



# Chariho Regional School District

## Office of the Director of Administration & Finance



455A Switch Road  
Wood River Junction, Rhode Island 02894

**All Kids. All of the Time.**

LOUISE D. DINSMORE  
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Director of Administration & Finance

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Assistant Director of Administration & Finance

To: Gina Picard  
From: Gregory Zenion  
Date: March 5, 2026

Subject: Monthly FY26 budget narrative updates by attached reports, for March meeting.

• **General Fund** (SCFS\*EXPENSE and \*REVENUE)

o Revenues continue as anticipated. Town appropriations are to budget. Investment income appears on target; most lines appear as to budget, however the Blizzard of 2026 will require an estimated additional \$125,000 in snow removal expenses. This expense does not include overtime to Chariho's employees.

o Wages are to budget, vacant positions have been filled. Vacancies will not show a favorable budget outcome in FY26 budget. Healthcare finished 2025 in the positive. Continue to closely monitor Healthcare cost and wages during FY26 budget.

• **Grant Funds** (SCFS\*EXP-2ACCTs)

o Grant spending is to budget. PFAS grant for \$615K from the Rhode Island Infrastructure Bank is anticipated to fully cover the CES PFAS solution in FY26/FY27, started to receive well results and waiting for all data (results received to date look promising). Federal funds have been restored for Title II, III, and IV funding for FY26 but Title II, II, and IV funding for FY27 is uncertain at this time. There are no current staffing positions that were paid for with ESSER funds.

• **Capital Funds** (SCF\*REV-EXP.Capital pages 1-3)

o Housing Aid –Stage I for elementary schools and Stage II for Main Campus approved. Work underway to resubmit Stage I for elementary schools with Stage II being submitted in September. If Stage II for elementary schools is not submitted, will need to develop a capital plan for elementary schools which may have unfavorable budget outcomes for FY27 and beyond.

o Member Town Contribution – is on track.

o Bond – is on budget. Sinking fund investment returns may have positive results for FY27 bond retirement requirements. The \$15M bond plan is in progress, must go out for second half of bond in 2026. Building Committee completed projects are CTC roof and mechanicals, resurfacing of track, construction of new tennis courts, HS entry system, roadway & tennis lights & power, and auditorium seats/flooring. EMS controls and CTC & HS boilers in progress. Design work has begun for 3 new generators and electrical upgrades once completed will go out to bid.

• **Lunch Fund** and Miscellaneous Enterprise Accounts (SCFS\* EXP page 1)

o Lunch fund (Food Service) Increase prices for this school year have been offset by increases in food prices. Due to RIDE's late release of bid requirements, Chariho will not go out to bid and will continue with the State contract, using the company that is picked by the State bid.

• **Student Activities Funds** (SCFS\*EXPENSE SAF accounts beginning with 9) these funds may only be obligated from funds on hand. SAF spend is as expected.

**Budget process update-** The FY27 budget process: Superintendent presented FY27 budget to School Committee on 1/13/26 and 2/3/26. School Committee approved budget at 2/10/26 meeting. It is now the School Committee's budget.