



Student Support Services FY23 Budget Request

Needham School Committee
December 21, 2021



Presentation Overview

- Overview of Student Support Services
- Budget Drivers
- Budget Requests and Rationale
 - Special Education
 - Counseling
 - Health Services
 - English Language Education
- Summary of Requests

Overview of Student Support Services

- ❑ Student Support Services plays an important role in ensuring equity, access, and inclusion for all students by providing comprehensive programs and services including:
 - ❑ special education, guidance and counseling services, METCO, health services, English language education, home hospital tutoring, and educational stability for students in foster care or homeless situations
- ❑ Student Support Service staff work closely with general education teachers and school leaders to support classroom and school-wide inclusive practices that promote the academic, social-emotional, and mental and behavioral growth of all students

FY23 Student Support Services Budget Drivers

- ❑ Address the academic, social-emotional, and health and safety challenges that have arisen during COVID-19
- ❑ Maintain appropriate staffing levels (eg. special education, English language education, counseling, and nursing)
- ❑ Continue to ensure strong inclusive practices aligned to the Portrait of a Needham Graduate and our commitment to educational equity
- ❑ Continue to build in-district capacity through a continuum of services and programs
- ❑ Reallocate existing resources to increase access to professionally licensed special educators and therapists

Impact of COVID

- ❑ What challenges have arisen due to the impact of COVID?
- ❑ How are we responding?



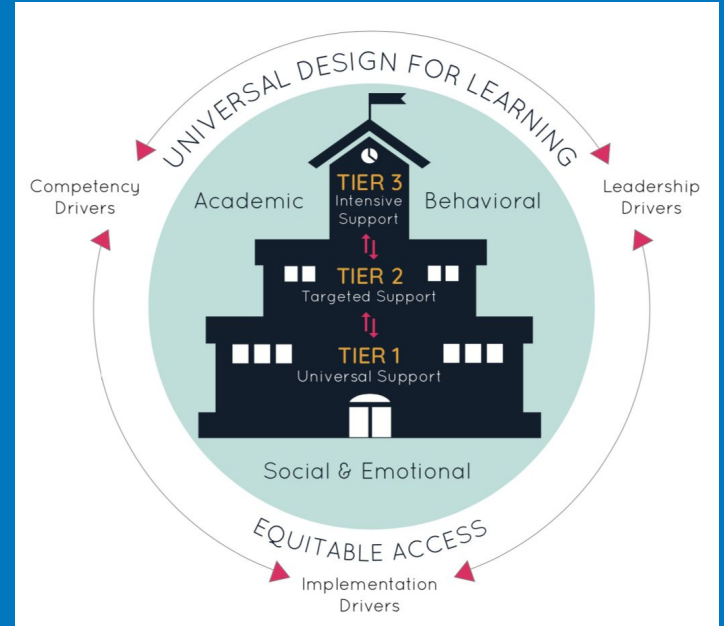
ENSURE STRONG INCLUSIVE PRACTICES

❑ ACADEMICS:

