



Beaufort County School District

Proposed Budget 2024-2025



Dear Community Members:

Together, we have made great strides in Beaufort County School District (BCSD). For the second consecutive year, our district is proud to offer the highest starting teacher salary in South Carolina.

Education is a labor intensive endeavor. Amidst the many educational challenges facing the nation, BCSD continues to experience dramatic increases in operating costs. Through all of the challenges, we are committed to providing a quality education for our 21,492 students and

building the capacity for our teachers to help students reach their highest potential. As federal education ESSER dollars are sunsetting, BCSD has made some strategic decisions about innovative initiatives without raising the millage.

To that end, the operating budget was developed with a top priority in mind:

To lead South Carolina education as an exemplary district by attracting and maintaining high quality educators and staff to continuously focus on and grow students

To attract and retain highly qualified educators and support staff, we must offer competitive salaries. While we have made progress in recent years, we still have work to do. This top priority enables us to focus on providing competitive salaries and benefits packages and solidifying our District's commitment to continuous improvement. Strategic expenditure increases include:

- \$2,500 addition to the BCSD teacher's salary schedule bringing the first year teacher's starting salary to **\$51,066**;
- Step increase for continuing teachers and support for our most experienced teachers by moving the maximum step from 27 to 28;
- 3% cost of living increase plus a step for all other employee categories;
- Salary supplements for critical needs positions related to Special Education;
- Funding to meet state-mandated healthcare and paid parental leave; and
- Continuation of the \$1,500 locality supplement for all eligible employees.

As we approach the final stages of our budget planning process, I want to express my sincere gratitude for your unwavering support. Our school district faces several challenges, but together, we can overcome them and continue providing an exceptional education for our students.

Your Proud Superintendent of Beaufort County School District,

Budget at a Glance

Operating Budget	
2024	\$320,412,978
2025	\$359,170,000
Proposed Increase	\$38,757,022
% Increase	12.1%

Investments

Teacher Pay Increases.....	\$12.0M
Other Pay Increases.....	\$ 7.9M
Benefit Cost Increases.....	\$ 1.5M
New Positions.....	\$ 2.7M
Operational Increases.....	\$14.7M

Funding

Current Operations Millage	121.8
NO MILLAGE INCREASE	
Proposed Operations Millage	121.8
Existing local and state dollars will be utilized to fund this budget.	