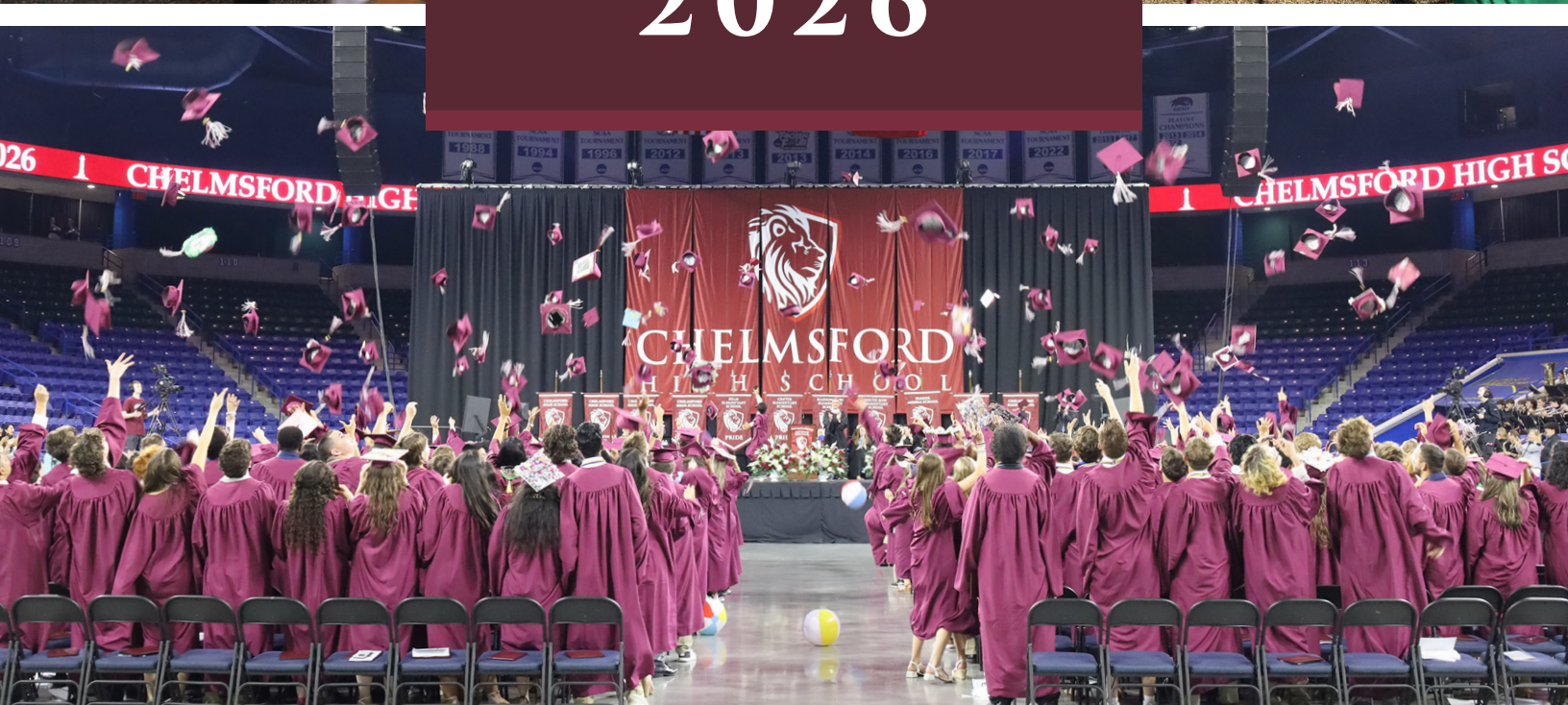




CHELMSFORD
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

2026



MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

Every year, Chelmsford Public Schools students, staff and families create thousands of moments worth celebrating: A state title, a science fair ribbon, a first chair in band, the moment a lesson finally clicks, or a club project that changes how a whole school thinks about giving back. Whether they know it or not, they're living out our **PRIDE** values every time they do.

Inside these pages, you'll find our students in the classroom, on the field and on the stage: the academic gains our students work hard to earn, the championships our athletes bring home, and the clubs and activities where kids find their people and their purpose. Numbers tell part of the story, but so do the students behind them, and we've tried to bring both to life here.

This year, we're also sharing an update on the Parker Middle School project and Chelmsford's work with the Massachusetts School Building Authority. More than replacing an aging school, the preferred Grade 4-6 option would address district-wide overcrowding and strengthen Chelmsford's educational infrastructure for future generations. Scheduled for funding decisions in early 2027, this project is a good example of how our community plans for the future alongside our students' everyday achievements.

