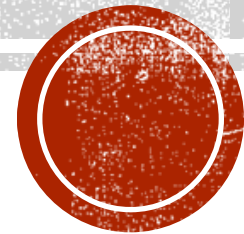


# NWCSD 21 BUDGET

Proposed for Fiscal Year 2027 – School Year 2026 / 2027

Presentation and Review of Budget Documents



# OREGON BUDGET LAW (ORS 294)

- **Oregon Local Budget Law** is spelled out in section 294 of the Oregon Revised Statutes, and mandates that local governments, including school districts, prepare a balanced annual or biennial budget to estimate revenues, expenditures, and taxes, ensuring fiscal transparency.
- **Citizen Involvement:** The law ensures public participation through meetings and required publication of budget notices. A budget committee of local residents ensures community input before approval.



# **PURPOSE OF LOCAL BUDGET LAW**

- **Establish Standard Procedures**
- **Outline programs & fiscal policies**
- **Require estimates of resources and expenditures**
- **Encourage citizen involvement**
- **Control expenditure of public funds**



# WHY FOLLOW LOCAL BUDGET LAW?

- Without a legal budget, the district may not:
  - Legally spend money, or
  - Certify property taxes to the county assessor.
- Property taxes levied without a legal budget may be voided by the Oregon Tax Court. Appeals can be made by
  - The county assessor, county courts, or County Board of Commissioners.
  - The Oregon Department of Revenue
  - Ten or more interested taxpayers.
- Public officials who spend money without legal authority may be civilly liable for the return of the money
  - But only if there is malfeasance in office or willful or wanton neglect of duty.



# THE BUDGET PROCESS: FOUR PHASES

- **Preparation** (Proposed Budget): A budget officer is appointed to prepare a proposed budget, which must follow specific format requirements.
- **Approval** (Budget Committee): A committee, composed of school board members and citizen members, reviews the proposal, holds public comment meetings, and approves the budget.
- **Adoption** (Governing Body): A summary is published, a public hearing is held, and the governing body formally adopts the budget and appropriates funds by June 30.
- **Execution** (Implementation): The budget is implemented, and property taxes are certified to the county assessor by July 15.
  - Changes to the budget may be made after adoption.
  - The change process is also prescribed in ORS 294.



# WHAT'S A BUDGET?

- A financial plan.
- For one fiscal year: July 1 – June 30
  - Biennial budgets are also allowed.
- Based on estimates of revenues and expenditures.
  - Must be “good faith” estimates, and revenues and expenditures must balance
- When adopted, gives the government the authorization to spend money as detailed in the budget.
  - Authorization ≠ Obligation: the budget sets the ceiling, not the floor.
  - Plans change, so can the budget.



# FUND ACCOUNTING 101

- Standards for Governmental Accounting are set forth by GASB, the Governmental Accounting Standards Board.
- Governments (yes, the school district is a government) use fund accounting.
- Each fund is a self-balancing set of financial records.
- All governments have a General Fund: this is the largest pool of money and the one over which we have the most discretion.
- Governments may also have Special Revenue Funds, Capital Projects Funds, Debt Service Funds, and other types of funds.
  - Sources of revenue for these funds include internal transfers, grants, donations, etc.
  - Expenditures from these funds are restricted to specific purposes, either by Board Policy or by the grantor or donor.



# THE BUDGET COMMITTEE:

## ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES

- A local government's fiscal planning advisory committee.
- Composed of the governing body (aka the Board of Directors), and
- An equal number of electors appointed by the governing body.
- All members of the budget committee have equal authority, and any member may be elected as its chair.
- Meets publicly to review the budget document as proposed by the budget officer,
  - Receive the proposed budget and budget message,
  - Provides the public an opportunity to ask questions and/or comment on the budget.
    - *Please note that no response to public comments is required.*
  - Approve the budget and approve the rate of the tax to be levied.



