

Board of Education Mesa County Valley School District 51

Agenda

August 18, 2026

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VISION STATEMENT

Engage, equip, and empower each and every student, each and every day.

DISTRICT MISSION

D51 engages our community, families and staff to deliver individualized, collaborative and challenging educational experiences to prepare each and every student for their brightest future.

BOARD PURPOSE

Provide clear, effective, and strategic governance that is student and community-centered so that each and every student will be engaged, equipped, and empowered each and every day.

ESSENTIAL BOARD ROLES

- **Guide** the District through the superintendent
- **Communicate** and uphold the strategic vision of the district
- **Hold** the district accountable for making progress toward strategic outcomes
- **Ensure** alignment of resources and structures
- **Represent** the interests of the community while prioritizing student success across the district

BOARD'S CORE, DRIVING VALUES

- Proactive and prepared
- Respectful and professional
- Focused on student success
- Accountability with integrity
- Cohesive and committed

BOARD MEMBERS

District A – Mr. José Luis Chávez,
President

District B – Mrs. Barb Evanson

District C – Mrs. Andrea Haitz, Secretary

District D – Mrs. Kaci Cole

District E – Mrs. Vicki Woods,
Vice President

SUPERINTENDENT

Dr. Brian Hill

Board of Education Business Meeting

5:00 PM

1. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance/Moment of Silence/Roll Call
2. Agenda Approval
3. Meeting Minutes and Summary Approval
- 3.A. June 2, 2026 Board Work Session Minutes
- 3.B. June 16, 2026 Board Business Meeting Minutes
- 3.C. July 13, 2026 Special Meeting Minutes
4. Recognitions
- 4.A. Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) National Title Winner
- 4.B. Chicken Hawks Western Edge Robotics International Champions Finalist Award
- 4.C. 2026 State Skeet and Trap Championship Winners
- 4.D. Robert Ryan Colorado Athletic Trainers Association (CATA) Award
- 4.E. 2026 Open Inquiry Teaching Award
- 4.F. Exemplary Band Award Winners
5. Board Reports
- 5.A. Good Things
- 5.B. Committee/Activity Updates
6. D51 Happenings and Celebrations
7. Superintendent's Report
- 7.A. OWL/Wildwood Update
8. Audience Comments
9. Consent Agenda
- 9.A. Personnel Action
- 9.B. Gifts from the Public
- 9.C. Grants
10. Business Items
- 10.A. Colorado High School Activities Association Resolution
- 10.B. Fiscal Oversight Committee Membership Approval
- 10.C. MLO Ballot Language
- 10.D. 1st Reading Policy DAC Federal Fiscal Compliance
11. Future Meeting Agenda Items
12. Future Meetings
- 12.A. September 1, 2026, Board Work Session, Harry Butler Board Room, 5:00 p.m.
- 12.B. September 15, 2026, Board Business Meeting, Harry Butler Board Room, 5:00 p.m.
13. Adjournment
14. Expulsion Report EOY 25/26

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AT BOARD MEETINGS; MEETING RULES

Adopted: September 14, 2021

Revised: November 19, 2024

The Board desires to hear the views of citizens of the District and welcomes public comments at business meetings. Public comments at work sessions or special meetings will not be allowed unless otherwise delineated on the meeting agenda. To ensure the safety, security, and orderly conduct at Board meetings all participants must adhere to these rules and any additional instructions provided by security personnel or meeting facilitators.

Eligibility and priority to address the Board: To ensure the students are prioritized and heard, the Board will allow students to speak first during the public comment portion of the meetings. Students wishing to address the Board must sign up and will be called in the order of registration before other community members.

Process/Procedure:

1. Individuals wishing to address the Board must sign up and will be called in the order of registration.
2. Comments will be limited to agenda item(s).
3. The public comment portion will be limited to 60 minutes unless the Board votes to extend the time. If additional time is approved, it will be at the discretion of the Board and based on the circumstances of the meeting.
4. Each speaker will be allotted up to three minutes to address the Board during public comment. If there are a large number of individuals signed up to speak, the Board reserves the right to reduce the time per speaker to ensure that as many voices are heard within the allotted comment period. If time constraints prevent all individuals from speaking during the public comment period, the Board encourages those unable to address the Board in person to submit their input via emails, written letters, or other formats. All submitted comments will be reviewed by the Board.
5. Speakers should not repeat the same message shared by others. If a speaker's point has already been addressed, comment briefly in support of previous comments and provide any other unique insights.

Prohibited Items: For security purposes, attendees may not bring bags into the meeting room. This includes, but is not limited to: backpacks, purses larger than a clutch, and tote bags. Exceptions will be made for medically necessary items or diaper bags, which are subject to inspection. Employees who are required to attend and work during the meeting are exempt from the bag policy but may be subject to standard security procedures.

Orderly Conduct:

1. All speakers and attendees are expected to maintain respectful and proper decorum during Board meetings.
2. Comments shall be directed to the Board as a whole and not an individual member, staff, or other attendees.
3. Personal attacks, threats, shouting, cheering, snapping, and other distractions or disruptive behavior, will not be tolerated.
4. Clapping after a comment may be allowed unless it is disrespectful or disrupts the flow of the meeting. Attendees are encouraged to keep expressions of support by clapping brief. If attendees disregard this expectation, the Board may temporarily pause the meeting to restore order or remove individuals causing the disruptions.
5. All comments must be age-appropriate, to include kindergarten through twelfth grade, and suitable for a school setting. Speakers are expected to use language and share content that is respectful and appropriate for all ages.
6. Comments containing profanity, vulgarity, or otherwise inappropriate material will not be permitted.
7. Attendees may not bring signs, banners, props, or other similar items/materials into the meeting. Any individual wishing to display any of the items referenced, or demonstrate, should do so in appropriate spaces outside of the meeting room, in compliance with District policies.
8. Media representatives wishing to record the Board meeting will be assigned a designated location to ensure their activities do not disrupt the proceedings or obstruct the view of attendees. All recording equipment must remain within the assigned area for the duration of the meeting.

Enforcement of Meeting Rules: Individuals who fail to follow the established rules for public comments or meeting decorum will receive a warning. If the disruptive behavior continues after the warning, the individual may be removed from the meeting. Repeated violations may result in a ban from attending future meetings as determined by the Board.

Board of Education Resolution 26/27: 01

Presented: August 18, 2026

Would Kambelle Hotard please join me at the front of the room?

District 51 is proud to recognize our outstanding FCCLA students who took their talents to the national stage this summer at the FCCLA National Leadership Conference in Washington, D.C.

Students from across our high schools competed alongside peers from across the country in leadership and career-focused events, demonstrating their skills, knowledge, and professionalism on the national stage.

But Kambelle, a junior last year at Grand Junction High School, was the sole District 51 student to earn a spot on the podium at the national competition, taking home first place for her Sports Nutrition project. This outstanding accomplishment reflects the time, preparation, and hard work she dedicated to her project.

We also want to thank our FCCLA advisors for their time, guidance, and dedication in preparing and supporting our students along the way.