We hope this gives you a full picture of what's happening in our district and another reason to feel proud of it.

Jay Lang, Ed.D.
Superintendent



Five values guide everything we do at Chelmsford Public Schools:

Perseverance

Respect

Integrity

Dedication

Empathy



Stay Connected

 chelmsfordschools.org

 Chelmsford Public Schools

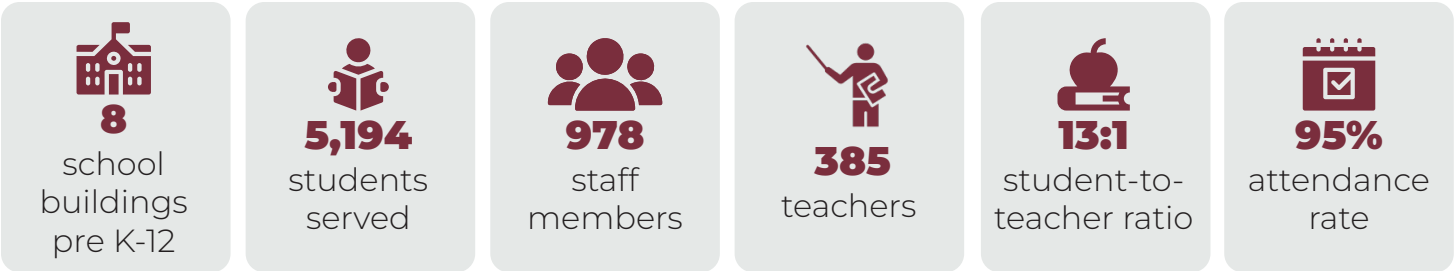
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*Weekly
newsletters*

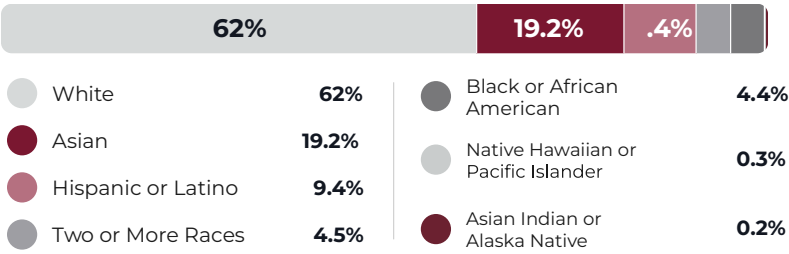


CPS AT-A-GLANCE

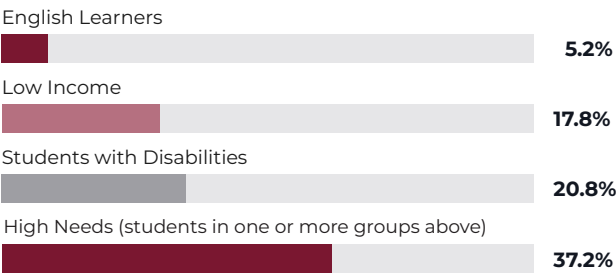


Our Student Community

Race



Student Subgroups



Our students reflect the world they're growing up in.

Ready for the Future

The Class of 2026 celebrated 363 graduates and a 99.9% graduation rate. These students are prepared for what's next, whether that's college, the trades, the workforce, military service or beyond.



Katherine Evans
Valedictorian, Class of 2026
Rochester Institute of Technology, Engineering



Rujan Niraula
Class of 2026
Internship Program to Toyota of Nashua, future mechanic shop owner



Aidan Bakerlis
Class of 2026
U.S. Marine Corps

EDUCATIONAL VALUE

2025-26 At-A-Glance

100% of graduates completed a full college-prep course load

97% of students took a college-level course, with 21 courses to choose from

87.4% studied art, music or theater beyond what's required

95.4% students passed every course as freshmen

NEW: College Starts Before Graduation

Starting fall 2026, Chelmsford High School's partnership with Middlesex Community College expands to offer four more pathways: liberal arts, education, health science and criminal justice, letting students earn college credit while still at CHS. Students can complete more than 12 college credits before graduation.



Innovation Program is Gov. Healey's Statewide Model



Innovation Pathways, which Gov. Healey named "a statewide model" in 2023, begins shaping student success in ninth grade. Over four years, students train in Business & Finance, IT, Advanced Manufacturing or Life Sciences. They earn industry credentials and complete a capstone or internship. In 2026, 24 students graduated from the program.

