



School Committee Meeting Materials

Regular School Committee Meeting and Public Hearing

May 21, 2018

7:00pm

***Ms. Mary A. Manning
Mr. James M. Fleming
Ms. Kristine Wilson***



***Ms. Ana Nuncio
Mr. Manny Cruz
Ms. Amanda Campbell***

Mayor Kimberley Driscoll, Chair

"Know Your Rights Under the Open Meeting Law, M.G.L. c.30A § 18-25 and City Ordinance Sections 2-2028 through 2-2033."

May 21, 2018

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the Salem School Committee will hold a Regular School Committee meeting and Public Hearing on Monday, May 21, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. The meeting will be held in the School Committee Chambers at Collins Middle School, 29 Highland Avenue, Salem, MA.

AMENDED AGENDA

I. Call of Meeting to Order

II. Approval of the Agenda

III. Approval of Minutes

- a. Deliberation and Vote on the Minutes of the Regular School Committee Meeting Held on May 7, 2018

IV. Questions and Comments from the Audience

V. Superintendent's Report – Margarita Ruiz

VI. Presentation and Reports

Pillar 2: Reimagine the High School Experience – Update on High School Redesign

VII. Public Hearing

Public Hearing on Salem's Participation in the Inter-District School Choice program for 2018-19

VIII. Action Items

- a. Deliberation and Vote on Salem's Participation in the Inter-District School Choice Program 2018-19.
- b. Deliberation and Vote on the Approval of the Revised SY 2018-19 School Calendar for Saltonstall School – Tabled from 5/7/18.
- c. Deliberation and Vote on the Nathaniel Bowditch Middle School Students' Participation in the Destination Imagination Finals in Knoxville, TN, May 22 through May 27, 2018.

- d. Deliberation and Vote to Allow the Use of Dominion Funds, up to \$6,500 to Pay for the Remaining Cost of the Nathaniel Bowditch Middle School Students' Destination Imagination Trip.
- e. Deliberation and Vote on the Liberty Innovation School Field Trip as a Whole to Canobie Lake Park at 85N Street, Salem, NH on June 26, 2018 for End of Year Celebration.

IX. Finance Report

a. Approval of Warrants

May 3, 2018 in the amount of \$67, 242.55

May 10, 2018 in the amount of \$354, 890.64

May 17, 2018 in the amount of \$443, 583.11

May 24, 2018 in the amount of \$486, 210. 93

b. Budget Transfer Requests

X. Subcommittee Reports

XI. School Committee Concerns and Resolutions

XII. Questions and Comments from the Audience

Respectfully submitted by:

Angelica Alayon, Secretary to the
Salem School Committee

Salem School Committee
Meeting Minutes
Monday, May 7, 2018

A Regular meeting of the Salem School Committee was held on Monday, May 7, 2018 at 7:05 p.m. in the School Committee Chambers at Collins Middle School, 29 Highland Avenue, Salem, MA.

Members Present: Ms. Mary Manning, Mr. James Fleming, Ms. Kristine Wilson, Ms. Ana Nuncio, Mr. Manny Cruz, Ms. Amanda Campbell, and Mayor Kimberley Driscoll

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Margarita Ruiz, Superintendent, Kate Carbone, Assistant Superintendent for Teaching and Learning, Margaret Marotta, Assistant Superintendent for Pupil Personnel Services, Kristin Shaver, Business Manager, Jill Conrad, Chief of Systems Strategy, and Kelley Rice, Chief of Communications.

Call to Order

Ms. Manning called the Regular Meeting of the Salem School Committee to order at 7:05 p.m.

Approval of the Agenda

Mr. Fleming moved to approve the agenda as presented. Ms. Wilson seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Approval of Minutes

Deliberation and Vote on the Minutes of the Regular School Committee Meeting and Public Hearing Held April 23, 2018

Mr. Fleming motioned to approve the Minutes of the Regular School Committee meeting and Public Hearing held April 23, 2018. Mr. Cruz seconded the Motion. The Motion carried.

Deliberation and Vote on the Minutes of the Committee of Whole (COW) Meeting Held April 30, 2018

Mr. Fleming motioned to approve the Minutes of the Committee of the Whole (COW) meeting held April 30, 2018. Ms. Nuncio seconded the Motion. The Motion carried.

Deliberation and Vote on the Minutes of the Regular School Committee Meeting Held April 30, 2018

Mr. Fleming motioned to approve the Minutes of the Regular School Committee meeting held April 30, 2018. Ms. Campbell seconded the Motion. The Motion carried.

Questions and Comments From the Audience

There were no questions or comments from the audience at this time.

Superintendent's Report – Margarita Ruiz

Superintendent Ruiz notified everyone that 24 Salem Public School students will be participating in the 2018 Special Olympics games hosted at Danvers High School tomorrow. Students will compete at a number of different events. Superintendent Ruiz reported a brief update on how the receiving schools are preparing to welcome students and families from the

Nathaniel Bowditch School for the 2018-19 school year. Not all the details are finalized, as schools are currently focusing on MCAS testing. Many schools have begun reaching out to students and families. Actual welcoming activity dates are still in the works. Much coordination is needed, because they have students at different grade levels that are going to different schools across the district. The idea is to have welcoming days in June, but the logistics of that need to be worked out very carefully. Superintendent Ruiz provided some examples of the work that is happening across the district and stated that they will provide a fuller presentation later this month.

Superintendent Ruiz shared that all of their Salem School chefs and their assistants participated in a master cooking class on a hands-on cooking class that focused on developing eight new multicultural recipes. The recipes will become part of the regular menu at Salem K-8 schools. The goal is to celebrate the diverse student population through food. Ms. Ruiz mentioned some of the new items they have added to the Salem School menus. Superintendent Ruiz updated the School Committee on where they are in the hiring process of the new school leader for the Salem High School. Superintendent Ruiz shared that it is National Teacher Appreciation week and thanked all Salem School teachers, on behalf of their students, for their daily great work in all content areas.

Discussion

School Committee members engaged in further discussion regarding the process of hiring in specific positions by School Committee members. Mayor Driscoll said that the position of Executive Director for Pupil Personnel Services has been advertised and outlined. Ms. Driscoll suggested a screening and interview process that would involve multiple stakeholders, including the School Committee.

Presentations and Reports

Update on 2018-19 Kindergarten Assignments

Superintendent Ruiz informed they have completed the assignments for the first batch of Kindergarten assignments and invited Ms. Conrad to provide an update on the process. Ms. Conrad talked about Batch 1 Kindergarten assignments, the first of three batches of Kindergarten assignments that began in January. The deadline for Batch 1 was originally March 1st but was extended to March 9th in light of other circumstances. Another lottery for the Bentley Academy Charter School (BACS) will be held on May 17. Batch 2 applications are ongoing and accepted through June 30th, and the assignments are done on the first week of July for Batch 2. Registrations are later processed on a rolling basis until the beginning of school. Ms. Conrad updated School Committee members, and walked everyone, through the assignment policy and provided members with a handout that lists the total Batch 1 assignments for each of Salem schools. Ms. Conrad concluded by informing that interested or concerned parents and families are welcome to contact the Parent Information Center or Ms. Conrad directly, at any time, at the Superintendent's Office.

