2026-27 Final Budget

Fiscal Blueprint & Strategic Assumptions

LAKE BLUFF SCHOOL DISTRICT 65 | BOARD OF EDUCATION BRIEFING

The District projects a balanced operating budget for FY27

The District is presenting a balanced operating budget, generating a $145,414 surplus within operating funds while successfully navigating key inflationary pressures.

Operating Revenue	Operating Expenditures	Operating Surplus
$22.3M	**$22.1M**	**$145k**

Category	Revenue	Expenditure
Education Fund	$18,374,863	$18,549,367
O&M	$2,251,000	$2,033,032
Transportation	$1,060,500	$1,008,250
IMRF/SS	$536,600	$536,600
Working Cash	$49,700	$0
Operating Funds Subtotal	**$22,272,663**	**$22,127,249**
		✓ $145,414 (Surplus)

Strategic educational priorities dictate our financial allocation

Curriculum & Coaching

Introducing a new ELA curriculum (CKLA) and adding 2 instructional coaches to enhance and coordinate teacher instructional practices.

Student Support

Providing additional dysregulation space to support students and reduce classroom disruption; continuing True North outplacements.

Specialized Instruction

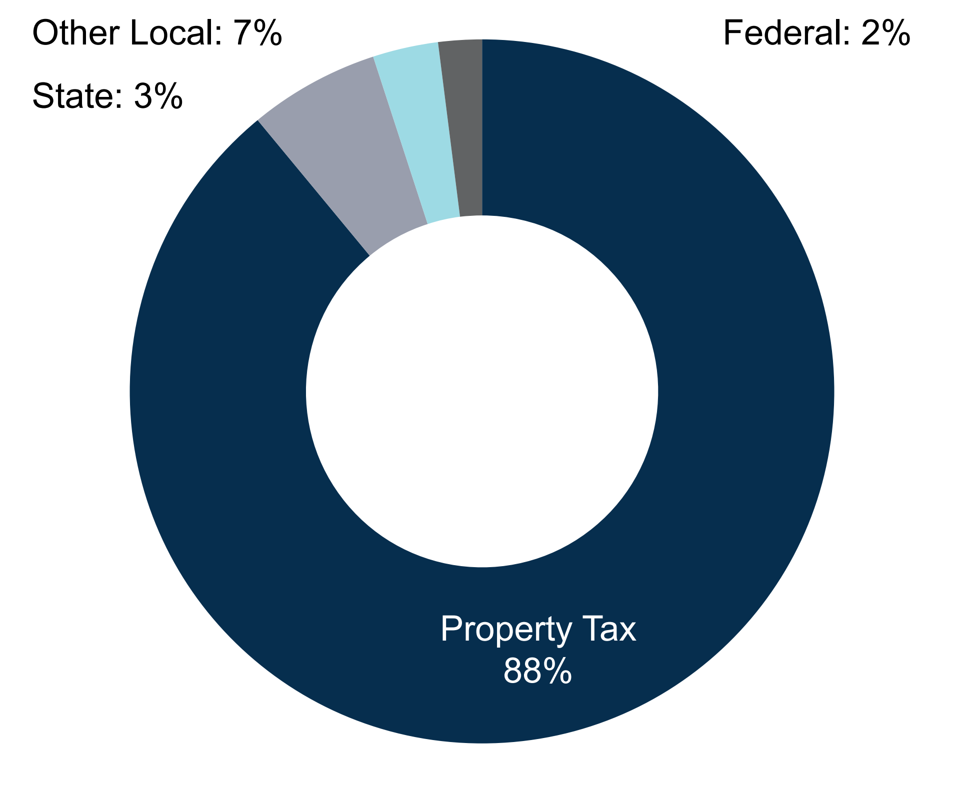
Delivering more math support by repurposing staff time; continuing the elementary enrichment model to give teachers common grade-level plan time.

Native Capabilities

Building internal district capacity for essential support services, including speech pathology, adaptive PE, occupational, and physical therapy.

