



## Superintendent's 2024-25 Budget Message

May 14, 2024

Dear Beaverton School District Community,

The 2023–24 school year has been a busy, exciting and transitional year for our students, staff and community. The board of directors adopted a new strategic plan in May 2023 and the District has begun, focusing and aligning our work. From the District promise to foundational building blocks, efforts are underway in implementing the strategic plan.

The [strategic plan](#) articulates Beaverton School District's promise, vision, mission, values, goals and foundational building blocks in our efforts to support all of our students to succeed. Its essence is captured in a community-endorsed promise that the District is making to our families: **Belong. Believe. Achieve.** We believe that when students feel a sense of deep belonging and recognize that those around them believe in their capacity for learning, then they begin to believe in themselves and their ability to achieve their goals. We also believe it is our moral imperative to educate every student and provide them with the opportunities and support they need to succeed academically and define and achieve their own successful futures. Undergirding all areas of the plan is our steadfast commitment to equity, engagement, and excellence in all areas for all of our students.

### Current Climate

The proposed 2024-25 budget reflects a State School Fund (SSF) of \$10.2 billion as appropriated by the Oregon Legislature for the 2023-2025 biennium. This funding level represents a 9.7% increase over the previous biennium. It is important to note that, on an annual basis, this level of funding makes it difficult to keep up with costs in our current inflationary environment. While inflation has cooled over recent months, impacts on program costs are evident throughout our organization. The District is currently in bargaining with the Beaverton Education Association and with the Beaverton School Employees Association for an economic reopening.

The District has received significant one-time funds from the federal and state governments to support increased needs due to the pandemic, and most of these funds expire on September 30, 2024. The 2024-25 proposed budget includes a projected \$12.0 million of remaining one-time federal funds that must be spent by September 30, 2024. The remaining funds will be used for academic programs this summer and will also fund targeted heating, ventilation and air conditioning improvements at Southridge High School.

This budget message is designed to summarize important features, financial policies, and planned modifications in the 2024-25 proposed budget. The total budget of \$1,813,709,979 and General Fund budget of \$740,824,843 is the result of aligning resources to priorities identified through the extensive community outreach conducted to inform the District's strategic plan, student success plan, and budget. The strategic plan was developed based on input provided by the District's students, families, staff, community, and the School Board. Additionally, we are in the second year of the District's Aligning for Student Success Plan through the Integrated Guidance process as outlined by the Oregon Department of Education, which includes funding for the Student Investment Account

(SIA) and High School Success Act (HSS), as well as outreach for community input on general budget priorities. This budget proposal includes ongoing allocations for strategic investments, improvements in prioritized funding for the SIA and HSS, and remaining one-time funds from federal and state governments. It also identifies investments to be monitored for improvement in the coming years.

### **Planning the 2024-25 Budget**

The budget is based on funding from a \$10.2 billion State School Fund for the 2023-2025 biennium. It includes funding for just over 300 teachers provided by the local option levy, which local voters resoundingly approved renewing in November 2022. It also includes a \$38.0 million allocation from the Student Investment Account and \$12.0 million from the High School Success grant.. The SIA is a part of the Student Success Act (SSA) that passed during the 2019 Legislative Session, funded by the state’s Corporate Activity Tax and the High School Success grant was passed by voters on Ballot Measure 98 in November 2016.

### **Aligning for Student Success**

For the second year of the two year plan, the 2024-25 proposed budget includes Integrated Guidance for Aligning for Student Success as required by ODE for school districts to receive funding for the SIA, HSS, CTE – Perkins, Continuous Improvement Planning, Every Day Matters, and Early Indicator Intervention System. Combined, these funding sources total more than \$50 million. The District assembled an Integrated Guidance Planning team in the fall of 2022 and conducted a comprehensive needs assessment, including reviewing data on graduation and dropout rates, Smarter Balanced Assessment results, English Language Proficiency results, Oregon Accelerated Learning and Career Technical dashboards, chronic absenteeism, Oregon Student Health Survey responses, and community feedback from extensive outreach to students, families, staff and community. The Aligning for Student Success Plan can be found on the District’s [website \(www.beaverton.k12.or.us\)](http://www.beaverton.k12.or.us).

### **Staffing Allocation Methodology (SAM)**

The District uses a Staffing Allocation Methodology to allocate most of the staff in our schools. The SAM currently uses funds from the general operating budget, SIA, and HSS. The SAM includes a commitment to a more equitable and responsive allocation of resources to schools based on the number of students experiencing poverty. While we don’t have the resources to fully fund the SAM as it was created, it will provide a roadmap for future investments. We continue to assess the effectiveness of the new methodology since it was implemented just prior to COVID-19. Time will be set aside again in the fall of 2024 to review the SAM implementation and make modifications for enrollment and other changes as funding allows.

