



DATE: October 12 2026

TITLE: Finance and Operations

TYPE: Information

PRESENTER(S): Todd Lechtenberg, Executive Director of Finance and Operations

BACKGROUND:

The Finance Department includes payroll, employee benefits, accounts payable, accounts receivable, accounting, and fixed asset management. The Executive Director of Finance and Operations oversees Facility Services, Food & Nutrition Services and Transportation Services.

Support and resources to ensure a safe and welcoming learning environment

- Security camera work has been installed at Wescott Facilities. We have cameras that are pointed at the tennis courts, football field, and track complex.
- Pappe submitted a proposal to upgrade our 345 security cameras that we have throughout the district. We will be investing \$40-50,000 a year over the next three years to replace our current system. Phase 1 will be replacing 40 cameras at AHS this year.
- Track surface is getting the final striping this week and next. This is a major improvement to our Wescott Facilities.
- Phase 2 of the Ellis Stage Lightening project is wrapped up and looks amazing.

Packer Profile for all learners

- The Departments continue to collaborate with colleagues across the district to better learn how we can support the work.

District-wide multi-tiered systems of support for all learners

- Working with Special Services to look at ways to maximize reimbursement for 3rd party billing and special education.
- Reviewing our state and federal special education budgets to decide the best way to maximize our funding.
- Reviewing current projections for the SPED reductions being proposed at the legislative level.

Excellence in Resource Management

- **Finance Department**
 - Open enrollment for the 2027 benefits will be open from October 26 to November 9th.
 - Here is the [financial review](#) for the month of August.
 - We are starting to review the process of applying for the ASBO Excellence in Reporting, which will be a goal for the 2025-2026 audit along with the 2026-2027 budget.
 - We have moved to a new vendor with our P-card and learning work is going on right now. The goal is to have a new manual ready by the end of the year.
 - The team went through a CESO audit during September. The goal of this audit is to review the current workload, how to continue to gain efficiency in the department, and structure of the department.
- **Food and Nutrition Department**

- We are going to partner with ISG to help develop and manage the remaining upgrades at the other sites.
- Oakland Education Center and Ellis Middle School had their School Nutrition Programs Administrative audit delayed until 2027
- Partnered with Whats4lunch to create a professional development for all of our staff
- **Building and Grounds**
 - Thank you to our grounds department for all their hard work this year as our outside grounds have never looked as good as they do right now.
 - Reviewing systemic designs for next summer's Indoor Air Quality with ISG and Knutson to ensure that bids can happen this fall.