



## News from the Town Manager's Office

### Direct and Indirect Costs of Providing Town Services:

Traditionally North Andover's General Fund budget has been presented as three major components; one, the Municipal budget consisting of General Government, Public Safety, Public Works, Health & Human Services, and Culture and Recreation, two, the North Andover Public Schools budget, and three, Indirect or Non-departmental expenses. This last component, which makes up almost 30% of the Town's budget, accounts for our debt service, employee benefits and deductions that the Commonwealth makes from our state aid. These deductions pay for state programs the town participates in, such as, retired teacher's health insurance or our membership in the regional mosquito control district. Using

FY09 actual expenses, as graphically shown on Chart A, the Municipal portion of the budget was \$17.1 million; the School's was \$35.5 Million and Non-Departmental Costs were \$22.1 Million for a total of \$74.7 Million.

Using financial reports filed with the state it is possible to allocate non-departmental costs to the educational and municipal components of the budgets in order to have a more accurate description of the total cost of providing these services. The results of distributing non-departmental costs are shown on Chart B. Under this analysis, direct and indirect educational expenses equate to \$50.4 million or 67.5% of General Fund expenditures while direct and indirect municipal expenses equal \$24.3 million or 32.5%

Chart A

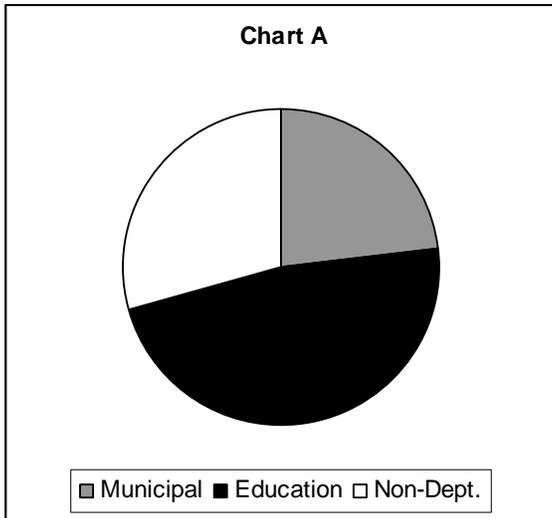
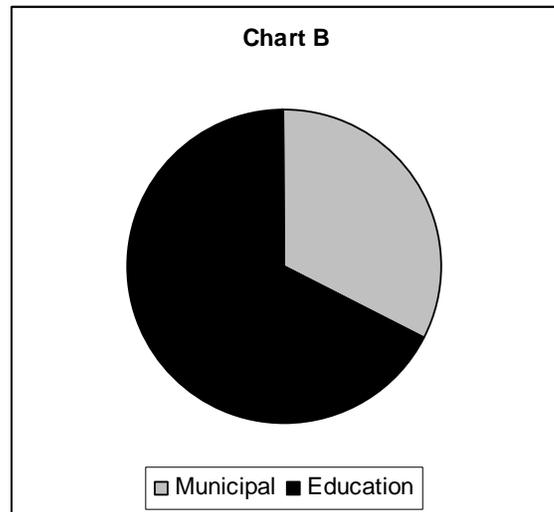


Chart B



## News from the School Department

Superintendent Christopher Hottel, administrators, teachers, and staff welcomed 4,700 new and returning students to school in North Andover on September 8. The new North Andover Early Childhood Center was opened, providing a state-of-the-art facility for ninety preschool students, as well as several kindergarten classes. The Early Childhood Center will enable the district to focus educational resources for preschool in one building and to provide additional space for growing enrollment in other elementary schools in the town.

North Andover High School began the year with a new trimester schedule, which will give students many more opportunities to take both core courses and electives. The number of electives has been expanded, and now includes entrepreneurship, introduction to computer programming, web design and development, introduction to music theory, bioethics, oceanography and marine biology, among many others.

The middle school teaching staff has taken a leadership role this summer in developing strategies to differentiate instruction in order to meet the different needs of individual students. A train-the-trainer model will enable teachers to continue to learn and share with colleagues advanced instructional techniques that will ensure student achievement and success.

In an effort to build curriculum alignment and consistency,

North Andover elementary schools will be introducing a new, comprehensive reading program for all grades, called Reading Street. This program will give students additional, focused instruction in reading, and will help give all students better reading and comprehension skills. A tiered intervention model will also allow individual students to receive more instructional time when particular concepts prove difficult.

