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## Budget question/resolve

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**srose-zeiberg@maldenps.org Rose-Zeiberg, Sharyn**  
To: tmertz@maldenps.org Toni Mertz

Sunday, March 8, 2026 at 11:21:12 PM Eastern Daylight Time

Hi Toni,

I hope this finds you well. In reading through the proposed resolve for the School Committee, I am looking for clarification on the following:

WHEREAS, the state also expects Malden to provide an additional \$1.6 million to cover a school spending deficit from fiscal year 2025, and city officials anticipate that number may double when the new budget year begins in July 2026.

Are we expecting the underspending/deficit to be \$3.2 million?

Thank you,  
Sharyn

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**tmertz@maldenps.org Mertz, Toni**  
To: srose-zeiberg@maldenps.org Rose-Zeiberg, Sharyn

Monday, March 9, 2026 at 11:38:04 AM Eastern Daylight Time

Hi Sharyn

As you are aware, the State sets the Net School Spending amount and based on the State's budget, the amount of funding the City allocated to the schools was short by \$1,696,409 for FY25. Again in FY26, the amount the State sets for Net School Spending is \$130,437,793 but the funding received from the City is short to meet that requirement. Based on the estimate submitted to DESE on 09/30/25, the funding is short \$2,236,869. When you combine the 2 years, the funding is short \$3,913,278.

 NSS deficit.PNG

We are not overspending our budget at all and when everyone keeps calling it a deficit, it appears that we are overspending. We spend 100% of our allocation every year. In actuality, the City is supposed to give us more money to spend on schools in order to run all our programs.

If you have additional questions, please feel free to reach out

Thanks

Toni Mertz  
Finance Director/Business Manager  
781-397-6100 x2213

On Sun, Mar 8, 2026 at 11:21 PM Rose-Zeiberg, Sharyn <[srose-zeiberg@maidenps.org](mailto:srose-zeiberg@maidenps.org)> wrote:

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**Attachments:**

**NSS deficit.PNG** 81k