



South St. Paul School Board - Work Session

Monday, June 8, 2026 5:00 PM

District Office, 104 - 5th Avenue South, South St Paul, Minnesota 55075

I. ROLL CALL

II. FINANCE

II.A. 2026-27 Budget Update (R. Chhoth)

III. SCHOOL BOARD

III.A. Board Appointment Interview Process (L. Brandecker)

III.B. Public Relations and Community Engagement (Board)

III.C. Committee Updates (Board)

- District 917
- AMSD
- Community Education
- Educational Foundation
- Finance, Facilities and Long-Range Planning
- Local Issues
- Policy
- SSP Open Foundation
- Superintendent Executive

III.D. 2026-27 School Board Evaluation (K. Humann)

IV. CLOSED SESSION

IV.A. Closed Session per the Open Meeting Law (Minn. Stat. § 13D.05) for the purpose of the annual evaluation of the superintendent. (K. Humann)

V. OTHER ITEMS DEEMED NECESSARY BY THE SCHOOL BOARD

Meeting Date: Monday, June 8, 2026

Place on Agenda: Work Session

Action Requested: None. Discussion Only. Formal approval at June 22, 2026 meeting

Attachment: PowerPoint Presentation PDF

Topic: Draft Adopted Budget – 2026-27 Draft Adopted Budget
Presenter(s): Ra Chhoth, Executive Director of Finance and Operations
<p>Attached for review are the proposed 2026-27 budgets. The Board of Education is required to approve the budgets prior to June 30, 2026.</p> <p>The budget presentation reflects updated enrollment projections and revised fiscal forecasts, including anticipated revenues and expenditures for the 2026-27 fiscal year.</p> <p>Administration recommends approval of the proposed budgets at the Regular Business Meeting.</p>
Recommendation:
Alternatives: N/A

The logo for South St. Paul Public Schools, featuring the letters 'SSP' in a stylized, bold font. The 'S' is gold, and the 'SP' is dark red. The logo is contained within a white rounded rectangle with a gold border, which is set against a dark red background with a repeating pattern of coffee beans.

