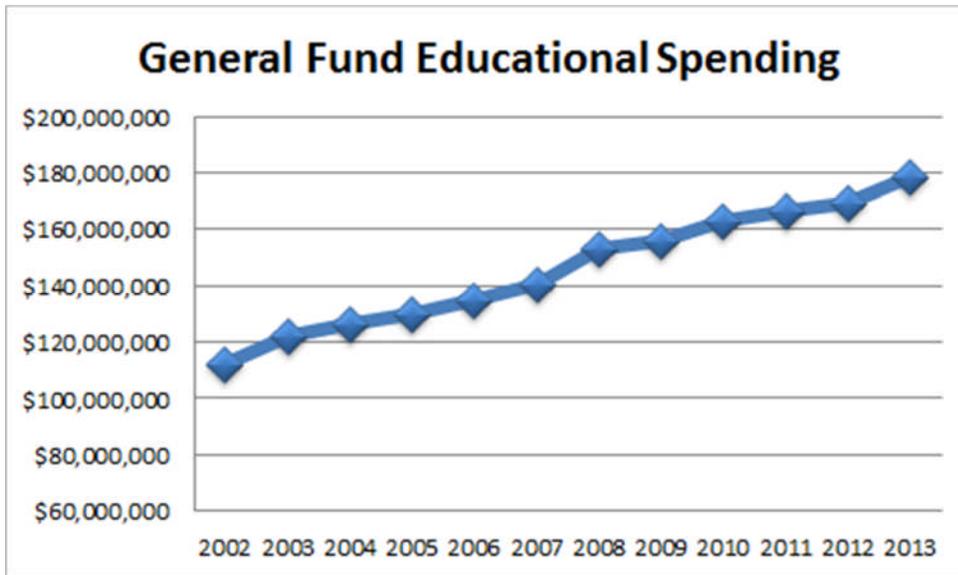


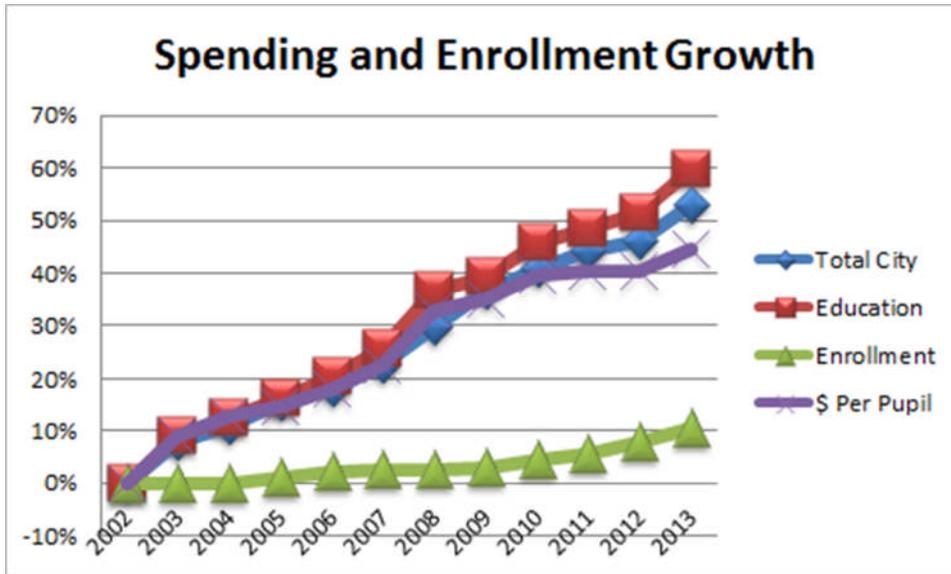
## \$67M in Annual School Spending Growth is More Than Enough

Moving Newton Forward with Fiscal Responsibility opposes override taxes for \$9.2M in additional annual school spending. When the last override [passed in 2002](#), Newton's General Fund educational expenditures were [\\$112M](#) and rose to \$178.8M in [2013](#). These figures don't include depreciation and debt service expenses associated with the new Newton North High School. Newton's 60% increase in educational expenses over the last 11 years was the largest contributor to the \$108M increase in Newton's citywide expenditures during this period (53% cumulative growth rate).



