ 11,762	\$ 11,279
Northbridge	15.8%	\$ 67,916	\$ 64,511	\$ 61,944	\$ 59,400
Sutton	5.9%	\$ 25,361	\$ 24,090	\$ 23,131	\$ 22,181
Upton	3.5%	\$ 15,045	\$ 14,291	\$ 13,722	\$ 13,158
Uxbridge	14.4%	\$ 61,898	\$ 58,795	\$ 56,455	\$ 54,137
TOTALS	100.0%	\$ 429,850	\$ 408,300	\$ 392,050	\$ 375,950

BLACKSTONE VALLEY VOCATIONAL REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
Upton, Massachusetts

FY 2025 BUDGET EXPENSE SUMMARY BY FUNCTION

Tie Out to A-1
(Green Sheet)

Function	Salaries & Wages	FTE	Capital Equipment	Contracted Services	Supplies & Materials	Other	Technology	GRAND TOTALS
Administration (1000)								
District wide	1,190,397	13.63	-	29,126	6,750	106,893	70,668	\$ 1,403,834
Sub-Total Administration	1,190,397	13.63	-	29,126	6,750	106,893	70,668	\$ 1,403,834
Instruction (2000)								
Academic	5,066,389	53.00	-	91,585	114,260	92,500	-	\$ 5,364,734
Vocational	5,482,253	55.00	-	69,580	443,168	-	-	\$ 5,995,001
Instructional Supervision	1,852,403	17.00	-	22,555	10,036	19,352	-	\$ 1,904,346
Technology/Media Center	10,000	-	-	34,272	24,000	4,027	660,890	\$ 733,189
Special Education/Guidance	2,286,861	27.00	-	207,332	26,195	3,118	-	\$ 2,523,506
Sub-Total Instruction	14,697,906	152.00	-	425,324	617,659	118,997	660,890	\$ 16,520,776
Other School Services (3000)								
Pupil Transportation	-	-	-	2,228,643	-	182,660	-	\$ 2,411,303
Athletics	469,574	2.30	-	149,357	44,422	71,244	-	\$ 734,597
School Based Health Center	70,592	0.80	-	255,097	7,000	800	1,824	\$ 335,313
Student Body Activities	88,649	-	-	-	214,195	400	-	\$ 303,244
Student Body Security	95,978	2.00	-	60,000	1,800	2,870	660	\$ 161,308
Sub-Total Other Services	724,793	5.10	-	2,693,097	267,417	257,974	2,484	\$ 3,945,765
Facility/Operation of Plant (4000)								
Custodial Services	384,462	7.00	-	-	42,350	-	-	\$ 426,812
Maintenance	572,080	7.50	-	156,393	136,248	3,795	4,200	\$ 872,716
Utilities/Tech Maintenance	377,919	5.00	-	114,195	626,209	14,832	79,595	\$ 1,212,750
Sub-Total Facility	1,334,461	19.50	-	270,588	804,807	18,627	83,795	\$ 2,512,278
Fixed Charges (5000)								
Insurance-Health/Life/Other	-	-	-	-	-	5,039,211	-	\$ 5,039,211
Insurance-Property/Casualty/Other	-	-	-	278,811	-	380,863	-	\$ 659,674
Sub-Total Fixed Charges	-	-	-	278,811	-	5,420,074	-	\$ 5,698,885
Fixed Assets (7000)								
Capital Equipment Purchases	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	\$ -
Sub-Total Fixed Assets	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	\$ -
Debt Service (8000)								
Bond Principal	-	-	-	-	-	365,000	-	\$ 365,000
Bond Interest	-	-	-	-	-	5,000	-	\$ 5,000
RAN Interest	-	-	-	-	-	10,950	-	\$ 10,950
Sub-Total Debt	-	-	-	-	-	380,950	-	\$ 380,950
School Choice / Transfers (9000)								
School Choice	-	-	-	-	-	5,000	-	\$ 5,000
Transfers Out	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	\$ -
Sub-Total Choice/Transfers	-	-	-	-	-	5,000	-	\$ 5,000
TOTAL BY FUNCTION	\$ 17,947,557	190.23	\$ -	\$ 3,696,946	\$ 1,696,633	\$ 6,308,515	\$ 817,837	\$ 30,467,488

BLACKSTONE VALLEY VOCATIONAL REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Upton, Massachusetts

FY 2025 OPERATING BUDGET - ADMINISTRATION FUNCTION (1000)

School Committee Function 1110	Percentage of Admin. Total: 7.2%	FY2022-2023 Actual	FY2023-2024 Approved Budget	FY2024-2025 Requested	Variance from FY24 Budget	% Decrease or Increase
Salaries & Wages		21,034	20,079	22,836	2,757	
Full-Time Employees		0.33	0.33	0.33	-	
Contracted Services		2,278	3,147	3,215	68	
Supplies & Materials		970	1,100	1,000	(100)	
Other Fixed Costs		41,356	44,310	44,209	(101)	
Other Variable Costs		30,484	33,694	29,130	(4,564)	
School Committee Total		\$ 96,122	\$ 102,330	\$ 100,390	\$ (1,940)	-1.90%

Notes: Contracted Services include access to the financial management system for the treasurer, bulk mail permit and other outreach related fees. Supplies & Materials are the consumable items used for day to day operations. Other Fixed Costs include the required annual audit and legal notice advertisements. Other Variable Costs include professional organization dues, travel expenses, information dissemination and School Committee conferences. The fluctuations on each line reflect historical trends and anticipated needs.

