

**NORTH BRANCH INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 138
NORTH BRANCH AREA EDUCATION CENTER, BOARD ROOM, ROOM C120,
38705 GRAND AVENUE, NORTH BRANCH, MN 55056
SCHOOL BOARD WORK SESSION
THURSDAY, MAY 28, 2026
5:30 PM**

AGENDA

Notice is hereby given that the School Board of North Branch Area Public Schools will hold a School Board Work Session on Thursday, May 28, 2026 at 5:30 PM in the North Branch Area Education Center, Board Room, Room C120, 38705 Grand Avenue, North Branch, MN 55056.

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call
- III. Pledge of Allegiance
- IV. Superintendent's Report 2
- V. Work Session Topics
 - A. Spotlight: Distance Learning Academy 14
 - B. Math Curriculum Update 24
 - C. Budget Discussion 30
- VI. Adjournment



Superintendent Update

May 28, 2026



Vision

What we intend to create

Inspire dreams,

build integrity,

instill hope

*in our students, our staff, our families
and our communities.*



Mission

Purpose of our work

Partner with students, families and communities

*to challenge all students to achieve their **greatest potential***

and become informed and engaged citizens.

Hmong Family Engagement Night



American Indian Drum and Dance Exhibition



**4TH ANNUAL
DRUM & DANCE
EXHIBITION**

Featuring Head Drum:
Wicahpi Hoksilla
Starboy Singers

May 15, 2026
5:30-6:00 Meal
6:00-7:30pm
Exhibition &
Honoring Students

RSVP Here



North Branch Area
High School
38175 Grand Ave

Sponsored by:
North Branch Area Schools
Indian Education

Fun at the Vehicle Fair and Teddy Bear Band Gatherings



A Life-Saving Resource for Our Community



Save Station Now Installed at North Branch Area Public Schools



A Save Station is an all-weather, year-round emergency response station that contains:

- A public access AED (Automated External Defibrillator)
- Emergency response information
- Rapid-access lifesaving equipment

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These stations are designed to provide immediate access during cardiac emergencies in public recreation areas.

Thank you to the Stacy-Lent Fire Station and the Teddy Heart Foundation for making this happen!

<https://teddys-heart.org/>

Max Impact Day is on Wednesday, June 3rd!



THE MAX IMPACT CHALLENGE FOR THE VIKING CLASS OF 2026

INVEST IN YOURSELF. HONOR A LEGACY.

WHAT IS THE MAX IMPACT CHALLENGE?

The Max Impact Challenge is a special opportunity for the **Class of 2026** to compete in teams of 3-6 for monetary team awards made possible by the legacy and generosity of Max Malmquist.

WHERE?

Tailgaters – on the event side
Lunch will be provided!

WHEN?

Wednesday, June 3rd | 11am–2pm
No school for seniors!

Graduating with a Plan

To be eligible for awards, your team will need to articulate the **value of ongoing learning** after high school. Your team will present to a panel of community leaders for monetary awards.

*It can be anything: college, career training, military, or workforce.
What matters is that you have a plan.*

Sign up today!

Talk to Paige Stevenson
Call or text: 651-674-1549
p Stevenson@isd138.org



Meet Max Malmquist

Lifelong North Branch Resident
1958 Valedictorian

Educator, Historian and Civic leader
After a lifetime of service, Max is giving back to invest in you.



11:00 AM – Welcome

- Introduction to the Max Impact Challenge
- Honoring the legacy of Max Malmquist
- Launching the Maximizing Impact Endowment Fund

11:15 AM – Challenge Overview

- Expectations and presentation guidelines
- Team preparation time

11:30 AM – Lunch & Team Collaboration

- Lunch provided
- Teams finalize presentations

12:15 PM – Team Presentations Begin

Students creatively present their plans for ongoing learning after high school.