The Board of Education and Superintendent Dr. Hill would like to congratulate Kambelle on this incredible achievement. We are proud of all our FCCLA students who represented their schools and District 51 on the national stage and especially excited to celebrate Kambelle's first-place national finish.

**Recognition:
Chicken Hawks Western Edge Robotics International
Champions Finalist Award**

Board of Education Resolution 26/27: 02

Presented: August 18, 2026

Would the members and coaches of the Chicken Hawks Robotics Team please join me at the front of the room?

The Chicken Hawks, a community-based robotics team sponsored by Mesa View Elementary, brings together students from across our D51 Elementary Schools who share a passion for robotics, problem-solving, and teamwork.

This summer, the Chicken Hawks earned an invitation to the Western Edge Robotics Invitational after placing first in Core Values and among the top six overall at the Colorado state championship in December. Western Edge is the second-largest FIRST robotics event, bringing together teams from 32 nations. The Chicken Hawks were the only team representing Colorado, and competed alongside 87 other teams.

Throughout the competition, the team impressed judges with their teamwork, robot skills, and ability to demonstrate FIRST Core Values. They also supported and mentored their alliance teams from Georgia and Canada.

Their performance earned them the Championship Finalist Award, one of the competition's top honors recognizing excellence across the full FIRST LEGO League experience, including Core Values, Robot Design, and the Innovation Project.

We'd be remiss not to mention that behind the Chicken Hawks are dedicated coaches who have helped guide and support the team every step of the way. A special shoutout to Ms. Fitzgerald, who started the Chicken Hawks and has helped grow the team from its beginnings to competing and succeeding on an international stage.

The Board of Education and Superintendent Dr. Hill would like to congratulate the Chicken Hawks and their coaches on this incredible achievement and recognize the hard work and dedication that brought them to the international stage.

Board of Education Resolution 26/27: 03

Presented: August 18, 2026

Would the members and coaches of the Fruita Monument High School Competition Shooting Team please join me at the front of the room?

The Fruita Monument High School Competition Shooting Team capped off an impressive season with a strong showing at the High School State Championships in Colorado Springs.

The team competes in both trap and skeet, two clay-target shooting disciplines. In trap, targets are launched away from the competitor at varying angles, while in skeet, targets cross in front of the competitor from different directions.

At the State Championships, FMHS brought home the state championship in skeet, while also earning the highest team season average in the Class 1A conference in trap, along with multiple individual honors.

Those accomplishments are especially impressive given the scale of the competition. The league includes nearly 56,000 athletes across 1,972 high school, college, and homeschool teams nationwide.

The Board of Education and Superintendent Dr. Hill congratulate the Fruita Monument Competition Shooting Team and their coaches on an exceptional season and a well-deserved state championship.

Board of Education Resolution 26/27: 04

Presented: August 18, 2026

Would Jennifer Kimbrow please join me at the front of the room?

Jennifer, an athletic trainer at Fruita Monument High School, was recently named a 2026 Robert Ryan Educator of the Year by the Colorado Athletic Trainers Association. This prestigious award is presented to just two athletic trainers across the state each year, recognizing their outstanding commitment to education and mentorship of young athletes.

Jennifer's work at Fruita Monument goes far beyond treating injuries. She is an educator, mentor, and trusted resource for students, helping young athletes better understand their health and well-being while providing the care and support they need to safely participate in the activities they love.

Athletic trainers are an important part of our high school communities, and we are incredibly fortunate to have professionals like Jennifer working alongside our students, coaches, and families every day.

The Board of Education and Superintendent Dr. Hill congratulate Jennifer on this well-deserved statewide recognition and thank her for the care, expertise, and dedication she brings to our FMHS Wildcats and District 51.

Board of Education Resolution 26/27: 05

Presented: August 18, 2026

Would Christi Hein please join me at the front of the room?

Christi works in District 51's Career & College Readiness Department as our Coordinator of AP and Concurrent Enrollment and is a longtime educator and adjunct faculty member at Colorado Mesa University. Her work advancing free speech, civil discourse, and thoughtful engagement across differing viewpoints recently earned her the 2026 Teaching Award from Heterodox Academy as part of its annual Open Inquiry Awards. This national award recognizes educators who help students engage with different perspectives, ask thoughtful questions, and navigate disagreement in a constructive and respectful way.

Those skills are an important part of the work happening right here in D51. As part of our Graduate Profile, we strive to ensure our students are Culturally Connected when they leave our district, able to understand different perspectives, communicate effectively, engage respectfully with others, and contribute to an increasingly diverse world. Christi brings her expertise in civil discourse and open inquiry directly into this work, helping us bring that part of our Graduate Profile to life for students.

The Board of Education and Superintendent Dr. Hill congratulate Christi on this well-deserved honor and thank her for the work she continues to do to encourage thoughtful dialogue, respectful disagreement, and the free exchange of ideas in education.

Board of Education Resolution 26/27: 06

Presented: August 18, 2026

Would the band directors from Central High School, Fruita Monument High School, Grand Mesa Middle School, Mount Garfield Middle School, and Orchard Mesa Middle School please join me at the front of the room.

Each year, the Colorado Bandmasters Association presents the Exemplary Band Award to middle and high school band programs that demonstrate excellence across multiple areas of music education. The award recognizes well-rounded programs and considers achievement in areas including concert, marching, jazz, solo and ensemble performance, and student participation.

District 51 has a long history of having multiple band programs earn this recognition year after year. That continued success speaks to the strength of performing arts across our district and the high-quality music education our students receive from middle school through high school.

For the 2025-26 year, five District 51 band programs earned this distinction:

- **Central High School** – Director Hans Snell
- **Fruita Monument High School** – Director Ryan Crabtree
- **Grand Mesa Middle School** – Director Katie Stiles
- **Mount Garfield Middle School** – Director Tzetzzi Mendez
- **Orchard Mesa Middle School** – Director Randy Rabito

The Board of Education and Superintendent Dr. Hill congratulate these directors and their students on this outstanding achievement and recognize their continued commitment to excellence in music education across District 51.



Outdoor Wilderness Lab

D[★]51

Update
8/18/2026

7.A

OWL Update

Owl Recap

- How did we get here?

Agency Coordination

- Coordination with the City of Grand Junction, Mesa County, Persigo, and partner agencies

Planning & Progress

- Site planning, engineering, and technical studies

Financial Update

- Project expenditures and budget status

Community Engagement

- Public meetings and stakeholder feedback

Next Steps

- Upcoming milestones



Project Background and Transition

● How We Got Here

- 2012- 2019 Pilot Phase
- 2019- 2025 Gateway
- August 2025 safety and long term site considerations prompted evaluation of a permanent site home for OWL
- D51 selected the 34-acre Wildwood property as a future location for the program
- Staff and community partners have worked collaboratively to prepare the site
- Tonight's update covers progress and next steps



Agency Coordination

- **Mesa County**

- Coordinating project planning at each stage of the process.
- Working together to ensure proposed improvements comply with applicable County development requirements.

