

USD 368
PAOLA

UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

— TRADITION. PRIDE. EXCELLENCE. —



BUDGET REVIEW

FISCAL YEAR 2026–2027



STUDENTS FIRST

INTEGRITY

ACCOUNTABILITY

COMMUNITY



Budget Review Disclaimer

This USD 368 Budget Review has been prepared as a supplemental informational report for the Board of Education and the community. It is not a budget document required by Kansas law and does not replace or supersede the district's officially adopted budget or any legally required budget publications.

Prepared in the interest of fiscal transparency, public accountability, and informed decision-making this report presents the district's financial information in a clear, reader-friendly format. It includes historical financial data, budget comparisons, charts, graphs, and explanatory narratives designed to provide additional context beyond the statutory budget document.

The official budget serves as the district's legal financial document, while this Budget Review is intended to enhance understanding of USD 368's financial operations, the annual budgeting process, and the complexities of Kansas school finance. By providing this additional level of detail, the district seeks to promote transparency and help stakeholders better understand how public resources are planned, allocated, and managed in support of student achievement.



Fiscal Year 2027 (FY '27)
2026-27 Budget Summary & Information
Prepared by Jimmy Hay, USD #368 Director of Business & Finance

06 – General Fund

FY 26 Actual	FY 26 Budget	FY 27 Proposed Budget	\$ Difference	% Difference
14,970,747	16,702,677	16,665,518	-37,159	-0.22%

• The general fund budget mill levy is set by the State and equalized at 20 mills. Expenditures from the general fund are limited by state law and may be transferred to numerous program and weighted funds such as at risk, bilingual education, virtual education, Parents As Teachers, vocational education, professional development, special education, etc. Fund info available on KSDE Budget Fund Summaries: [Budget_Fund_Summaries.pdf \(ksde.org\)](https://ksde.org/Budget_Fund_Summaries.pdf)

• Base State Aid per pupil (BSAPP) changes:

Budget Year	BSAPP	BSAPP Change (\$)	BSAPP Change (%)	General Fund
FY '09 (2008-09)	\$4,433 (reduced to \$4,400)	\$0	0%	\$13,172,216 (Budgeted; reduced by \$394,616)
FY '10 (2009-10)	\$4,218 (reduced to \$4,012)	(\$215)	-4.85%	\$11,982,494 (reduced by \$558,324)
FY '11 (2010-11)	\$3,937	(\$281)	-6.66%	\$11,540,528
FY '12 (2011-12)	\$3,780	(\$157)	-3.99%	\$11,444,328
FY '13 (2012-13)	\$3,838	\$58	1.53%	\$11,514,768
FY '14 (2013-14)	\$3,838	\$0	0%	\$11,660,228
FY '15 (2014-15)	\$3,852	\$14	0.36%	\$11,710,080 (republished)
FY '16 (2015-16)	Block Grant	\$0	0%	\$15,657,287 (net \$11,719,397)
FY '17 (2016-17)	Block Grant	\$0	0%	\$14,334,082 (net \$11,795,169)
FY '18 (2017-18)	\$4,006	\$154	3.99%	\$12,581,569
FY '19 (2018-19)	\$4,165	\$159	3.97%	\$13,439,236
FY '20 (2019-20)	\$4,436	\$271	6.51%	\$14,224,066
FY '21 (2020-21)	\$4,569	\$133	3.00%	\$14,077,226
FY '22 (2021-22)	\$4,706	\$137	3.00%	\$14,319,640
FY '23 (2022-23)	\$4,846	\$140	3.00%	\$14,004,357
FY '24 (2023-24)	\$5,088	\$242	4.99%	\$14,831,942
FY '25 (2024-25)	\$5,378	\$290	5.70%	\$15,737,482
FY '26 (2025-26)	\$5,615	\$237	4.41%	\$16,702,677
FY '27 (2026-27)	\$5,778	\$163	2.90%	\$16,665,518
TOTAL CHANGE:		\$1,345	30.34%	(\$37,159)
AVERAGE PER YEAR:		\$71	1.60%	

- From FY '09 to FY '27, the BSAPP increased \$1,345 (30.34%) or 1.6% per year average. BSAPP is not reflected in FY 16 & 17 due to block grant funding.
- Local Option Budget is also calculated using a BSAPP of \$5,857 plus the current year special ed state aid (excluding virtual state aid).
- **Future Base State Aid increases will be determined based on the Consumer Price Increase percentage.**
- Following is a summary of recent district FTE enrollment (Budget Open Page summary):

Year	Actual FTE Enrollment
FY '08 (2007-08)	2,062.50
FY '09 (2008-09)	2,027.90
FY '10 (2009-10)	2,028.10
FY '11 (2010-11)	2,010.30
FY '12 (2011-12)	1,986.60
FY '13 (2012-13)	1,953.30
FY '14 (2013-14)	1,919.00
FY '15 (2014-15)	1,931.00
FY '16 (2015-16)	1,936.10
FY '17 (2016-17)	2,012.50
FY '18 (2017-18)	2,029.00
FY '19 (2018-19)	1,933.40
FY '20 (2019-20)	1,911.10
FY '21 (2020-21)	1,677.80
FY '22 (2021-22)	1,760.00
FY '23 (2022-23)	1,773.00
FY '24 (2023-24)	1,772.70
FY '25 (2024-25)	1,743.60
FY '26 (2025-26)	1,727.20
FY '27 (2026-27)	1,817.00 (projected)

• **FTE Enrollment is calculated using the higher of:**

- | | |
|--|-----------------|
| ○ 2025-26 Audited enrollment FTE (excluding 4-year-old at risk & virtual students) | 1,727.20 |
| ○ 2026-27 Estimated enrollment FTE (excluding 4-year-old at risk & virtual students) | 1,787.20 |
| ○ 3 Prior Years' Average FTE | 1,747.80 |
- **The 2026-27 budget is based on the higher of the three which is 1,787.2 FTE (26-27 estimated FTE).**