Superintendent's Recommendation on Salem's Participation in the Inter-District School Choice Program for 2018-19

Superintendent Ruiz informed everyone of the process of the Inter-District School Choice program, which happens every year and asked Ms. Conrad to provide an overview of the program and present their proposal for the program next year. Ms. Conrad updated School Committee members on the Inter-District School Choice program, which included an explanation of the meaning of inter-district (being between school districts), a brief history of the Inter-District School Choice program, and details of its process and current status. Ms. Conrad continued that one of the two recommendations for this year's Inter-District School Choice program are to continue with the Salem High School program in the 9th

grade, which would allow up to 20 incoming 9th graders to attend the Salem High School for the 2018-2019 school year. Superintendent Ruiz added its reasons and further details. The other recommendation is to expand the program to add up to 10 students, at any high school grade level, to attend the New Liberty Innovation School, a competency-based learning school where students would be individually assessed and determination is then based on what grade level they would fall into. There will be a public hearing on this topic on May 21, 2018 and the School Committee will be asked to vote on the recommendation on that night.

Discussion

School Committee members asked questions, shared feedback, and engaged in further discussion. Mr. Fleming motioned to hold a public hearing, on the proposed recommendations for the Inter-District School Choice program, at the next School Committee meeting. Ms. Manning seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Action Item

Deliberation and Vote on the Proposed FY19 Salem Public Schools Budget

- a. **Motion to approve the Salem Public Schools FY19 Personnel Budget in the amount of \$45, 859, 624.**

Discussion

Mr. Fleming stated he is concerned that the Personnel budget might not cover two areas: the 4th grade at the Horace Mann Laboratory School and additions to the Saltonstall School personnel that he feels are not sufficient with the many new students who will be attending, and opposed the motion to approve. Mr. Cruz explained that he struggles with supporting this particular part of the budget through feedback and reviewing the numbers. Changes were made since their first review of the Personnel budget, specifically at the Horace Mann School. Mr. Cruz continued that they could have considered adding an instructional paraprofessional to support the teaching and learning at the school. Mr. Cruz continued his concern that they do not have the resources in place to support teaching and learning at the Horace Mann School - \$24,000 for an FTE does not seem like a huge request for the adequate support needed. Paraprofessionals are critical to teaching and learning and the school system's backbone of support as well as for teachers, parents, and students. Mr. Cruz continued that he would not be able to support this particular part of the budget. Ms. Manning shared that paraprofessionals play an important and major role, they should be allowed to fulfill their specific roles, and should not be used as substitutes. Ms. Campbell echoed the concerns of other School Committee members, said she understands the tight budget, and does not think that this budget sets out to do what they originally intended. Ms. Nuncio shared the same concerns. Members continued to share feedback and engaged in further discussion.

School Committee Secretary Roll Call:

Ms. Mary Manning	Yes
Mr. James Fleming	No
Ms. Kristine Wilson	Yes
Ms. Ana Nuncio	Yes
Mr. Manny Cruz	No
Ms. Amanda Campbell	No
Mayor Kimberley Driscoll	Yes

Of the 7 members voting, four (4) voted 'Yes' and three (3) members voted 'No.' The matter carries/passes with a motion of 4 in the affirmative and 3 in the negative. The matter was approved.

b. Motion to approve the Salem Public Schools FY19 Non-Personnel Budget in the amount of \$11, 769.266.

Mr. Fleming motioned to approve the FY19 Non-Personnel Budget in the amount of \$11, 769. 266. Ms. Manning seconded the motion. The matter passes with 7 members voting in the affirmative. The motion was approved.

c. Motion to approve the total FY19 Salem Public School Budget in the amount of \$57, 628, 890.

School Committee Secretary Roll Call:

Ms. Mary Manning	Yes
Mr. James Fleming	No
Ms. Kristine Wilson	Yes
Ms. Ana Nuncio	Yes
Mr. Manny Cruz	No
Ms. Amanda Campbell	No
Mayor Kimberley Driscoll	Yes

Of the 7 members voting, four (4) voted 'Yes' and three (3) members voted 'No.' The matter carries/passes with a motion of 4 in the affirmative and 3 in the negative. The matter was approved.

d. Motion to approve the total FY19 Bentley Academy Charter School Budget in the amount of \$3, 238, 570.

Mr. Fleming motioned to approve the total FY19 Bentley Academy Charter School Budget in the amount of \$3, 238. 570. Ms. Wilson seconded the motion. The matter passes with 7 members voting in the affirmative. The Motion was approved.

Deliberation and Vote on the Approval of the Revised SY2018-19 School Calendar for Saltonstall School

Discussion

Ms. Carbone explained that the revision is a make-up snow day, scheduled for Good Friday.

Mr. Fleming motioned to table the Saltonstall School calendar for the next School Committee meeting. Mr. Cruz seconded the motion. The deliberation and vote on the approval of the revised SY2018-19 School Calendar for Saltonstall School is tabled for the next School Committee meeting scheduled for 5/21/18.

Deliberation and Vote on the Nathaniel Bowditch 8th Grade Field Trip to Canobie Lake Park on June 22, 2018

Mr. Fleming motioned to approve the Nathaniel Bowditch 8th Grade field trip to Canobie Lake Park on June 22, 2018. Ms. Wilson seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Deliberation and Vote on the Approval of the Salem High School Drama Club Field Trip to New York on May 26-27, 2018

Mr. Fleming motioned to approve the Salem High School Drama Club field trip request to New York on May 26-27, 2018. Ms. Wilson seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Finance Report

a. Approval of Warrants

April 26, 2018 in the amount of \$517, 143.34

May 3, 2018 in the amount of \$67, 692.55

Mr. Fleming motioned to approve the warrants in the amounts stated on the agenda. Ms. Campbell seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

Budget Transfers - There were no budget transfers

School Committee Concerns and Resolutions

Mayor Driscoll shared that Nathaniel Bowditch has their Destination Imagination Global 2018 VIP fundraiser for the Knoxville finals in Knoxville Tennessee. Mayor Driscoll explained they have helped subsidize these events in the past, as it is costly for parents and families to raise the funding to go to Knoxville in such a short period of time and talked about the grant amount they provided before. Mayor Driscoll continued that any contribution would be very helpful to them, commented they do not have it posted for the next agenda, and wondered if the School Committee would entertain the notion of adding an official deliberation and vote for a donation of \$3,000 to \$5,000 resource on the agenda for the next School Committee meeting. School Committee members agreed.