- ❑ Math & Literacy Interventionists
- ❑ Elementary Schedule
- ❑ Summer Bridges

❑ MENTAL HEALTH

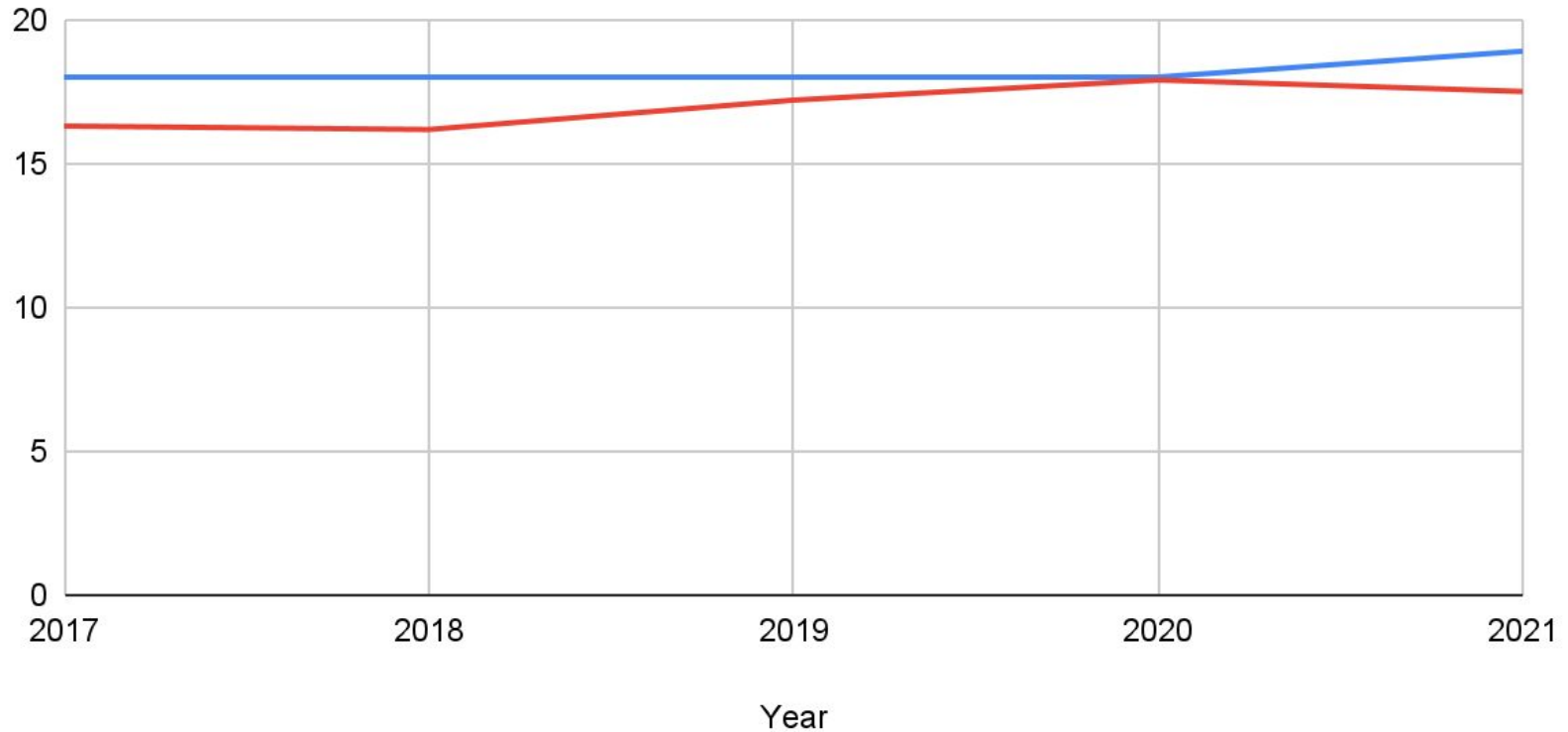
- ❑ District Mental Health Team
- ❑ Developing a framework that includes strong Tier One practices that promote mental & behavioral health & wellbeing; Tier Two & Three Interventions
- ❑ Integrated school-wide approach where EVERY EDUCATOR is responsible for addressing mental health needs



