

2025-26 Budget Planning March 6, 2025 Board of Education Meeting



Mechanicville CSD Priorities & Values



Budget
Development &
Considerations



Budget Discussion Parameters & Objectives

- We will budget what we know to be true at the time of budget development
 - ✓ Unknowns & uncertainties such as volatile State & more recently Federal Aid \$ are a factor
- Some changes may occur as we progress through the budget process. We will adjust accordingly as new information is known – always keeping the District's core values in mind and at the forefront of all decisions



Budget Discussion Parameters & Objectives

- Evaluate program and system efficiencies
- Ensure Fiscal Stability and Sustainability
- Be mindful of class size targets and enrollment trends





Budget Development & Considerations

- #1 Priority A balanced budget meeting the needs of Students & Staff – student focused
- What services best fit the needs of our students and have the best ROI?
- Taxpayer levy heavily considered in all decisions
- Fiscal responsibility
 - ✓ Ensuring stability for future years
 - ✓ Reality Check MCSD's vigilance is needed to ensure sustainability in ensuing school years



- April 1st Legislative budget statutorily due
 - Budget adopted by BOE on April 3rd.
 - In absence of enacted budget runs, District development/considerations will be based on estimated calculations
- State aid runs may or may not see increases
- Wait and see approach



- This year is different & has unique challenges
 - Proposed changes to the Census and F&R Price-Lunch Poverty measures change individual district's calculations sufficiently – Foundation Aid could have significant impact in comparison to February aid runs/calculations
 - MCSD's ENI was reduced in last review



 Discussions still pending regarding changes to formulas using the Regional cost index



What does this all mean?

- These challenges mean that the February data for Foundation Aid may not be helpful in planning our revenues before the state has finalized its budget
- There also is not a reasonable alternative to use...no logical roadmap



Regional Cost Index Defined

A Regional Cost Index (RCI) is a factor used to adjust Foundation Aid based on differences in the cost of education across various regions in New York State. Since costs like teacher salaries, rent, and services vary depending on location, the RCI ensures that schools in higher-cost areas receive more funding to account for those differences.

Think of it like adjusting salaries for cost of living—just as someone in New York City needs a higher salary than someone in a rural area to afford the same lifestyle, schools in more expensive regions need more funding to provide the same level of education. The RCI helps make sure funding is fair across the state.



Additional insights

- Starting point for Foundation aid is now LOWER than it was at the time of the Executive budget
 - Attributable to the change in the inflationary factor formula from November (3.1%) (\$8,289) to February databases (2.9%) (\$8,273)
- Enrollment counts have a significant impact on calculations from November to February
 - SED switches from Form A estimates to BEDS Day data and SIRS
 - MCSD's enrollment declined slightly from projections to actual by 3-4 students







State Aid – Governor Runs to February Database Estimates

Inflated
Aid \$ that
was never
due
MCSD

RAIDER PHIL	2025-26 SY CL252-A	2025-26 SY BT252-6		
PROJECTED STATE AID:	2/13/2025	1/21/2025	<u>\$ </u>	
FOUNDATION AID	\$11,672,991	\$13,850,135	(\$2,177,144)	(15.72%)
CHARTER SCHOOL TRANSITIONAL	\$0	\$0	\$0	N/A
HIGH TAX AID	\$0	\$0	\$0	N/A
SUMMER TRANSPORTATION AID	\$0	\$0	\$0	N/A
TRANSPORTATION AID W/O SUMMER	\$1,359,471	\$1,457,400	(\$97,929)	(6.72%)
BUILDING AID	\$2,485,908	\$2,491,941	(\$6,033)	(0.24%)
BUILDING REORG INCENTIVE AID	\$0	\$0	\$0	N/A
OPERATING REORG INCENTIVE AID	\$0	\$0	\$0	N/A
NON-CMPNT COMPUTER ADMIN AID	\$0	\$0	\$0	N/A
NON-CMPNT CAREER EDN AID	\$0	\$0	\$0	N/A
NON-CMPNT ACADEMIC IMPROVMT AID	\$0	\$0	\$0	N/A
BOCES AID	\$1,048,808	\$1,105,370	(\$56,562)	(5.12%)
PUBLIC EC HIGH COST AID	\$414,788	\$495,045	(\$80,257)	(16.21%)
PRIVATE EXCESS COST AID	\$434,206	\$446,716	(\$12,510)	(2.80%)
SOFTWARE AID	\$19,654	\$19,953	(\$299)	(1.50%)
LIBRARY MATERIALS AID	\$8,200	\$8,325	(\$125)	(1.50%)
TEXTBOOK AID	\$80,269	\$79,628	\$641	0.80%
HARDWARE & TECHNOLOGY AID	\$20,606	\$22,048	(\$1,442)	(6.54%)
FULL DAY K CONVERSION AID	\$0	\$0	\$0	N/A
UNIV PREKINDERGARTEN AID	\$493,199	\$493,199	\$0	0.00%
SUPPLEMENTAL PUB EXCESS COST	\$0	\$0	\$0	N/A
ACADEMIC ENHANCEMENT AID	\$0	\$0	\$0	N/A
TOTAL AID	\$18,038,100	\$20,469,760	(\$2,431,660)	(11.88%)



