

# BEDFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

## FY07 BUDGET NEWSLETTER



MARCH 10, 2006

Dear Resident,

On behalf of the Bedford School Committee, I am pleased to present the FY07 School Department Budget. The FY07 budget, as recommended by the School Committee and detailed within this newsletter, totals \$26,585,382. The Services to Students portion of this budget (\$25,396,767), which excludes the cost of utilities, represents a 3.97% increase over FY06's Services to Students budget. Due to the significant spike in utility prices over the last twelve months, the utility portion of the FY07 recommended budget (\$1,188,615) represents a 39.74% increase over the amount budgeted for utilities in the current school year.

As has been the case in FY05 and FY06, constrained Town finances continue to be a central consideration as we recommend a level-services budget for FY07. The School Department budget development process begins each September and culminates with a vote at the Annual Town Meeting (ATM). Over the past two fiscal years, the schools have worked hard to maintain educational services within overall annual budget increases of less than 4%. Inevitably, however, given steadily increasing school enrollments and special education costs, many portions of the Regular Education budget—notably supplies, materials, equipment and administrative and facilities costs—have absorbed significant cutbacks. This past September, School Principals and Program Administrators were asked to adhere to a strict 0% increase guideline while preparing their budget requests for FY07, the only noted exception being previously approved textbook adoption schedules and contractual wage increases. After an extensive review process, the budget was recommended by the School Committee at the level of \$26,585,382. With this budget, the FY05 to FY07 average annual growth in the non-utility portion of the school budget will be substantially lower than in years prior to FY05, averaging just 3.91% per year.

The budget the School Committee is presenting for approval at Annual Town Meeting is in keeping with the agreement the School Committee made last February with the Fiscal Planning and Coordinating Committee and the Finance Committee that in budget years FY06 through FY09 the Schools would seek to keep the School budget increase per year at a 4% level, with exceptions for unexpected increases in enrollment, utilities, and special education costs. This proposed FY07 School budget of \$26,585,382 is in keeping with both the spirit and intent of this 4% agreement made by the School Committee and represents the third consecutive year in which the Schools have significantly lowered the annual rate of spending growth in order to respond to the projections of shrinking Town revenues.

As this budget newsletter goes to print, I must report that the Finance Committee's recommended budget as printed in this year's Town Meeting warrant is \$123,000 short of the amount the School Committee has enclosed as the amount it believes is necessary to maintain the quality of the program, balanced with the financial constraints of the Town. In adopting its recommended budget for the Schools for FY07, the Finance Committee has stated that it believes the School Committee should institute user fees. In the warrant the Finance Committee recommends that the School Department levy fees to raise revenues outside the tax levy. The School Committee does not support this recommendation of the Finance Committee for the institution of user fees, as the School Committee is committed to providing a comprehensive school program – including co-curricular and extra-curricular activities – in which all students are able to participate without the barriers that such fees can present. In addition, the School Committee does not support the imposition of such fees in a year when the Town is fully able to balance its budget without such fees.. In the

weeks that remain between the date of this newsletter and Annual Town Meeting, the School Committee will continue to work with the Finance Committee to try to reach consensus on the FY07 School Budget.

As you review the information presented in this newsletter, you will note that the two major budget drivers are Special Education (which increases by 7.2 %) and Utilities (increasing by 39.7%). Both drivers represent areas of fixed or mandated costs. Increases in these areas have limited our ability to make changes in the Regular Education budget, which is increasing by only 3.1%.

On the following pages you will see the budget detail in terms of budget categories, percentage increases, staffing changes, and the continuing enrollment increases. I hope you find this detail informative. If you have questions on this budget or on any matter concerning your schools, please call me at 781-275-7588. I look forward to seeing you at Annual Town Meeting.