From Chelmsford to the World Stage: DECA International Conference

As a junior, Molly Zeng competed at DECA's International Career Development Conference in Atlanta, one of the largest student business competitions in the country. She came home with a silver medal, respect for the craft of competition and determination to prepare for the challenge that moves a student from a Chelmsford classroom to an international stage. Congratulations to all who participated!



CHS Gym Transforms into an Intern Showcase of Talent

Each spring, Seniors showcase on-the-job learning and insights gathered during their internships, giving juniors a first-hand look to prepare for their own internship year.

BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

ATHLETICS & EXTRACURRICULARS

The Boston Globe

Boston Globe Dalton Award | Division 1, Second Place Overall

CHS has placed second overall in the state's largest high school competitive division for The Boston Globe Dalton Award. The recognition comes from a 62% aggregate winning percentage across all varsity sports.

32 sports offered
(grades 9-12)

800+ students play a sport
(grades 9-12)

100+ clubs
(grades 5-12)

22 nominations – one incredible run of “Oklahoma!”



The CHS Theatre Guild's production of “Oklahoma!” earned 22 award nominations from two organizations, including Best Leading Actress honors for senior Lily Rogers and Best Overall Production.

Nearly 500

Chelmsford High School students participate in an extracurricular club

285 McCarthy Middle School students participate in an extracurricular activity

388 Parker Middle School students participate in an extracurricular activity



OFFICE OF BUSINESS & FINANCE

**TOP 15% in academic outcomes**

**BOTTOM 15% in per-pupil spending**

**Strong results. Responsible spending.**

Every dollar in Chelmsford Public School's budget is here to support one thing: what happens in our classrooms. Our office manages that budget, along with procurement, accounts payable and financial reporting, so that teachers and staff can focus on students.

Chelmsford's FY2027 operating budget is \$78.15 million, a level-service budget that maintains current staffing and programs. Like districts across Massachusetts, we're managing real cost pressures: rising health insurance premiums, retirement assessments and a state funding formula that hasn't kept pace with the actual cost of educating every child. We meet those pressures the same way every year, with the perseverance, integrity and dedication that defines a Chelmsford education.

Despite spending less per pupil than the state average, Chelmsford's students consistently outperform neighboring communities. That's not an accident. It's what happens when a community chooses to invest wisely in its schools.

Joanna Johnson-Collins
Director of Business & Finance

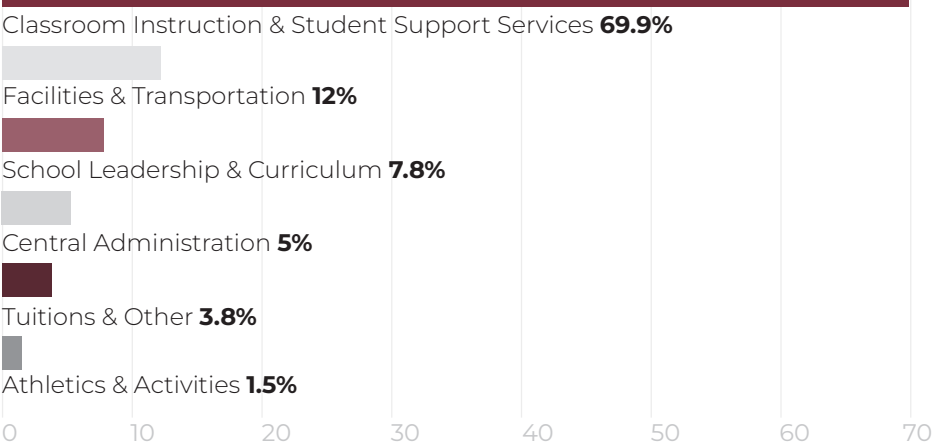
FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT

FY2027 operating budget
\$78.15 million
Per-pupil expenditure
\$18,641 (FY2024, Department of Elementary and Secondary Education) — 20% below the state average, and 13% below the Merrimack Valley regional average
Average teacher salary
\$91,000 (FY2025) — competitive with state pay
Budget management
No override in over 10 years, ~4% average annual growth (2017–2026), below the state's 5.5% average

Where Our Money Comes From

80% LOCAL — \$62.31M Town meeting / property taxes	20% STATE — \$15.84M Chapter 70 state aid
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Where Our Money Goes



BUILDING FOR THE NEXT GENERATION

Parker School Building Project Moves Forward

Colonel Moses Parker Middle School was built in 1965 for 684 students. Today, it serves 778 students, and the effects of overcrowding are felt throughout the district.

