

Preliminary 2026-2027 Budget

April 13, 2026

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Agenda

- Historical Budgets at this Point
- State Budget Conversations
- WAWM 2026-27 Budget Assumptions
- 2026 - 27 Transfer of Service Update
- State Aid, Tax Levy & Mill Rate Projections

Noteworthy

- A preliminary budget is in flux at this point in the budget cycle.
- Historically, at this point in time we have had unbalanced budgets as we work toward receiving actuals both in terms of expenses and revenues.

| School Year | Surplus (Deficit) |
|-------------|-------------------|
| 2019 - 2020 | \$ (9,585,916) |
| 2020 - 2021 | \$ (3,795,777) |
| 2021 - 2022 | \$ (1,400,000) |
| 2022 - 2023 | \$ (1,980,857) |
| 2023 - 2024 | \$ (1,593,146) |
| 2024 - 2025 | \$ (38,948) |
| 2025 - 2026 | \$ _____ |
| 2026 - 2027 | \$ (2,023,872) |



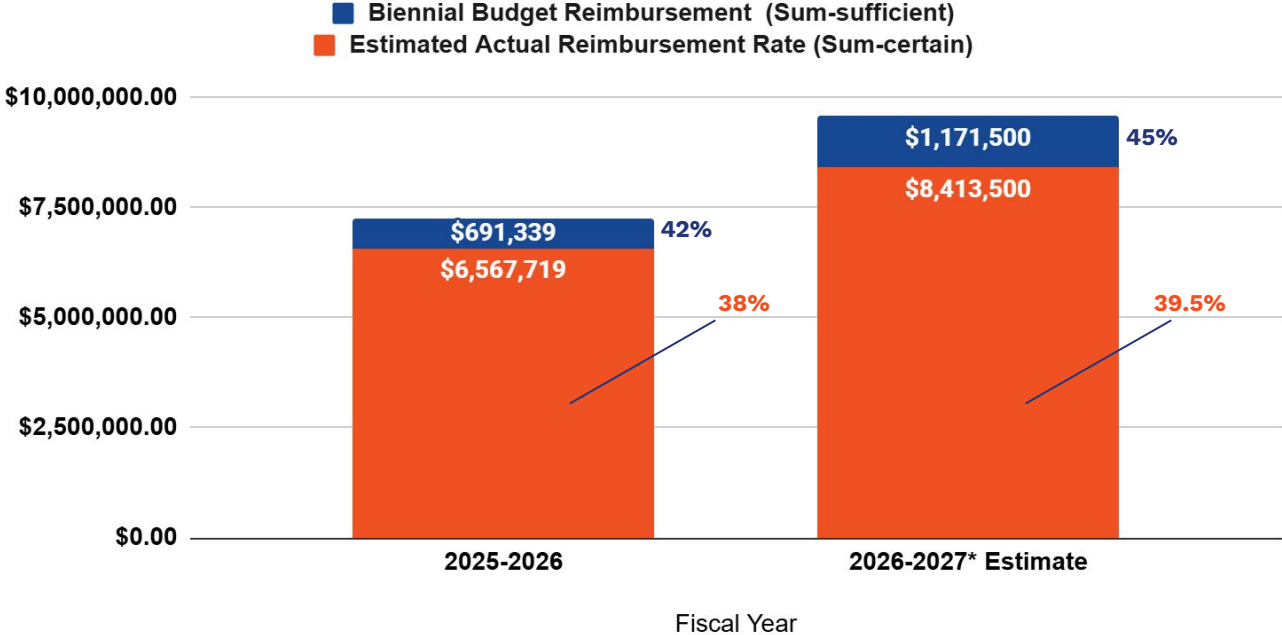
State Budget Conversations

2026-27 State Funding Overview

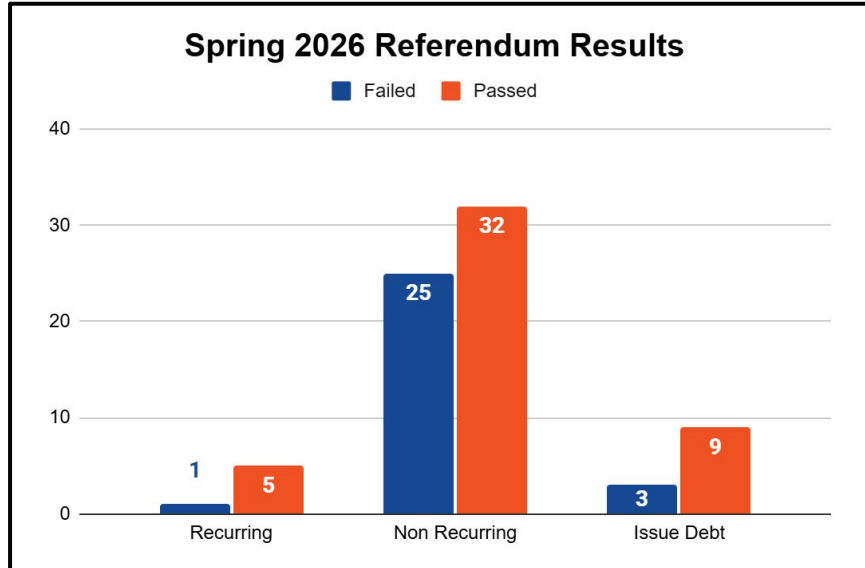
- Special Education Reimbursement
 - Special Education Categorical Aid Target: 45% (not guaranteed)
 - Actual rate may fall significantly below
 - High Cost Special Education Aid Target: 90% Reimbursement (not guaranteed)
- State Aid Changes
 - No new General Aid commitments from the state
- State Budget Surplus
 - No finalized plan for budget surplus