- Weighted FTE Enrollment comparison (Budget Form 150 summary):

Weighting	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
Enrollment (<i>Sept 20th</i>)	Block Grant	Block Grant	2,009.50	2,029.00	2,029.00	1,933.40	1,911.1	1,760.00	1,773.00	1,772.90	1,801.60	1,787.20
Enrollment used	Block Grant	Block Grant	Average	Prior Year	2 nd preceding	2 nd preceding	2 nd preceding	Prior Year	Prior Year	Average	Current	Current
High Enrollment	N/A	N/A	70.4	71.1	71.1	67.7	67	61.7	62.1	62.1	63.1	62.6
Bilingual Education (<i>headcount</i>)	N/A	N/A	2	5.6	5.6	5.6	5.6	5.6	5.6	5.6	5.6	5.6
Vocational Education (<i>hours</i>)	N/A	N/A	39.7	37.5	44.2	44.2	45.8	54.2	54.2	60.4	58.3	50.0
At-Risk (<i>free lunch</i>) .484 FTE	N/A	N/A	284.1	290.4	290.4	242	242	290.4	314.6	295.2	316.6	318.1
Non-Proficient (<i>testing</i>)	N/A	N/A	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0
New Facilities	0	32.9	37.5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0
Transportation (<i>>2.5 miles</i>)	N/A	N/A	155.7	150	150.8	134.5	124.8	122.4	126	135.1	135.1	135.1
Special Education	N/A	N/A	529.3	625.1	598.5	620.8	540.3	537.8	521.8	537.7	539.5	472.4
FHSU Math & Science Academy	N/A	N/A	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0
TOTAL WEIGHTED FTE:	N/A	N/A	3,128.2	3,208.7	3,189.6	3,048.2	2,936.6	2,832.1	2,857.3	2,869.0	2,919.8	2,831.0
x BSAPP	N/A	N/A	\$4,006	\$4,165	\$4,436	\$4,569	\$4,706	\$4,846	\$5,088	\$5,378	\$5,615	\$5,778
= GENERAL FUND	\$15,657,287	\$14,334,082	\$12,531,569	\$13,364,236	\$14,149,066	\$139,272,226	\$13,819,640	\$13,724,357	\$14,537,942	\$15,429,482	\$16,394,677	\$16,357,518
Virtual State Aid*	\$0	\$0	\$50,000	\$75,000	\$75,000	\$150,000	\$500,000	\$280,000	\$294,000	\$308,000	\$308,000	\$308,000
TOTAL GENERAL FUND	\$15,657,287	\$14,334,082	\$12,581,569	\$13,439,236	\$14,224,066	\$139,422,226	\$14,319,640	\$14,004,357	\$14,831,942	\$15,737,482	\$16,702,677	\$16,665,518

- For 2026-27, the estimated virtual state aid is based on 50 full time virtual students and 5 part-time students for total estimated virtual aid of \$308,000.
- Virtual State Aid:
 - Full Time students: 50 x \$5,600 = **\$ 280,000**
 - Part Time students: 5 x \$5,600 = **\$ 28,000**
 - **TOTAL:** **\$ 308,000**

- District's calculated free lunch percentage

Students	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
Students eligible for free lunches (estimated)	589	618	618	563	587	600	600	500	500	600	650	610	650	650
Projected Enrollment (budgeted)	1,963	1,925	1,955	1,934	1,950	2,054	1,960	1,937	1,773	1,760	1,857	1,737	1,834	1,817
Free Lunch Percentage	30.0%	32.1%	31.6%	29.1%	30.1%	29.2%	30.6%	25.8%	28.2%	34.1%	35.0%	35.12%	35.4%	35.8%
Audited free lunch students	642	618	548	555	623	571	504	434	469	547	601	591	596	TBD

- General Fund Revenue Summary: General State Aid (\$13,936,073) and Special Education Aid (\$2,729,445) for a total of \$16,665,518
- General Fund Expense Summary: Salaries/Benefits \$10,941,740 (65%), Transfers \$4,574,927 (28%), Transportation \$720,000 (4%), and Supplies/Misc. \$428,851 (3%)
- Transfers from General Fund: Virtual Education (\$0), Prof Dev (\$7,500), Special Education (\$2,729,445), and At-Risk (\$1,837,982) for a total of \$4,574,927.

- District assessed valuation history (Miami & Franklin County):

Year	Assessed Valuation (all funds)	Increase/Decrease	%
2008	\$133,432,513	-----	-----
2009	\$132,273,894	(\$1,158,619)	-0.87%
2010	\$130,610,152	(\$1,663,742)	-1.26%
2011	\$129,616,864	(\$993,288)	-0.76%
2012	\$128,895,556	(\$721,308)	-0.56%
2013	\$128,620,538	(\$275,018)	-0.21%
2014	\$129,108,957	\$488,419	0.38%
2015	\$131,461,696	\$2,352,739	1.82%
2016	\$134,241,286	\$2,779,590	2.11%
2017	\$140,445,128	\$6,203,842	4.62%
2018	\$149,152,760	\$8,707,632	6.20%
2019	\$159,969,259	\$10,816,499	7.25%
2020	\$168,704,299	\$8,735,040	5.46%
2021	\$183,296,779	\$14,592,480	8.65%
2022	\$208,590,231	\$25,293,452	13.80%
2023	\$242,347,547	\$33,757,316	16.18%
2024	\$254,109,919	\$11,762,372	4.85%
2025	\$266,846,923	\$12,737,004	5.01%
2026	\$271,398,460	\$4,551,537	1.71%
TOTAL (19 years):		\$137,965,947	103.40%
AVERAGE PER YEAR:			5.44%

- Average Tax Delinquency Percentage for Miami County:

Year	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013
Delinquency	1.16%	0.61%	1.16%	0.82%	0.67%	0.62%	0.81%	0.69%	0.80%	0.73%	1.28%	1.23%

- The delinquent tax rate used for the 2026-27 budget is 4%.