Mr. Fleming addressed the Salem parents, whose child is a Salem Senior student, and informed them that their child may be eligible for one of the Salem Golf Tournament scholarship. Mr. Fleming explained that there are currently insufficient amount of applicants and encouraged Salem parents and families to talk to their child's guidance counselors to apply for the scholarship. The school's guidance counselors have applications and can provide them with further information as needed.

Questions and Comments from the Audience

Jeremy Goldberg, 8 Freeman Road shared that the Kindergarten placements were released this week and felt disappointed that his family was denied any of their three choices. They went to the open house, visited four schools, met with principals and teachers, parents, and other students. Mr. Goldberg communicated that he feels it is not fair, further explained his concerns, and asked questions of School Committee members.

Mary Goldberg, (address not provided) shared how outraged she and other parents felt after completing their applications and being informed they did not get their choice, because they did not meet the necessary demographics.

Fawaz Abusharkh, 4 Harrison Road pointed that the Bentley School is 100% lottery and has nothing to do with the economics. Students who are picked are assigned, extra spots goes on the waiting list and in the order they were picked. It is a charter school. Mr. Abusharkh said that School Committee members should consider supporting the Nathaniel Bowditch community with funding as needed as they have been subjected to the changes they endured due to the closing of the school. There should be money in the

budget to aid their needs. Mr. Abusharkh shared that he continues to believe that the budget is overinflated and shared concerns and indignation on the process of how members are being assigned or appointed.

Scott Sternberg, 25 Pickman Road shared that he wanted to make sure that the School Committee can also think longer term in the ideas of school improvement plans that incorporate the constant monitoring of how the balance in the schools are going and how the students, that have transferred, are performing and what they need so that to make sure that there is some continued focus on that and be able to move to act on them – to make sure to look over the year, two-year, and three-year term.

Lisa Hansen-Damato, 53 Hathorne Street communicated that Mr. Michael Lister has been appointed permanent principal at Saltonstall School and shared a few good words about his work and how pleased they are to have him and that he will be staying. Ms. Hansen-Damato thanked Superintendent Ruiz for listening to the families.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the School Committee this evening. Mr. Fleming entertained the motion to adjourn. Mr. Cruz seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by:

Angelica Alayon, Secretary
Salem School Committee

Meeting Materials and Reports

- School Committee Agenda May 7, 2018
- Minutes of the April 23, 2018 Regular School Committee Meeting and Public Hearing
- Minutes of the April 30, 2018 Committee of the Whole (COW) Meeting
- Minutes of the April 30, 2018 Regular School Committee Meeting and Public Hearing
- Recommendation Memorandum Regarding Salem's Participation in MA's Inter-District School Choice Program for 2018-19
- Presentation on Inter-District School Choice – MA
- Participation in the MA Inter-District School Choice Program Information for Salem School Committee Draft 5/3/18
- Nathaniel Bowditch 8th Grade Field Trip Request
- Salem High School Drama Club Field Trip Request
- Salem Public Schools (SPS) Fiscal Year 2019 Proposed Budget Draft

MEMORANDUM

To: Salem School Committee

From: Margarita Ruiz, Superintendent

Date: May 3, 2018

Re: Recommendation Regarding Salem's Participation in MA's Inter-District School Choice Program for 2018-19

Each year, the School Committee is required to vote – no later than June 1st – on whether or not to participate in the Massachusetts Inter-District School Choice program as specified in M.G.L. 76, Section 12B.

After a long history of voting to withdraw from participation in the state's Inter-District School Choice program, the Salem School Committee voted last year to opt-into the school choice program. Specifically, the Committee voted to allow up to 20 non-resident students to enroll in the 9th grade via school choice at Salem High School for the 2017-18 school year.

This year, a total of 8 students who reside in the communities of Beverly, Lynn, Peabody, Stoneham, and Swampscott took advantage of this opportunity to attend Salem High School. The table below provides an overview of the number of students who have choiced in from each sending community.

City/Town	# of Choice-In Students Attending SHS
Beverly	1
Lynn	2
Peabody	3
Stoneham	1
Swampscott	1

Since the number of applicants did not exceed the number of spaces available, there was no need to hold a lottery and all applicants could attend. As provided for under the law, students who choice into Salem via the state's Inter-district School Choice program are eligible to complete their education, through graduation, with the receiving district.

As we look ahead to the coming year, I feel that we should not only continue to participate in the school choice program, but expand opportunities for students from neighboring communities to access our schools. My recommendation for the 2018-19 school year is:

- Continue allowing up to 20 entering 9th grade students to attend Salem High School
- Allow up to 10 high school-aged students (any grade level) to attend New Liberty Innovation School

Thank you for considering my recommendation. Letters from the two principals regarding the opportunity to expand school choice are attached to provide you with the school-level perspective.

We will hold a public hearing and schedule the vote on this matter during the Regular School Committee meeting scheduled for May 21, 2018. We are required to report our decision to the state by June 1st.

I look forward to discussing this important matter to you over the coming days and weeks.



NEW LIBERTY
INNOVATION SCHOOL

Welcome all. Challenge yourself. Create a positive impact.

May 3, 2018

Dear SPS School Committee Members,

New Liberty is interested in opening up 10 School Choice seats at our school for the 2018-2019 SY. Some of the reasons we are excited about this opportunity include:

- We will be able to help students who likely do not have access to a strong alternative high school in their community.
- We will be able to keep students at our school after they move to a neighboring town.
- We will fulfill an agreement written into our Innovation Plan (from 2016), allowing us to take students from other districts.

We can assist these students by providing them with wrap-around on-site supports, helping them potentially complete high school more quickly using competency-based grading, and offering a flexible schedule for some students (such as those who work or have children). For instance, we require all of our students to complete an 8-week internship or to work for a minimum of 8 weeks in order to graduate. We have a staff member on site, who works with students through every step of preparing for and applying for their internship/job and tracks their attendance at work. We intentionally put our elective classes last block to allow for students who work to leave early.

Please consider voting for this change for the 2019 School Year.

