



Did you know?

- Ipswich families pay a fee of \$400 per student or \$650 per family for participation in high school athletics. The fees increased from \$125 per student in 2001; \$150 in 2002; \$200 in 2004; \$225 in 2005.
- At the middle/high school, sixth-graders will have bus service, but students in grades 7-12 will not.
- Approximately 900 elementary students will not have access to their school libraries, which will be closed due to budget cuts next year. Elementary teachers will have limited access to library resources.
- 142 of 154 Winthrop students participate in the instrumental program. Next year, the fourth grade instrumental program will be cut.
- 104 kids participated in the middle school production of "Mulan" this year. Next year middle school drama will not be budgeted.
- 304 middle school students participate in intramural volleyball; 156 in intramural basketball; 41 in travel basketball; 140 in track; 92 in tennis; 55 in golf; 66 in soccer; 25 in field hockey; 51 in softball, all of which will not be budgeted next year.
- 2003 was the last year Doyon School had substantive funds for new or replacement technology equipment. Since 2003, the total average amount allocated for technology in the Doyon budget for 2004-2007 averaged about \$4,000 per year. In 2008 the amount allocated for technology was \$0. Next year it is projected to be \$0. All funds for repair have been cut as well.
- The average high school textbook costs \$85-\$100. Any new high school textbooks are funded by donations and are not included in the high school budget. The last time the schools purchased new textbooks out of the budget was six years ago.
- The out of district tuition rate for SPED placement goes up 3% each year.
- A profile of next year's grade 4 at Doyon (which will face larger classes due to a cut teaching position), shows that 36% of next year's 4th grade students receive some kind of support services.
- The district has 266 computers (category C) that are 8-12 years old, 285 computers (category B) that are 3-6 years old, and 376 computers (category A) that are 2-3 years old. Category B and C computers cannot support new software and thus provide limited use for students. The vast majority of category A computers were donated and were not funded through the school budget. There has been no money in the budget for computer purchases for the last three years.
- The middle school currently runs 20 sections of 25 students or more. The school is built for classrooms of 24. Next year grade 8 is projected to have at least 26-27 students.
- With the cut of the middle/high school library assistant position, 40-50 students will be in the library under the supervision of one librarian.
- Due to staff reductions, Winthrop's projected class size for fourth grade is at least 28 students, not including any new students moving in to town.
- Ipswich's 2007 per pupil expenditure of \$9,734 is 17.6% below the state average of \$11,819. In a list of nine neighboring communities, Ipswich is second to last in per pupil expenditure.
- Despite the below-average per pupil expenditure, Ipswich's MCAS scores are in the top 25-30% in the state.

This information was taken from the Ipswich schools' budget presentations.

To view these presentations in full or to get more facts about the Ipswich schools, go to www.turnthetideipswich.org