 - Competing priorities (tax relief vs. school funding)
- Open Enrollment & Voucher Costs
 - Rising per-pupil transfer costs

Special Education Sum Certain Funding

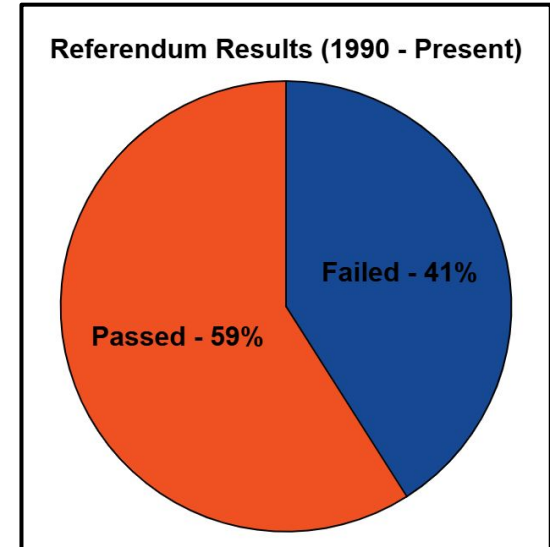
Estimated Actual Reimbursement Rate and Biennial Budget Reimbursement



Spring 2026 Referendum Results



| Spring 2026 Referendum Results | | |
|--------------------------------|----------|----------|
| | Failed | Passed |
| Recurring | \$3.2M | \$3.9M |
| Non Recurring | \$201.2M | \$329.3M |
| Issue Debt | \$278.0M | \$231.4M |





WAWM Budget Assumptions

It's Important to Remember...

... that the budget is still very much in flux at this point in the year.

These numbers can and likely will change.



2026-2027 WAWM Budget Assumptions

- No Revenue Changes from State
 - \$325 per pupil increase
 - SPED Reimbursement increase to 39.5% (*Sum-sufficient would be 45%*)
- Compensation Increases for All Employee Groups
 - Comp Model Implementation for Certified Staff (*average increase 6.2%*)
 - 2.7% increase for all other staff
 - Final year of Microcredential payout
- 15% Health Benefit Increase & 5% Dental Increase - *TBD*
- 4.5% Transportation Increase (*from 2023-24 Agreement*)
- 4.5% Utility Cost Increase (*from 2025-2026 actuals*)
- Transformation Schools cost increases
- School budgets funded at 100%
- TOS Claim estimated at \$1.1M