08 – Supplemental General (Local Option Budget)

FY 26 Actual	FY 26 Budget	FY 27 Proposed Budget	\$ Difference	% Difference
4,945,212	5,470,740	5,459,442	-11,298	-0.21%

• Supplemental General’s (“LOB”) balance of \$666,257 is carried over from the prior year due to receiving more property tax than budgeted (budgeted 90% tax collection in 2026-27). The balance is carried over to reduce the succeeding year’s property tax.

• [KSDE Local Option Budget fund information: LOB Resolution.pdf \(ksde.org\)](#)

- The LOB was calculated by using the BSAPP of \$5,857 per state statute.
- The district passed a Local Option Budget election on 5/1/2015 which provided authority to increase the LOB from 30% to 33% of General Fund.
- After state aid, the balance of the LOB revenue is generated with a local levy.
- The estimated levy for 2026-27 is 15.113 mills, an increase of 0.726 mills.

- Supplemental General (LOB) Fund Revenue Summary: Balance \$666,257 (12%); Local \$4,064,895 (75%); State \$728,290 (13%)
- Supplemental General (LOB) Fund Expense Summary: Transfers \$2,500,642 (46%), Transportation/fuel \$150,000 (3%), Electricity/Heating \$764,500 (14%), Maintenance salaries \$300,400 (5%), Insurance \$590,000 (11%), Repairs/Maintenance/Cleaning \$532,000 (10%), Water \$105,800 (2%), Textbooks \$125,000 (2%), Technology \$110,000 (2%) & \$281,100 (5%) for remaining expenses (instructional equipment, supplies, etc.).
- Transfers from LOB include Bilingual (\$12,265), Professional Development (\$42,661), Parents As Teachers (\$31,200), Special Education (\$911,181), Vocational Education (\$821,600) and At- Risk (\$681,735).

• **State Aid History - % and \$ changes:**

Year	State Aid Factor %	State Aid \$	Change \$
2026-27	0.1334	\$ 728,290	\$ (247,143)
2025-26	0.1783	\$ 975,433	\$ (254,569)
2024-25	0.2389	\$ 1,230,002	\$ (164,321)
2023-24	0.2874	\$ 1,394,323	\$ (144,702)
2022-23	0.3361	\$ 1,539,025	\$ (190,751)
2021-22	0.3793	\$ 1,729,776	\$ (241,448)
2020-21	0.4260	\$ 1,971,224	\$ (110,050)
2019-20	0.4360	\$ 2,081,274	\$ 22,163
2018-19	0.4393	\$ 2,059,111	
TOTAL:	-30.59%	\$ (1,330,821)	

(Form 239 summary)

07 – Federal Funds

FY 26 Actual	FY 26 Budget	FY 27 Proposed Budget	\$ Difference	% Difference
362,341	347,663	354,002	6,339	1.8%

- This fund is a consolidated reporting of the various Federal Title programs the district receives funding for through applications.
- Programs include Title I Reading (\$293,687) Title II-a Teacher Quality (\$34,230), Title III English learner, (\$2,525), Title IV 21st Century (\$23,560) for a total of \$354,002.
- The Title I budget amount includes funds for the District and Lakemary Center neglected funds. The amount for Neglected for 2026-27 is \$86,958.
- Total CARES (Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security) Act funds received: SPARK (Strengthening People and Revitalizing Kansas) funds from Miami County of \$477,926; Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) funding ESSER I \$255,538; ESSER II \$1,150,333, and ESSER III \$2,585,305; plus KDHE grants for testing \$39,329 and indoor air quality \$634,610 for a grand total of \$5,143,041.

010 – Adult Education

FY 26 Actual	FY 26 Budget	FY 27 Proposed Budget	\$ Difference	% Difference
0	0	0	0	0.0%

- The District served as host for an adult education consortium providing services for Paola and Osawatomic USD #367 until the program ended 6/30/25.
- The consortium did not impact our mill levy. Each district contributed according to the services provided to them. However, the additional expenses from the consolidated program overstated our overall budget and expenses per pupil. This is similar to the Parents As Teachers consortium and the Special Education Cooperative which the Paola district also hosts.
- The District was required to provide financial support in order to receive federal and state aid. In prior years, this was achieved by a transfer of \$32,500 from LOB. In 2013-14 and forward, expenses for the adult education were charged directly to LOB (utilities & custodial expenses) in order to meet the required district contribution (approx. \$20,000).
- 2026-27 will be the last year for the Code 10 to be included as 2024-25 was the last year with activity which will drop off after this year.

012 – Adult Supplementary Education

FY 26 Actual	FY 26 Budget	FY 27 Proposed Budget	\$ Difference	% Difference
25,887	50,505	7,296	-43,209	-85.6%

- This fund is used for the District's adult alternative education program.
- Revenue from this fund is generated by SRS programs such as Life Skills Job Club and Vocational Rehab as well as Adult contract courses and GED student testing.
- For 2019-20, the program received an AO-K @ Work grant for \$24,350 to provide training for Circle C Café, Paola Inn & Suites, and Miami County Auto.
- In the past, District supported this fund with a transfer from LOB. This transfer was eliminated in 2011-12.
- FY 27 proposed budget amount includes the carryover balance for this fund.
- Funds will be expended fully in 2026-27 as the adult education program ended 6/30/25.