This year, the challenge of state testing under No Child Left Behind (NCLB) will be greater. Each year the MCAS test requirements, or the "bar," gets higher and higher, and North Andover and many other school systems are finding it challenging to meet these requirements. While North Andover schools may have some work to do as shown by its NCLB test results, most of the students and most of the schools are showing excellent academic performance. North Andover High School has consistently met or exceeded NCLB requirements, and the vast majority of all our students, elementary, middle, and high school, also meet or exceed the requirements.

The school system's goal is to ensure that every student gets an equal "North Andover" education. To do this, the school department is continuing to focus on improving facilities, providing equitable resources for student success, and aligning curriculum and instructional practice throughout the system.

**News from the Fire Department**

**Chimney and Wood Stove Fire Safety**

Each year fire incidents involving chimneys, fireplaces, and woodstoves are responsible for millions of dollars in property losses, as well as injuries to both civilians and firefighters. If you are planning to purchase a woodstove or fireplace for this upcoming heating season, then you should pay attention to the following guidelines:

1. A building permit must be obtained prior to the installation of fireplaces, wood, pellet, or coal burning stoves. They must be inspected by the local building inspector prior to their initial use as required by the Massachusetts State Building Code.
2. Allow at least 36 inches of clearance around the appliance to prevent combustibles from coming into contact with a

heat source.

3. Solid fuel heating appliances cannot share a common flue with chimney flues utilized by other solid fuel, fossil fuel, or gas fired appliances.
4. Have your chimney cleaned each season before you use it
5. Make certain that the damper is open prior to lighting the fire
6. Ashes removed from the unit should be placed in a metal bucket with a metal lid and then placed outside, away from the building.

Using a fireplace or a woodstove can be an economical and enjoyable way to heat your home. Please take the necessary precautions that it doesn't become a memorable one because of a fire

**News from the Town Clerk's Office**

**SPECIAL STATE ELECTIONS – U.S. SENATE- DECEMBER 8, 2009 AND JANUARY 19, 2010.**

Two Special Elections have been called by Governor Patrick to fill the United States Senate Seat of the late Edward M. Kennedy. The **State Primary Election will be December 8, 2009.** All voting will be at the North Andover High School 430 Osgood Street. The polls will be open from 7:00AM until 8:00PM. The High School will be open for classes and we suggest avoiding anticipated traffic issues from 6:45AM until 7:30 AM.

The last day to register to vote or to change "Party Affiliation" is Wednesday November 18, 2009. The Town Clerk's Office at 120 Main Street will be open until 8:00PM. This is a "primary" election. If you are a registered "Democrat" you must take a Democratic Ballot. If you are a registered "Republican" you must take a Republican ballot. If you are an "Unenrolled" voter you may choose any ballot. We are happy to check your voter status or party affiliation.

We encourage anyone who may not be able to get to the polls to request an absentee ballot. They can be mailed back, dropped in our box in front of Town Hall, or returned to us by

a family member. Applications are good for the entire calendar year. Family members may fill out the absentee ballot request. Voters can also apply and vote in person at Town Hall 120 Main Street once ballots are received. We anticipate having ballots by the first week in November,

**The Special Election will be held on January 19, 2010.**

All voting is again at the High School 430 Osgood Street and polls are open from 7:00AM until 8:00PM. Classes are in session and we again suggest avoiding 6:45AM-7:30AM if possible. All voters receive the same ballot. The last day to register to vote is Wednesday December 30, 2009 and the Town Clerk's Office will be open until 8:00PM. . You must be 18 years old by the date of the election and register. All absentee provisions apply. We anticipate having absentee ballots available the first week of January. Please visit our web site for details at [www.townofnorthandover.com](http://www.townofnorthandover.com), e-mail me at [jbradshaw@townofnorthandover.com](mailto:jbradshaw@townofnorthandover.com), or call (978)688-9502.

We are here to answer any questions, verify your voting status or provide assistance. Thank you for your participation.

**News from the Health Department**

**Lower your chances of getting or spreading the flu:**

Do you know how to care for flu patients at home? Do you know where local flu clinics are taking place? Do you want to know the latest information of the outbreak of H1N1 in MA?

For all of the up to date answers to these questions and more go to [www.mass.gov/flu](http://www.mass.gov/flu) and/or [http://www.townofnorthandover.com/Pages/NAndoverMA\\_Health/index](http://www.townofnorthandover.com/Pages/NAndoverMA_Health/index).

**Lower your chances of getting or spreading the flu:**



Get both a **seasonal flu shot** and an **H1N1 flu shot**.



**Cover your mouth** when you cough or sneeze. Use a tissue or your inner elbow, not your hands



**Wash your hands often** with soap and warm water, or use an alcohol-based hand gel.



**Stay home** if you are sick.