

DEPARTMENT OF STUDENT SERVICES

FY27 BUDGET

JANUARY 20, 2026



Our Mission

**A collaborative partnership of students, educators,
family, and community**

The mission of the New Milford Public Schools is to prepare each and every student to compete and excel in an ever-changing world, embrace challenges with vigor, respect and appreciate the worth of every human being, and contribute to society by providing effective instruction and dynamic curriculum, offering a wide range of valuable experiences, and inspiring students to pursue their dreams and aspirations.



Statements of Belief as a Student Services Department



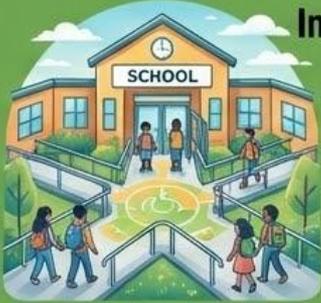
Partnership as Practice

We believe that meaningful education for all learners happens through collaboration, not in isolation. Students thrive when educators, families, and specialists work as true partners—sharing expertise, perspective, and responsibility for every child's success.



The Whole Child, The Real Child

We believe in seeing students fully—not just as learners with IEPs, but as whole people growing into adults. The student in the hallway, the lunch room, and across years of development is who we serve, support, and celebrate.



Inclusive by Design, Not by Exception

We believe inclusion requires intentional design of systems, spaces, and structures. Every student is a member of the NMPS community and our work is to build environments where belonging translates to genuine access and opportunity.

Clear Expectations of Teaching and Learning



We believe every student deserves high-quality instruction that develops both academic skills and social-emotional competencies—no exceptions. Our role is to ensure excellent teaching and related services that nurture the whole learner, not to create separate or lesser alternatives.



Student Services 2025-26



- Regular and ongoing collaboration between department administration and teacher union, para union, DOL, building leaders and teams of teachers and staff



- Professional Learning Community for Department Administrators and Teacher Leaders



- District-wide team of professionals participating in a year long Planning and Placement Team Leadership Institute

- Internal department website for staff



- Developing adult understanding of student behavior, tools to promote self-regulation in students and adults



