

# Budget Update 2026-2027

February 23, 2026

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## *Presenters:*

**Brigitte M. Clark**  
Chief Financial Officer

**Dr. Matt Bolinger**  
Assistant Superintendent of Human  
Resources



# AGENDA

- Budget Committee
- Budget Overview
- Next Steps



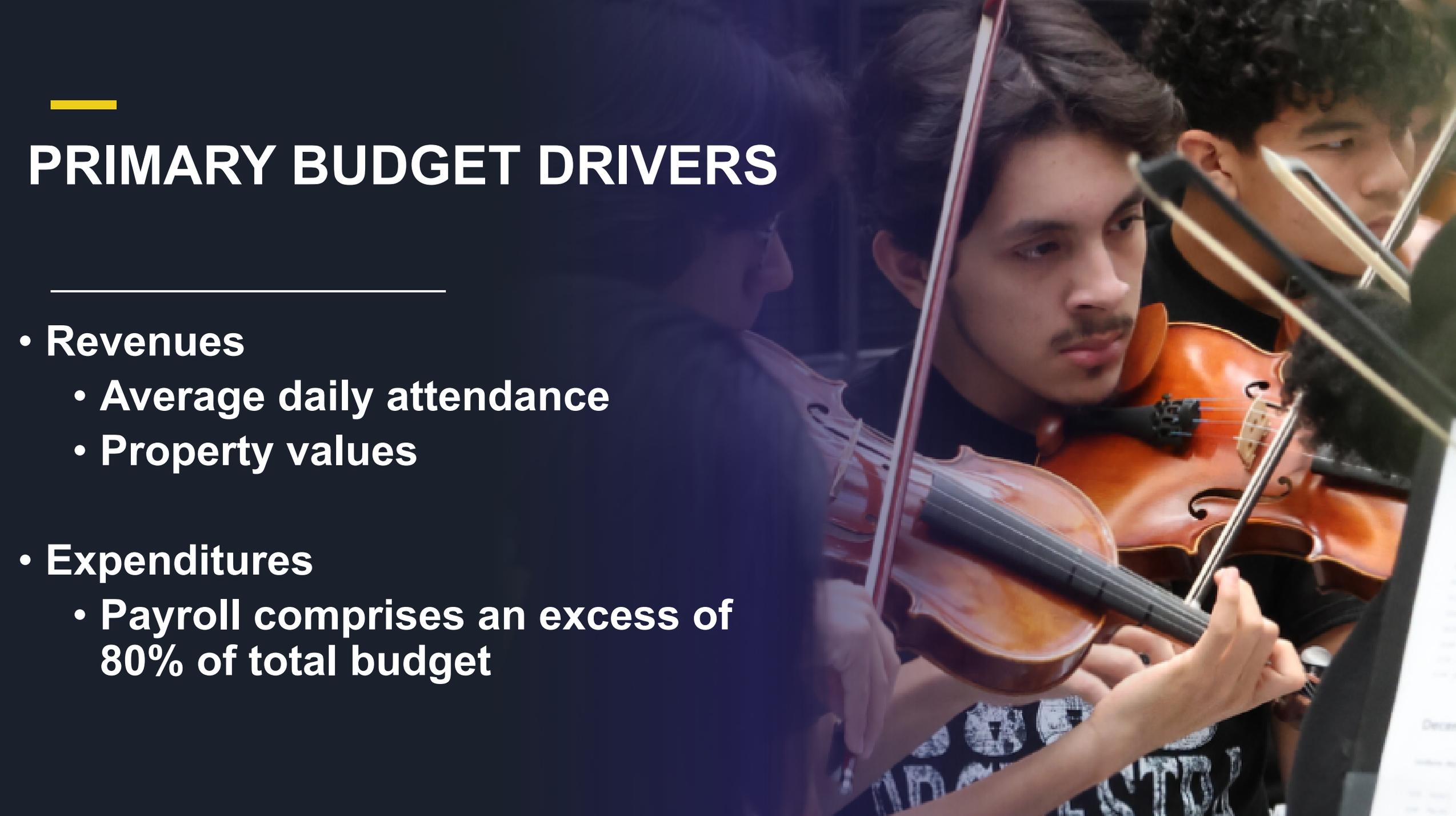
# BUDGET COMMITTEE

- **The Budget Reduction Committee includes representatives from multiple departments to ensure that diverse perspectives and input are reflected in its recommendations.**
- **The Committee is comprised of teachers, principals, and department representatives/leadership from Special Education, Maintenance, Athletics, Police, Transportation, Technology, and Fine Arts.**
- **The Committee will meet three times and provide recommendations to the Superintendent.**
- **Executive Council will provide support to the Committee.**