013 – At Risk

FY 26 Actual	FY 26 Budget	FY 27 Proposed Budget	\$ Difference	% Difference
2,720,899	2,941,722	3,019,717	77,995	2.7%

- At-Risk funds are transferred from the General Fund (\$1,837,982) and LOB (\$681,735) for total revenue of \$2,519,717. The revenue generated by at-risk students must be spent on programs for students that meet the definition of at-risk and are charged to this fund. Funding is calculated by and must be spent on at-risk students as defined by State guidelines listed on KSDE at: https://www.ksde.org/Portals/0/School%20Finance/guidelines_manuals/At%20Risk%20guidelines.pdf

- Programs included are: Foster Grandparents, Jumpstart and after school tutoring, in-school suspension, Alternative school, Supplemental reading, Instructional aides, MAP testing services, secondary reading intervention program and general education salary allocations.

- At Risk Funding for 2026-27 is based on the following:
Estimated students eligible for free lunches (650 students)

FTE

$$650 \text{ students} \times .484 \text{ weighting} = 314.6 + 3.5 \text{ high density} = 318.1 \times \$5,778 = \$1,837,982$$

- Due to the mandatory General Fund and LOB transfers, the revenue for the fund of \$2,519,717 exceeds the FTE funding of \$1,837,982 by \$681,735.
- At-Risk funding is based on the number of eligible students that qualify for free lunches (see table below).
- District's calculated free lunch percentage (repeat from General Fund section – page 4):

Students	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
Students eligible for free lunches	589	618	618	563	587	600	600	500	500	600	650	610	650	650
Projected Enrollment (budgeted)	1,963	1,925	1,955	1,934	1,950	2,054	1,960	1,937	1,773	1,760	1,857	1,737	1,834	1,817
Free Lunch Percentage	30.0%	32.1%	31.6%	29.1%	30.1%	29.2%	30.6%	25.8%	28.2%	34.1%	35.0%	35.1%	35.4%	35.8%
Audited free lunch students	642	618	548	555	623	571	504	434	469	547	601	591	596	TBD

- FY 27 proposed budget amount includes a portion of the carryover balance for this fund. District does not plan to expend the carryover balance but must have the budget authority to do so if necessary.

014 – Bilingual Education

FY 26 Actual	FY 26 Budget	FY 27 Proposed Budget	\$ Difference	% Difference
6,034	39,429	43,178	3,749	9.51%

- Funding is calculated based on the number of hours of bilingual education services provided to qualifying students or the ELL headcount, whichever is higher.
- For 2026-27, the bilingual FTE is 5.6 (30 ELL headcount x .185 = 5.6) resulting in budgeted max revenue of \$32,356 for this fund (5.6 FTE x \$5,778 = \$32,356).
- The 2026-27 budgeted revenue is the \$12,265 mandatory LOB transfer plus the fund balance of \$30,913 for a total of \$43,178.
- District can only pay actual salaries and expenses associated with those teachers who are providing bilingual services and who are ELL certified.
- FY 27 proposed budget amount includes the carryover balance for this fund. District does not plan to expend the carryover balance but must have the budget authority to do so if necessary.

015 – Virtual Education

FY 26 Actual	FY 26 Budget	FY 27 Proposed Budget	\$ Difference	% Difference
93,659	642,624	230,965	-411,659	-64.06%

- Funding is calculated based on the number of virtual education students.
- For 2026-27, the estimated number of virtual education students used for budget authority is 50 full time and 5 part time students.
 - Virtual State Aid:**
 - Full Time students: 50 x \$5,600 \$ 280,000
 - Part Time students: 5 x \$5,600 \$ 28,000
 - TOTAL:** \$ 308,000
- No revenue is budgeted for 2026-27 as the fund balance is sufficient to cover the expenses without additional transfer.
- Fund was originally established in 2016-17 through budget republication.
- FY 27 proposed budget amount includes the carryover balance for this fund (\$230,965). District does not plan to expend the carryover balance but must have the budget authority to do so if necessary.

016 – Capital Outlay

FY 26 Actual	FY 26 Budget	FY 27 Proposed Budget	\$ Difference	% Difference
2,428,414	6,555,943	6,592,845	36,902	0.56%

Per state statute, the maximum mill levy is 8 mills. Funds must be spent for capital outlay items as identified in statute. Revenue in this fund cannot be spent for operating expenses. Can be used to build up reserves to fund special projects, reducing the need for issuing bonded indebtedness. Capital Outlay Spending Guidelines https://www.ksde.org/Portals/0/School%20Finance/guidelines_manuals/capital%20outlay%20resolut_guide.pdf?ver=2024-07-01-083204-183

- The capital outlay resolution authorizing 8 mills was approved 7/28/2014 and has continuous & permanent authorization. The resolution passed also included expanded use language, which allows for greater usage of capital outlay funds which makes some operational expenses (custodians & maintenance salaries) a valid expenditure.
- The proposed capital outlay mill levy for 2026-27 is 6.896 mills (was 8 mills in 2024-25 & 2025-26 and 6.88 mills in 2023-24).
- Capital Outlay availability continues to be important. Without this critically important funding, district facility repairs/renovations might be delayed or would reduce the funds available for general education expenses if general funds had to be used in lieu of capital outlay.
- Capital Outlay state aid was eliminated effective for the 2009-10 fiscal year and was reinstated for the 2014-15 budget and forward.
- For 2025-26, capital outlay state aid for USD 368 was 0%, a decrease of -\$150,062 from 2023-24.
- FY 27 proposed budget amount includes a portion of the carryover balance for this fund. In order to expend the carryover balance, the District must have the budget authority to do so if necessary.

