

# Budget and Levy Committee Meeting

## Agenda

02.28.25

1. Public Comment
2. Approve Minutes from last meeting
3. Introduction
4. FY26 Projections Update— Pat McHugh
5. FY26 Budget Priorities— Micah Hill
6. Permissive and Voted Levies— Denise Williams
7. Legislative Update— Micah Hill
8. Next Meeting

**Pat J McHugh**

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**From:** Rachel (Libby) Miller <rmiller@mcpsmt.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, February 28, 2025 10:14 AM  
**To:** Pat McHugh  
**Cc:** Tracy Long  
**Subject:** Budget Levy Committee Public Comment

Please submit for public comment.

In regards to funding FIT/FRC positions in Title schools.

Please consider the impact of losing these positions at the title schools as you decide whether or not to approve the funding. Family Resource Coordinators support the most vulnerable families in our district along with doing a million little things within their buildings to support the work of all of the teachers and staff.

Thank you for your consideration,  
Libby Miller

Libby Miller  
Lowell Family Resource Coordinator  
728-2400 x4447

# Budget and Levy Committee Meeting

## Agenda Minutes

01.24.25

Trustees Present: Koan Mercer, Ann Wake, Keegan Witt

Others Present: Trevor Laboski, Carlene Hathaway, Shannon Judge, Barbara Frank, Amy Shattuck, Jennifer Savage, Kacie Laslovich, Vinny Giammona, Micah Hill, Denise Williams, Pat McHugh, Stephanie Wodarz

1. Public Comment: No public comment
2. Introduction
3. Funding Components and Early FY26 Projections of Budget and Levies— Pat McHugh

Pat let the attendees know that there will be an updated School Funding and Budgets 101 on the website for viewing. Explained the various funds that make up the total budget with the largest being the general fund. Most of the discussion of the group will be focused on the general fund.

Today's projections are based on estimates of what the spring count will be for the district. Spring count will occur in February and we should have better numbers toward the end of February. Gave a breakdown on the state funding components including quality educator funding, which may change with the STARS Act currently at the legislature.

4. General Fund Revenue Recap— Pat McHugh

Looked at elementary general fund projections. Added TEACH academy into the budget. Early Literacy program at Rattlesnake Elementary will need to be built into the budget for its first year, similar to the programs at the other district schools, then should be self funded with ANB.

Took a look at high school general fund projections. Athletic travel will likely see an increase.

5. Budget Related Legislation— Micah Hill and Pat McHugh

Micah spoke on some of the upcoming legislation that could negatively effect schools including a super majority for passing levies, durational limits of levies, making adult ed a voted instead of permissive levy. Some positives including additional major maintenance aid to help with larger projects and funding 6<sup>th</sup> graders at the higher middle school rate, rather than elementary rate.

Much of the state legislative education discussion has been on the STARS Act which will transform the quality educator payment and potentially make changes to 14 different education related statutes. May include elements such as making the District Clerk eligible for QE payment, increasing max budgets to help with employee housing, and funding for “future ready” graduates.