### **Budget Development Process for 2024-25 Budget**

Phase 1: The School Board approved the budget calendar in June 2023, establishing a process for the 2024-25 budget. The Board also established a process to appoint vacant Budget Committee positions at the School Board meeting in August 2023. The open positions were advertised across the District and filled by the Board in December 2023.

Phase 2: From October to December 2023, the District modified plans for use of ESSER II and III funding from the federal government passed down through the State of Oregon. A significant increase in SIA funding allowed a number of positions to be moved from ESSER to the SIA. Funding of these positions in SIA will continue in 2024-25. The District also added staffing in schools including paraeducators in kindergarten classrooms and special education staff during the 2023-24 school year. These supports are maintained in the proposed 2024-25 proposed budget.

Phase 3: From February through March 2024, the District solicited feedback from staff and community members by creating a Budget Listening and Learning video and a feedback survey that was widely promoted to staff, parents, students, and community members. The District received just over 2,400 survey responses. That feedback along with input from District leadership informed some modifications to the General Fund. The proposed budget also includes reductions made to align our current staffing to projected enrollment, maintaining the same staffing ratios in the SAM with no changes from budget year 2023-24 to 2024-25. The SAM committee also met to make modest adjustments to the model and engaged staff in changes to English language development (ELD) and special education service models included in SAM. The Superintendent's Cabinet reviewed the budget changes.

Phase 4: Beginning in April through May 2024, the final phase includes the delivery of the Superintendent's Budget Message and the 2024-25 proposed budget to the Budget Committee. The Budget Committee will review the proposed budget, receive community testimony, and request any additional information. The Budget Committee will see that the budget is balanced and aligns with the strategic plan and student needs. Finally, the Budget Committee will approve the budget and tax levies and send the approved budget to the School Board for adoption in June.

### **Notable Financial Assumptions and Highlights**

- Assumes 2024-25 SSF amount of \$510.2 million
- Assumes SIA amount of \$38.0 million (Safe & Thriving, Progress on Standards)
- Assumes career & technical education (CTE) and high school success funding from HSS grant of approximately \$12.0 million (College & Career Ready)
- Acknowledges federal Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER) III funds must be spent by September 30, 2024 (Progress on Standards, Facilities & Programs for World-Class Learning)
- Projects September enrollment of 37,703, a decrease of 373 students from September 2023
- Provides 301.2 teachers through Local Option Levy resources of approximately \$44.0 million (Progress on Standards)
- Includes 73.6 FTE previously funded with ESSER (Safe & Thriving, Foundations of Success, Progress on Standards)
- Maintains 42.9 FTE for kindergarten paraeducators, 4.0 FTE for newcomer programs, and 58.0 FTE for special education that was added during the 2023-24 school year (Foundations of Success, Progress on Standards)

- Invests 31.8 FTE from Staffing Allocation Methodology (SAM) changes, 39.4 FTE in special education, 7.0 FTE campus supervisors and 13.4 FTE bus drivers added during the 2024-25 budget process (Safe & Thriving, Foundations of Success, Progress on Standards)
- Includes \$1.0 million in supplies and materials for maintenance and custodial (Facilities & Programs for World-Class Learning)
- Includes \$2.0 million for implementation of a new enterprise resource planning (ERP) system (Effective Systems & Structures for Student Success)
- Continues investment in expansion of dual language learning options, adding programs at three schools in 2024-25 (Engaging & Effective Teaching & Learning Systems; Equity, Engagement & Excellence)
- Continues to invest in early childhood education by adding a pre-K program at one additional school in 2024-25 for a total of 14 schools (Engaging & Effective Teaching & Learning Systems; Equity, Engagement & Excellence)
- Allocates resources to support multi-tiered systems of support (MTSS) materials (Engaging & Effective Teaching & Learning Systems)
- Continues investment of \$1.0 million for classroom technology and \$1.0 million for furniture replacements (Facilities & Programs for World-Class Learning)

**Conclusion**

In closing, I want to thank the School Board, administrators, staff and community for their dedication and hard work in preparing the proposed 2024-25 budget. Many thanks to the Budget Committee for its thoughts and attention in reviewing the proposed budget and providing feedback as we plan for the 2024–25 school year. This work, much like the Staffing Allocation Methodology and Aligning for Student Success Plan, provides guidance on spending priorities and a framework for future investments. We’ll use the priorities outlined in the District’s strategic plan, equity lens, Staffing Allocation Methodology, and community input to guide our decision-making.

We will continue to move forward and meet the challenges of educating our children in these changing times. We’ll continue to advocate at the state level for not only our students but all Oregon students. We’ll continue to look for ways to innovate and improve. And we’ll continue to partner with our community to ensure that *all* students succeed.

I am pleased to propose a budget with significant investments to meet the needs of our students. Thank you for your consideration of the 2024-25 proposed budget.

Respectfully submitted,



Gustavo Balderas  
Superintendent  
Beaverton School District