State Aid – Governor Runs to February Database Estimates

2025-26 PROJECTED AID @ 2/13/2025 VS. 2024-25 PROJECTED A

Aid based on formula – without hold harmless provisions

				provisions	
		2025-26 SY	2024-25 SY		
		CL252-A	CL252-A		
PROJECTED STATE AID:		<u>2/13/2025</u>	<u>2/13/2025</u>	<u>\$ \Delta</u>	<u>% ∆</u>
FOUNDATION AID	ГΛ	\$11,672,991	\$11,636,136	\$36,855	0.32%
CHARTER SCHOOL TRANSITIONAL	FA	\$0	\$0	\$0	N/A
HIGH TAX AID	Funding	_ \$0	\$0	\$0	N/A
SUMMER TRANSPORTATION AID	i unumg	\$0	\$0	\$0	N/A
TRANSPORTATION AID W/O SUMMER	based	\$1,359,471	\$1,272,740	\$86,731	6.81%
BUILDING AID		\$2,485,908	\$2,563,136	(\$77,228)	(3.01%)
BUILDING REORG INCENTIVE AID	on	\$0	\$0	\$0	N/A
OPERATING REORG INCENTIVE AID		\$0	\$0	\$0	N/A
NON-CMPNT COMPUTER ADMIN AID	current	\$0	\$0	\$0	N/A
NON-CMPNT CAREER EDN AID	formula	\$0	\$0	\$0	N/A
NON-CMPNT ACADEMIC IMPROVMT AID	TOTTIUIA	\$0	\$0	\$0	N/A
BOCES AID		\$1,048,808	\$1,330,497	(\$281,689)	(21.17%)
PUBLIC EC HIGH COST AID		\$414,788	\$515,706	(\$100,918)	(19.57%)
PRIVATE EXCESS COST AID		\$434,206	\$437,308	(\$3,102)	(0.71%)
SOFTWARE AID		\$19,654	\$7,874	\$11,780	149.61%
LIBRARY MATERIALS AID		\$8,200	\$8,293	(\$93)	(1.12%)
TEXTBOOK AID		\$80,269	\$80,094	\$175	0.22%
HARDWARE & TECHNOLOGY AID		\$20,606	\$19,920	\$686	3.44%
FULL DAY K CONVERSION AID		\$0	\$0	\$0	N/A
UNIV PREKINDERGARTEN AID		\$493,199	\$369,100	\$124,099	33.62%
SUPPLEMENTAL PUB EXCESS COST		\$0	\$0	\$0	N/A
ACADEMIC ENHANCEMENT AID		\$0	\$0	\$0	N/A
TOTAL AID		\$18,038,100	\$18,240,804	(\$202,704)	(1.11%)

Why such a decline in Aid?

