



Barrington Public Schools

283 County Road
Barrington, RI 02806
401-245-5000
barringtonschools.org

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CONTACT:

Michael B. Messore III, Superintendent
401-245-5000 ext. 1

The Barrington School Committee will hold a **special meeting on Monday, March 6, at 8:15 a.m.**, to finalize its recommendation to the Committee on Appropriations regarding the Fiscal Year 2018 (FY18) budget for the Barrington Public Schools. ([Meeting will be available on "Livestream"](#))

At its meeting on Thursday, March 2, the Committee gave approval for a proposed FY18 budget of \$49,713,094. Upon further analysis, however, Superintendent Michael B. Messore III informed the Committee on Friday that the proposed budget requires a 4.60% over the current fiscal year in the town's contribution to the school district budget. As a result, the School Committee requested a special meeting in order to comply with the 4% tax limitation.

District officials noted **increases to particular budget items** that contribute to higher costs, including contractual obligations for staff salaries (\$705,495) and benefits (\$229,110), support services for students with disabilities (\$134,354), transportation (\$82,654), out-of-district tuitions (\$182,087), and charter school tuitions (\$32,077). These increases, totaling more than \$1.36 million in expenses over the current school year, are compounded by an **anticipated decrease in state aid** of \$53,808, requiring a greater proportion of the budget to be paid through local property tax.

One of the key budget issues the School Committee continues to examine is the potential cost impact of a proposal to change school schedules in order to adopt a **later start time** at Barrington High School. The cost of the start time changes was previously estimated at \$419,113, but after identifying cost-saving measures, the administration presented a revised estimate last week of \$307,821. At its meeting on Monday, the School Committee and the administration will further examine the cost implications of the start time proposal and explore additional options for reducing overall expenditures related to that matter and other areas of spending.

The Committee is required to submit its budget recommendation to the Committee on Appropriations by Monday, March 6, 2017.