AUSTIN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
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DATE: November 9, 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 project has a couple of punch list items to finish up but the surface is looking amazing and excited for the opening.
- Phase 2 of the Ellis Stage Lightening project is wrapped up and looks amazing.
- Thank you to our community, board, Dr Page, staff, ISG and Knutson for all their hard work on getting our bond referendum passed on November 3rd. Excited to get the planning started on more investments into our facilities for students.

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 benefits has been running smoothly and will be closing at end of business on November 9th. Thank you to Amy Flanders and Amy Hauser for their hard work on ensuring this runs smoothly.
  - Here is the financial review for the month of September.
  - 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.

- FY26 audit is almost complete with the first draft being held on November 9th with the presentation to the board on November 23rd.

- **Food and Nutrition Department**
  - We are going to partner with ISG to help develop and manage the remaining upgrades at the other sites.
  - Partnered with Whats4lunch to create a professional development for all of our staff
- **Building and Grounds**
  - Reviewing systemic designs for next summer's Indoor Air Quality with ISG and Knutson to ensure that bids can happen this fall. Final design for summer of 2027 projects are completed and timeline for construction bids are first quarter of 2027.
  - Starting to work on a list of summer projects outside of bond work and hopefully have this list to the board in January.
  - Continuing to work through the integration of Bound and Arux for the rental of our facilities.