- **City Of Grand Junction**

- Coordinated with City staff regarding future utility infrastructure planning.
- Discussed long-range infrastructure improvements that may benefit the property.

- **Persigo Sewer**

- Evaluated long-term sanitary sewer service options for the Wildwood property.
- Coordinating future sewer infrastructure consistent with Persigo's planned improvements through 2028.
- Worked collaboratively to identify utility solutions that support future site development.

- **Colorado Parks and Wildlife**

- Ongoing partner who has continues to participate in project planning to support the future of the OWL program.



Planning & Progress

WILDWOOD OUTDOOR WILDERNESS LAB (OWL)

PROJECT DEVELOPMENT TIMELINE



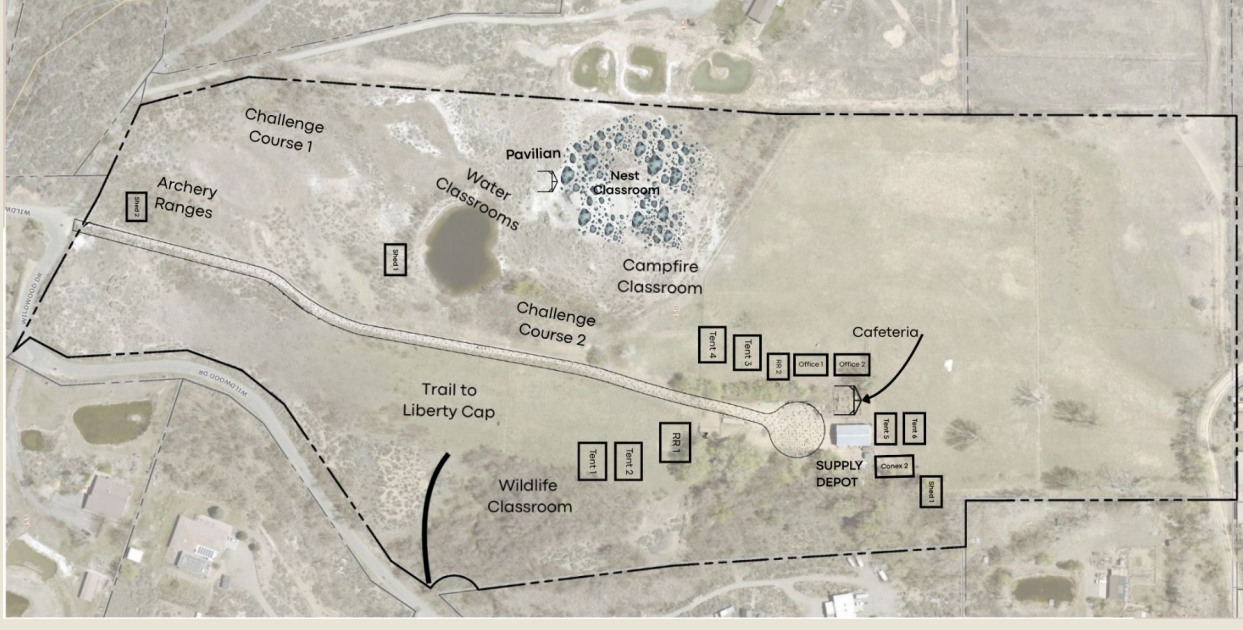
D51 Capital Project Funds Spent to Date for Relocation



Project Investment	Amount	Examples
Site Access & Infrastructure	\$85,487	Access road, road base, drainage improvements
Planning & Engineering	\$8,648	Engineering, renderings, construction drawings
Program Relocation	\$4,003	Moving materials, storage containers, boulder relocation
Site Preparation	\$11,611	Tree removal, grading, equipment, concrete slab preparation
Temporary Site Operations	\$5,354	Container rentals, restroom facilities, temporary program support
Total Project Expenditures	\$115,102	

Community Engagement

- Community Meetings and Timelines
 - Neighborhood meetings:
 - Oct 24th, Dec 1st, June 8th
 - Engagement with individual neighbors & other stakeholders: Oct 3- present
- Public Questions and Feedback
- Project Refinements based on input
 - Driveway, archery range, irrigation upgrades
- Ongoing communication and transparency



★D51

Community Partnerships for OWL & D51

● OWL Community Action Group

- Site Management
- Facilities Planning
- School Systems Support
- Fundraising
- Community Engagement





2026-2029 GOALS & STRATEGIC ACTIONS



OWL is the outdoor experiential education program of Mesa County Valley School District 51.

VISION & MISSION

Vision
Growing life-long learners in Western Colorado with leadership, curiosity, and a commitment to environmental stewardship.

Mission
Immerse learners in transformative, outdoor experiences that connect science, social-emotional growth, and environmental conservation.

3-YEAR GOALS

- 01 Secure a permanent home able to adequately host OWL programming and its participants.
- 02 Increase OWL's capacity to and success in generating sufficient funds to provide adequate staffing and other resources, and ensure program sustainability.
- 03 Build partnerships, relationships and goodwill both within and outside D51 to catalyze further pursuit of all goals.
- 04 Grow annual OWL involvement by D51 and other local K-12 students when capacity allows.

STRATEGIC ACTIONS

-  Increase facility usage through K-12 "OWL Ecosystem"
 - Overnight trips: 70%+ of 6th grade (with HS support)
 - Day trips: 70%+ of 5th grade
 - Increase number of trips offered OR facility capacity
-  Move OWL from Gateway to 450 Wildwood Dr **2025-2026**
-  Operate OWL with **phase 1 facilities: 2026-2028**
 - Existing water and electricity
 - Tents, portable restrooms, pole barn, conexes, sheds
 - Driveway upgrades, outdoor classrooms, trails
-  Upgrade **phase 2 facilities: 2028-2029**
 - OWL Lodge with cafeteria, kitchen, offices
 - Restrooms/ sewer
 - Heated cabins
- Develop strategic partnerships for advisory and capital
- Develop a 3-year/beyond operating pro forma and supporting resource development plan
-  Establish a 501c3 supporting foundation (or relationship with) to provide mechanisms for philanthropic support
- Develop and manage community/ fundraising activities including strategies and annual reporting to supporters
-  Sustainable staffing for OWL operations AND Wildwood development

WWW.OUTDOORWILDERNESSLAB.ORG



Next Steps

- 840 reservations for overnight trips in 26-27 from 14 schools (*and counting!*)
- Continue improvements to Wildwood facility
- Continue stakeholder engagement, project planning, and technical studies
- Continue fundraising:
 - Facility- *phase 1 and phase 2*
 - Staffing
 - Student financial assistance