Department of Student Services



**Student Services
Director**



**PK - 5 Special
Education Supervisor**



**LHTC: Special Education
Teachers, Social Worker,
Job Coaches/Paraeducators;
Related Services Staff**



**Gr 6-12 Special
Education Supervisor**



**Special
Education
Teachers**



BCBAs



**Related
Services
Staff**



Nurses



Secretaries



**Special
Education
Teachers**



BCBAs

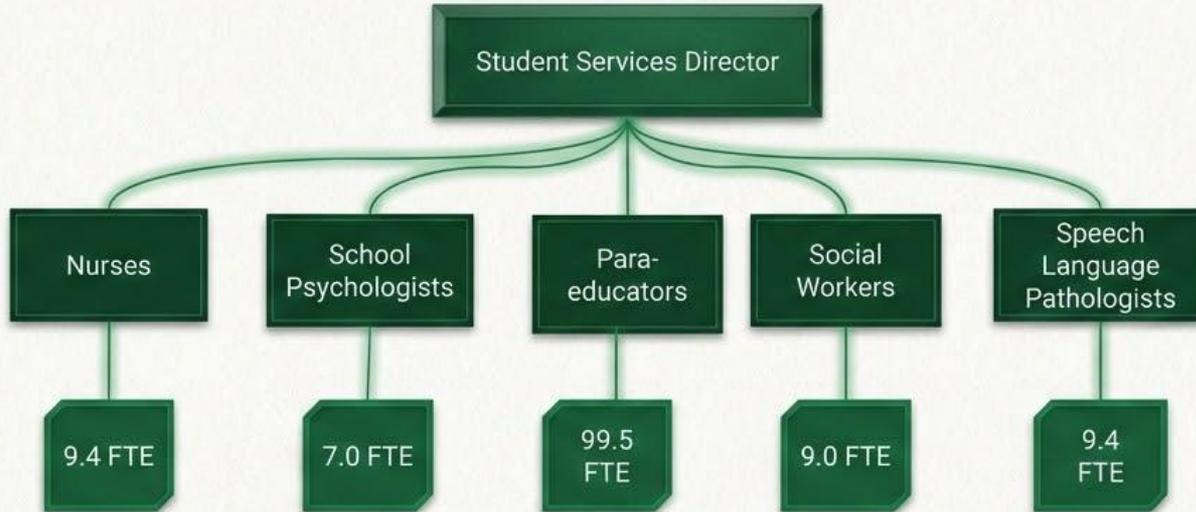


**Related
Services
Staff**