Superintendent's Office Function 1210	Percentage of Admin. Total: 20.4%	FY2022-2023 Actual	FY2023-2024 Approved Budget	FY2024-2025 Requested	Variance from FY24 Budget	% Decrease or Increase
Salaries & Wages		269,672	276,734	269,806	(6,928)	
Full-Time Employees		2.5	2.5	2.5	-	
Contracted Services		3,687	5,345	4,000	(1,345)	
Supplies & Materials		1,730	2,000	2,000	-	
Other Fixed Costs		1,420	1,500	1,500	-	
Other Variable Costs		7,801	8,750	8,750	-	
Technology		-	-	-	-	
Superintendent's Office Total		\$ 284,310	\$ 294,329	\$ 286,056	\$ (8,273)	-2.81%

Notes: The decrease in Salaries & Wages reflects the impact of staff transitions. Contracted Services cover copier/printer lease maintenance agreements. The change in contracted services is attributed to copier/printer usage. Supplies & Materials are the consumable items used in the day to day operations of the office. Other Fixed and Variable Costs include professional organization dues, travel expenses, conferences and other miscellaneous costs.

Technology includes software and other online subscription services.

BLACKSTONE VALLEY VOCATIONAL REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Upton, Massachusetts

FY 2025 OPERATING BUDGET - ADMINISTRATION FUNCTION (1000)

Business Office, H.R. & District-Wide Admin Svcs Functions 1400's, 1230	Percentage of Admin. Total: 72.6%	FY2022-2023 Actual	FY2023-2024 Approved Budget	FY2024-2025 Requested	Variance from FY24 Budget	% Decrease or Increase
Salaries & Wages		778,463	900,596	897,755	(2,841)	
Full-Time Employees		10.80	11.09	10.80	(0.29)	
Contracted Services		20,509	27,911	21,911	(6,000)	
Supplies & Materials		3,987	3,750	3,750	-	
Other Fixed Costs		13,455	12,000	12,000	-	
Other Variable Costs		4,607	10,929	11,304	375	
Technology		70,627	67,253	70,668	3,415	
Business Office, H.R. & District-Wide Info. Total		\$ 891,648	\$ 1,022,439	\$ 1,017,388	\$ (5,051)	-0.49%

Notes: The decrease in both Salaries & Wages and 0.29 FTE [Full Time Equivalency] relates to the transition of staff retirement in FY24. Contracted Services include legal counsel fees, copier lease/maintenance agreements, and the GASB 74/75 OPEB Biennial Valuation scheduled for FY24 (a mid-year cycle review will be scheduled for FY25). Supplies & Materials are the consumable items and equipment required to support the day to day operations of the office. Other Fixed Costs include the district wide postage. Other Variable Costs include conferences & workshops, related travel expenses, and professional organization dues. The fluctuations on each line reflect historical trends and anticipated needs.

Technology includes maintenance and support for the district's primary financial management system, the cash receipts software which integrates into the student activity accounting module, and the student information system (PowerSchool). It also includes replacement computers and other contract services for peripherals as needed. The increase is attributed to annual maintenance costs associated with the financial management system, as well as the student information system.

TOTAL ADMINISTRATION		\$ 1,272,080	\$ 1,419,098	\$ 1,403,834	\$ (15,264)	-1.08%
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BLACKSTONE VALLEY VOCATIONAL REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Upton, Massachusetts

FY 2025 OPERATING BUDGET - INSTRUCTIONAL FUNCTION (2000)

Academics	Percentage of Instr. Total: 32.5%	FY2022-2023 Actual	FY2023-2024 Approved Budget	FY2024-2025 Requested	Variance from FY24 Budget	% Decrease or Increase
Salaries & Wages		4,796,525	4,906,822	5,066,389	159,567	
Full-Time Employees		52.00	52.00	53.00	1.00	
Contracted Services		85,616	91,585	91,585	-	
Supplies & Materials		87,467	156,315	114,260	(42,055)	
Other Variable Costs		95,473	100,513	92,500	(8,013)	
Academics Total		\$ 5,065,081	\$ 5,255,235	\$ 5,364,734	\$ 109,499	2.08%

Notes: This area covers Academic related instruction. Salaries & Wages reflect an increase of 1.0 FTE [Full Time Equivalency] for a permanent substitute (to replace a portion of per diem substitutes) which eases challenges when sourcing substitutes. Contracted Services includes copier lease/maintenance agreements, presenters for in-house professional development and translation services. Supplies & Materials (which include textbooks) are consumable items that are required to deliver daily classroom instruction. Other Variable Costs cover conference registration, affiliated travel and course reimbursements, and the NEASC 10-Year accreditation site visit. The decreases in both Supplies & Materials and Other Variable Costs reflect historical trends and anticipated needs, along with an initiative to fund one time costs from other sources (donations, grants, and special revenue funds).

Vocational	Percentage of Instr. Total: 36.3%	FY2022-2023 Actual	FY2023-2024 Approved Budget	FY2024-2025 Requested	Variance from FY24 Budget	% Decrease or Increase
Salaries & Wages		4,925,866	5,337,654	5,482,253	144,599	
Full-Time Employees		56.00	56.00	55.00	(1.00)	
Equipment (Less than 5K)		6,548	19,534	-	(19,534)	
Contracted Services		29,437	57,125	69,580	12,455	
Supplies & Materials		407,477	459,166	443,168	(15,998)	
Vocational Total		\$ 5,369,328	\$ 5,873,479	\$ 5,995,001	\$ 121,522	2.07%

Notes: This area covers Vocational related instruction. Salaries & Wages reflects a decrease of 1.0 FTE [Full Time Equivalency] for the reduction of a teaching assistant in one of the vocational shops. Equipment (new or replacement) allows targeted programs to keep pace with industry standards. Equipment needs are supplemented by various grants and the aggressive pursuit of other external funding sources (such as Perkins, MA Skills Capital, PLTW, donations and special revenue funds). In FY25 all equipment needs will be funded from other funding sources. Contracted Services cover any outside costs to maintain or repair aging equipment. The increase reflects maintenance required on an annual basis to enhance safety measures. Supplies & Materials are consumable items required to deliver shop related instruction on a daily basis (i.e. textbooks, testing materials, freshmen exploratory materials etc.), which are related to skill development and occupational certifications. The decrease in Supplies & Materials reflects historical trends and anticipated needs.