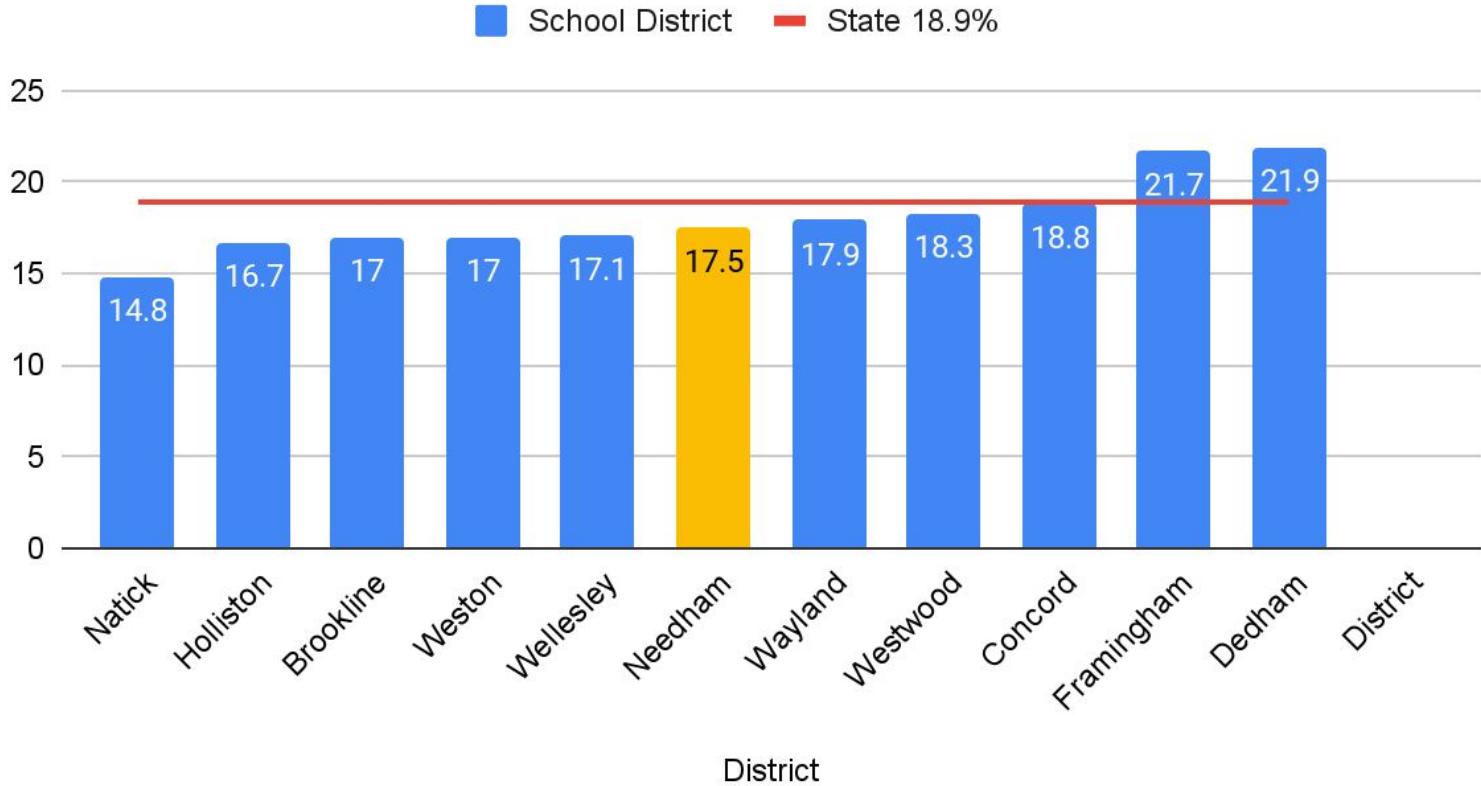
Special Education

Special Education Enrollment %

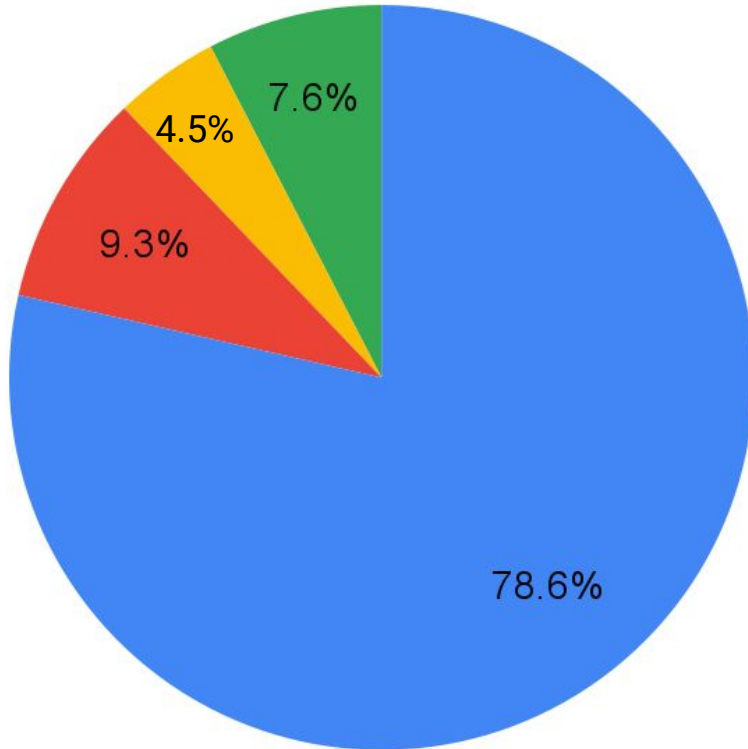
State Needham



Percentage of Special Education: District Comparison

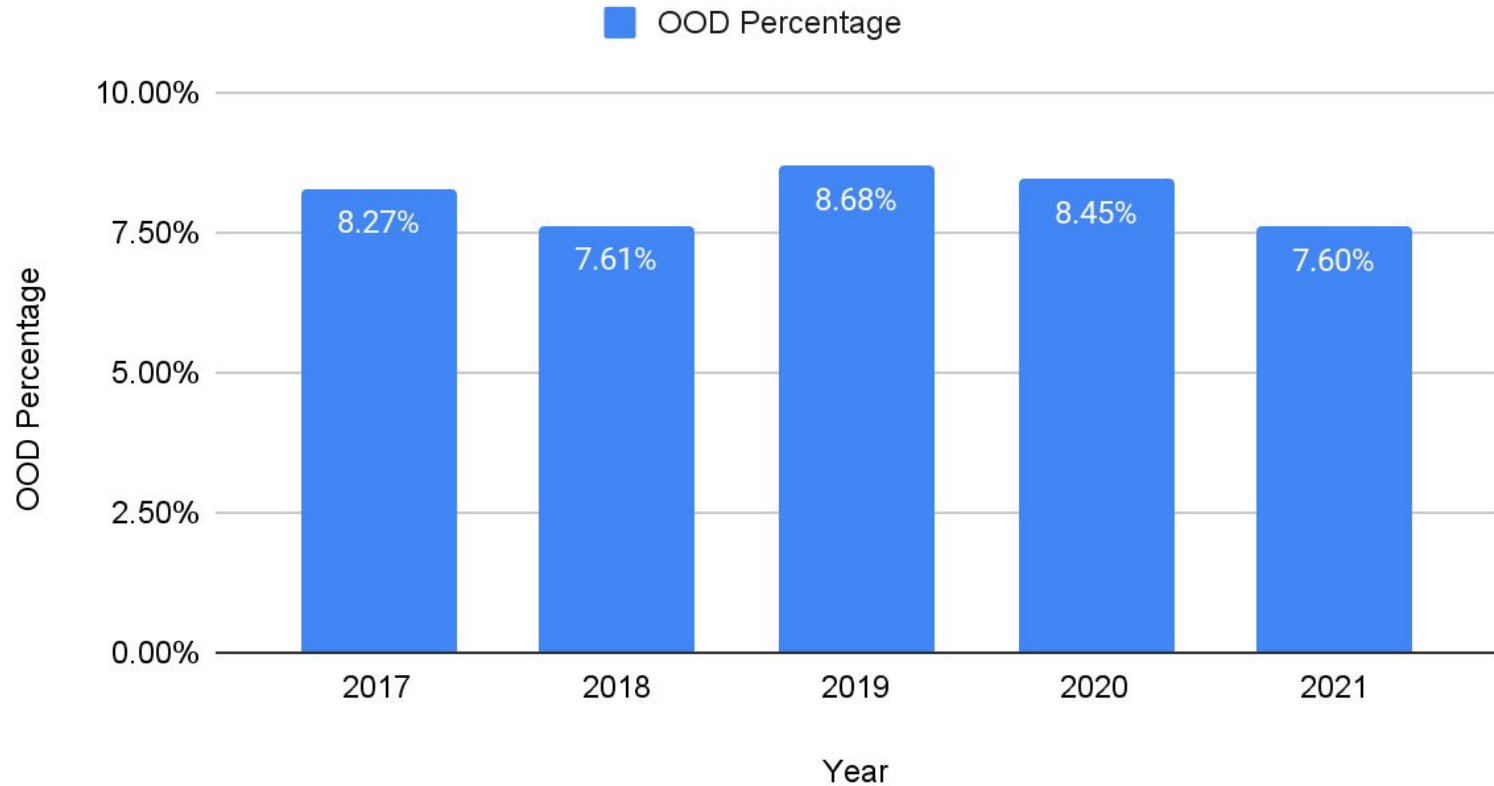


Placement by Type - October 2021



- Full Inclusion
- Partial Inclusion
- Substantially Separate
- Out of District

OOD as a Percentage of Special Education



K-8 Special Education Liaison Requests

.4 SpEd Liaison Mitchell Elementary School

