



In Pursuit of  
*Exceptional*

TAKING ACTION TO ADVANCE  
OPPORTUNITIES | ACCESS | OUTCOMES IN PURSUIT OF  
AMBITIOUS GOALS

# FY26 BUDGET PRIORITIES

**Shanika Clay, Chief Financial Officer**





# HENRY COUNTY SCHOOLS

and our COMMUNITY share

## A VISION TO

ensure a  
**high-quality,  
world-class**  
education for  
**every student.**

and a singular

## MISSION TO

empower all students with  
**exceptional  
opportunities**  
and **access**  
that lead to  
**success**

in a global society.



## Unified Governance

An system for educating, led by the Henry County Board of Education



# A COMPASS FOR THE FUTURE

### CORE BELIEFS | We believe

Each student can learn at or above grade level and will have an equal opportunity to do so

Family and community involvement is critical to student success

All learning environments should be supportive, safe, and secure

Effective teachers, leaders, and staff, produce excellent results

### STRATEGIC ACTIONS | To advance

And accelerate learning opportunities and experiences for students

And support effective school leaders and teachers

Community and stakeholder engagement so that all students, families and employees feel welcomed and valued

Student and employee health, wellness, and support structures

A high-performing operational culture

Community-Inspired 2021-2026 Strategic Plan  
Developed by the Henry County Board of Education

### CORE POLICIES | BAB, IAB, and IB, call for

An Aligned System of Teaching & Learning

A System of Accountability

A Framework for Continuous Improvement

A Plan to Advance Opportunities, Access, and Outcomes

### PRIORITY OUTCOMES | Every student will be

Ready for kindergarten

Ready to read and write at or above grade level each year with a curriculum rich literature and world languages