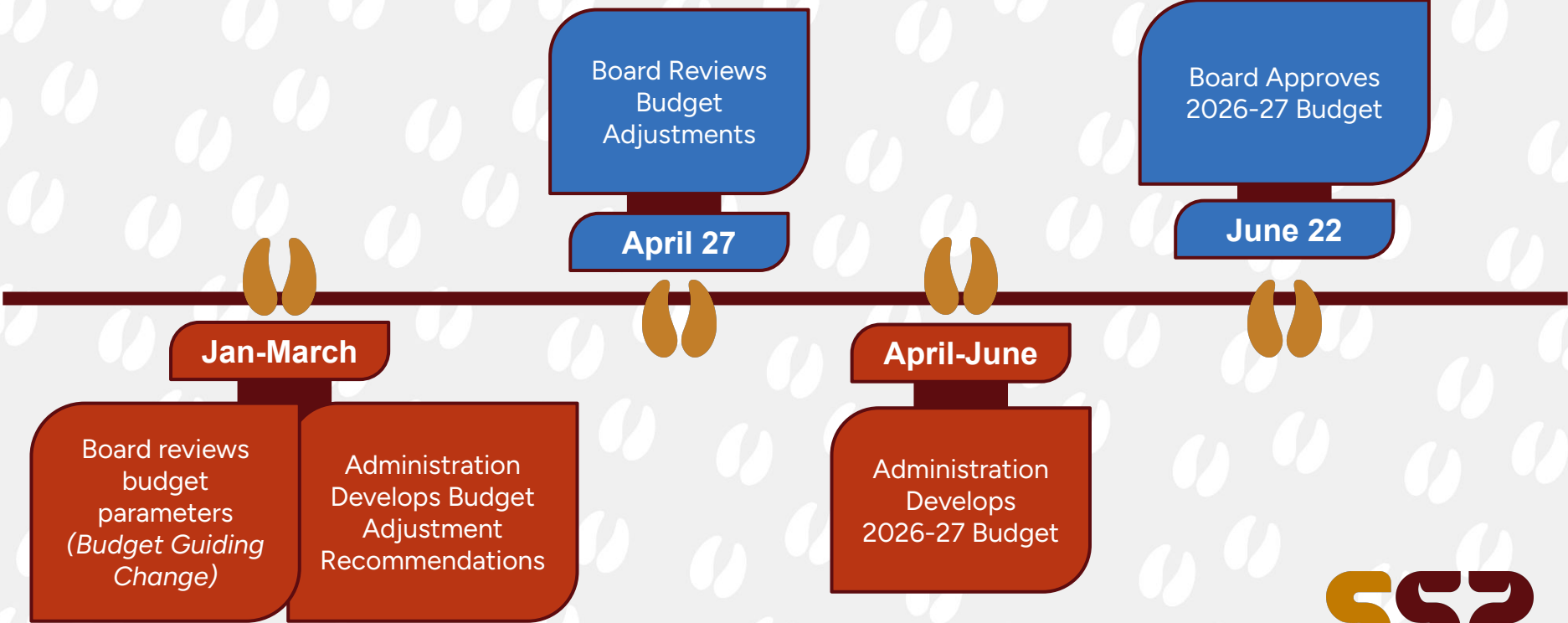
SSP

**South St. Paul
Public Schools**

FY27 Budget Draft

Ra Chhoth, Executive Director of Finance and Operations

Process Timeline





Purpose and Key Drivers

Budget Forecast

The FY27 adopted budget aligns financial planning with updated revenue and expenditure forecasts to ensure accuracy.

Key Funding Drivers

Changes in state funding, federal contributions, and operational needs drive budget for FY27.

Strategic Fiscal Responsibility

Budget support fiscal responsibility while maintaining educational quality and strategic initiatives.

FY 2026-27 Budget Headwinds



Facilities Planning



Compensatory
funding continues to
impact neighboring
districts as well as
SSPPS



Continued declining
enrollment



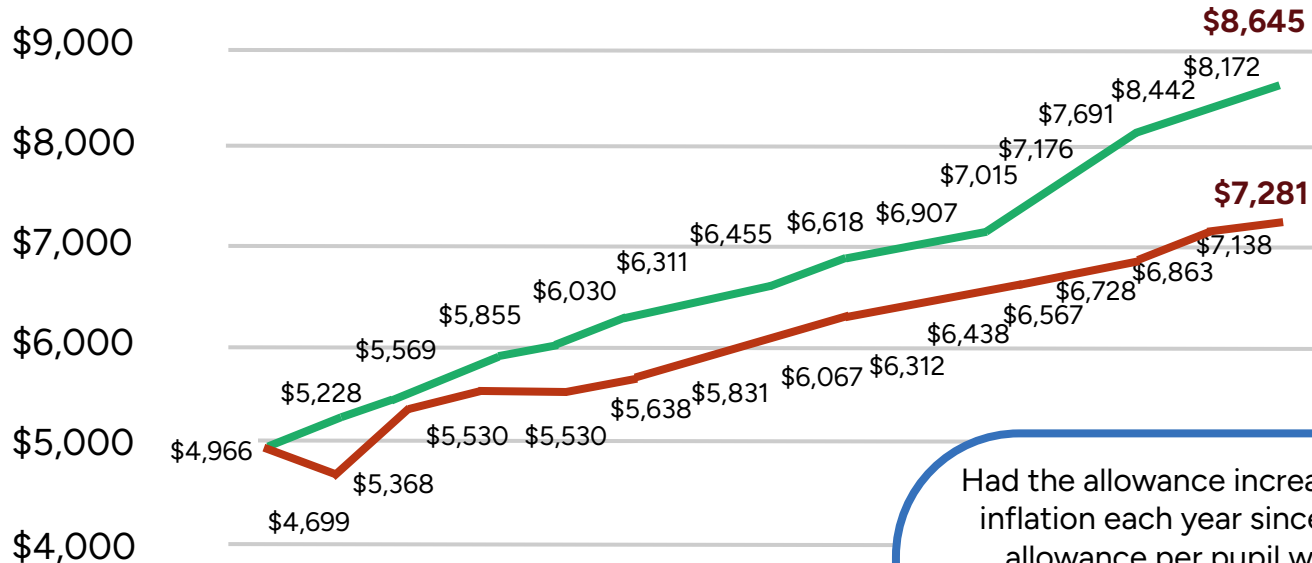
Contractual obligations
to various groups