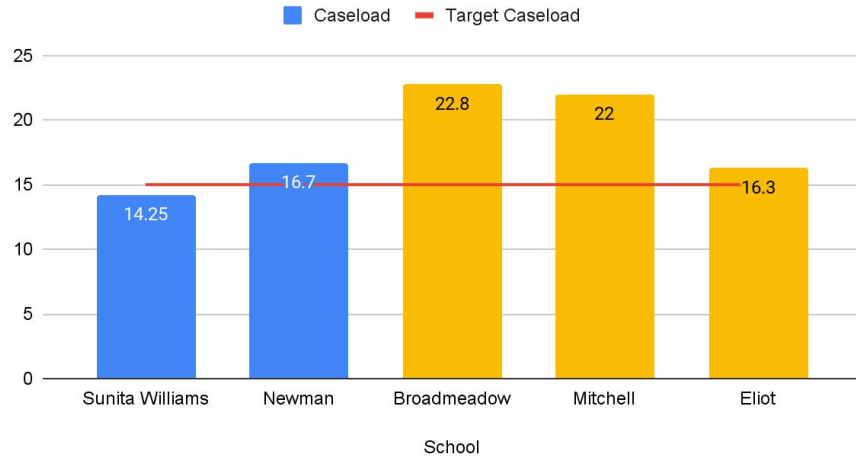
.8 SpEd Liaison Broadmeadow Elementary School

.2 SpEd Liaison Eliot Elementary School (reallocation .5 TA to .2 Liason)

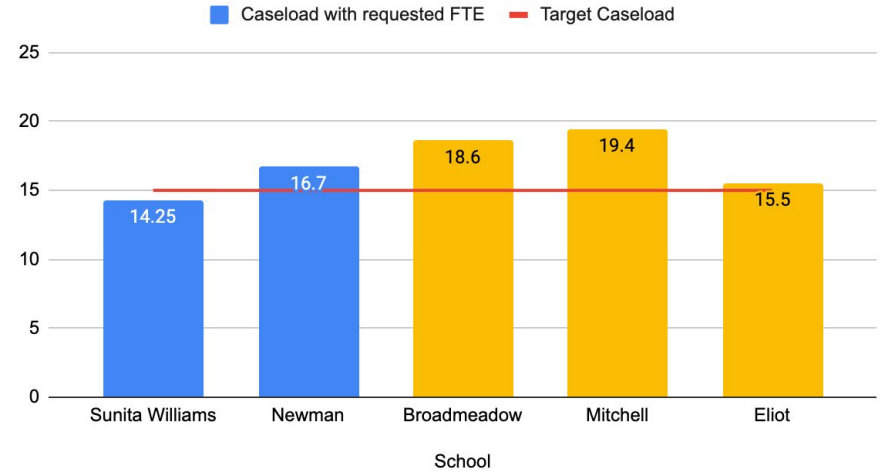
These requests would make temporary positions permanent

Caseloads - Special Education Liaison

Caseload and Target Caseload



Caseload with requested FTE and Target Caseload



Related Service Requests

.3 Board Certified Behavior Analyst Newman Elementary (Temp to Permanent)

