



PRELIMINARY GENERAL FUND BUDGET

Fiscal Year 2024-2025

Board of Education Meeting – May 7, 2024

BEAUFORT COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Frank Rodriguez, Ph.D., Superintendent

Tonya Crosby, CPA, Chief Financial Officer

Where Learning Leads the Way!



Operating Budget Highlights



Budget Priorities align with the Strategic Plan



\$24.1 million investment in employee compensation



Maintain Beaufort's #1 rank in the state for the highest starting teacher salary



\$13.7 million investment in operations



12.1% increase over Fiscal Year 2024

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

New Academic Investments

- 15.0 FTEs Special Education programs
- 6.0 FTEs Multilingual Learner programs
- 2.0 FTEs Alternative Education programs
- 2.0 FTEs Dual Education programs - TIDES



Utilization of Special Revenue Funds



- Teacher Certification Program (LEAP)
- State Funding for School Resource Officers (SRO)
- After School Community Partnerships
- Crisis Response Program
- Support programs for Special Education students and Multilingual Learners
- Early Childhood Curriculum Update
- Academic Interventions

Prior Meeting Summary



Discussed the FY 2025 General Fund Budget as presented-April 26, 2024

Student Achievement:

- SPED Teacher Critical Needs Stipends
- Academic, Fine Arts & Athletic Stipends

Teacher Quality:

- Professional Development
- Investment to keep the highest beginning teacher compensation in South Carolina

Safety & Security:

- Investment in mental health programs
- Continuation of crisis response program

Financial Stewardship:

- No Millage increase



Competitive Salaries



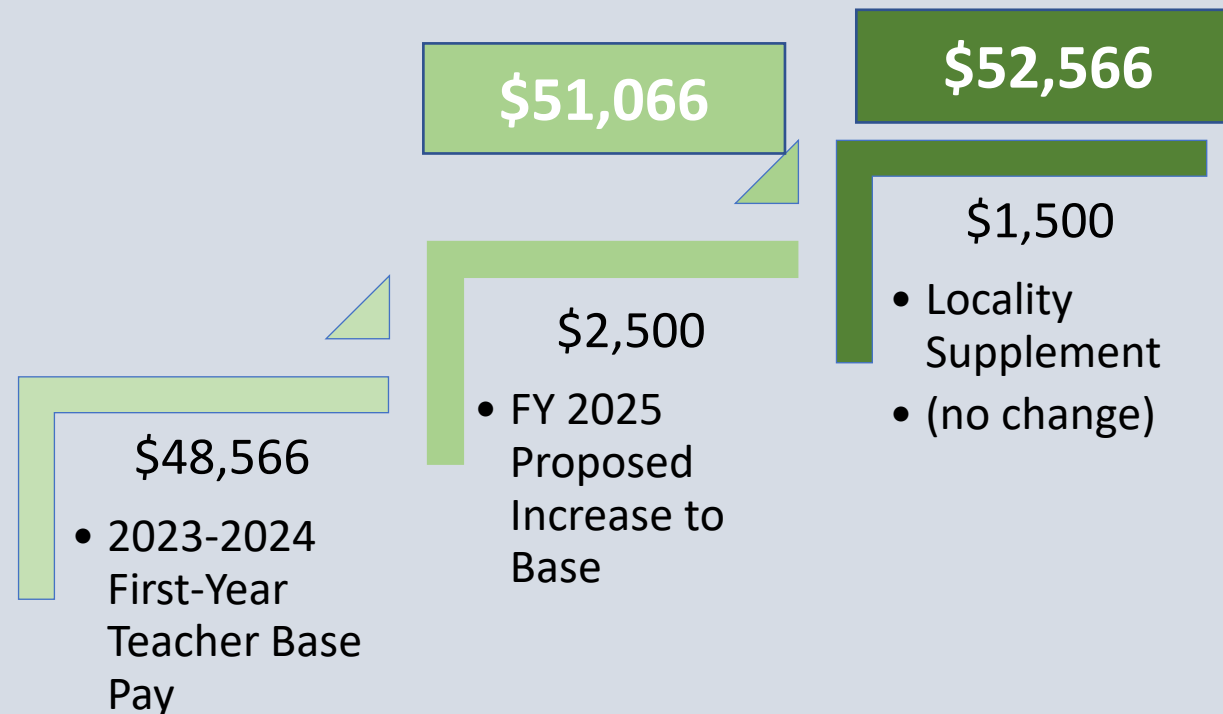
- \$2,500 Increase to each cell of the Teacher Salary Schedule
- 3% Cost of Living - Classified, Professional and Administrative Employees
- Annual Step Increase for all eligible employees
- Maximum step increasing to 28 steps for all employee types
- Locality supplement remains \$1,500 for all eligible employees





First Year Teacher Starting Salary –Proposed

2024-2025 Proposed First-Year Teacher Compensation Package



Employee Benefits



- Sick Leave Payout Plan
- Pay for Lapsed Days
- Paid Parental Leave



Legislative Update



The Senate has passed its version of the education budget

The budget is currently in the House for a second review since this legislative body initiated the bill.

No material changes in state revenue are expected.

The projection of final funding from the State will arrive in mid-June.



Debt Service Highlights

Expenditures

- Total FY25 Expenditures of \$108.1M to fund principal and interest payments

Millage

- The millage will remain at 36.3 mills

Fund Balance

- Projected fund balance at 12/31/2025 of \$5.0M

See Debt Service Fund Handout

Staff Recommendation



- Approve an operations expenditure budget of \$ 359,170,000
- Approve a debt service expenditure budget of \$108,063,241
- Proposed date of budget certification - May 21, 2024

2024-2025 Budget Schedule



Board Meeting

May 21, 2024 - **Certify Budget**

County Council Readings

May 20, 2024 – Finance Committee

May 28, 2024 - First Reading *

June 10, 2024 - Second Reading

June 24, 2024 - Third Reading

*First Reading is by "Title Only" – No dollar amounts are required



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