Inflation

General Education Formula Allowance, 2003-2025

Adjusted for pupil weight change and inflation (CPI)



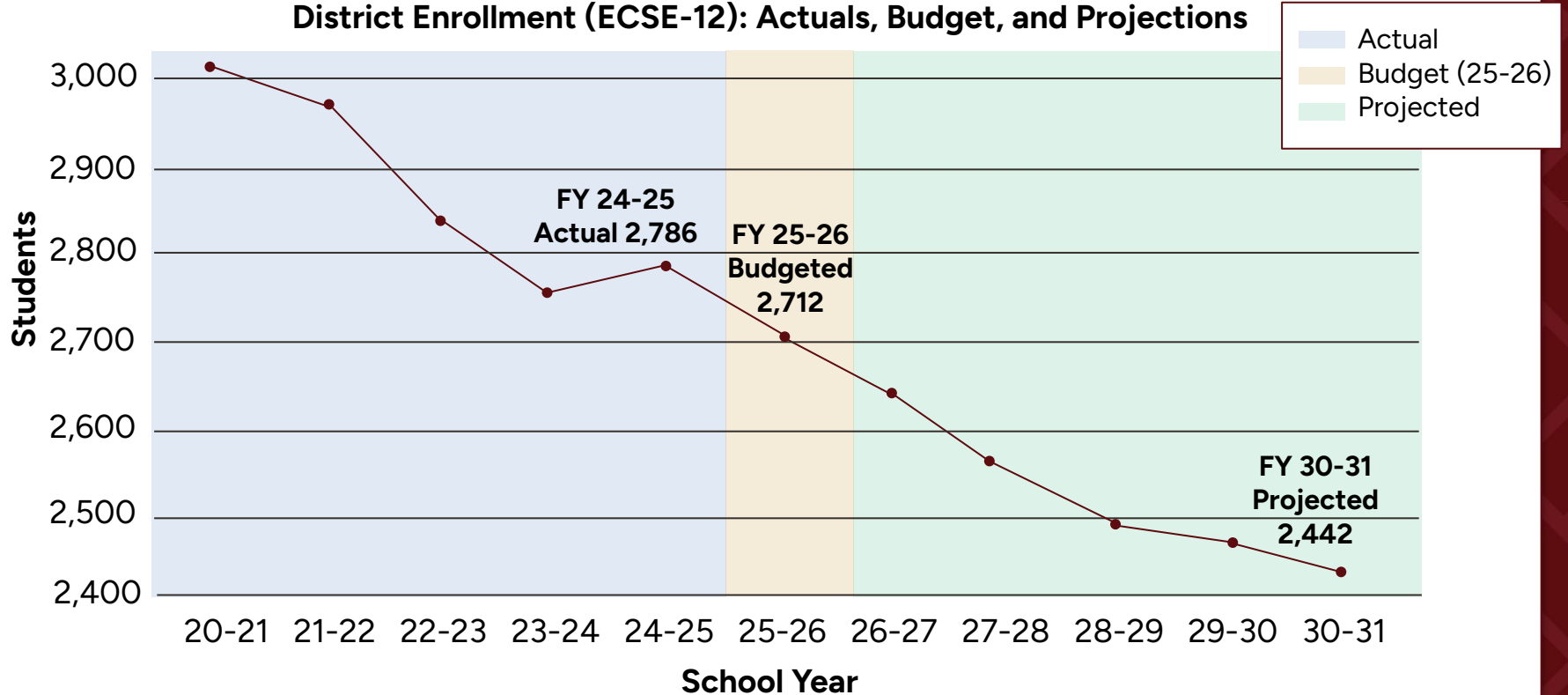
- Formula allowance adjusted for pupil weight change
- Adjusted for pupil weight change and inflation (CPI)

Had the allowance increased by the rate of inflation each year since 2003, the 2025 allowance per pupil would be \$8,645

The difference between the FY25 formula allowance per pupil and the inflation adjusted formula allowance is \$1,364 or 18.7%

