

# DIXON PUBLIC SCHOOLS #170

*"A Place to Grow"*

[www.dps170.org](http://www.dps170.org)

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Margo Empen, Superintendent  
Doug Stansford, Asst. Superintendent  
Marc Campbell, Business Manager

Date: August 15, 2025  
To: Margo Empen, Superintendent  
From: Marc Campbell, Chief School Business Official  
Memo: FY 26 Budget Memorandum – Establish Budget Hearing

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In accordance with 35 ILCS 200/18-50, 105 ILCS 5/2-3.27 et seq, 105 ISCS 5/17-1, 105 ILCS 5/17-1.2. and Dixon Public Schools #170 Board Policy #2:20 *Powers and Duties of the School Board* and #4:10 *Fiscal and Business Management*, the Board of Education is required to approve the FY 26 budget by September 30, 2025. Under the law, the Board is required to establish a budget hearing date, hold a required public hearing and offer opportunity for public comment, and authorizes the Board to amend the budget through the same process at a later time.

The budget serves as a financial plan which is designed to accomplish the District's goals as well as providing required financial and programmatic information for state, local and federal governmental bodies. Approval of the budget provides the district with the ability to expend funds and gives the district taxing authority. On August 20, 2025, the Board is asked to establish a public budget hearing for 6:00 p.m. on September 24, 2025, preceding the regularly scheduled meeting of the Board.

Please note the following in accordance with 35 ILCS 200/18-50, 105 ILCS 5/2-3.27 et seq, 105 ISCS 5/17-1, 105 ILCS 5/17-1.2.

- The Proposed Budget for FY26 will be placed on display in the unit office of DPS #170 on August 21, 2025. This is the date following the Board of Education meeting in which the proposed budget has been presented to the Board of Education and a public hearing was established.
- The proposed budget will be on display for more than 30 days from August 21, 2025 to September 24, 2025.
- A public notice of the hearing and the display of the budget will be placed in the local newspaper, which is attached to this memorandum.
- At the required Budget Hearing an opportunity for public comment will be offered. At the conclusion of the public hearing the Board of Education will enter into the regularly scheduled Board of Education meeting. During this meeting the Board of Education will be asked to take official action on the approval of the FY26 budget.

## ***Recommendation:***

- It is the recommendation of District Administration that the Board of Education of Dixon Public Schools #170 establish a Public Hearing for September 24, 2025 at 6:00 p.m., preceding the regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Education.

*Dixon Public Schools, in cooperation with the community, will provide students with a comprehensive educational program that produces well-educated, self-sufficient, and involved citizens.*

***Additional information:***

Upon adoption of the FY26 budget, the official document of the budget must be...

- Sent and filed with the Regional Office of Education #47.
- Sent and filed with the Illinois State Board of Education.
- Sent and filed with the county clerk's office of Lee and Ogle counties.
- Posted to the district website at: [www.dps170.org](http://www.dps170.org)
- The community must be notified that the budget has been posted to the website.

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

Notice is hereby given by the Board of Education of Dixon Unit School District #170, Lee and Ogle Counties, State of Illinois, that a tentative budget for said school district for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024, will be on file and conveniently available to public inspection at the Office of the Superintendent, 1335 Franklin Grove Road, Dixon, Illinois, during regular business hours. Notice is hereby given that a public hearing on said budget will be held at 6:00 p.m., on the 24th day of September, 2025 at the Board of Education meeting at the same location.

Melissa Gates, Secretary  
Board of Education  
Dixon Unit School District #170  
August 21, 2025