Transfer of Service (TOS)

- **What It Is:** A mechanism that allows school districts to **increase their revenue limit** when taking over services previously provided by another government entity.
- **Common Uses:** When a district begins providing services (e.g., special education, transportation, safety) that were formerly offered by counties or cooperatives.
- **How it Works:**
 1. District submits a **TOS request** to DPI with documentation of new services and costs.
 2. DPI reviews and verifies the claim.
 3. Approved amounts are added to the district's **revenue limit exemption**.
- **Why It Matters:**
 1. Protects district budgets from unexpected burdens
 2. Ensures continued, quality service for students
 3. Encourages efficient service delivery across agencies

HOW TOS WORKS



Another
Government Entity



School District
Takes Over Service



Submit TOS Request
to DPI



DPI Reviews &
Approves Costs



Revenue Limit
Increased

WAWM TOS Claim 2025-2026

| Positions Added - as of 4/10/2026 | |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| Cross Categorical | |
| EA's | 3 |
| 1:1 EA's | 2 |
| Teachers | 2 |
| Intensive Services | |
| 1:1 EA's | 1 |
| Other Services | |
| Elementary - Psychologist | 1 |
| Secondary - Psychologist | 1 |
| Elementary - Social Worker | 1 |
| Secondary Social Worker | 1 |
| Elementary - SLP | 1 |
| English Language Learners | |
| Teachers | 1 |

WAWM TOS Claim - 2025-26 Number of Student Transfers

| School | Early Childhood | Intensive Services | Cross Categorical | Speech/ Language | English Language Learners |
|------------------------|-----------------|--------------------|-------------------|------------------|---------------------------|
| Franklin | - | - | 1 | 3 | 1 |
| Hoover | - | - | 3 | 4 | 2 |
| Horace Mann | 2 | 1 | 5 | 9 | 3 |
| Irving | 10 | - | 3 | 10 | 7 |
| Jefferson | - | - | 3 | 4 | 3 |
| Mitchell | - | - | 2 | 4 | - |
| Pershing | - | - | 3 | 6 | 3 |
| Walker | - | - | 8 | 6 | - |
| Wilson | - | - | 2 | 3 | 2 |
| FLW | - | 1 | 6 | 1 | 1 |
| West Milwaukee | - | - | 1 | 2 | 4 |
| Nathan Hale | - | 1 | 6 | - | 6 |
| Central | - | - | 8 | 1 | 7 |
| Dotke | - | - | - | 1 | - |
| DLVA | - | - | 2 | - | 1 |
| Total Transfers | 12 | 3 | 53 | 54 | 40 |

**students that transferred to our district after 9/8/2025 with special service needs*

Our Budget Outlook 2026-27 School Year



2026-2027 Fund 10 General Budget



Projected Fund 10 Revenue: \$129,575,252

Projected Fund 10 Expenses: (\$131,599,125)

Current Projected Deficit: (\$ 2,023,873)



| | |
|--|-------------------|
| Committed Fund Balance for Compensation Model | \$1,250,000 |
| School Transformations (Planned from Fund Balance) | \$ 500,000 |
| Residual Fund 10 Deficit | \$ 273,873 |

2026-2027 Fund 27 Special Education

Total Projected Fund 27 Expenses **\$26,933,293.57**

| | |
|---|-----------------|
| ➤ Grant Funding (<i>Flowthrough/PreK</i>) | \$ 2,262,827.51 |
| ➤ Medicaid Revenues | \$ 700,000.00 |
| ➤ State Categorical Aid (<i>39.5% Reimbursement Est.</i>) | \$ 8,413,500.00 |
| ➤ High Cost Claims | \$ 800,000.00 |
| ○ <i>Strengthened process</i> | |
| ○ <i>Increased reimbursement pool dollars</i> | |