Questions



★
D51

Board of Education Resolution 26/27: 10

Presented: August 18, 2026

Licensed and Administrative Personnel Actions

Name	Location	Assignment	Effective Date
Retirements			
None at this time.			
Resignations/Termination			
BAKER, ALLYSHA L	MT GARFIELD	SPED - RESOURCE	(rescinded)
COIT, KELSI R	CENTRAL	ART	5/21/2026
COOPER, DAWN M	MT GARFIELD	CLD - MS	5/21/2026
DETTON, STEPHANIE M	TAYLOR	GRADE 4	5/21/2026
DIAZ, FORREST ZACKERY	R-5	INTERVENTIONIST	5/22/2026
KERRIGAN, MARGARET R	ECE CENTER	EARLY CHILDHOOD SPECIAL ED	5/21/2026
RAMIREZ, LAUREN A	CENTRAL	COUNSELOR	8/12/2026
SAWYER, HEATHER M	ORCHARD AVE	MUSIC	5/21/2026
STRAW, BETSY L	DOS RIOS	INTERVENTIONIST	5/21/2026
WEST, VIRGINIA K	EMERSON	COACH, LEARNING MODEL	5/29/2026
Leave of Absence			
MARIN, MOLLY R	PALISADE	SPED - MODERATE NEEDS	5/21/2026
MCCORMICK, LILLYAN LOUISE	REDLANDS	6TH GR SCIENCE	8/14/2026
ZIMMERMAN, ALYSSA R	TOPE	GRADE 3	5/21/2026
New Assignments (Transfer/New Hires)			
BEHRMAN, JULIE A	ED SVCS AT EAST	SCHOOL NURSE	7/30/2026
BRENNAN, BARBARA D	NEW EMERSON	GRADE 1	8/5/2026
BURKETH, ALANA M	BTK	PSYCHOLOGIST	7/27/2026
COMPTON, STEPHEN R	ED SVCS AT EAST	SPC,CURRICULUM/LEARNING DESIG	7/20/2026
CROPP, RACHEL E	ED SVCS AT EAST	MENTAL HEALTH THERAPIST	8/5/2026
ELLINGTON, ERIN R	ED SVCS AT EAST	SOCIAL WORKER	8/3/2026
ENGEBRETSEN, RYAN P	MONUMENT RIDGE	GRADE 5	8/5/2026
FOX, CASSA DEE	VALLEY	MUSIC	8/5/2026
GARRICK, DAVID A	CAREER CENTER	CONSTRUCTION	8/5/2026
GREENER, IVY LYN	GJHS	SPED - RESOURCE	8/3/2026
HENRY, MEGAN R	ORCHARD AVE	ART	8/5/2026
MENGE, NINA L	FMHS	COUNSELOR	7/20/2026
PATRICK, LEIGH A	TAYLOR	GIFTED & TALENTED	8/5/2026
PUJOL, ALORA M	APPLETON	GRADE 3	9/8/2026



Mesa County Valley School District 51

Personnel Actions

Board of Education Resolution 26/27: 10

Presented: August 18, 2026

RENTIE, VICTORIA L	POMONA	COUNSELOR	8/3/2026
RUSH, SHERRI L	ED SVCS AT EAST	SCHOOL NURSE	7/30/2026
THOMAS, MICHELLE LYN	FMHS	DEAN OF STUDENTS	7/20/2026
TROWBRIDGE, NEWTON J	ED SVCS AT EAST	MENTAL HEALTH THERAPIST	8/5/2026
TRUJILLO, LIANNA R	CENTRAL	DRAMA	8/5/2026
YOUNG, CONNIE L	ED SVCS AT EAST	COORD, MENTAL HEALTH PROMO	7/20/2026
New Assignments (Non-Probationary Status Granted Through Portability)			
RICHARDSON, ELIZABETH	LINCOLN OM	MUSIC	8/5/2026
Return from Leave			
None at this time.			

Supervisory Support Staff Personnel Actions

New Assignments (Transfer/New Hires)			
None at this time.			

I hereby certify that the information contained in the above resolution is accurate and was adopted by the Mesa County Valley School District No. 51 Board of Education on August 18, 2026.

*Amy Navarette, Assistant Secretary
Board of Education*

Board of Education Resolution: 26/27: 11

Presented: August 18, 2026

Donor	Corey Wright
Gift	Conn Alto Saxophone
Value	\$500
School/Department	D51 Middle/High School Band and Music Department

Donor	Terry and Mark Schmalz
Gift	Lina Ridge Oak Flooring
Value	\$281.54
School/Department	New Emerson STEAM LEAD School

Donor	Aaron and Heather Warren
Gift	Cash
Value	\$100
School/Department	Palisade High School Girls Golf Program

Donor	Gayle Gerson
Gift	Cash
Value	\$250
School/Department	R-5 High School Sweet Success Banquet

Total: \$1,498.54

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Mesa County Valley School District 51 Board of Education, in accepting the donations listed above, extends their appreciation and acknowledges these important partnerships within the community which support learning for all students.

I hereby certify that the information contained in the above resolution is accurate and was adopted by the Mesa County Valley School District 51 Board of Education on August 18, 2026.

Amy Navarette
Assistant Secretary, Board of Education

Board of Education Resolution 26/27: 12

Presented: August 18, 2026

Grant Title	Buell Grant
Source	Local
Fund Number	22
Site	Early Child Hood Center
Description	For carryover of grant funding not spent by year end to support training related to preschool.
Budget Amount	\$12,400.67
Fiscal Year	2026/2027
Authorized Representative	Teresa Swanson - Director, Early Childhood Education

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Mesa County Valley School District No. 51 Board of Education approved the above identified grant funds for expenditure purposes August 18, 2026.

Amy Navarette
Assistant Secretary, Board of Education

**Colorado High School Activities
Association (CHSAA) Resolution**

Board of Education Resolution: 26/27: 07

Presented: August 18, 2026

WHEREAS, the high schools of the School District are members of the Colorado High School Activities Association (CHSAA) and the Southwestern League pursuant to resolutions adopted by this Board, and

WHEREAS, the CHSAA is an instrumentality of the public schools of the State of Colorado serving the important governmental purpose of administering the interscholastic activities of its members, now

THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED that, service as a member of the Board of Directors of the CHSAA or as a member of other CHSAA committees, Legislative Council or interscholastic activity league committees under the auspices of CHSAA, is deemed to be within the scope of employment of School District personnel and within the performance of such personnel's duties as employees of the School District. In particular, the Board of Education, recognizes the services of the following individuals to be within the scope of this resolution.

Name

CHSAA Position

- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| • Shawn Marsh | Classification & League Organization Committee, Legislative Council Voting Member – SWL, Track & Field Committee |
| • Gregg Hawkins | CHSAA Board of Directors – District 1 |
| • Dan Bollinger | Officiating Advisory – Wrestling |
| • Matt Doty | Music – All State Choir Advisor |
| • Aaron Howard | Sportsmanship & Inclusion |
| • Ted Leblow | Cross Country Committee |

I certify that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted by the Board of Education of Mesa County Valley School District No. 51 at a regular Board Business Meeting on August 18, 2026.