Sincerely,

Maureen LaCroix  
Superintendent of Schools  
Bedford, Massachusetts

## FY07 PROPOSED SCHOOL BUDGET - SUMMARY

CATEGORY	FY04	FY05		FY06		FY07	
	\$	\$	% CHG	\$	% CHG	\$	% CHG
REGULAR ED, SPECIAL ED, FACILITIES	22,635,200	23,620,144	4.35%	24,427,530	3.42%	25,396,767	3.97%
UTILITIES	705,915	685,721	-2.86%	850,570	24.04%	1,188,615	39.74%
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>23,341,115</b>	<b>24,305,865</b>	<b>4.13%</b>	<b>25,278,100</b>	<b>4.00%</b>	<b>26,585,382</b>	<b>5.17%</b>

## FY07 PROPOSED SCHOOL BUDGET – BY MAJOR CATEGORY

CATEGORY	FY04	FY05		FY06		FY07	
	\$	\$	% CHG	\$	% CHG	\$	% CHG
REGULAR EDUCATION	15,632,188	16,094,897	2.96%	16,786,743	4.30%	17,313,948	3.14%
SPECIAL EDUCATION	5,656,323	6,155,188	8.82%	6,251,046	1.56%	6,703,167	7.23%
FACILITIES	1,346,689	1,370,059	1.74%	1,389,741	1.44%	1,379,652	-0.73%
<b>SUB-TOTAL:</b>	<b>22,635,200</b>	<b>23,620,144</b>	<b>4.35%</b>	<b>24,427,530</b>	<b>3.42%</b>	<b>25,396,767</b>	<b>3.97%</b>
UTILITIES	705,915	685,721	-2.86%	850,570	24.04%	1,188,615	39.74%
<b>SUB-TOTAL:</b>	<b>705,915</b>	<b>685,721</b>	<b>-2.86%</b>	<b>850,570</b>	<b>24.04%</b>	<b>1,188,615</b>	<b>39.74%</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL:</b>	<b>23,341,115</b>	<b>24,305,865</b>	<b>4.13%</b>	<b>25,278,100</b>	<b>4.00%</b>	<b>26,585,382</b>	<b>5.17%</b>

## FY07 PROPOSED SCHOOL BUDGET – BY MAJOR EXPENSE CATEGORY

CATEGORY	FY04	FY05		FY06		FY07	
	\$	\$	% CHG	\$	% CHG	\$	% CHG
PROFESSIONAL SALARIES	14,224,085	14,709,170	3.41%	15,332,729	4.24%	15,913,522	3.79%
PARA-PROFESSIONAL SALARIES	2,805,794	2,950,126	5.14%	3,209,748	8.80%	3,321,964	3.50%
CONTRACT SERVICES	1,026,545	996,264	-2.95%	1,033,386	3.73%	1,105,007	6.93%
SPECIAL EDUCATION	3,519,757	3,845,055	9.24%	3,715,505	-3.37%	4,001,735	7.70%
SUPPLIES & MATERIALS	497,587	447,951	-9.98%	418,901	-6.49%	362,708	-13.41%
TEXTBOOKS & LIBRARY BOOKS	139,599	120,279	-13.84%	108,792	-9.55%	145,913	34.12%
OTHER	262,270	346,705	32.19%	458,753	32.32%	437,819	-4.56%
TRAVEL	34,227	39,287	14.78%	26,081	-33.61%	11,910	-54.33%
EQUIPMENT	125,336	165,307	31.89%	123,635	-25.21%	96,189	-22.20%
<b>SUB-TOTAL:</b>	<b>22,635,200</b>	<b>23,620,144</b>	<b>4.35%</b>	<b>24,427,530</b>	<b>3.42%</b>	<b>25,396,767</b>	<b>3.97%</b>
UTILITIES	705,915	685,721	-2.86%	850,570	24.04%	1,188,615	39.74%
<b>SUB-TOTAL:</b>	<b>705,915</b>	<b>685,721</b>	<b>-2.86%</b>	<b>850,570</b>	<b>24.04%</b>	<b>1,188,615</b>	<b>39.74%</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL:</b>	<b>23,341,115</b>	<b>24,305,865</b>	<b>4.13%</b>	<b>25,278,100</b>	<b>4.00%</b>	<b>26,585,382</b>	<b>5.17%</b>

Contract Services include items such as regular day transportation expenses, copier leases, Internet service provider fees, other 3<sup>rd</sup> party repair services, service contracts, & software licenses. Special Education contract services (out-of-district tuitions, transportation, psychological services) have been isolated in order to provide a better picture of the Contract Services and its changes. Other expenses include legal expenses, professional dues & conference fees, athletic membership fees, School Committee reserve, and clothing allowances.

