

MEMO

To: Granby Board of Education
From: Superintendent of Schools
Date: April 1, 2026
Subject: FY27 Budget Reductions to Meet Board of Finance Directive

At the March 23, 2026, Board of Finance meeting, the Board of Education was directed to reduce the FY27 proposed operating budget by an additional \$100,000. In response, I am presenting for your review and approval a set of targeted reductions designed to meet this request while minimizing impact on student programming and district operations.

The revised FY27 Operating Budget is \$40,816,434, representing a 3.55% increase over the FY26 Operating Budget. The Quality & Diversity Fund total of \$1,123,769 and Small Capital Fund spending of \$1,000,000 remain unchanged.

To achieve the required \$100,000 reduction, the following adjustments are recommended:

- **Reduction of School Counseling Secretary Position (GMHS): (\$24,232)**
Due to a retirement, this position can be reduced from a 12-month to a 10-month role. Summer responsibilities, including student registration, course selection, and transcript processing, will be absorbed by existing main office staff.
- **Adjustment to Athletic Stipends (GMHS): (\$11,980)**
A review of participation data identified three stipends that have not been utilized over the past two years (diving, Junior Varsity softball team, and winter cheerleading). These stipends will be removed for FY27. Should participation needs change, funding can be addressed through the Quality & Diversity account. This is considered a one-time reduction.
- **Special Education Purchased Services: (\$16,313)**
While this line will still increase overall to better align with prior-year actual expenditures, the projected increase will be reduced by \$16,000. Given the volatility of these costs, this adjustment carries some risk and may require in-year budget management.
- **Art Staffing Adjustment: (\$47,475)**
High School course requests are coming in lower than expected and the art department has covered a graphic design class in 2025-26 that can be taught by a different teacher (0.1 FTE). The known retirement in this department can therefore be reduced by 0.8 FTE. We further anticipate the high school to decline in enrollment over the next 2-3 years, and we have part-time art teachers in other schools in the district that will be able to increase their FTE to meet the current need.

These recommendations reflect a careful review of available options, including staffing changes through attrition and adjustments based on historical usage. Each reduction was selected to preserve core instructional programs and student support to the greatest extent possible.

I respectfully request that the Board of Education approve these reductions so that we may present a revised budget to the Board of Finance in alignment with their guidance at the Town Budget Hearing on April 6, 2026.