



Kenton County School District | *It's about ALL kids.*

Issue Paper

DATE:

August 19, 2025

AGENDA ITEM (ACTION ITEM):

Consider/Approve: 2025-26 Property and Utility Tax Rates

APPLICABLE BOARD POLICY:

01.11 Levy of Tax Rates

HISTORY/BACKGROUND:

As part of the budgetary process, the Board shall levy tax rates in compliance with statutory and regulatory requirements in KRS 160.470. Tax rates under consideration include Real Property, Personal Property, Motor Vehicle and Utilities taxes to fund General and Building Fund expenditures for the 2025-26 fiscal year. Kenton County real estate values increased 9.6% resulting in a rate reduction of 1.8 cents from the previous year Real Property rate. The proposed rate of 61.7 cents per hundred reflects this adjustment. The proposed rate for Personal Property is 63.5 cents which is the same as last year's rate.

FISCAL/BUDGETARY IMPACT:

\$ 3,413,953 General Fund revenue and \$1,800,738 Building Fund revenue

RECOMMENDATION:

Approval of proposed 4% tax rate of 61.7 cents per \$100.00 valuation on Real Property, 63.5 cents per \$100.00 on Personal Property, continue the existing rates of 63.5 cents per \$100.00 valuation on Motor Vehicles and 3% Utility Gross Receipts Tax for fiscal year 2025-26.


CONTACT PERSON:

