



GUIDING CHANGE DOCUMENT

2026-2027 Adopted Budget

Driving Question: Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Adopted Budget		
Current Reality The "Why"	Unacceptable Means The "Not-How"	Results The "What"
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School District funding has not kept up with the inflation rate. • More significant increase in inflation the last few years creates increased expenditures and staffing costs. • General Fund increase between 2-3% • Federal funding has been decreasing. Allocations not given in a timely manner. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o For 2025-26 budget had to be set by June but allocations were unknown until October and were cut by \$265K. • Enrollment projections for 2026-27 show slightly declining. (Kindergarten class smaller than graduating Seniors) • Salaries and Benefits make up 75% of the General Fund Budget. • Impact of contract negotiations: 3 of the 2025-2027 contracts currently in negotiations and 3 of the 2027-2029 contract negotiations have not yet begun which means 6 of the 9 labor agreements are unknown for 2026-27 at this time. • Compensatory Education funding - calculation unknown at this time. If the legislature chooses not to hold harmless and only use the direct certifications, the district stands to lose \$1.5 Million in Funding • The School Board is required to establish a budget by June 30, 2026. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is unacceptable to violate District Policy • It is unacceptable to contradict the Vision and Mission of ISD 199 • It is unacceptable to recommend changes without addressing implications, financial sustainability, and if approved, creating an implementation plan. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Financial Stability • Establish a projected FY27 Budget that limits the impact on the unassigned fund balance. • Aligned to the District's Mission, Vision, and Strategic Directions • Consider additions, reductions, and redesign • Efficient and effective use of resources • If reductions are necessary, limit impact on classroom
Deadline: Board Approval by June 30, 2026		

Action Plan		
Date	Actions	Next Steps
1/12/26 & 1/26/26	Guiding Change presented to the School Board	
2/9/26	Presentation of Preliminary Budget Parameters and Projection to Board	
2/10/26 - 6/7/26	Board updates as necessary to keep informed on budget options Cabinet meet with principals and department heads to gain input on budgetary needs	
6/8/26	Presentation of FY27 Budget to be considered for approval	
6/22/26	Final Board approval of FY27 Budget	