

BOE Grants and Other Funding Sources

The Town and the Board of Education receive education related funding from a number of State, Federal, and private sources. The following narratives provides some information about the various funding sources, where the funding comes from, and what it is used for. In the past many of the expenses related to these grants and revenues have been budgeted "net" of the revenue. Over the last two fiscal years the Board of Education has been working to budget the expenses "gross" and incorporate grants and revenues in the operating budget.

Revenue to the Town

Grant funding received by the town and not passed on to the Board of Education.

Education Cost Sharing (ECS)

This state grant is the single largest transfer of dollars from the state to the town to support education. Set by a legislative formula, the ECS grant is administered based on several sections of the Connecticut General Statute 10-262. The ECS formula provides aid based on a number of factors, including wealth and student need. ECS payments are received from the State in October (25%), January (25%) and April (50%). ECS payments go directly to the Town where they are recorded as Intergovernmental Revenue and they are not directly accessed by the Board of Education.

Transportation Grant (Public & Non-Public)

State grant designed to help towns offset the costs of providing public and non-public school transportation. The percentage of reimbursement is set in the statutes and varies according to town wealth and a complex state formula. This grant is frequently not fully funded by the state legislature and Brookfield has not received this funding since 2015-2016. These funds go directly to the Town, the BOE budgets for the full cost of transportation.

School Construction Grant

State grant designed to help towns offset the costs of constructing and renovating school facilities. The reimbursement rates are set by the State based on the town's wealth. These funds go directly to the Town.

Security Grant

State grant designed to help towns offset the costs of installing and upgrading school security equipment and systems.

Board of Education Revenues that Offset Expenses

Federal and State grants that reimburse the Board of Education for a portion of certain expenditures.

Adult Education

State grant used to help fund the required adult basic education program. Brookfield participates in the regional W.E.R.A.C.E program in Danbury providing high school completion and GED diplomas for adult students.

Special Education Excess Cost Reimbursement Grant

State grant that allows the district to recover a percentage of the costs of providing out-of-district placements and/or high cost services for special needs students. Costs associated with placements initiated by a state agency i.e. DCF, that exceed 1 times the district's normal per pupil expenditure can be reimbursed. For placements initiated by Brookfield, costs that exceed 4.5 times the district's normal per pupil expenditure can be recovered. Payments are received from the state in February (75%) and May (25%). Reimbursement percentages for this grant are determined each year by the State of Connecticut and have dropped from 100% in 2009-10 to an average of 70% to 75% in recent years.

Magnet School Transportation Reimbursement Grant

This state reimbursement grant provides funding utilized to offset the cost of transportation for Brookfield students who attend the Western Connecticut Academy for International Studies in Danbury, CT. The grant is currently capped at \$1,300 per student. With 42 students projected attending AIS in 2018-19, revenue from this grant totals \$29,000. These funds are managed by the Board of Education and are dispersed by the state in two equal payments in October and May.

Talent Development Grant

This was a one time state grant that reimbursed the Board of Education for a portion of a teacher's salary for part time service to the Connecticut State Board of Education in the role as a Teacher Leader to support the State's Talent and Academic Office's initiatives.

Health Services Reimbursement Grant

This state reimbursement grant provides funding to offset a portion of the cost of providing health services to the non-public schools located in Brookfield. In 2017-18, Brookfield will pay approximately \$69,000 to provide these services to St. Joseph School and Christian Life Academy. We anticipate the grant reimbursement will be approximately \$9,500.

Universal Service Fund (USF)

Also known as the E-Rate program, this federal reimbursement is used to offset the costs of internet, building fiber connections, and technology equipment in the district. Funding is subject to a complex formula that reimburses certain expenses depending on the poverty level of the school district. Brookfield is reimbursed at a 40 percent rate. For 2017-18, the projected revenue from E-Rate is \$67,211.

Other Board of Education Revenues

Other sources of revenue that are accounted for in the Board of Education's Operating Budget.

Tuition – Preschool

Preschool services for special needs students are provided free of charge. However, we also provide services to other Brookfield families on a space available basis. The tuition funds received from these families are managed by the Board of Education and are utilized to offset the costs of operating the Preschool program.

Medicaid Reimbursement

The District can be reimbursed for the cost of certain services such as occupational therapy, physical therapy, speech therapy, and counseling provided to students who qualify for Medicaid. This involves a time consuming record keeping and reporting process. It is estimated that Brookfield will be reimbursed \$100,000 per year.

Pay to Participate Program

Parents were charged a fee for their children to participate in athletics and after school clubs and activities. The program was discontinued after the 2015-2016 school year.

Board of Education Stand Alone Grants

Most of these grants are referred to as "entitlement" grants. These are Federal grants allocated based on a number of factors such as the needs of the student population and the wealth of the community. In most cases the District has two years to spend the grant funding. These grants must be used to supplement, not supplant local funding. They must also be accounted for and reported on separately every year. For these reasons, these grants cannot be incorporated in the Board of Education's General Fund Operating Budget.

IDEA, Part B, Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, Section 611

Federal grant based on the number of identified special education students in the district. Funding is used to augment the special education services provided to public and non-public school students in the district.

IDEA, Part B, Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, Section 619

Federal grant also based on the number of identified special education students in the district, substantially smaller than section 611, is used for preschool special education services. Funding is used to augment the special education services provided to public and non-public school students in the district.

Title I A, Improving Basic Programs Operated by Local Education Agencies

This federal grant is to support remedial reading and math in the District. Funds are allocated to school districts based on levels of poverty. We utilize these funds to pay the salary of a remedial reading teacher.

Title II A, Teacher and Principal Training and Recruiting Fund

This federal grant is used to supplement the Districts professional development budget.

Title III, English Language Acquisition and Language Enhancement

This federal grant is used to support the District's ELL program by providing materials and tutoring services to identified students.

Title IV, Student Support and Academic Enrichment

The purpose of this grant is to assist districts in providing all students with access to a well-rounded education. Brookfield will use these funds for teacher and parent training in questioning strategies.

Carl Perkins

Vocationally focused federal grant used to support vocational and school to career programs at Brookfield High School. These funds are managed by the Board of Education.

School Improvement Grant

Federal grant administered by the State to provide funding to raise achievement in schools identified as being in need of improvement. Brookfield High School is using the funding to improve literacy instruction for all students, with a particular focus on supports for English Learners and students receiving Special Education services, by purchasing assessment

tools and instructional materials (in addition to providing training in the utilization of tools and materials) as well as resources for parents.

School Lunch Fund Grants

Federal and State grants that reimburse the School Lunch Fund based upon the number of qualifying meals sold. The school lunch program is a self supporting program that does not receive any monetary support from the Board of Education's Operating Budget. Since it is a self supporting program, it must be maintained as a separate fund.

National School Lunch

Federal reimbursement of \$.31 on all qualifying meals sold, \$2.83 on all meals provided to students qualifying for reduced price lunch, and \$3.23 on all free meals served to students qualifying for free lunch. All funds are used to operate the district's outsourced food services operation at no cost to Brookfield taxpayers.

Child Nutrition State Matching Grant

A state grant that reimburses the lunch fund \$.149 per meal based on reported lunch counts from the prior year. This includes \$.10 per meal for our participation in the State's Healthy Food initiative. All funds are used to operate the district's outsourced food services operation at no cost to Brookfield taxpayers.