Susan Bentle, Exec. Director Finance

Principal



District Administrator



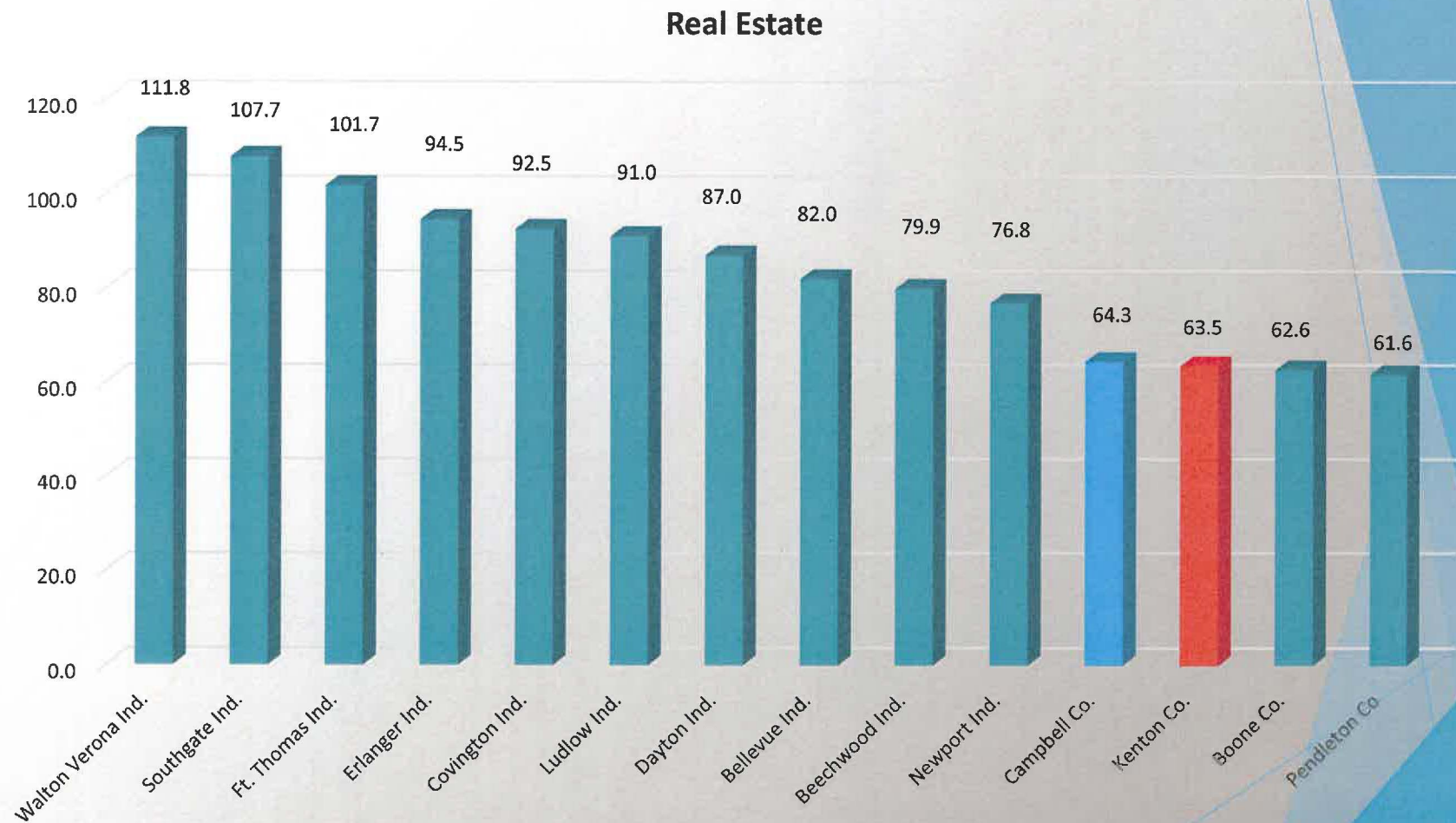
Superintendent

Kenton County School District

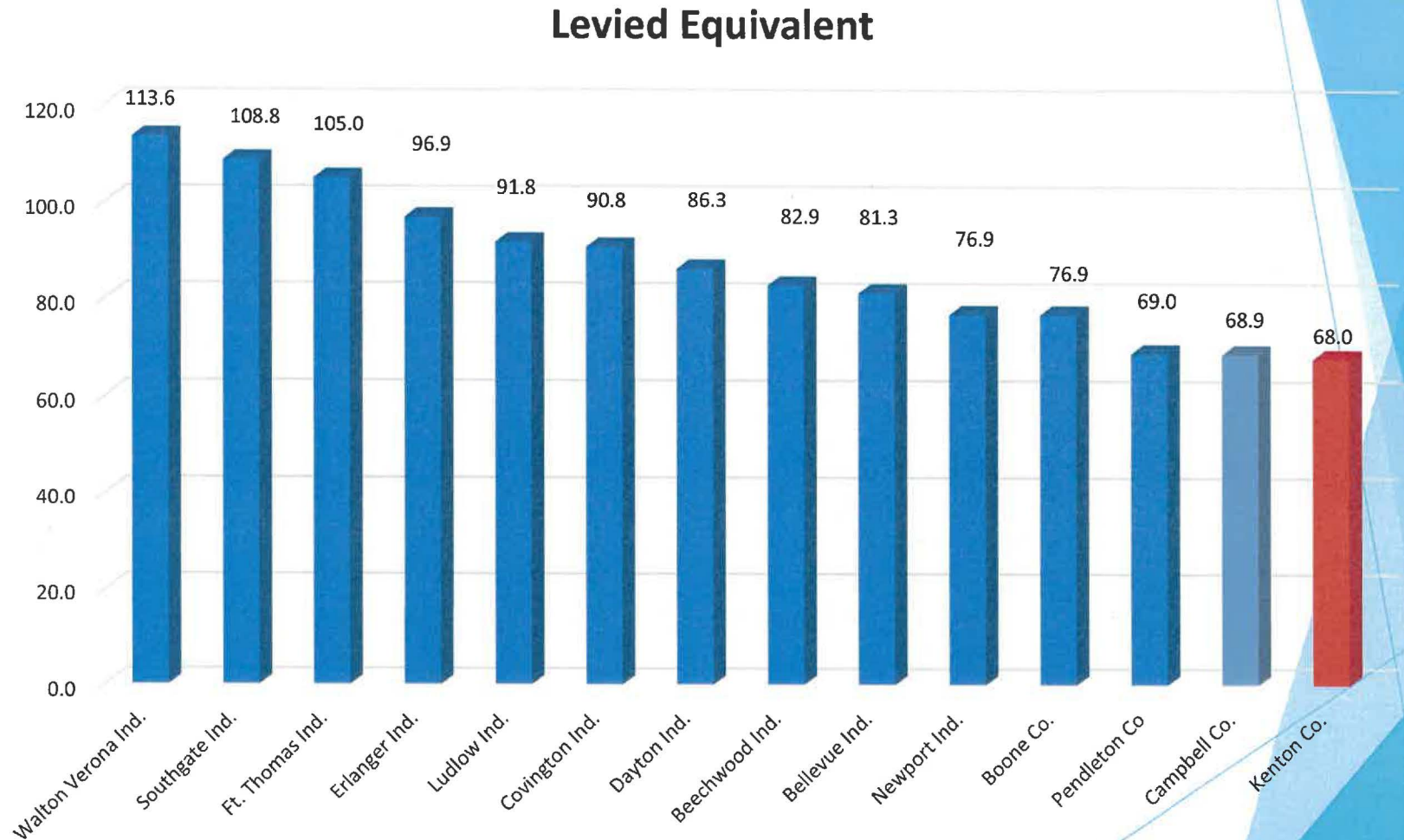
Proposed Tax Rate for 2025-26

August 25, 2025

Northern KY School District Tax Rates 2024-25



Northern KY School District Tax Rates 2024-25



State/Region School District Statistics 2024-25

District	Total Real Estate Rate	Motor Vehicle Rate	Levied Equivalent Rate	Average Certified Salary Schedule	Total # of Districts
291 Kenton County	63.5 Cents	63.5 Cents	68.0 Cents		
Rank in NKY Region	12	9	14	1	14
Rank in Top 10 Districts	7	2	9	3	10
Rank in State of KY	80	21	89	4	171

Kenton County School District Real Estate Property Tax Rate History

	Property Assessed					Rate	Rate	
	Value	Value Change	% Change	Revaluation	New Property	Category	Adopted	
2025/26	\$ 13,305,915,158	\$ 1,162,657,546	9.6%	\$ 781,532,398	\$ 405,680,797	4% Rate	61.7	Proposed
2024/25	12,143,257,612	1,025,624,288	9.2%	815,564,554	128,686,776	4% Rate	63.5	
2023/24	11,117,633,324	922,716,545	9.1%	484,131,799	329,374,789	4% Rate	65.9	
2022/23	10,194,916,779	591,687,359	6.2%	435,386,010	141,489,074	4% Rate	66.6	
2021/22	9,603,229,420	582,125,724	6.5%	398,615,770	142,788,215	4% Rate	67.1	
2020/21	9,021,103,696	513,135,297	6.0%	331,960,480	207,813,460	4% Rate	67.1	
2019/20	8,507,968,399	315,374,969	3.8%	141,824,599	116,889,923	4% Rate	67.2	
2018/19	8,192,593,430	64,848,318	0.8%	58,747,353	20,349,760	4% Rate	65.9	
2017/18	8,127,745,112	145,167,586	1.8%	91,826,590	63,979,954	4% Rate	63.8	