BLACKSTONE VALLEY VOCATIONAL REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Upton, Massachusetts

FY 2025 OPERATING BUDGET - INSTRUCTIONAL FUNCTION (2000)

Instructional Supervision Functions 2110,2210,6200	Percentage of Instr. Total: 11.5%	FY2022-2023 Actual	FY2023-2024 Approved Budget	FY2024-2025 Requested	Variance from FY24 Budget	% Decrease or Increase
Salaries & Wages		1,541,983	1,683,010	1,852,403	169,393	
Full-Time Employees		18.00	18.00	17.00	(1.00)	
Contracted Services		29,635	24,655	22,555	(2,100)	
Supplies & Materials		7,501	11,836	10,036	(1,800)	
Other Variable Costs		12,082	21,668	19,352	(2,316)	
Instruction Supervision Total		\$ 1,591,201	\$ 1,741,169	\$ 1,904,346	\$ 163,177	9.37%

Notes: This area includes expenses associated with district-wide leadership as it pertains to the delivery of student instructional programs. For EOY reporting purposes the District may reclassify certain instructional/curriculum positions within this cluster. Salaries & Wages include principals, academic and vocational coordinators, guidance and special education. The 1.0 FTE decrease represents a full year support staff position in the main office. Contracted Services cover student related legal fees (504's, IEP's etc.), program evaluations, program advisory committee expenses and copier lease/maintenance. Supplies and materials are the consumable items used in the day to day administration of programs. Other Variable Costs are professional organization dues, travel expenses, conferences, special projects and membership in the French River Educational Collaborative [FREC] which provides an hourly rate savings on IEP contracted services (i.e. speech/occupational therapy, assistive technology and autism consultations). The decreases on these lines reflect historical trends and anticipated needs.

Technology/ Digital Learning Center	Percentage of Instr. Total: 4.4%	FY2022-2023 Actual	FY2023-2024 Approved Budget	FY2024-2025 Requested	Variance from FY24 Budget	% Decrease or Increase
Salaries & Wages		113,322	188,576	10,000	(178,576)	
Full-Time Employees		2.0	2.0	-	(2.0)	
Contracted Services (District)		40,368	33,166	34,272	1,106	
Supplies & Materials		43,123	26,000	24,000	(2,000)	
Other Variable Costs		2,102	6,341	4,027	(2,314)	
Technology (District)		589,282	703,802	660,890	(42,912)	
Technology/Media Center Total		\$ 788,197	\$ 957,885	\$ 733,189	\$ (224,696)	-23.46%

Notes: This area includes the Technology Department and Digital Learning Commons/Media Center. Salaries & Wages include technology leadership and integration training. The 2.0 FTE decrease represents the Instructional Technology Specialist position converted to a stipend, and the Technology Director converted to a Technology Coordinator, which is included in the Facility/Operation Maintenance Function. Contracted Services include website content management and monitoring adherence with ADA accessibility standards as well as online employee safety/regulatory compliance training. The increase is primarily attributed to support and training for the new student information system (PowerSchool). Supplies & Materials are consumable items required by the technology department and media center to maintain existing hardware, media systems and peripherals. Other Variable Costs cover professional organization dues, periodicals, conferences and travel expenses. Technology (District) is the district-wide allocation for new or replacement computers, interactive panels, projectors, printers, scanners, etc. (unless specifically budgeted for in other areas) as well as instructional related software. The decreases are attributed to fluctuation in line items across various instructional programs based on need and historical trends, as well as replacement of aging computers (the District supports a targeted 5 year, 20% replacement protocol, as well as one to one student devices).

BLACKSTONE VALLEY VOCATIONAL REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Upton, Massachusetts

FY 2025 OPERATING BUDGET - INSTRUCTIONAL FUNCTION (2000)

Special Education/Guidance Functions 2300's,2700's,2800	Percentage of Instr. Total: 15.3%	FY2022-2023 Actual	FY2023-2024 Approved Budget	FY2024-2025 Requested	Variance from FY24 Budget	% Decrease or Increase
Salaries & Wages		1,804,678	1,948,657	2,286,861	338,204	
Full-Time Employees		24.00	24.00	27.00	3.00	
Contracted Services		78,289	181,132	207,332	26,200	
Supplies & Materials		13,097	25,245	26,195	950	
Other Variable Costs		910	3,469	3,118	(351)	
Special Ed/Guidance Total		\$ 1,896,974	\$ 2,158,503	\$ 2,523,506	\$ 365,003	16.91%

Notes: This area includes teaching and support staff for instructional needs, related to Guidance and Special Education. Salaries & Wages reflect a net increase of 3.0 FTE, attributed to the addition of a 1.0 School Counselor, addition of a 1.0 SPED Math Teacher, 0.5 overlap transition for a support staff retirement, and 0.5 Administrative Assistant increase (split 50/50 with grant). Contracted Services include individual education plans [IEP], 504 accommodation plans, translation services, tutoring services, transition services, copier lease/maintenance and recruitment related items to showcase academic/vocational programs. The increase in Contracted Services is primarily related to the addition of SPED liaison services (based on caseload). Supplies & Materials are consumable items that are used on a day to day basis and include placement testing materials, proctoring, IEP mandates and instructional supplies. The increase is mainly attributed to anticipated needs for testing materials and supplies. Other Variable Costs cover student site visits, professional organization dues, conferences and travel expenses. The decrease in Other Variable Costs reflects historical trends and anticipated needs.