6. Next Meeting— Will be February 28, 2025

DRAFT

**Elementary General Fund**  
**Budget Projections - 3% Inflationary Increase**  
**FY26**

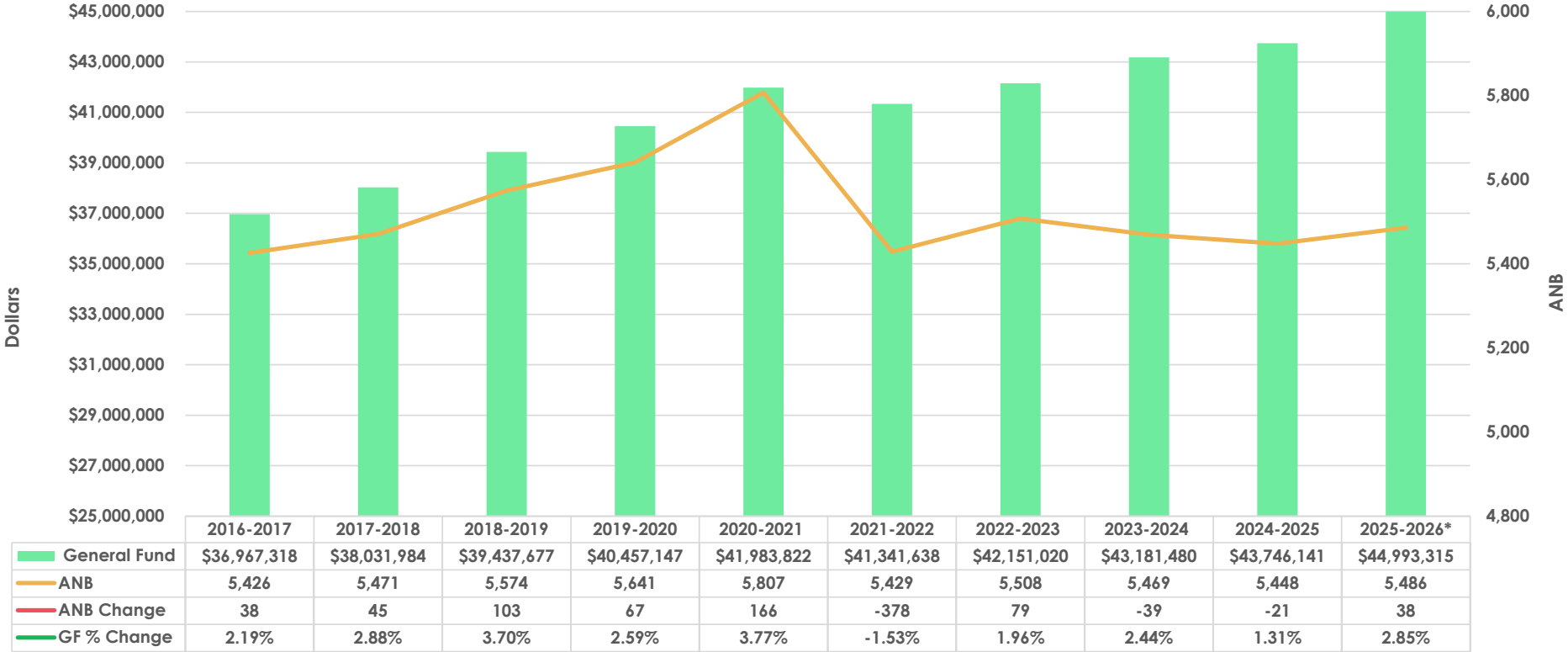
	DETAIL	TOTALS
<b>REVENUE INCREASE</b>		
Highest Budget Without Vote	\$	44,768,929
Plus Maximum Over Base Levy (Voted \$105,134 in FY25)	\$	224,385
<b>Proposed Adopted Budget at Maximum</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>44,993,315</b>
LESS Prior Year Adopted Budget	\$	43,746,141
Estimated Increase for FY25	\$	1,247,173
PLUS Estimated Certified & Classified Retiree Savings	\$	260,000
STARS Act QEP Increase	\$	1,678,630
6th Grade Increase in ANB (est. \$600,000)	\$	-
<b>Revenue Increase to Support FY25 Obligations</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>3,185,803</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE INCREASES</b>		
<u>Estimate of Salary &amp; Benefit Increases</u>		
Certified Step Increases	\$	(376,628)
Certified Lane Movement	\$	(185,000)
MMCEO Step/Longevity Increases	\$	(68,666)
Comply with STARS Act to get to 70%	\$	-
Estimate of Additional Pay Increases (using FY25)	\$	(1,200,000)
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>1,355,509</b>
<u>Other Obligations to Build into the Budget:</u>		
Liability insurance (estimated 15% increase)	\$	(104,917)
Early Literacy at Rattlesnake Elementary	\$	(88,000)
Early Literacy added in FY25 with OTO Funds		
5 certified, 7 paraeducator positions	\$	(607,437)
Jumpstart Program added in FY25 with OTO funds	\$	(150,000)
Utilities Increase	\$	(80,000)
	\$	-
	\$	-
	\$	(1,030,354)
<b>Balance Before Proposed Additions</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>325,155</b>
<b>REDUCTIONS, SAVINGS AND OFFSETS</b>		
K-8 Enrollment Based Reductions in Certified Staffing	\$	437,000
Tuition Funding for Excess SPED, including Preschool	\$	550,000
<b>Anticipated Budget Balance</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>1,312,155</b>
<b>BUDGETARY ADDITIONS AND REDUCTIONS FOR FY26</b>		
SPED Director	\$	(79,970)
TEACH Staff to Build into Budget	\$	(484,770)
Learning Lab staffing	\$	-
Art Teachers	\$	-
Additional Permanent Subs (Reg/SPED)	\$	-
Curriculum Budget Increase	\$	(336,000)
Federal Program Offsets	\$	-
Grant funded positions to build in to budget	\$	-
	<b>\$</b>	<b>(900,740)</b>
	<b>\$</b>	<b>411,415</b>