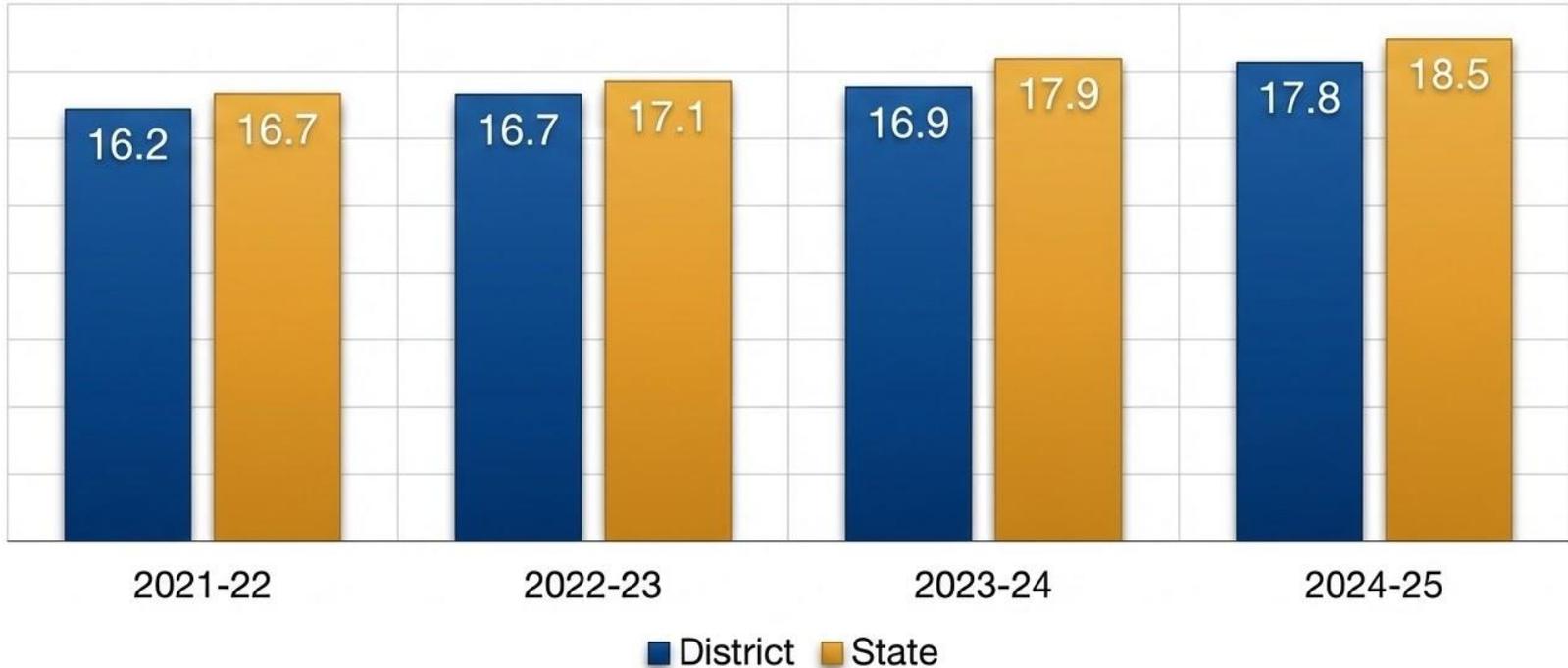
**New Milford
Public Schools**

Student Services Department



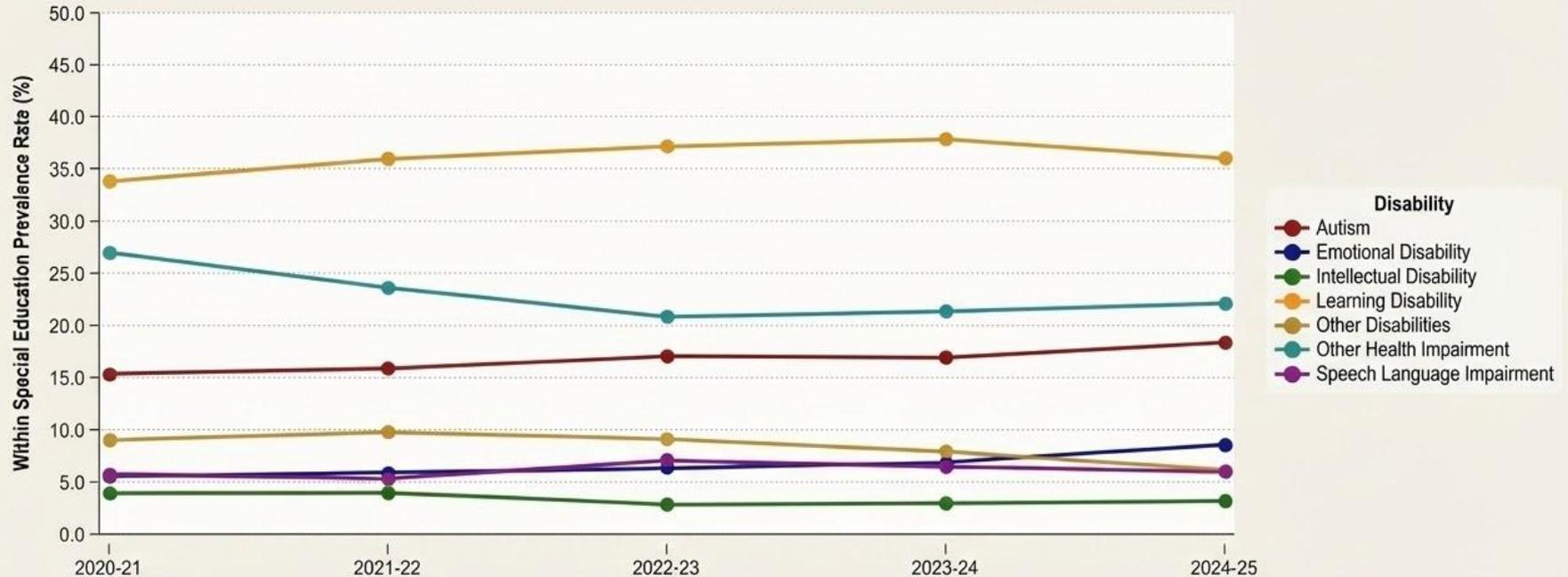
New Milford Public Schools

Percentage Students with Disabilities

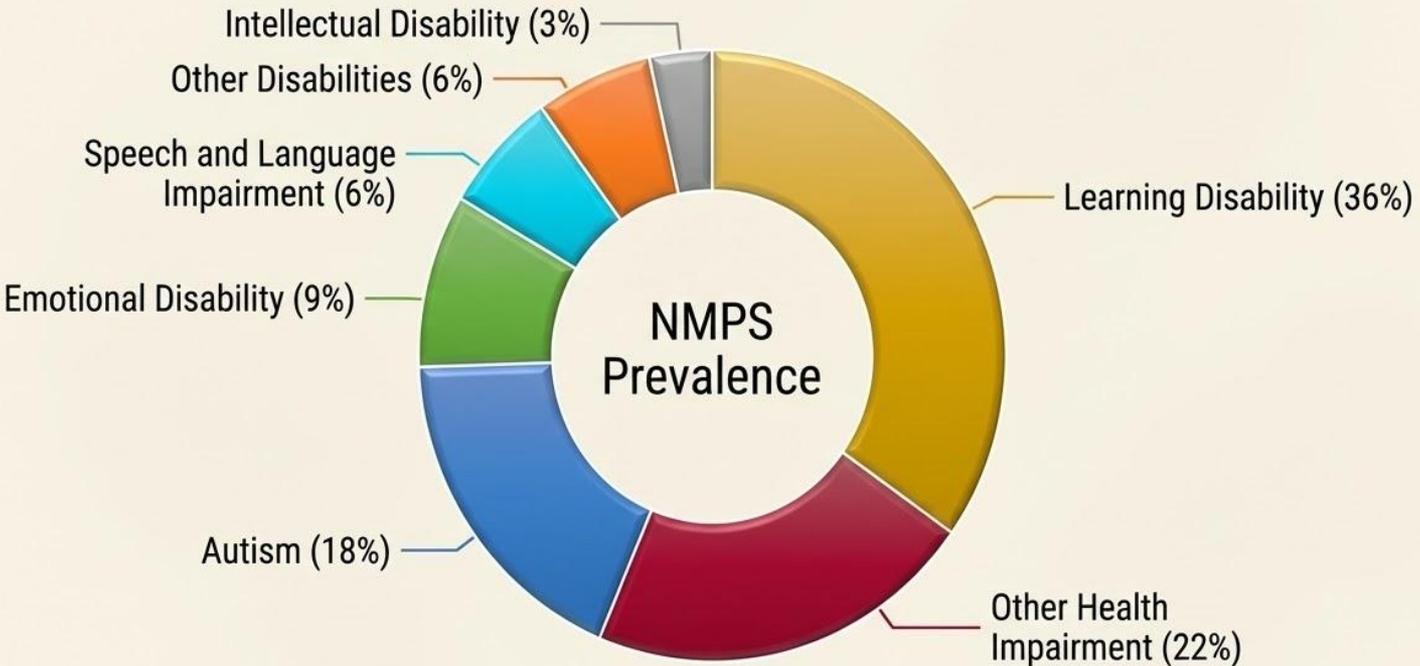


Students With Disabilities by Primary Disability Classification

Within Special Education Prevalence Rate
New Milford School District
Trend



NMPS Within Special Education Prevalence Rate by Category of Primary Disability 2024-25