Best,

Jennifer Winsor
Principal, New Liberty Innovation School



Enrollment of Non-Resident Students in Inter-District School Choice Program

**Salem Public Schools
School Committee Presentation
May 7, 2018**

SALEM PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Inter-District School Choice- MA

- Since 1991 [M.G.L. 76-12B](#) allows enrollment in non-resident districts
- Each year (by June 1) -- Local school committees must decide to participate or not, after a public hearing
 - If yes, notify DESE of specifics
 - If no, vote to withdraw from school choice program
- See Salem [SC Policy 5102.01](#)

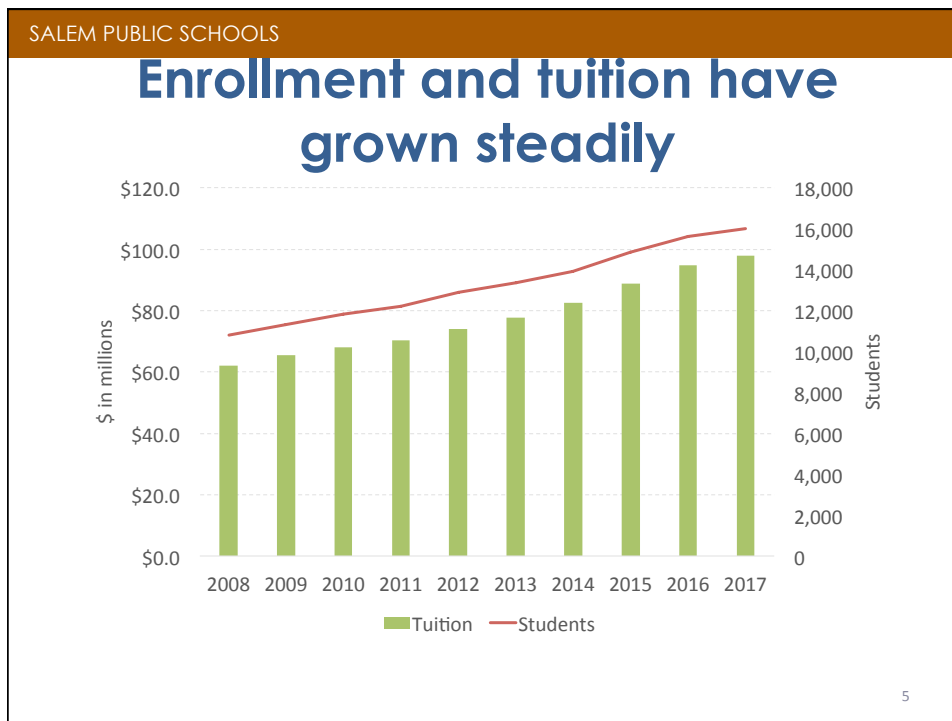
Interdistrict School Choice

- Chapter 76 Section 12 passed in 1991
- 32 districts in FY92, 187 districts (including virtual schools) in FY18
- All districts now at the \$5,000 per student cap
- Special education increments are added to the \$5,000 rate
- State average special education increment based on current estimates is \$5,862.
- School choice is a local program

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Inter-District v Intra-District

- **Inter-District School Choice**
 - Allows non-resident students to enroll, statewide
- **Intra-District School Choice**
 - Governs how a district assigns students locally (e.g., Salem's choice-based student assignment policy)



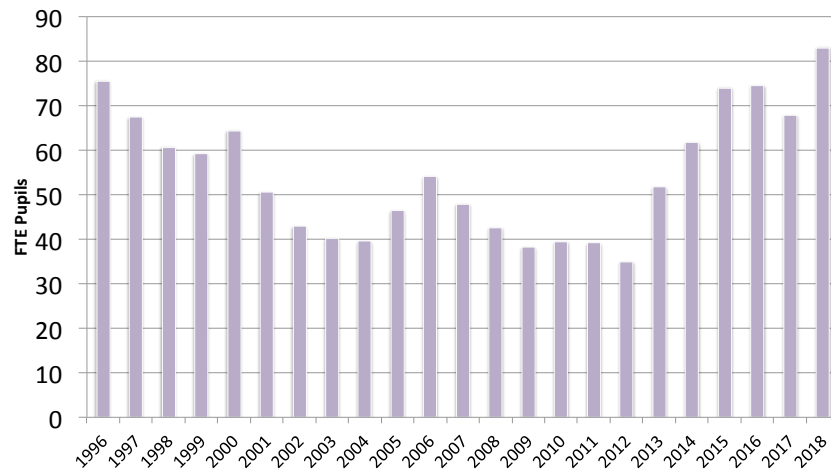
SALEM PUBLIC SCHOOLS

County	N districts	N choice	%
Hampshire	19	18	94.7%
Berkshire	18	17	94.4%
Franklin	18	16	88.9%
Hampden	17	15	88.2%
Worcester	49	41	83.7%
Dukes	5	4	80.0%
Barnstable	16	11	68.8%
Plymouth	27	13	48.1%
Essex	32	15	46.9%
Bristol	26	10	38.5%
Middlesex	57	20	35.1%
Suffolk	4	1	25.0%
Norfolk	33	7	21.2%
Nantucket	1	0	0.0%
State Total	322	188	58.40%

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SALEM PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Salem as a Sending District



SALEM PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Salem as a Receiving District 2017-18

Sending District	# of Students attending SHS 9 th Grade
Beverly	1
Lynn	2
Peabody	3
Stoneham	1
Swampscott	1

6 students had previously attended Collins Middle School

Recommendation

2017-18

- Up to 20 incoming 9th graders may attend SHS

2018-19

- Up to 20 incoming 9th graders may attend SHS
- Up to 10 students, Gr 9-12, may attend New Liberty Innovation School

What are your questions?

- ???

Participation in the MA Inter-District School Choice Program

Information for the Salem School Committee

DRAFT 5/3/18

BACKGROUND

The state of MA has allowed inter-district school choice since 1991. M.G.L. 76, 12B allows non-resident students to enroll in school districts that elect to participate in the inter-district school choice program. The decision on whether or not to participate is up to local school committees which must hold a public hearing on the issue and vote on whether or not to participate in the program by June 1st of each year.

Districts that vote to receive students via the school choice program are called “receiving districts.” Districts that have resident students enrolled in non-resident districts via the school choice program are called “sending districts.” As of 2017-18, Salem Public Schools is both a “sending district” with 83 Salem resident-students attending other districts via the school choice program and a “receiving district” with 8 students attending Salem from other communities. A breakdown of the districts into which these Salem students have choiced-in is below along with information about the grade level of Salem students enrolled in other districts.

Receiving District	# of Salem Students
BEVERLY	28.00
HAMILTON	6.00
WENHAM	
HAVERHILL	1.00
MAVA	7.00
PEABODY	33.00
TECCA	8.00
Grand Total	83.00

Row Labels	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	12	KF	Total
BEVERLY	1	1	2	1	4		2	3	4	3	2	5		28
HAMILTON														
WENHAM									3	1	2			6
HAVERHILL						1								1
MAVA	1			3	1	1						1		7
PEABODY	2	3	4	1	3	1	3	4	1		4	4	3	33
TECCA				1	1	2				3	1			8
Grand Total	4	4	6	6	9	5	5	7	8	7	9	10	3	83

Districts do not have to send students in order to receive students, or vice versa. Individual school communities decide if they would like to receive students.