.2 Adapted Physical Education Teacher (Deferred last 2 years)

.6 Speech Therapist Newman Elementary (reallocation .8 SLPa to .6 SLP; Temp to Permanent)

.5 Occupational Therapist Williams Elementary (Certified Occupational TA Conversion)

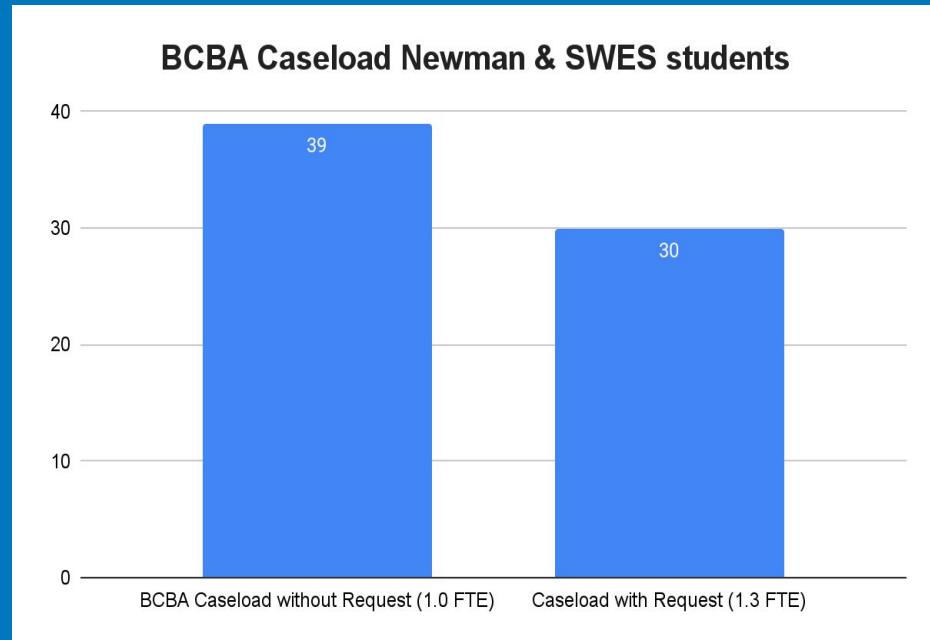
Elementary BCBA Caseload and Rationale

BCBA Responsibilities:

- Elementary Learning Center (ELC) programmatic support
- Provide direct instruction and consultation for students with IEPs
- Case management including data collection and analysis and curriculum modification
- Conduct student evaluations and functional behavioral assessments
- Safety Care Specialist

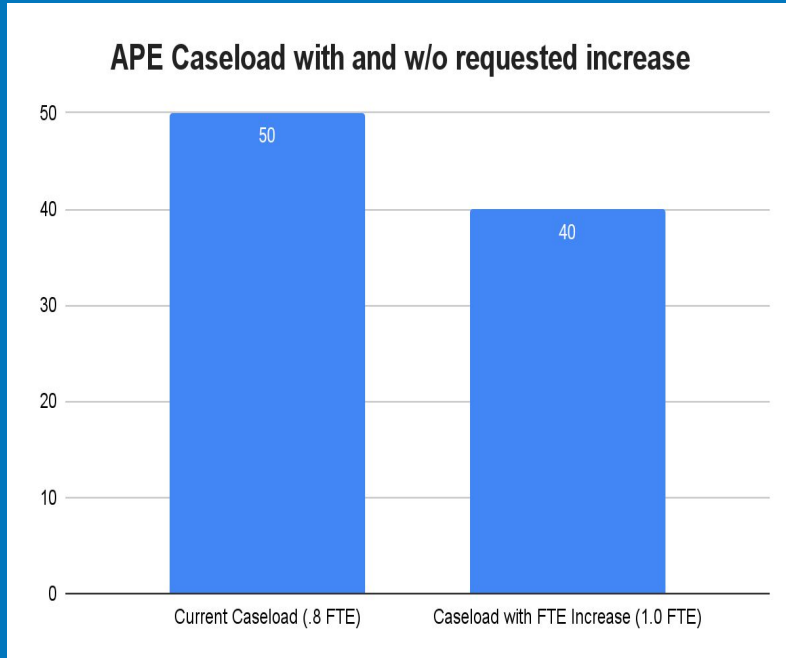
Rationale

- Enrollment and level of needs in the ELC programs have exceeded current capacity with 1.0 BCBA assigned to both schools



This request makes .3 temporary position permanent

APE Caseload and Rationale



Responsibilities

APE Teacher adapts and implements specialized physical education programs for students requiring these services through their IEP

