

# Community Conversation on School Funding



Photo credit: Katie Veatch



Support  
Our Schools  
Amherst



# Where are we today?

**No matter  
what  
happens  
next**

**The Elementary Schools will lose 6.4 positions**

**The Regional Schools will lose 12.1 positions**

**The Elementary Schools are asking for another \$539,408 from the Town of Amherst, a 6% increase over last year**

**The Regional Schools are asking for another \$152,136 from the Town of Amherst, a 4.81% increase over last year  
(along with additional money from Shutesbury, Leverett & Pelham)**

# What's next?

**The Elementary School budget goes to the Amherst Town Manager and Town Council**

**The Regional School budget goes to the Amherst Town Manager, Town Council and Town Meetings**

**If more money is not found**

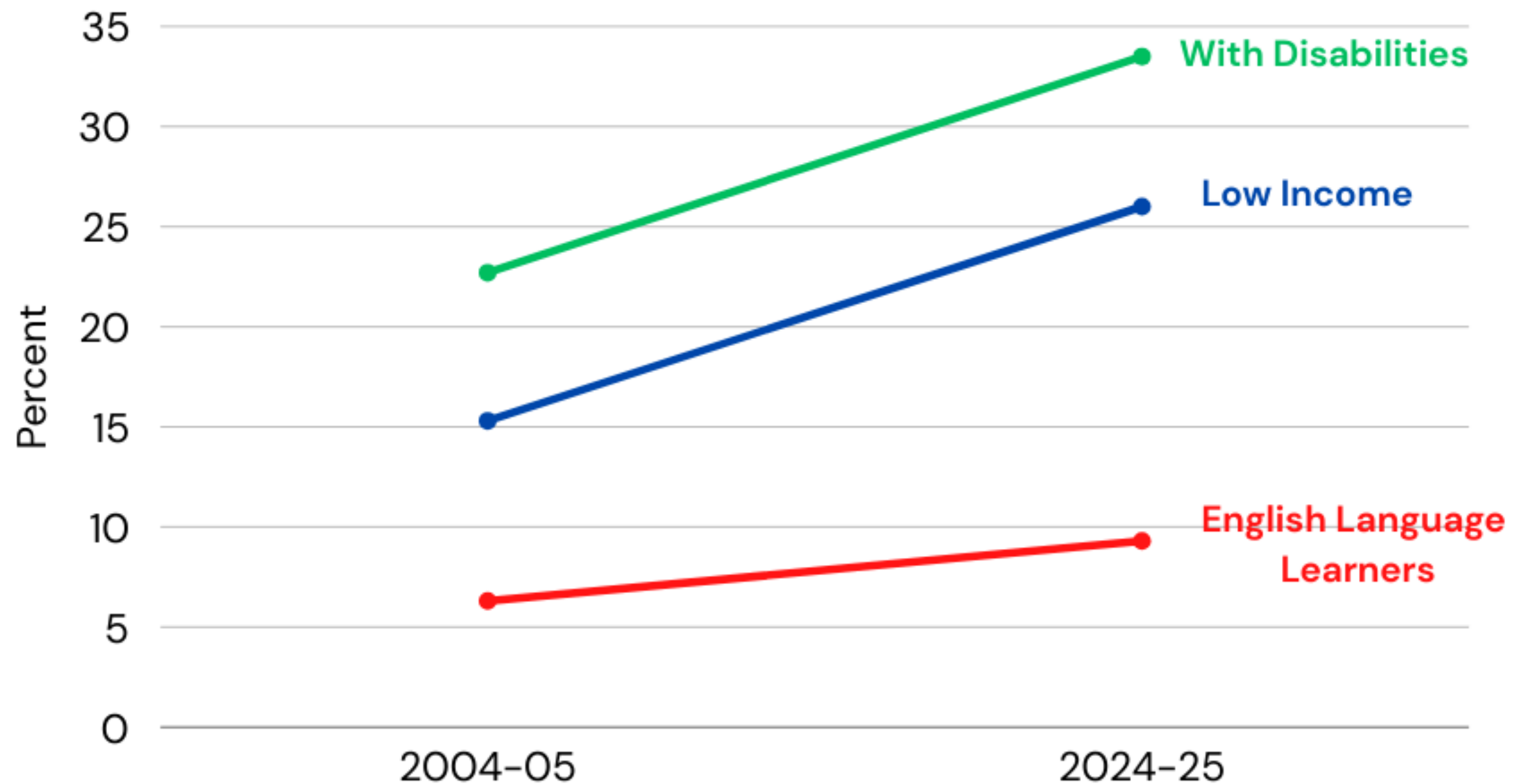
**The Elementary Schools will lose another 7.3 positions**