1:30 PM – Judges Deliberation

- Student networking and reflection

1:45 PM – Awards & Closing

- Monetary team awards announced
- Closing remarks and celebration of the Class of 2026

Theme: *Invest in Yourself. Honor a Legacy.*

Maximizing Impact Endowment Fund Golf Tournament



MAXIMIZING
Impact
**ENDOWMENT FUND
GOLF FUNDRAISER**

JUNE 14 | 12:00 PM SHOTGUN START

9 TEAMS OF 4, 9 HOLES
Sign up as a team of 4 or sign up individually and we will put you on a team.

NORTH BRANCH GOLF COURSE

\$50 PER PLAYER
Includes golf, cart and food.

DONATIONS TO ENDOWMENT FUND APPRECIATED

FUN FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES

- HOLE CHALLENGES & CONTESTS**
Closest to the Pin, Longest Drive, Hole-in-One Challenge & more!
- SILENT AUCTION**
Featuring Services & Experiences from District Staff
- RAFFLES, GAMES & PRIZES**
Mulligans, raffles, bucket raffles, putting challenge & more!
- DONATIONS TO THE ENDOWMENT FUND APPRECIATED**
Every dollar helps maximize impact!

Reserve Your Spot Today!

Sara Paul
spaul@isd138.org
651-338-1302
Contact Sara Paul to reserve your spot!

Thank you for supporting
OUR STUDENTS AND COMMUNITY!

Honoring the Edelstein Family Foundation



- The Edelstein Family Foundation was created by Jacob, David, and Ruth Edelstein in honor of their father, Samuel Edelstein, a longtime North Branch businessman.
- The family's roots in North Branch began with Samuel Edelstein's general store, one of the community's early family businesses.
- The siblings found success in engineering, business, and the performing arts while maintaining a strong commitment to education.
- North Branch Area High School began receiving scholarships from the Edelstein Family Foundation in 1976.
- This year, the Edelstein Family Foundation is providing over \$70,000 in scholarships to North Branch students, contributing more than \$500,000 over the last 10 years.
- We are planning a special surprise to honor the Edelstein Family Foundation during their visit to North Branch on June 1.

NB
CHOIRS
HIGH SCHOOL
Spring Concert
JUNE 1ST, 2026
7:00 P.M.
EDELSTEIN AUDITORIUM
SAM LUBS, DIRECTOR
MICHELLE TRUNK, ACCOMPANIST

East Central Regional Arts Council (ECRAC) grant and North Branch Area Education Center Foundation (NBAEF) elevating student creativity and Viking pride.



Our Viking Banner Project has been a wonderful celebration of student creativity and Viking pride, and we are excited to share that the project is nearing completion.

After reviewing many talented submissions, 16 student-designed banners were selected to be displayed along Grand Avenue. In addition, 8 artworks will be featured as posters, and 5 original pieces will be framed and displayed throughout the district, further showcasing the artistic strengths of our students. Some artwork has been selected for “special projects.” Students whose work was selected will be notified soon.

This opportunity was made possible through a grant from the East Central Regional Arts Council, along with support from the North Branch Area Education Center Foundation.



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Distance Learning Academy

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Spotlight Presentation 05.28.26



Mission- Purpose of our work

*Partner with students, families and communities to challenge all students to achieve their **greatest potential** and become informed and engaged citizens.*

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NORTH BRANCH
DISTANCE LEARNING
ACADEMY

Life Skill and Academic Goals



Attendance Goal

Academy average daily attendance will be 85% and above as measured by activity time within Edmentum.

Academic Goal

During the 2025-2026 school year, 80% of all course grades for students enrolled in the Distance Learning Academy will be a C- or higher.

Life Skills

Taking Action



Action Plan Highlights

Partnership with families

Partnership with community organizations; *Therapeutic Service Agency, Family Engagement Coach, and Isanti/Chisago County Services*

As measured by activity time within Edmentum, the daily average attendance rate for¹⁷ the school year is 95%.

*State-approved supplemental online learning providers in Minnesota are seeking clearer guidelines on how to define and measure a full day of student attendance.

