

2025-26

Budget Update

Study session, March 18, 2025



A Balancing Act: Results

Total Pageviews

6,190

Average Time on Site

8m 29s

Total Time on Site

875h 11m

Total Simulation
Submissions

1,165

689 Parents/Guardians
765 Community members
416 Staff members
172 Students

Respondents were allowed to check all
applicable boxes

Content from the more information
“bubble” in A Balancing Act has been
included on these slides

Items
subject to
adjustment

Summer school tuition and fees are set to cover only the costs of delivering this program to students. We could raise fees slightly to cover overhead costs.

Should summer school tuition be increased?

Yes, by 5% - 193 responses or 16.6%

Yes, by 10% - 691 responses or 59.3%

No – 281 responses or 24.1%

\$9,750 increase to revenues at 5%

\$19,500 increase to revenues at 10%

Summer School Tuition

Comments begin
on page 1

The district charges hourly rates for the short-term use of indoor spaces (gymnasiums, cafeterias, classrooms, etc.) and outdoor spaces (fields). These rates were increased this year by \$5/hour. Most rentals are by youth organizations.

Should the district increase hourly facility rental fees by \$2?

Yes – 996 or 85.5%

No – 169 or 14.5%

\$80,000 increase to revenues

Hourly Fee for Rentals

Comments begin
on page 2

Athletic participation fees at high school.
These fees were increased (doubled) going
into 2024-25. Waivers are provided to
low-income students.

Should high school athletic participation fees
be increased from \$200 to \$225?

Yes – 835 or 71.7%

No – 330 or 28.3%

\$43,000 increase to revenues

HS Athletic Participation Fee

Comments begin on
page 3

The district has a tuition-based preschool program as part of early learning. The district increased this fee for the current year (2024-25).

Should preschool tuition be increased by 10%?

Yes – 778 or 66.8%

No – 387 or 33.2%

\$28,100 increase to revenues

Early Learning Tuition

Comments begin on page 4

The district has a Deaf and Hard of Hearing program that serves eligible in-district and out-of-district students. Tuition is charged for out-of-district students and is paid by the student's home district.

Should the district increase tuition to other districts for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing program?

Yes – 876 or 75.2%

No – 289 or 24.8%

\$187,000 increase to revenues at 5%

Special Education Tuition

Comments begin on
page 5

The district currently charges a \$2 per transaction fee for all online payments. These fees partially offset credit card processing fees incurred by the district.

Should the district increase credit card processing fees from \$2 to \$3 per transaction?

Yes – 946 or 81.2%

No – 219 or 18.8%

\$40,000 increase to revenues

Credit Card Transaction Fees

Comments begin
on page 5

School budgets were reduced by 10% going into the 2024-25 school year. Building budgets include supplies as well as additional labor costs which are subject to bargaining.

Should building budgets be reduced by 5%?

Yes – 776 or 66.6%

No – 389 or 33.4%

\$43,000 decrease to expenditures

Building Budgets

Comments begin
on page 6

Stipends are provided to staff to support intermediate elementary students participating in safety patrol.

Should the district eliminate safety patrol?

Yes – 782 or 67.1%

No – 383 or 32.9%

\$100,000 decrease to expenditures

Safety Patrol

Comments begin
on page 8

A teacher on special assignment (TOSA) provides support to other teachers in certain curricular areas.

Should the district eliminate TOSAs charged to basic education?

Yes – 935 or 80.3%

No – 230 or 19.7%

\$72,000 decrease to expenditures

Teacher on Special Assignment

Comments begin
on page 10

The district office is open to the public with reduced hours starting this year. We could close the building except by appointment and implement an automated phone menu.

Should the district eliminate the receptionist function at the ESC (Educational Service Center)?

Yes – 976 or 83.8%

No - 189 or 16.2%

\$88,000 decrease to expenditures

ESC- Reception

Comments begin
on page 12

Substance abuse prevention and intervention at the high school level.