TOTAL INSTRUCTION		\$ 14,710,781	\$ 15,986,271	\$ 16,520,776	\$ 534,505	3.34%
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BLACKSTONE VALLEY VOCATIONAL REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Upton, Massachusetts

FY 2025 OPERATING BUDGET - OTHER SCHOOL SERVICES FUNCTION (3000)

Pupil Transportation Function 3300	% of Other Sch. Svcs. Total: 61.1%	FY2022-2023 Actual	FY2023-2024 Approved Budget	FY2024-2025 Requested	Variance from FY24 Budget	% Decrease or Increase
Contracted Services		1,985,111	2,137,303	2,228,643	91,340	
Other Variable Costs		157,879	174,428	182,660	8,232	
Pupil Transportation Total		\$ 2,142,990	\$ 2,311,731	\$ 2,411,303	\$ 99,572	4.31%

Notes: The District re-bid its transportation services contract in January 2022 (effective July 1, 2022). FY2025 will be year three of a three-year contract, with option to renew for two additional years. The increase reflects contracted rates.

Athletics Function 3510	% of Other Sch. Svcs. Total: 18.5%	FY2022-2023 Actual	FY2023-2024 Approved Budget	FY2024-2025 Requested	Variance from FY24 Budget	% Decrease or Increase
Salaries & Wages		396,088	443,401	469,574	26,173	
Full-Time Employees		2.30	2.30	2.30	-	
Contracted Services		138,050	159,290	149,357	(9,933)	
Supplies & Materials		46,746	42,817	44,422	1,605	
Other Variable Costs		64,240	77,421	71,244	(6,177)	
Athletics Total		\$ 645,124	\$ 722,929	\$ 734,597	\$ 11,668	1.61%

Notes: Salaries & Wages include an athletic director, trainer, fitness room monitors, coaching stipends and athletic officiating (referees, ticket takers, clock operators, game administrators etc.) Contracted Services includes athletic bus transportation, ice hockey fees and equipment reconditioning (i.e. helmets, protective gear etc.). The decrease in Contracted Services reflects historical trends and anticipated needs. Supplies & Materials are the consumable items required to carry out each sport and ancillary items for the athletic program. The increase is indicative of inflationary costs. Other Variable Costs include officiating, professional organization dues, fees & registrations and training workshops, including concussion screening previously funded by the MA Concussion Coalition. The decrease in Other Variable Costs reflects historical trends and anticipated needs.

School Based Health Center/Nurses/Café Function 3200, 3400	% of Other Sch. Svcs. Total: 8.5%	FY2022-2023 Actual	FY2023-2024 Approved Budget	FY2024-2025 Requested	Variance from FY24 Budget	% Decrease or Increase
Salaries & Wages		73,105	67,253	70,592	3,339	
Full-Time Employees		0.8	0.8	0.8	-	
Contracted Services		216,807	280,097	255,097	(25,000)	
Supplies & Materials		5,418	8,300	7,000	(1,300)	
Other Variable Costs		-	800	800	-	
Technology		1,720	1,756	1,824	68	
School Based Health Center Total		\$ 297,050	\$ 358,206	\$ 335,313	\$ (22,893)	-6.39%

Notes: Salaries & Wages include the school nutritionist. Contracted Services include the School Physician (employed through Reliant Medical Group), two school nurses (employed through Stepping Stones Group) and funding of the school based health center [SBHC] which has been funded in partnership with Milford Regional Medical Center [MRMC]. BVT funds a portion of the SBHC services that is in excess of a \$150k grant received from the Department of Public Health and passed through MRMC. MRMC is committed to managing this valuable service for the physical and social/emotional health needs of the district. Supplies and materials are the consumable items used in day to day operations. Other Variable Costs cover school nurse software system and cafeteria sponsorship, if necessary. Technology includes software subscription related to health medical record management, which incurs a minor increase year over year. Other fluctuations in this section reflect historical trends and anticipated needs.

BLACKSTONE VALLEY VOCATIONAL REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Upton, Massachusetts

FY 2025 OPERATING BUDGET - OTHER SCHOOL SERVICES FUNCTION (3000)

Student Body Activities Function 3520's	% of Other Sch. Svcs. Total: 7.7%	FY2022-2023 Actual	FY2023-2024 Approved Budget	FY2024-2025 Requested	Variance from FY24 Budget	% Decrease or Increase
Salaries & Wages		72,317	85,955	88,649	2,694	
Supplies / Contract Services		201,296	154,895	214,195	59,300	
Other Variable Costs		-	750	400	(350)	
Student Body Activities Total		\$ 273,613	\$ 241,600	\$ 303,244	\$ 61,644	25.51%

Notes: Salaries & Wages represent student body program stipends per the teachers' contract and an administrative support stipend. Supplies and Contract Services are the consumable items used for carrying out program activities and include an offset for fund raising efforts where applicable. Major activities include Skills USA, DECA, Robotics, Model United Nations, Student Council and Commencement. The increase is primarily attributed to increased student qualifications to participate in the Skills USA national competition. Other Variable Costs relate to travel expenses for student conferences and the financial audit that is required every three years. The minor reduction reflects historical trends and anticipated need.

Student Body Security Function 3600	% of Other Sch. Svcs. Total: 4.1%	FY2022-2023 Actual	FY2023-2024 Approved Budget	FY2024-2025 Requested	Variance from FY24 Budget	% Decrease or Increase
Salaries & Wages		20,665	85,000	95,978	10,978	
Full-Time Employees		-	2.00	2.00	-	
Contracted Services		60,000	60,000	60,000	-	
Supplies & Materials		-	1,500	1,800	300	
Other Variable Costs		2,399	2,576	2,870	294	
Technology		625	656	660	4	
Student Body Activities Total		\$ 83,689	\$ 149,732	\$ 161,308	\$ 11,576	7.73%

Notes: Security provides oversight to the student body during the school day and during certain extra-curricular student activities. Salaries & Wages contain two campus safety FTE which enhance the district's various school security needs. Contracted Services reflects the ongoing partnership established with the Upton Police Department. Supplies & Materials include restraint training workbooks and other consumables needed for visitor badges, etc. Other Variable Costs relate to attendance and travel cost for restraint certification training.

Technology represents the annual maintenance for the visitor management system. The District is also able to benefit from the local police department's emergency alert system, Rave Panic Button. This application simultaneously communicates emergencies to 9-1-1, on-site personnel and first responders in seconds.

