

Notice of Hearing 2025-2026 Budget

The governing body of Unified School District 497 will meet on the 8th day of September 2025 at 6:05 PM at 110 McDonald Dr, Lawrence, KS 66044 for the purpose of hearing and answering objections of taxpayers relating to the proposed use of all funds and the amount of tax to be levied. Detailed budget information, including budget profile, building needs assessment and Board state assessments review is available at Educational Support Center on the district website and will be available at this hearing.

The Amount of 2025 Tax to be Levied and Expenditures (published below) establish the maximum limits of the 2025-2026 Budget. The 'Est. Tax Rate' (column 7), shown for comparative purposes, is subject to slight change depending on final assessed valuation.

	Code 99 Line	2023-2024 Actual		2024-2025 Actual		2025-2026 Proposed Budget		
		Actual Expenditures (1)	Actual Tax Rate* (2)	Actual Expenditures (3)	Actual Tax Rate* (4)	Budgeted Expenditures (5)	Amount of 2025 Tax to be Levied (6)	Est. Tax Rate* (7)
OPERATING								
General	06	84,612,467	20.000	90,228,298	20.000	94,981,338	32,674,507	20.000
Supplemental General (LOB)	08	27,011,684	13.790	28,791,344	14.530	30,365,919	27,515,906	14.831
SPECIAL REVENUE								
Federal Funds	07	5,055,657		4,384,886		5,415,261		
Adult Education	10	492,058	0.200	494,316	0.200	683,300	371,050	0.200
Preschool-Aged At-Risk	11	547,386		530,994		790,000		
Adult Supplemental Education	12	0		0		25,982		
At-Risk Education Fund	13	10,695,940		12,502,614		16,609,000		
Bilingual Education	14	618,600		619,272		881,227		
Virtual Education	15	2,263,368		2,522,550		3,376,854		
Capital Outlay	16	14,702,713	7.984	13,611,988	8.000	27,660,000	14,944,604	8.000
Driver Training	18	0		0		19,346		
Declining Enrollment	19	0	0.000	0	0.000	0	0	0.000
Extraordinary School Program	22	0		0		0		
Food Service	24	5,664,541		5,747,220		6,616,066		
Professional Development	26	275,941		337,203		783,000		
Parent Education Program	28	193,387		202,426		286,000		
Summer School	29	40,280		37,781		131,937		
Special Education	30	29,557,917		33,545,785		39,941,000		
Cost of Living	33	2,432,818	1.221	2,374,995	1.235	3,530,000	1,859,380	1.002
Career and Postsecondary Education	34	1,604,112		1,696,890		2,068,580		
Gifts and Grants	35	1,316,365		1,110,422		2,977,000		
Special Liability Expense Fund	42	0	0.000	0	0.000	0	0	0.000
School Retirement	44	0	0.000	0	0.000	0	0	0.000
Extraordinary Growth Facilities	45	0	0.000	0	0.000	0	0	0.000
Special Reserve Fund	47	12,739,948		14,742,248				
KPERS Special Retirement Contribution	51	9,866,764		9,549,621		10,767,198		
Contingency Reserve	53	12,500		0				
Textbook & Student Material Revolving	55	1,588,914		987,776				
Activity Fund	56	789,056		788,868				
DEBT SERVICE								
Bond and Interest #1	62	13,924,938	9.015	13,997,238	8.308	14,002,550	15,397,848	8.300
Bond and Interest #2	63	0	0.000	0	0.000	0	0	0.000
No-Fund Warrant	66	0	0.000	0	0.000	0	0	0.000
Special Assessment	67	8,235	0.000	8,718	0.000	446,086	0	0.000
Temporary Note	68	0	0.000	0	0.000	0	0	0.000
COOPERATIVES1								
Special Education	78	0		0		0		
TOTAL USD EXPENDITURES	100	226,015,589	52.210	238,813,453	52.273	262,357,644	92,763,295	52.333
Less: Sponsors	105	65,480,942		69,881,549		55,133,000		
NET USD EXPENDITURES	110	160,534,647		168,931,904		207,224,644		
TOTAL USD TAXES LEVIED	115	83,564,057		87,270,294		92,763,295		

1. Sponsoring District Only

*Tax Rates are expressed in Mills

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		Actual Expenditures (1)	Actual Tax Rate* (2)	Actual Expenditures (3)	Actual Tax Rate* (4)	Budgeted Expenditures (5)	Amount of 2025 Tax to be Levied (6)	Est. Tax Rate* (7)
OTHER								
Historical Museum	80	0	0.000	0	0.000	0	0	0.000
Public Library Board	82	0	0.000	0	0.000	0	0	0.000
Public Library Board Employee Benefits	83	0	0.000	0	0.000	0	0	0.000
Recreation Commission	84	0	0.000	0	0.000	0	0	0.000
Rec Comm Emp Benefits & Spec Liab	86	0	0.000	0	0.000	0	0	0.000
TOTAL OTHER	120	0	0.000	0	0.000	0	0	0.000
TOTAL TAXES LEVIED	125	\$83,564,057		\$87,270,294		\$92,763,295		
Assessed Valuation - General Fund	128	\$1,527,746,964		\$1,533,471,034		\$1,633,725,333		
Assessed Valuation - All Other Funds	130	\$1,658,775,828		\$1,767,266,322		\$1,855,250,527		
Assessed Valuation - Capital Outlay	129	\$1,650,506,717		\$1,761,301,010		\$1,868,075,512		
Outstanding Indebtedness, July 1		2023		2024		2025		
General Obligation Bonds	135	157,820,000		149,760,000		141,305,000		
Capital Outlay Bonds	140	0		0		0		
Temporary Note	145	0		0		0		
No-Fund Warrant	150	0		0		0		
Lease Purchase Principal	153	11,155,203		9,887,254		12,032,406		
TOTAL USD DEBT	155	168,975,203		159,647,254		153,337,406		

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GR Gordon-Ross

Board President

Nikki Naumann

Clerk of the Board