Average Daily Membership Trends

District Enrollment (ECSE-12): Actuals, Budget, and Projections



Compensatory Revenue Top Losses

District Name	FY25 current law Hold Harmless	FY26 Current Law	FY26 Governor's Proposal	Impact of FY26 compared to FY25 hold harmless
Osseo	25,248,323.86	19,735,592.96	25,808,211.09	(5,512,730.90)
North St. Paul-Maplewood-Oakdale	18,547,806.40	13,959,857.85	18,138,730.95	(4,587,948.55)
Anoka-Hennepin	30,538,880.78	26,689,783.16	31,421,499.15	(3,849,097.62)
Columbia Heights	9,028,463.00	5,374,268.17	9,165,691.65	(3,654,194.83)
Worthington	7,831,732.66	5,088,988.82	8,337,187.41	(2,742,743.84)
Hiawatha Academies	5,27,669.94	2,662,891.83	5,219,788.20	(2,616,778.11)
Community School of Excellence	6,587,846.88	4,176,222.16	6,824,387.31	(2,411,624.72)
Burnsville-Eagan-Savage	15,050,831.12	12,991,730.41	17,910,075.92	(2,059,100.71)
Richfield	6,620,250.14	4,878,817.75	6,780,040.92	(1,741,432.39)
South St. Paul	4,513,136.36	3,043,785.08	4,630,133.22	(1,469,351.28)
Austin	9,628,406.46	8,449,117.30	9,806,764.65	(1,179,289.16)
Rosemount-Apple Valley- Eagan	14,150,690.46	13,008,415.89	14,416,476.06	(1,142,274.57)
Prairie Seeds Academy	1,974,279.74	878,661.75	2,025,460.23	(1,095,617.99)
Fridley	6,663,282.70	5,646,003.17	6,867,808.44	(1,017,279.53)

Compensatory Revenue

Fiscal Year 2027 Compensatory Revenue

Hold Harmless Adjusted

Statutory Allowance \$6,936

Adjustment to Statutory Minimum \$359

Total Allowance \$7,295

0006-03 South St. Paul Public School Dist	October 1, 2025		October 1, 2024		Statutory Proration Factor	Total Compensatory Revenue	One-Time Hold Harmless Adjustment
Total	Fall Enrollment	Compensatory Pupils*	Current Law FY27 Revenue	Fall Enrollment			
FY 2027 Revenue	2,743	1,195.0	3,911,421.72	2,858	0.659771	3,926,205.08	14,783.36

*See the Compensatory Revenue report on the Minnesota Funding Reports Website for the compensatory pupils calculation detail.

0006-03 South St. Paul Public School Dist	Column: A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	L
	October 1, 2025		Column B divided by Column A	Column C times \$7,295	Column B times Column D	October 1, 2024	Lsr 1 or Column A divided by Column F		Column H times 0.9 times Statutory Proration Factor	Gtr Column E or Column I	Column J minus Column E

District Number	District Type	Site Number	Site Name	Fall Enrollment	Compensatory Pupils	Concentration	Building Allowance	Current Law FY27 Site Revenue	Fall Enrollment	Enrollment Ratio	FY26 Site Compensatory Revenue	Building Minimum	Adjusted Site Revenue	Hold Harmless Adjustment
5	3	110	South St. Paul Middle School	548	243.0	0.4434	3,234.60	786,007.80	535	1.0000	951,466.50	627,750.00	786,007.80	-
5	3	120	South St. Paul High School	804	284.5	0.3539	2,581.70	734,493.65	865	0.9295	1,120,903.92	687,402.34	734,493.65	-
5	3	220	SSP Virtual	2	0.0	0.0000	0.00	0.00	3	0.6667	33,608.52	14,783.36	14,783.36	14,783.36
5	3	303	S St. Paul Community Lrng. Cntr.	86	57.5	0.6686	4,877.44	280,452.80	99	0.8687	302,211.00	173,210.14	280,452.80	-
5	3	400	Early Childhood Special Ed Program	60	28.0	0.4667	3,404.58	95,328.24	68	0.8824	100,294.20	58,389.47	95,328.24	-
5	3	735	Lincoln Center Elementary	627	259.5	0.4139	3,019.40	783,534.30	668	0.9386	896,935.68	555,437.34	783,534.30	-
5	3	737	Kaposia Education Center Elementary	616	322.5	0.5235	3,818.93	1,231,604.93	620	0.9935	1,329,861.24	871,700.75	1,231,604.93	-