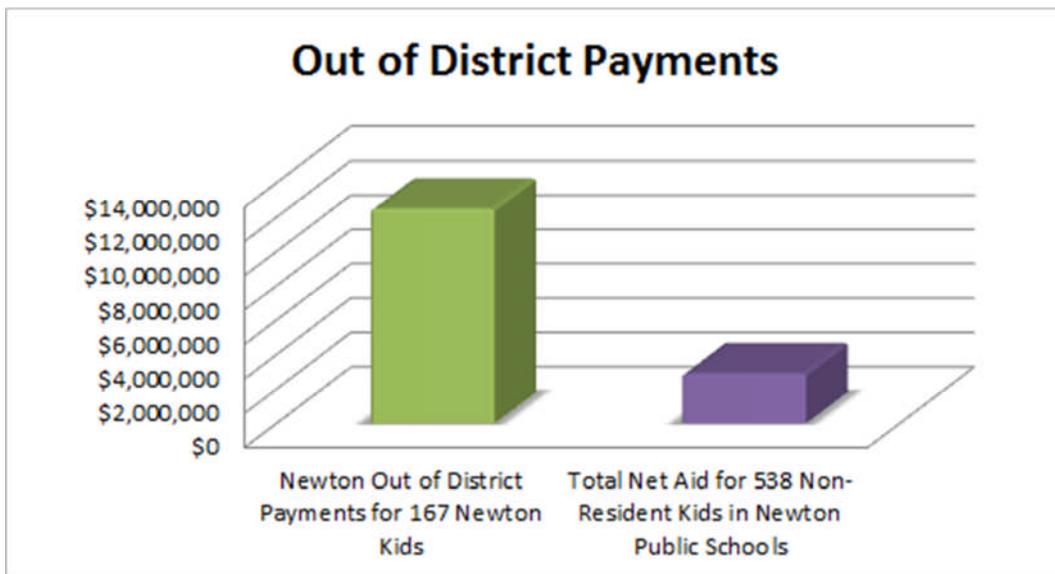
Sources: [Newton's 2004-2012 Budgetary Basis Financial Reports](#) & [2013 Budget](#)

Newton Public Schools enrollment grew from 11,276 in 2002 to 12,440 in 2013 according to the [Newton School Committee](#). This 10% cumulative enrollment growth over this 11 year period is unremarkable when compared to the 60% cumulative increase in expenditures during this 11 year period. We're surprised override supporters are using the "enrollment growth" in order to make their case for the three overrides when Newton's educational expenditures per student enjoyed 45% cumulative growth from 2002 to 2013.



Sources: [Newton's 2004-2012 Budgetary Basis Financial Reports](#), [Newton's 2012 Enrollment Analysis Report](#) & [2013 Budget](#)

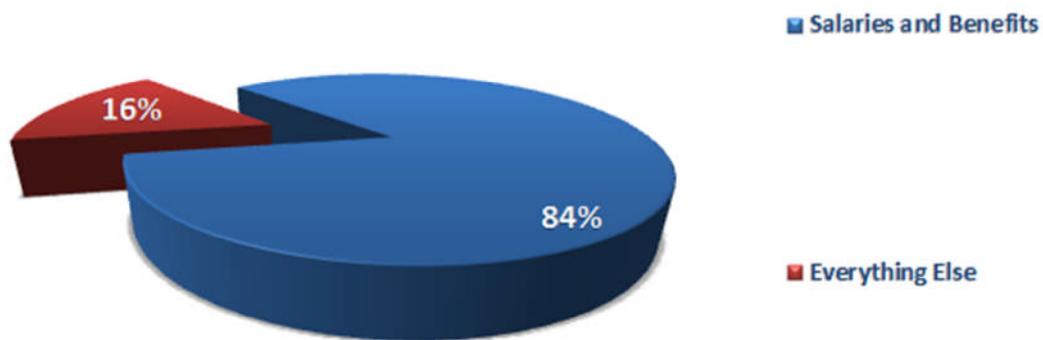
We're stunned that override supporters demand \$9.2M in increased spending for new buildings, teachers and aides for 10% cumulative enrollment growth [while simultaneously saying](#) there are [minimal costs associated](#) with educating non-resident students. Newton [spends \\$12.5M](#) (before accounting for state aid) to send 167 Newton kids in special education programs to schools outside of Newton while receiving \$2.9M in total net aid for 538 non-resident kids, 145 of which are in special education programs and IEPs.