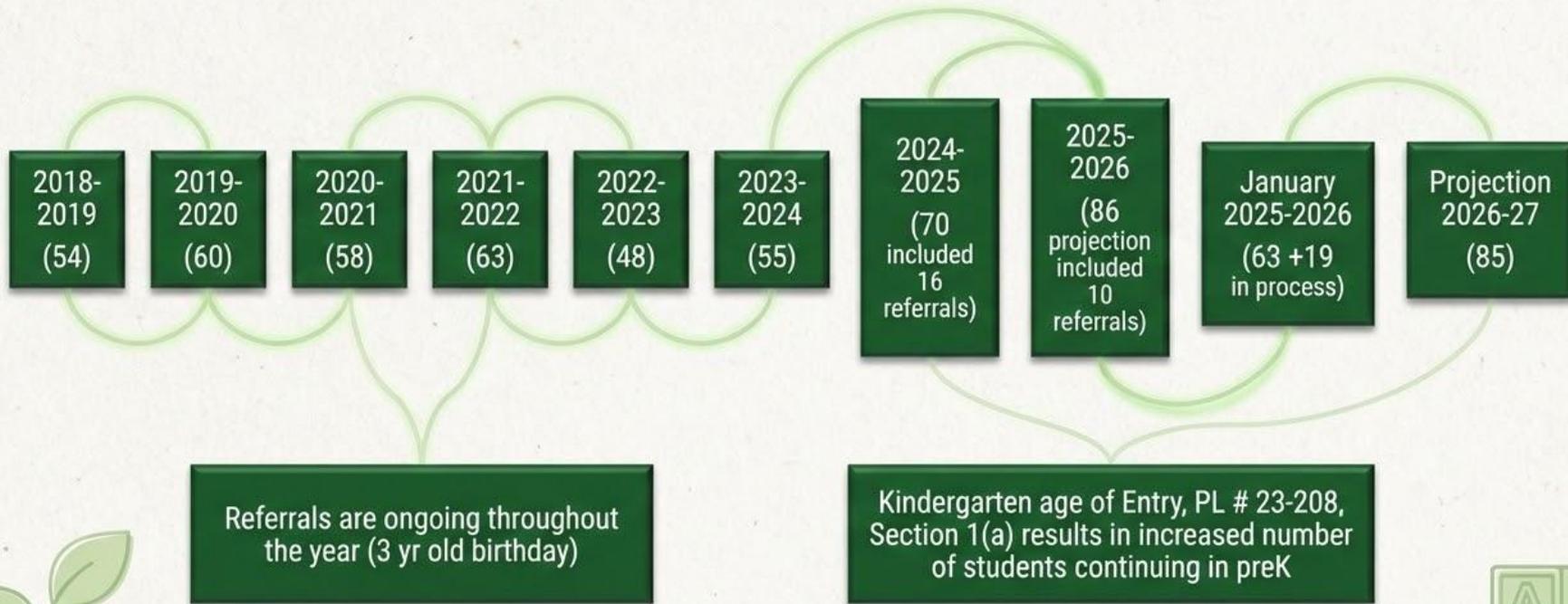


**Year-to-Year Comparison/In District 3-22 yr Demographics October 1 Snapshot
SEDAC**

| | 2020-2021 | 2021-2022 | 2022-2023 | 2023-2024 | 2024-2025 | 2025-2026 January 2026 | 2026-2027 Projected |
|--------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------------------------|------------------------|
| HPS | 69 | 58 | 68 | 60 | 57 | 62 | 67 |
| NES | 65 | 75 | 78 | 63 | 73 | 67 | 64 |
| SNIS | 119 | 129 | 151 | 127 | 144 | 160 | 139 |
| SMS | 139 | 137 | 142 | 142 | 150 | 160 | 181 |
| NMHS | 185 | 179 | 154 | 152 | 166 | 164 | 165 |
| LHTC | 11 | 14 | 20 | 19 | 19 | 19 | 20* |
| Total | 619 | 578 | 613 | 594 | 609 | 632 | 636 |

* 17 current NMPS students and potential for 3 referrals from other LEAs

EXCEL Preschool Students with Disabilities



Litchfield Hills Transition Center



Post-Secondary Programming

Provides special education-post secondary transition programming, as needed, to our students with disabilities upon completion of 12 grade through the school year in which they turn +22 yrs of age.



Agency Connection & Adult Services