Foundation Aid Factors
Influencing State Aid \$

Revised/Corrected/ Actual attendance data submitted. January enrollment was overstated

	CL252-A	BT252-6		
FOUNDATION AID FACTORS:	<u>2/13/2025</u>	<u>1/21/2025</u>	<u>#/\$ ∆</u>	<u>% Δ</u>
SELECTED TAFPU	1,613	1,745	(132)	(7.56%)
SEL. FOUNDATION AID/PUPIL	\$7,236.82	\$7,937.04	(\$700.22)	(8.82%)
TOTAL FOUNDATION AID	\$11,672,991	\$13,850,135	(\$2,177,144)	(15.72%)
PUBLIC ENROLLMENT (EST.)	1,303	1,306	(3)	(0.23%)
EXTRAORDINARY NEEDS COUNT	489	513	(24)	(4.68%)
HOLD HARMLESS/ON FORMULA	ON FORMULA	ON FORMULA	J	

2024-25 Actual FA	2024-25 FA Budgeted	Difference	2025-26 FA on formula	Increase over 2024- 25 Actual	Hold Harr (\$11,868,	
\$11,636,136	\$11,792,385	(\$156,249)	\$11,675,991	\$36,855	Inc over 24-25 = \$76,474	Inc over 24-25 actual = \$232,723
						14

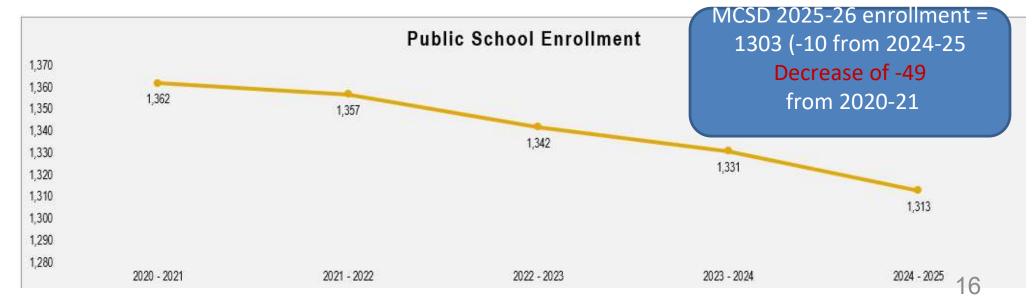


State Aid – It's not just about Foundation Aid A review of our Expense Based Aids

	Feb	ruary Current Law Datab	asa Undata	23(6	Change Between Execu	tive Budget & February I	Datahasa Undata
	2024-25	2025-26	Change	%	2024-25	2025-26	Change
Foundation Aid	Current Law Estimates for	Foundation Aid differ sig		ecutive Budget.	Due to this fact and the uncertain	The state of the s	
	levels, this line is being ke	pt suppressed.					
Expense-based Aids					50		
Building Aid	\$2,563,136	\$2,485,908	(\$77,228)	-3.01%	\$0	(\$6,033)	(\$6,033
Transportation Aid*	\$1,272,740	\$1,359,471	\$86,731	6.81%	\$0	(\$97,929)	(\$97,929
BOCES Aid	\$1,330,497	\$1,048,808	(\$281,689)	-21.17%	\$0	(\$56,562)	(\$56,562
Public High Cost Excess Cost Aid	\$515,706	\$414,788	(\$100,918)	-19.57%	\$0	(\$80,257)	(\$80,257
Private Excess Cost Aid	\$437,308	\$434,206	(\$3,102)	-0.71%	(\$9,880)	(\$12,510)	(\$2,630
Special Services Aid	\$0	\$0	\$0	N/A	\$0	\$0	\$0
Instructional Materials Aids							
Software Aid	\$7,874	\$19,654	\$11,780	149.61%	\$0	(\$299)	(\$299
Hardware & Technology Aid	\$19,920	\$20,606	\$686	3.44%	\$0	(\$1,442)	(\$1,442
Textbook Aid	\$80,094	\$80,269	\$175	0.22%	\$0	\$641	\$641
Library Materials Aid	\$8,293	\$8,200	(\$93)	-1.12%	\$0	(\$125)	(\$125
Other Operating Aids							
Academic Enhancement Aid	\$0	\$0	\$0	N/A	dditional	\$0	\$0
Charter School Transitional Aid	\$0	\$0	\$0 \$0 \$0	N/	dultional \$0	\$0	\$0
High Tax Aid	\$0	\$0	\$0	M	loss of	\$0	\$0
Supplemental Public Excess Cost Aid	\$0	\$0	\$0		over	\$0	\$0
Aid for Recent Consolidations							
Operating Reorganization Incentive Aid	\$0	\$0	\$0	N/A	\$100k \$0	\$0	\$0
Building Reorganization Incentive Aid	\$0	\$0	\$0	N/A	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subtotal	\$6,235,568	\$5,871,910	(\$363,658)	-5.83%	(\$9,880)	(\$254,516)	(\$244,636

