

2024-2025 FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

[2023-2024 Finance Committee Agendas & Minutes](#)

[2022-2023 Finance Committee Agendas & Minutes](#)

[2021-2022 Finance Committee Agendas & Minutes](#)

[2020-2021 Finance Committee Agendas & Minutes](#)

[2019-2020 Finance Committee Agendas & Minutes](#)

[2018-2019 Finance Committee Agendas & Minutes](#)

Finance Committee (quarterly) - ~~Jeremy Leblanc~~, Sonja Pederson, Matt Zempel, Laurel Christianson

- October 2, 2024 (5:30 pm)
- November 21, 2024 (5:30 pm)
- February 26, 2025 (5:30 pm)
- April 16, 2025 (5:30 pm)

February 12, 2025

1. Impact Aid (none - lack of students living on tribal lands)
2. Compensatory Aid:
 - FY23 - 527,317.16
 - FY24 - 633,301.46
 - FY25 - 630,285.28
 - Current Law FY26 - 527,317.16 (loss of 102,968.12)
 - Governor's Proposal FY 26 - 767,503.17 (gain of 137,217.89)
 - Future years are tied to direct certification (Direct certification is a process for determining student eligibility for free or reduced-price meal benefits based on documentation obtained directly from the appropriate state or local agency or other authorized individual. Schools should use this information to automatically qualify students in these households for meal benefits. A directly certified household does not need to complete an Application for Educational Benefits.)
3. FRP Rate as of 2/18/25 - 44.27% qualified for free or reduced-price meals, compensatory aid is figured based upon data from October 1 (
4. Retired employees returning to employment - [Guidelines for Non-Certified Retirees to Return to Work](#)
 - a. Current retirees - Francis Staab (intermittent, 30.00), Todd Reishus (4 hours per day, 25.00), Terry Paulson (6 hours per school day, 25.00)
5. I signed an agreement for Vector Solutions for FY26 - \$1890 for annual subscription (used to provide and track mandated training for all employees)
6. Cost for PFML
 - a. Total cost is 0.88% with half covered by each of the employee and employer
 - b. 0.44% of total cost of payroll = 32,318
 - c. Begins January 2026 (FY26 = 16,159)
7. Cost of unemployment benefits for our PT employees:
 - a. Could reach 90,000
 - b. Currently funded by state monies
 - c. Anticipating the school may have to cover the cost of about 60% of unemployment insurance due to lack of reimbursement for FY26
8. SWWC Services:
 - a. If we plan to withdraw from any educational program provided by SWWC Service Cooperative, Statute 123A.33 creates employment rights for the following Service Cooperative employees:
 - i. All licensed employees of the Service Cooperative referred to as "teachers" (i.e. School Psychologists, Occupational Therapists, Speech Language Pathologists, Education Consultants, etc.)
 - ii. The statute requires that the SWWC gives all teachers employed by the Service Cooperative written notice of the withdrawal by March 10th. Therefore, if you plan to withdraw from any educational program, please notify me in writing by **March 1, 2025**.
 - b. Withdrawn from T & L as part of proposed position
 - c. Switching from Skyward to Smart (approximately 1700 in savings with more if the MVCC joint powers agreement is completed)
 - d. [Contract](#)
 - e. Costs:

Service	FY25	FY26	Difference	% Change
Environmental (IEA)	12,258.00	13,152.00	894.00	7.29%

Business Systems Services	1,694.00	12,944.25	11,250.25	664.12%
Technology Coordination Support	110,400.00	121,089.00	10,689.00	9.68%
Student Data Privacy Program	1,545.00	1,950.00	405.00	26.21%
T & L Customized Services	16,950.00	0.00	-16,950.00	-100.00%
Total	142,847.00	149,135.25	6,288.25	4.40%