INTER-DISTRICT V. INTRA-DISTRICT SCHOOL CHOICE

Inter-District school choice is the statewide program that allows non-resident students to enroll in participating districts, statewide. An Intra-District school choice program refers to how a district assigns students within its boundaries such as a specific district's own policies that may allow forms of choice for resident students among schools within the district. Salem Public Schools currently has an Intra-District school choice program by virtue of its choice-based student assignment policy (see [SC Policy #5103](#)).

LEVEL OF PARTICIPATION, STATEWIDE

Participation in the program has expanded over the 16 years since its inception with 32 districts participating in FY92 and 187 districts participating in FY18. This means that approximately 15,000 students are currently enrolled as non-resident students in districts other than where they reside. In some parts of the state, such as in western MA, nearly all of the districts participate while in other parts of the state, participation varies. Within Essex County, almost half of the school districts in the county (15 of the 32 school districts), currently participate in the school choice program. A complete [list of participating districts](#) can be found on the DESE website.

TUITION REIMBURSEMENT FOR NON-RESIDENT STUDENTS

Sending districts pay tuition to receiving districts for each student enrolled via the school choice program. According to the law, the tuition rate, per student, is set at 75% of the per pupil operating cost (for the receiving district), capped at \$5,000. According to DESE, tuition rates for all districts are now at the \$5,000 cap.

The money for tuition comes from a district's state aid. The state deposits money that would otherwise go to the sending district's Chapter 70 aid into the School Choice Tuition Trust Fund. The state treasurer distributes funds to receiving districts based on a district's number of non-resident students. A projection is made in the fall, based on the October 1 enrollment count, per district, and the actual enrollment is adjusted based on a reconciliation process that takes place each spring.

In 2017-18, Salem Public Schools received approximately \$61,000 in school choice tuition reimbursement and sent approximately \$518,884 in tuition payments to the receiving districts who are now educating Salem residents.

Participating districts must establish a revolving account to manage incoming tuition dollars. The funds in these accounts can be carried over and districts have flexibility to use the money from the tuition reimbursements deposited in this account in flexible ways, as needed. There are no restrictions on how this money is to be used, however, DESE advises that school choice tuition is intended to cover any additional out-of-pocket expenses associated with students who are enrolled under the school choice program and to provide a financial incentive to encourage districts to participate in the program. Allowable expenditures may include any expenditures for staff, materials, equipment, or services that directly enhance the quality of a district's educational programs and benefit students who currently attend a district's schools. Funds may

not be transferred to another municipal department for purposes unrelated to education, or for payment of debt services.

For additional information on tuition reimbursement, please visit the [DESE Advisory on the Financial Administration of the School Choice Program](#).

REIMBURSEMENT FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION STUDENTS

In addition to the \$5,000 per-pupil tuition rate, districts may get reimbursed for special education increments, based on an accounting of all special education services provided to students with Individualized Education Plans (IEPs), including any transportation required as part of an IEP, and/or the cost of an out-of-district placement. The amount of the increment is determined by applying annual cost rates to the specific services cited in a pupil's individual education plan (similar to "circuit breaker" program). It is the receiving district's responsibility to keep an accurate record of what services were counted toward the cost. For information on the cost rates that would be applied, please see the [special education services calculator](#).

TRANSPORTATION

Receiving districts are not required to provide transportation to non-resident students enrolled via school choice. If a student is enrolled via a school choice program, the parent/guardian is obligated to get the student to school. The only exception to this is in cases where transportation is required as part of a student's IEP. In these cases, the receiving district is responsible for ensuring the transportation services are provided, but they are reimbursed via the special education increment claim forms.

ROLE OF INTRA-DISTRICT SCHOOL CHOICE (E.G., STUDENT ASSIGNMENT POLICY)

If a school district operates an intra-district school choice program (such as Salem's student assignment policy), school choice students would be assigned using the same criteria as resident students, however, resident students can be given priority over non-resident students. According to MGL 76, Section 12B(d), "If the city, town or regional school district operates an intra-district choice plan, non-resident students may apply for schools on the same basis as resident students, but the intra-district choice plan may give preference to resident students in assigning students to schools."

ROLE OF CHAPTER 74 - VOCATIONAL EDUCATION (Revised 5/15/17)

Students who choose into a district via the inter-district school choice process must be allowed the same access to available programs as any other student. This rule also applies to all Chapter 74 programs available within the school(s). The tuition reimbursement rate for these students is the school choice rate.

Some Chapter 74 programs – such as Salem's -- have admissions policies that allow non-resident students to enroll in the district's Chapter 74 programs via the non-resident tuition process. The Non-Resident Tuition Rate is higher than the school choice reimbursement rate. Non-resident students (who are **not** already admitted via the school choice process) may apply, through a separate process, to attend the SHS Chapter 74 programs via the non-resident tuition

application process, allowing the district to charge a higher rate to the sending district. Sending districts have the authority to approve or reject these applications depending on the types of Chapter 74 programs available in their home district.

The two processes are and should be managed as separate processes. In general, a student who enters the district via school choice remains in the district as a school choice student with access to the same opportunities available to resident students. Simultaneously, the school may receive additional applicants for the Chapter 74 programs via the non-resident tuition process, and these may be taken for any grade level that offers Chapter 74 programs.

For more information about tuition reimbursement for Chapter 74 students and the role of school choice, please visit the [DESE Guidelines](#).

DETERMINATION OF AVAILABLE SEATS WITHIN A DISTRICT

When a local school committee opts to participate in the school choice program, it may specify the grade level(s), school(s), and level of enrollment it will accept via school choice for any given year. While some school districts choose to open their enrollment to students at any grade level and/or school, many have identified specific grade levels and have set caps on the number of students they will accept for those grade levels. It is up to each local school district to determine the total number of students they will accept via school choice for any grade level(s) and/or school(s) identified. This information must be reported to the state by June 1st of each participating year.

SELECTION OF STUDENTS

Once a school district opts to participate in school choice, the selection of students must be free from discrimination on the basis of race, color, religious creed, national origin, sex, age, sexual orientation, ancestry, athletic performance, disabilities, special needs, home language, or academic performance. If the number of applicants exceeds the number of available seats, the selection process must be on a random basis. Once a student is accepted and enrolled via school choice, that student must be treated as if s/he were a resident of the district. In addition, these students must be allowed to complete their education within the district, until graduation.

ROLE OF A STUDENT'S DISCIPLINE RECORDS

According to the 1994 Advisory Opinion on School Choice, "there is nothing in the school choice law that would prohibit a receiving school district from considering the discipline records of an applicant. School districts must use this criterion carefully to avoid challenges. If there are more applicants than seats, the review of discipline records should not take place prior to the lottery (should be after the decision to admit is made).