TOTAL OTHER SCHOOL SVCS		\$ 3,442,466	\$ 3,784,198	\$ 3,945,765	\$ 161,567	4.27%
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BLACKSTONE VALLEY VOCATIONAL REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Upton, Massachusetts

FY 2025 OPERATING BUDGET - FACILITY/OPERATION & MAINTENANCE FUNCTION (4000)

Custodial Services Function 4110	% of Facility Total: 17.0%	FY2022-2023 Actual	FY2023-2024 Approved Budget	FY2024-2025 Requested	Variance from FY24 Budget	% Decrease or Increase
Salaries & Wages		328,091	372,388	384,462	12,074	
Full-Time Employees		7.0	7.0	7.0	-	
Supplies & Materials		36,228	47,600	42,350	(5,250)	
Custodial Services Total		\$ 364,319	\$ 419,988	\$ 426,812	\$ 6,824	1.62%

Notes: Current FTE's allow the District to meet the national standard for Level 3 cleaning (i.e. ~30,000 sq.ft. per custodian), which is the norm for most school facilities. Salaries & Wages includes custodial staff and any required substitutes. Supplies & Materials are the consumable items required by the custodial staff to accomplish daily cleaning and upkeep to maintain a healthy school. The decrease in Supplies & Materials reflects historical trends and anticipated needs.

Maintenance Function 4210/4220/4230/4300	% of Facility Total: 34.7%	FY2022-2023 Actual	FY2023-2024 Approved Budget	FY2024-2025 Requested	Variance from FY24 Budget	% Decrease or Increase
Salaries & Wages		547,073	548,330	572,080	23,750	
Full-Time Employees		7.5	7.5	7.5	-	
Contracted Services		147,603	162,203	156,393	(5,810)	
Supplies & Materials		125,119	139,177	136,248	(2,929)	
Other Variable Costs		2,296	1,945	3,795	1,850	
Technology		4,200	-	4,200	4,200	
Maintenance Total		\$ 826,291	\$ 851,655	\$ 872,716	\$ 21,061	2.47%

Notes: Contracted Services include outside grounds/field maintenance costs such as lawn care and parking lot maintenance, and preventative maintenance contracts related to boilers, elevators, energy management system, sprinkler system, competition center/gym bleachers and any other building requirements outside the scope of staff services. Supplies & Materials are the consumable items required to maintain a fully operational building, the fleet of vehicles, and the grounds (such as sand, salt, mulch and paint). Other Variable Costs include professional organization dues/fees. Technology includes annual software updates for district wide cameras. The fluctuations on each line reflect historical trends and anticipated needs.

BLACKSTONE VALLEY VOCATIONAL REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Upton, Massachusetts

FY 2025 OPERATING BUDGET - FACILITY/OPERATION & MAINTENANCE FUNCTION (4000)

Utilities/Tech Maintenance Function 4120/4130/4400/4450	% of Facility Total: 48.3%	FY2022-2023 Actual	FY2023-2024 Approved Budget	FY2024-2025 Requested	Variance from FY24 Budget	% Decrease or Increase
Salaries & Wages		322,905	338,901	377,919	39,018	
Full-Time Employees		5.0	5.0	5.0	-	
Contracted Services		94,057	104,640	114,195	9,555	
Supplies & Materials		548,622	617,216	626,209	8,993	
Other Fixed Costs		11,399	14,598	14,832	234	
Technology		83,725	86,006	79,595	(6,411)	
Utilities/Tech Maintenance Total		\$ 1,060,708	\$ 1,161,361	\$ 1,212,750	\$ 51,389	4.42%

Notes: Salaries & Wages include personnel related to maintaining and supporting the district's technology infrastructure as defined by the Department of Elementary & Secondary Education. Contracted Services consist of fuel oil, trash removal, water/sewer charges and hazardous waste removal. The increase is primarily attributed to higher contract prices, which now include a fuel service fee. Supplies & Materials include electricity and natural gas consumption. The change is largely attributed to an increase in projected electricity and natural gas usage and rates based on historical trends, offset by increasing solar power credits. Other Fixed Costs pertain to the telephone system and usage.

Technology includes primary internet access inclusive of 5 Gigabytes of fiber bandwidth, firewall/antivirus, data storage and backup, network licensing and engineering/technical support services. The decrease in Technology reflects historical trends and anticipated need, offset with e-Rate savings.

TOTAL FACILITY		\$ 2,251,318	\$ 2,433,004	\$ 2,512,278	\$ 79,274	3.26%
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BLACKSTONE VALLEY VOCATIONAL REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Upton, Massachusetts

FY 2025 OPERATING BUDGET - FIXED CHARGES FUNCTION (5000)

Other Fringe Function 5100, 5200	% of Fixed Chrg.Total: 88.4%	FY2022-2023 Actual	FY2023-2024 Approved Budget	FY2024-2025 Requested	Variance from FY24 Budget	% Decrease or Increase
Employee Benefits: Health/Life		2,846,544	3,029,400	3,214,932	185,532	
Retiree Benefits: Health/Life/Pension		1,348,034	1,542,118	1,808,004	265,886	
Other Fixed Costs		15,050	15,925	16,275	350	
Other Fringe Total		\$ 4,209,628	\$ 4,587,443	\$ 5,039,211	\$ 451,768	9.85%

Notes: This area represents health and life insurance benefits for employees and retirees, as well as Other Post-Employment Benefits [OPEB] liability funding for MTRS retirees, and state pension assessments for non-MTRS retirees.

The increase in Employee Benefits is attributed to known increases to active employee health insurance plan offerings. For the two Harvard Pilgrim HMO plans offered (Tiered and Best Buy) there is a 4.5% increase to the FY25 budget.