Academic Snapshot



Taking Action

- Student centered support through teacher office hours
- Bi-weekly tracking of student progress in all courses
- After school intervention support: Monday - Thursday
- Math tutoring: Tuesday - Thursday
- Regular communication and feedback
- Bi-weekly problem solving team
- Principal intervention

Semester 1 Results

- 73% of all grades were above a C-
- 13% of all grades were and F

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Semester 2 Preliminary

- 74% of all grades will be above a C-

Empathy Interview Takeaways



The analysis focused on understanding lived experiences, successes, and challenges to strategically improve the DLA.

- **Connection and Belonging:** A significant majority (60%) of families emphasized that regular check-ins with trusted staff and continued access to athletics and extracurriculars are vital for student success.
- **Meaningful Relationships:** Multiple staff members were explicitly "shouted out" for building genuine, motivating, and supportive relationships with students.
- **Instructional Alignment & Advocacy:** Families identified a need for better alignment between notes, quizzes, and tests. They also expressed a desire for clearer systems that allow students to practice self-advocacy regarding assessment accuracy.
- **The "Bottom Line":** Families are not seeking less rigor; instead, they are advocating for clearer systems, stronger relevance to real-life skills, and maintaining the meaningful relationships that currently drive student motivation.



DISTANCE LEARNING ACADEMY | PARTNERING WITH HOMESCHOOL FAMILIES

FLEXIBLE, QUALITY EDUCATION FOR YOUR CHILD.



FLEXIBLE LEARNING

Customize your schedule. Learn at your own pace from home or anywhere.



ENROLL IN 1 OR MORE CLASSES

Choose individual courses to supplement your homeschooling or a full load.



Work-based Learning

DLA students have the opportunity to have meaningful work based career focused experiences supported from a career navigator



MEET GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Earn credits that apply towards a Minnesota High School Diploma.




NORTH BRANCH DISTANCE LEARNING ACADEMY PARTNERSHIP

We support homeschool families as your dedicated educational partner. Access resources, guidance, and accredited curriculum while maintaining the unique homeschooling approach that works best for your student.

DISCOVER THE POSSIBILITIES!

Learn more at <https://www.isd138.org/oldla>

 (651)674-1051

 dtreichel@isd138.org



Inspire Dreams, Build Integrity, Instill Hope



MDE approved supplemental online provider

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Increasing partnerships with our local and statewide homeschool families

Graduate Success Stories

- **Lana Houck** – Montana State University (*Full Rodeo Scholarship*)
- **Lucy Jacobson** – Vocational Program, Eau Claire (*Radiology Technician Path*)
- **Trystyn Johnson** – Eastern Florida State College

Current Students & Families

- **Valencia Vue** (11th Grade) & **Gao Vue** (*Virtual Parent Representative*)
- **Kyra Shepard** (10th Grade) & **Tamara Shepard** (*Parent Representative*)
- **Jill Houck** (*Parent Representative*)

Academy Faculty

- **Danica Porter** – DLA Science Teacher



Looking Back / Moving Forward - Continuous Improvement

Focus areas of Consideration

- Reviewing entrance criteria to ensure right fit
- Strengthening family partnerships through required parent orientation
- Requiring students to complete Artificial Intelligence bootcamp and sign off behavior expectations
- Custom modification to ensure equitable access for all students and stronger relevance to real life experiences



Student Statement

With the DLA program, I've been able to stop my work at any time I need to, and resume later without missing anything. The flexibility of the program has also enabled me to spend a lot of time with my grandmother, which we both greatly appreciate.

Additionally, the more self-driven nature of DLA has helped me to learn many skills that are essential for the future. I've had to learn how to be self-motivated, how to manage my time properly, and how to be independent.

Despite the inherent lack of face-to-face interactions with my teachers in comparison to in-person learning, I've still been able to learn much from them. They've always encouraged us students to reach out to them and have proved to be more than happy to help me whenever I needed it.

