



Ledyard Board of Education Budget Frequently Asked Questions

Thank you for visiting the Ledyard Board of Education Budget FAQ page for the 2026-2027 budget development process. Each year elected officials, team members, and members of our community present questions related to our budget. These questions can be financial in nature, or related to policy or operations. It is our goal to respond in a public forum, as transparently, and comprehensively as possible. If at any time the budget information or this FAQ document does not answer your questions, or if you have feedback, please feel free to contact me at jhartling@ledyard.net or our Director of Finance, Ken Knight at kknight@ledyard.net.

This document will be updated as new questions of public value are presented, with revision dates recorded in the document header.

Sincerely,
Jason S. Hartling
Superintendent

Questions:

1. We continue to hear about declining enrollment, is the district reducing staff to meet this decline?

Prior to 2018, like most districts across the State, Ledyard saw a steeper enrollment decline. However, in the past several school years the district has seen a general stabilization and at times an increase in our enrollment. Our total “in-district” enrollment as of Dec 1, was 2273. It should be noted that this year’s enrollment was also impacted by the State’s change for Kindergarten eligibility.

2. What are we doing to reduce our outgoing magnet numbers and increase the incoming?

School choice is an option in Southeastern CT as part of the effort to reduce racial isolation in New London. There is no specific effort to reduce participation. Generally the numbers of out of district students per grade K-8 are in the single digits, with higher

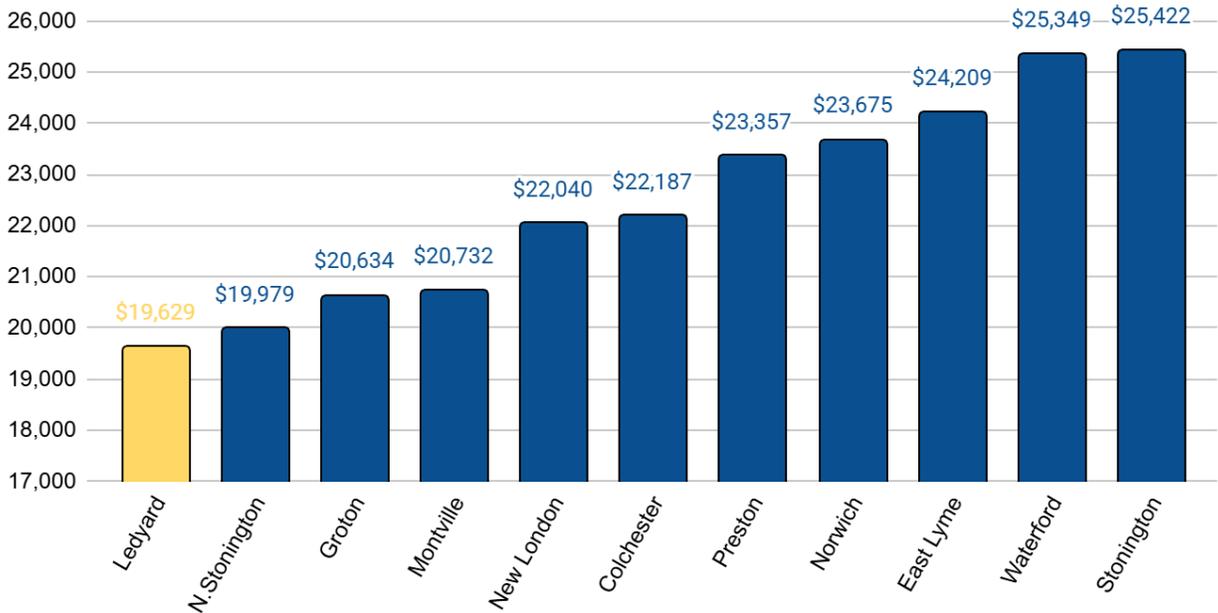
numbers of students at the high school level accessing the State Technical Schools or MSHS.

Enrollment in Ledyard Public Schools Pre-K through Eighth Grade is based on verified residency of the student within the Town of Ledyard. Ledyard High School offers a Regional Agricultural Science Program that students of 12 different communities outside of Ledyard are eligible to attend. Additionally, Ledyard has general tuition agreements with communities that do not have a local high school.

