

Town of Belmont Town Administration's Fiscal Year 2014 Budget Recommendation

EDUCATION

BELMONT PUBLIC SCHOOLS:

Town and School Officials as well as Elected Officials, again worked very closely in the budget process to develop a balanced budget recommendation for FY14. Based on available revenues, the Belmont Public Schools total submitted budget for FY14 is \$44,208,210 which is an increase of \$1,139,718, or 2.6%. The proposed FY14 School Budget reflects a reduction of 7.75 FTE positions. The FY14 State Budget submitted by the Governor includes an increase of \$684,350 in Chapter 70 - School Aid and Formula Local Aid to the Town of Belmont. These additional revenues have not been included in the FY14 Town revenue estimates since it is unclear that these additional revenues, which are funded from increases in the state income tax, will be supported by the House of Representatives and State Senate. Once the House of Representatives submits its FY14 Budget proposal a clearer picture on the likelihood of receiving these additional revenues will be determined. Any additional revenues will be used to provide additional resources to Town and School budgets.

For more detailed information on the Belmont Public Schools budget please visit their website at www.belmont.k12.ma.us or call the School Administration Office at (617) 993-5400.

MINUTEMAN ASSESSMENT:

The Town of Belmont is a member of the Minuteman Vocational School District. Each year Minuteman provides an assessment to each member community to fund its annual budget. The FY14 preliminary assessment is \$858,407, which is a decrease from the FY13 assessment of \$939,999. This FY14 assessment is based on approximately 34 Belmont students attending Minuteman.

ABOUT MINUTEMAN:

Minuteman High School is located in Lexington Massachusetts on a 65-acre campus just west of Route 128/I-95 at the intersection of Massachusetts Avenue and Marrett Road (Route 2A). They are a four-year public high school serving a sixteen-town school district plus many cities and towns in Eastern Massachusetts. The school is accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges, and all of its programs operate under MGL Chapter 74 and the auspices of the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. Academic classes and career major classes are delivered on a weekly rotating system (one week academic, one week career major). Enrollment is approximately 700 students across twenty-one career majors.

College preparatory courses in Math, Science, English, World Languages and Business Management and honors courses are offered to students who successfully test to the appropriate level. Starting September 2012, AP English Literature became available to senior students. The Cooperative Education program allows qualifying seniors to work for pay in their field of study approximately 40 hours per week during the career major week.

In addition to a high school diploma, graduating seniors are eligible for industry credentials. In some career majors, hours may be applied toward licensing and apprenticeship program requirements. Programs allow qualified students to: test out of a course, gain college credit while at Minuteman, or take a course through independent study or online.

This information was obtained from the Minuteman School District's website. For more on Minuteman you may visit www.minuteman.org or call the school at (781) 861-6500.



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