Should the prevention/intervention specialist position be eliminated?

Yes – 743 or 63.8%

No – 422 or 36.2%

\$112,000 decrease to expenditures

Prevention Intervention Specialist

Comments begin
on page 13

Student Intervention Coordinators (SInCs) are allocated to elementary schools based on school size, Title I and poverty status, and certain special education programs. SInCs were reduced going into the 2024-25 school year.

Should the district eliminate the student intervention coordinators at the elementary schools?

Yes – 1,027 or 88.2%

No – 138 or 11.8%

\$1.1M decrease to expenditures

Student Intervention Coordinators

Comments begin on page 16

The district provides elementary band and orchestra instruction to 6th graders in addition to general music instruction.

Should the district cut 6th grade band and orchestra?

Yes – 525 or 45.1%

No – 640 or 54.9%

\$780,000 decrease to expenditures

6th Grade Band and Orchestra

Comments begin
on page 21

Multi-age musical concerts in each of the 4 regions of the district.

Should the district eliminate quad concerts?

Yes – 576 or 49.4%

No – 589 or 50.6%

\$17,000 decrease to expenditures

Quad Concerts

Comments begin
on page 38

The district provides an allocation to middle and high schools for intramural activities.

Should the district eliminate the allocation for intramurals?

Yes – 649 or 55.7%

No – 516 or 44.3%

\$14,000 decrease to expenditures

Middle and High School Intramurals

Comments begin
on page 41

Middle school athletics consists of track, cross-country, volleyball, basketball, soccer, football, wrestling and fastpitch. Participation fees were increased (doubled) going into the 2024-25 school year.

Should the district eliminate middle school athletics?

Yes – 847 or 72.7%

No – 318 or 27.3%

\$315,000 decrease to expenditures

Middle School Athletics

Comments begin on page 41

Students are currently provided time for seated breakfast. If the district changed to a grab n go breakfast model, less supervision would be needed during that time.

Should the district change seated breakfast to a grab n go model?

Yes – 843 or 72.4%

No – 322 or 27.6%

\$50,000 decrease to expenditures

Grab n Go Breakfast

Comments begin
on page 49

The district is delaying most curriculum adoptions previously scheduled for the 25-26 school year. This item would delay the planned health curriculum adoption.

Should the district delay the health curriculum adoption?

Yes – 905 or 77.7%

No – 260 or 22.3%

\$100,000 decrease to expenditures

Health Curriculum

Comments begin
on page 51

Summarized Results – Percent Yes

Student Intervention Coordinators	88.2%
Hourly community use	85.5%
District reception	83.8%
Credit card transaction fees	81.2%
Teacher on special assignment	80.3%
Health curriculum	77.7%
Summer tuition	75.9%
Special education (DHH) tuition	75.2%
Middle school athletics	72.7%
Grab n go breakfast	72.4%
High school athletic fees	71.7%
Safety patrol	67.1%
Preschool tuition	66.8%
Building budgets	66.6%
Prevention/intervention	63.8%
Intramurals	55.7%
Quad concerts	49.4%
6th grade band and orchestra	45.1%

Other Comments

- Many individuals added comments to areas not subject to adjustment. Those comments start on page 52.
- Website comments start on page 62.



Lessons Learned/Process Takeaways

More individuals completed the survey (compared to 2024)

Improvement in understanding of general budget issues based on comments received

Improvement in understanding of some items based on comments received

- For example, most commercial insurance is not available for municipalities

Still need improvement in some areas not subject to adjustment that involve grants or state apportionment

- If expenditures are not made according to grantor or OSPI, funding is not received (can't be repurposed)

Student safety patrol is not the same as adult crossing guards (not being reduced)

Teacher on special assignment (TOSA) – those funded by the capital levy are not subject to reduction

Comments

- [Balancing Act Comments](#)
- [Balancing Act Comments- Categorized](#)