Ready for success in advanced coursework at every grade level

Ready for life with strong soft skills, personal health, and well-being

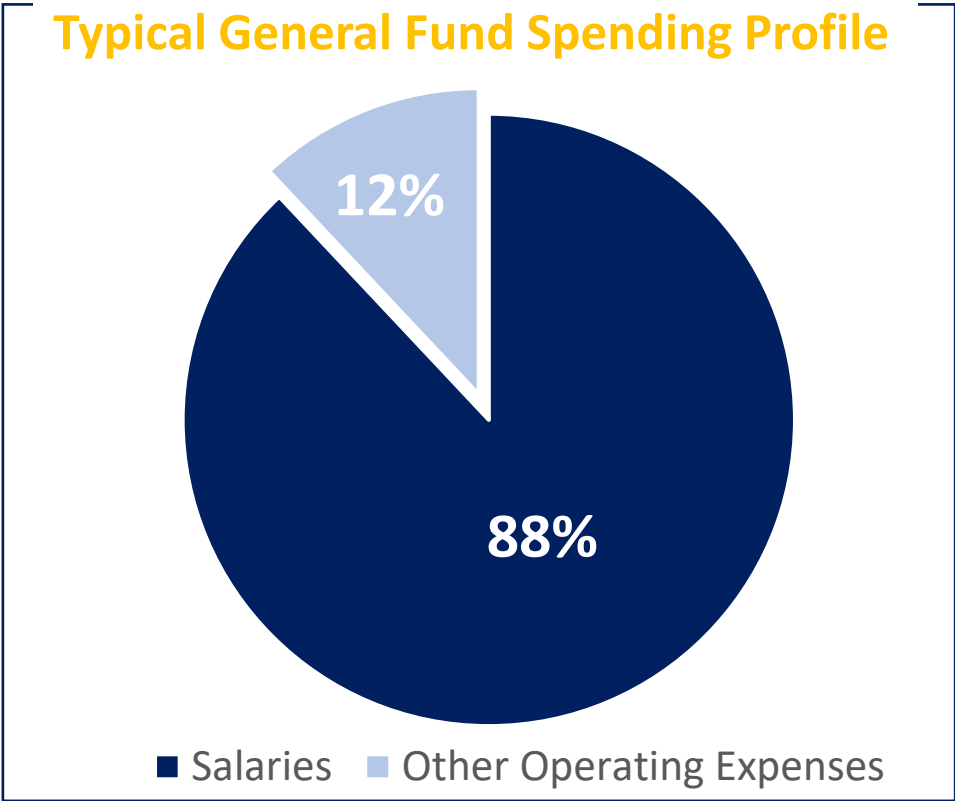
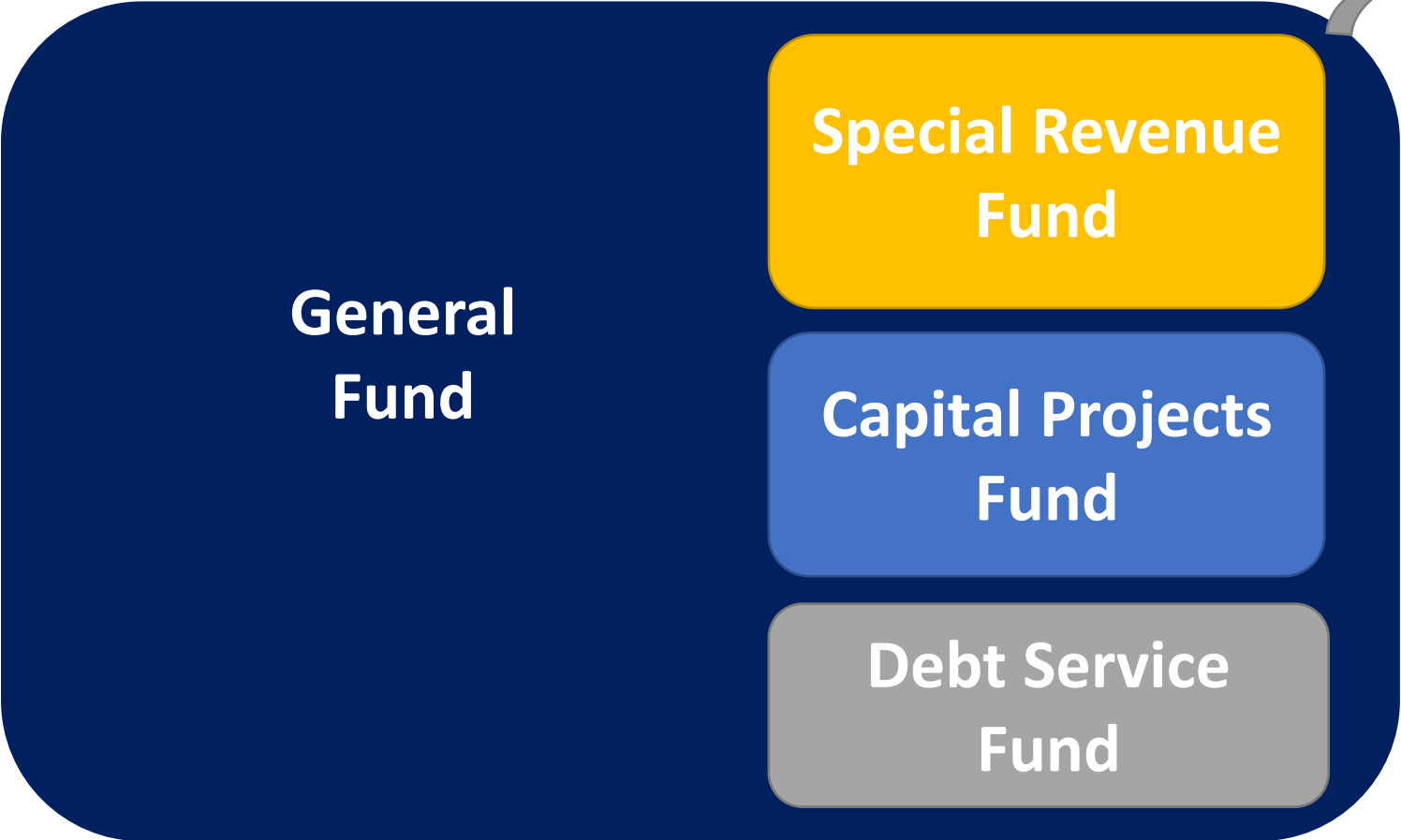
Ready for college, career and post-secondary successes with industry certifications, competitive test scores and scholarship awards

