

Rye Elementary School Overview

Suzanne Lull, Principal

Rye Elementary continues to have a long history of high academic standards and a commitment to meeting the needs of the whole child, while valuing the personal, social, and physical needs of the student as well. In creating this budget we have kept the Rye School District goals in mind and aim at putting the needs of the child first.

The Rye School District has worked hard to align all work, initiatives, and professional development to our yearly goals. Of primary importance is our goal to increase the focus, depth, and rigor of learning and assessment tasks so students can engage with meaningful content and skills. In order to accomplish that, we need our second goal, which is to improve the capacity of educators to personalize learning and challenge all students. These goals lead us to a more focused approach to learning. Data teams at each grade level review and analyze the data from benchmark and formative assessments to inform their instruction and plan the best course of action for each student.

Currently Rye Elementary is on course to begin the process of reviewing and updating literacy in kindergarten through grade five. The current reading program was published in 2007 and does not align to the New Hampshire College and Career Ready Standards. A vertical team is charged with the task of defining the hallmarks of an effective literacy program, determining the program(s) that exemplify best literacy practices, and creating a timeline for implementation and professional development. This timeline will be a one to three-year process as there are so many facets of a literacy program. Our budget in the next two to three years will reflect the work of this team.

New Hampshire College and Career Ready Standards stipulate that technology be embedded in our curriculum. Technology is a tool used to create, collaborate, and communicate in the twenty-first century. Over the past three years we have nearly outfitted each core classroom with a Smartboard. This coming year we will complete that goal by adding the final one. In this same time frame we have added Chromebook carts to grades two through five. Some of these units were added in previous school budgets and some through federal and local grants. This coming year it is necessary to begin the cycle of replacement for outdated iPads, Chromebooks and teacher laptops that no longer accept the latest apps, updates, and needs.

Professional development has centered on curriculum development and preparing our students for the future. Creating rigor in the classroom has been a priority. Workshops on Understanding by Design coupled with Professional Learning Communities lay the groundwork for such rigor. Staff members have created personal as well as student growth goals to ensure that the focus remains on individual students and their success.

Increasing demands on personnel have made it necessary to request one full-time general education paraprofessional to the Rye Elementary staff. In the course of one day there are over fifty-one duties (e.g. recess, lunch) that require supervision and with fewer paraprofessionals available, many of those duties are absorbed by the classroom teachers, thereby forfeiting a much-needed planning period or common planning time. This is a one-year position and will be re-evaluated each year according to needs.

The physical plant has been well cared for, and one needs only to walk the halls to have an appreciation for the hard work of our custodial staff. Safety is a primary concern as we consider the budget. A strobe light warning system and outdoor speakers in the event of a fire or lock down would ensure that all students and staff are adequately alerted should an emergency arise. Two additional needs to be addressed are updating telephone wires so calls are not interrupted, and replacing the worn carpet in our library.

We continue to develop responsible citizenship qualities in our children. Our Student Council comprised of five elected officers and nine appointed representatives, embrace opportunities such as collecting food for the local food pantry, donating sneakers to children in the Bronx, collecting treats for our troops, and donating blankets for the local SPCA. This year we are reaching out to the community with acts of kindness. Over one third of our student population joined our Kindness Ambassadors Club where our kind words and deeds will impact those in need. We recognize and affirm each one's uniqueness and strengths in our monthly Celebration Assemblies that brings the school community together to celebrate Rye Elementary and promote a positive school atmosphere. These programs and initiatives, while not big budgetary items, contribute to the student's social/emotional health as well as creating good citizens.

Thank you for the opportunity to express our needs and concerns to you in our 2017-2018 budget. If you have any further questions, my door is always open.



RES 4yr. Budget 2016

Description	Amount	2017	2018	2019	2020	Rationale	Impact
CURRICULUM							
Language Arts Curriculum - Phase 1 Foundations	\$15,360	X				The current ELA program is 2007 and not aligned to the College and Career Ready Standards. Since ELA encompasses many different skills we need to implement a new program slowly to provide adequate teacher training with each new component. Phase 1 is for the implementation of a systematic, sequential word study program, which includes vocabulary, spelling, and phonics	Students should be able to decode and spell better and fluency rates should increase. We will also have one common language and program for all students in all grades.
Language Arts Readers - Phase 1	\$4,500	X				Each of the three years we will need to build our individual titles for student readers. This will support the guided reading/reading workshop program.	
Language Arts Curriculum - Phase 2	10,000		X			In this phase we will implement the reading workshop component. Once children have a strong phonics background we can add the comprehension piece	see phase 1 with the addition of comprehension
Language Arts Curriculum - Phase 3	6,000			X		The final phase includes a writing program. A necessary piece in the ELA bundle. Writing is an important tool in communication. This is not handwriting but a program that will teach children how to write narratives, opinion and research pieces.	see phase 1 with the addition of writing and then need to communicate in the world today.
Social Studies Program					X	Outdated series. Time to update to the newer version. We are taking each content area and putting them on a 5 year review. Last year was science and the next two or three will be literacy, and then social studies.	
Health Program	\$500.00	X				Health Programs are mandated for schools and we have been dividing up that responsibility between the nurse, PE, and science. We need a more formal program so we can ensure a cohesive program for children in grades K-5. The cost is low for this next year as we are just starting with a program to pilot.	
Math: Dreambox Learning Online Program	\$7,000	X	X	X	X	In the blended learning environment Dreambox is a tool students use. It is similar to IXL but it goes much further. It analyzes student mistakes and moves and adjusts the curriculum to meet their needs. This is an annual cost we are adding to our budget.	
TECHNOLOGY: The RES inventory link is under rationale.						https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1ffruc2hmWhLkN1P0ccmAYQMIm9aZUjKw_iich63el/edit#gid=2	