2016/17	7,982,577,526	193,798,967	2.5%	142,034,956	65,202,352	4% Rate	62.1	

Kenton County School District

2025-26 Tax Rate Alternatives

	Current 2024-25 Rate & Taxes	Compensating Rate	1% Over Comp Rate	4% Over Comp Rate
	63.5 cents	59.4 cents	60.0 cents	61.7 cents
Total RE Property Assessment	\$12,143,257,612	\$13,305,915,158	\$13,305,915,158	\$13,305,915,158
Total RE Tax Revenue Assessed	77,109,686	79,368,963	80,111,260	82,243,176
Total Tax To Be Collected	\$ 74,720,610	\$ 76,909,888	\$ 77,629,187	\$ 79,695,051
Total Tax Rev Increase (Net)		\$ 2,189,278	\$ 2,908,577	\$ 4,974,441
Gen Fund Tax Revenue Increase		388,540	1,107,839	3,173,703
Building Fund Tax Rev Increase		1,800,738	1,800,738	1,800,738
SEEK Reduction (30 cent Local Effort)		(3,601,477)	(3,601,477)	(3,601,477)
General Fund Prop Tax Revenue	\$ 54,746,403	\$ 55,134,943	\$ 55,854,242	\$ 57,920,106
Building Fund Tax Revenue	\$ 19,974,207	\$ 21,774,945	\$ 21,774,945	\$ 21,774,945
General Fund SEEK Revenue (+260 PP)	\$ 40,847,671	41,478,137	41,478,137	41,478,137
Net Rev (Reduction)/Increase from RE Taxes		\$ 388,540	\$ 1,107,839	\$ 3,173,703
Net Rev (Reduction)/Increase from SEEK		\$ 630,466	\$ 630,466	\$ 630,466
Net (Reduction)/Increase Gen Fund		\$ 1,215,470	\$ 1,920,383	\$ 3,944,930
Taxpayer Annual Effect:				
on \$250,000 home		\$ (102.50)	\$ (87.50)	\$ (45.00)
on \$300,000 home		\$ (123.00)	\$ (105.00)	\$ (54.00)
on \$350,000 home		\$ (143.50)	\$ (122.50)	\$ (63.00)
on \$400,000 home		\$ (164.00)	\$ (140.00)	\$ (72.00)
on \$500,000 home		\$ (205.00)	\$ (175.00)	\$ (90.00)
on \$600,000 home		\$ (246.00)	\$ (210.00)	\$ (108.00)