Sources: [Superintendent's 2013 Budget](#) and Newton School Committee via Newton CFA  
Maureen Lemieux

We oppose the three overrides because we believe that Newton's educational expenditures have grown at an unsustainable rate primarily to pay salaries and benefits. We had a meeting with Mayor Warren and his team and we found that ~84% of Newton's School Budget goes to pay salaries and benefits. We oppose raising taxes to pay for neglected buildings and citywide infrastructure because the city lavished unsustainably high pay and benefit growth on school employees. However, we identified alternatives to bring in over \$9M annually in order to allow Newton to fund the new educational spending the pro-override group seeks without raising taxes beyond the Proposition 2½ limitations.

## 2012 Budget, Newton Public Schools



*Source: Newton School Committee and Newton CFO Maureen Lemieux*

The [Newton School Committee](#) floated a proposal to raise \$6.35M over three years from selling naming rights. We were sad that this proposal ran into [significant opposition](#) from the community and most notably [Alderman Lisle Baker](#), who [sees these overrides](#) as a template to pursue more overrides. The Board of Aldermen ended up voting to [defer taking action](#) on the naming rights proposal in January. The \$2.1M that could have been raised would have covered the \$1.7M allocated for Zervas renovations and the \$300K allocated for district-wide building support expenses.

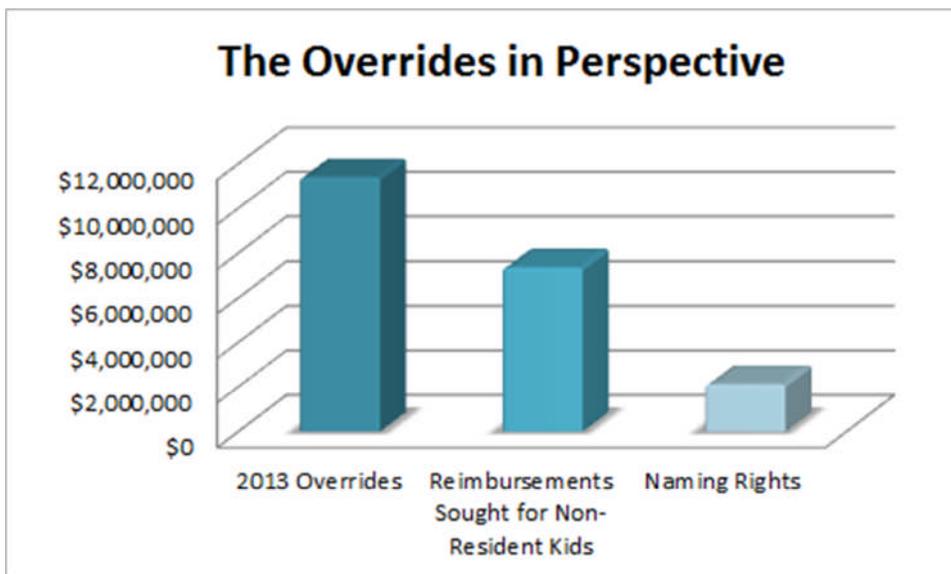
The Newton Public School system educates [538 non-resident students annually](#). We determined that Newton's annual cost to educate non-resident students (net of aid from private and intergovernmental bodies) was \$7,359,661. We believe that it isn't fair for Newton [taxpayers to pay](#) to educate Boston's schoolchildren especially since Boston has never had an override and it offers a 30% residential exemption to Boston resident-taxpayers. We believe that the

METCO experience would not suffer any negative impact if Boston was to send Newton a \$7.4M check each year for educating Boston resident students in Newton Public Schools.