Amy Navarette
Assistant Secretary, Board of Education

Board of Education Resolution: 26/27: 08

Presented: August 18, 2026

WHEREAS, the role of the Fiscal Oversight Committee (FOC) is to assist the Board of Education in fulfilling its fiscal oversight responsibilities. The FOC does not assume the ultimate fiscal responsibilities of the Board. The Board and the Superintendent retain the ultimate responsibility for the District's financial condition and for decision-making in all matters of policy and operation; and

WHEREAS, the scope of the FOC's responsibilities includes assessing and making recommendations in the areas of:

- a) Budget
- b) Accounting, Audit, and Financial Reporting
- c) Banking (Commercial and Investment); and
- d) Other fiscal matters as assigned by the Board. In example, the activities of the FOC may also include an assessment of federal and state legislation, policies, and regulations in respect of the fiscal operations of the District, and

WHEREAS, the group meets quarterly throughout the school year to review:

- 1) financial reports and other financial information used internally and provided by the District to any governmental body or the public.
- 2) the District's audit and submit any comments or recommendations to the Board.
- 3) the business risk of the District; and the District's auditing, accounting and financial reporting processes, and

WHEREAS, to be consistent with this function, the Financial Oversight Committee should encourage continuous improvement of, and should foster adherence to the District's policies, procedures and practices at all levels, and

WHEREAS, the membership consists of:

- 3-6 community members with financial expertise, appointed by the Board of Education, staff representatives and community members as follows for the 2026-2027 fiscal year, and to continue for an additional two years:
 - Nathan Knoll
 - Justin Menge
 - Nathan Rhodes
 - Kevin Smith
 - Karen Troester
 - Eric Ward

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that this committee reports directly to the Board of Education. The Board of Education recognizes that all fiscal decisions are the Board's responsibility.

I hereby certify that the information contained in the above resolution is accurate and was adopted by the Mesa County Valley School District 51 Board of Education on August 18, 2026.

Amy Navarette
Assistant Secretary, Board of Education

Board of Education Resolution 26/27: 09

Presented: August 18, 2026

WHEREAS, the Mesa County Valley School District No. 51, Mesa County, Colorado (the “District”), is a public corporation duly organized and existing under the Constitution and the laws of the State of Colorado; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Board of Education of the District (the “Board”) have been duly elected, chosen and qualified; and

WHEREAS, Article X, Section 20 of the Colorado Constitution (“TABOR”) requires voter approval for any new tax, the creation of any debt and for spending certain moneys above limits established by TABOR; and

WHEREAS, the Board has determined that the interest of the District and the public interest and necessity demand and require that the District seek voter approval for a tax increase of \$23,200,000 for District purposes as described in Section 3 below to provide additional funds for the District’s general operating expenses pursuant to Section 22-54-108, C.R.S. and to allow the District to impose a mill levy in 2027 and thereafter subject to the mill levy override limits of Section 22-54-108(3)(B)(VI), C.R.S.; and

WHEREAS, TABOR requires the District to submit ballot issues (as defined in TABOR) to the District’s electors on limited election days before action can be taken on such ballot issues; and

WHEREAS, November 3, 2026, is one of the election dates at which ballot issues may be submitted to the eligible electors of the District pursuant to TABOR; and

WHEREAS, the County Clerk and Recorder of Mesa County (the “County Clerk”) will conduct the election on November 3, 2026, as a coordinated election (the “election”); and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to submit to the eligible electors of the District, at the election, the proposition of increasing District taxes by \$23,200,000 and to authorize the District to impose a mill levy override subject to the limits of Section 22-54-108(3)(B)(VI), C.R.S.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF MESA COUNTY VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 51, MESA COUNTY, COLORADO:

Section 1. All action heretofore taken (not inconsistent with the provisions of this resolution) by the District and the officers thereof, directed towards the election and the objects and purposes herein stated are, ratified, approved and confirmed. Unless otherwise defined herein, all terms used herein shall have the meanings specified in Section 1-1-104, C.R.S.

Section 2. The election shall be conducted as a coordinated election in each of the Counties pursuant to TABOR, Article 54 of Title 22, C.R.S., and the Uniform Election Code of 1992, and all laws amendatory thereof and supplemental thereto. The election shall also be conducted pursuant to the provisions of intergovernmental agreements (the “intergovernmental agreements”) between the District and the County Clerk. The District hereby determines that the election shall be held on November 3, 2026, and that there shall be submitted to the eligible electors of the District the question set forth herein. Because the election will be held as part of the coordinated election, the Board

Board of Education Resolution 26/27: 09

Presented: August 18, 2026

hereby determines that the County Clerk shall conduct the election on behalf of the District pursuant to the Uniform Election Code of 1992 and the applicable intergovernmental agreement. The officers of the District are hereby authorized to enter into one or more intergovernmental agreements with the County Clerk pursuant to Section 1-7-116, C.R.S. Any such intergovernmental agreement heretofore entered into in connection with the election is hereby ratified, approved and confirmed.

Section 3. The Board hereby authorizes and directs the officers of the District to certify on or before September 4, 2026, the following question in substantially the form hereinafter set forth to the County Clerk. Such question shall be submitted to the eligible electors of the District at the election.

OVERRIDE QUESTION:

SHALL MESA COUNTY VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT 51 TAXES BE INCREASED UP TO \$23.2 MILLION IN 2026 FOR COLLECTION IN 2027 AND BY WHATEVER AMOUNTS ARE RAISED ANNUALLY THEREAFTER FROM AN OVERRIDE MILL LEVY IMPOSED AT A RATE NOT TO EXCEED 7.850 MILLS, WHICH MILL LEVY MAY BE INCREASED IN ANY YEAR FOR INFLATION BASED ON THE ANNUAL CHANGES IN THE DENVER-BOULDER CONSUMER PRICE INDEX, AND WHICH WOULD COST A HOMEOWNER AN ESTIMATED \$18.09 PER MONTH ON AN AVERAGE HOME VALUED AT \$400,000 BASED ON THE ASSESSED VALUE AND ASSESSMENT RATES AS OF DECEMBER 2025 AND DOES NOT REFLECT FUTURE CHANGES IN ASSESSED VALUE, ASSESSMENT RATE, OR LAW, FOR GENERAL FUND PURPOSES, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO:

- MAINTAIN AND EXPAND EFFORTS TO ENSURE A SAFE AND SECURE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT FOR STUDENTS AND STAFF, SUCH AS ADDING ADDITIONAL SAFETY AND SECURITY OFFICERS AND SUPPORT FOR SCHOOLS;
- MAINTAIN AND EXPAND WORKFORCE READINESS OPPORTUNITIES, SUCH AS CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND STEM PROGRAMMING (SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, AND MATH), BY PROVIDING REAL-WORLD, HANDS-ON LEARNING EXPERIENCES FOR STUDENTS AT EVERY LEVEL;
- KEEP AND ATTRACT HIGH-QUALITY TEACHERS BY BRINGING SALARIES AND BENEFITS CLOSER TO THE MARKET AVERAGE COMPARED TO PEER SCHOOL DISTRICTS, AND PROVIDE FUNDING FOR ANNUAL SALARY AND BENEFIT INCREASES FOR TEACHERS AND STAFF FOR CONTINUED SERVICE;