# COMMITTEE OBJECTIVES

- Have a common understanding of GCCISD finances and the challenges associated with the 2026-2027 budget.
- Collaborate on strategies and ideas to reduce the overall budget due to a lack of state funding
- Provide perspective and input based on your role within the District





# PRIMARY BUDGET DRIVERS

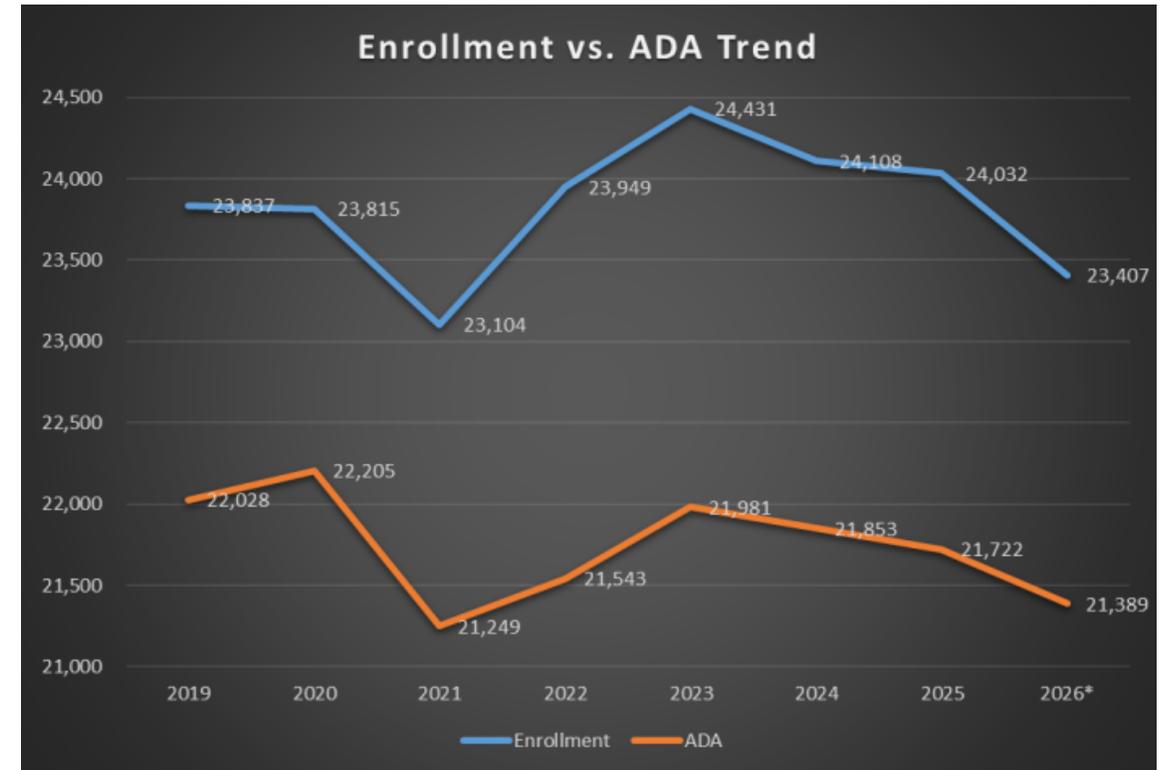
- **Revenues**
  - Average daily attendance
  - Property values
- **Expenditures**
  - Payroll comprises an excess of 80% of total budget

# AVERAGE DAILY ATTENDANCE

Year	Employees	Enrollment	ADA**	%
2019	3,375	23,837	22,028	94.90%
2020	3,421	23,815	22,205	95.35%
2021	3,519	23,104	21,249	93.26%
2022	3,616	23,949	21,543	93.37%
2023	3,817	24,431	21,981	93.10%
2024	3,726	24,108	21,853	93.90%
2025	3,561	24,032	21,722	93.30%
2026*	3,535	23,407	21,389	93.96%

\*Estimate

\*\*ADA = Average Daily Attendance



# FINANCIAL STATISTICS

- The basic allotment would have to be \$7,500 to merely account for inflation (essentially unchanged since 2019 \$6,215 despite \$55 increase due to golden penny reallocation)
- Texas per student funding is \$4,000 below national average according to National Education Association
- The state continues to claw back funds from as far back as 2011



