



Sharon Williams, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

To: RIMSD 41 Board of Education
From: Dr. Sharon Williams
Cabinet Champion: Annaka Whiting, Chief Financial Officer
Date: January 13, 2026
Re: Fiscal Year 2027 Tentative Budget Designee

As part of sound financial planning and in accordance with Illinois law (Article 17 of the School Code), the District is required to prepare a tentative budget for the upcoming fiscal year, which runs from July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2027. Beginning budget preparations at this time allows the District to thoughtfully plan for revenues, expenditures, and strategic priorities for the next school year.

To align with best practices and ensure an efficient budget process, the Board is asked to formally establish the 2026–27 fiscal year and appoint Chief Financial Officer, Annaka Whiting, to prepare the Tentative Budget. This action enables staff to begin reviewing and planning the upcoming budget without delay.

It is recommended that the Board of Education approve the resolution to establish the fiscal year and direct the Chief Financial Officer to prepare the budget. Consistent with the School Code of Illinois, the Board is required annually to pass a resolution instructing the Administration to prepare a budget for the forthcoming fiscal year. The resolution accomplishes both by establishing the 2026–27 fiscal year and appointing the Chief Financial Officer to initiate the budget process.

Investment Period: July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2027
Total Investment: N/A
Funding Source: N/A