

## Woodbridge Public School's 2022-2023 Budget Narrative

January 9, 2023

The attached financial reports represent six months (50%) of the fiscal year.

**100 Series Salaries** - Salaries represent 62% of the budget. A combination of vacancies and turn over where new staff are paid at a lower rate than their predecessors has us currently showing \$293,000 of salary savings. Although we expect this to decrease in the second half of the fiscal year, it is proving difficult to fill all the paraeducator vacancies.

**200 Series Benefits** – Benefits are 20% of our budget and are based on the elections of last year's staff. Medical insurance is running as budgeted. However, a combination of FICA and MERF are running \$36,000 over budget which could grow as we are not currently fully staffed.

**300 Series Purchased Professional Services**- This category represents 3% of our budget and includes legal, audit and other expenses that are generated on a month-by-month basis. We are currently forecasting an \$82,000 overage in this category due to the Substitutes, an unbudgeted Superintendent search, the need for a Single Audit for the prior fiscal year and unanticipated temporary staffing due to a medical leave. However, there is savings in the Interns line (in the Other Purchased Services category) that will offset the most of the extra Substitute costs.

**400 Series Purchased Property Services** - Utility budgets are 4% of the total budget and have been increased over the previous year to keep up with higher natural gas and heating costs. The winter thus far has been on the warm side and can slightly soften our previous month's estimates for natural gas. This month we added an unbudgeted \$35,000 for an Air Quality audit required by GA Bill 5560 that needs to be completed by next year.

**500 Series Other Purchased Services** - This category is 8.2% of our budget and includes student transportation, tuition, interns, liability insurance and items that do not fall within the professional services/property services categories. Last month we estimated a \$200,000 budget deficit in this category due to needing one additional special education bus, and additional outplaced tuition and transportation services – this month the picture improved materially as the Woodbridge Board of Selectman approved a \$131,000 transfer of prior year Open Choice receipts to the BOE which can be used to offset some of the special education transportation and outplaced tuition expenses we are experiencing. With the newly allotted funds, this category is still running \$137,000 over budget.

**600 Series Materials and Supplies** – These supplies account for 1.7% of our budget. With the exception of custodial/maintenance supplies, this category directly supports classroom instruction. As supplies accounts were frozen last year, we anticipate needing to use all of the available balances this fiscal year.

**700 Series Furniture and Equipment** - This category represents 3/10 of one percent of the budget and should not exceed its allocation.

**800 Series Dues and Fees** – This budget category is small but important as it links staff to professional organizations that help keep them up-to-date in their respective academic fields.

**900 Series Misc. Expenses** - The primary expense in this category is the Ezra Nurse, a non-public health expense we are required by law to maintain.