In December 2024, the Massachusetts School Building Authority invited Chelmsford into a formal feasibility study. Since then, the Parker Middle School Building Committee has advanced the project through 18 public meetings and six community forums, with upcoming public forums scheduled on Nov. 12 and Dec. 9. The committee has also completed a comprehensive evaluation of multiple options ranging from different grade configurations and addition/renovation to new construction.

The district-preferred option would do far more than replace an aging school facing significant facility challenges. It would establish a new Grade 4 to 6 school model that addresses overcrowding across the district by relocating fourth grade students from elementary school into a modern, purpose-built learning environment. This approach would create additional capacity within each of the district's four elementary schools, provide a fully accessible facility designed to support contemporary educational programs and position the district to better meet future enrollment needs.

PARKER MIDDLE SCHOOL AT-A-GLANCE

What it Does

Replaces the 1965 Parker Middle School with a new Grade 4 to 6 school (238,700 square feet), easing enrollment pressure at every level, from elementary through middle school.



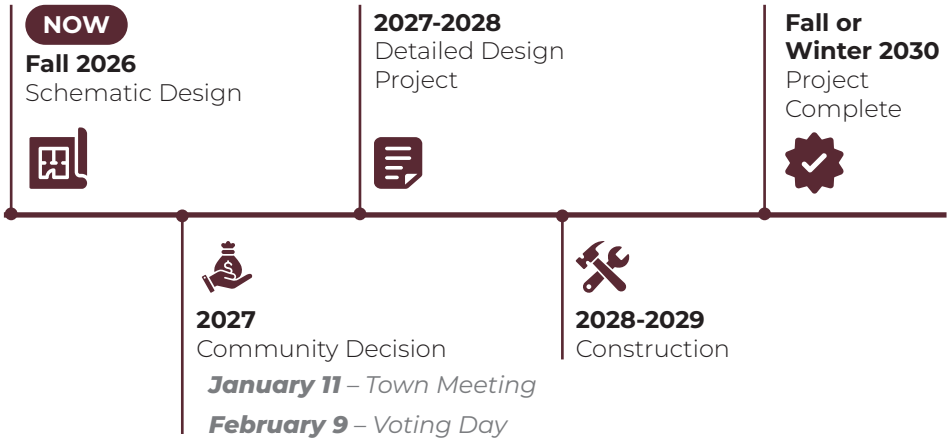
Community Benefits

- Gym and cafetorium space for community use
- Restored stream and wetlands
- Walking paths
- Outdoor classrooms
- Expanded playground
- EV charging



Learn More: parkermssproject.com

The Path to a New Parker Middle School



THE PRIDE OF CHELMSFORD

A FEW OF THE MOMENTS THAT MADE THIS A CHELMSFORD YEAR TO REMEMBER



Unified Game Day brings Chelmsford schools together at McCarthy Middle School, where every student gets in the game.



South Row Fit Fest gets the whole school moving, one team game at a time.



Harrington's fourth graders raised funds by literally taping Principal Rob Asselin to the gym wall.



Project 300 is McCarthy Middle School's annual food drive, run start to finish by students and staff.



Buddies vs. Badges pits Parker students against local first responders in an annual charity basketball game.



During Read Across America Week, community members headed into Byam classrooms to read with students.

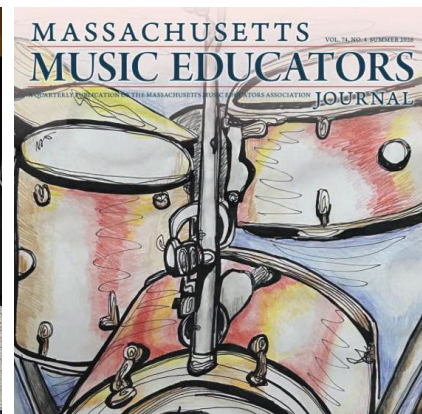
Center School fourth graders performed at the Massachusetts State House for a statewide music education celebration.



For a district wide art showcase, Harrington students turned their school into a glow-in-the-dark rainforest.



At Touch-A-Truck, hosted by School Resource Officer Dan Sullivan and Officer Ozzie, preschoolers explored fire trucks, ambulances and dump trucks.



CHS sophomore Rebecca Plotnick had her artwork selected for the cover of a statewide music educators' journal.