Enrollment History/Pupil Counts

	MULT	IYEAR STATE AID FA	ACTORS		5
Mechanicville				BEDS Code	521200
		PUPIL COUNTS	,		
	2020 - 2021	2021 - 2022	2022 - 2023	2023 - 2024	2024 - 2025
TWPU	1,663	1,730	1,658	1,605	1,636
TWFPU	1,347	1,359	1,369	1,333	1,314
TAFPU (Base Year)	1,685	1,568	1,648	1,654	1,623
TAFPU (Current Year)	1,618	1,646	1,652	1,626	1,617
Selected TAFPU	1,652	1,646	1,652	1,640	1,620
RWADA	1,406	1,453	1,381	1,343	1,342
Public School Enrollment (Est.)	1,362	1,357	1,342	1,331	1,313
English Language Learners (Est.)	5	4	4	1	4
Textbook Pupil Count Software, Library Materials and	1,417	1,402	1,375	1,379	1,373
Hardware Pupil Count	1,372	1,368	1,348	1,336	1,327





2025-26 Budget Snapshot

Bridging the gap between revenue losses and increased costs

2025-26

\$36,277,275

Inc/Dec

-1.47%

• -540,665 decrease

Tax Levy

• 3.94%

• \$604,817



Notable & Important Factors Impacting Budget

- Revenue Losses
 - State Aid Reductions
 - ❖ Short Term/One time grant funding gone
 - Uncertain Future Federal Aid Volatile Political Environment
- ➤ Employee Benefits
 - Health Insurance plays major role
 - Retiree Costs
 - Employee Costs
- Declining Enrollment
- Supply Costs
- Salary Increases





Budget Development, Considerations & Assumptions

- "Rollover Budget" \$36,277,275, -1.47%, -\$540,665
 - Process & Considerations:
 - Review existing general fund positions & known vacancies from 2024-25
 - 2. Salaries
 - Expiration of two collective bargaining agreements and one other
 - Budget projections based on reasonable assumptions and affordability factors in absence of settled contracts



Budget Development, Considerations & Assumptions

- "Rollover Budget" \$36,277,275, -1.47%, -\$540,665
 - Process & Considerations:
 - 1) Current programming with known contractual increases and assumptions for others unknown
 - 2) Apply ERS & TRS rate increases
 - **ERS** increase from 15.2% to 16.5%
 - TRS slight decrease from 10.02% to 9.59%



Budget Development, Considerations & Assumptions

- "Rollover Budget" \$36,277,275, -1.47%, -\$540,665
- 5. Apply Fixed Costs & Assumptions Costs beyond our control
- At minimum \$1.2 million cost increases over 24-25 budget
 - Debt Service Increase of \$603,914
 - Electricity & Utilities
 - CPI increase currently over 4%
 - Health insurance increases 15.25%-22%

District is seeking additional cost saving options - focusing on current and long term stability



Proposed Budget Highlights

- Tentative budget to budget is a decrease by 1.47% or -\$540,665
- Proposed tax levy increase is 3.94% or \$604,817
 - Allowable 25-26 Property Tax Cap limit with exclusions: 7.58%
 - Less than allowable by \$558,564
- State Aid Decrease (overall) = -1.77%/\$304,755
 - Foundation aid = \$232,723 (Based on Hold Harmless assumption)
 - 23-24 to 24-25 budget increase \$719,866
 - Decrease of \$330,894 from actual 24-25 FA or 58%