Local property taxes provide 88% of all operating revenue

Total operating revenue is projected flat vs FY26 (+0.1%)



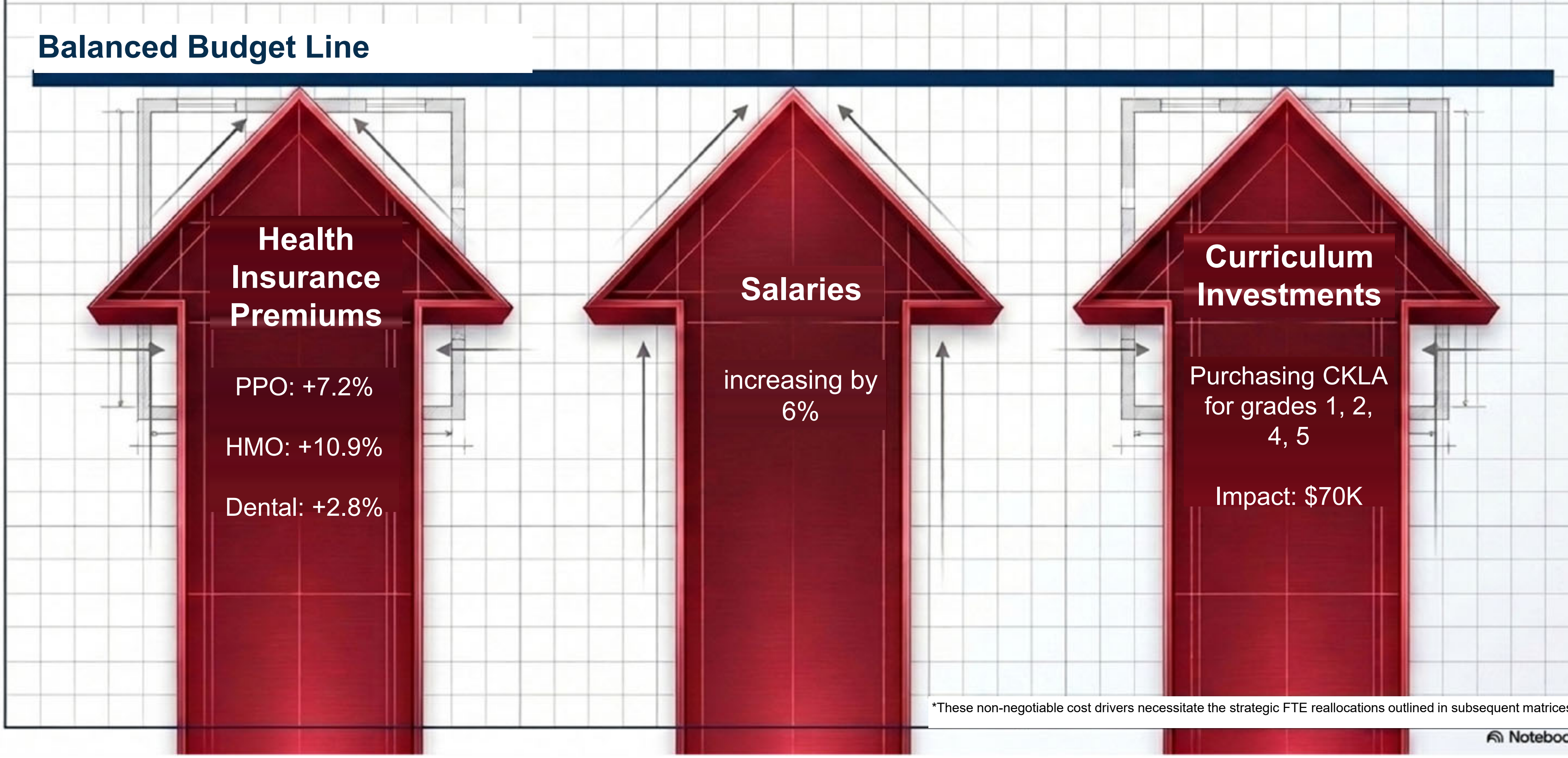
2025 Tax Extension Details

- Net increase of +1.5% (net of collections).
- Levy increase: +2.6%.
- Operating Funds: +3.3% (2.9% existing property).
- Collection Rate assumption adjusted to 99% (down from 100%).