# THE BUDGET COMMITTEE:

## OUTSIDE THE SCOPE

- Setting staff salaries or benefit levels
- Assign staff to specific locations or discuss individual employees
- Add or delete programs or choose curriculum
- Develop policies

*Please note: these tasks are the within the purview of the School Board and the Superintendent.*



# BUDGET MEETINGS

- Subject to Public Meetings Law
- Quorum is required to conduct business
- Committee may request additional information & ask questions
- Majority vote is required to take action
- The Proposed Budget became a public document when it was released to you, the committee members.
- Take public comment at one or more meetings



# SCHOOL FUNDING IN OREGON

- Largest source of funds is the Oregon State School Fund.
- Determined by the legislature on a biennial basis; 2026-27 is the second half of the 2025-27 biennium.
- Local taxes matter too, but every dollar of local tax reduces State funding on a dollar-for-dollar basis.
- Largest determinant is enrollment: ADMr (est. 2,725 for 2026/27).
- Extra weight is given to kids with greater needs: ADMw (est. 3,395 for 2026/27)
- Estimated Revenue per ADMw for 2026/27 is \$11,960
- Payments are adjusted once actual values are known.



Date: 3/2/2026  
 To: District Business Managers  
 Re: 2026-27 State School Fund Estimates

2025-26	2026-27	2025-27 Biennium
\$5,566,106,000	\$5,793,294,000	\$11,359,400,000
<b>2026-27 Budget Appropriation for school districts &amp; ESDs:</b>		<b>\$5,793,294,000</b>
Oregon Revised Statute	Less Reserve Account:	(\$20,000,000)
327.008(14),(15)	Less TAG, Speech Pathology, and Oregon Digital Learning:	(\$1,050,000)
327.023(1),(3),(4)	Less Long Term Care and State Schools:	(\$14,500,000)
327.008(12)	English Language Learner Improvement Funds:	(\$6,250,000)
327.008(11)(b)(A)	Educator Advancement Fund (EAF):	(\$3,397,356)
327.008(18)	Less Small High School Grant:	(\$2,500,000)
327.008(3)	Less Charter School Closure Funds:	(\$300,000)
327.339	Less Local Option Equalization Grant:	(\$2,000,000)
327.008(7),(8),(16)	Less Office of School Facilities:	(\$7,500,000)
327.008(9)	Skilled Nursing Facilities (pediatric nursing):	(\$1,062,224)
327.008(19), 327.029	Oregon Youth Challenge program and Recovery Schools:	(\$3,037,810)
327.008(17)	Menstrual Hygiene HB 3294	(\$1,297,500)
<b>Transfers/Deductions</b>		<b>(\$62,894,889)</b>
<b>State Revenue for Formula</b>		<b>\$5,730,399,111</b>
District Local Revenue:		\$2,657,888,631
ESD Local Revenue:		\$181,555,072
<b>Local Rev. for Formula (District + ESD)</b>		<b>\$2,839,443,702</b>
<b>Total Revenue For Formula</b>		<b>\$8,569,842,813</b>
District Share at 95.50%		\$8,184,199,886
ESD Share at 4.50%		\$385,642,927
Other Transfers/Deductions:		
327.008(11)(b)(B)	327.008(10) Less High Cost Disability Grants:	(\$55,000,000)
	Less share of EAF:	(\$9,484,284)
<b>Districts</b>		<b>(\$64,484,284)</b>
327.008(13)	Less ESD testing contract:	(\$484,000)
327.008(11)(b)(C)	Less share of EAF:	(\$9,484,284)
<b>ESDs</b>		<b>(\$9,968,284)</b>
<b>Formula Revenue for Distribution</b>		
<b>School Districts</b>		<b>\$8,119,715,602</b>
<b>ESDs</b>		<b>\$375,674,643</b>

Sources for 2026-27 Estimates

ADM:	Estimated
Property Taxes:	Estimated
Common School Fund:	Estimated
Federal Forest Fees:	Estimated
Other Local Revenues:	Estimated
Teacher Experience:	2024-25
11% Cap Waiver Basis:	2023-24
Poverty Basis:	December 2025
School District Funding Ratio:	2.592253994
Transportation Grant:	\$376,298,425.10
Estimated ADM:	530,225
Estimated ADMw:	663,702
District Accrual per ADMw:	\$695
ESD Accrual per ADMw:	\$25
YCEP/JDEP amount per ADMw:	\$11,665

