

School Board Meeting:

January 26, 2026

Subject:

2026-27 Budget Assumptions

Presenter:

**Ryan L. Tangen, Director of
Finance and Operations**

SUGGESTED SCHOOL BOARD ACTION:

Approve 2026-27 Budget Assumptions

DESCRIPTION:

The 2026-27 Budget Assumptions establish the framework for developing the upcoming budget. These assumptions were used to create the base financial projections presented at the Board Workshop on January 12, 2026.

The recommendation for the 2026-27 Budget Assumptions is as follows:

- **Enrollment Projection:** Based on the November 2025 enrollment report.
 - 2026-27 4,965 (-25 from prior year)
- **General Education Formula Allowance:** Increase of 3% or \$224, to \$7,705 for 2026-27, with a 2% increase in subsequent years.
- **Operating Referendum:** \$750 per Adjusted Pupil Unit (APU) effective through 2030.
- **Special Education:** Increase of 5%.
- **Special Education Cross Subsidy Aid:** Increased from 44% to 50%
- **Federal Funding:** Maintained at current level.
- **Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB):** Contributions aligned with actuarial report estimates.
- **Class Size Reduction:** Continuation of 6.0 FTE, including marketing budget and social workers.
- **Local Optional Revenue:** Continuation of an additional 6.0 FTE.
- **Staffing Ratios:** Maintain or exceed 2018-19 approved levels.
- **Staffing Contingencies:**
 - 1.0 FTE for special education.
 - 2.95 FTE Superintendent staffing.
- **Salary and Benefit:** Adjustments based on settled agreements and market conditions for unsettled contracts.
- **Non-Salary/Non-Benefit Costs:** Estimated increase of 0-5%.
- **PPD:** Continues with revenues and expenditures balanced.
- **Cost Containment Initiatives:** Continued efforts, including joint purchasing agreements, energy use reduction, paper reduction, insurance contracts, and other operational efficiencies.

ATTACHMENT(S):

- none