AND SHALL THE DISTRICT BE SUBJECT TO AN ANNUAL INDEPENDENT AUDIT PUBLISHED ON THE DISTRICT'S WEBSITE;

AND SHALL SUCH TAX INCREASE BE AN ADDITIONAL PROPERTY TAX MILL LEVY IN EXCESS OF THE LEVY AUTHORIZED FOR THE DISTRICT'S GENERAL FUND, PURSUANT TO AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 22-54-108, C.R.S.;

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Presented: August 18, 2026

AND SHALL THE DISTRICT BE AUTHORIZED TO COLLECT THE FULL AMOUNT OF REVENUE AUTHORIZED BY THIS QUESTION AND PRIOR MILL LEVY OVERRIDE QUESTIONS SUBJECT TO THE LIMIT ESTABLISHED BY SECTION 22-54-108(3)(B)(VI), C.R.S.;

AND SHALL THE DISTRICT BE AUTHORIZED TO COLLECT, RETAIN, AND SPEND ALL REVENUES FROM SUCH TAXES AND THE EARNINGS FROM THE INVESTMENT OF SUCH REVENUES AS A VOTER APPROVED REVENUE CHANGE UNDER ARTICLE X, SECTION 20 OF THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION?

Section 4. Amy Navarette is hereby appointed as the designated election official of the District for purposes of performing acts required or permitted by law in connection with the election.

Section 5. If a majority of the votes cast on the question to levy an ad valorem property taxes submitted at the election shall be in favor of levying ad valorem property taxes as provided in such question, the District acting through the Board shall be authorized to proceed with the necessary action to levy ad valorem property taxes in accordance with such question.

Any authority to levy ad valorem property taxes, if conferred by the results of the election, shall be deemed and considered a continuing authority to levy the ad valorem taxes so authorized at any one time, or from time to time, and neither the partial exercise of the authority so conferred, nor any lapse of time, shall be considered as exhausting or limiting the full authority so conferred.

Section 6. Pursuant to Section 1-11-203.5, C.R.S., any election contest arising out of a ballot issue or ballot question election concerning the order of the ballot or the form or content of the ballot title shall be commenced by petition filed with the proper court within five days after the title of the ballot issue or ballot question is set.

Section 7. The officers of the District are authorized and directed to take all action necessary or appropriate to effectuate the provisions of this resolution.

Section 8. All orders, bylaws and resolutions, or parts thereof, in conflict with this resolution, are hereby repealed.

Section 9. If any section, paragraph, clause or provision of this resolution shall for any reason be held to be invalid or unenforceable, the invalidity or unenforceability of such section, paragraph, clause or provision shall not affect any of the remaining provisions of this resolution.



Board of Education Resolution 26/27: 09

Presented: August 18, 2026

ADOPTED AND APPROVED this August 18, 2026.

José Luis Chávez, President
Mesa County Valley School District No. 51

(SEAL)

ATTEST:

Andrea Haitz, Secretary
Mesa County Valley School District No. 51

STATE OF COLORADO)
)
COUNTY OF MESA) SS.
)
MESA COUNTY VALLEY)
SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 51)

MLO Language for November 3, 2026 Election

Board of Education Resolution 26/27: 09

Presented: August 18, 2026

I, Amy Navarette, am the duly qualified and acting Assistant Secretary of the Board of Education of Mesa County Valley School District No. 51, Mesa County, Colorado (the “District”), and I do hereby certify:

1. The foregoing pages are a true and correct copy of a resolution (the “Resolution”) passed and adopted by the Board of Education of the District (the “Board”) at a meeting of the Board held on August 18, 2026.

2. The Resolution was duly moved and seconded and the Resolution was adopted at the meeting of August 18, 2026, by an affirmative vote of a majority of the members of the Board as follows:

Name	“Yes”	“No”	Absent	Abstain
Jo�� Luis Ch��vez, President				
Vicki Woods, Vice President				
Andrea Haitz, Secretary				
Barb Evanson, Director				
Kaci Cole, Director				

3. The members of the Board were present at such meeting and voted on the passage of such Resolution as set forth above.

4. The Resolution was approved and authenticated by the signature of the President of the Board, sealed with the District seal, attested by the Secretary and recorded in the minutes of the Board.

5. Attached hereto as Exhibit A is a copy of the notice of the meeting on August 18, 2026, which notice was posted in one place within the District at least 24 hours before such meeting and which notice included agenda information, if available.

6. There are no bylaws, rules or regulations of the Board which prevent the immediate adoption of the Resolution set forth in the foregoing proceedings.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of said District, this August 18, 2026, and I certify that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted by the Board of Education of Mesa County Valley School District No. 51 at a regular Board Business Meeting on August 18, 2026.

(SEAL)

Amy Navarette, Assistant Secretary



Mesa County Valley School District 51

MLO Language for November 3, 2026 Election

Board of Education Resolution 26/27: 09

Presented: August 18, 2026

EXHIBIT A

(Form of Notice of Meeting)



D[★]51

2026

MILL LEVY
OVERRIDE



2026
MLO

SAFER SCHOOLS



**WORKFORCE
READINESS**



**COMPETITIVE
TEACHER PAY**



**LOCAL
DOLLARS.**

**LOCAL
SCHOOLS.**

**LOCAL
CONTROL.**



2026 MLO FUNDING PRIORITIES

\$23.2 Million

Cover existing safety/security costs	\$1.5 Million
Cover existing CTE costs	\$5.8 Million
Cost of 2 steps for all eligible staff	\$6.7 Million
5% Teacher market increase	\$5.4 Million
Allowance for safety & CTE expansion	\$2.3 Million
Transfer To In-District Charter Schools	\$1.5 Million
<u>Monthly cost for \$400k home</u>	<u>\$18.09</u>

EXISTING COSTS

SAFE SCHOOLS

- **Sustaining current school safety operations** – Preserves the district's existing \$1.5 million annual investment in safety and security, funding the department's staff, equipment, and training that keep students and staff protected across D51 schools every day.



WORKFORCE READINESS

- **Sustaining CTE partnership with CMU Tech** – Continues the district's \$2.1 million annual BOCES agreement with CMU Tech, giving students free access to career and technical education, workforce readiness programs, and industry credentials.
- **Sustaining high school CTE programs** – Continues \$3.7 million in annual funding for career and technical education programs at D51 high schools and the D51 Career Center, giving students hands-on training and real-world skills that prepare them for high-demand careers, industry certifications, and life after graduation—whether they choose college, the workforce, or the military.



NEW INVESTMENT IN EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS & STAFF COMPENSATION

SAFER SCHOOLS

- **Expanded school safety** – Adds 9 security officers with a focus on elementary schools.
- **Year-round safety staffing** – Adds 3 full-year positions – a dispatcher, a coordinator, and a Safety/Security Technician – to strengthen incident response, coordination, and technical support for school safety and security across the district.
- **Safety training & equipment** – Covers ongoing training, supplies, and equipment costs, plus one-time equipment purchases to support school safety and security operations.