Estimated 2026-2027 Transfer **\$14,756,966.06**

Other District Priorities

Debt Service Funds 38 & 39

| | Fund 38* | Fund 39 |
|------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Beginning Fund Balance | \$ 35,388.23 | \$ 2,114,102.32 |
| Budgeted Revenue | \$887,400.00 | \$7,500,000.00 |
| Budgeted Expenditure | \$904,800.00 | \$5,273,200.00 |
| Ending Fund Balance | \$ 17,988.23 | \$4,340,902.32 |

**final year of EE debt payments*

Long-Term Capital Improvement Funds 46 & 49

| | Fund 46* | Fund 49 | Total |
|------------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| 2025-2026 Beginning Balance | \$ 8,743,849.88 | \$ 75,523,513.90 | \$84,267,363.78 |
| Current Balance 4.10.26 | \$ 7,914,688.86 | \$67,390,358.66 | \$75,305,047.52 |
| Projected Year- End Balance | \$ 8,700,000.00 | \$65,390,000.00 | \$74,090,000.00 |

* Projecting F46 Transfer for 2025-2026 of \$1,000,000 (2024-2025 Transfer = \$2.275M)

2025-2026 Completed Projects

- **Madison** - CTS Remodel
- **WAAC** - Replaced Batting cage
- **New Signs** - Franklin / Hoover / ?
- **FLW** - Music Wing Renovation
- **Irving** - New Playground
- **Hale** - Remodeled East-West Hallway
- S16 Entryway Replacement

2026-2027 Scheduled Projects

- **Hale** - Music Room Refresh (3 total)
- **Irving** - Parking Back Lot
- **FLW** - Replace accordion doors
- **WAAC** - Restretch turf fields
- **Wilson & Hoover** - Sensory rooms added to ISS classrooms

Community Eligibility Provision - Fund 50

Estimated Ending Balance as of June 30, 2026 = \$2,578,974.76

Board approved Community Eligibility Provision - 6/23/2025

Goal of CEP: Continue to offer free breakfast and lunch for all students across our school district after federal COVID food program concluded at the beginning of this year.

2025-2026 Projected Revenues (*estimated*) - \$4,500,000

2025-2026 Projected Expenses (*estimated*) - \$4,800,000

****Purchase of reusable lunch trays & updating some appliances.***

Fund 80 - Recreation & Levy

Fund 80 Levy History

| | | |
|------------------------|---|--------------------|
| 2021-2022 | = | \$3,000,000 |
| 2022-2023 | = | \$4,300,000 |
| 2023-2024 | = | \$6,975,000 |
| 2024-2025 | = | \$7,500,000 |
| 2025-2026 | = | \$3,825,000 |
| 2026-2027 Proj. | | \$7,500,000 |

Future Potential Projects *(under consideration)*

- FLW Track remodel
- AFC Pool addition discussion

June 30, 2025 Balance = \$5,591,414.88

June 30, 2026 *Projection = \$2,200,000.00

**final invoice payments to be made on AFC Phase II in Spring 2026*

Technology Refresh 2026-2027

2026-2027 Projected Expenses

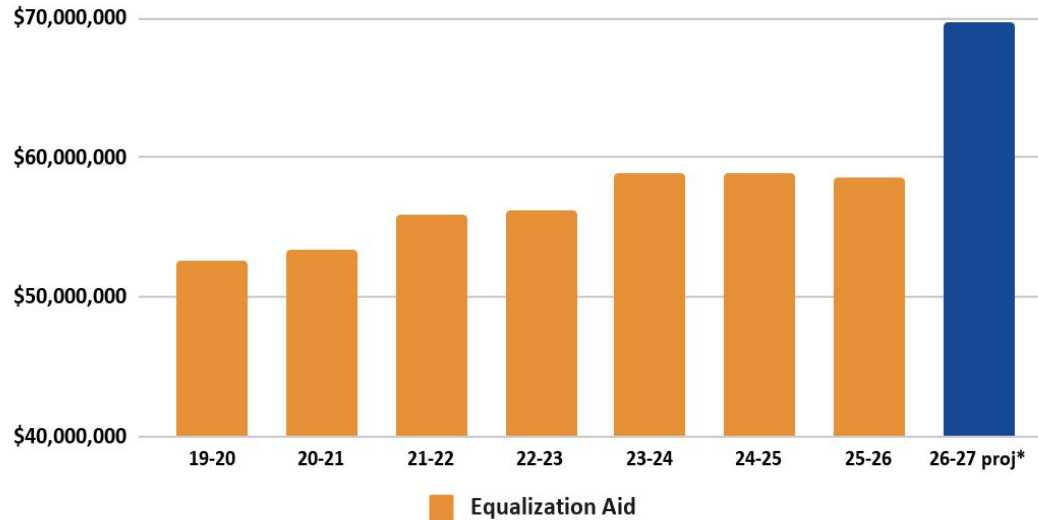
| | |
|---|--------------------|
| Acer Chromebooks 4gig (3,270) 6 th -12 th grade | \$ 974,460 |
| Google Chrome EDU License | \$ 101,370 |
| Total | \$1,075,830 |