018 – Driver Training

FY 26 Actual	FY 26 Budget	FY 27 Proposed Budget	\$ Difference	% Difference
34,142	121,655	119,998	-1,657	-1.36%

- Expenses remain stable from year to year but do carryover into different budget years due to class session being in June and July (different fiscal years).
- The Greenbush bill for the online courses was not received prior to June 30 and was paid in 25-26, which artificially reduces the 24-25 expenditures.
- The district eliminated the transfer to this fund for it to be self-supporting in 2009-10.
- Revenue for this fund consists of the carryover balance and student-paid driver's education fees (\$240/student) and estimated \$13,500 state safety aid (\$135/student).
- The enrollment for the 2026-27 budget is based on 100 students.
- FY 27 proposed budget amount includes the carryover balance for this fund. District does not plan to expend the carryover balance but must have the budget authority to do so if necessary.

- During the following fiscal years, the district received a federal KDOT grant to provide driver's ed program fee reimbursement for qualifying families.

Grant amount	Grant amount	Grant amount - \$5,000
2020-21 - \$2,000	2021-22 - \$4,000	2022-23; 2023-24; 2024-25; 2025-26; 2026-27

- KDOT grant payments are paid out during the following fiscal year in which they are awarded (following driver's ed course completion).

024 – Food Service

FY 26 Actual	FY 26 Budget	FY 27 Proposed Budget	\$ Difference	% Difference
1,064,394	1,387,132	1,352,893	(34,239)	-2.47%

- The transfer to this fund was eliminated for 2010-11 and the program has been self-supporting since that time. This transfer had been as high as \$70,000 in the past.
- Food Service Revenue Summary: Meal Sales (\$596,900), State school food assistance (\$6,203), Federal Child Nutrition Programs (\$501,639), and Interest (\$20,000)
- Food Service Expense Summary: Salaries/Benefits \$401,000 (30%), Food Service Management fees/Misc. \$931,893 (69%), Food & Supplies/Other \$20,000 (1%)
- District meal prices for 2026-27 were increased as previously approved (breakfast and lunch prices).
- Food Service Fund balance decreased **-\$81,306** during 2025-26 (decreased **-\$116,399** during 2024-25). With increasing expenses & Taher contract increases, future meal prices may need to be increased.

- Following is a summary of the meal reimbursement rates, number of meals served, and meal prices:

	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
Federal Reimbursement Rate (per meal)	\$0.63	\$4.50	\$0.82	\$1.15	\$0.78	\$0.85	\$0.855
State Reimbursement Rate (per meal)	\$0.04	\$0.04	\$0.04	\$0.04	\$0.04	\$0.04	\$0.041
Lunches Served (prior year)	165,508 (2019-20)	Not available	194,418 (2021-22)	171,137 (2022-23)	166,252 (2023-24)	162,652 (2024-25)	160,331 (2025-26)
Breakfasts Served (prior year)	46,983 (2019-20)	Not available	90,014 (2021-22)	53,178 (2022-23)	50,756 (2023-24)	52,017 (2024-25)	52,928 (2025-26)
Total Meals Served	212,491 (2019-20)	Not available	284,432	224,315	217,008	214,669	213,259
Lunch Price (elementary/middle/high school)	\$2.75 / \$2.80 / \$2.90	\$2.75 / \$2.80 / \$2.90	\$2.75 / \$2.80 / \$2.90	\$2.75 / \$2.80 / \$2.90	\$2.75 / \$2.80 / \$2.90	\$2.85 / \$3.00 / \$3.00	\$3.20 / \$3.35 / \$3.35
Breakfast Price (K-5/6-12)	\$1.95 / \$2.00	\$1.95 / \$2.00	\$1.95 / \$2.00	\$1.95 / \$2.00	\$1.95 / \$2.00	\$2.05 / \$2.10	\$2.40 / \$2.45
ENDING BALANCE	\$177,196	\$341,878	\$469,113	\$425,856	\$309,457	\$228,151	pending 6/30/27
Operations (FSMC):	USD 368	USD 368	USD 368	Taher	Taher	Taher	Taher

- Meals served in 2021-22 were based on the total number of meals served in 2021-22 and the percentage by building for 2019-20 meals served as the per building information was not collected in 21-22 due to all students eating free meals.
- In 2020-21 and 2021-22, all students were eligible for free lunches due to the federal lunch program pandemic funding (ended for the 2022-23 school year & beyond).
- FY 27 proposed budget amount includes the carryover balance for this fund. District does not plan to expend the carryover balance but must have the budget authority to do so if necessary.

026 – Professional Development

FY 26 Actual	FY 26 Budget	FY 27 Proposed Budget	\$ Difference	% Difference
120,059	134,742	148,161	13,419	9.96%

- Professional development activities were funded via transfer and state aid (transfer amount for 2025-26 was \$120,056 from LOB).
- State aid for 2025-26 was \$0. For 2026-27, professional development state aid is estimated/budgeted at \$22,500 (actual will likely be less).
- The remainder of the fund expenses will be paid from the fund balance and/or fund transfer.
- FY 27 proposed budget amount includes the carryover balance for this fund. District does not plan to expend the carryover balance but must have the budget authority to do so if necessary.

028 – Parent Education

FY 26 Actual	FY 26 Budget	FY 27 Proposed Budget	\$ Difference	% Difference
532,759	673,793	846,555	172,762	25.64%

- The District is the sponsoring district for several area school districts' Parents As Teachers programs, including Central Heights, Prairie View, Osawatomie, Louisburg, Jayhawk Linn, Garnett and Paola. Pleasanton has rejoined the PAT consortium in 2024-25 which now mirrors the special education coop districts.
- USD #368's anticipated portion of the budget after state aid is \$31,200 for 2026-27.
- Fund is stable unless additional districts are added to the program or when additional grant opportunities are available (Bright Futures grant, etc.)
- Spring Hill and West Franklin (Pomona) school districts were added for 25-26, resulting in the increased program budget.
- Hosting this consortium does not impact our mill levy. Each district contributes according to the services provided to them. However, the additional expenses from the consortium overstate our overall budget and expenses per pupil. This is similar to the Special Education Cooperative which the Paola district also hosts.
- FY 27 proposed budget amount includes the carryover balance for this fund. District does not plan to expend the carryover balance but must have the budget authority to do so if necessary.

