

Request for Special Board Meeting - FY26 Budget Hearing & Adoption

Introduction

This executive summary outlines the necessity for scheduling a Special Board Meeting to facilitate the public hearing and formal adoption of the Fiscal Year 2026 (FY26) Budget for the 2025-2026 school year.

Purpose of Special Meeting:

To comply with state statutes and district policy, the FY26 Tentative Budget must undergo a public hearing and be formally adopted by the Board of Education. This Special Board Meeting is requested to ensure these critical steps are completed within the required timelines.

Statutory and Policy Requirements:

1. **Public Posting Period:** State regulations mandate that the Tentative Budget must be publicly posted for a minimum of 30 days prior to the scheduled public hearing. This allows ample time for community review and feedback.
2. **Budget Adoption Deadline:** The Board of Education is required to approve the annual budget no later than September 30th of the fiscal year.

Rationale for a Special Meeting:

Due to the established dates of our regular August and September Board meetings, and the critical 30-day public posting requirement, there is insufficient time between these scheduled meetings to accommodate the necessary public review period while holding the hearing and taking action at the September 3rd regular meeting.

Furthermore, the timing of our local weekly newspaper's print schedule, which is essential for official public notification of the budget posting and hearing, necessitates a specific timeline that cannot be met within the confines of our regular meeting schedule. A special meeting provides the flexibility to align with both the 30-day posting requirement and the newspaper's publication deadlines, ensuring proper public notice.

Proposed Action:

It is recommended that the Board of Education schedule a Special Board Meeting for the purpose of conducting the FY26 Budget Public Hearing and the subsequent adoption of the FY26 Budget. The Board of Education may choose any date between September 16th and the end of the month. This will ensure full compliance with all statutory requirements and allow the district to operate under an approved budget by the September 30th deadline.