**The Regional Schools will not have a budget if 2/4 towns fail to pass it - and the situation will be much worse**

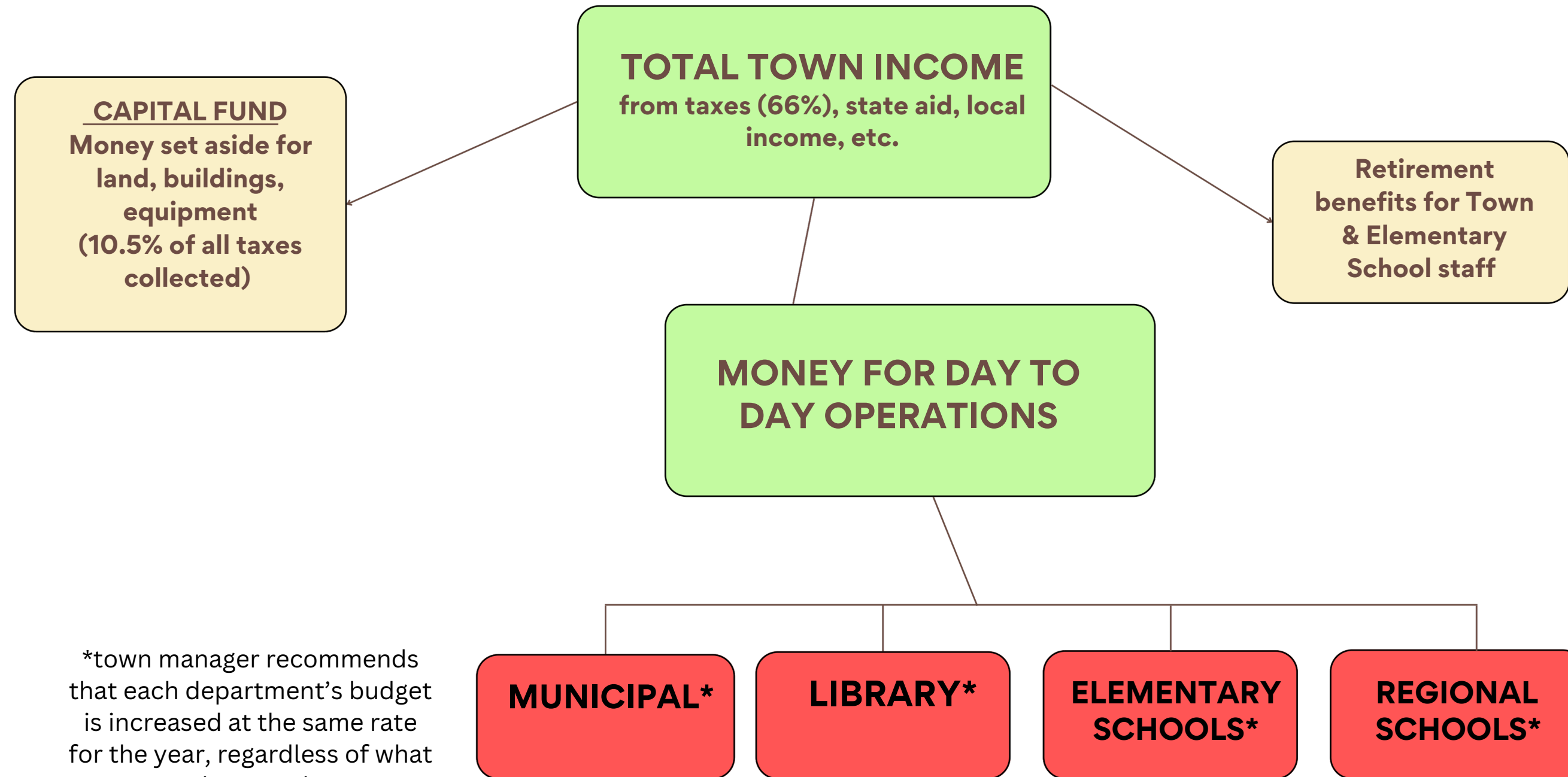
# Why is this happening?

- **State-wide problem**
- **Charter School tuition formula siphoning money**
- **Many fixed costs rising faster than funding**
- **Changing population due to enrollment decline**

# Proportion of high need students has increased in ARPS



# Where does Amherst's money go?



\*town manager recommends that each department's budget is increased at the same rate for the year, regardless of what they need

**SURPLUS:** A surplus results when the Town underestimates the Total Town Income or any of the town sectors (Municipal, Library, Schools) do not spend all of their allocated money



# Town of Amherst Budget Process