2025-26 Summary Revenue vs. Expenses

	Pro	posed Budget	Budget	\$	%	%
Expenditures		2025-26	2024-25	Difference	Difference	of Budget
General Support	\$	3,830,338	\$ 3,945,778	(115,440)	-2.93%	10.70%
Instruction	\$	17,665,177	\$ 18,658,502	(993,325)	-5.32%	49.36%
Transportation	\$	1,822,870	\$ 1,822,518	352	0.02%	5.09%
Employee Benefits	\$	8,125,439	\$ 7,920,199	205,240	2.59%	22.71%
Debt Service	\$	4,324,857	\$ 3,720,943	603,914	16.23%	12.09%
Interfund Transfers	\$	300,000	\$ 750,000	(450,000)	-60.00%	0.84%
BOCES Increase	\$	208,594		208,594		0.58%
Totals:		36,277,275	36,817,940	(540,665)	-1.47%	
		Proposed	Budget	\$	%	%
Revenues		2025-26	2024-25	Difference	Difference	of Budget
Property Taxes	\$	15,955,498	\$ 15,350,682	604,817	3.94%	44.59%
Payment in Lieu of Taxes	\$	225,000	\$ 197,878	27,122	13.71%	0.63%
State Aid	\$	16,882,968	\$ 17,187,721	(304,753)	-1.77%	47.18%
Other Items	\$	584,500	\$ 837,500	(253,000)	-30.21%	1.63%
Interfund Transfers	\$	-	\$ 95,000	(95,000)	-100.00%	0.00%
Appropriated from Debt Reserve	\$	-	\$ -	-	0.00%	0.00%
Appropriated from ERS Reserve	\$	-	\$ -	-	0.00%	0.00%
Appropriated from TRS Reserve	\$	-	\$ -	-	0.00%	0.00%
Fund Balance	\$	2,629,310	\$ 3,149,160	(519,850)	-16.51%	7.35%
Totals:		36,277,275	36,817,940	(540,66	-1.47%	

Fund
balance
needed
to
balance
the
budget



2025-26 Proposed Revenues

Revenue Type	Comment	2024-25 Budget	2025-26 Proposed	Change \$	Change %
Local Sources		\$ 862,500	\$ 879,595	\$ 17,095	1.98%
Federal Sources		\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000	\$ -	0.00%
State Aid		\$ 17,187,721	\$ 16,882,967	\$ (304,754)	-1.77%
Payment in Lieu of Taxes		\$ 197,878	\$ 225,000.00	\$ 27,122	13.71%
Other Property Tax Items		\$ 45,000	\$ 40,000.00	\$ (5,000)	-11.11%
Property Taxes (Tax Levy)		\$ 15,350,681	\$ 15,955,498	\$ 604,817	3.94%
				\$ -	
Total		\$ 33,668,780	\$ 34,008,060.00	\$ 339,280	1.01%
Appropriate Fund balance	Debt Reserve			\$ -	0.00%
Appropriate Fund balance	ERS Reserve			\$ -	0.00%
Appropriated Fund Balance	TRS Reserve			\$ -	0.00%
Appropriated Fund Balance		\$ 3,149,160	\$ 2,269,216.00	\$ (879,944)	-27.94%
Total Appropriated F/B		\$ 3,149,160	\$ 2,269,216.00		
Total		\$ 36,817,940	\$ 36,277,276	\$ (540,664.00)	-1.47%



Comparison of Prior Year Projection to 2025-26 Carry Forward Budget

Snapshot of Expenses

	2024-25 Prio Budget	r Year	2025-26 Carry For Projections	orward
Salary, Wages and Benefits	\$23,296,398	63.3 % of budget	\$22,218,431	61.2% of budget
Other	\$13,521,542		\$14,058,844	
Total Budget	\$36,817,940		\$36,277,275	
Projected Spending Increase	24-25 10.64%	25-26 -1.47%	-\$540,665	Inc/Dec over prior year