030 – Special Education

FY 26 Actual	FY 26 Budget	FY 27 Proposed Budget	\$ Difference	% Difference
3,571,544	4,690,326	4,390,626	-299,700	-6.39%

- Funds for Special Education are transferred into this fund to cash flow programs for the first 3.5 months of the fiscal year. The state does not provide any aid for special education until at least October 15 of each year. The carryover balance in this fund is needed in order to operate for the first 3.5 months of the fiscal year.
- Special Education categorical aid funding is figured on a per teacher basis, not a per student basis method used for regular education funding. The funding amount based on the number of teachers is then divided by the BSAPP to arrive at an FTE.
- Categorical aid per teacher for 2025-26 was \$29,355 and is estimated to be \$28,250 for 2026-27.
- The special education FTE results in a \$2,729,445 transfer from General Fund to Special Education and a LOB transfer of \$911,181.
- House Sub for SB 387 (2024) provided for the Local Contribution distribution of additional special education state aid, which will be paid directly to member districts. This additional payment will be calculated in November and paid in February. USD 368's budgeted amount is \$300,000 (General Fund transfer) -- See KSDE School Finance <https://www.ksde.gov/docs/default-source/sf/local-contribution-special-education-state-aid-sy2026-2027-estimate.pdf>
- ESSER funds by fiscal year were: 2020-21: \$38,018 (ESSER I), 2021-22: \$57,317 (ESSER II) and 2022-23: \$114,634 (ESSER II).
- This fund includes expenditures for Coop payments/USD 368 assessments (\$1,721,360, special education contracted transportation (\$500,000), mileage/fuel transportation expenses (\$16,100) pass through of USD 368 special education entitlement aid to the Coop and Greenbush Special Education flow through state aid (\$1,749,445), Salaries for special education teacher substitutes (\$16,000), and Misc. (\$387,721) for a total budget of \$4,390,626.
- FY 27 proposed budget amount includes a portion of the carryover balance for this fund. District does not plan to expend the carryover balance but must have the budget authority to do so if necessary.

034 – Vocational Education

FY 26 Actual	FY 26 Budget	FY 27 Proposed Budget	\$ Difference	% Difference
727,272	1,401,100	1,401,100	0	0.00%

- This fund includes salary and course expenditures for approved district vocational programs, including business education, vo-ag, family and consumer science (FACS), trade/industry, and journalism.
- Carl Perkins grant revenue was formerly included in this fund (budgeted at \$10,000). These funds now flow through Greenbush.
- FY 27 proposed budget amount includes a portion of the carryover balance for this fund. District does not plan to expend the carryover balance but must have the budget authority to do so if necessary.

035 – Gifts and Grants

FY 26 Actual	FY 26 Budget	FY 27 Proposed Budget	\$ Difference	% Difference
107,949	381,163	329,567	-51,596	-13.54%

- This fund represents charitable grants or gifts provided to the District. Contributions each year are typically spent in the year received.
- Revenue & Expense Summary:

	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
Revenue	\$148,486	\$98,444	\$62,416	\$108,322	\$59,658	\$178,538	\$56,353
Expense	\$122,163	\$61,532	\$49,762	\$73,215	\$53,391	\$102,356	\$107,949

- Budget for FY 27 is the ending balance of \$267,067 plus estimated revenue of \$62,500 = \$329,567 budget.
- FY 27 proposed budget amount includes the carryover balance for this fund. District does not plan to expend the carryover balance but must have the budget authority to do so if necessary.

047 – Special Reserve Fund (Health Insurance)

FY 26 Actual	FY 26 Budget	FY 27 Proposed Budget	\$ Difference	% Difference
3,833,087	0	0	0	0.00%

- Prior to 2021-22, USD #368 was semi self-insured utilizing a third-party claims administrator, insurance broker, and stop loss (re-insurance) carrier. For the plan years 10/1/22 – 9/30/23 and 10/1/23 – 9/30/24 the district was fully insured with Blue Cross Blue Shield.
- For plan year 10/1/24 – 9/30/25 (2024-25), the district returned to a semi self-insured health insurance model utilizing Centivo <https://centivo.com/> and the Centrus Health network <https://www.centrushealth.com/>
- Following is a summary of the health insurance fund:

	2016-17 Actual	2017-18 Actual	2018-19 Actual	2019-20 Actual	2020-21 Actual	2021-22 Actual	2022-23 Actual	2023-24 Actual	2024-25 Actual	2025-26 Actual
Beginning Balance	\$1,380,426	\$1,231,717	\$736,961	\$565,353	\$676,419	\$620,711	\$400,040	\$570,146	\$1,067,698	\$1,494,895
Revenue	\$2,249,262	\$2,264,260	\$3,037,890	\$2,843,439	\$3,316,299	\$3,335,808	\$3,007,718	\$2,837,742	\$2,955,296	\$3,498,363
Expenses	\$2,397,971	\$2,759,016	\$3,209,499	\$2,732,373	\$3,372,007	\$3,556,479	\$2,837,612	\$2,340,189	\$2,528,099	\$3,833,087
Ending Balance	\$1,231,717	\$736,961	\$565,353	\$676,419	\$620,711	\$400,040	\$570,146	\$1,067,698	\$1,494,895	\$1,160,171
Stop Loss (per person)	\$85,000	\$95,000	\$110,000	\$110,000	\$110,000	\$110,000	Fully Insured	Fully Insured	\$120,000	\$120,000

- During 2025-26, expenses exceeded revenues, resulting in a reserve balance decrease of **-\$334,727**.
- Actual expenses only are reported for this fund, therefore, there are no budgeted amounts shown.
- For 2026-27, district contributions will increase by \$50 to \$750/month. Employee contributions vary if the Centivo/Centrus narrow network plans are selected or the wider network Cigna plans are chosen.
- Projections are for the health insurance fund balance to continue to increase to provide a cushion for future rate increases until sufficient reserves are achieved.
- Original contingency funds of \$345,800 were earmarked for the health insurance fund. In 2018-19, \$147,374 from contingency was used for health insurance, leaving \$198,426 of the original amount for health insurance.