Assists students and families in connecting with state and local agencies for adult services upon completion of the transition program at age 22 years.



Community & Employment

Provides local-community based opportunities for community participation and employment.



Financial & Staffing Benefits



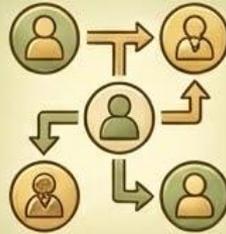
Provides out of district tuition cost avoidance.
Revenue: tuition for students from other districts.
Transition Coordinator as required according to PA 23-137

Litchfield Hills Transition Center 2026-27



Increase Budget for LHTC Supplies

To enhance learning materials and resources.



Reallocation of Staffing

Optimizing staff deployment



Opportunity for Increased Number of Students from Other LEAs on Tuition Basis

Expanding program reach and generating revenue.



Out-Of-District Placements 4 Year Historical Tuition Costs

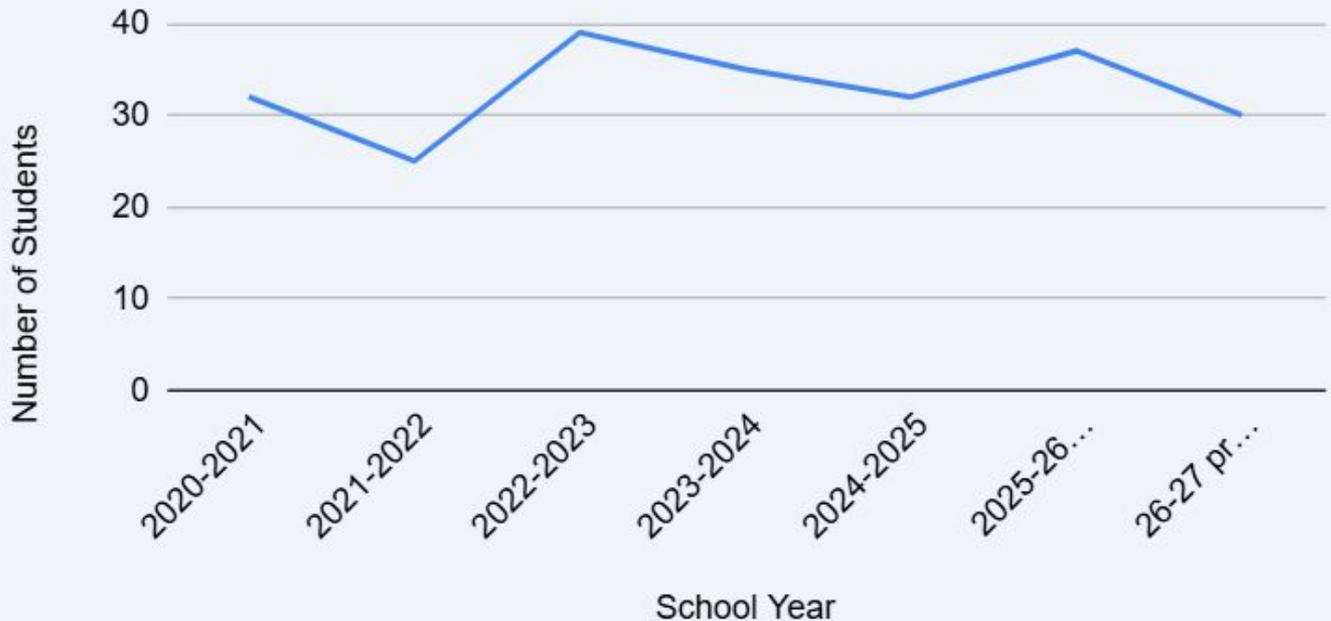
| | 2021-2022 | 2022-2023 | 2023-2024 | 2024-2025 | 2025-2026 | 2026-2027 Proposed |
|--|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| Total: Public and Private Tuition Costs | \$3,190,346 | \$3,477,020 | \$3,364,492 | \$4,496,985 | \$4,559,937 budgeted | \$4,364,654 |
| # Place- Holders included | 7 | 7 | 6 | 5 | 5 | 4 |