Overall, my experience with the DLA program has been extremely positive, and I'm so grateful that this program was an option available to me.

Kylie Russell, 12th grade student










Developing
Confidence,
Problem-Solving, and
Readiness in
Mathematics

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School Board Update

Why Now?

-  April 7, 2025 the new 2022 Math Standards were approved
-  Districts must fully implement new standards by the 2027-2028 school year
-  2027-2028 - MCA IV - new version aligned to new standards
-  Strong alignment with workforce / future-ready skills
-  Ensuring our math pathways provide learning opportunities for all students

How will these changes impact student outcomes?



Students Will:

Confidence & Understanding

Build confidence in mathematics through deeper conceptual understanding and successful problem-solving experiences.

Critical Thinking

Develop stronger problem-solving and critical-thinking skills that transfer beyond the classroom.

Real-World Application

Apply mathematics to real-world situations and future career pathways.

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Communication Skills

Strengthen communication skills by explaining mathematical reasoning and thinking.

Balanced Instruction

Experience instruction that provides both appropriate challenge and appropriate support.

Flexible Growth

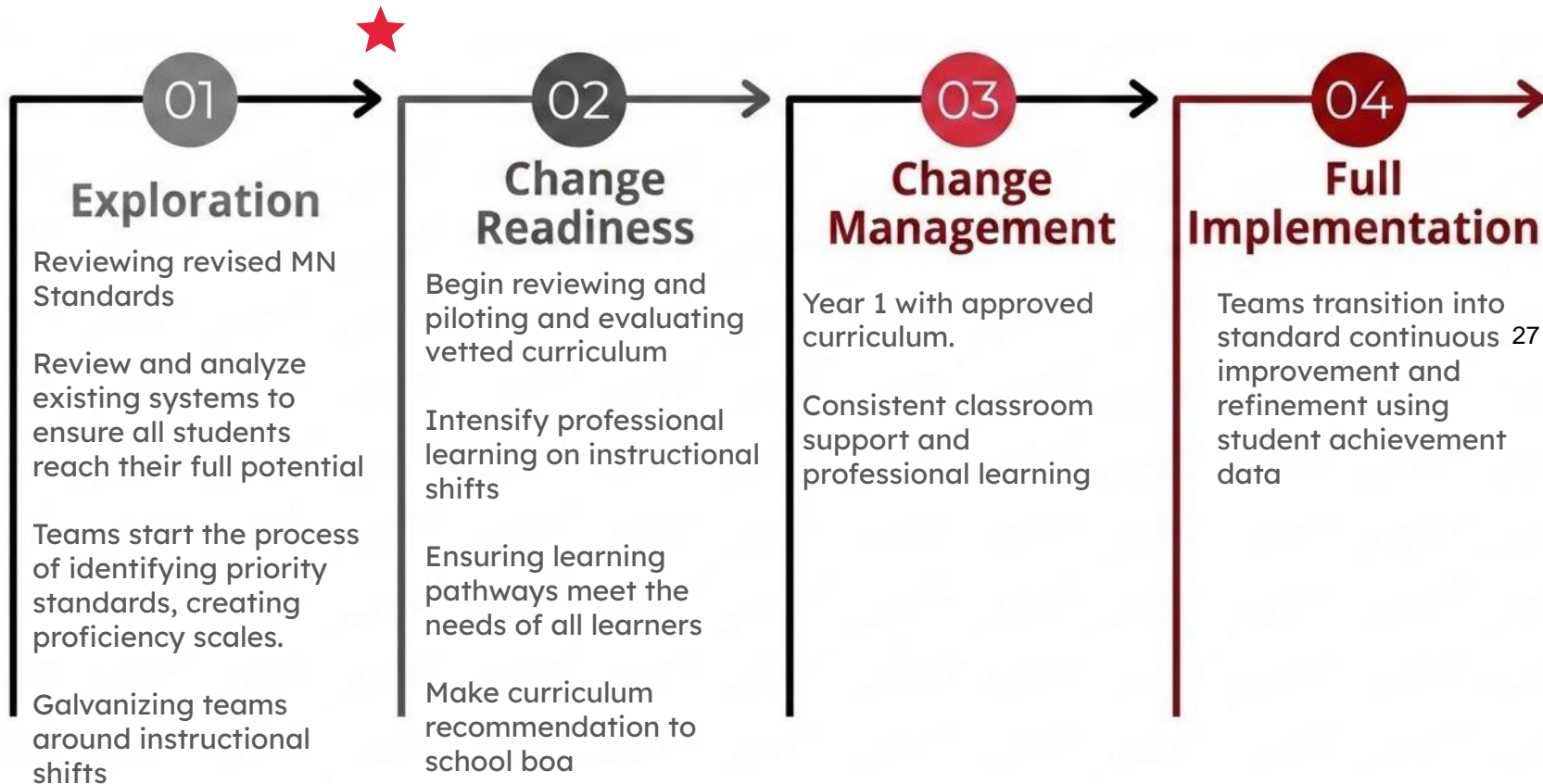
Have flexible opportunities for enrichment, acceleration, and intervention based on readiness and growth.