**High School General Fund  
Budget Projections - 3% Inflationary Increase  
FY26**

	DETAIL	TOTALS
<b>REVENUE INCREASE</b>		
Highest Budget Without Vote	\$	37,063,579
Over Base Voted Levy (plus TIF \$71,385 in FY25)	\$	632,807
<b>Proposed Adopted Budget at Maximum</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>37,696,386</b>
LESS Prior Year Adopted Budget	\$	36,538,028
Estimated Increase for FY26	\$	1,158,358
PLUS Estimated Certified & Classified Retiree Savings	\$	260,000
STARS Act QEP Payment	\$	1,206,833
<b>Revenue Increase to Support Obligations</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>2,625,191</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE INCREASES</b>		
<u>Salary &amp; Benefit Obligations to Build into the Budget:</u>		
Certified Step Increases	\$	(304,675)
Certified Lane Movement	\$	(125,000)
MMCEO Step/Longevity Increases	\$	(54,171)
Estimate of Additional Pay Increases (from FY25)	\$	(857,000)
Comply with STARS Act to get to 70%	\$	-
	\$	-
	\$	(1,340,847)
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>1,284,344</b>
<u>Other Obligations to Build into the Budget:</u>		
Liability insurance (estimated 15% increase)	\$	(85,841)
SRO/CRO/SSO (estimated increase)	\$	(15,763)
Utilities	\$	(65,000)
Student Athletics and Activities Travel	\$	(109,500)
	\$	-
	\$	(276,105)
<b>Balance Before Reductions, Savings &amp; Offsets</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>1,008,240</b>
<b>REDUCTIONS, SAVINGS AND OFFSETS</b>		
9-12 Enrollment Based Reductions in Certified Staff	\$	187,000
Tuition Levy to fund Excess SPED Costs	\$	-
	\$	-
	\$	187,000
<b>Anticipated Budget Balance</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>1,195,240</b>
<b>BUDGETARY ADDITIONS/REDUCTIONS FOR FY26</b>		
SPED Director	\$	(65,430)
CONNECT Staff to Build into Budget	\$	(475,700)
Additional Permanent Subs(Reg/SPED)	\$	-
Curriculum Budget Increase	\$	(270,000)
Federal Program Offsets	\$	-
Grant funded positions to build in to budget	\$	-
	\$	(811,130)

Elementary General Fund and Average Number of Belongings (ANB)  
Historical Overview  
FY17-FY26\*