APE Teacher provides services K-12

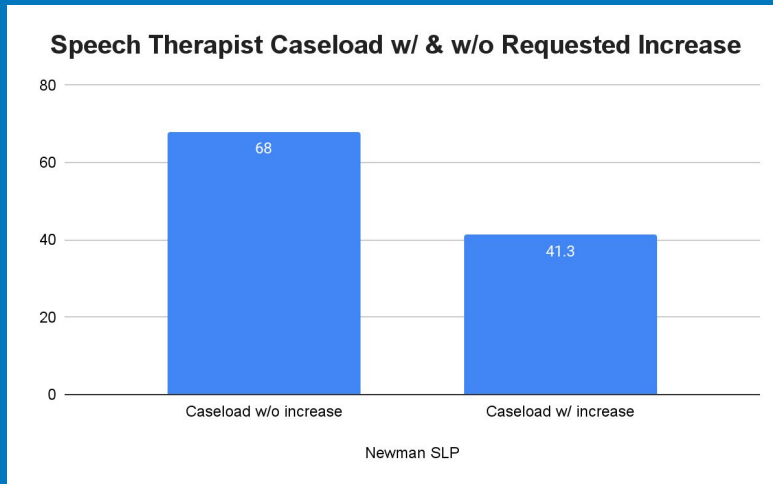
Rationale

- Address increased caseload
- Provide increased flexibility and capacity to provide services in the least restrictive environment.
- Promote inclusive practices by allowing time for APE teacher to work with general education Physical Education teachers to help students generalize skills and practice in the natural environment.

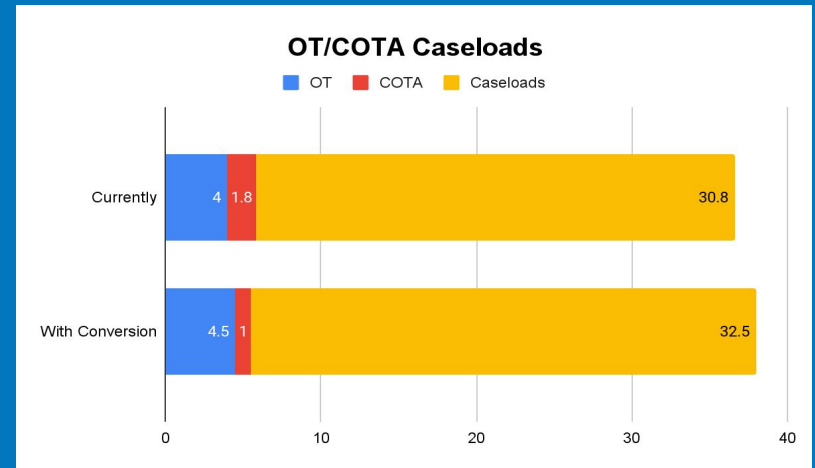
This request was deferred for FY21 & FY22

Speech Therapy and Occupational Therapy

This request makes permanent a conversion of .8 SLPA to .6 SLP providing greater capacity for evaluations and direct instruction



This request converts a .8 COTA to .5 OT, providing greater capacity for evaluations and direct instruction



High School Special Education

High School Special Education Requests

.5 Post Graduate Liaison

1.0 Post Graduate Teaching Assistant

1.0 ILC Special Education Liaison

2.0 ILC Teaching Assistants

1.0 Inclusion Special Education Liaison/Inclusion Coach

These requests would make temporary positions permanent

Independent Learning Center (ILC)

Independent Learning Center (ILC) provides functional academic, vocational and inclusion opportunities for students with severe special needs.

Requires a small class size and high staff to student ratio (currently 4 students)

In previous years the same high school special education liaison has had the capacity to support the ILC OR Post Graduate Program. Given enrollment across both programs this is not feasible

In addition to students in-district who will enter the ILC, plans underway to return one student from OOD placement to the program

Program is programmatically and financially beneficial

Post Graduate Program

Post Graduate Program provides students 18 to 22 years old with transition skills. Due to enrollment (9 students) an additional temporary .5 PG teacher was hired.

PG students have been highly successful this year

Students are out in the community daily.

Current partnerships with Framingham State University Diverse Scholars Program and Bunker Hill Community College

Paid jobs and internships at Tractor Supply, TJ Maxx, Hilton Hotels, North Hill, Temple Beth Shalom, Music Go Round, Newman cafeteria, Park and Rec



Inclusion Support

.5 Special Education Liaison

- Co-teaching
- Specialized Instruction
- Assessment
- Case Management

.5 Inclusive Practices Coach

- Coaching to support Tier one and Tier two in-class support
- Observations of classes and students
- Consultations with teachers
- Accommodation plans
- Professional Development