# BUDGET ACCOMPLISHMENTS

## 2026 Budget

- Provided **2%** general pay increase; teachers received **2-7.6%**
- Successfully implemented **\$5 million** in budget reductions

## 2025 Budget

- Provided **4%** general pay increase
- Successfully implemented **\$13 million** in budget reductions

## 2024 Budget

- Provided **2%** one-time salary adjustment for full-time employees
- Successfully implemented **\$12 million** in budget reductions



# BUDGET GOALS AND ASSUMPTIONS

- **Goals**
  - **Decrease overall payroll, operating, and program costs**
  - **Explore employee compensation package & remain competitive**
- **Assumptions**
  - **Decreased average daily attendance**



# BUDGET VARIABLES TO BE REFINED

- **Additional funding requests (mandatory)**
- **Taxable values**
- **Texas Association of School Board (TASB) compensation and staffing studies**
- **Final average daily attendance numbers**

# 2026-27 BUDGET CHALLENGES

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- **Additional funding under school finance bill, but largely restricted**
- **No new revenue sources**
- **Inflation (rose nearly 25% over 5 years)**
- **Teachers leaving the profession and competition is fierce**
- **More competition from charter schools with vouchers coming online this school year**



# PERSONNEL



- Personnel is 80-85% of the overall general budget.
- In 2019-2020, GCCISD had **3,421 full-time employees (FTEs)**.
- Due to COVID learning loss and new facilities, FTEs rose to **3817** in 2022-2023 (396 added positions).
- Budgetary reductions resulted in **90 fewer FTEs** in 23-24, **165 fewer FTEs** in 24-25, and **27 fewer FTEs** in 5-26.
- The current number of FTEs total 3,535 (25-26). This is a 282 reduction in staff.



# BUDGET 2026-27 ESTIMATES

- The challenging work the Budget Committee and Executive Council have put in over the years paid off
- Without including a raise or mandatory budget increases, the budget is essentially balanced – **this will change** as we get further into the budget planning process
- A 2% raise is estimated at just over **\$4 million** (awaiting TASB)
- The Budget Committee will be tasked with making recommendations to cover this and any additional expenditure increases as we continue budget preparation

# NEXT STEPS

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- Further refine estimates as new information received
- Continue budget planning and reduction measures
- Assist campuses and departments with their budgets
- Complete committee work

# 2026-2027 BUDGET CALENDAR

	DATE	DESCRIPTION	ACTIVITY
FEBRUARY	9	Board Agenda Item: Superintendent's Report - 2026-27 Budget Overview	Initiation of budget process - discussion of FY 2026-27 budget calendar and budget planning criteria and assumptions.
	12-13	<b>DISTRICT CLOSED - EXCHANGE DAYS</b>	
	16	Budget Prep - HR, Finance, Committee Meeting #1	Meet with Committee - Discuss budget reduction plan
	18	Budget Prep - HR, Finance, Committee Meeting #2	Meet with Committee - Discuss budget reduction plan
	23	Board Meeting - Budget Update	Budget Update
	25	Budget Prep - HR, Finance, Committee Meeting #3	Meet with Committee -Finalize budget reduction plan
	27	Present Budget Reduction Plan to Executive Council w/ Committee	Present budget reduction plan - Bring committee members
MARCH	3	Principal's Op Meeting	Discuss reduction plan
	9-13	<b>DISTRICT CLOSED - SPRING BREAK</b>	
	23	Board Agenda Item: Superintendent's Report - 2026-27 Budget Workshop #1 (early start)	Present proposed budget reduction plan to the board
	30	Special Meeting - Board Budget Reduction Workshop	If requested - Board and Administration
APRIL	6	Board Agenda Item: Board Budget Workshop #2 (Superintendent Report) (Top 10)	Discuss operating expenditures and Compensation Plan options; TASB Study; <b>Board Action: Approve 2026-27 budget reduction plan.</b>
	30	Receive preliminary taxable values	Review values.
MAY	4	Board Agenda Item: Board Budget Workshop #3	Discuss Compensation Plan, General Fund, Debt Service, and Food Service
JUNE	1	Board Agenda Item: Board Budget Update	<b>Board Action: Approve Compensation Plan - notify TASB;</b> General Fund, Debt Service, and Food Service
	5	Publish Notice of Public Hearing	Publish Notice of Public Hearing at least 10 days prior to public hearing
	15	Public Hearing & Adoption of Budget	<b>Board Action: The district will hold a public hearing on the proposed 2026-27 budget and Board will consider budget adoption</b>



**THANK YOU!**