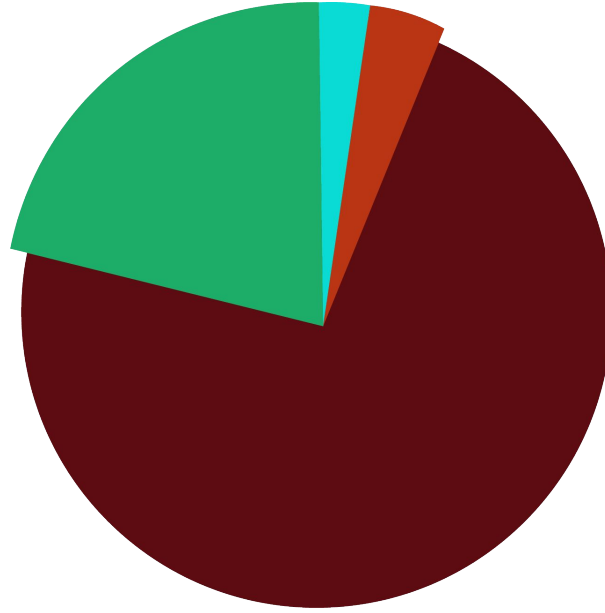
Revenue Comparison

Revenue Category	FY26 Revised Budget	FY27 Adopted Budget
State	\$38,88,027	\$38,335,186
Federal	\$1,311,506	\$1,311,506
Property Taxes	\$11,519,676	\$11,307,009
Local	\$1,804,010	\$2,027,010
Total	\$53,523,219	\$52,980,711



Draft FY27 Adopted Budget Revenue

Total Revenues = \$52,980,711



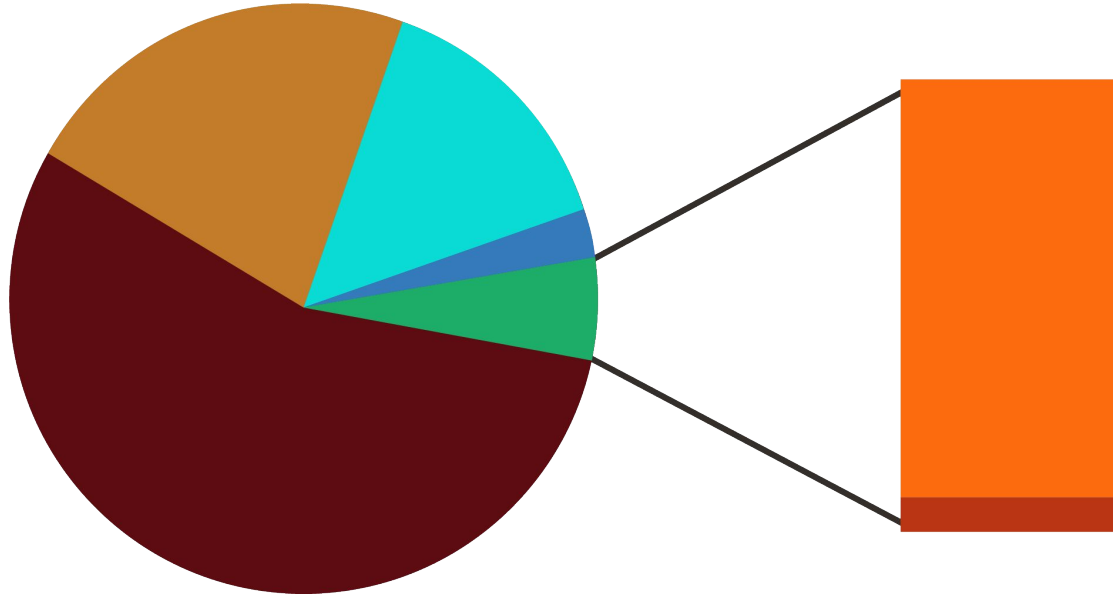
Major Expenditure Comparison

Expenditure Category	FY26 Revised Budget	FY27 Adopted Budget
Salaries & Wages	\$29,647,410	\$30,494,376
Employee Benefits	\$11,526,237	\$11,756,768
Purchased Services	\$7,864,653	\$8,021,973
Equipment	\$2,776,836	\$2,832,374
Total	\$53,354,131	\$54,675,270



