

# EDUCATION

## **2019-2020 Proposed Budget**

Curriculum & Instruction  
Professional Development  
Student Services  
WHRHS Tuition


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# **Curriculum & Instruction Professional Development**



# About Curriculum and Instruction

The Curriculum and Instruction department is at the heart of the work done at Green Brook Township Public Schools. Curriculum provides the backbone for the educational content and programming of the district and provides the content taught on a daily basis. It funnels State mandates and the District's educational vision and philosophy for education into practice. Instruction is the delivery of the content to students that developmentally appropriate while maintaining a focus on best practices for student learning. Professional development supports both teacher understanding of the content and helps refine their methodologies for supporting student understanding.




## **FY20 Curriculum and Instruction Budget Objectives**

The focus of the 2019-2020 C&I budget is to maintain the level of instruction in our current programs while working to enhance the District's math instruction through targeted professional development.

Development of math instructional practices:

- The district will invest \$27,000 in professional development funds in the form of paid presenters and materials to support ongoing growth.



## FY20 Curriculum and Instruction Budget Objectives (continued)

Maintenance of current programs:

- \$6,000 toward out-of-district professional development staff, a decrease of \$10,000
- CPR training will continue
- \$2,000 for other outside presenters during professional development days
- \$2,000 budget for professional books for staff
- \$7,000 to support in-house training on CPI, staff-led trainings on in-service days, and staff conducting parent trainings
- \$5,150 decrease in curriculum writing



## Key Initiatives for Curriculum and Instruction

- Overall decrease of 26.92% (\$24,081) in the C&I budget.
- Development of math instructional practices: The District will invest in professional development funds in the form of paid presenters and materials to support ongoing growth. Money will also be allocated from Title II federal grant funds to pay for substitute teachers during professional development activities.
- The curriculum writing budget funds will be allocated toward updates to the elementary school health curriculum, district physical education curriculum, a middle school leadership course and any curriculum updates mandated by the new financial literacy legislation.



# Student Services



# About Student Services

“To provide exceptional support and services to foster learning, growth, and independence”

The Department of Student Services in Green Brook Township Public Schools serves students in a variety of areas, including special education, general education students with Section 504 plans, students identified at risk or English Language Learners, and students with exceptionalities in the area of gifted and talented.

It is important to note that special services are required by the legal mandate of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. Overall, the programs and services found therein are a legal obligation for the district, and therefore budgeting must be flexible and anticipatory in order to meet these needs.





# FY20 Student Services Budget Objectives

- GBTPS Student Services has the primary goal of **education**
  - Meeting the needs of all students along the continuum of exceptionality
  - Providing special education students a “Free and Appropriate Public Education” in the “Least Restrictive Environment”
  - Protecting and advocating for all students and their families
- GBTPS Student Services has the secondary goal of **cost avoidance**
  - Avoiding costs through utilizing tools, programs, and best practices
  - Generating revenue by creating and sustaining programs that offer a valuable service to our students and the surrounding communities



## Key Initiatives for Student Services

- Use of Student Inventory of Behavioral Support (SIBS) program to quantify support for students resulted in a net decrease of 3 instructional aide positions from 2016-17 to 2018-19
- = Difference of \$253,931 (salary & benefits)
- The goal is to continue usage to evaluate aide support going forward into the 2019-20 school year with the goal to optimally utilize district personnel resources



## Key Initiatives for Student Services

- Behavioral Disabilities has tuition students (and growing) and in-district students that were in private placements
- = Generates revenue (tuition students)
- = Avoids additional costs (students staying in district)
- The goal is to continue to grow this feeder program to WHRHS



## Key Initiatives for Student Services

- Integrated Preschool Program classrooms at I.E.F. are near capacity, with tuition general education students
- = Generates \$127,500 in district revenue
- The program is currently under a performance review by the district's Child Study Team, with the goal to create different levels of service and support to meet needs of students



## Key Initiatives for Student Services

- Reduction of Extended School Year Program (ESY) from 30 to 20 days  
= Difference of \$29,598 in personnel costs
- After a review of student attendance during the first week of July and Fridays, it was determined that the district did not have enough students to continue the use of personnel resources for a 30-day program.



## Key Initiatives for Student Services

- Lexia is web-based reading program to support students receiving basic skills instruction expanded to I.E.F. Elementary School.  
= \$2,700 (GBMS only) to \$5,400 (IEF & GBMS)
- This program will provide intense instruction to address early difficulties, remediate weaknesses, and help students acquire the skills necessary to understand and comprehend curriculum content.



## Key Initiatives for Student Services

- Learning Ally is a web-based application program to support students who have been documented as having a reading-based disability.

=Increase from \$1,599 in 2018-19 to \$3,198 in 2019-20

- Learning Ally has been extremely successful as it provides students the ability to access audio books to assist in their reading and comprehension of text.



## Additional Student Services Information

- Extended School Year programming and data collection has been used for two years to justify the removal of services from those students who do not require the service; saw reduction of students eligible from (about 167 in 2015 to 110 in 2018) and attending the program (about 149 to 57)
- “Response to Intervention” model in Intervention & Referral Services utilizes best practice in data analysis and supports which has led to greater pre-referral remediation and efficient use of general and special education resources; so far this year we have discharged multiple students from services
- Based on review of FY19 and FY20 budget data, the Department of Student Services budget saw a net increase of 1.72% or \$35,534



# HIGH SCHOOL TUITION COSTS:

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## 2019-2020 Proposed Budget

The Green Brook Board of Education sends it's students to Watchung Hills Regional High School for grades nine through twelve.

As such, the district pays a tuition cost for each student that it sends. There is a separate cost for regular education costs and special education costs.

In addition, the district pays tuition for students sent out of district to charter schools, vo-tech schools, and other private and public schools for the students with special needs.

# WHRHS Tuition and Other Tuitions

## GEN-ED:

- General education per student tuition cost increase of \$400 to \$16,700, or 2%.
- Increase in number of gen-ed students sent to WHRHS by 4, resulting in an increase of \$66,800.
- Total general education tuition cost will increase by \$344,283, or 5%.

## SPECIAL-ED:

- Self Contained Program decreased from \$56,100 to \$49,250, or 12%. Total WHRHS LLD tuition costs decreased from \$380,450 to \$284,969, a 25% decrease.
- SCESC high school tuition increased to \$67,998 from \$66,000, a 3% increase.
- Resource room total tuition cost will increase \$36,000 to \$378,000, or 10.5%.
- Total public school special ed tuition costs decreased by \$50,601, or 4.8%.
- Total private school special ed tuition costs increased by \$77,959, or 9.7%.
- Vo-tech general education tuition costs will increase to \$8,450 from \$7,800.
- Vo-tech special education tuition costs will decrease to \$7,950 from \$119,250.