New Property Assessment Relief Funds

- 2024 Legislative Session
- Incentive for districts to recover some of the 30 cent local effort SEEK reduction
- KDE will calculate in Spring, 2026 and award if state SEEK funds have not been fully expended

- **2025-26 Qualification Requirements (must meet all four (4))**
 - ✓ Must qualify for KRS 157.360(17) in FY24 (4% Adjusted Growth SEEK Final 2023-24) **KCSD Qualified**
 - ✓ Must qualify for KRS 157.360(17) in FY25 (4% Adjusted Growth SEEK Final 2024-25) **KCSD Qualified**
 - ✓ Excess of 14.4% Growth in Real Property from FY23 to FY25 **KCSD Qualified**
 - ▶ District must levy a tax rate of 4% or greater in FY26

Kenton County School District Tax Rates

Fiscal Year	Real Estate Assessed Value	Real Property Rate Per \$100	School Property Tax on Residence Valued at				
			\$250,000	\$300,000	\$ 350,000	\$ 400,000	\$500,000
2025-26	13,305,915,158	61.7 cents	\$1,542	\$1,851	\$2,159	\$2,468	\$3,085
2024-25	12,143,257,612	63.5 cents	\$1,587	\$1,905	\$2,222	\$2,540	\$3,175
2023-24	11,117,633,324	65.9 cents	\$1,648	\$1,977	\$2,306	\$2,636	\$3,295
2022-23	10,194,916,779	66.6 cents	\$1,665	\$1,998	\$2,331	\$2,664	\$3,330
2021-22	9,603,229,420	67.1 cents	\$1,678	\$2,014	\$2,350	\$2,684	\$3,355
2020-21	9,021,103,696	67.1 cents	\$1,678	\$2,014	\$2,350	\$2,684	\$3,355
2019-20	8,507,968,399	67.2 Cents	\$1,680	\$2,016	\$2,352	\$2,686	\$3,360