Total Out of District Student Cost (Net)	Pupils	Per Pupil Cost/Aid	Total Cost/Aid
Total Regular Ed Non-Resident Students	393	\$17,000	\$6,681,000
Total METCO SP Ed/IEP Non-Resident Students	145	\$20,060	\$2,908,718
General State Aid Per Pupil	505	(\$2,000)	(\$1,010,000)
Federal Aid for Special ED METCO Students	145	(\$975)	(\$141,400)
METCO aid per pupil	404	(\$5,100)	(\$2,060,400)
METCO transportation costs per pupil	404	\$1,700	\$686,800
EDCO Hearing Impaired Aid Per Pupil	31	(\$3,425)	(\$106,000)
Depreciation Expenses Per Pupil	538	\$775	\$416,950
SP ED Students Tuitioned-In	4 N/R		(\$79,155)
Approved to Attend (State Ward etc)	2	\$0	\$0
Newton Resident Children of Other District Faci	13	(\$15,000)	(\$195,000)
Interest Expense Allocated	N/A	3.5%	\$258,148
<b>Total Net Out of District Cost</b>			<b>\$7,359,661</b>

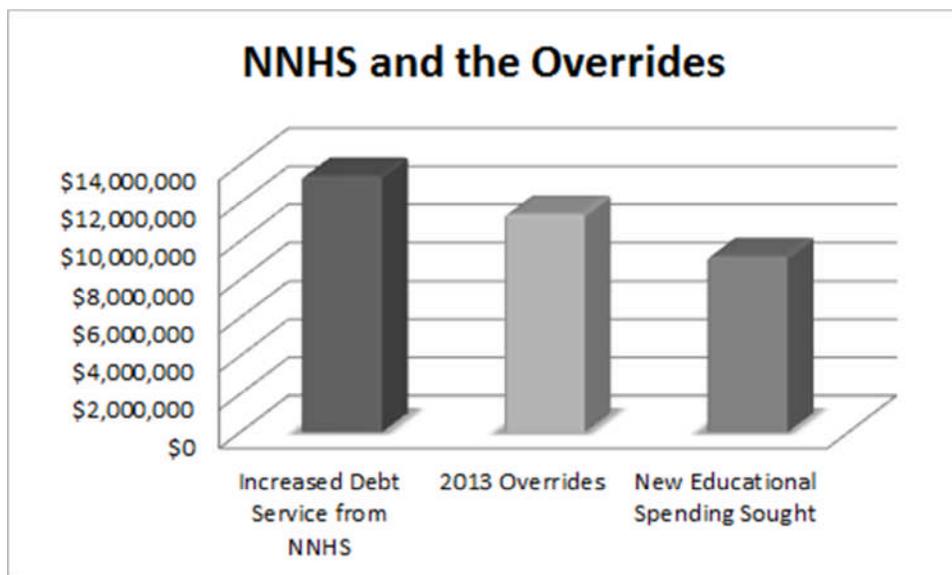
Source: [Mass DESE](#) & Newton's School Committee via Newton's CFO Maureen Lemieux

If Newton no longer provided education services for non-resident children, it would have offset nearly half the 10% enrollment growth override supporters use to justify these overrides. If Boston and other towns are unwilling to pay their fair share of educating their kids in Newton Public Schools, then Newton shouldn't provide educational services for those non-resident students. Boston saves \$60M annually by sending 3,184 Boston resident students to suburban school districts and Newton deserves \$7M of that savings.



Source: [Newton Mayor's Office, Moving Newton Forward](#) and [Newton School Committee](#)

In conclusion, we at Moving Newton Forward are opposed to the overrides because the Newton Public Schools have increased its annual spending by 60% over the last 11 years (\$66.8M) primarily for increased compensation instead of infrastructure maintenance. If Newton hadn't torn down a [38 year old high school building](#) and replaced it with a \$197.5M new building, it wouldn't have incurred \$13.4M in increased annual debt service payments. These increased debt service payments could have funded renovating three elementary schools that range from [60 to 90 years old](#). The \$13.4M increase in annual debt service payments is \$2M more than the \$11.4M in total overrides sought and \$4.2M more than the increased educational expenses that the overrides seek to fund. We also oppose the three overrides because the city decided to forego \$2.1M in annual naming rights revenues, which was higher than the money sought to rebuild or renovate Zervas.



Sources: [Newton's 2004-2012 Budgetary Basis Financial Reports](#) & [Newton Mayor's Office](#)

Joshua Norman, an Auburndale resident is Co-Chairman and Research Director of Moving Newton Forward