WORKFORCE READINESS

- **Expansion dollars fund STEM/STEAM elementary education** – full-time Computer Science teachers, coordinator/specialist staffing, and maker space materials at STEM/STEAM elementary schools.
- **Middle school STEM expansion** – Funds a full-time STEM Coordinator at middle school, plus one-time funding for STEM supplies.
- **High school STEM & career expansion** – Adds a half-time STEM Coordinator at high school, expands Career Center programming (such as video production and drone courses) plus equipment, and adds a district-funded FTE for Navy JROTC staffing.

COMPETITIVE TEACHER PAY

- **Competitive staff pay** – Funds two salary steps for all eligible staff – the 2025-26 restorative step and a 2027-28 step – to help keep D51 salaries competitive so the district can retain and recruit high-quality teachers and staff in a tight labor market.
- **Teacher market adjustment** – Provides a 5% market-rate salary increase for teachers to keep D51 competitive with comparable districts and reduce turnover of experienced educators.

WHAT WOULD A \$23.2 MILLION MLO COST A HOMEOWNER?

**\$200,000
HOME**

\$9 a month

or

\$109 a year

**\$400,000
HOME**

\$18 a month

or

\$217 a year

**\$600,000
HOME**

\$27 a month

or

\$326 a year

**\$1,000,000
HOME**

\$45 a month

or

\$543 a year

*Residential: \$54.28 per year, or \$4.52 per month, for each \$100,000 of actual value.

SOME HOMEOWNERS MAY PAY LESS

A property-tax exemption for seniors and qualifying veterans or surviving spouses can reduce the estimated cost for qualifying homeowners.

POTENTIAL REDUCTION

Up to \$54.28 a year
or
\$4.52/month

\$400,000 HOME

\$163 a year
instead of
\$217

\$600,000 HOME

\$271 a year
instead of
\$326

For a qualifying exemption, 50% of the first \$200,000 of actual home value is exempt, with a maximum of \$100,000 reduction in taxable actual value.

Eligibility is not automatic. Applications are handled through the county assessor.

COMPENSATION EXAMPLES: COVERED EMPLOYEES

Current Salary Range: \$50,765 - \$105,998

New Salary Range After 5% Market Adjustment: \$53,303 - \$111,298

Example	Current 2026-27 Annual Salary	Phase 1: 2025-26 Recovery Step	Phase 1: 5% Market Adjustment	Phase 2: 2027-28 Step	New 2027-28 Annual Salary	Total Salary Increase	Increase %	Net Benefit After \$217 Property Tax Increase on Average Home
<u>Beginning Teacher (T/01/00)</u>	\$50,765	\$0	\$2,538	\$1,174	\$54,477	+\$3,712	7.31%	+\$3,495
<u>Average Teacher (T/06/10)</u>	\$72,153	\$1,588	\$3,687	\$1,702	\$79,130	+\$6,977	9.67%	+\$6,760
<u>Max Teacher (T/09/24)</u>	\$105,998	\$0	\$5,300	\$0	\$111,298	+\$5,300	5.00%	+\$5,083

Current salary + recovery step (if eligible) + 5% market adjustment + 2027-28 step = New annual salary

2025-26 Recovery Step Eligibility: Position Seniority date on or before 1/6/2025, currently employed in a structured position for the 2026-27 school year, and step movement is available on the salary schedule

COMPENSATION EXAMPLES: SUPPORT STAFF WITH 2025-26 RECOVERY STEP

Due to the wide range of calendars and hours worked by Support Staff, these examples are based on an annual salary plus a 2.6% average step increase, for eligible staff.
 Note: Market adjustments for Support Staff are made through the Compensation Oversight Committee on a regular review cycle, and funded by assignment funding sources.
 Additional funding is not included in the 2026 MLO ask.

Example	Current 2026-27 Annual Salary	2025-26 Recovery Step	2027-28 Step	New 2027-28 Annual Salary	Total Salary Increase	Increase %	Net Benefit After \$217 Property Tax Increase on Average Home
<u>Support Staff - Example 1</u>	\$20,000	\$520	\$534	\$21,054	+\$1,054	5.27%	+\$837
<u>Support Staff - Example 2</u>	\$30,000	\$780	\$800	\$31,580	+\$1,580	5.27%	+\$1,363
<u>Support Staff - Example 3</u>	\$45,000	\$1,170	\$1,200	\$47,370	+\$2,370	5.27%	+\$2,153
<u>Support Staff - Example 4</u>	\$60,000	\$1,560	\$1,601	\$63,161	+\$3,161	5.27%	+\$2,944

Current salary + recovery step (if eligible) + 2027-28 step = New annual salary

2025-26 Recovery Step Eligibility: Position Seniority date on or before 1/6/2025, currently employed in a structured position for the 2026-27 school year, and step movement is available on the salary schedule

COMPENSATION EXAMPLES: SUPPORT STAFF — NO RECOVERY STEP

Due to the wide range of calendars and hours worked by Support Staff, these examples are based on an annual salary plus a 2.6% average step increase, for eligible staff.
 Note: Market adjustments for Support Staff are made through the Compensation Oversight Committee on a regular review cycle, and funded by assignment funding sources.
 Additional funding is not included in the 2026 MLO ask.

Example	Current 2026-27 Annual Salary	2025-26 Recovery Step	2027-28 Step	New 2027-28 Annual Salary	Total Salary Increase	Increase %	Net Benefit After \$217 Property Tax Increase on Average Home
<u>Support Staff - Example 1</u>	\$20,000	\$0	\$520	\$20,520	+\$520	2.6%	+\$303
<u>Support Staff - Example 2</u>	\$30,000	\$0	\$780	\$30,780	+\$780	2.6%	+\$563
<u>Support Staff - Example 3</u>	\$45,000	\$0	\$1,170	\$46,170	+\$1,170	2.6%	+\$953
<u>Support Staff - Example 4</u>	\$60,000	\$0	\$1,560	\$61,560	+\$1,560	2.6%	+\$1,343

Current salary + 2027-28 step = New annual salary

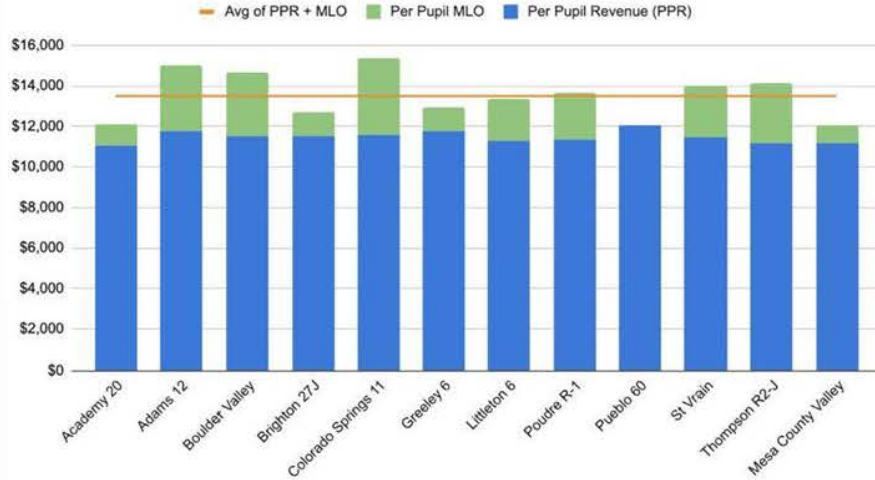
2025-26 Recovery Step Eligibility: Position Seniority date on or before 1/6/2025, currently employed in a structured position for the 2026-27 school year, and step movement is available on the salary schedule