Counseling

Counseling Requests

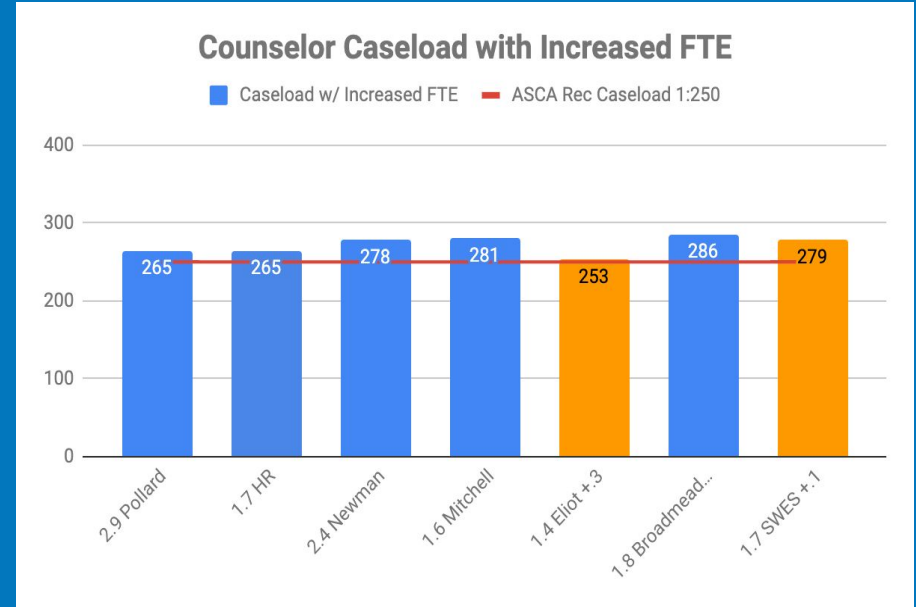
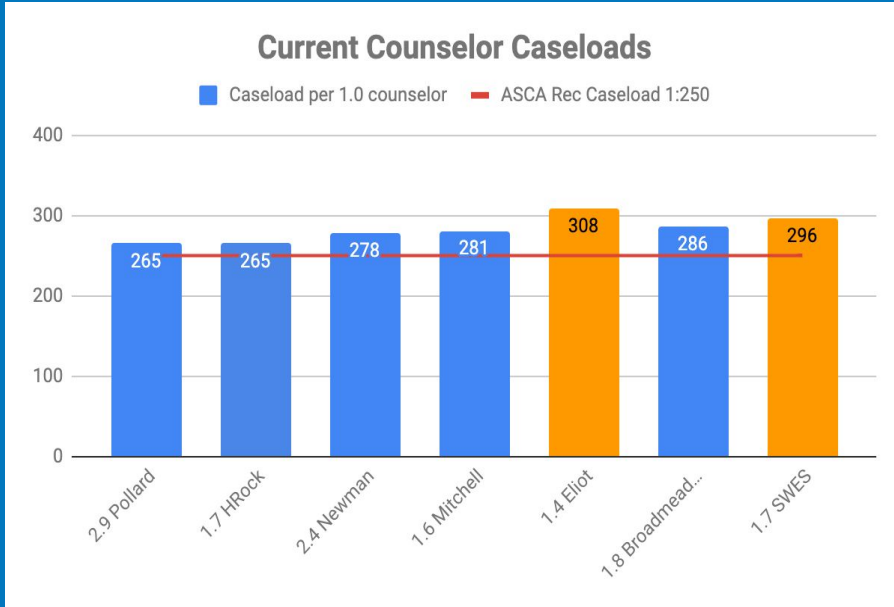
.3 Eliot Elementary Guidance Counselor

.1 Williams Elementary Guidance Counselor

1.0 Pollard Middle School Transitions Counselor

These requests would make temporary positions permanent

K-6 counselor caseloads



Middle School Transitions Program

- Modeled after the BRYT (Bridge for Resilient Youth in Transition) Program and aligned to High School Transitions Program
- Provides therapeutic support for the students returning from psychiatric programs due to mental health crises.
- Reduce the prevalence of special education referrals by offering an effective general education option for students who need mental health and academic support.
- The program launched in 2019-20 with a 1.0 Teaching Assistant and existing counselors at Pollard providing the clinical support however this was a short term staffing model and is not a sustainable for the program to be successful.
- This year, we are experiencing an increase in the number of students accessing Transitions either during their return to school OR to provide temporary support to remain in school