Out-Of-District Placements Transportation Costs

| | 2025-26 Budget | 2026-27 Proposed |
|---------------------------------|----------------|------------------|
| Transportation ODP Costs | \$1,709,580 | \$1,388,630 |

Year-to-Year ODP Placements

Year-to-Year Number of Students Attending Out-of-District Placements



2025-26 10 Highest Out of District Placement Costs 2025-26

| Tuition Base including ESY 25-26 | Aide | *Related Svcs **Residential Services | Tuition Total | Transportation 25-26 | Grand Total |
|----------------------------------|-------------|---|---------------|----------------------|--------------|
| \$130,000.00 | | | \$143,000.00 | \$44,333.00 | \$187,333.00 |
| \$106,050.00 | \$63,000.00 | | \$169,050.00 | \$24,492.00 | \$193,542.00 |
| \$122,218.00 | \$63,000.00 | | \$185,218.00 | \$15,857.00 | \$201,075.00 |
| \$139,655.00 | | *\$12,600.00 | \$157,382.00 | \$40,465.00 | \$210,447.00 |
| \$106,050.00 | \$63,000.00 | | \$169,050.00 | \$49,385.00 | \$218,435.00 |
| \$122,218.00 | \$63,000.00 | | \$185,218.00 | \$34,167.00 | \$219,385.00 |
| \$112,534.00 | | | \$112,534.00 | \$112,815.00 | \$225,349.00 |
| \$139,655.00 | \$17,905.00 | *\$18,480.00 | \$157,560.00 | \$56,288.00 | \$232,328.00 |
| \$122,218.00 | \$63,000.00 | | \$185,218.00 | \$52,554.00 | \$237,772.00 |
| \$104,733.00 | \$55,771.00 | **\$402,324.00 | \$160,444.00 | \$77,190.00 | \$639,958.00 |

2024-2025

Students with Disabilities Attending Out-of-District Schools/Programs

Students with Disabilities Placed Outside of the District

| Classroom Setting | District Count | District Rate (%) | State Rate (%) |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|-------------------|----------------|
| Public Schools in Other Districts | 20 | 3.3 | 8.2 |
| Private Schools or Other Settings | 23 | 3.8 | 4.5 |

This table represents students in grades K-12 for whom the district is fiscally responsible (i.e., Nexus District students with an IEP or services plan).

2026-27 Student Services Budget Focus



Celebrating students' and honoring their individual learning needs as we teach the whole child



Providing staff with the tools and resources to implement high quality practices in their field



Expanding partnership and collaboration with parents/families engaged in any stage of the IEP/PPT process



Enhancing systems to ensure high quality procedures and experiences related to NMPS special education and student services for all stakeholders

**Many thanks for your time
and commitment to the
students of New Milford
Public Schools who require
special education
instruction.**



Welcome any questions...