



WAUNAKEE
COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Business Services
April 13, 2026

Mission, Vision, and Equity Statements

- **Mission Statement:** “Committed to Children...Committed to Community...Committed to Excellence”
- **Vision Statement:** The Waunakee Community School District is a collaborative learning community that works with students, staff, families, and the community to ensure that every student is ready for college and career; through a focus on data, research based best practices, and engagement with students to be active partners in their learning.
- **Equity Statement:** The Waunakee Community School District embraces the differences among our students, staff, and families. We work to provide a safe environment with access to resources, opportunities, and instruction for all students to reach their full potential in the classroom and beyond. We strive to create a culture of dialogue, acceptance, and inclusion. We are committed to engaging all students so that they may thrive academically, socially, and emotionally in an ever-changing multicultural society.



Board of Education Goal #1 - Student Learning, Supports and Experiences

By June 2029, all Waunakee Community School District Schools will significantly exceed expectations on the Wisconsin State Accountability Report Card.



The Team



Allie Newton

Director of Business Services



Dannette Weisman

Administrative Assistant to the
Director of Business Services



Teri Reible

District Receptionist



Missy Watson

Accounts Payable Specialist



Paul Fuerst

Copy Clerk & Crossing Guard



Julie Gengler

District Registrar



Key Priorities for 2025-2026 School Year

By the 2028-29 school year the following items will be properly funded in the annual operating budget: Contingency, post-employment benefits, termination benefits, health insurance, and maintenance.

2025-26 Focus

1. Increase fund balance by at least \$1.1 million
2. Operational referendum planning for November 2026
3. Condensing platforms for family & community convenience



Progress Update

- Fund Balance Goal
 - 2/2/26 Budget Committee Meeting
 - Committee approved administration’s request for an end of the year goal of +\$1.1 million by not utilizing any of the IRS clean energy rebate.
 - Continue to find savings for new expenditures by reallocating funds
 - Monitor state legislative process regarding state special education categorical aid funding (\$1M budget impact) and property tax relief

2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
\$6,428,153	\$7,494,823	\$8,695,515	\$8,022,097	\$7,481,181	\$7,481,181
11.7%	13.3%	15%	12.6%	11%	10.5%



Progress Update

- Operational Referendum Planning
 - Community Survey
 - Sent out to staff & community on/around April 8th
 - State budget numbers
 - Special Education Categorical Aid
 - High Cost Aid
 - July 1st Aid Estimate



Dear Families and Community Members:

We have so much to celebrate in the Waunakee Community School District. Our district has **exceeded** or **significantly exceeded expectations** every year since Wisconsin began creating report cards in 2012, helping us become a destination district for families and businesses looking to relocate to the Dane County area.

To keep this momentum going, we need your input as we plan for the future.

- Waunakee voters approved a referendum in 2024 to support the retention of our high-quality staff. This funding expires on June 30, 2027.
- Sections of the high school are aging, worn, and are not designed to support modern learning spaces.

The District developed options to address these challenges, but **before we proceed, we want to hear your opinion**. To keep all feedback confidential, survey responses are collected by School Perceptions, an independent education research firm.

TWO WAYS TO TAKE THIS SURVEY

Online: (saves postage expense)

Go to: www.SPFeedback.com

Enter your code:



Paper: Return to any school office or mail it to School Perceptions, PO Box 607, Slinger, WI 53086.

The survey code can be used only once. To obtain additional surveys for other adults in your household, please call the District Office at 608.849.2000.

Para pedir una copia traducida de esta encuesta en español, favor de llamar 608.219.2000, op. 2.

Survey deadline: April 27, 2026

If you need additional support to complete this survey, please contact the District Office. Survey results will be reported at a board meeting and available on our website.

Our students are amazing people whose talents shine every year in the classroom, on the stage, and in the vast arena of co-curricular opportunities. We would not be where we are without dedicated staff, engaged families, and a supportive community.

