2026 TAX LEVY

Presentation to the Board of Education
November 16, 2026

Today's presentation

- The 2026 tax levy is a request to taxpayers for the total dollars needed to provide quality educational services to students for the 2027-28 school year.

- Once a year, the Board of Education is presented with a tentative tax levy at a public board meeting. The meeting gives the community a transparent view of the district's funding requests.

- This year, the district expects to receive about $1.2 million more than the previous fiscal year. This is about $100K higher than what was presented to the Board in the February 2026 financial projections.





About the levy





About the tax levy

The tax levy must:

- Provide adequate funding for all school district needs (supplies, transportation, salaries, insurance, maintenance, etc.)
- Cover the increase in consumer price index (CPI)
- Capture any new property (including additions or renovations)
- Be presented at a public hearing if it increases by 5% or more

Tax levy process

- **November:** Board votes on tentative levy.
- **December:** Tax levy hearing (if required). Board votes on final levy. Levy filed with county clerk.
- **January:** County assessor completes assessment of all properties.
- **March:** County clerk sets the levy.
- **March:** County clerk divides total dollars requested among all properties in the taxing area based on assessed values of property.
- **April/May:** Taxpayers receive tax bills.

2026 tax levy

CCSD 89 tax levy

This year:

- Anticipating $6.0 million in new property within district boundaries.
  - Preliminary estimates received from Milton Township
  - Average - $2.6 - $3.0M last 5-10 years
  - Additional new property over average = $91K
- Consumer Price Index is 2.7%. This caps the levy request.
- The district expects to receive about $1.2 million new money.
- Exact amount finalized by the county assessor in March.

Why?

- Revenues
  - Reduced federal funds to support professional development, English language learners and low-income students
    - Loss of $90K over prior year
  - No increase in EBF over prior year
  - State reimbursements prorated at higher percentages
- District expenses are increasing at rates above the CPI
  - Transportation
    - Special education: 4.0% increase for 2026-27
    - Regular education: 5.0% increase for 2026-27

Why?

- District expenses are increasing at rates above the CPI
  - Insurance premiums (second largest expense category)
    - 13.65% increase for PPO
    - 12.20% increase for HMO
    - 3.90% increase for dental
    - More EE's taking D89 insurance over spouse

CCSD 89 levy

Two ways to measure the impact of inflation:

1) Something that cost $1.00 in 2011 now costs $1.48 in 2026

2) Getting $1.00 in 2026 only buys 68% of what you could have bought with $1.00 in 2011





Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

Cash position

	Total all funds	Education Fund	Operations & Maintenance Fund	Transportation Fund	IMRF/Social Security Fund	Working Cash Fund	Tort Fund	Site & Construction Fund	Bond & Interest Fund
June 30, 2026	$31,398,027	$19,722,746	$3,630,449	$3,241,410	$984,554	$2,094,905	$185,868	$0	$1,538,095
October 30, 2026	$38,751,146	$26,186,323	$3,763,432	$3,304,946	$1,240,841	$2,097,564	$107,626	$0	$2,050,414

Reserve Reduction Plan P.A.103-0394

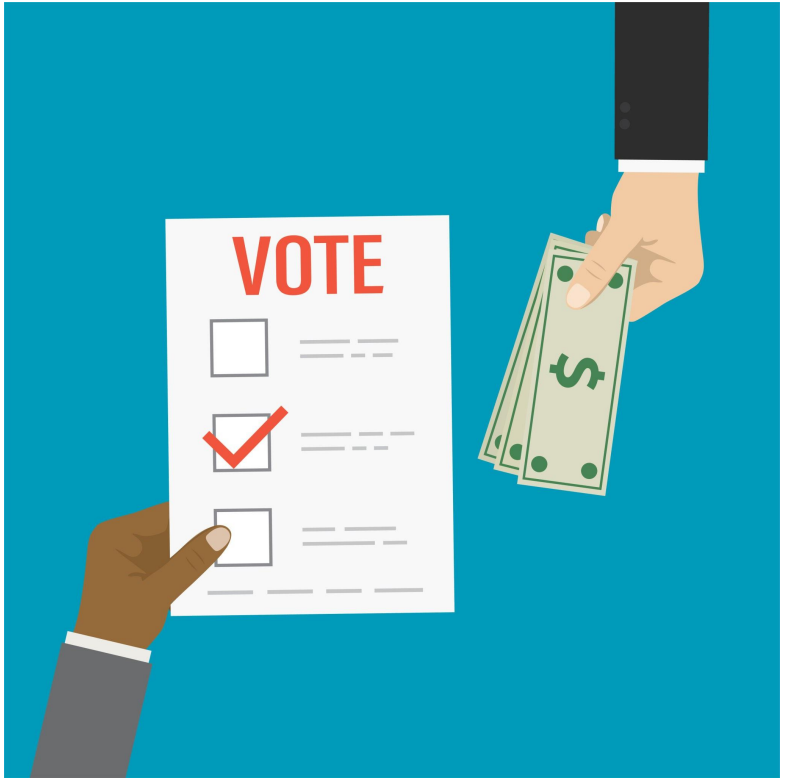
(Education, Operations and Maintenance, and Transportation funds)

	Budget 2026-27	Unaudited financial information 2025-26	Annual financial report 2024-25	Annual financial report 2023-24
Combined ending cash and investment balance	$26,809,857	$26,350,567	$23,944,288	$22,702,577
Combined three-year average expenses	$40,433,700	$38,516,988	$37,111,002	$35,441,913
Cash-and-investment-to-expense ratio	0.66	0.68	0.65	0.64

Note: The Reserve Reduction Plan is triggered if the cash-and-investments-to-expense ratio is greater than 2.5

Looking ahead

- At the December regular meeting, the Board of Education can vote to approve the final levy.
- The levy will request a 2.7% CPI increase over the previous year's taxes.



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