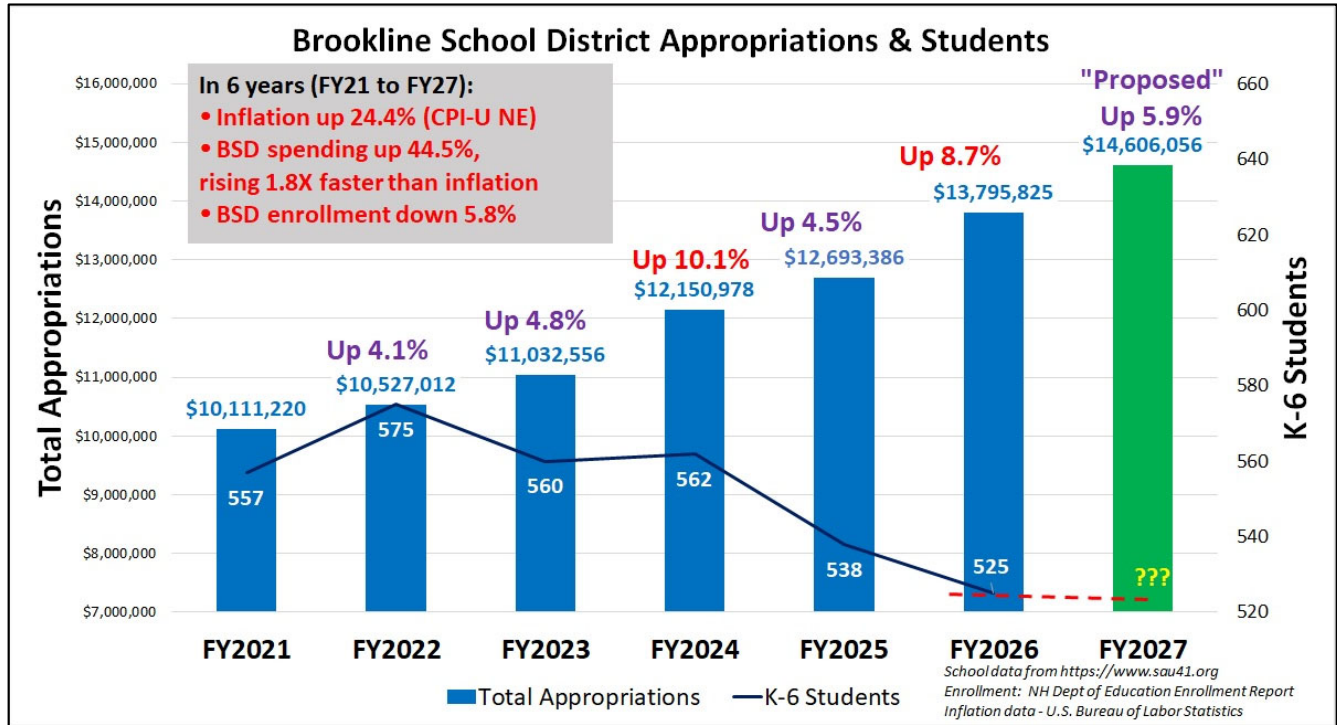


2026 Brookline School District Conservatives Voters Guide

6:30 pm, Wed, February 4, 2026 - Captain Samuel Douglass Academy, 24 Townsend Hill Rd

Proposed total spending increase: \$14,606,056, up \$810,231 (+5.9%), enrollment falling

Updated 2/3/2026



By Eric Pauer
<https://www.hollisbrookline.com>

Items in green: conservative action to support

Items in red: conservative action to oppose

Article 2: SAU Budget – vote NO (article not amendable)

• \$2,560,328 for SAU administrators, added second Assistant Superintendent in July 2025

Article 3: Support Staff Contract – vote NO (article not amendable)

• \$250,202 increase over 2 years; est. 6% raise year 1, 5.8% raise year 2

Article 4: Teachers Contract (CBA) – vote NO (article not amendable)

• \$1,173,372 increase over 3 yrs, for raises up to 27.2%; est. 7.9%

increase yr 1, 4.8% increase yr 2, 4.8% increase yr 3; +18.6% over 3 yrs

• New \$20K loan repayment, new \$1K HRA, Health 100%/90%/80% paid

• CBAs: <https://www.sau41.org/administration/human-resources/collective-bargaining>

Article 5: Operating Budget \$13,489,065 – vote NO (article amendable)

• Proficiency: Reading/ELA 62%; Math: 59%; Science: 39% - not good!