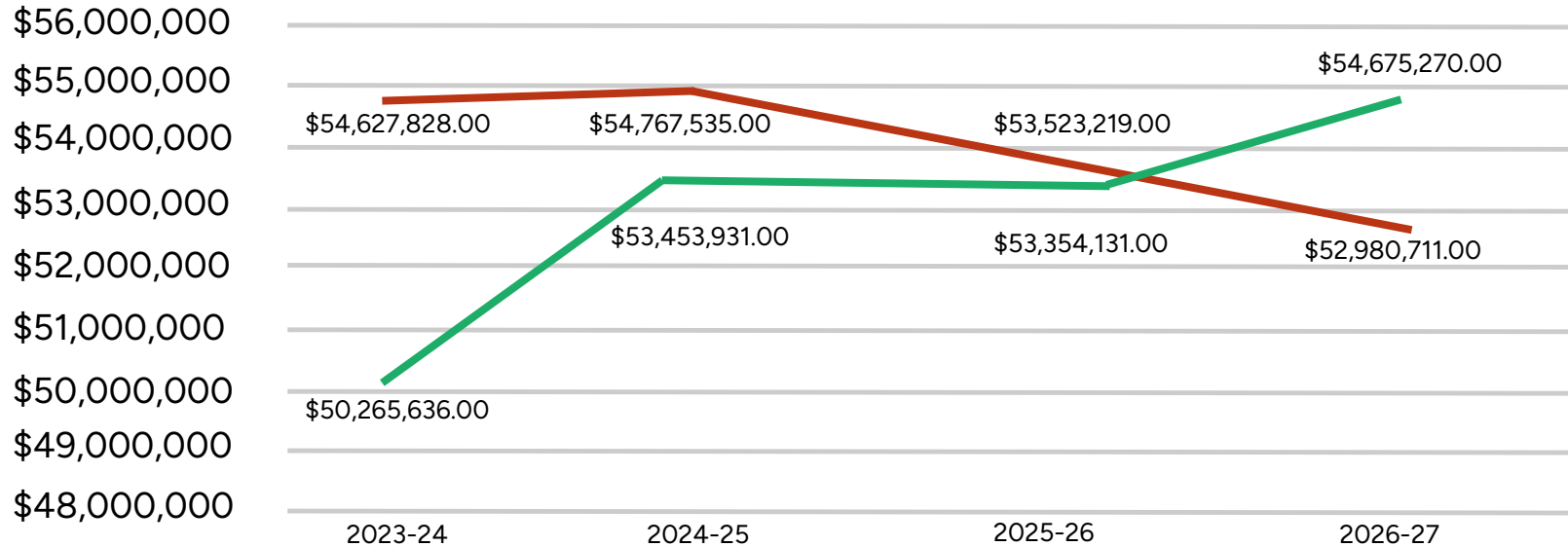
Draft FY27 Adopted Budget Expenditures

Total Revenues = \$54,675,270



Projected 2026-27 Financial Overview

Inflection Point

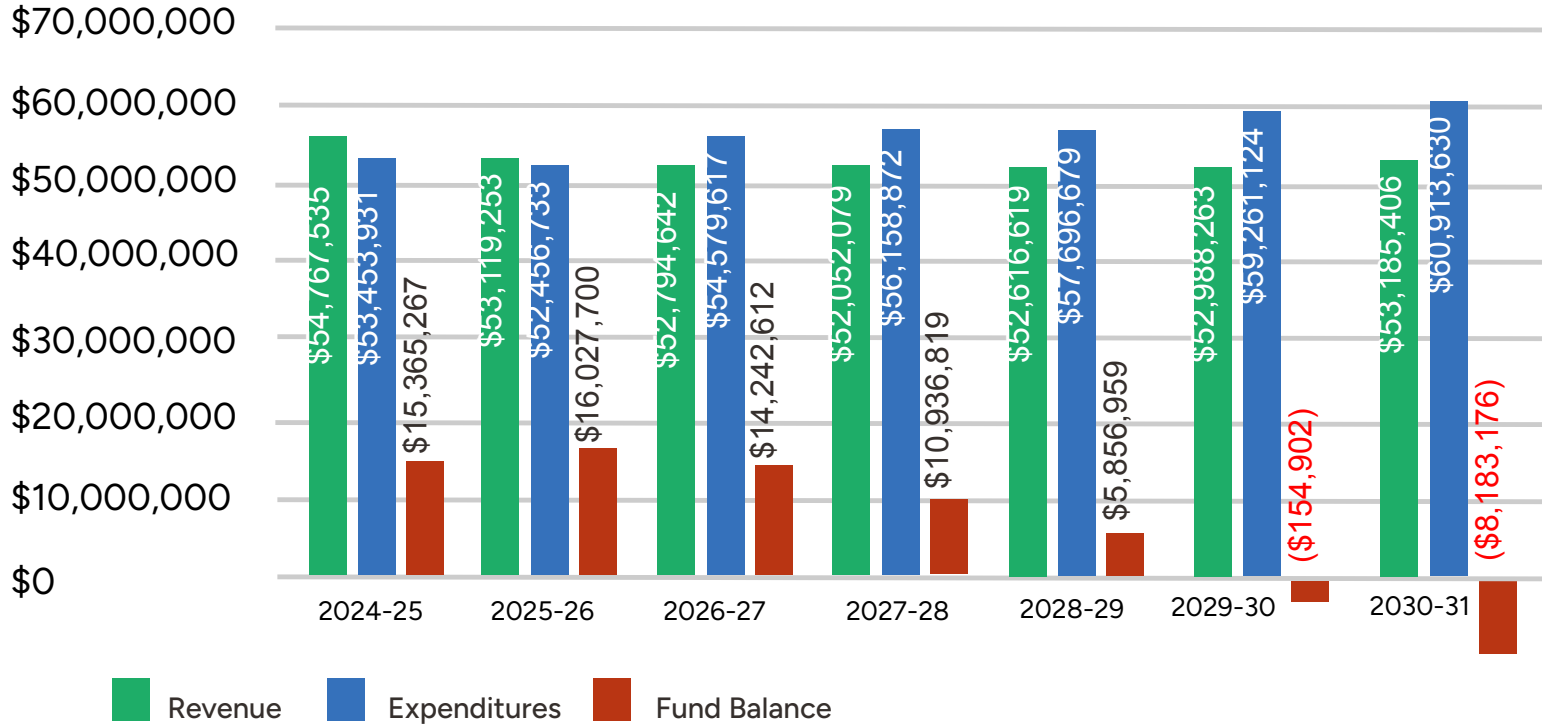


— Revenue
— Expenditures



Revenue, Expenses, and Fund Balance

Seven Year Comparison



Projected 2026–2027 Financial Overview

- Key Financial Metrics
- Revenue: \$52,980,711
- Expenditures: \$54,675,270
- Revenue Over (Under) Expenditures: **-\$1,694,559 (Deficit)**
- Fund Balance: \$14,242,812 Projected
- Assigned Fund Balance: \$7,105,272 Projected
- Unassigned Fund Balance: \$7,137,540 Projected
- Percent Unassigned: 13.1%
- Target Unassigned Fund Balance: 8.0%
- Minimum Unassigned Fund Balance: \$4,366,369
- Over Target: \$2,771,171

Why is fund balance necessary?

- Necessary for unknown situations
- Irregular payments of state and local revenues
- State aid proration, metering of payments, tax shift, and state shut down
- Provide service to students prior to receiving funding (Special Ed)
- Mandated but not funded programs
- Higher utility costs and/or other fixed costs
- Start Up costs for new buildings
- Greater than expected inflation
- Changes in enrollment and state funding
- Higher than anticipated contract settlements
- Unanticipated deficits in other operating funds
- Costs of defending and/or settlement of a lawsuit



Summary and Action Plan

Headwinds

Compensatory aid, enrollment challenges.

Approval and Communication

Next steps involve presenting the budget to the school board.

Alignment with Strategic Goals

The Budget aligns with strategic goals and emphasizes fiscal responsibility and policy compliance.