Other Revenue Sources

- Other Local (6%): CPPRT +16%, Interest earnings -25%.(likely upside)
- State (-5%): Evidence-Based Funding flat; categorical grants slightly down.
- Federal (-9%): slightly down vs prior year.

Inflationary increases and investments



*These non-negotiable cost drivers necessitate the strategic FTE reallocations outlined in subsequent matrices.

Funding instructional priorities through administrative reallocation

Licensed Staffing (Instructional Focus)

+2.5 FTE

Prioritizing instructional support, special education, and internal coaching capacity.

Non-Licensed Staffing (Operational Efficiency)

-1.9 FTE

Streamlining administrative overhead, clerical support, and technology management.

The Balanced Equation:
Net District Change = +0.6 FTE

Human capital comprises 77% of the $21.9M operating budget

	Object	Budget Amount	Variance vs FY26
1	Salaries	$14.1 M	**+6.1%**
2	Benefits	$2.9 M	**+7.1%**
3	Purchased Services	$3.5 M	**+4.5%**
4	Supplies	$688k	**+12.8%**
5	Capital & Dues	$262k (Capital) | $583k (Dues)	**-67% / +50%**

$612k allocated for critical campus infrastructure and safety

Lake Bluff Elementary (LBES)

Generator Replacement
$350,000
(Primary capital outlay)

Access Points
$42,000

Lake Bluff Middle (LBMS)

Tuckpointing
$100,000

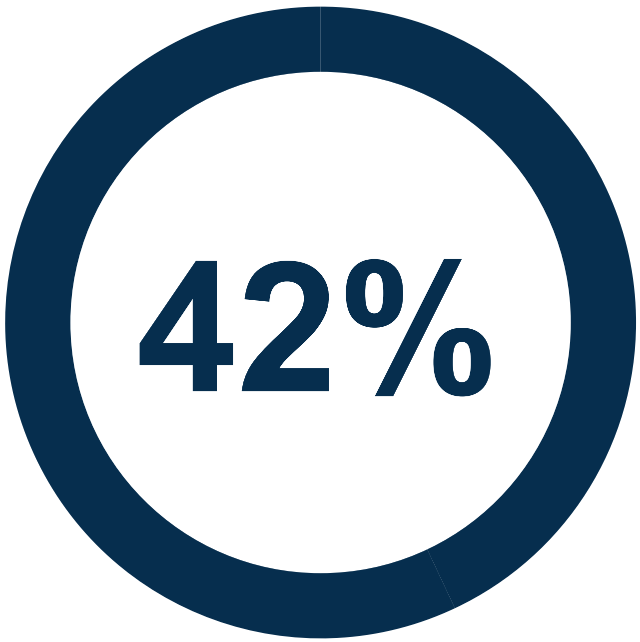
~~**Concrete Work**~~
~~$45,000~~

Total FY27 Capital Spending: $612,000

LBES Water Heaters
$40,000

Miscellaneous
$80,000

Operating reserves secure long-term district stability



The Reserve Ratio: The projected Operating Fund Balance represents 42% of total 2026-27 Budget Expenditures, within the board policy range of 30-50%.

Projected 2026-27 Ending Balances

Total Operating Funds Balance: $9,245,811

Education Fund: $6,512,037

Working Cash: $1,140,938

O&M: $766,719

Fiscally secure, strategically aligned, and highly efficient

1. Fiscally Balanced

Generating a $145k operating surplus despite managing 7-10% inflation in health benefits and contractual service increases.

2. Strategically Reallocated

Funding +2.5 Licensed instructional FTEs by systematically reducing -1.9 Non-Licensed administrative and technical roles.

3. Highly Secure

Protecting the district’s future with $9.25M in operating reserves, safely maintaining a 42% expenditure-to-reserve ratio.