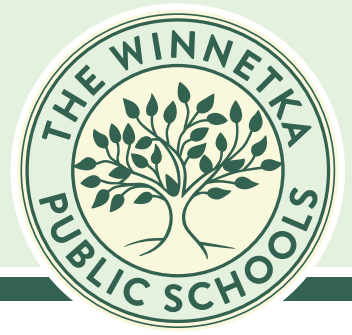


2023 Fiscal Year FINANCIAL REPORT



School Budget

The District's budget is a planning document that provides the financial framework to support The Winnetka Public Schools' goal of providing students with a high-caliber education, while serving as responsible financial stewards. Developing and monitoring the District's budget is a year-round activity, incorporating an array of logistical, legal, and regulatory mandates. Revenue is generated primarily from local property tax dollars, while expenses are determined by programmatic needs.

The School Board and staff are diligent about careful stewardship of these funds and work to deliver educational programs and maintain District buildings as efficiently as possible. This may result in surpluses or positive ending fund balances. When savings are realized, funds are held in reserve for future educational facility needs. A reserve can extend the time between referenda, ensure cash flow when tax payments are not received in a timely fashion, and may be used for unexpected expenses or reductions in revenue sources.

Financial Stewardship

The Board recognizes its obligations to taxpayers in fulfilling its stewardship of District finances and related reserves. In response to this commitment, over the past several years the Board has returned in excess of \$4 million to taxpayers through a rebate or rollback of property taxes. In December 2016, \$10+ million of bonds were refinanced for a tax savings of over \$700,000. In June 2017, the Board abated \$30 million in reserves to refund callable debt. This eliminated future property taxes of approximately \$39 million previously scheduled to pay principal and interest on the \$30 million of refunded debt.

District 36 Tax Rates dropped from 3.5411 to 2.661 between 2015-2023 primarily due to tax abatements and refinancing of bonds.

School Budget Cycle

JANUARY

Budget Calendar Developed

FEBRUARY

Preliminary Staffing Plan Presented

MARCH

Staffing Plan Adopted

APRIL & MAY

Budget is Internally Developed and Refined

JUNE

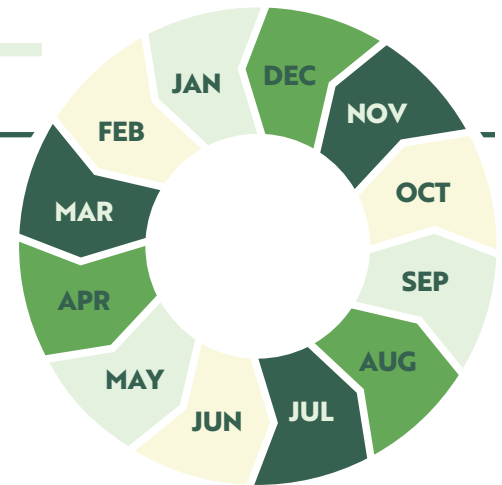
Preliminary Budget Presented and Approved

JULY

Annual Financial Audit Performed

AUGUST

Tentative Budget Approved for Public Display & Hearing



SEPTEMBER

Budget Hearing and Vote

OCTOBER

Independent Financial Audit Completed

NOVEMBER

Preliminary Tax Levy Presented and Discussed

DECEMBER

Tax Levy Approved

Note: Timing may vary slightly from year-to-year.

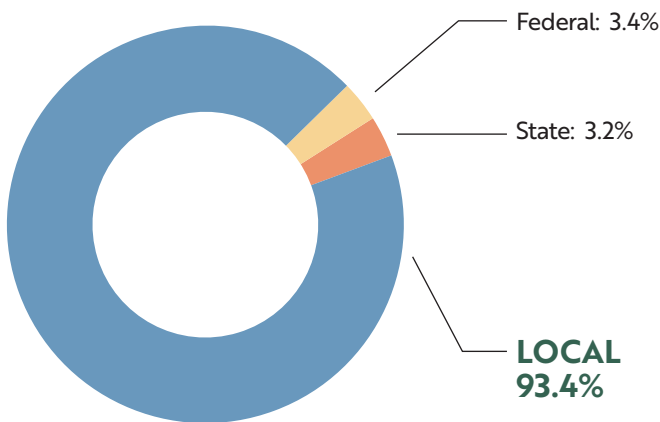
The District went out to referendum in November 2022 to address critical facility needs. The voters approved the issuance of \$59.4 million in bonding authority. This, in combination with a District contribution of \$9 million will allow for the completion of this project. This work will include: Health/Life Safety Code improvements, secure entry vestibules and additional safety and accessibility improvements under the Americans with Disabilities Act; replace flooring, plumbing, HVAC and electrical systems; remove temporary trailers, renovate the multi-purpose room/cafeteria and library/resource center and build and equip a three-classroom and gymnasium addition at the Crow Island School; build and equip a multi-purpose room/cafeteria addition at the Hubbard Woods School. This work began in the Summer of 2023, and will continue over the next two summers with buildings completed for the opening of school in the fall of 2025.