2025-26 Proposed Expenditures

2025-26 Expenditures at a Glance

3/6/2025

	2024-25 Proposed	2025-26 Proposed		% Change
	Budget	Budget	\$ Change	
Salaries	\$ 15,383,811	\$ 14,100,605	\$ (1,283,206)	-8.341%
Employee benefits	\$ 7,875,315	\$ 8,117,826	\$ 242,511	3.079%
Equipment	\$ 540,795	\$ 644,742	\$ 103,947	19.221%
Supplies & textbooks/other	\$ 653,066	\$ 613,743	\$ (39,323)	-6.021%
Contract Services	\$ 3,685,313	\$ 3,758,211	\$ 72,898	1.978%
BOCES Services	\$ 4,208,697	\$ 4,417,291	\$ 208,594	4.956%
Debt Service	\$ 3,720,943	\$ 4,324,857	\$ 603,914	16.230%
Interfund transfers	\$ 750,000	\$ 300,000	\$ (450,000)	-60.000%
Total	\$ 36,817,941	\$ 36,277,276	\$ (540,665)	-1.468%



2025-26 Budget Additions, Facility Needs, etc.

	2025-26 Highlights		
	Snapshot		
Amount	Description	2024-25	Did you know?
\$100,000.00	Capital Outlay - Various Interior Doors, Flooring at ES (Under Review)	Flooring replacement in HS 600/700 + Auditorium Corridors	Budget Neutral - Building aidable following year
\$35,000.00	Schedule N- Security Upgrades - Possible new entrance door replacement at High School	ES Entrance doors Replaced	Budget Neutral - Building aidable following year
\$3,000,000.00	Elementary School Roof Replacement - Immediate need due to paper thin/"swiss cheese" condition - Summer 2026 work		Proposition - No taxpayer impact - funding through realized savings on recent capital project, capital reserve, and transportation purchase
\$710,000.00	4 new 63 passenger - 50% GF/50% Budget prop- Approval to Bond		Transportation Aid will offset cost - Aid will be higher than debt service cost



Actual vs. Allowable Tax Levy History

		Allowed but	
Year	Allowable Levy	unlevied	Actual Levy
2012-13	1.41%	\$ 20,146.00	1.22%
2013-14	5.61%	\$ 287,502.00	2.93%
2014-15	4.17%	\$ 80,701.00	3.44%
2015-16	3.65%	\$ 82,720.00	2.93%
2016-17	0.48%	\$ (272,326.00)	2.79%
2017-18	5.35%	\$ 142,740.00	4.17%
2018-19	4.43%	\$ 241,594.00	2.54%
2019-20	6.78%	\$ 418,679.00	3.62%
2020-21	2.83%	\$ -	2.83%
2021-22	3.84%	\$ 543,094.00	0.00%
2022-23	2.68%	\$ 125,890.00	1.79%
2023-24	7.49%	\$ 651,411.00	2.96%
2024-25	4.13%	\$ 611,717.00	3.68%
2025-26	7.58%	\$ 558,564.00	3.94%
Totals/Avg.	4.32%	3,492,432.00	2.77%

Proposed Levy



What does a Contingent Budget Mean?

- ☐ If a budget approval is not achieved by:
 - ✓ Simple majority (50% +1 voter approval)
- ☐ If proposed budget is defeated, district has one of the following options:
 - ✓ Resubmit the defeated budget allowing enough time for legal notices;
 - ✓ Submit a revised budget allowing enough time for legal notices;
 - ✓ Adopt a contingency budget
 - ✓ If the resubmitted or revised budget is defeated, the BOE MUST adopt a contingent budget



What does a Contingent Budget Mean?

✓ Important to note: If contingent budget is decided, the tax levy can be no greater than the prior year actual tax levy. No increase is allowed.

What are non-contingent expenses?

- Examples of non-contingent expenses include (but not limited to):
 - Capital construction projects (transfer to capital fund)
 - Most equipment;
 - School bus purchases
 - Interscholastic athletics
 - Extracurricular activities
 - Field trips as well as related transportation



What's Next??

- Waiting on NYS Enacted Budget If not passed by April 1st, working with best known data and information available
- BOE Consideration and final proposed changes/additions, if any
- April 3, 2025 BOE Proposed Budget Adoption
- May 20, 2025 Budget Vote



2025-26 Budget

Questions??