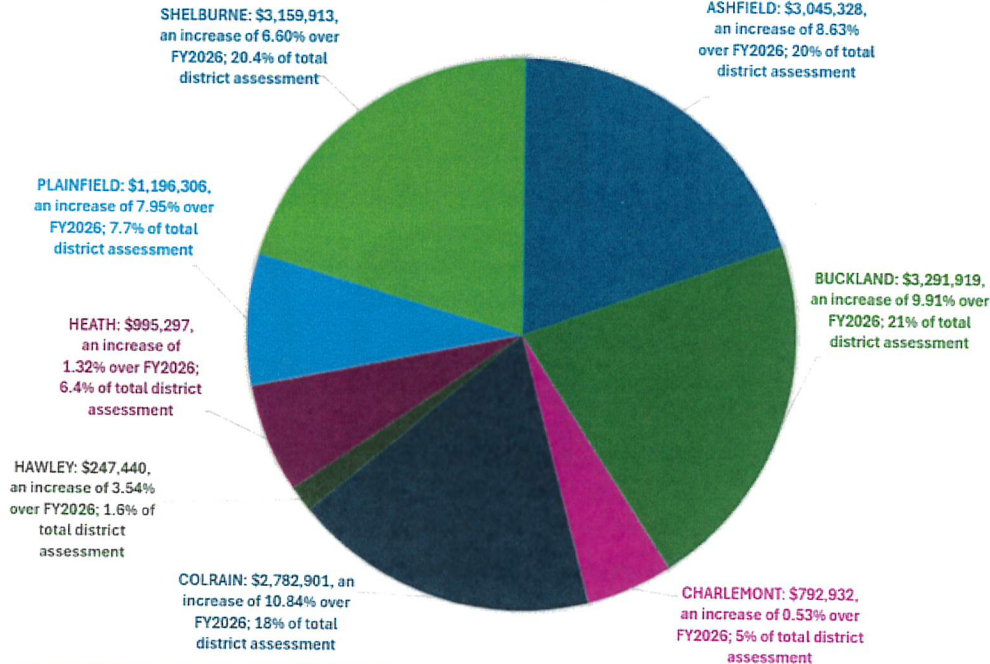


# Mohawk Trail Regional School District TOWN OF COLRAIN FY2027 BUDGET PROPOSAL



MTRSD FY2027  
OPERATING ASSESSMENTS



**All Funds Budget**  
**\$28,921,217**  
↑ **6.24% over FY26**

**Applying Offsets and Revenue, the Operating Assessment Shared Across 8 District Towns:**  
**\$15,512,036**  
↑ **7.78% over FY26**

**Colrain's Assessment:**  
**\$2,782,901**  
↑ **10.84% over FY26**

To view our complete FY2027 budget booklet and source documents, please scan the QR code or visit:

[mtrsd.org/Business-services](http://mtrsd.org/Business-services)



Each year, the burden of funding education for our students falls more heavily on our towns as the state fails to provide for the needs in rural districts.

Increasing rural aid is critical, and MTRSD has been a leader in the fight for rural funding equity.

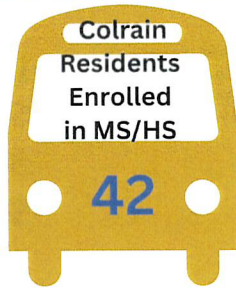
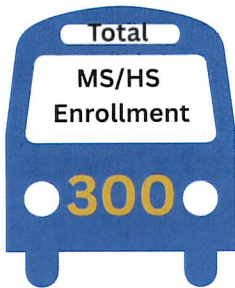
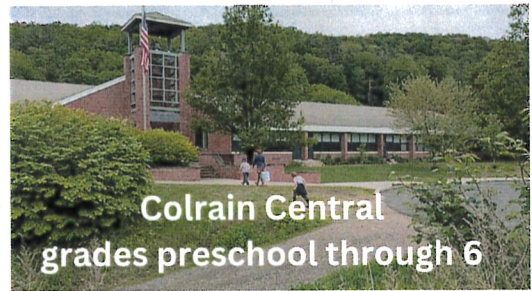
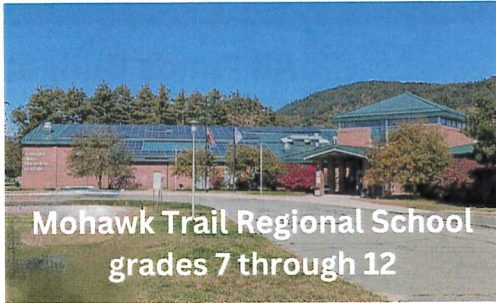
## Budget Considerations for FY27

**Fixed Costs Increased by \$2,717,910, or 10%**, reflecting increases in special education out of district placements and transportation, required salary raises, benefits and insurance, and general transportation. Through reductions across all budget areas, this increase was reduced by more than \$1,000,000. These reductions included the elimination of 21.5 full-time equivalent (FTE) positions. (Some were unfilled positions and did not affect individuals.)

**Offsets increased only by \$100,000 which does not cover the increases in fixed costs.** In previous years, the District has eased the burden on the towns by applying "offsets," (such as school choice revenues, special education reimbursements, rural aid, federal and state grants, E&D, etc.) to reduce town assessments. This year's increase in offsets was \$100,000 (vs. \$1 million in FY26); this is not enough to keep up with the rise in fixed costs.

**State-provided revenues continue to be flat or are declining.** State education aid (Chapter 70) has not increased meaningfully for MTRSD for more than 20 years, while costs have continued to rise. Other sources of state aid, such as transportation reimbursement and rural aid, are inconsistent and "subject to appropriation."

# FY2026 School Enrollment



All enrollment numbers are as of October 1, 2025.



At Colrain Central, we are leveraging our small-school advantage to ensure every child is seen, heard, and challenged. We want students who can think for themselves and, to achieve this, our focus is on three pillars: critical thinking, creative expression, and future readiness. Our students learn the fundamental academic and social skills required to navigate the world and build successful lives of their own. The budget is the blueprint for our children's future. It ensures our classrooms have appropriate staffing, teachers have the tools to foster critical and independent thinking by funding high-quality instructional materials, and professional development. We view every dollar as a community investment. Ultimately, this budget allows us to provide a path for every student to become a person of character who can think critically, act creatively, and contribute to the strength of our towns and the world.

- Amy Looman, Principal, Colrain Central School



With the Trailblazer model serving as our foundation, we continue to seek ways to further innovate independence and growth for both students and teachers. Mohawk Trail Regional piloted a new schedule featuring short and long blocks which has enabled better flow of core curriculum and more electives. MTRS students explore their interests with the added bonus of contributing to our communities with senior capstone projects, independent projects, required civics projects in Grades 8 and 10, and more. Restorative practices remain central to culture-building, evident through advisory and a newly developed peer mentoring program. The Standards-Based Teaching and Learning (SBTL) approach provides both instructional support for teachers and improves students' literacy skills. The 2026-2027 budget recognizes fiscal efficiency while maintaining the multi-tiered system of support we have worked diligently to establish.

- Chris Buckland, Principal, Mohawk Trail Regional School

Your support of this budget allows the Mohawk Trail Regional School District to continue to serve this community with forward-thinking education and advocacy for students in our 8 district towns and beyond. Thank you.