## FY07 PROPOSED SCHOOL BUDGET – BY PROGRAM AREA

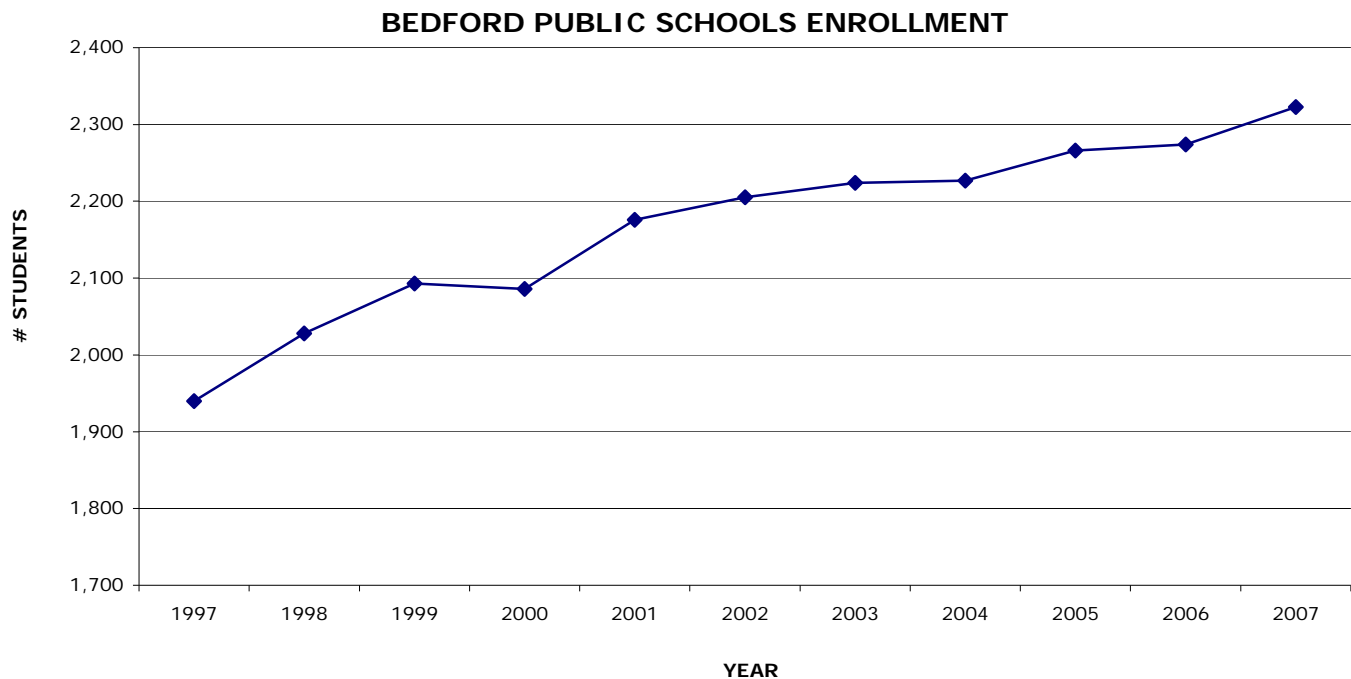
CATEGORY	FY06	FY07	\$ CHG	% CHG
<b>ADMINISTRATION</b>				
ADMINISTRATION	2,122,872	2,094,836	(28,036)	-1.32%
ADMINISTRATION - SCHOOL COMMITTEE	319,164	273,057	(46,107)	-14.45%
<b>ADMINISTRATION TOTAL:</b>	<b>2,442,036</b>	<b>2,367,893</b>	<b>(74,143)</b>	<b>-3.04%</b>
<b>INSTRUCTION</b>				
ART	578,697	596,630	17,933	3.10%
ATHLETICS	540,461	551,395	10,934	2.02%
AUDIO-VISUAL	13,450	13,450	-	0.00%
BUSINESS EDUCATION	64,043	57,241	(6,802)	-10.62%
COMPUTER EDUCATION	622,628	658,623	35,995	5.78%
ELEMENTARY SALARIES	2,604,806	2,820,664	215,858	8.29%
ENGLISH	1,202,427	1,195,330	(7,097)	-0.59%
FOREIGN LANGUAGE	796,733	861,251	64,518	8.10%
GIFTED	126,640	133,368	6,728	5.31%
GRADUATE STUDY	10,000	10,000	-	0.00%
GUIDANCE	494,995	519,665	24,670	4.98%
HEALTH EDUCATION	1,005	1,680	675	67.16%
HEALTH SERVICES	14,760	14,760	-	0.00%
HOME ECONOMICS	180,052	201,632	21,580	11.99%
INSTRUCTION	204,109	244,300	40,191	19.69%
INTRAMURAL	3,835	3,913	78	2.03%
KINDERGARTEN	533,095	564,496	31,401	5.89%
LIBRARY	370,783	390,579	19,796	5.34%
MATHEMATICS	940,654	950,361	9,707	1.03%
MUSIC	552,205	561,900	9,695	1.76%
OCCUPATIONAL EDUCATION	199,540	206,842	7,302	3.66%
OCCUPATIONAL RESOURCE	1,028	1,049	21	2.04%
PHYSICAL EDUCATION	607,956	666,620	58,664	9.65%
READING	590,471	623,769	33,298	5.64%
ROTC	136,720	142,557	5,837	4.27%
SCIENCE	189,528	195,399	5,871	3.10%
SOCIAL STUDIES	240,000	240,000	-	0.00%
STUDENT ACTIVITIES	883,423	884,495	1,072	0.12%
STUDY	758,288	740,397	(17,891)	-2.36%
SUBSTITUTES	149,437	153,528	4,091	2.74%
