

# WINDHAM RAYMOND SCHOOL DISTRICT

## Regional School Unit #14

228 Windham Center Road

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<http://www.windhamraymondschools.org>

*SUPERINTENDENT*

Sanford J. Prince IV

*Assistant Superintendent*

Donn S. Davis

March 15, 2011

To Our RSU 14 School Community:

It is my pleasure to communicate to you regarding the “*Superintendent’s Proposed FY12 Operating Budget*” that I will be presenting to the RSU 14 Board of Directors on March 16, 2011. As you are undoubtedly aware, school systems across the country and our state are facing extraordinary challenges in the development of operating budgets due to these, the most difficult of economic times.

As the School Board and I work to develop the “*School Board’s Proposed FY12 Operating Budget*,” it is important for our school community to understand that even though state revenues have been reported to be improving, there is still a “structural gap” between revenues and expenses that will impact the State of Maine’s biennial budget. This, combined with the loss of Federal stimulus funds, will make the development of the state budget extremely difficult.

The development of the RSU # 14 FY12 budget will be most challenging due to these factors. A decrease in the combined state and federal allocations results in a preliminary and tentative projecting that we will see a \$188,000 loss in subsidy in Regional School Unit # 14.

Secondly, we will be experiencing increases in fixed costs, such as health insurance, fuels, and insurances – combined with decreases in revenues such as Maine Care. Thirdly, this is the year earmarked for negotiating three labor contracts as a result of the consolidation of the former Windham and Raymond School Departments.

Thanks to the efforts of our highly dedicated staff at all levels, we have ensured the prudent fiscal management of our School District. I greatly appreciate how everyone in this organization has pitched in with the “belt tightening” activities at so very many levels. As you may recall, during both the 2009 and 2010 budgets, we were faced with the curtailment of state funds. These curtailments prevented us from providing the full resources that we had planned for our students.

Again, I want to stress that through our combined community efforts, and our diligent tracing of economic trends, we will continue to strive to ensure that we effectively manage our scarce fiscal resources in a manner that places students first. This will assure that we accomplish our Strategic Plan and the Mission of *Success for All*.

While the proposed FY12 budget is up 3.1%, I would like to remind folks that we saw a decrease of \$424,000 in the FY09 budget, followed by a decrease of \$1,500,000 last year. Sadly, this has meant the loss of over 57 staff members over the last two years. While there will be reductions in staffing levels this year, thankfully, they will not be anywhere near the losses of the last two years

Attached is our budget timeline outlining when the School Board will hear the cost Center presentations from each administrator, as well as when they will designate time for public input.

Staying true to our Mission, I remain confident – even through these tough economic times – that we will continue our journey of providing high quality educational services at a great value. If I can be of any assistance, please feel free to call me.

Sincerely,

*Sandy Prince*

Sanford J. Prince IV  
Superintendent

**2011 - 2012 BUDGET TIMELINE**

**March 14, 2011**

**SUBJECT TO CHANGE**

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- March 16** Superintendent submits budget to the School Board – 6:30 p.m. – Windham Town Council Chambers
- March 23** Cost Centers present to School Board: Raymond Elementary School Gym  
6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.
1. Manchester School – Cindy Curtis
  2. Jordan Small Middle School – Randy Crockett
  3. Raymond Elementary School – Randy Crockett
  4. Windham Primary School – Dr. Kyle Rhoads
- Public Input**
- March 30** Cost Centers present to School Board: Windham Town Council Chambers  
6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.
1. Windham Middle School – Hal Shortsleeve
  2. Windham High School – Deb McAfee
  3. Athletics – Rich Drummond
  4. District Office – Donn Davis
- Public Input**
- April 2** Cost Centers present to School Board: Windham Town Council Chambers –  
8:00 a.m. to Noon
- (SATURDAY)**
1. Special Education – Linda Powell
  2. Facilities – Bill Hansen
  3. Technology – Bob Hickey
  4. Transportation – Mike Kelly
  5. Adult Education – Tom Nash
- Public Input**
- April 6** Public Forum to receive input from public regarding proposed FY12  
Operating Budget : Jordan Small Middle School Gym – 6:30 p.m.
- April 13** Board Deliberates and Votes on 2011 – 2012 Budget: Raymond Broadcast  
Modular
- May 4 – 9** Detailed Budget to Residents, Selectmen, Town Council
- June 1** Public Budget Meeting to Vote on Budget – 6:30 p.m. – Windham High  
School Auditorium
- June 14** Budget Validation Referendum in Windham and Raymond