Productive Perseverance

Ownership & Reflection

Future Readiness

Managing Change



Adding Math Acceleration Opportunities

Math Acceleration Framework

4th grade accelerated option - compacted Grade 4 and 5 standards

5th grade accelerated option - compacted grade 5 and 6 standards

6th grade accelerates into 7th grade math (**Pre-Algebra**)

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Ensuring Access, Challenge, and Support

NBAPS recognizes that student learning trajectories vary over time. Placement within math pathways will be reviewed annually and may be adjusted based on demonstrated achievement, growth, readiness for rigor, and student support needs. NBAPS is committed to maintaining equitable access to advanced learning opportunities while ensuring students are appropriately supported for success.



Questions / Comments

Moving Forward Together



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2025-26 Budget Presentation



NORTH BRANCH
AREA PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Inspire Dreams, Build Integrity, Instill Hope

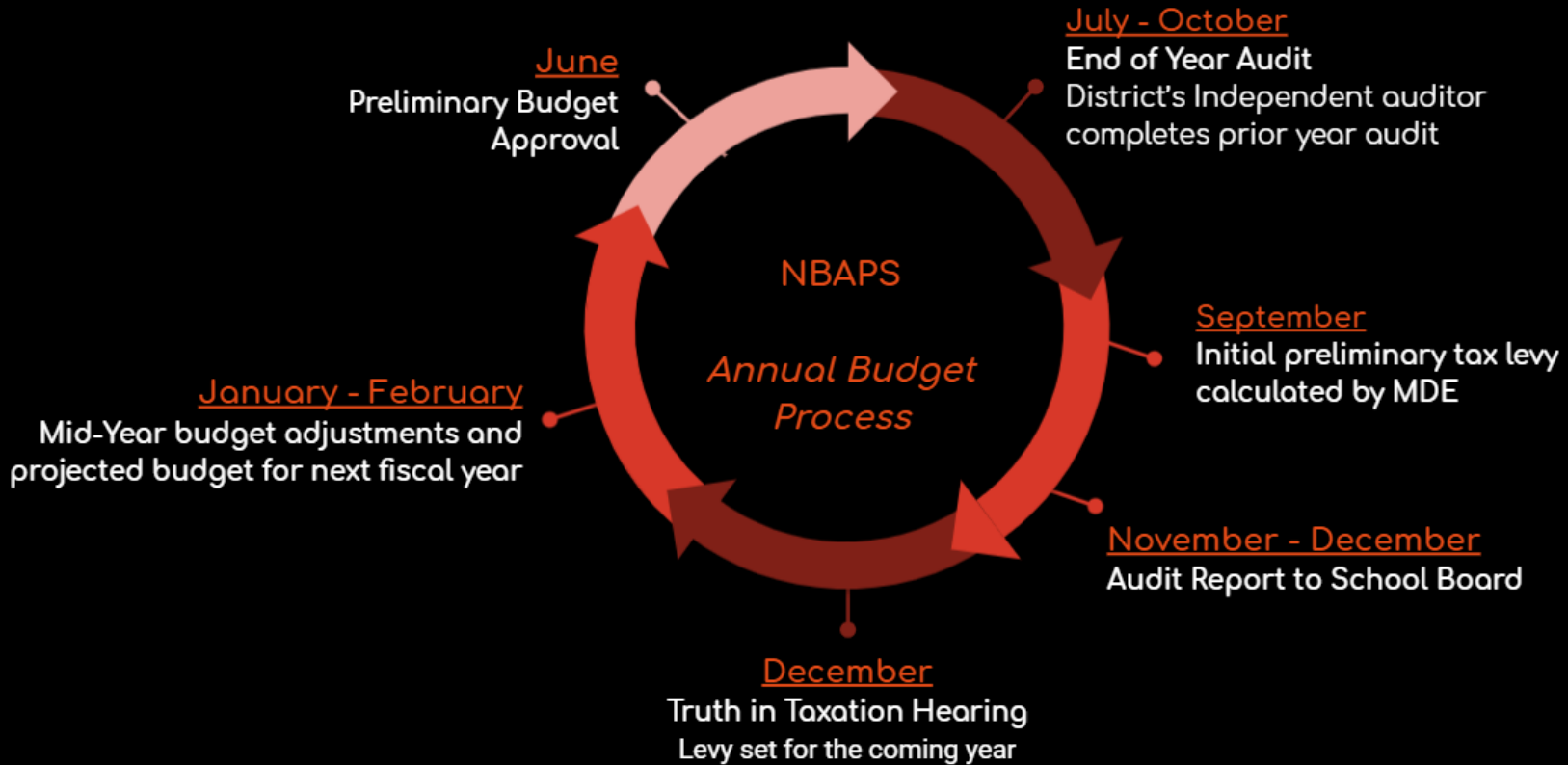
MAY 28, 2026

Todd Tetzlaff, Director of Finance and Human Resources

