

Superintendent

Ben Shuldiner

Executive Team

Sergio Keck

**Deputy Superintendent
of Special Populations
and Programs**

Jessica Benavides

**Deputy Superintendent
of Schools**

Cordelia Black

**Executive Director
of Culture and Climate**

Kim Adams

**Assistant Superintendent
of Finance and Budget**

Kristina Tokar

Chief Operating Officer

TO: Robin Moore, Board President
Dr. Caitlin Cavanagh, Board Treasurer
Dr. Deyanira Nevárez Martinez, Trustee
Lavonté L. Heard

CC: Ben Shuldiner, Superintendent

DATE: June 10, 2025

RE: 2025-2026 Budget Update

Budget Overview and State Funding Proposals

The budget proposals from the Governor, Senate, and House offer a mixed outlook. While all three include increases to the foundation allowance, the House proposal is notable for eliminating key funding streams—such as the 31a At Risk program—which would result in a significant net reduction in overall funding. In contrast, the Senate and Governor proposals prioritize targeted investments, particularly in areas like educator compensation, early literacy initiatives, and student support services through expanded grant opportunities.

FY25 Budget Assumptions and Projections

As the final State budget has not yet been enacted, we have approached our FY25 budgeting conservatively. Our assumptions and projections are as follows:

- **Enrollment:** 9,600 students
(Current blended enrollment: 9,776.10)
- **Revenue:** \$251.91 million
 - Includes a per-pupil revenue increase of \$300
- **Expenditures:** \$263.43 million
- **Initial Projected Deficit:** (\$11.52 million)
 - Adjusted for a \$2 million contingency, reflecting typical savings from unspent budget lines and unfilled positions
 - Includes \$2.58 million in deferred school level budgets from the current fiscal year
 - **Revised Net Deficit:** (\$8.94 million)

P: (517)755.3005**F:** (517)755.3029**Kim.Sleight@Lansingschools.net****Fund Balance Outlook**

- **Projected Ending Fund Balance for FY25 (Amendment #2):** \$51.14 million
- **Planned Use in FY26:** (\$11.52 million)
- **Estimated Ending Fund Balance for FY26:** \$39.62 million

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Conclusion

This budget reflects a conservative approach grounded in current estimates and policy proposals, with several key assumptions that will be refined as more information becomes available. Over the course of the upcoming school year, we will fine-tune our projections based on finalized State budget allocations, confirmed student enrollment figures, and actual expenditures.

Our first budget amendment will serve as a critical true-up point—incorporating the enacted State budget and actual fall enrollment data to provide a more accurate financial picture. Additionally, we anticipate natural savings throughout the year due to staff turnover, position vacancies, and unspent budget lines, which will help offset projected deficits and contribute to overall budget stability.

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