SUMMER STUDIES	19,068	22,893	3,825	20.06%
TEXTBOOKS	34,500	33,500	(1,000)	-2.90%
TRANSPORTATION	530,130	530,130	-	0.00%
<b>INSTRUCTION TOTAL:</b>	<b>14,195,467</b>	<b>14,792,417</b>	<b>596,950</b>	<b>4.21%</b>
<b>SPECIAL EDUCATION</b>				
SPED ADMINISTRATION	103,503	106,826	3,323	3.21%
SPED BILINGUAL	1,000	500	(500)	-50.00%
SPED BILINGUAL TUTORS	40,756	41,744	988	2.42%
SPED COLLABORATIVE	1,845,400	1,821,701	(23,699)	-1.28%
SPED GUIDANCE	149,990	153,638	3,648	2.43%
SPED ID TRANSPORTATION	60,200	60,200	-	0.00%
SPED INSTRUCTION	1,645,513	1,736,965	91,452	5.56%
SPED OOD TRANSPORTATION	559,000	686,914	127,914	22.88%
SPED PROGRAMS	1,112,655	1,294,670	182,015	16.36%
SPED PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES	192,980	195,379	2,399	1.24%
SPED TUTORS	689,289	758,268	68,979	10.01%
<b>SPECIAL EDUCATION TOTAL:</b>	<b>6,400,286</b>	<b>6,856,805</b>	<b>456,519</b>	<b>7.13%</b>
<b>FACILITIES</b>				
CUSTODIAL	865,208	865,371	163	0.02%
CUSTODIAL OVERTIME	64,000	65,350	1,350	2.11%
MAINTENANCE FACILITIES	460,533	448,931	(11,602)	-2.52%
<b>FACILITIES TOTAL:</b>	<b>1,389,741</b>	<b>1,379,652</b>	<b>(10,089)</b>	<b>-0.73%</b>
<b>NON-UTILITIES SUB-TOTAL:</b>	<b>24,427,530</b>	<b>25,396,767</b>	<b>969,237</b>	<b>3.97%</b>
<b>UTILITIES</b>				
ELECTRICITY	428,740	575,111	146,371	34.14%
GAS	9,370	9,370	-	0.00%
HEATING	412,460	604,134	191,674	46.47%
<b>UTILITIES SUB-TOTAL:</b>	<b>850,570</b>	<b>1,188,615</b>	<b>338,045</b>	<b>39.74%</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL:</b>	<b>25,278,100</b>	<b>26,585,382</b>	<b>1,307,282</b>	<b>5.17%</b>