051 – KPERS Contribution Fund

FY 26 Actual	FY 26 Budget	FY 27 Proposed Budget	\$ Difference	% Difference
3,317,084	3,937,403	4,080,013	142,610	3.62%

- This is a pass-through fund to show State financial support of KPERS payments.
- District normally receives four quarterly KPERS payments. However, past payments have been deferred resulting in fluctuations to the fund expenses.
- Budget includes the estimated increase in the KPERS state rate (2.5% for 26-27) and any additional change based on salary increases or staff changes (20% cushion).

053 – Contingency Reserve

FY 26 Actual	FY 26 Budget	FY 27 Proposed Budget	\$ Difference	% Difference
0	0	0	0	0.00%

- The contingency reserve fund may be used for emergency or unanticipated expenditures.
- The prior fund balance of \$987,148 had been \$1,144,000 before \$147,374 transfer for health insurance expenses and \$28,871 encumbered for February 2021 natural gas bills subject to ongoing negotiation with the KASB KJUMP natural gas program and Symmetry Energy (reclaimed \$19,393 in 21-22 due to gas settlement).
- During 2023-24 budget closeout, an additional \$112,852 was transferred from General Fund to Contingency, making the balance \$1,100,000.
- Original contingency funds of \$345,800 were earmarked for the health insurance fund. In 2018-19, \$147,374 from contingency was used for health insurance, leaving \$198,426 of the original amount for health insurance.
- The \$1.1 million contingency fund balance is less than one month's payroll.

055 – Student Materials Revolving

FY 26 Actual	FY 26 Budget	FY 27 Proposed Budget	\$ Difference	% Difference
353,829	0	0	0	0.00%

- Revenues are generated by student enrollment fees and were \$102,499 in 2025-26. These fees support textbook purchases, workbooks, some required classroom materials and replacement textbooks as well as Chromebook maintenance and rotation.
- Actual expenses only are reported for this fund, therefore, there are no budgeted amounts shown.
- Future K-12 textbook replacement initiatives will increase the expenses in this fund by based on planned textbook replacement schedule.
- The fund balance had decreased from historical levels. During 2023-24 budget closeout, \$431,070 from transferred from General Fund and \$31,830 was transferred from Local Option Budget in order to prepare for future large textbook/curriculum adoptions.
- This transfer returned the fund balance in the vicinity of the 7/1/18 balance when it was \$555,280 before decreasing to \$116,651 on 7/1/23.
- Budgeted transfers from General Fund and LOB are used to fund textbook expenses.

056 – Activity Fund

FY 26 Actual	FY 26 Budget	FY 27 Proposed Budget	\$ Difference	% Difference
239,633	0	0	0	0.00%

- This was a new budget reporting fund beginning in 2010-11. Reporting is of actual expenses only – no budgeted figures for the current budget year are included.
- Expenses reflect PHS and PMS expenses as defined by statutory requirements.
- The term “activities” means activities, events, and competitions in such fields as athletics, music, forensics, and dramatics, and other interschool or intra-school extracurricular activities in which pupils may participate directly or indirectly. Does not include student organizations or clubs (only district funds).
- Majority of expenses are supplies, officials/referees, and equipment.

Activity Fund Summary:	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
Revenue	\$221,372	\$233,514	\$244,709	\$226,274
Expenses	\$243,866	\$216,909	\$261,100	\$239,633

062 – Bond and Interest

FY 26 Actual	FY 26 Budget	FY 27 Proposed Budget	\$ Difference	% Difference
4,397,306	4,429,862	0	-4,429,862	-100%

- USD 368 bonds were paid in full with the September 1, 2025 payment (early payoff - 2025-26 budget year).
- Revenue in this fund was generated by a mill levy and was available for payment of bond principal and interest.
- The proposed levy for this fund is 0.00 mills.
- The budgeted amount is necessary to meet the bond repayment schedule for the next 18 months.

BOND SUMMARY:	2018-19 Budget	2019-20 Budget	2020-21 Budget	2021-22 Budget	2022-23 Budget	2023-24 Budget	2024-25 Budget	2025-26 Budget	2026-27 Budget
Expenditures (pmts)	\$2,204,434	\$2,196,512	\$2,196,062	\$2,197,137	\$2,190,162	\$2,165,412	\$2,193,437	\$0	\$0
State aid factor (%)	32%	30%	24%	16%	13%	9%	0%	0%	0%
State aid (\$)	\$705,419	\$658,954	\$527,055	\$351,542	\$284,721	\$194,887	\$0	0%	0%
Outstanding Debt	\$17,145,000	\$15,470,000	\$13,755,000	\$11,985,000	\$10,160,000	\$8,280,000	\$6,355,000	\$4,330,000	\$0
Mill Levy	11.924	10.886	10.789	10.004	10.004	9.818	5.69	0.000	0.000

- Assessed valuation changes along with student enrollment changes impact the bond & interest state aid percentage.
- No state aid would be received on bonds passed after 7/1/22.
- Fund will remain active as residual tax payments are received. Ending cash balance of \$1,427,889 is available for capital projects (transfer to Capital Outlay by board resolution).