Fiscal Year 2023 Financial Report

Thanks to the support of taxpayers and the careful stewardship of the School Board and staff, District 36 is in a sound financial position. The District maintains a AAA Bond Rating from Standard & Poor's, and the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) again bestowed its highest honor, "Financial Recognition" on The Winnetka Public Schools.

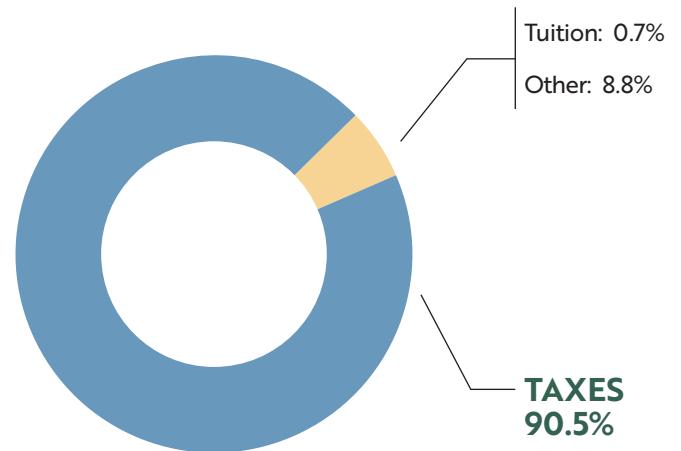
Revenue by Source (All Funds)

District 36 receives 93% of its funds from local sources. Federal and state revenues are 7% of the District's revenues. Despite the poor financial situation in the state of Illinois, District finances have remained stable. However, due to economic conditions in the state and federal governments, future availability of revenue from both entities is at risk.



Local Revenue by Type (All Funds)

Property taxes are the primary source (90.5%) of Local Revenue for The Winnetka Public Schools. Traditionally, property tax revenues have been a reliable source of revenue.



The Winnetka Public Schools Board approved the District's 2023 Tax Levy at its December 13, 2022, meeting. A property tax levy is an annual request to Cook County for the property tax revenue a school district needs to operate the district for the subsequent fiscal year.

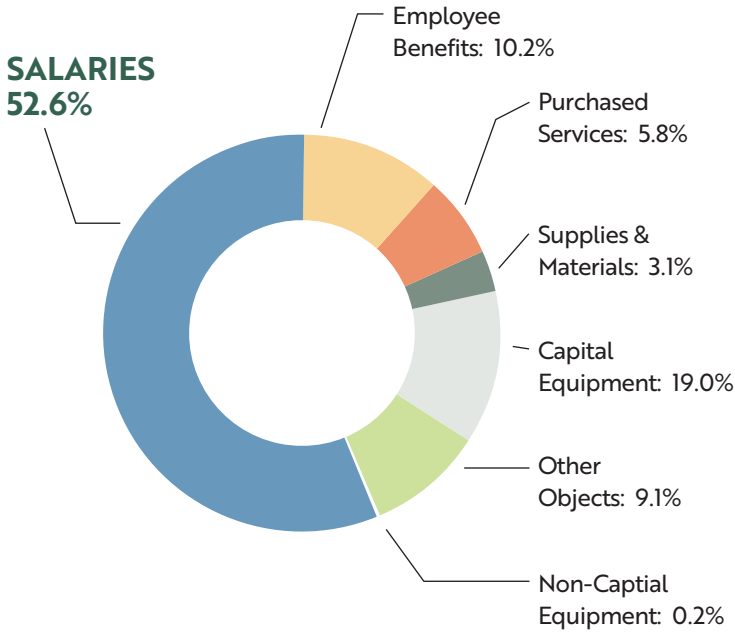
The Association of School Business Officials International awarded D36 the Certificate of Excellence in Financial Reporting (COE) for meeting high standards for financial reporting and accountability. This is the eighth consecutive time the District has received this recognition.