RES 4yr. Budget 2016

Description	Amount	2017	2018	2019	2020	Rationale	Impact
A note about technology: The cost of subscriptions to web-based programs is roughly \$37,056.						More of our work is web-based from curriculum to health, to student information systems. Included in this budget are technologies for student learning, health, care, student information system, web sites, testing, sonic walls, and learning management.	
Smartboard & projector-1 classroom	4,701	X				The last classroom to get a smartboard. After this one all grade level classrooms will have an updated or new smartboard.	
classroom set of replacement iPads	3,835	X				This expenditure is replacement for existing iPads that are 4-5 years old. Some are maxed with space, have broken screens, or just don't work with the newest apps. Set of 15.	This will enable us to use continue with a blended learning environment.
set of 20 Chromebooks - replacement	5,500	X	X	X	X	We build into the budget replacement costs to keep systems up and running.	
Learning Management System	7,000	X				To align all curriculum, instruction, assessment, and pd into one platform; the program has yet to be determined.	
Website design	2,500	X				This is a placeholder for the cost Rye Elementary will share as the SAU looks to update our present website to one that is more user friendly.	
MacBook Air replacements-5 per year	7,315	X	X	X	X	Macbook Airs were purchased 5 years ago and we need to begin replacing them as they go. Moving to MacBook Pros for storage reasons.	
MAINTENANCE							
Carpet for library	10,455.50	X				Very old and in need of replacement.	
Strobe Lights for Safety	3,973	X				There is no way for our PE and music teacher to be aware of an emergency if there is noise. A strobe light would be a visual signal. Recommended by NH Dept. of Safety during their inspection 2 yrs. ago.	Safety issue
Reroof the peak on front of building	20,000		X			Wear is showing; approx. figure	
Safety matting for gym wall by stage	3,402.22	X				Safety issue as children can run into the stage with no protection. The mats currently there are worn all along the top and bottom.	Safety issue in PE
Keyless entry				X		The outside doors use a regular hard key to enter and people who use the gym are given a key to use and return. The locks have not been changed or updated for years. A keyless entry would allow us to program a combination for each use. We control and have the option to save that password or not.	
Outdoor speakers for emergency bells	1,324					This is for emergency situations when children are outside. Speakers will allow them to hear if there is a lockdown or fire.	Hopefully we can take the Copsync money in this year's budget and apply it to these. If not, they will go in the 2017-2018 budget.
Painting the interior of the gymnasium				X			

RES 4yr. Budget 2016

Replace smoke detectors				X		One has started discharging and fire department believes those that are yellow need to be replaced. Jim Gordon believes we have time still before we need to replace. The current wiring is not up to code because of the way it was made to 'share pairs' of wires when it was put in. Shared pairs produces 'cross-talk' between the phone system and the intercomm. When it was installed it was configured so both systems (telephone and intercomm) share cables rather than each have its own. The noise from the phone system is bleeding over to the intercomm. The last company went into Williams Comm cabinet and took those wires and used them. They cut the phone circuit off the intercomm and used it for their phone circuit. It's not a clean job, or up to code, and causes multiple issues such as dropped calls.	
Update wiring in phone system	15,250				X	There needs to be an assessment of needs and then a plan to implement. The old wings have classroom with two electrical outlets and with technology demands this needs to be updated.	
Update wiring in building					X		
STAFFING							
Move a .5 FT para to Special Ed. para position to make that special ed para a FT para	no cost added to budget				X	Right now a full time paraprofessional divides her time between general ed and special ed. She currently is working FT special ed so we need to make this adjustment. Impact only in bookkeeping.	
Transfer the .40 WL position to the RIH and retain the 1.0 FT WL teacher here at RES	no cost added to budget				X	This will allow better scheduling. It will also allow for RIH to offer an advanced class for some students.	
There is a pressing need for another general ed para.					X	With 2 to 3 of our paras becoming one on ones with special education students, there are fewer staff members to cover duties and meetings for teachers. Combine this with classroom teachers having increased special ed. consults, and on many days teachers do not get a planning period. This would allow for an extra person to do duties for teachers which would include lunch and recess.	