067 – Special Assessment

FY 26 Actual	FY 26 Budget	FY 27 Proposed Budget	\$ Difference	% Difference
0	26,438	26,439	1	0.00%

- The levy for this fund was previously eliminated at which time the cash balance in this fund was \$29,107.
- Expenses in 2013-14 were made for the installation of sidewalks (8-foot asphalt trails) along Hedge Lane on the East side of PHS and Sunflower and along the Adult Education property. USD #368 was assessed for the cost of the sidewalk installation of \$28,830.
- The mill levy was reinstated in 2014-15 to fund crosswalk safety enhancements planned by the City of Paola (\$7,050).
- No revenue will be levied for 2026-27.
- Any remaining cash balance will be used for future special assessments due.
- FY 27 proposed budget amount includes the carryover balance for this fund. District does not plan to expend the carryover balance but must have the budget authority to do so if necessary.

078 – Coop Special Education

FY 26 Actual	FY 26 Budget	FY 27 Proposed Budget	\$ Difference	% Difference
19,201,689	21,524,913	21,937,533	412,620	1.92%

- The District is the sponsoring district of the East Central Kansas Special Education Cooperative for seven other area school districts (Central Heights, Garnett, Jayhawk, Louisburg, Osawatomie, Paola, Pleasanton, and Prairie View).
- Coop Revenue Comparison (budgeted):

	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
Interest	\$25,000	\$30,000	\$30,000	\$30,000	\$30,000	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$150,000	\$150,000
Payments from participating school districts	\$9,961,987	\$10,960,635	\$11,501,412	\$12,100,504	\$12,175,683	\$12,210,588	\$12,589,620	\$12,960,325	\$13,657,725
Payments from USD #368	\$3,048,765	\$3,130,184	\$3,229,090	\$3,063,070	\$3,136,069	\$3,074,174	\$3,045,300	\$3,229,090	\$3,470,806
Federal aid/Medicaid	\$2,288,528	\$2,296,863	\$2,334,516	\$2,361,984	\$2,418,203	\$2,687,523	\$3,493,992	\$2,660,977	\$2,656,969
Greenbush state aid flow through & Miscellaneous	\$857,086	\$974,208	\$1,054,327	\$879,535	\$959,670	\$1,096,56	\$1,115,000	\$1,524,520	\$1,015,000
TOTAL REVENUE:	\$16,181,366	\$17,391,890	\$18,149,345	\$18,435,093	\$18,719,625	\$19,168,840	\$20,343,912	\$20,524,912	\$20,950,500

- Sponsoring the special education coop does not impact our mill levy. Each district contributes according to the services provided to them. However, the additional expenses from the special education coop overstate our overall budget and expenses per pupil. This is like the Parents As Teachers consortium and the Adult Education consortium which the Paola district also hosts.
- FY 27 proposed budget amount includes a portion of the carryover balance for this fund. The coop does not plan to expend the carryover balance but must have the budget authority to do so if necessary.

TOTAL EXPENDITURES & BUDGET AUTHORITY:

FY 26 Actual	FY 26 Budget	FY 27 Proposed Budget	\$ Difference	% Difference
63,053,940	71,459,830	67,005,848	-4,453,982	-6.23%

- As noted, the FY 27 proposed budget amounts include the carryover balance for most funds. District does not plan to completely expend the carryover balances but must have the budget authority to do so if necessary.
- To illustrate this, the 2025-26 proposed budget was \$71,459,830 and the actual expenditures were \$63,053,940, a difference of \$8,405,890 less than the published budget amount. FY 27 actual expenditures will most likely be less than the published budget of \$67,005,848 as the fund balances are not expected to be completely expended.
- As the Notice of Hearing states, the expenditures establish the maximum limits of the 2026-27 Budget.
- Estimated FY 27 net expenditures are \$59,930,279 after budgeted transfers of \$7,075,569.

Summary:

Following is a summary of the mill levy history and total taxes levied:

USD 368	2016-17 (actual)	2017-18 (actual)	2018-19 (actual)	2019-20 (actual)	2020-21 (actual)	2021-22 (actual)	2022-23 (actual)	2023-24 (actual)	2024-25 (actual)	2025-26 (actual)	2026-27 (projected)
General Fund	20.000	20.000	20.000	20.000	20.000	20.000	20.000	20.000	20.000	20.000	20.000
Supplemental General (LOB)	14.830	17.119	14.598	14.106	13.153	12.528	12.664	12.848	14.291	14.387	15.113
Capital Outlay	7.992	7.996	8.000	7.980	8.000	8.000	7.999	6.880	8.000	8.000	6.896
Bond and Interest	13.780	10.442	11.931	10.858	10.789	10.004	10.003	9.818	5.695	0.000	0.000
Special Assessment	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Total Mill Levy	56.602	55.557	54.529	52.944	51.942	50.532	50.666	49.546	47.986	42.387	42.009
Change from prior year	2.038 decrease	1.045 decrease	1.028 decrease	1.585 decrease	1.000 decrease	1.410 decrease	1.340 increase	1.120 decrease	1.56 decrease	5.599 decrease	0.378 decrease
Total Taxes Levied (proj.)	\$7,435,839	\$7,637,034	\$7,956,501	\$8,278,544	\$8,593,601	\$9,096,946	\$10,198,603	\$11,570,411	\$11,387,737	\$10,503,631	\$10,604,637

- The proposed budget is the maximum amount which can be expended.
- The estimated tax rate (mill levy) is subject to slight change depending on final assessed valuation.
- Budget hearing to approve the 2026-2027 budget will be held on August 10th at 6:00 PM.

Questions:

- Questions may be directed to Jimmy Hay, USD #368 Director of Finance at 913-294-8090 or via email to jimmy_hay@usd368.org.
- Complete budget information is available on the USD #368 district website homepage at www.usd368.org.

