

Fiscal Year 2026 Budget Parameters

The budget parameters for fiscal year 2026, or next school year, have been developed using the preliminary General Fund forecast that was presented to the Board and to the public in December, the February revised budget, and current state funding information.

Due to the District's better than anticipated financial performance during fiscal year 2024 and cost containments enacted the last two school years, the District administration does not recommend additional containments for fiscal year 2026. The District's recommended budget parameters, are as follows:

- Projected enrollment of 8,670 derived from a 5-year weighted average with proration for conservatism. This figure was used to establish the property tax levy for taxes payable in 2025.
- Pupil Unit Weighting Factors – Pre-Kindergarten (1.0), Kindergarten (1.0), Grades K-6(1.0) and Grades 7-12 (1.2).
- Average Daily Membership (ADM) increase of 39 and Adjusted Pupil Units (APU)increase of 37 based on 5-year average enrollment projection method selected.

Revenue

- Basic Education Revenue of \$7,465 per APU for 2023-2024, an increase of \$184 per APU above the current year (+2.53%).
- Operating Levy allowance of \$2,261 per APU, an increase of \$57 per APU above the current year.
- Local Optional Revenue of \$724 per APU, the same as the current year.
- Equity Revenue of approximately \$70 per APU, about the same as the current year.
- Operating Capital of approximately \$230 per APU, about the same as the current year – a portion of the revenue will be used to make principal and interest payments for two outstanding capital notes.
- Basic Skills Revenue (Compensatory) of \$1,360,577 per the October 1, 2024 enrollment count and *current* law.
- Safe Schools revenue of \$36 per APU, the same as the current year.
- Gifted & Talented revenue of \$13 per APU, the same as the current year.
- Achievement and Integration revenue of \$350 per APU multiplied by protected class enrollment as a percentage of total enrollment, the same as the current year.
- Gifts and Donations to remain flat; the expenditure budget derived from gifts will equal that of the revenue.

- Alternative Teacher Compensation revenue of \$260 per ADM, the same as the current year.
- Interest revenue reduction from current year budget account for potential rate cuts and to apply additional conservatism to overall budget.
- All other revenue, including special education, federal programs, user fees, and local miscellaneous revenues to remain flat.

Expenditures

- Class-size ratios of 20.00 to 22.00 students per classroom in kindergarten and first grade, 22.00 to 25.00 in second grade, 24.00 to 26.00 in third grade, 25.00 to 27.00 in grades four and five, 28.15 for grades six through eight, and 30.85 at the high school. Same programmatic structure to be maintained at the secondary schools.
- Return of Operating Capital funds to departments that took a “pause” as a result of the BRRRG of 2024.
- No additional specialists, media specialists, counselors, social workers, nurses, teachers on special assignment, custodians, non-special education paraprofessionals, administrative staff, or other classifications staff that don't already exist within the system.