

2025-26 Budget Parameters & Priorities

Saint Paul Public Schools (SPPS) is continuing to plan for the 2025-26 budget (fiscal year 2026 or FY26). Budget decisions will be guided by the Board of Education's budget parameters and the community priorities gathered from over 10,000 students, staff and family members during the 2023-24 school year.

Board Budget Parameters

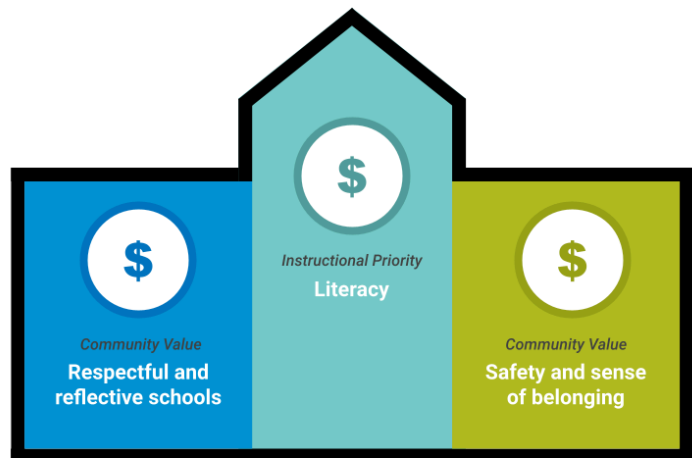
The Board of Education has three parameters, or guidelines, for the 2025-26 budget:

1. Sustaining funding for early education to retain and prepare students for success through their elementary education and to meet third-grade literacy standards
2. Sustaining funding efforts to increase enrollment
3. Sustaining expenditures related to increasing student engagement and decreasing student absenteeism

Community Priorities

Based on last year's budget engagement sessions, the following values were the most important to our community:

1. Increasing a sense of belonging and safety in our school communities
2. Ensuring students are respected and reflected in their curriculum and classrooms
3. Prioritizing literacy instruction to ensure that all students can read and create a foundation of success in school and in life



Please refer to the [FY25 Budget Engagement Summary](#) for information on how these community values were gathered.

These budget parameters and priorities will drive decisions that impact the 2025-26 budget. It's important to remember that **SPPS is planning for a budget shortfall of approximately \$50 million**. It is important to note that many required expenses fall outside of these priorities and must be funded using available resources.

SPPS must present a balanced budget to the Board of Education for approval by June 30, 2025. Please share your feedback about the 2025-26 budget at spps.org/fy26budget.