RESEARCH ON INTER-DISTRICT SCHOOL CHOICE IN MA

Currently, there is no research available on the MA Inter-district school choice program, however, a researcher from Boston University is beginning a study to look at the impact that school choice has on student outcomes in MA. A few articles have been written on the subject, however, and additional resources may be helpful, including:

- [School Choice Opens Options Beyond District Schools](#) (WBUR, October 20, 2014)
- [Wachusett Regional School District School Choice FAQ](#)
- [Mapping School Choice in MA: Data and Findings](#) (Boston Foundation, 2003)
- MA DESE [website on school choice](#)
- [Parents' Guide to School Choice in MA](#)

GETTING STARTED - HOW IT WOULD WORK

When a local school committee votes to participate in the inter-district school choice program, the next steps entail:

1. Submitting the decision and description of the total # of seats available at the specific grade levels and/or schools that will accept non-resident students
2. Establishing a deadline for initial applications (recommended, most districts do this, as an example, see [Beverly School Choice Application](#), [Ipswich School Choice Application](#)). See also [Salem's application from 2016-17](#).
3. Advertising the availability of seats to non-resident students (optional -- context and consideration of relationship with surrounding districts important factor)
4. Receiving applications by the deadline
 - a. If the district receives more applicants than spaces, a lottery must be held to select students (siblings can be given preference in a lottery)
 - b. If the districts receives fewer applicants than spaces, all students who apply are enrolled and the remainder can be filled on a rolling basis
5. Complete the registration/student assignment process for those students who have been accepted via the school choice process
 - a. Residency verification -- to verify the sending district
 - b. Other registration requirements as established by the local School Committee policy (e.g., student assignment policy)
 - c. Language and special education evaluations as needed
 - d. Other procedures as applicable
6. Enroll the student in the new school
7. Track and monitor any address changes (Note- if a the student moves to another town, must report new city/town of residence so the state can charge the tuition to the correct city or town)
8. Include non-resident students in the October and March SIMS reports
9. Complete the school choice claims process in the spring to claim reimbursement for non-resident students, including any special education services provided as part of a student's IEP (due in the last week of April, each year)
 - a. A claim form completed for each choice student
 - b. A special education increment form completed for each student with an IEP
 - c. Tuition deducted from sending districts' local aide accounts/added to receiving districts' local aide accounts
10. Local aide accounts for both sending and receiving districts are adjusted based on school choice enrollment.

INSIGHTS FROM PARTICIPATING DISTRICTS

A handful of district leaders from other, participating school districts (Beverly, Burlington, Hudson, Manchester-Essex, Norton, Somerset, West Bridgewater, etc.) were contacted and asked to share their thoughts regarding the potential benefits and challenges of participation. They were also asked to share any advice they would give to school districts considering participating in school choice. Below is a summary of their feedback and insights.

Potential Benefits of Participating

- The district gets to recover some of costs associated with the benefit extended to our staff that allows them to have their children attend school in Burlington.
- It provides us a flexible option for some of our neediest high school students who often do not have housing security. It allows us to provide them stability in their schooling.
- It provides the district with a small, but flexible revenue source to solve problems quickly
- Has helped the high school with enrollment
- "Choice was the best thing that happened to the district."
- "One of the best decisions our school committee has made."

Potential Challenges of Participating

- There are some students who "choice in" who require significant support to graduate
- For non-special education students, the \$5000 per student does not cover the full cost of educating the students received. Some districts get into a situation where they may enroll more students than they actually can support, based on the staffing levels they have. There is a fine line of taking enough kids and taking too many kids.
- Be careful about considering tuition reimbursement as a revenue stream to cover operational costs
- Balancing the right number of students to allow in via choice with capacity to serve

Advice from Participating Districts

- Initially, start small
- Many school committees believe that if they vote not to participate in choice that their students can't leave to participate in another district that accepts choice students. This understanding is incorrect.

Salem Public Schools

Non-Resident School Choice Application

Last updated 6/26/17

Background

In May 2015, the Salem School Committee voted to participate in the state's Inter-District School Choice Program (see MGL Chapter 76, Section 12B). The program allows parents/guardians to enroll their child in a school district that is not the child's home district. Local school districts determine, via an annual vote, which grade levels and how many seats will be available. For the 2017-18 school year, Salem will accept and enroll up to twenty (20) non-resident students who will be entering the ninth (9th) grade at Salem High School this fall. Please note that bus transportation is not provided to students unless otherwise required by law or a student's Individualized Education Plan (IEP).

Instructions to Apply

There are two steps to apply to attend SPS as a non-resident student:

1. **School Choice Application and Lottery - Deadline is Tues 8/1/17.** To apply, interested non-resident students/families must complete this application and submit it to the Parent Information Center (PIC) **by Tuesday August 1, 2017**. Completed applications may be submitted via fax to (978) 740-1176, scan and email to pic@salemk12.org, mailed, or dropped off in person to the PIC at Collins Middle School, Room 121, 29 Highland Avenue, Salem, MA 01915. If more students apply than there are spaces available, an admissions lottery will be held on Thursday August 3, 2017 at 5:00 pm at Collins Middle School.
2. **Student Registration and Enrollment.** Once accepted into the School Choice Program, parents/guardians must then complete all required student registration and enrollment forms, submitting all required documentation. Students will not be enrolled until all required documentation has been submitted. Copies of the registration forms, including packets translated into Spanish and Portuguese can be found at: http://salemk12.org/Pages/SPS_DistParentRes/kregistration.

Upon completion of all required enrollment documentation, the PIC staff will help set up an appointment with the SHS College and Career Readiness Center staff (formerly the SHS Guidance office). Here, staff members will review and discuss course history with you and work with you to set up your school schedule for the upcoming school year.

Questions and More Information

For questions regarding the school choice program in Salem, please contact the Parent Information Center (PIC) at 978-740-1225 or visit our website at:

http://salemk12.org/Pages/SPS_DistParentRes/index.

2017-18 SALEM SCHOOL CHOICE APPLICATION

Grade Level for 2017-18: _____

Date of Application: _____

SPS will accept up to 20 students entering the 9th Gr for 2017-18

Student & Parent Information

Student Name: _____
Last Name First Name Middle Name

Date of Birth: _____ Do you have a sibling in a Salem school? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Name of School Last Attended: _____
School Name City/Town

Parent/Guardian Name: _____
Last Name First Name Middle Name

Address: _____
Street City/Town of Residence State/Zip

Telephone: _____ Email: _____
Home phone/Cell Phone

School Choice Rationale

Please share why you wish to enroll your child in the Salem Public Schools? _____

Parent/Guardian Authorization

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

Salem Public Schools Saltonstall 2018 - 2019 School Calendar

AUGUST 2018						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

SEPTEMBER 2018						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
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9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

OCTOBER 2018						
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28	29	30	31			

NOVEMBER 2018						
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DECEMBER 2018						
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23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

August

- 21 – 22 New Teacher Orientation
- 28 – 30 Professional Development Day (full)