9. Enrollment grades & Sections (JMC as of 2/24/25)

Grade	KG	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Enrollment	50	50	45	38	48	37	37	44	38	61	42	51	47
Sections	3	3	3	2	2	2	2	2	2	2/3	2	2/3	2
25-26 Sections	TBD	3	3	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2/3	2	2/3

10. Area Schools Section Size Data (January 15, 2025):

Average Class Size in 2024-2025 (Red - indicates larger section sizes than YME)							
School District	K	1st Grade	2nd Grade	3rd Grade	4th Grade	5th Grade	6th Grade
Benson	19	19.5	17	22	24.5	21	22
Dawson-Boyd	22.5	19.5	22.5	20	18.5	22	20
Lac Qui Parle	21.25	23.75	20	24	25	27.25	26
Lakeview	17	16	19	22	16.7	21.7	22
Litchfield	20	21.6	23	22.4	22.2		
MACCRAY	15.5	14	19.6	21.3	16.3	21.3	20.6
Minneota	15	20.5	16.5	21	15.5	16.5	19
Minnewaska							
Montevideo	19	19.4	22.2	21.8	25.4	24	22.3
Ortonville	21	23	19.5	19	17.5	15	22
Renville County West							
YME	16.7	17	15	19	23.5	18.5	18.5

11. Kindergarten Kickoff:

- a. 42 invited
- b. 2 students may be retained
- c. Numbers similar to this year (38 currently expected)
- d. Kickoff (roundup) is March 11 (4:30-6:00)

12. Preschool (as of 2/24/25)

- a. Applicants
 - i. M-F (18), in addition, 10 on a waiting
 - ii. MWF (17)
 - iii. TT (7)
 - iv. Total applicants - 52
- b. Capacity (ratio max 10:1)
- c. Room changes
 - i. New section would mean finding another room
 - ii. Replace carpet? Removing the office wall?
- d. Lisa said we could likely fill 18 students with another position
- e. Could impact Puddle Jumpers & HeadStart
- f. Add another preschool via board action pending a suitable replacement

13. After-school programming update
 - a. Staffing
 - b. Cost
 - c. Impact on community programming
 - d. Find out if anyone would be interested (PS = 1:10, school-age = 1:15) - childcare aware
14. Staffing for 2025-2026:
 - a. Resolution to support eliminating positions
 - i. Tier 1 & OFP teachers
 - b. Current vacancies:
 - i. ECSE (25-26)
 - ii. Elementary (25-26, due to OFP & tier 1 teachers)
 - iii. MS/HS Science (25-26, due to tier 1 teacher)
 - iv. 0.5 FTE FACS (25-26, due to tier 1 teacher)
 - v. Paraprofessional (replacement of AS)
 - vi. Inside Maintenance or Custodian
 - vii. JH Baseball
 - viii. Asst VB
 - c. MS/HS registration is currently underway
 - d. Reduced Spanish teaching position (no longer on an overload)
 - e. Reduced FACS - adding back the Industrial Tech position as an Agriculture position
 - f. Dakota Language Teacher - may not need the full 0.5 FTE
 - g. NEW for 25-26 -:
 - i. Lead Title I Teacher/Literacy Lead
 - ii. **Cost:** 60,080.80 - 106,510.79
 - iii. Funding - Title I, Literacy Incentive Aid (FY25 - \$21,445.99)
 - h. Bring to the board for approval
15. FY25 & FY26 Budget update and projections (Jeremy Wilcox)
 - a. [FY25 Projection](#)
 - b. FY26 budget discussion:
 - i. Expecting 2.0-2.5% increase in general education funding (**was notified on Friday, 2/28, that the formula will increase by 2.75%**)
 - ii. Uncertain of special education funding due to cross subsidy, maintenance of effort, etc.
 - iii. Increasing cost of transportation
 - iv. Teacher negotiations
 - v. Legislative outcomes
 - vi. **Possible changes to literacy funding will impact YME positively (+**
16. Survey Update - 332 as of this afternoon
17. Next Meeting - April 16, 2025