District 36 received the highest category from the ISBE in the areas of Fund Balance/Revenue Ratio, Expenditures/Revenue Ratio, and Short-Term Borrowing and maintains its AAA bond rating.

Fiscal Year 2023 Financial Report

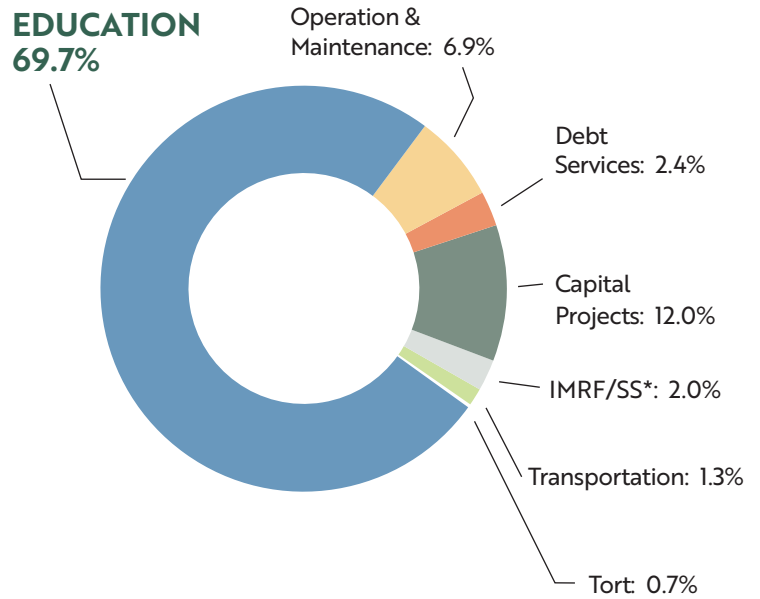
Expenditure by Object (All Funds)

When expenditures are considered by type they are referred to as objects. Education is a people-driven enterprise. Salaries and benefits, primarily of teachers, associates, custodians, and other staff—those who provide outstanding direct educational experiences for students—constitute the majority of this (63%) category.



Expenditure by Fund

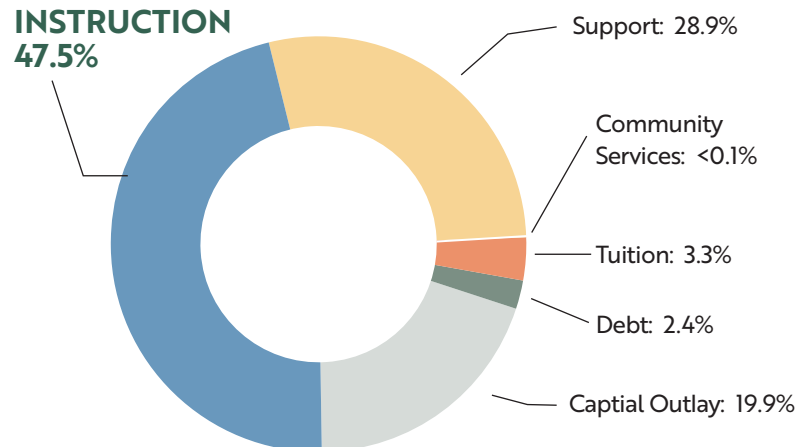
Per Illinois State Law, the District's budget is divided into categories, or funds. Each of these accounts has a specific purpose or function and funds are not fungible. Only limited types of transfers are permitted, and money in one fund cannot be used for expenses in another. For example, the District spent just over 14% of its local dollars on debt service and capital projects from these restricted funds which are not considered part of the District's Operating Funds.



* Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund and Social Security

Instruction Takes Priority

District budget priorities are guided by the singular goal of providing the best possible education for the children of Winnetka, while remaining fiscally responsible. This priority is reflected by how much money is devoted to teaching and learning. The majority (76%) of the District's budget is spent on Instruction and Instructional support. An important component of Instructional support is providing a favorable and safe environment for children to learn. Facilities continue to be addressed through the referendum and long-term maintenance planning. This will address critical needs of our aging facilities to ensure they continue to be a safe and secure learning environment for the staff and students of the District.



The Winnetka Public Schools received a "Recognition" distinction from the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE). This represents the highest category of financial strength. District 36 received a score of 3.8 on a 4.0 scale.