Overview

- Revised budget information for the current year (FY 26)
- Proposed budget for next year (FY 27)
- Provide context regarding board action in June

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Current Year – Revised Budget

The current year revised budget is based on actual revenue and expenditures through March and projections through June 30th. 33

Key Budget Drivers – FY26 Revisions

- Enrollment adjustments
- Employee benefit Increases
- Interest earnings

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Current Year Revised Budget – All Funds Revenue

			Revenue	Revenue	
			FY 26 Original	FY 26 Revised	Difference
Fund 01	General Fund		\$ 39,210,398.00	\$ 39,162,121.00	\$ (48,277.00)
Fund 02	Food Service		\$ 2,120,064.00	\$ 2,167,476.00	\$ 47,412.00
Fund 04	Comm Ed		\$ 1,995,497.00	\$ 2,113,300.00	\$ 117,803.00
Fund 07	Debt Service		\$ 5,372,018.00	\$ 5,372,018.00	\$ ³⁵ ₋
Fund 20	Internal Svc		\$ 275,500.00	\$ 305,000.00	\$ 29,500.00
Fund 45	Irrevocable Trust		\$ 179,850.00	\$ 227,000.00	\$ 47,150.00
Fund 47	OPEB Debt Svc		\$ -	\$ 407,601.00	\$ 407,601.00
	All Revenue		\$ 49,153,327.00	\$ 49,754,516.00	\$ 601,189.00