3 How does per pupil spending in Ledyard compare to the surrounding communities in New London County?

Ledyard operates a program at a cost significantly lower than the surrounding communities. As a community Ledyard currently ranks 144 out of 165 for funding per student. Recent analysis of CT SDE data shows the following comparisons:

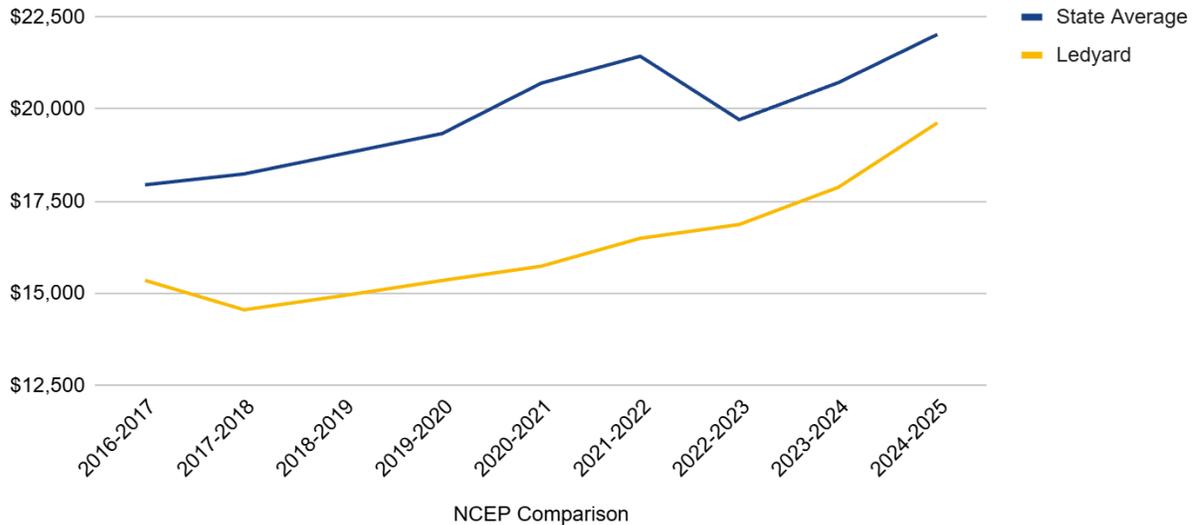
Areas Towns in NL County 2024-2025 NCEP



October 2025 per CSDE

A comparison with the State:

NCEP Comparison



4. Does the proposed budget include increases due to inflation for transportation and energy costs in our facilities? Is a COLA provided for employees?

The district transportation contract was negotiated two years ago. The increase in this budget for general education transportation is \$80,682 for level service. Costs for special education transportation are based on forecasted student enrollment and student need; special education costs are highly volatile.

Utility costs continue to be potential areas of risk and are a combined increase of \$27,339 in this budget. This includes offsets for the anticipated saving from adding solar to GFS and JWL in the Summer of 2026..

Increases for employees are provided based on contractual agreements; agreements are available at [Ledyard Public Schools website](#) on the employment agreements page.

5. What are the “In Kind” expenses from the Town of Ledyard that are billed to the BOE? Is it true that the numbers don’t include the building project expense or healthcare?

Costs incurred by the town to support the Board of Education are reported as In Kind expenses. These expenses **are included** in the Net Current Expenditures per Pupil (NCEP) that is tracked by the State and reported by the district during the budget process. Those expenses for School Year 2024-2025 are outlined below:

BOE In-Kinds Paid by General Government
 FY 2025 Actual FINAL (modified by KK 10.14.2025)

