

Executive Summary – Budget FY’17

The School Board approved the FY’17 budget in the amount of \$37,914,750. This is an increase over the current year by \$1,492,326 or 4.10%. This is above the preliminary statewide budget increase of 2.44%. General education spending growth for the district increased to \$30,285,917, which is an increase of 3.06% or \$1,052,983. This is also higher than the estimated statewide average of 1.6%. The primary drivers for the overall increase are salaries and benefits, which represent 74.87% of the overall budget.

The proposed budget, if approved, results in per pupil spending of \$13,297, which is down from FY’16 per pupil spending of \$13,535 or 1.76%. The decrease can be attributed to a one time use of surplus funds totaling \$800K and an increase in the number of equalized pupils due to the addition of Pre-K in FY’16. This decrease in the spending on a per pupil basis results in a homestead tax decrease of 3.05% or approximately 4.4 cents. This means the homestead education tax rate would decrease from \$1.4386 to \$1.3947. For a homeowner with a house valued at \$250,000, this decrease would represent a \$110 decrease annually. This does not consider any aspect of income sensitivity. Approximately sixty-one percent (61%) of homeowners received a property adjustment in 2014.

General education increased by 5.87% or \$1,158,977. The increase can be directly attributed to the increase in salaries and benefits, the cost of Pre-K, the additional funds for co-curricular activities and the added funds for instructional improvement.

Special education increased by 6.31% or \$498,693 due to anticipated demand. Again, the majority of the increase can be attributed to employee compensation and benefits. Four special education teachers were added to the approved budget. To mostly offset the cost of adding teachers, support staff was reduced in a variety of areas.

Support of education decreased by 1.91% or \$145,343. Several areas were reduced or right sized in an effort to control spending in this area. As with the other areas, the most significant costs in the support of education category are employee compensation and benefits.

Below is a summary of the expenditures in each of the functional areas.

Category	2015-16 Budget	2016-17 Budget	Percent Change	Dollar Change
Total General Education	\$19,729,501	\$20,888,478	5.87%	\$1,158,977
Total Special Education	\$7,897,759	\$8,396,452	6.31%	\$498,693
Total Support of Education	\$7,625,164	\$7,479,820	-1.91%	(\$145,343)
Other (Grants, Medicaid)	\$1,170,000	\$1,150,000	-1.71%	(\$20,000)
Totals	\$36,422,424	\$37,914,750	4.10%	\$1,492,326