[LINK to Tech Plan 2024-2027](#)

State Aid, Tax Levy & Mill Rate

2026-27 Equalization Aid

Equalization Aid History

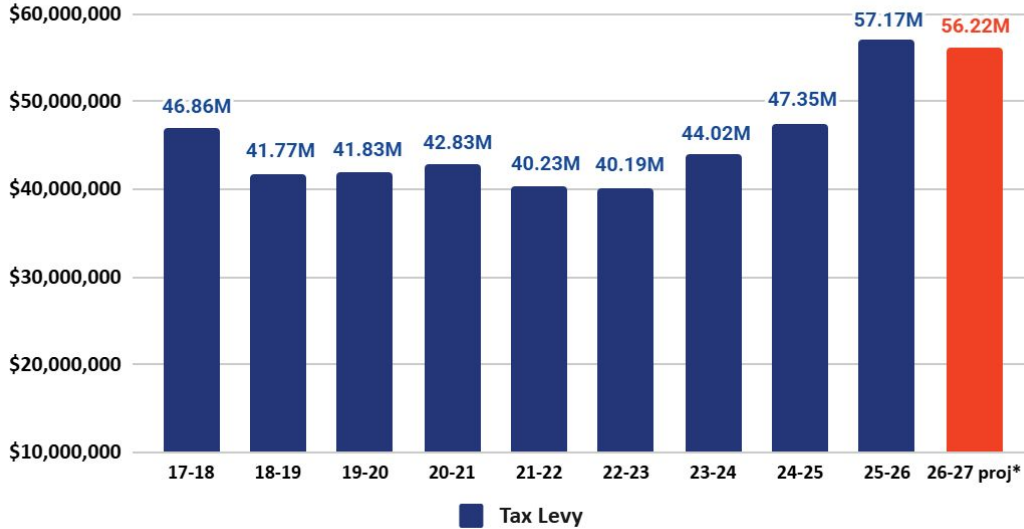


Projected Increase in 2026-27 due to

- EPV growth slower than the state
- Shared cost increases and reduction of deductible receipts

2026-2027 Tax Levy

Tax Levy History



***Projected 26-27 Tax Levy: \$56,220,143**

Decrease of 1.66% from previous year

Why is equalization aid and the tax levy important?

It intends to make up difference between the districts tax base and the state's benchmark tax base

Prior to 2023-24 the WAWM tax levy had been decreasing which was offset by the increase in equalization aid provided by the state.

Typically, a school district with higher property values will receive less Equalization Aid and have more of their revenue from the local tax levy than a district with lower property values, assuming similar membership and spending numbers.

A district with lower property values will thus receive more of its aid in the form of Equalization Aid and less through the local tax levy.

2026-2027 Projected Mill Rate

Mill Rate Projection = \$7.66
(6.35% decrease) - 5% EPV

*** Based on current revenue projections*

What does the mill rate mean to a homeowner?

→ Based on equalized home values

\$100,000 home = \$766 school-based portion of property tax payment

\$200,000 home = \$1,532 school-based portion of property tax payment

And so on...

Mill Rate History