South St. Paul
Public Schools

School Board Agenda Item

Date: June 8, 2026

Place on Agenda: Work Session

Action Requested: None. Discussion Only

Attachment: None

Topic: School Board Appointment Interview Process
Presenter(s): Lisa Brandecker, Administrative Services and Communications Manager
<p>Background:</p> <p>At its May 26, 2026 meeting, the School Board accepted the resignation of Board Member Duffy, effective June 19, 2026. In accordance with Board policy, the vacancy initiated a two-week application period for individuals interested in being appointed to serve until the November 3, 2026 special election. The application period closes at 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday, June 10, 2026.</p> <p>To prepare for the interview and appointment process, the Board is asked to provide direction to administration regarding candidate interviews and scheduling.</p> <p>Board Direction Requested</p> <p>Administration is seeking guidance from the Board on the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Interview Process <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Interview all applicants who submit completed applications; or ○ Review applications and select a specified number of candidates to advance to interviews. 2. Interview Scheduling: If all applicants are interviewed, does the Board prefer to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Conduct all interviews on one evening, recognizing the meeting may be lengthy; or ○ Divide interviews between the evenings of June 15 and June 17, 2026. <p>Appointment Timeline</p> <p>Following the interview process, the selected candidate will be recommended for appointment at the June 22, 2026 School Board meeting. If there are no contentions, the appointment will become effective at the July 27, 2026 Board meeting.</p> <p>Term of Appointment</p> <p>The appointment will remain in effect until the November 3, 2026 special election. The individual elected to the position will immediately assume the seat and serve the remainder of Director Duffy's original term through January 2029.</p>
Recommendation: N/A
Alternatives: N/A



School Board Agenda Item

Place on Agenda: Work Session

Action Requested: None. Discussion Only

Attachment: None

Topic: Public Relations and Community Engagement
Presenter(s): School Board
Background: The School Board will review the upcoming Calendar of Events and explore opportunities to collaborate with students, staff, families, and the greater South St. Paul community to further the district's mission and vision.
Recommendation: N/A
Alternatives: N/A



School Board Agenda Item

Place on Agenda: Work Session

Action Requested: None. Discussion Only

Attachment: None

Topic: Committee Updates
Presenter(s): School Board Members
Background: School Board members will provide an update for the following committees that they serve on: <ul style="list-style-type: none">● District 917● AMSD● Community Education● Educational Foundation● Finance, Facilities, and Long-Range Planning● Local Issues● Policy● SSP Open Foundation● Superintendent Executive
Recommendation: N/A
Alternatives: N/A

**ENGAGE. EDUCATE.
EMPOWER.**



School Board Agenda Item

Date: June 8, 2026
Place on Agenda: Work Session
Action Requested: None. Discussion Only
Attachment: None

Topic: School Board Evaluation
Presenter(s): Kim Humann, Board Chair
<p>Background:</p> <p>Last fall, the School Board partnered with Ray Queener of TeamWorks International to develop a customized School Board evaluation tool. This work reflects the Board’s commitment to effective governance, continuous improvement, and alignment with the district’s mission, vision, and strategic priorities.</p> <p>Through this partnership, the Board identified key focus areas and clarified expectations for its governance role. The evaluation tool provides a structured framework for reflection, accountability, and board development.</p> <p>Mid-Year Check-in and End-of-Year Evaluation</p> <p>The Board conducted a mid-year progress check-in in January as part of its annual evaluation process. At the June 8 School Board work session, the Board will conduct its end-of-year evaluation using the School Board evaluation tool. This discussion will provide an opportunity for Board members to reflect on the Board’s overall effectiveness during the year, celebrate successes, identify areas for continued growth, and evaluate the Board’s performance across the focus areas identified through the evaluation process.</p> <p>During the work session, Board members will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Review and discuss results for each evaluation metric ● Examine individual and collective ratings to identify areas of alignment and differing perspectives ● Engage in deeper discussion on areas where evaluation ratings vary significantly among members ● Celebrate accomplishments and strengths demonstrated throughout the year ● Identify opportunities to strengthen governance practices ● Consider priorities and focus areas for Board development in the coming year <p>The end-of-year evaluation supports the Board’s commitment to effective governance and continuous improvement. The discussion will help inform future Board development efforts and priorities for the coming year.</p>
Recommendation: N/A
Alternatives: N/A