September

- 3– Labor Day
- 4 – Professional Development Day (full)
- 5 – First Day grs. 1-12
- 7 – Pre-K parent/child orientation
- 11 – First day for Pre-K and Kindergarten
- 26 – Professional Development Day (half)

October

- 8– Columbus Day
- 29-31- Intersession

November

- 1-2 – Intersession Cont.
- 6 – Professional Development Day (full)
- 12 – Veterans' Day observed
- 21 – ½ day before Thanksgiving
- 22 - 23 - Thanksgiving Break

December

- 5 - Professional Development Day (half)
- 19 - Professional Development Day (half)
- 24 - 31 - Winter Break

January

- 1 – New Year's Day
- 21 – Dr. Martin L. King Day
- 30 – Professional Development Day (half)

February

- 18 – 22 – February Vacation

March

- 20 – Professional Development Day (half)

April

- 5 - Professional Development Day (half)
- 15 – 19 – April Vacation

May

- 27 - Memorial Day

June/July

- 20 – Last day of school for Pre-k and K
- 24 – Last day of school / PD Day (half) (pending snow days)
- 25-28 & July 2nd - Snow day make up as needed

JANUARY 2019						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
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13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

FEBRUARY 2019						
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10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28		

MARCH 2019						
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10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

APRIL 2019						
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21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

MAY 2019						
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12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

JUNE 2019						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
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9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

JULY 2019						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
	2					

	First Day grs. 1-12		First day for Pre-K and Kindergarten
	Schools Closed: Holiday or Vacation		Pre-K parent/child orientation
	Schools Closed: Staff Report, Professional Development		Last day Pre-K and K (pending snow days)
	Half Day: Professional Development		Snow days – make up as needed 6/25-6/28 & April 19th
	Half Day: ½ day before Holiday / Last Day of School (pending snow days)		

Salem Public Schools
Nathaniel Bowditch School

79 Willson Street, Salem, MA 01970



Mr. Jose Muñoz, Principal
Ms. Scarlett Wong, Assistant Principal
Ms. Elizabeth Rogers, Assistant Principal

Phone (978) 740-1290

Fax (978) 740-1180

Dear School Committee,

Destination Imagination, Inc. is a leading educational nonprofit dedicated to teaching students the skills needed to succeed in school, their careers and beyond. They develop project-based learning programs that blend STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) education with the arts and social entrepreneurship.

School teams have the opportunity to showcase their solutions at local tournaments, many of which take place between February and April. When a team qualifies at the state level, they are invited to compete at Global Finals—the world's largest celebration of student creativity. Bowditch finished in 1st place in the regional tournament and finished 3rd in the state tournament in Worcester.

Now, after challenging all other MA challengers the DI Joes have qualified to advance to the 2018 DI Global Finals in Knoxville, TN. Here they will not only challenge other Destination Imagination students from the 50 states but they will also face competitors from 18 different countries.

The DI Joes are a group of 4 kids from the Nathaniel Bowditch School. They have worked very hard for several months to compete in this year's DI Improv Challenge - Treasure.

The students will be accompanied by two Bowditch teachers, the coach for the team, and 2 additional parents to assist chaperoning. The team has worked extremely hard raising over \$6,500 for the trip. They will depart on Tuesday, May 22nd, and return Sunday, May 27th.

Sincerely,

Jose Muñoz
Principal



GLOBAL FINALS

MAY 23-26, 2018 / KNOXVILLE, TN

Destination Imagination teams that advance past Regional and Affiliate (state/country) Tournaments are invited to participate in Global Finals. Each May, more than 8,000 of the world's most innovative minds gather in Knoxville, Tennessee to showcase their Challenge solutions, celebrate creativity and have fun. [Learn more](#)

>>

GLOBAL FINALS

The World's Largest Celebration of Creativity

www.GlobalFinals.org

Global Finals is the culminating event of every Destination Imagination season.

DI teams that advance past Regional and Affiliate (state/country) Tournaments are invited to participate in Global Finals—the world's largest celebration of student creativity. Each May, more than 1,400 of the top-scoring DI teams from 45 U.S. states and 14 countries gather in Knoxville, Tennessee to showcase their innovative Challenge solutions. More than 17,000 people attend the event each year. The scheduled festivities include the Destination Imagination Tournament, interactive exhibits, pin trading, skills workshops, international events and more.



VIDEOS

GLOBAL FINALS STATISTICS

15+
COUNTRIES



8000+
STUDENTS



544
VOLUNTEERS



17,000+
ATTENDEES



1,400+
TEAMS



PIN TRADING

Teams are encouraged to trade pins at tournaments, including Global Finals, as a way to meet new friends and show good sportsmanship.

[Learn about our new pin guidelines for teams & individuals »](#)

Global Finals 2014 Pin Trading



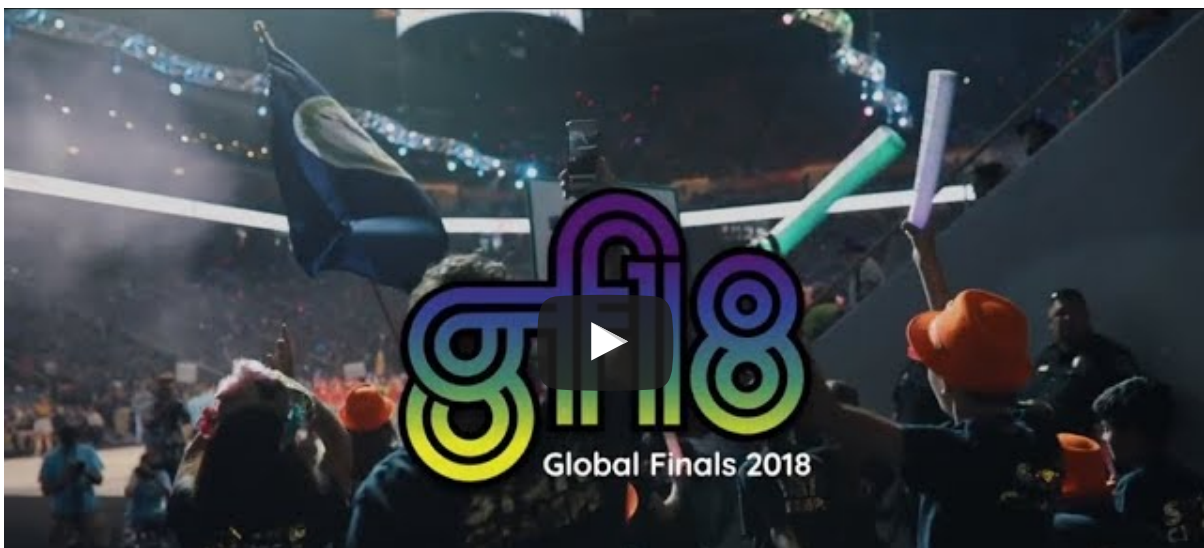
ABOUT GLOBAL FINALS



May 23-26, 2018

LIVESTREAM

Tune into the world's largest celebration of creativity from the comfort of your own home! We will be **livestreaming** the Global Finals Welcome Ceremony on May 23 at 7:15 p.m. ET and the Closing Celebration on May 26 at 4:00 p.m. ET.



