

**From:** [Kevin Bogatin](#)  
**To:** [TSD Staff](#)  
**Cc:** [TSD Board](#)  
**Subject:** TSD Budget Update  
**Date:** Monday, December 9, 2024 3:36:01 PM

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Dear Tumwater School District,

As I visit schools, and see our students flourishing in classrooms, I am reminded each day why we are all drawn to this work. Thank you to all of you – from our custodians, bus drivers, and child nutrition team, to our educators, office staff, and building leaders – for carrying out our educational vision each day!

In October, I sent you a letter about our district’s budget situation. In the meantime, I have been in touch with other superintendents locally, and have also met to advocate our needs to local state legislators. It is clear that among districts across the region, Tumwater is not alone in experiencing [a tightening of finances](#). I also learned that Governor Inslee has recently imposed a [spending freeze](#) on state government agencies.

As your superintendent, I am committed to communicating regularly and with full transparency on budget issues. Here is an update as of today. At the end of November, the district had a \$2.65 million cash balance in our General Fund, which is about \$5 million less than we had at the same point last year, and is the lowest November cash balance since at least 2017. At the December Board Meeting, our finance team will be speaking to board members about potential loans and other measures to ensure that we can meet our contractual obligations throughout the winter months, while the district awaits receipt of local property taxes, which typically come in April.

We continue to implement the mid-year budget reductions outlined in my October 11<sup>th</sup> budget letter, and are also preparing for a 2025-26 budget that will include a planned reduction in the expenses we are able to support, given the current revenues sources we have.

Many school districts are experiencing [financial challenges](#), but in Tumwater, we will come out of it stronger than ever. If you have any questions or comments please connect with me directly at [kevin.bogatin@tumwater.k12.wa.us](mailto:kevin.bogatin@tumwater.k12.wa.us) or if you’d like to dig a little deeper and examine other financial information you can visit our website at <https://www.tumwater.k12.wa.us/departments/financial-services/school-board-budget-and-finance-updates-information>

We appreciate everyone’s cooperation as we plan strategically for the future.

Sincerely,

Kevin Bogatin, Superintendent  
[Kevin.bogatin@tumwater.k12.wa.us](mailto:Kevin.bogatin@tumwater.k12.wa.us)