

Fully Funding Portsmouth's School Budget:

A Smart Investment in Excellence

Preserve What Works. **Invest** in What's **Next**.



Excellence Worth Maintaining

Nationally Recognized Locally Valued

#4 – Traditional Public School District in the State

As ranked by Niche.com

Two of New Hampshire's Thirteen Blue Ribbon Schools since 2020

Decades of consistent academic success

Strong community and family support



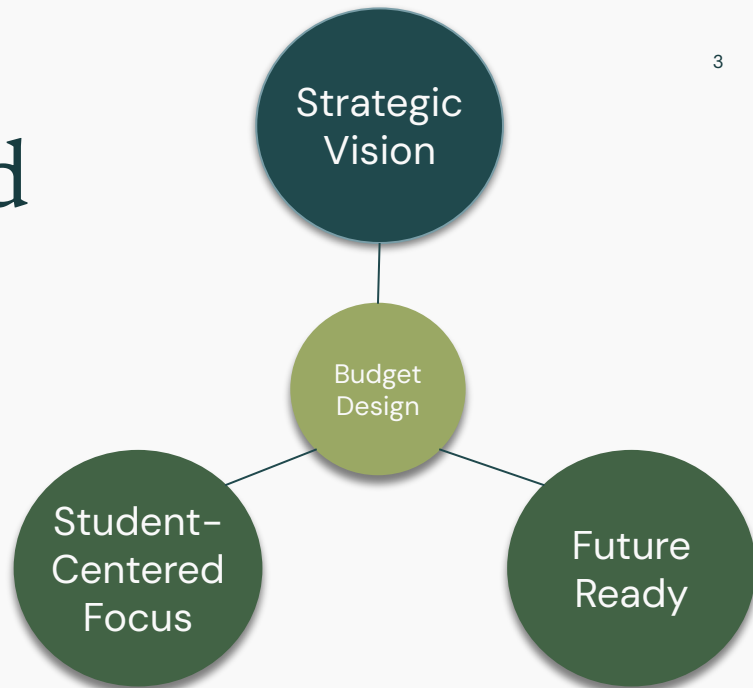
National Blue Ribbon Schools

A National Blue Ribbon School is a recognized U.S. school that exemplifies excellence in teaching and learning, and is honored by the U.S. Department of Education. The program recognizes both public and non-public schools that demonstrate outstanding academic achievement or significant progress in closing achievement gaps among student groups.

This Budget Preserves and Reinvests, Not Expands

Context

- No new positions added—just repurposed retirements
- Designed to advance 3 strategic goals
- Rooted in the community's voice via the *Portrait of a Graduate* and 5 year Strategic Plan



Focus Area 1 – Rigorous, Aligned K–12 Curriculum



We will ensure a rigorous and aligned K-12 curriculum and instruction that provides access to all students, and create engaging, relevant and meaningful learning experiences.

K-5 Intensive Needs Teacher

Ensures that students with complex learning needs receive targeted, high-quality instruction that aligns with grade-level standards and promotes equitable access to academic success

Intensive Needs Paraeducators (3)

Provides individualized instructional support that enables students with diverse learning needs to fully engage with grade-level content.

Director of Counseling

Ensures that academic advising, social-emotional learning, and student support systems are coordinated and integrated to promote consistent, equitable access to learning across all grade levels.

HS Design Engineering Teacher

Expands access to hands-on, interdisciplinary learning that integrates STEM standards with real-world problem-solving and college- and career-readiness skills.

Middle School Behavioral Program Teacher

Supports students with behavioral challenges so they can remain engaged in academic instruction and access the full scope of grade-level learning.

Investing in the People Who Teach and Lead

Focus Area 2 – Building Educator Capacity

We will build the capacity of all educators through high-quality feedback systems paired with ongoing learning and development in a culture of reflection.

Director of Counseling

supports staff development, staff supervision and evaluation, SEL alignment, and counseling coordination



Keeping Students Safe, Supported, and Included

Focus Area 3 – Student Safety, Well-Being & Belonging

We will deeply know our students, develop their self-efficacy and self-awareness, and focus on their safety, well-being and belonging.

Bonus Outcome:

Expanded in-district special education services, reducing out-of-district placements and costs

District Social Worker

Provides direct support to students facing social, emotional, or behavioral challenges and by coordinating services with families that foster inclusive, supportive school environments

Director of Counseling

Provides leadership, coordination, and consistency across all schools' counseling programs—ensuring that every student has equitable access to proactive, developmentally appropriate support for their social, emotional, and mental health needs.

Maintenance Supervisor

Ensures that school facilities are clean, safe, and well-maintained, creating a physical environment where students feel secure, respected, and ready to learn

K-5 Intensive Needs Teacher

Provides specialized, consistent support to students with complex needs, ensuring they can learn and thrive inclusively within their neighborhood schools.

Middle School Behavioral Program Teacher

Delivers targeted behavioral support and interventions that help students remain engaged in learning and successfully integrated into the school community.

Fully Fund the Future of Portsmouth

01

PROTECT

Protect what makes Portsmouth schools **exceptional**



02

ADVANCE

Advance strategic goals—**efficiently**



03

RESPOND

Respond to real costs with **no staff expansion**



04

SUPPORT

Keep more students **supported** in their **community**



THE REQUEST

We respectfully ask the City Council to fully fund the FY26 school budget.