COMPARABLE DISTRICT FUNDING - CURRENT VS WHEN THE MLO PASSES

Assuming none
of our comparable
districts also pass a
2026 MLO, passing the
2026 D51 MLO would
move us closer to the
average of our
comparable
districts

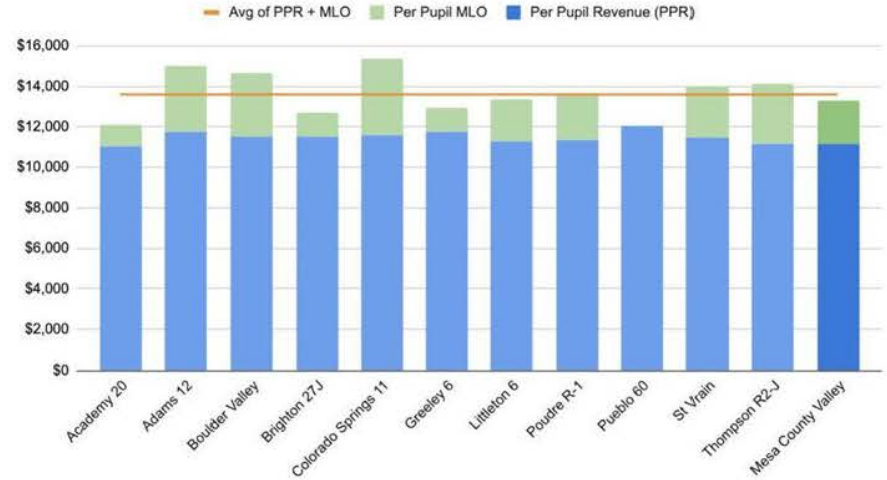
CURRENT

2025/26 Comparable District Per Pupil Revenue + Mill Levy Override Funding



WITH 2026 MLO

2025/26 Comparable District Per Pupil Revenue + Mill Levy Override Funding



SAFER SCHOOLS



**WORKFORCE
READINESS**



**COMPETITIVE
TEACHER PAY**



**LOCAL
DOLLARS.**

**LOCAL
SCHOOLS.**

**LOCAL
CONTROL.**



D[★]51

2026

MILL LEVY
OVERRIDE

Mesa County Valley School District 51

DAC

FEDERAL FISCAL COMPLIANCE

Adopted: _____

1st reading August 18, 2026

Federal funds received by the District shall be administered in accordance with this policy and applicable federal law, including but not limited to the federal Uniform Grant Guidance. The Board designates the Superintendent or designee as the District contact for all federal programs and funding.

The Superintendent or designee may develop and implement accompanying regulations to assist in the proper administration of federal funds and implementation of this policy, including but not limited to cash management procedures and allowability of costs.

Subrecipient monitoring

If the District awards sub grants, the District shall monitor grant subrecipients to ensure compliance with applicable law and Board policy.

Time and effort reporting

District employees paid with federal funds shall document the time they expend in work performed in support of each federal program and/or such program's cost objective(s), in accordance with applicable federal law. Time and effort reporting requirements do not apply to contracted individuals.

Recordkeeping

The District shall maintain proper federal fiscal records in accordance with Board policy and applicable law. Such records shall be retrievable and available for programmatic or financial audit.

LEGAL REF.:

2 C.F.R. Part 200 (Uniform Grant Guidance)

34 C.F.R. Parts 75, 76 (EDGAR - Education Department General Administrative Regulations)

CROSS REF.:

DAB, Financial Administration

DJB, Purchasing Procedures

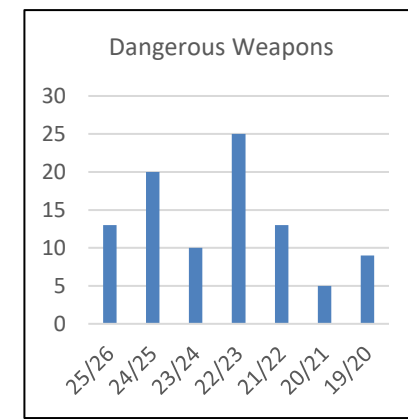
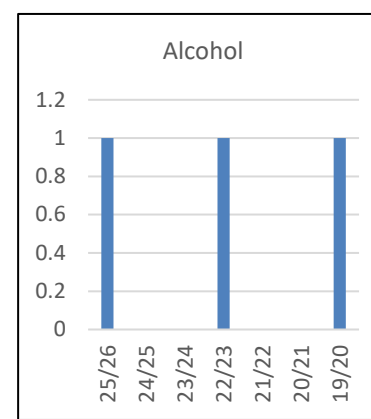
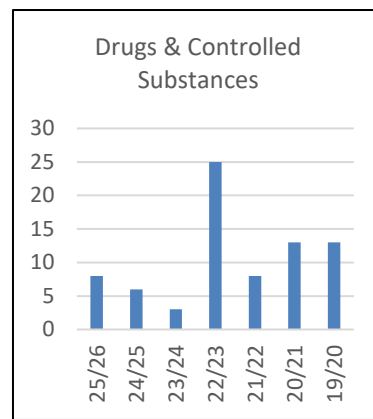
EHB, Records Access and Management

GBEA, Staff Ethics/Conflicts of Interest

														Total for previous years as of: June 30					
Category	High School				Middle School				Elementary School				Total		23/24	22/23	21/22	20/21	19/20
	25/26		24/25		25/26		24/25		25/26		24/25		25/26	24/25					
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F							
100	4		2	1	1	3	2	1					8	6	3	25	8	13	13
200					1								1			1			1
300																			
400	4	2	12	10	7	7	12	7	1				21	41	15	23	20	9	6
500	9		10	2	4		4	3			1		13	20	10	25	13	5	9
600																			
700			5				4							9	6				1
800	2		3			2	2		3				7	5	7				
900	1	2			6		2						9	2	1				
VOO	3		3		10	6	10	2			1		19	16	8	33	14	11	14
Total	23	4	35	13	29	18	36	13	4		2		78	99	50	107	55	38	44

Category Description

100 - drug or controlled substance
 200 - alcohol
 300 - tobacco
 400 - assault
 500 - dangerous weapons
 600 - robbery
 700 - other felonies
 800 - Disobedient/Defiant or Repeated Interference
 900 - Detrimental
 V00 - other violations





Expulsion Report
2025-2026 School Year
As of June 30, 2026
Presented: August 18, 2026