• Up +\$577,411 with continued declining enrollment

• **Recommend amendment** to an inflation/enrollment-adjusted budget

Article 6: Open Enrollment – vote NO (article amendable)

• Article to prevent Brookline students from attending other public schools and prevent students from other towns (paying tuition) coming to Brookline. Opposes school choice. No students can leave with \$\$.

Recommend amendment to enable Brookline students to attend other public schools.

Article 7: Move to School Board of 7 members – vote YES (article amendable)

• Vote YES to expand school board to 7 members (from 5 members). Reduce workload and provide for more representation on our Brookline School Board, decentralizing authority.

Article 8: Rescind SB2 ballot voting, return to in-person meeting only – vote NO (article not amendable)

• Vote NO so we keep our current all-day/absentee ballot voting SB2 system on all warrant articles. SB2 eliminates voter disenfranchisement and maximizes voter participation. SB2 has worked well for 10 years!

Article 9: Return unspent funds to taxpayers to lower property taxes – vote YES (article not amendable)

• Vote YES so that all unspent funds reduce tax effort and lower property taxes. School board can propose explicit contingency fund, capital reserve fund, or trust fund for expenses.

Article 10: School District Budget Cap – vote YES (article amendable)

• Limit spending to \$25,000 per student, which adjusts annually with inflation. In addition to tax cap.

Article 11: Replace 8% tax cap to inflation/enrollment-based tax cap – vote YES (article not amendable)

• Limit tax effort to percentage change in inflation and percentage change in student enrollment.

| SAU 41 Budget History | | | | | |
|-----------------------|------|-------------|-------------|----------|--|
| FY | K-12 | SAU Budget | SAU/Student | Increase | |
| FY17 | 2418 | \$1,447,377 | \$598.58 | - | |
| FY18 | 2386 | \$1,498,630 | \$628.09 | 4.9% | |
| FY19 | 2439 | \$1,602,693 | \$657.11 | 4.6% | |
| FY20 | 2425 | \$1,719,314 | \$709.00 | 7.9% | |
| FY21 | 2369 | \$1,813,954 | \$765.70 | 8.0% | |
| FY22 | 2372 | \$1,957,257 | \$825.15 | 7.8% | |
| FY23 | 2355 | \$2,107,176 | \$894.77 | 8.4% | |
| FY24 | 2348 | \$2,268,374 | \$966.09 | 8.0% | |
| FY25 | 2322 | \$2,434,995 | \$1,048.66 | 8.5% | |
| FY26 | 2250 | \$2,447,505 | \$1,087.78 | 3.7% | |
| FY27 | ? | \$2,560,328 | \$1,137.92 | 4.6% | |

| Cumulative Proposed Teachers' Raises over 3 years FY26-FY29 | | | | | | |
|---|-----------|-------|-------|---------|-------|-------|
| Step | Bachelors | B15 | B30 | Masters | M15 | M45 |
| 4 | 27.2% | 26.6% | 26.0% | 19.5% | 19.0% | 18.4% |
| 5 | 27.0% | 26.4% | 25.8% | 19.3% | 18.7% | 18.2% |
| 6 | 26.7% | 26.1% | 25.5% | 19.1% | 18.5% | 17.9% |
| 7 | 26.5% | 25.9% | 25.3% | 18.8% | 18.3% | 17.7% |
| 8 | 26.3% | 25.6% | 25.1% | 18.6% | 18.1% | 17.5% |
| 9 | 26.0% | 25.4% | 24.8% | 18.4% | 17.8% | 17.2% |
| 10 | 25.8% | 25.2% | 24.6% | 18.2% | 17.6% | 17.0% |
| 11 | 25.5% | 25.0% | 24.3% | 17.9% | 17.4% | 16.8% |
| 12 | 25.3% | 24.7% | 24.1% | 17.7% | 17.1% | 16.6% |
| 13 | | 24.4% | 23.8% | 17.5% | 16.9% | 16.3% |
| 14 | | | 23.5% | 17.2% | 16.7% | 16.0% |
| 15 | | | | 17.0% | 16.4% | 15.7% |
| 16 | | | | 16.8% | 16.1% | 15.4% |
| 17 | | | | 16.6% | 16.0% | 14.9% |