The increase in Retiree Benefits is mainly attributed to an increase in the number of participants within the state employee retirement system (pension for non-MTRS retirees) and health insurance rate increases that range from 5.40% to 8.25%, depending on the plan choice. Retiree health costs are driven by four factors: (1) the number of covered individuals; (2) plan selection which is affected by age; (3) plan rates which are affected by plan design; and (4) in the case of GIC retirees, the employee's retirement date and inclusion on the GIC's annual invoice (GIC cost share ratios: retiree contributes 10% of premium if retired prior to July 1, 1990 and 15% if retired after July 1, 1990). Additionally, the district continues to take action to address funding concerns surrounding Other Post-Employment Benefits [OPEB] liabilities for retirees. Required contributions are made by Teacher's Association employees, and the District is committed to a matching contribution of \$31,720.

Other Fixed Costs reflect negotiated contract obligations.

Insurance, Leases & Fees Function 52xx, 5300, 5500	% of Fixed Chrg.Total: 11.6%	FY2022-2023 Actual	FY2023-2024 Approved Budget	FY2024-2025 Requested	Variance from FY24 Budget	% Decrease or Increase
Contracted Services		234,705	259,796	278,811	19,015	
Other Fixed Costs		279,720	358,548	380,863	22,315	
Insurance Total		\$ 514,425	\$ 618,344	\$ 659,674	\$ 41,330	6.68%

Notes: Contracted Services represent insurance coverage that is designed to mitigate the financial impact of employment related risks. The anticipated change is primarily attributed to a 10% increase for property, casualty, and general liability insurance in addition to a 5.5% increase for workers' compensation over prior year actuals. Other Fixed Costs include employer Medicare and Unemployment payroll expenses, as well as student accident expenses. The increase is primarily driven by the change in wage base which has a direct impact on the calculation of employer taxes.

TOTAL FIXED CHARGES		\$ 4,724,053	\$ 5,205,787	\$ 5,698,885	\$ 493,098	9.47%
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BLACKSTONE VALLEY VOCATIONAL REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Upton, Massachusetts

FY 2025 OPERATING BUDGET - FIXED ASSETS FUNCTION (7000)

Acquisition of Fixed Assets Function 7300, 7500	% of Fixed Assets Total: 100.0%	FY2022-2023 Actual	FY2023-2024 Approved Budget	FY2024-2025 Requested	Variance from FY24 Budget	% Decrease or Increase
Capital Equipment		146,112	83,450	-	(83,450)	
Capital Equipment/Vehicles		7,100	-	-	-	
Equipment/Vehicle Totals		\$ 153,212	\$ 83,450	\$ -	\$ (83,450)	0.00%

Notes: Fixed Assets normally include the purchase of technology infrastructure items (i.e. servers, switches, storage devices etc.), non-instructional equipment, vehicles for student transportation, and campus maintenance. The district continues to seek additional grants and other revenue sources for its investment in required capital improvements, technology, equipment, and vehicle purchases as identified and developed annually with program advisory committees.

TOTAL FIXED ASSETS		\$ 153,212	\$ 83,450	\$ -	\$ (83,450)	0.00%
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BLACKSTONE VALLEY VOCATIONAL REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Upton, Massachusetts

FY 2025 OPERATING BUDGET

DEBT FUNCTION (8000) & SCHOOL CHOICE / TRANSFERS FUNCTION (9000)

Bond Principal Function 8100	Percentage of Debt Total 94.6%	FY2022-2023 Actual	FY2023-2024 Approved Budget	FY2024-2025 Requested	Variance from FY24 Budget	% Decrease or Increase
Other Fixed Costs		375,000	370,000	365,000	(5,000)	
Bond Principal Total		\$ 375,000	\$ 370,000	\$ 365,000	\$ (5,000)	-1.35%

Notes: Per long-term bond schedule (principal portion).

Note: On 12/01/2014 previous debt was refinanced over a 10-year period (FY16 thru FY25). The refinanced debt resulted in an overall cost reduction of \$461,168 (\$135,000 principal and \$326,168 interest) over the 10-year period.

Bond Interest Function 8200	Percentage of Debt Total: 4.1%	FY2022-2023 Actual	FY2023-2024 Approved Budget	FY2024-2025 Requested	Variance from FY24 Budget	% Decrease or Increase
Other Variable Costs		-	5,000	10,950	5,950	
Other Fixed Costs		33,300	22,050	5,000	(17,050)	
Bond Interest Total		\$ 33,300	\$ 27,050	\$ 15,950	\$ (11,100)	-41.04%

Notes: Fixed costs are per long-term bond schedule (interest portion). Variable costs include R.A.N. (Revenue Anticipation Note) interest.

School Choice & Transfers Function 9000	Percentage of Debt Total: 1.3%	FY2022-2023 Actual	FY2023-2024 Approved Budget	FY2024-2025 Requested	Variance from FY24 Budget	% Decrease or Increase
Other Variable Costs		11,450	15,000	5,000	(10,000)	
Other Fixed Costs		710,000	-	-	-	
School Choice-Transfers Out Total		\$ 721,450	\$ 15,000	\$ 5,000	\$ (10,000)	0.00%

Notes: Variable costs include school choice assessments and fixed costs reflect authorized school committee transfers to regional transportation stabilization and capital project funds. Per the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education's School Choice sending roster, the District has three School Choice students in FY24 versus one in FY25.

TOTAL DEBT/CHOICE/TRANSFERS		\$ 1,129,750	\$ 412,050	\$ 385,950	\$ (26,100)	-6.33%
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TOTAL OPERATING BUDGET		\$ 27,683,660	\$ 29,323,858	\$ 30,467,488	\$ 1,143,630	3.90%
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Multiple Cost Centers

“What the Blackstone Valley Vocational Regional School District can accomplish within their operational budget is pretty remarkable. Our regional vocational technical high school has been a dependable partner, and we shall continue to call upon them in future projects.”