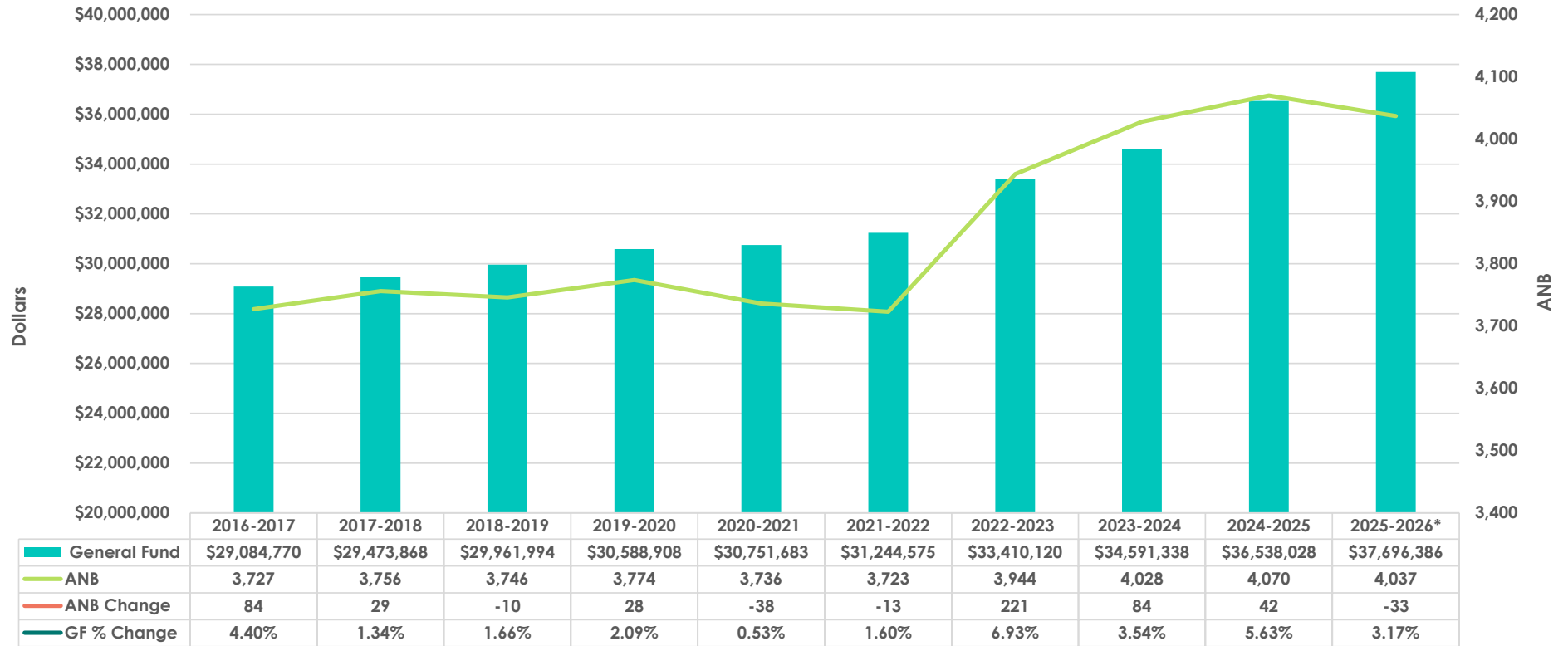
General Fund ANB ANB Change GF % Change



Fiscal Year  
\*projected

# High School General Fund and Average Number of Belongings (ANB) Historical Overview FY17-FY26\*

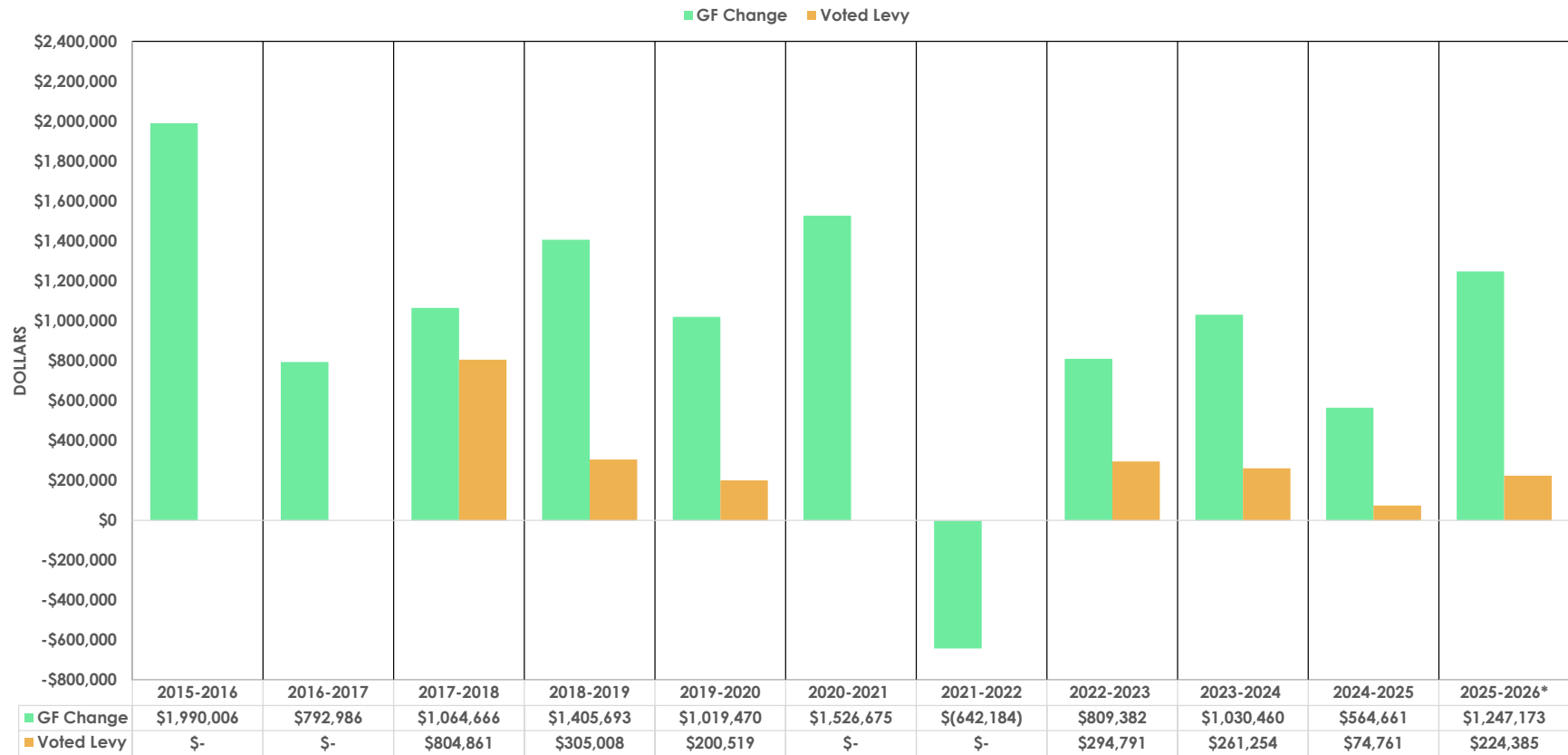
General Fund ANB ANB Change GF % Change



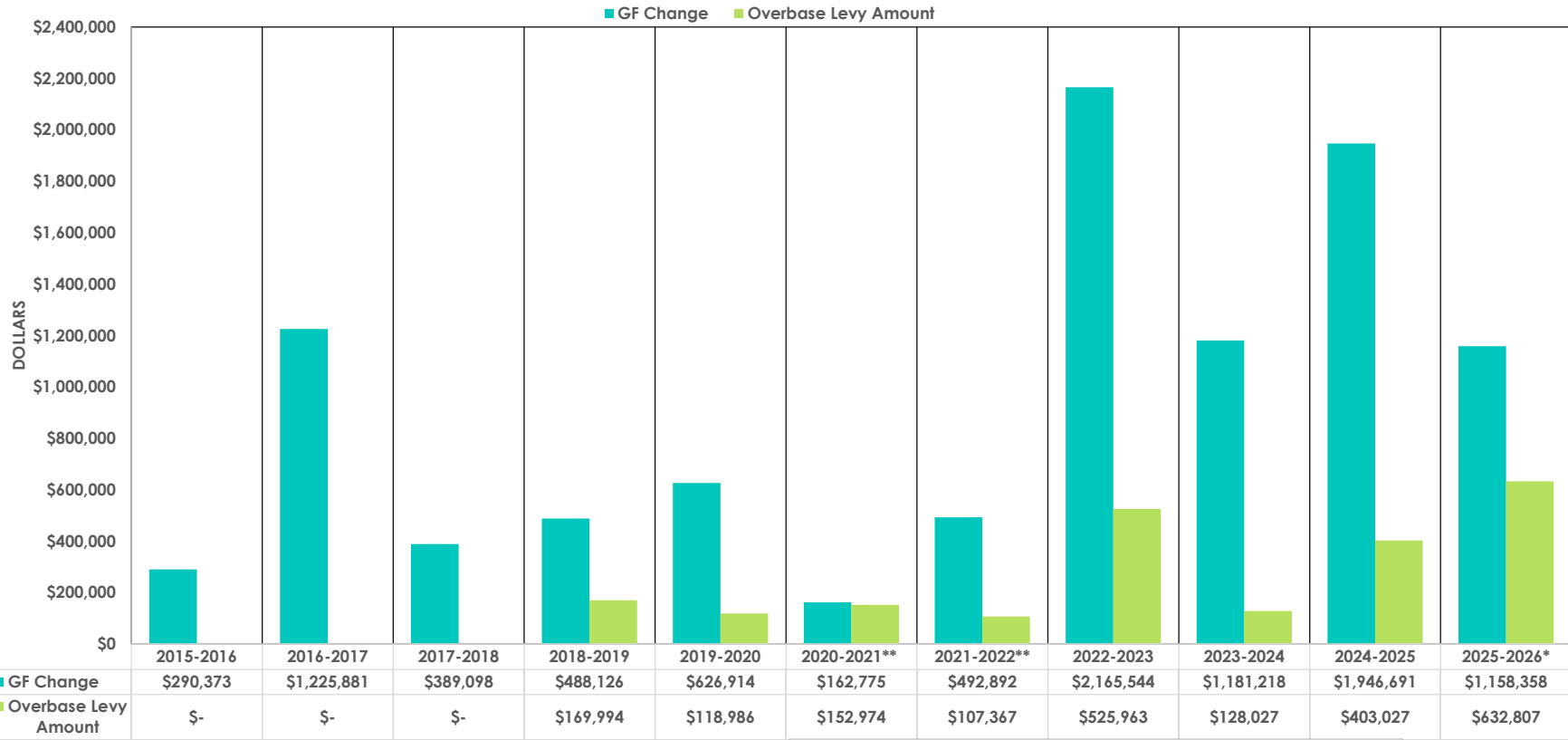
Fiscal Year  
\*projected



**ELEMENTARY GENERAL FUND  
BUDGET CHANGE AND VOTED LEVY AMOUNTS  
HISTORICAL OVERVIEW  
FY2016 TO FY2026\*  
\*PROJECTED**



**HIGH SCHOOL GENERAL FUND  
BUDGET CHANGE AND OVERBASE LEVY AMOUNTS  
HISTORICAL OVERVIEW  
FY2016 TO FY2026\* (\*PROJECTED)**



\*\*LEVY INCREASE DUE TO REDUCTION OF OTHER LEVIES