Sincerely,

Dr. Monica Kelsey-Brown
Superintendent

Joan Ensign
Board President

Dawn Heinrichs
Board Vice President

Mark Hetzel
Board Treasurer

Carly Eaton
Board Clerk

Ted Frey
Board Director

Heather Murray
Board Director

Christopher Sonne
Board Director

If you have questions about these important school topics, please consider attending one of our information/Q&A sessions on April 14th. They will take place from 10:00-11:00am

Committed to Children · Committed to Community · Committed to Excellence

Progress Update

- Condensing Platforms
 - Starting 2026-27 school year - Infinite Campus & Bound will be primary platforms for the district
 - Bound
 - Fundraising
 - Athletic Ticketing
 - Athletic Camp Registration
 - Community Ed Registration
 - Aquatic Center Registrations



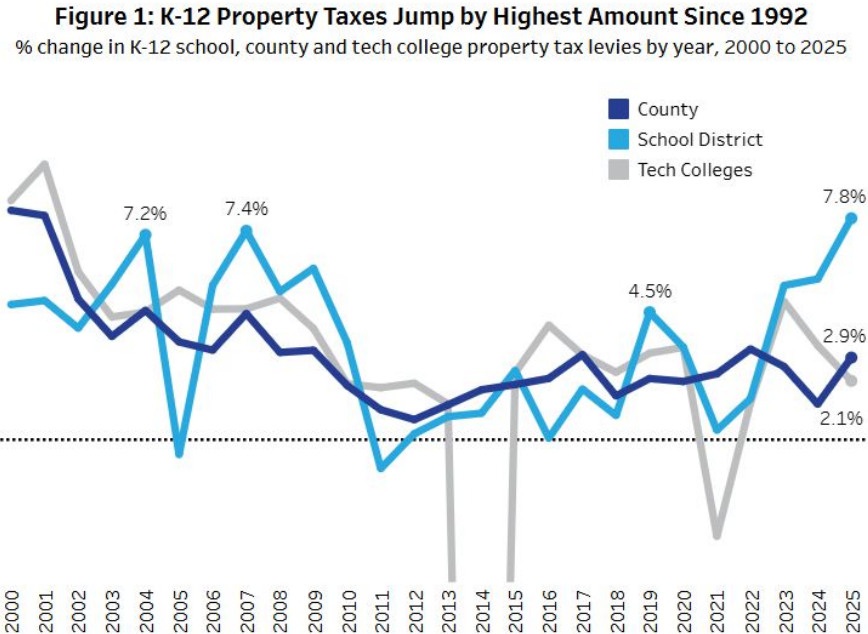
Current Challenges

- Continued inflationary cost exceeds the increases in state funding

School Year	Per pupil adjustment under prior inflation indexing / CPI	Actual Combined Per Pupil adjustment	Difference between Inflationary per pupil adjustment and actual funding	Cumulative difference
2008-09	\$274.68	\$274.68	\$0.00	
2009-10	\$274.68	\$200.00	-\$74.68	-\$74.68
2010-11	\$281.00	\$200.00	-\$81.00	-\$155.68
2011-12	\$288.59	-\$554.00	-\$842.59	-\$998.27
2012-13	\$296.38	\$100.00	-\$196.38	-\$1,194.65
2013-14	\$300.83	\$100.00	-\$200.83	-\$1,395.48
2014-15	\$305.34	\$150.00	-\$155.34	-\$1,550.82
2015-16	\$305.34	\$0.00	-\$305.34	-\$1,856.16
2016-17	\$308.09	\$100.00	-\$208.09	-\$2,064.25
2017-18	\$315.48	\$200.00	-\$115.48	-\$2,179.73
2018-19	\$323.05	\$204.00	-\$119.05	-\$2,298.78
2019-20	\$329.19	\$263.00	-\$66.19	-\$2,364.97
2020-21	\$334.13	\$179.00	-\$155.13	-\$2,520.10
2021-22	\$342.82	\$0.00	-\$342.82	-\$2,862.92
2022-23	\$371.96	\$0.00	-\$371.96	-\$3,234.88
2023-24	\$390.56	\$325.00	-\$65.56	-\$3,300.44
2024-25	\$404.23	\$325.00	-\$79.23	-\$3,379.67
2025-26	\$413.12	\$325.00	-\$88.12	-\$3,467.79
2026-27	\$429.23	\$325.00	-\$104.23	-\$3,572.02
Amount of per pupil defunding relative to inflation			-\$3,379.67	

Current Challenges

- Property tax increases as a result of no increase in state equalization aid or school property tax levy credits in the 2025-27 state budget



Source: Wisconsin DOR. Note: Technical college levies were lowered significantly in 2014/15 and dropped 48.9%; this year is not shown for scale.

Upcoming Initiatives and Next Steps

- Review results of community survey for November 2026 referendum
- May-July initial drafts of 2026-27 budget
- Middle School Inflation Reduction Act submission
- Closeout of \$175 million November 2022 referendum funds
- Preparing for 2025-26 fiscal year end and audit



Questions?





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