Current Year Revised Budget – All Funds Expenses

		Expenses		Expenses	
		FY 26 Original		FY 26 Revised	
				Difference	
Fund 01	General Fund	\$	39,938,496.00	\$	40,484,229.00
Fund 02	Food Service	\$	1,825,970.00	\$	1,833,770.00
Fund 04	Comm Ed	\$	2,040,095.00	\$	2,182,647.00
Fund 07	Debt Service	\$	5,305,830.00	\$	5,305,830.00
Fund 20	Internal Svc	\$	241,235.00	\$	253,000.00
Fund 45	Irrevocable Trust	\$	327,000.00	\$	122,000.00
Fund 47	OPEB Debt Svc	\$	429,220.00	\$	429,220.00
					_ 36
	All Expenses	\$	50,107,846.00	\$	50,610,696.00
				\$	502,850.00

Next Year – Proposed Budget

- **Next year's proposed budget is based on our current understanding of legislative changes, applied contract increases and projections based on prior years.** 37

Key Budget Drivers – FY27 Budget

- Formula inflator of 2.69% applied to basic revenue
- Compensatory revenue
- Teacher contract increases applied
- Inflationary pressures persist

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2026 – 2027 Proposed Budget – All Funds Revenue

			Revenue	Revenue	
			FY 26 Revised	FY 27 Proposed	Difference
Fund 01	General Fund		\$ 39,162,121.00	\$ 40,000,205.00	\$ 838,084.00
Fund 02	Food Service		\$ 2,167,476.00	\$ 2,175,526.00	\$ 8,050.00
Fund 04	Comm Ed		\$ 2,113,300.00	\$ 2,128,750.00	\$ 15,450.00
Fund 07	Debt Service		\$ 5,372,018.00	\$ 5,590,997.00	\$ 218,979.00
Fund 20	Internal Svc		\$ 305,000.00	\$ 305,000.00	\$ -
Fund 45	Irrevocable Trust		\$ 227,000.00	\$ 227,000.00	\$ -
Fund 47	OPEB Debt Svc		\$ 407,601.00	\$ -	\$ (407,601.00)
	All Revenue		\$ 49,754,516.00	\$ 50,427,478.00	\$ 672,962.00

2026 – 2027 Proposed Budget – All Funds Expenses

		Expenses		Expenses		
		FY 26 Revised		FY 27 Proposed		Difference
Fund 01	General Fund	\$	40,484,229.00	\$	40,974,707.00	\$ 490,478.00
Fund 02	Food Service	\$	1,833,770.00	\$	1,895,070.00	\$ 61,300.00
Fund 04	Comm Ed	\$	2,182,647.00	\$	2,259,950.00	\$ 77,303.00
Fund 07	Debt Service	\$	5,305,830.00	\$	5,305,830.00	\$ - ⁴⁰
Fund 20	Internal Svc	\$	253,000.00	\$	253,000.00	\$ -
Fund 45	Irrevocable Trust	\$	122,000.00	\$	122,000.00	\$ -
Fund 47	OPEB Debt Svc	\$	429,220.00	\$	429,220.00	\$ -
	All Expenses	\$	50,610,696.00	\$	51,239,777.00	\$ 629,081.00

Long Term Facilities Maintenance Ten Year Plan

- Plan must be adopted by the school board for submission to MDE to access funding through levy certification process
- LTFM revenue and expenditure plan and spreadsheets will be brought to the school board for approval at the June meeting and needs to be submitted to MDE prior to the end of July.
- Plan reflects Facility Bond, Series 2018A
- Beginning three years ago, the school board was also asked to levy an additional amount to be used by SCRED to maintain their facilities.

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Budget Opportunites

Opportunities

- Enrollment is a critical component of our financial projection
- We did not have to define a budget cut target
- Expanding student programs and adding teaching staff
- We continue to obtain grant funding and expanded partnerships
- Recent bond rating calls, financial audits have been favorable

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School Board Action in June

Board action is needed to finalize budget processes that affect staffing, programming, and community investments

- Action to adopt the revised FY 26 budget
- Action to adopt the proposed FY 27 budget
- Action to approve LTFM budgets for FY 27
- Action to approve student fees and meal prices for FY 27

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Questions?



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MAY 28, 2026

Todd Tetzlaff, Director of Finance and Human Resources