Health Services

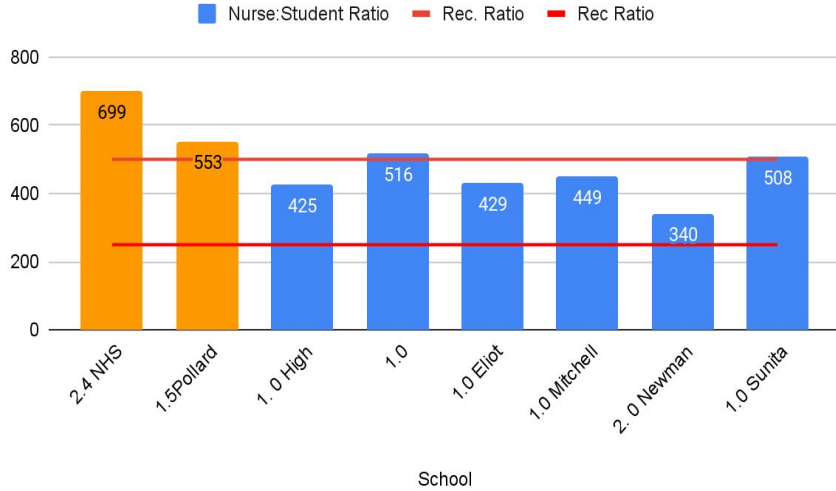
Health Service Requests

- .2 Pollard Nurse
- .8 High School Nurse

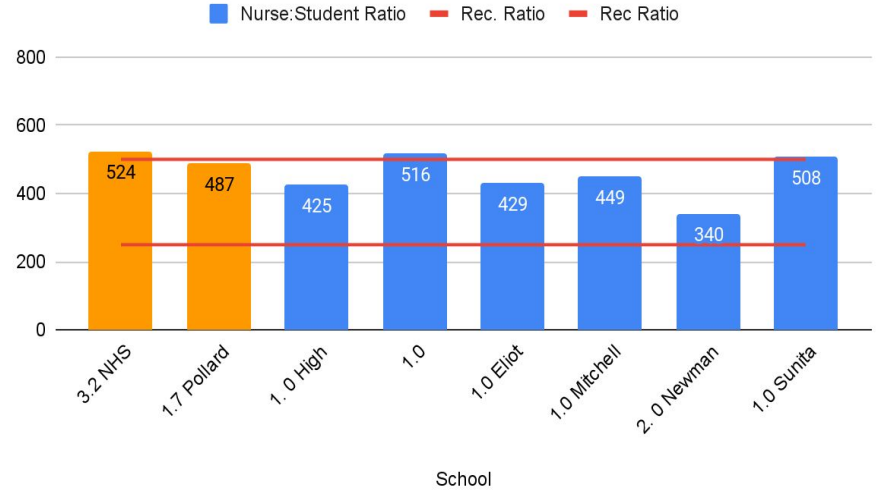
These requests would make temporary positions permanent

Health Services

Nurse To Student Ratios



Nurse To Student Ratios With Requested Increases



English Language Educaton

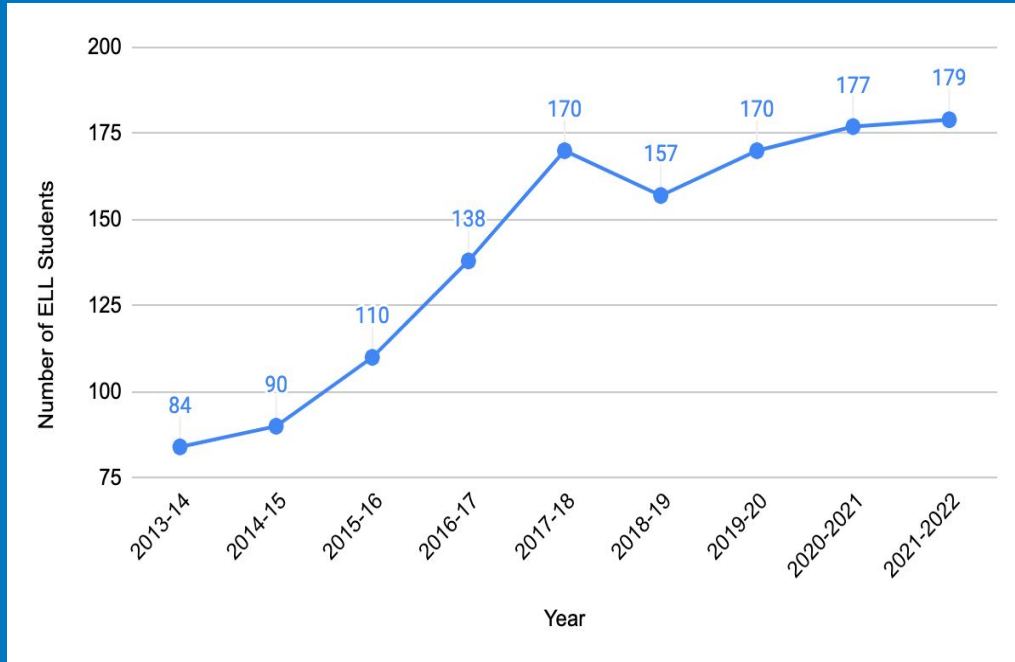
ELL Request

- .2 High School ELL Teacher

This request would make a temporary position permanent

- \$7000.00 Translation/Interpretation Services

ELL Enrollment & Rationale



- Overall ELL enrollment is steady at 179 students
- High School ELL population doubled (from 10 to 20)
- Decrease in elementary population
- Increase in the number of FEL students (+34 from last year)

ELL Request Rationale

- Increase in student needs
 - Number of newcomers
 - Dually identified ELL and special education
 - 6 of the 20 students did not make their ACCESS growth targets in spring 2021
- Temporary .2 ELL Teacher this year allowed for an additional support class:
 - Reduced class size
 - Reduced scheduling conflicts
 - Separated siblings

Budget Requests & Reallocations

Temporary to Permanent Positions:

4.2	FTE	Special Education Professional
4.69	FTE	SpEd Teaching Assistants
1.4	FTE	Counseling
.2	FTE	ELL
1.0	FTE	Health Services

Reallocations:

.8	SLPA	to	.6	SLP
.8	COTA	to	.5	OT
.5	TA	to	.2	SpEd Liaison
OOD tuition towards NHS ILC				



Questions