



***Wilton-Lyndeborough Cooperative School District***  
***School Administrative Unit #63***

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Peter Weaver  
Superintendent of Schools

Ned Pratt  
Director of Student Support Services

Kristie LaPlante  
Business Administrator

## **BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR REPORT**

December 17, 2024

**Tax Rate Analysis** – The School District portion of our communities' tax rates have been established and certified by the Department of Education and the Department of Revenue.

The School District portion increased significantly due in large part to several factors – a net increase of \$1,042,448 in expenditures approved at the March 2024 District Meeting, a net decrease of roughly \$160,000 in General Fund revenues, a decrease of \$400,000 in previously classified revenues based on how our Federal Grants are budgeted, and net reduction of \$322,268 in funds returned to taxpayers for FY24.

One way of measuring the stability of the District's tax rate is to look at how our portion of the tax rate factors into the whole of each Community's tax rate. This comparison method strips out each community's use of Fund Balance to reduce their portion of the tax rate and helps to better understand our needs in comparison to each Community's needs. I.e., are our needs overwhelming the overall costs and consuming a greater portion of the tax rate.

In Lyndeborough, the District's portion of the tax rate over the last five years has averaged about 53.05% of the total tax rate. In 2024, we make up 55.19% of the total tax rate.

In Wilton, the District's portion of the tax rate over the last five years has averaged about 56.55% of the total tax rate. In 2024, we make up 56.57% of the total tax rate.

I am confident that the meticulous work of the Budget Committee will yield an FY26 Budget that will balance District need with growing taxpayer concerns about the impact on their property taxes.

I take my role as steward of the District's budget very seriously. I scrutinize every Purchase Order to ensure it is appropriate and aligns with the needs of the District and ensure it matches the intent of what was discussed with the Budget Committee and presented to the public.