# MISSOULA COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

## PROJECTED FY25-FY26 REVENUE BUDGET ELEMENTARY GENERAL FUND

REVENUE DESCRIPTION	2025 BUDGET	PROJECTED 2026 BUDGET	DIFFERENCE	% CHANGE
Direct State Aid	\$ 16,235,530	\$ 16,770,554	\$ 535,023	3.30%
Special Ed Allowable Costs	2,592,242	2,617,866	25,624	0.99%
Guaranteed Tax Base	9,628,948	9,951,429	322,481	3.35%
Non-Levy Revenue	35,000	-	(35,000)	-100.00%
Tuition Over Base	-	-	-	-
State Block Grants	-	-	-	-
Natural Resources Development	-	-	-	-
Quality Educator	1,700,867	1,678,631	(22,237)	-1.31%
At Risk Student	189,926	195,624	5,698	3.00%
Indian Education For All	134,184	139,180	4,996	3.72%
American Indian Achievement Gap	87,120	92,877	5,757	6.61%
Data for Achievement	128,464	133,255	4,791	3.73%
<b>STATE REVENUE</b>	<b>30,732,281</b>	<b>31,579,414</b>	<b>847,133</b>	<b>2.76%</b>
Base Levy	4,194,296	4,339,578	145,282	3.46%
Over-Base Levy	8,819,564	9,074,323	254,759	2.89%
<b>LOCAL REVENUE</b>	<b>13,013,861</b>	<b>13,413,901</b>	<b>400,040</b>	<b>3.07%</b>
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>\$ 43,746,141</b>	<b>\$ 44,993,315</b>	<b>\$ 1,247,173</b>	<b>2.85%</b>

MILLS LEVIED:	72.23	74.43	2.20	3.05%
ANB:				
K-6	4,256	4,328	72	1.69%
7-8	1,192	1,158	(34)	-2.85%
TAXABLE VALUE	\$ 180,194,509	\$ 180,194,509	\$ -	0.00%