If you have any questions please contact Jerod Nunn at Jerod.Nunn@ode.oregon.gov

STATE SCHOOL FUND GRANT

2026-2027

Based on \$11,359,400,000 Budget with a 49/51 split as of 3/2/2026

Wasco County, North Wasco County SD 21 - 4131	
<b>2026-2027 Local Revenue</b>	
Property Taxes and in-lieu of property taxes from local sources =	\$13,300,000.00
Common School Fund =	\$399,023.86
County School Fund =	\$75,000.00
State Managed Timber =	\$100,000.00
ESD Equalization =	\$0.00
In-Lieu of Property Taxes(non-local sources) =	\$0.00
Revenue Adjustments =	\$0.00
<b>Sum of Local Revenue =</b>	<b>\$13,874,023.86</b>
<b>2026-2027 Experience Adjustment</b>	
District Average Teacher Experience =	11.03
State Average Teacher Experience =	12.57
Experience Adjustment (Difference in District and State Teacher Experience) =	-1.54
<b>2026-2027 Transportation Grant</b>	
Salaries =	N/A
Payroll =	N/A
Purchased Services =	N/A
Supplies =	N/A
Other =	N/A
Garage Depreciation =	N/A
Bus Depreciation =	N/A
Fees Collected =	N/A
Non-Reimbursable =	N/A
Net Eligible Trans Expenditures =	\$1,980,000.00
Transportation per ADMr Rank	21%
Transportation Reimbursement Rate	70.00%
70.00% of the Net Eligible Transportation Expenditures =	the Transportation Grant \$1,386,000.00
<b>2026-2027 Extended ADMw</b>	
2026-2027 ADMw 3,458.63	2025-2026 ADMw 3,508.51
Extended ADMw 3,508.51	
<b>2026-2027 General Purpose Grant</b>	
Multiply the Teacher Experience Adjustment of -1.54 by \$25 then add \$4500 to the result = \$4,461.50	
Then multiply \$4,461.50 by the Extended ADMw 3508.5107 and then by the funding ratio 2.5922539943 = \$40,577,123.33	
<b>2026-2027 Total Formula Revenue</b>	
Add the General Purpose Grant \$40,577,123.33 to the Transportation Grant \$1,386,000.00 = \$41,963,123.33	
<b>2026-2027 State School Fund Grant</b>	
Subtract the Local Revenue \$13,874,023.86 from the Total Formula Revenue \$41,963,123.33 = \$28,089,099.48	
<b>2026-2027 Rates per ADMw</b>	
General Purpose Grant per Extended ADMw =	\$11,565
Total Formula Revenue per Extended ADMw =	\$11,960
Charter Schools Rate( ORS 338.155 ) =	\$11,732
<b>Payments</b>	
SSF Total Paid To Date	SSF Estimated Remaining Balance Due
Small HS Grant Total Paid To Date	Small HS Grant Estimated Remaining Balance Due
	High Cost Disability Estimated Remaining Balance Due



# BUDGET OVERVIEW, PART ONE

- **Revenue** is projected to be similar to 2025/26.
  - State School Fund up slightly,
  - Reduced Seismic grant funding,
  - Grant funding (State and Federal) mostly flat.
  - Enrollment is projected to be down by ~65 kids.
    - But we benefit from “extended ADMw”.