In Pursuit of *Exceptional*



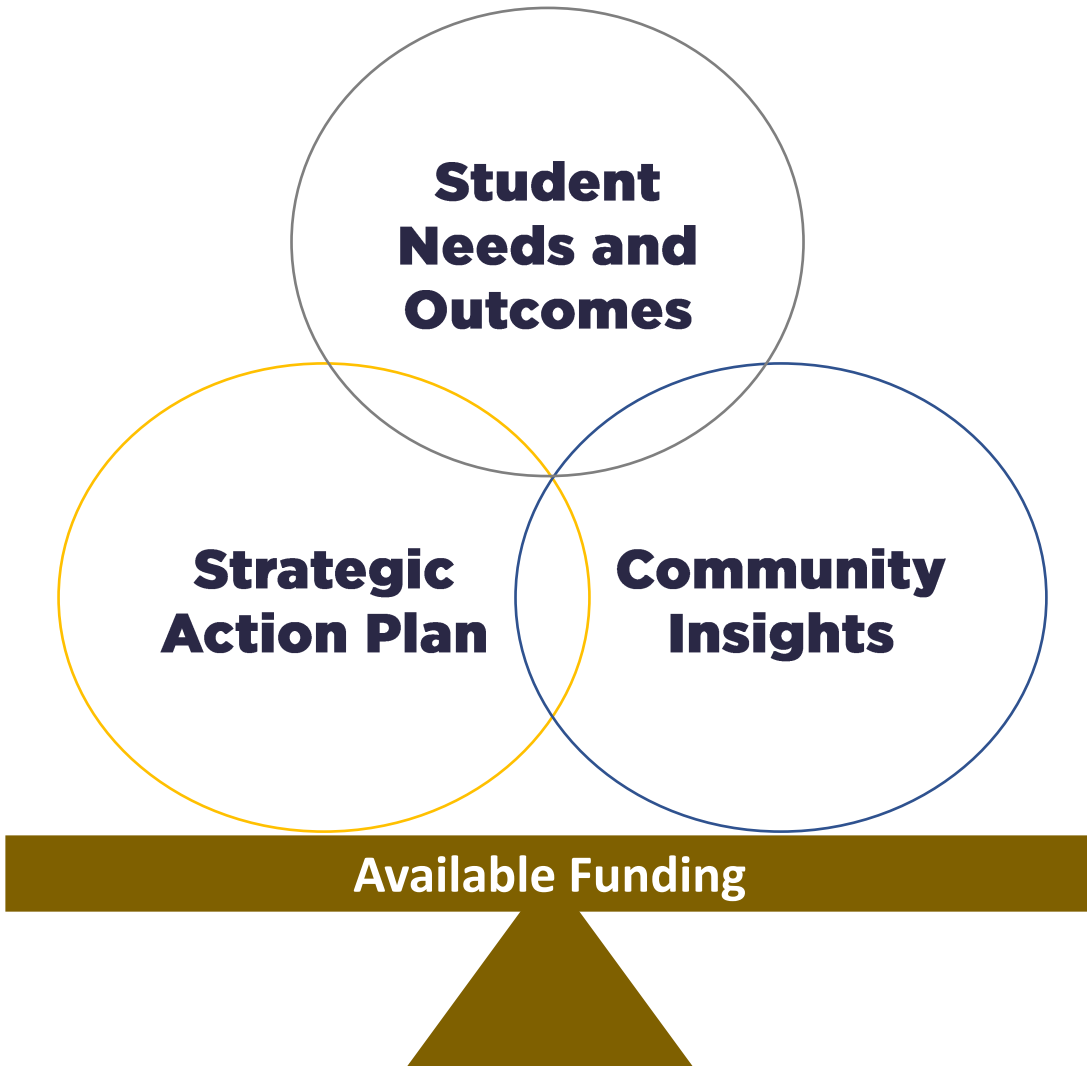
# Budgetary Funds Overview

**Board Policy DC – Annual Operating Budget states:** (1) budgets will be prepared by the Superintendent and adopted annually by the BoE; (2) budgetary control exists at the aggregate fund level. HCS’ aggregate fund levels include the:



