

Budget and Financial Reporting

Voices College-Bound Language Academy School Budget Narrative

The attached budget is based on conservative estimates of actual costs to operate Voices College-Bound Language Academy's (Voices) program. Assumptions used to create the analysis are based on the school's historical financial data and enrollment, as well as the most recently available information provided by the Fiscal Crisis Management Assistance Team (FCMAT) and School Services of California (SSC).

REVENUES

Enrollment Assumptions

	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30
Enrollment	317	336	358	362	370	378
TK	22	36	36	36	36	36
K	29	36	44	44	44	44
1st	27	30	36	44	44	44
2nd	45	28	30	36	44	44
3rd	26	44	28	30	36	44
4th	36	28	44	28	30	36
5th	35	36	28	44	28	30
6th	40	36	36	28	44	28
7th	24	40	36	36	28	44
8th	33	22	40	36	36	28
ADA	294.81	312.48	332.94	336.66	344.10	351.54
Percentage	93%	93%	93%	93%	93%	93%

Demographics

Based on 2023-24 CALPADS data, the percentage of high needs students, or unduplicated pupil percentage (UPP), for Voices was 80.90%. The unduplicated pupil percentage consists of the population of students who are free and reduced-price meal eligible, foster youth and English language learners. The percentage of English learners last year was 45.7%. The unduplicated percentage is assumed to remain the same in future years.

Government Funding

General purpose entitlements are based on the State's Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) since its passage in 2013. The formula is comprised of a base rate per average daily attendance and supplemental and concentration grants, as determined by the LEA's unduplicated percentage. The school's concentration funding is capped by Franklin-McKinley Elementary District's UPP of 77.51%.

The effective funding rates through 2029-30 were calculated using the most recently available version of the Fiscal Crisis Management Assistance Team's LCFF calculator (version 25.2a released on August 16, 2024). Should the estimated rates change, Voices will adjust its budget accordingly.

	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30
COLA	1.07%	2.93%	3.08%	3.30%	3.29%	3.00%
TK Add-on Rate	\$3,077	\$3,167	\$3,265	\$3,373	\$3,484	\$3,589
TK-3 Base per ADA	\$11,068	\$11,392	\$11,743	\$12,131	\$12,530	\$12,906
4-6 Base per ADA	\$10,177	\$10,475	\$10,798	\$11,154	\$11,521	\$11,867
7-8 Base per ADA	\$10,478	\$10,785	\$11,117	\$11,484	\$11,862	\$12,218

The proportion of general-purpose entitlements from in-lieu property tax in 2023-24 was 26.0%, based on the district's P-2 certified rate of \$3,532.97 per ADA. The percentage coming from the Education Protection Account in 2023-24 was 11.1%. The remainder of general-purpose funding came from state aid.

Given its high percentage of Free and Reduced Lunch (69.0%) and English Learner population (45.7%), Voices has budgeted for Title I, Part A; Title II; Title III EL; and Title IV school-wide funds. The budget assumes that the school will receive the same level of funding for future years based on FY24 final entitlements.

For purposes of special education, Voices is an independent member of Sonoma County Charter SELPA. Revenue assumptions are based on historical entitlements of state and federal funding.

Voices will continue its participation in Child Nutrition Programs. The preliminary assumption is that due to the California Universal Meals Program that began in 2022-23, federal and state funding will cover 100% of student meal costs.

Other State Funding

Voices has budgeted for state lottery revenue. The rate of \$273 per ADA is according to the School Services of California (SSC) Financial Dartboard of the 2024-25 adopted State Budget. The school has also budgeted for the Mandate Block Grant and assumes it will receive \$20.06 per ADA in FY25 with a statutory COLA increase in the future years. This rate information is also provided by the SSC Financial Dartboard.

Voices is the recipient of many state funding sources including the California Community Schools Partnership Program Implementation Grant, Learning Recovery Emergency Discretionary Block Grant, Arts, Music, and Instructional Materials Block Grant, Prop 28 for Arts and Music Instruction, and the Expanded Learning Opportunities Program. These grants fund supplemental programs for the school's students and enhance the student experience.

EXPENSES

Expenses have been conservatively budgeted based on the school's historical data. Below is a summary of the expense categories reflected in the budget and the underlying assumptions.

Staffing and Benefits

Voices' staffing will change over the next several years as one-time funding from the federal and state governments begins to expire. The submitted budget does not plan on the school receiving grant funding from any additional sources.

	FTE 2024-25	FTE 2025-26	FTE 2026-27
Certificated Teachers	20.0	17.0	17.0
Certificated Support Staff	1.0	1.0	1.0
Certificated Admin	1.0	1.0	1.0
Classified Student Aides	14.0	12.0	12.0
Classified Support Staff	2.0	2.0	2.0
Classified Admin	1.0	1.0	1.0
Classified Clerical Staff	3.0	3.0	3.0
Other Classified Staff	5.8	5.8	5.8

The staffing costs included in the budget workbook reflect a 4% increase to base salaries in future years. In addition to base salaries, selected staff members will receive additional pay in the form of stipends. Some examples of stipend pay include increased pay for hard-to-staff roles, additional student tutoring, and teaching summer school.

Voices participates in STRS for certificated staff. STRS rates for future years are according to the SSC Financial Dashboard and are outlined below:

	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
STRS	19.10%	19.10%	19.10%	19.10%	19.10%	19.10%

Voices also allows its employees to participate in a 401K plan. Voices is budgeting for a 3% employer match for eligible non-STRS participants.

Voices budgets for health and welfare benefits based on what they are currently paying per participating employee and budgets for a 3% increase in these costs for future years.

Books and Supplies

In 2024-25, Voices expects to spend a total of \$544,322 on books and supplies. However, this includes a significant one-time expense for new curriculum so the cost is expected to decrease in the following years. \$212,850 will be spent on materials and supplies (including educational software, instructional materials, and office supplies). \$36,500 is budgeted for tech hardware, furniture, and non-capitalized equipment. Food and nutrition program costs are expected to be \$294,972 in 2024-25. Future years factor in a 1% COLA increase to all recurring costs.

Services and Operating Expenses

Voices owns its facility and is currently pays \$187,269.12 per year to the state through the Prop 55 facilities program. Other related costs include utilities; \$61,818, equipment leases; \$20,000, and repairs and maintenance; \$20,000. These costs are based on historical data.

Voices will continue to outsource its back-office functions to EdTec, to include accounts payable, accounting, financial reporting, and budgeting. Fees for these and other similarly contracted services (including audit fees) are based on historical data and part of the fees that are paid to the CMO. Voices has a projected CMO fee of \$420,635 in 2024-25.

Voices will continue to work with various instructional and non-instructional consultants to help support its operation, specifically around the Expanded Learning Opportunities Program. The budget for all out years reflects this continued expense.

District oversight fees are calculated at 1% of LCFF.

The budget also includes expenses related directly to student enrichment and support of Voices' staff. These include field trips, student activities, and professional development. Other budgeted operational costs include staff appreciation, staff recruiting, student assessment, technology services, postage. Voices also has a contingency of \$29,878, to account for small unexpected expenses. Expenses are budgeted based on historical actuals.

CASH FLOW

Voices ended 2023-24 with a cash balance of \$2.7M expects to maintain a strong cash balance in all budgeted-out years.

CONTINGENCIES AND RESERVES

Voices is projected to maintain a fund balance reserve that well exceeds the 3-5% CDE recommended budget reserve each year.

In the event of financial hardship brought on by circumstances out of the school's control, Voices can draw on its reserve which will allow it to meet its short-term cash obligations while it adjusts its budget to meet its future needs.