– Joseph Laydon,
Upton Town Manager



One of These Things is Not Like the Other

Annually, we request an all-inclusive, one-time consolidated assessment to each of our member towns. Any valid attempt to compare or contrast BVT versus local per-pupil costs must first add the multiple cost center subsidies found within the municipal and not school side of the ledger. Such expenses include but are not limited to:

- Central office
- Capital improvements
- Casualty insurance
- Debt
- Federal revenue shortfalls
- Health insurance
- Legal expenses
- Life insurance
- Pension obligations
- Property insurance
- School resource officer
- State revenue shortfalls
- Trash, recycling, and snow removal
- Treasurer, audit, and other expenses
- Unemployment
- Workers compensation

With winter upon us, it's easy to imagine it's a snowy night throughout the district. Many families are anticipating a late start, school cancellation, or remote work day.

Apples: In our sending towns, the highway departments are gearing up for snow removal within their municipalities, including local schools. We are pleased to observe this level of additional support. No matter what the morning brings, school parking lots, sidewalks, and pathways will be safe for students and staff.

Oranges: In Upton, where BVT is located, the town highway department will not be clearing our campus of snow. Alternatively, we are responsible for providing safe passage for our students and staff, and paying for snow removal, including the cost of equipment (truck, plow, and salt spreader) and ongoing maintenance and insurance.

Known for our cost saving approaches, we've earned a reputation for going the extra mile and investigating new techniques. Case in point, we're working with our health insurance brokers to examine claims to identify new wellness supports, which will subsequently reduce insurance costs and the demand for budgetary funding.

Budget Building Process

*Thank you again for
your hospitality and for
sharing your school with us.*

*It is clear that BVT is
committed to providing
students with the highest
quality education
and training.*

– Kevin Stilphen,
Director, Portland Arts
& Technology High School

There are many steps to creating an operational budget. Our process is a multifaceted, mindful approach involving collaboration among members of our school community and informed stakeholders. It is their commitment and our partnerships that make this endeavor possible.



Program Advisory Committee Review

The business leaders, industry professionals, and alumni on our Program Advisory Committee validate and rank program requests, such as new curriculums and equipment recommendations. Additionally, they provide insight on industry trends, which helps us create a learning environment that mirrors the diverse, global workforce.



Budget Subcommittee Working Sessions

From October to March of each year, our subcommittee will examine, discuss, investigate, research, expand, delete, or otherwise modify the eventual budget, which is then submitted to our School Committee for approval.



Final Product of Budget Subcommittee

Each year the Governor announces a plan to release the new state budget early in the calendar year. Rather than rely upon estimates, the BVT budget will incorporate specifics from the Commonwealth's plan as it becomes available.



School Council Review & Approval Vote

Our School Council, composed of dedicated parents, students, teachers, and representatives from municipal governments, businesses, and collegiate organizations, provides insight to our principal by reviewing our annual budget and providing valuable feedback regarding the school's long-term master plan.



Public Hearing

This legally posted gathering will enable representatives of the public at large to share their views on the new FY25 budget.



School Committee Review & Approval Vote

Prior to releasing its FY25 fiscal budget to our 13 member communities, the regional School Committee completes a final review.



Certification to Member Communities

Our District Treasurer distributes the final approved fiscal budget to our 13 towns.

Grants & Donations

As part of our mission to transform education, BVT complements community support by seeking non-taxpayer resources through the aggressive pursuit of available public and private grants or donations to enhance learning and support programs and services for its students.

We're proud to share that with a \$20,000 grant from the MetroWest Health Foundation the funding will support our continued partnership with Cartwheel Care in the 2024-2025 school year. Cartwheel Care offers telehealth mental health service through our school counseling department for our students and their parents.

* The District also receives substantial non-cash donations in the form of tools, technology, and raw materials.

Federal Entitlement Grants	Amount
IDEA (<i>Special Education</i>)	\$351,972
Perkins V (<i>Secondary</i>)	\$175,650
Title I	\$40,781
Title IIA	\$15,732
IDEA Part B (<i>Special Education Program Improvement</i>)	\$11,314
Title IV	\$10,000
CTE Postsecondary Programs-Perkins Reserve (<i>PN Program</i>)	\$4,386
Federal Entitlement Grants Subtotal	\$609,835

Other Federal/State Grants	Amount
Dept. of Public Health (<i>School Based Health Center w/Milford Reg. Medical Center</i>)	\$150,000
Other Federal/State Grants Subtotal	\$150,000

Competitive Grants	Amount
Action for Healthy Kids-Healthy Meals Incentives (<i>School Meal Program Improvement: Walk-In, Taste Tests</i>)	\$65,800
MetroWest Health Foundation-Responsive Grant (<i>Student Mental Health Support: Cartwheel Care Telehealth Services</i>)	\$20,000
Bayer Fund (<i>FIRST Robotics Team 61 Competition Entry Fees</i>)	\$3,000
Member Town Cultural Councils (<i>Multicultural Festival 2024</i>)	\$2,660
Rochester Institute of Technology-PLTW Mini-Grant (<i>College Credit Registration-Based Grant for PLTW Engineering</i>)	\$1,500
BVEF-UniBank Enrichment (<i>Engineering: Architectural/Engineering Ruler Sets and Yardsticks</i>)	\$1,000
Member Town Cultural Councils (<i>Art Show 2024</i>)	\$800
Competitive Grants Subtotal	\$94,760

Donations – Superintendent	Amount
Golf Tournament (<i>Net Event Proceeds</i>)	\$11,352
Blissful Meadows (<i>Professional Development</i>)	\$6,784
Vendetti Bus Company (<i>Culinary TSA's EXIS Tabletop Training Exercise</i>)	\$5,000
UniBank (<i>Community Project Transportation</i>)	\$4,000
Millbury Credit Union (<i>Community Project Transportation</i>)	\$3,000
Bank Hometown (<i>Community Project Transportation</i>)	\$2,500
Charles River Bank (<i>Community Project Transportation</i>)	\$1,000
Donations – Superintendent Subtotal	\$33,636

FY24 GRAND TOTAL	\$888,231
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Note: Additional grant proposals are under consideration.