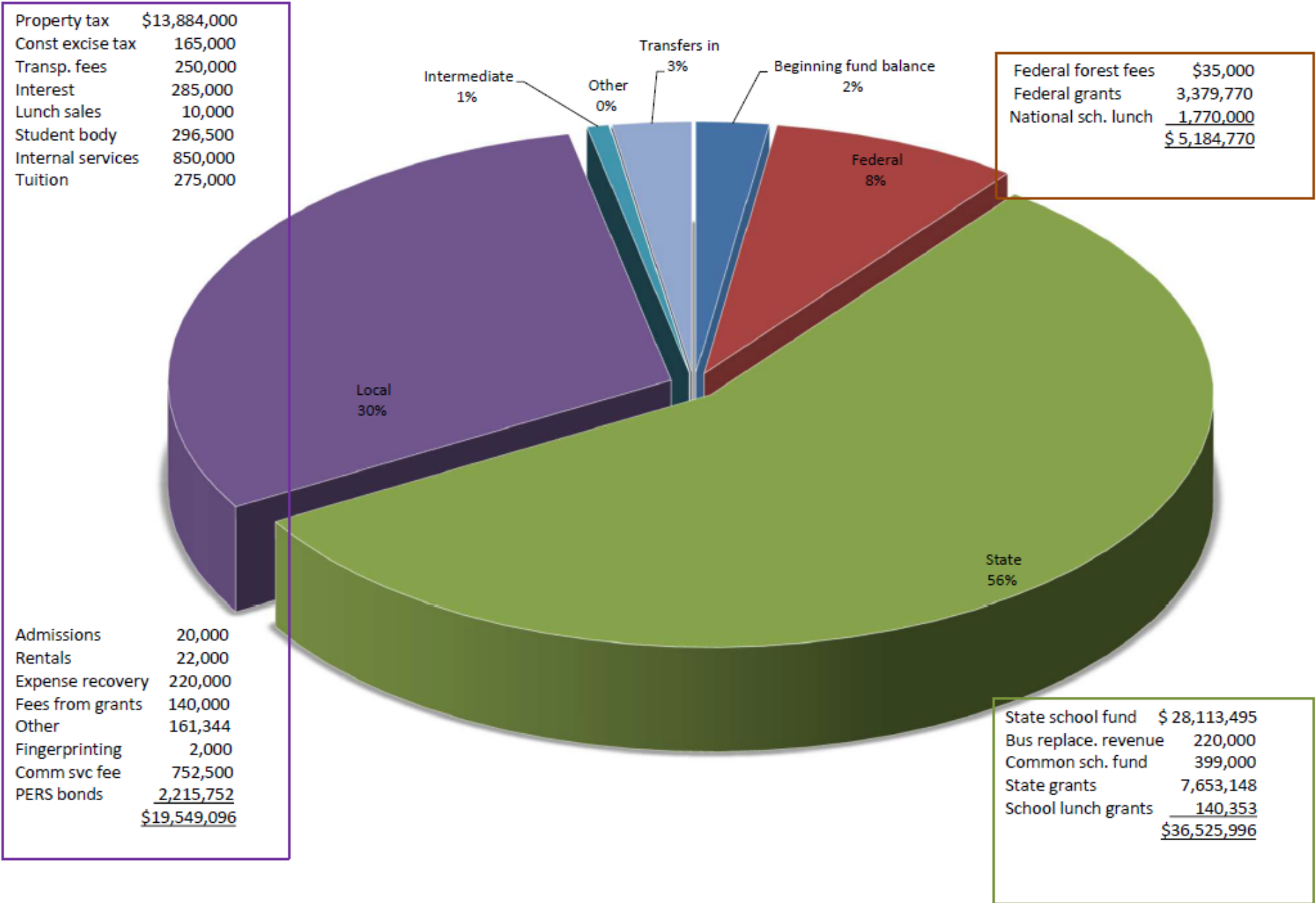


# BUDGET OVERVIEW, PART TWO

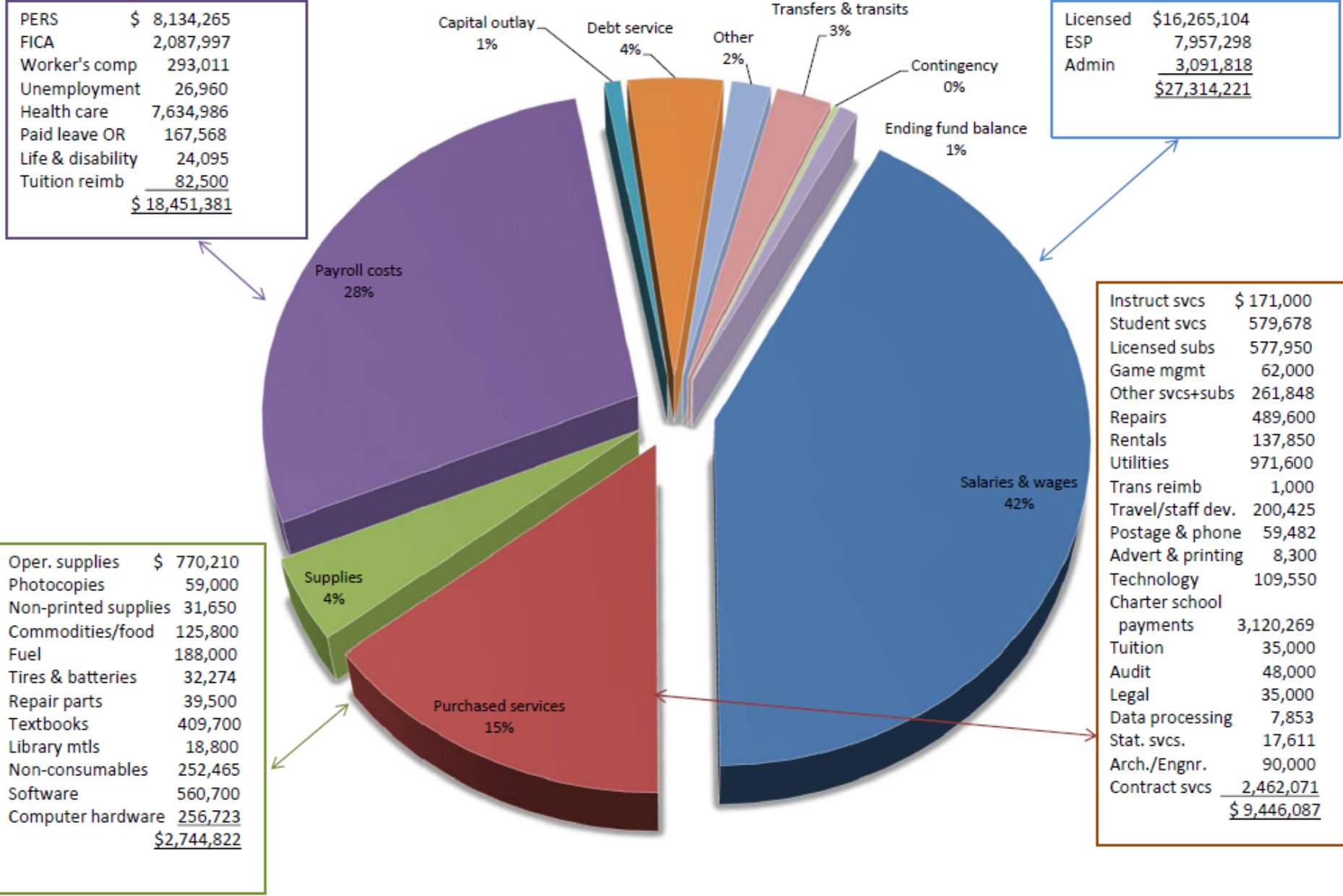
- **Expenditures** are required to balance revenue and are therefore also flat.
  - Payroll costs (73% of budget) are higher per staff member due to:
    - a bargained raise applied to 2025/26 and
    - a COLA applied to 2026/27 and
    - step increases for staff who have longer tenure or have attained educational milestones
  - But balanced by the reduction of ~5 FTE by attrition.
  - Inflation
    - Especially fuel & utility costs: projected to be up over 10%



## 2026-27 Budgeted Revenues-all funds (\$64,896,163)



## 2026-27 Budgeted Expenditures-all funds (\$64,896,163)





**WHAT  
QUESTIONS DO  
YOU HAVE?**