



Dorchester School District Two

Budget FY 2024-25

"One Team One Vision One Goal"

Dear Community Members,

It is our belief that Dorchester School District Two is a special place. We further believe it is the people that make the place and not the other way around. To maintain our status as the educational leader in the Lowcountry we must recruit and retain the best and brightest in the field. Providing our employees with a competitive salary is one way to accomplish that goal. We are proud to share that this year's budget increases come without requesting a millage increase. By reducing costs where we can we are able to maximize the amount of operational dollars that directly supports our students, people, and world class programs.

Notable expenditures include:

- ✓ \$2,000 Signing bonus- teachers (new)
- ✓ \$3,000 Signing bonus- Special Education Teachers (new)
- ✓ \$5,500 increase to every step of the teacher salary schedule
- ✓ Creation of longevity stipends
 - 0-10 years of service- \$500
 - 11-20 years of service-\$1000
 - 21+ years of service- \$1250
- ✓ Average of 4% increase to the classified staff salary
- ✓ Funding to meet the state mandated increase in healthcare and retirement costs

With the passage of our FY 24-25 budget and because of your continued support as well as the work of our board and administrative team, we feel like we have again made great progress to increase the salaries for the employees in our school district.

Kind Regards,

Dr. Shane Robbins, ATC
Superintendent of Schools
Dorchester School District Two

"Leading the Way, Every Student, Every Day"

BUDGET AT A GLANCE

Operating Budget

2023/2024.....	\$266,475,443
2024/2025.....	\$288,748,486
Increase.....	\$22,273,043
<u>% Increase 8.35%</u>	

STAFF INVESTMENTS

Teacher Pay Increases.....	\$12.11M
Extracurricular Activity Stipend Schedule Increases.....	\$0.67M
Classified/Admin Increases.....	\$2.4M
Benefit Cost Increases.....	\$4.2M
Employee Longevity Stipend.....	\$2.3M
Teacher Signing Bonuses.....	\$0.9M
New Positions for growth (Classified/Certified).....	\$3.9M
STAFF INVESTMENT	<u>\$26.48M</u>

**Non-Essential Program Reductions and use
of Cash Reserves..... - \$4.2M**

FUNDING

Current Operations Millage 183.6

**Funding from operations does NOT
come from residential property
taxes, but from business, industry,
vehicle, and non-residential
properties owned in the Dorchester
Two attendance area**