Kenton County School District Tax Rates

Motor Vehicle Assessment & Tax Rate

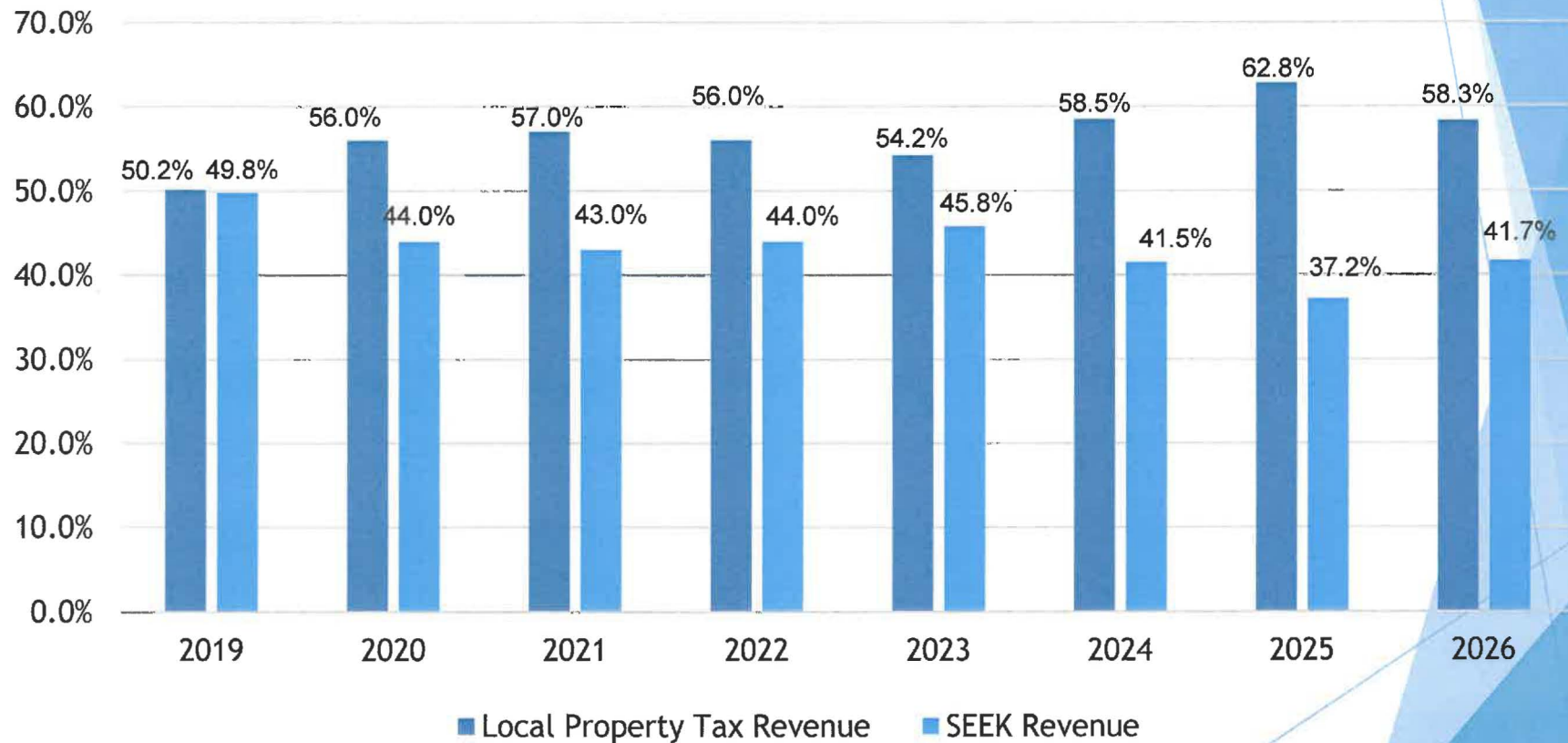
Year	Assessed Value	Tax Rate Per \$100	Total Revenue	
2026	1,210,715,068	63.5	\$ 8,200,000	(Projected)
2025	1,172,880,435	63.5	\$ 8,299,802	
2024	1,202,995,986	63.5	\$ 7,913,000	
2023	980,668,397	63.5	\$ 7,870,555	
2022	880,722,231	63.5	\$ 6,857,330	

Utility Tax Rate

Year		Tax Rate	Total Revenue	
2026		3 %	\$7,000,000	(Projected)
2025		3 %	\$ 6,867,324	
2024		3 %	\$ 6,969,000	
2023		3 %	\$ 6,584,657	

SEEK VS LOCAL PROPERTY TAX REVENUE

General Fund Revenue History



SEEK INCREASE \$126 Per Pupil
2025; \$260 Per Pupil 2026

General Fund Revenue

Thousands (000)	2025 Unaudited AFR		2026 Budget Projection	
Local Taxes	\$ 70,427	44.6%	\$ 73,470	44.3%
SEEK	40,847	25.9%	41,478	24.9%
Capital Outlay Transfer	1,293	0.8%	1,293	0.8%
Other Local, State & Federal	7,046	4.4%	5,284	3.2%
Carryover Funds	38,391	24.3%	44,435	26.8%
Total Revenue	158,004	100%	165,960	100%