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## PROJECTED FY25-FY26 REVENUE BUDGET HIGH SCHOOL GENERAL FUND

REVENUE DESCRIPTION	2025 BUDGET	PROJECTED 2026 BUDGET	DIFFERENCE	% CHANGE
Direct State Aid	\$ 14,827,942	\$ 15,178,401	\$ 350,459	2.36%
Special Ed Allowable Costs	896,423	884,352	(12,071)	-1.35%
Guaranteed Tax Base	7,635,352	7,856,161	220,809	2.89%
Non-Levy Revenue	76,240	-	(76,240)	-100.00%
Flex Increase	-	-	-	-
Tuition Over-Base	-	-	-	-
State Block Grants	-	-	-	-
Natural Resources Development	-	-	-	-
Quality Educator	1,227,046	1,206,834	(20,213)	-1.65%
At Risk Student	91,324	94,063	2,740	3.00%
Indian Education For All	100,195	102,419	2,224	2.22%
American Indian Achievement Gap	58,564	58,266	(298)	-0.51%
Data for Achievement	95,923	98,059	3,723	4.04%
<b>STATE REVENUE</b>	<b>25,009,009</b>	<b>25,478,555</b>	<b>471,132</b>	<b>1.88%</b>
Base Levy	4,356,740	4,484,102	127,362	2.92%
Over-Base Levy	7,172,280	7,733,729	561,449	7.83%
<b>LOCAL REVENUE</b>	<b>11,529,020</b>	<b>12,217,831</b>	<b>688,811</b>	<b>5.97%</b>
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>\$ 36,538,029</b>	<b>\$ 37,696,386</b>	<b>\$ 1,159,944</b>	<b>3.17%</b>

MILLS LEVIED:	34.59	36.83	2.24	6.48%
ANB:	4,068	4,037	(31)	-0.76%
TAXABLE VALUE	\$ 331,711,480	\$ 331,711,480	\$ -	0.00%

**MCPS**  
**Preliminary Estimates of Levy changes as required by SB307 (20-9-116 (MCA))**  
**For the 2026 Fiscal Year**

**FY25 Mill Values**

Value of one Mill - Elem                      180,195  
Value of one Mill - HS                         331,711

	Current Year Levies		Estimated Amount Needed	2025-26 Projections			
	FY25 Levy	FY25 Mills		Change \$	Change in Mills	Est. Annual Tax Impact \$100K Home	Est. Annual Tax Impact \$200K Home
<b>ELEMENTARY</b>		-					
Transportation	\$ 5,902,304	32.76	\$ 6,552,304	\$ 650,000	3.61	\$ 4.87	\$ 9.74
Tuition	1,830,008	10.16	2,380,008	550,000	3.05	\$ 4.12	\$ 8.24
Adult Education	166,866	0.93	266,866	100,000	0.55	\$ 0.75	\$ 1.50
Flex Fund	362,850	2.01	268,313	(94,537)	(0.52)	\$ (0.71)	\$ (1.42)
Building Reserve - Permissive	325,759	1.81	325,759	-	-	\$ -	\$ -
<b>Grand Total - Elementary</b>	<b>\$ 8,587,787</b>	<b>47.66</b>	<b>\$ 9,793,250</b>	<b>\$ 1,205,463</b>	<b>6.69</b>	<b>\$ 9.03</b>	<b>\$ 18.06</b>

<b>SECONDARY</b>							
Transportation	\$ 2,276,289	6.86	\$ 2,676,289	\$ 400,000	1.21	\$ 1.63	\$ 3.26
Tuition	1,067,756	3.22	-	-	-	\$ -	\$ -
Adult Education	633,800	1.91	\$ 783,800	150,000	0.45	\$ 0.61	\$ 1.22
Flex Fund	-	-	394,781	394,781	1.19	\$ 1.61	\$ 3.21
Building Reserve - Permissive	281,680	0.85	\$ 281,680	-	-	\$ -	\$ -
<b>Grand Total - Secondary</b>	<b>\$ 4,259,525</b>	<b>12.84</b>	<b>\$ 4,136,550</b>	<b>\$ 944,781</b>	<b>2.85</b>	<b>\$ 3.85</b>	<b>\$ 7.69</b>