Global Finals 2018

GF18 VIDEO PLAYLIST

THE WORLD'S LARGEST CELEBRATION OF CREATIVITY

Global Finals is the culminating event of every Destination Imagination (DI) season. DI teams that advance past Regional and Affiliate (state/country) Tournaments are invited to participate in Global Finals—the world's largest celebration of creativity. More than 17,000 students, parents and volunteers attend the event each May. The scheduled festivities include the Destination Imagination Tournament, interactive exhibits, pin trading, skills workshops, international events, collaborative games and activities, and more.

GLOBAL FINALS BY THE NUMBERS

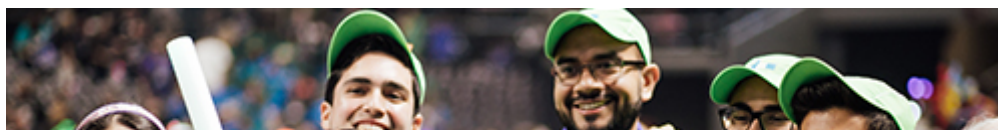


WHAT IS DESTINATION IMAGINATION.



Our Purpose: Inspiring and equipping students to become the next generation of innovators and leaders

Destination Imagination (DI) is an educational nonprofit that prepares students for a future that is rapidly evolving. DI does this through a project-based learning experience that applies the creative process across seven different STEAM-based (science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics) Challenges. Through the DI Challenge Experience, students acquire and practice the skills needed to thrive in school, careers and beyond. More than two million students have participated in Destination Imagination.



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Click below to access archived results from past years.

2017 2016 2015 2014 2013 2012 2011 2010 2009
2008 2007 2006 2005 2004 2003

SPONSOR A TEAM AT GLOBAL FINALS

To make a donation to a specific team:

Make check payable to:

Destination Imagination

(Note: Include their Team Number on the check.)

Mail check to:

Destination Imagination

Attn: GF Donation Dept.

1111 South Union Avenue

Cherry Hill, NJ 08002

Destination Imagination is a 501(c) (3) non-profit organization. Donations are tax deductible. Our tax ID number is 22-2415554. Please notify your tax adviser if you have questions about your donation.





IMAGES



NEW LIBERTY INNOVATION SCHOOL

May 3, 2018

RE: Canobie Lake Park Adventure and End of Year Celebration

Dear School Committee,

On June 26, 2018, New Liberty Innovation School is planning on going to Canobie Lake Park as a whole school for our end of year celebration. This is the 7th year that we have gone of this outing and our students and faculty value this tradition.

We respectfully request approval for this trip to Canobie Lake Park located at 85N Street, Salem, NH 03079

Sincerely,

Jennifer Winsor
Principal

RECEIVED

MAY 09 2018

S.P.S.
Supt.'s Office

A Salem Public School

Two East India Square, Suite 200, Salem, MA 01970

Ph: 978-825-3470 Fax: 978-825-3475

Coaching Students for College, Career, and Community Involvement

Memo:

To: Salem School Committee

From: Kristin Shaver

Date: May 21, 2018

Re: FY18 Budget Transfer Request 22

The Nathaniel Bowditch School requests the following transfer to align funds with the intended expense. Specifically, this transfer covers the stipends paid to Salem Public Schools' staff for the April & February Sontag Learning Academies.

Account Description/Use	Account Number	Amount From	Amount To
Contract Services	13570521-5320	\$6,000	
Stipends	13570520-5150		\$6,000

I recommend approval of the transfer.



Memo:

To: Salem School Committee

From: Kristin Shaver

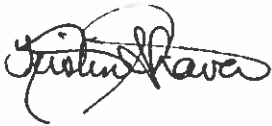
Date: May 21, 2018

Re: FY18 Budget Transfer Request 23

The Witchcraft Heights Elementary School requests the following transfer to provide funds for stipends for teachers for Instructional Leadership Team, Math Club, Garden Club & Art Club:

Account Description/Use	Account Number	Amount From	Amount To
Contract Services	13570821-5320	\$2,498	
Instructional Supplies	13570821-5514	\$2,252	
Stipends	13570820-5150		\$4,750

I recommend approval of the transfer.



Memo:

To: Salem School Committee

From: Kristin Shaver

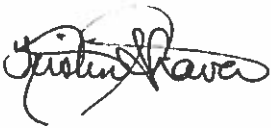
Date: May 21, 2018

Re: FY18 Budget Transfer Request 24

The Business Office requests the following transfer to align funds with the intended expense:

Account Description/Use	Account Number	Amount From	Amount To
Contract Services (Translation)	13701331-5320	\$14,700	
Translation Stipends	13700130-5114		\$14,700

I recommend approval of the transfer.



Memo:

To: Salem School Committee

From: Kristin Shaver

Date: May 21, 2018

Re: FY18 Budget Transfer Request 25

The Collins Middle School requests the following transfers to support additional expenses for college visits; the 8th Grade Trip to Washington, DC; 8th Grade Graduation Expenses; and repairs for the kiln.

Account Description/Use	Account Number	Amount From	Amount To
In-State Travel	13570921-5710	\$839	
Dues & Subscriptions	13570921-5730	393	
Printing & Binding	13570921-5381	3,055	
Office Supplies	13570921-5421	135	
Instructional Supplies	13570921-5514	300	
Salaries	13460920-5130	7,000	
Contract Services – Graduation	13570921-5320		\$1,787
Contract Services – Kiln Repair			2,500
Contract Services – College Visits			435
Contract Services – Washington, DC Trip			<u>7,000</u>
<u>Total to Contract Services:</u>			\$11,722
Office Supplies	13570921-5421	\$1,400	
Pupil Transportation	13570921-5333		\$1,400

I recommend approval of the transfer.



Memo:

To: Salem School Committee

From: Kristin Shaver

Date: May 21, 2018

Re: FY18 Budget Transfer Request 26

The Business Office requests the following transfer to align funds with the needed expense, due to an increased number of students who are homeless needing transportation.

Account Description/Use	Account Number	Amount From	Amount To
Translation	13701331-5320	\$40,000	
Other Maintenance Supplies	13530121-5780	10,850	
Medical Contractual	13640161-5302	30,000	
Contract Services – OST	13590121-5320	19,265	
Contract Services – PPS	13640161-5320	30,000	
Homeless Transportation	13640181-5334		\$130,115

I recommend approval of the transfer.