Return on Investment

I was impressed with the staff, students, and curriculum at BVT. A lot of thought and effort over the past 30 years went into making what BVT is today. You have renewed my faith in our future for getting young, well-rounded people into the trades! I only wish there were more schools like yours in MA. Keep up the great work!

– Vincent Tingley,
Tingley Electric

Thank you for being generous with your time and sharing the great work you've done at BVT. We left with new ideas to take back to Medway.

– Armand Pires, Ph.D.,
Superintendent, Medway
Public Schools

In preparing our FY25 budget, BVT is committed to presenting a one-time consolidated budget request. Regardless of any unforeseen shortfalls within anticipated revenue streams, BVT will work with the dollars requested and not seek additional funding for FY25 via a special town meeting.

Transforming Education

We continually update our academic and vocational curriculum to meet the needs of our students' dual education. Likewise, our instructors stay current on industry standards and new technology. Visit our campus and see the transformation for yourself.

Capital Improvements

Using their vocational training and skills to complete multiple cost-saving public work projects on campus and in our 13-town district communities, our students build their skills and resumes while providing welcome financial relief for local municipal budgets.

99% Graduation Rate

Our impressive 99% graduation rate reflects our commitment to helping students achieve their full potential in academic and vocational coursework, which compares favorably to the state average of an 89.8% graduation rate.



Highly Skilled Graduates

Our students advance skill development to meet industry standards for high-demand trades within our region through career-connected pathways, cooperative education, and community projects. Our highly skilled graduates are ready to contribute to the workforce, but some professions require additional training, a college degree, or military service.

Supplementary \$\$\$

Federal, state, and private grants help offset expenditures, complement local dollars, and enhance our programs and services. Our students, aware of the rising cost of post-secondary education and training, pursue scholarships to help advance their careers.

Maximizing Resources

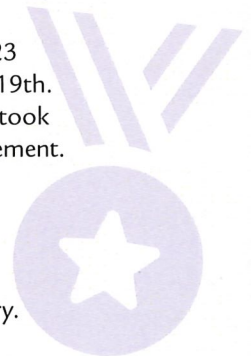
With one of the longest-running instructional school years of any public school in Massachusetts, we maximize our time together and use in-house vocational resources when feasible. Our students and staff complete various services to enhance and maintain our aging facility.

Academic Achievements

The Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS) exams have played a role in determining a student's readiness for career and college. Our students have an enviable history of high student growth and achievement on the MCAS exams.

The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) released the 2023 Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS) results on September 19th. The recent data reflects the scores of our current juniors (the Class of 2025), who took the MCAS exam as sophomores. The results showed continuous growth and achievement.

We're proud to share that 80% of students in English Language Arts were in the Exceeding or Meeting Expectations category. In Mathematics, 62% of students were in the Exceeding or Meeting Expectations category. In Science (Biology and Physics), 70% of students were in the Exceeding or Meeting Expectations category. All were well above the reported state averages.



MCAS Results Show Growth and Achievement

Millbury-Sutton Chronicle – November 2, 2023

BVT's Academic Curriculum Coordinator, Edward Evans updated the District School Committee with a summary of the MCAS results during its October meeting:

- 80% of students in English Language Arts were in the Exceeding or Meeting Expectations category.
- In Mathematics, 62% of students were in the Exceeding or Meeting Expectations category.
- In Science (Biology and Physics), 70% of students were in the Exceeding or Meeting Expectations category.

All were well above the reported state averages.



Impressed by Our Mission

Blackstone Valley Xpress – October 6, 2023

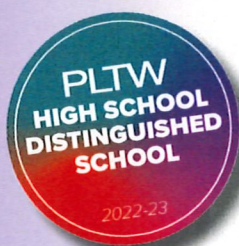
Students, staff, and administrators recently welcomed members of the National Defense University International Fellows program to their campus. The visiting group of veterans and active-duty military officials representing 83 countries were excited to tour the school and speak with students about their education. At BVT, the group received a first-hand look at career technical education. They walked the hallways, observed teachers and students at work in 18 modern vocational shops, and peeked into classrooms. The tour ended with tasty treats professionally prepared and arranged by students in the Culinary Arts program for the visitors to enjoy before participating in a question-and-answer session with administrators and students.



Fueling Students for Success with Healthy Meals Incentives Grant

Blackstone Valley Tribune – September 15, 2023

The BVT Food Services program is fueling its students for success through high-quality breakfast and lunch offerings that are nutritious and delicious. As a proud recipient of a \$65,800 Healthy Meals Incentives grant from Action for Healthy Kids (AFHK), the funds will support their efforts to enhance the nutritional quality of school meals. BVT is proud to partner with AFHK and USDA to strengthen its school meal program.



Named a PLTW Distinguished H.S. Six Years in a Row!

The New Uxbridge Times – August 2023

The nationally recognized nonprofit organization Project Lead the Way (PLTW) has named BVT a 2022-23 PLTW Distinguished School. It is the sixth consecutive year that the school has earned this national recognition.

"It is an impressive honor to be recognized for our continuous commitment to empowering student access, engagement, and achievement in our PLTW programs," said Superintendent, Dr. Michael F. Fitzpatrick. "I am immensely proud of our students and staff who always aspire to achieve in all aspects of the curriculum. This credential is a testament to the quality of cross-curricular instruction and those willing to do the work."

Generous Donation Supports Career Education

The Yankee Express – April 28, 2023

PulteGroup, Inc., one of America's largest homebuilders, announced recently that its New England division has contributed \$10,000 to the BVT Educational Foundation, Inc. The donation will enhance students' learning experiences in the Advanced Manufacturing & Fabrication, Construction Technology, Electrical, HVAC&R, and Plumbing programs. We are honored to have a partner like the PulteGroup supporting vocational technical education.