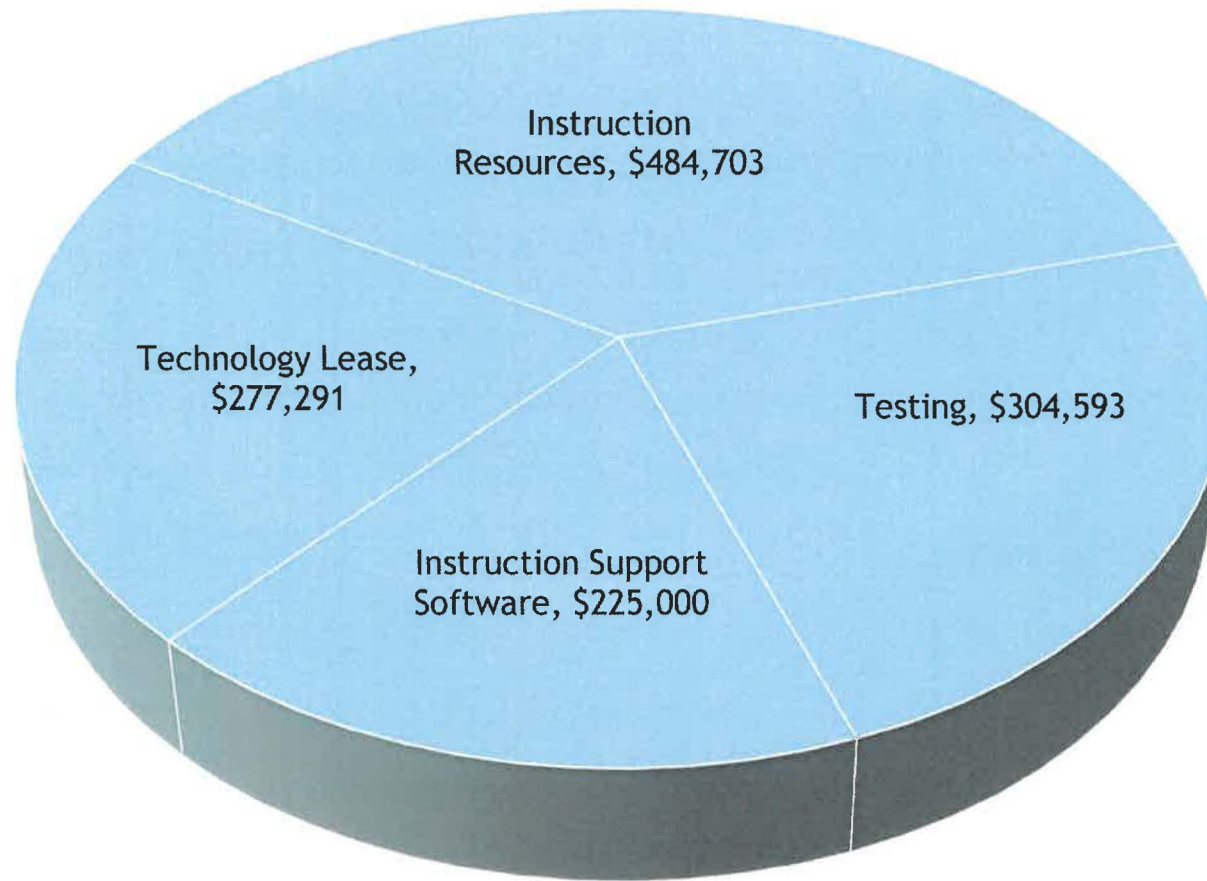
Estimated amounts as of Aug. 15, 2025

General Fund Expenses

Thousands (000)	2025 Unaudited AFR		2026 Budget Projection	
Salaries & Benefits (4% Raise + Step + Preschool)	\$ 93,905	82.8%	\$ 101,860	79.3%
Other Operating Expenses (Utilities, Instruction, Insurance)	19,571	17.2%	26,558	20.7%
Total Expenses	113,476	100%	128,418	100%
Change in Carryover Funds	6,314	5.5%	(6,893)	(5.3%)
Unrestricted Carryover Funds - End of Year	44,435	39.1%	37,542	29.2%

Estimated amounts as of Aug. 13, 2024

2026 General Fund Expenditure Additions



Thousands (000)

District Goals

Transition Readiness Rate 100%

Attendance Rate 96.25%



CBAS Pillars

Student Learning and Progress

- ▶ Ensure academic success and growth for all students so that every student reaches their maximum learning potential

Student Readiness

- ▶ Ensure all students are prepared with the knowledge, skills and dispositions to be transition ready

Student, Family and Community Engagement

- ▶ Ensure engagement of students, families and the community in ways that contribute to the overall growth and success of all stakeholders

World Class Staff

- ▶ Ensure recruitment, retention and support of high quality staff

Fiscal and Operational Systems

- ▶ Ensure the district is financially responsible and utilizes its resources to further the district mission.

Safety and Well-Being

- ▶ Ensure students are educated in an optimal environment that is safe, secure, and conducive to learning. This includes both physical safety as well as the social/emotional needs of each student

Recommendation

- ▶ Approve Real Estate Tax Rate of 61.7cents per \$100 for 2025-26
- ▶ Approve Personal Property Tax Rate of 63.5 cents per \$100 for 2025-26
- ▶ Approve existing Motor Vehicle Rate of 63.5 cents per \$100 for 2025-26
- ▶ Approve existing Utility Tax Rate of 3% for 2025-26