Description	Org	Object	Gross Expense	Adjustments	BOE Share %	Total BOE Amount
Director of Finance	10112101	51600	111,939		20.00%	22,388
Assistant Finance Director	10112101	51603	71,784		20.00%	14,357
Treasurer	10110101	51601	19,082		20.00%	3,816
School Nurses Salary	10130103	51645	289,586		100.00%	289,586
School Nurses Aides	10130103	51646	67,806		100.00%	67,806
School Nurse - Administrative Wages (Karen)	10130103	51700	55,438		100.00%	55,438
School Nurse - Other Wages	10130103	51710	29,739		100.00%	29,739
School Nurse - Clothing Allowance	10130103	52610	-		100.00%	-
School Nurses Operating	10130103	56100	258		100.00%	258
School Nurses - Training	10130103	58110	1,060		100.00%	1,060
Police Officer -- DARE Program (133 hours per Chief Rich)			7,904		100.00%	7,904
Debt P&I on School Buildings	See below		2,333,778		100.00%	2,333,778
Employer Contr to Health Ins--School Nurses			80,832		100.00%	80,832
In-lieu of healthcare payment for school nurses			7,143		100.00%	7,143
Employer Contr Health Ins--BOE	10110253	52100	5,403,215		100.00%	5,403,215
Retiree Health - BOE	10110253	52106	470,868		100.00%	470,868
Workers' Compensation, BOE	10110253	52910	298,271		100.00%	298,271
Social Security for in-kind salaries			491,034		7.65%	37,564
Property Insurance, BOE	10110209	55241	83,426		100.00%	83,426
School Leaders Liability Insurance	10110209	55234	14,975		100.00%	14,975
General Liability	10110209	55232	165,031		50.00%	82,516
Public Officials Liability	10110209	55233	40,646		50.00%	20,323
Defined Contribution Employer Contr BOE Employees			57,538		100.00%	57,538
Defined Contribution Employer Contr School Nurses			15,093		100.00%	15,093
Financial Software	10112151		58,156		50.00%	29,078
Total Education Expenses						9,426,971
Retiree Health - BOE co-premiums	1011401	47041	(478,229)		100.00%	(478,229)
Net Education Expenses						8,948,742

Debt for school projects:

57,237	2013 bond issue
89,260	2016 Refunding Issue
1,151,075	2017 bond issue
494,550	2019 bond issue
302,000	2021 bond issue
239,656	2022 bond issue

2,333,778

The estimated In Kind for School Year 2025-2026 is as follows:

**BOE In-Kinds Paid by General Government
FY 2025-26 Projected**

Description	Gross Expense	Revenue Reduction	Net Expense	BOE Share %	Total BOE Amount
Director of Finance	\$ 133,000		\$ 133,000	20.00%	\$ 26,600
Assistant Finance Director	73,548		73,548	20.00%	14,710
Treasurer	19,551		19,551	20.00%	3,910
			-		
School Nurses Salary	332,940		332,940	100.00%	332,940
School Nurses Aides	80,129		80,129	100.00%	80,129
School Nurse - Admin Wages	49,321		49,321	100.00%	49,321
School Nurse - Other Wages	38,100		38,100	100.00%	38,100
School Nurse - Clothing Allowance	1,500		1,500	100.00%	1,500
School Nurses Operating	700		700	100.00%	700
School Nurses - Training	1,500		1,500	100.00%	1,500
Police Officer -- DARE Program	10,000		10,000	100.00%	10,000
Debt P&I on School Buildings	2,255,751		2,255,751	100.00%	2,255,751
Employer Contr to Health Ins--School Nurses	77,000		77,000	100.00%	77,000
In-lieu of healthcare payment for school nurses	7,700		7,700	100.00%	7,700
Employer Contr Health Ins--BOE	6,069,790	-	6,069,790	100.00%	6,069,790
Retiree Health - BOE	525,000	(525,000)	-	100.00%	-
Workers' Compensation, BOE	313,183		313,183	100.00%	313,183
Social Security for In-kind salaries	555,710		555,710	7.65%	42,512
Property Insurance, BOE	92,250		92,250	100.00%	92,250
School Leaders Liability Insurance	16,555		16,555	100.00%	16,555
General Liability	177,870		177,870	50.00%	88,935
Public Officials Liability	44,945		44,945	50.00%	22,473
Defined Contribution Employer Contr BOE Employees	55,000		55,000	100.00%	55,000
Defined Contribution Employer Contr School Nurses	10,000		10,000	100.00%	10,000
Financial Software	65,000		65,000	50.00%	32,500
Total In-Kind Education Expenses included in the General Government Budget					\$ 9,643,058