# FY26 Budget Priorities

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- ✓ **Strengthen academic and wellness supports for students**
  - Enhance and target professional development for teachers to ensure student access to high quality instruction
  - Expand monitoring strategies (attendance, wellness, and performance) to promote student sense of belonging and ability
  - Assess staffing allocations and organization structures to maximize student academic supports
  - Allocate funds to support school-based improvement plans
- ✓ **Advance competitive compensation for all job families**
  - Invest in employee compensation to promote recruitment and retention of highly effective teachers, leaders, and staff
- ✓ **Continue implementation of Community-Inspired Strategic Plan**
  - Advance remaining tactics to include preparing for STEM High School opening, advancing literacy outcomes, and strengthening community engagement (Henry Partners, Henry Foundation, etc.)
- ✓ **Expand investments in safe and secure learning environments**
  - Plan for expansion of campus safety personnel and review other physical infrastructure opportunities

# FY26 Budget Development | Next Steps

## Henry County Schools FY26 Budget Calendar

The following proposed schedule of activities will guide budget development in the Henry County School System for the school year 2025-2026.

Activity	Responsibility	Date
Present FY26 Budget Development Calendar	Superintendent/CFO	Monday, December 9, 2024 Study Session
Advertise and hold Public Meetings for House Resolution 1022 (*)	Board of Education/Superintendent	January 2025
Present FY26 Budgetary Priorities	Superintendent/CFO	Monday, January 13, 2025 Study Session
Present FY26 Outlook	Superintendent/CFO	Monday, February 10, 2025 Study Session
Present FY26 Budget Overview	Superintendent/CFO	Monday, March 10, 2025 Study Session
Post FY26 Budget Overview on Henry County Schools Website	Financial Services	Friday, March 14, 2025
Provide FY26 Budget Notebook to Board of Education	Financial Services	Monday, March 24, 2025
Present FY26 Tentative Budget	Superintendent/CFO	Monday, April 14, 2025 Study Session
Host Budget Hearing (1 of 2)	Board of Education/Superintendent	Monday, April 14, 2025 6:30 p.m.
Adopt FY26 Tentative Budget	Board of Education	Monday, April 14, 2025 Business Session
Post FY26 Tentative Budget on Henry County Schools Website	Financial Services	Friday, April 18, 2025
Present FY26 Final Budget	Superintendent/CFO	Monday, May 12, 2025 Study Session
Host Budget Hearing (2 of 2)	Board of Education/Superintendent	Monday, May 12, 2025 6:30 p.m.
Adopt FY26 Final Budget	Board of Education	Monday, May 12, 2025 Business Session
Post FY26 Final Budget on Henry County Schools Website	Financial Services	Friday, May 16, 2025
Advertise and hold Public Meetings for Tax Payer Bill of Rights (**)	Board of Education/Superintendent	July 2025
Final adoption of millage rate (**)	Board of Education	July / August 2025



**January** FY26 Budgetary Priorities  
House Resolution Hearings

**February** FY26 Budget Outlook

**March** FY26 Budget Overview

**April** FY26 Tentative Budget  
Budget Hearing #1  
Tentative Budget Adoption

**May** FY26 Final Budget  
Budget Hearing #2  
Final Budget Adoption

(\*) Scheduled dates for 3 public hearings pending; advertisement will occur via the legal organ and district website.  
(\*\*) Scheduled dates for 3 public hearings and adoption of millage rate are contingent on availability of tax digest information; advertisement will occur via the legal organ and district website.