## FY07 PROPOSED SCHOOL BUDGET – BY SCHOOL

CATEGORY	BHS	JGMS	LANE	DAVIS	SYSTEM	TOTAL
<b>ADMINISTRATION</b>						
ADMINISTRATION	480,987	334,893	184,504	237,222	857,230	2,094,836
ADMIN - SCHOOL COMMITTEE	-	-	-	-	273,057	273,057
<b>ADMINISTRATION TOTAL:</b>	<b>480,987</b>	<b>334,893</b>	<b>184,504</b>	<b>237,222</b>	<b>1,130,287</b>	<b>2,367,893</b>
<b>INSTRUCTION</b>						
ART	290,718	147,853	81,859	76,200	-	596,630
ATHLETICS	507,342	44,053	-	-	-	551,395
AUDIO-VISUAL	3,300	1,300	550	1,200	7,100	13,450
BUSINESS EDUCATION	57,241	-	-	-	-	57,241
COMPUTER EDUCATION	55,031	100,845	115,173	62,912	324,662	658,623
ELEMENTARY SALARIES	-	-	1,629,793	1,125,381	-	2,755,174
ENGLISH	577,485	617,845	-	-	-	1,195,330
FOREIGN LANGUAGE	457,498	263,298	140,455	-	-	861,251
GIFTED	-	51,899	39,502	39,467	2,500	133,368
GRADUATE STUDY	2,500	3,750	3,750	-	-	10,000
GUIDANCE	361,608	158,057	-	-	-	519,665
HEALTH EDUCATION	670	205	130	675	-	1,680
HEALTH SERVICES	-	-	-	-	14,760	14,760
HOME ECONOMICS	110,668	90,964	-	-	-	201,632
INSTRUCTION	27,000	-	29,300	47,000	141,000	244,300
INTRAMURAL	-	3,913	-	-	-	3,913
KINDERGARTEN	-	-	-	629,986	-	629,986
LIBRARY	122,612	104,682	83,121	78,714	1,450	390,579
MATHEMATICS	597,077	353,284	-	-	-	950,361
MUSIC	196,389	171,587	121,987	71,937	-	561,900
OCCUPATIONAL EDUCATION	75,820	131,022	-	-	-	206,842
OCCUPATIONAL RESOURCE	1,049	-	-	-	-	1,049
PHYSICAL EDUCATION	272,832	197,135	101,789	94,864	-	666,620
READING	96,736	213,296	157,408	156,329	-	623,769
ROTC	142,557	-	-	-	-	142,557
SCIENCE	568,902	315,593	-	-	-	884,495
SOCIAL STUDIES	520,722	219,675	-	-	-	740,397
STUDENT ACTIVITIES	116,033	30,423	4,838	2,234	-	153,528
STUDY	122,749	72,650	-	-	-	195,399
SUBSTITUTES	60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000	-	240,000
SUMMER STUDIES	7,593	9,000	3,000	3,300	-	22,893
TEXTBOOKS	-	-	25,500	8,000	-	33,500
TRANSPORTATION	81,040	111,550	163,800	173,740	-	530,130
<b>INSTRUCTION TOTAL:</b>	<b>5,433,172</b>	<b>3,473,879</b>	<b>2,761,955</b>	<b>2,631,939</b>	<b>491,472</b>	<b>14,792,417</b>
<b>SPECIAL EDUCATION</b>						
SPED ADMINISTRATION	-	-	-	-	106,826	106,826
SPED BILINGUAL	-	-	-	-	500	500
SPED BILINGUAL TUTORS	-	-	-	-	41,744	41,744
SPED COLLABORATIVE	-	-	-	-	1,821,701	1,821,701
SPED GUIDANCE	-	-	75,799	77,839	-	153,638
SPED ID TRANSPORTATION	-	-	-	-	60,200	60,200
SPED INSTRUCTION	356,153	495,165	407,039	404,721	73,887	1,736,965
SPED OOD TRANSPORTATION	-	-	-	-	686,914	686,914
SPED PROGRAMS	-	-	-	-	1,294,670	1,294,670
SPED PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES	-	-	-	-	195,379	195,379
SPED TUTORS	-	91,072	353,700	233,594	8,700	758,268
<b>SPECIAL EDUCATION TOTAL:</b>	<b>427,355</b>	<b>586,237</b>	<b>836,538</b>	<b>716,154</b>	<b>4,290,521</b>	<b>6,856,805</b>
<b>FACILITIES</b>						
CUSTODIAL	300,677	198,123	153,741	154,484	58,346	865,371
CUSTODIAL OVERTIME	-	-	-	-	65,350	65,350
MAINTENANCE FACILITIES	66,255	35,942	21,085	20,528	305,122	448,931
<b>FACILITIES TOTAL:</b>	<b>366,932</b>	<b>234,065</b>	<b>174,826</b>	<b>175,012</b>	<b>428,818</b>	<b>1,379,652</b>
<b>UTILITIES</b>						
ELECTRICITY	153,999	163,007	130,639	127,466	-	575,111
GAS	1,870	1,845	5,655	-	-	9,370
HEATING	282,229	159,819	68,626	93,460	-	604,134
<b>UTILITIES TOTAL:</b>	<b>438,098</b>	<b>324,671</b>	<b>204,919</b>	<b>220,926</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,188,615</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL:</b>	<b>7,146,544</b>	<b>4,953,745</b>	<b>4,162,742</b>	<b>3,981,253</b>	<b>6,341,098</b>	<b>26,585,382</b>

<b>FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT PROFESSIONAL CERTIFIED EMPLOYEES</b>					
<b>CATEGORY</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>
ADMINISTRATION/GUIDANCE	20.40	21.00	20.00	20.00	20.00
REGULAR EDUCATION	175.15	172.95	174.75	176.45	178.25
SPECIAL EDUCATION	25.60	26.10	26.70	29.10	29.10
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>221.15</b>	<b>220.05</b>	<b>221.45</b>	<b>225.55</b>	<b>227.35</b>

<b>BEDFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS ENROLLMENT</b>											
<b>LOCATION</b>	<b>1997</b>	<b>1998</b>	<b>1999</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>2002</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>
DAVIS SCHOOL											
K	154	140	151	150	174	145	165	155	175	162	149
1	154	177	165	171	167	186	155	175	164	172	174
2	143	151	186	165	181	165	184	154	180	166	177
<b>DAVIS TOTAL:</b>	<b>451</b>	<b>468</b>	<b>492</b>	<b>486</b>	<b>522</b>	<b>496</b>	<b>504</b>	<b>484</b>	<b>519</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>500</b>
LANE SCHOOL											
3	176	147	159	172	163	175	159	179	162	180	173
4	150	179	149	156	176	159	177	162	185	167	182
5	141	150	184	152	163	178	161	175	160	193	172
<b>LANE TOTAL:</b>	<b>467</b>	<b>476</b>	<b>492</b>	<b>480</b>	<b>502</b>	<b>512</b>	<b>497</b>	<b>516</b>	<b>507</b>	<b>540</b>	<b>537</b>
MIDDLE SCHOOL											
6	145	146	150	175	156	167	182	161	169	159	195
7	152	150	147	149	175	160	159	185	154	159	161
8	120	153	141	146	150	171	160	162	187	152	165
<b>MIDDLE SCHOOL TOTAL:</b>	<b>417</b>	<b>449</b>	<b>448</b>	<b>470</b>	<b>481</b>	<b>498</b>	<b>501</b>	<b>508</b>	<b>510</b>	<b>470</b>	<b>521</b>
HIGH SCHOOL											
9	169	180	192	189	191	204	217	183	196	224	187
10	158	148	172	186	168	183	184	206	183	189	222
11	154	156	138	141	168	163	168	175	185	173	183
12	124	151	159	134	144	149	153	155	166	178	173
<b>HIGH SCHOOL TOTAL:</b>	<b>605</b>	<b>635</b>	<b>661</b>	<b>650</b>	<b>671</b>	<b>699</b>	<b>722</b>	<b>719</b>	<b>730</b>	<b>764</b>	<b>765</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL:</b>	<b>1,940</b>	<b>2,028</b>	<b>2,093</b>	<b>2,086</b>	<b>2,176</b>	<b>2,205</b>	<b>2,224</b>	<b>2,227</b>	<b>2,266</b>	<b>2,274</b>	<b>2,323</b>



**Bedford Public Schools  
97 McMahon Road  
Bedford, MA 01730-2166**

**\*\*\*ECRWSS\*\*\***

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