

Budget in Brief

FY 24



Washoe County School District

Business and Financial Services

425 East Ninth Street

Reno, NV 89512

LETTER FROM THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

Dear Washoe County Residents,

In June 2023, the Washoe County School District's Board of Trustees adopted the Amended Final Budget for Fiscal Year 2024 (July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024), with significant investments in school safety and academic support for all students including some of the most vulnerable children in Washoe County. This budget was approved after the 2023 session of the Nevada State Legislature, where lawmakers designated unprecedented revenue increases for K-12 education across the state. Lawmakers increased funding for schools by more than \$1 billion per year Statewide, which will help schools address many unmet needs that have accumulated over the last decade.

With the significant increase in State funding, the District's per pupil revenue amount increased from \$7,318 to \$9,243, a 26.3 percent increase. However, the District continues to experience enrollment declines, which reduces the amount of revenue received from the State. After both the revenue increase and enrollment decrease, the net revenue increase for Fiscal Year 2024 is 18.8 percent.

A total of \$3 million for ongoing measures to improve safety at schools was authorized by the Board, including:

- Transportation walk zones were reduced by 0.25 miles at elementary and middle schools, resulting in an additional 13 bus driver positions and an increase to the bus fuel budget.
- This budget authorizes eight new school police officers, one lieutenant, and one dispatcher position to provide coverage at middle schools.
- Also focusing on safety, 17 Campus Supervisor positions were added to provide one position at each of our middle schools.

Elementary and K-8 schools that previously had one administrator position will now receive an assistant principal, dean, or learning facilitator position based on the school's performance plan. This will allow principals and new administrative staff to focus more on academic achievement. This results in 25 additional new positions at schools next school year.

Department's critical needs were also addressed with inflationary adjustments and the addition of 18 positions. Overall, 83 new positions were approved as part of the Fiscal Year 2024 budget.

In June, the Board approved the District's new Strategic Plan and this budget includes a \$10 million reserve to address future Strategic Plan initiatives and programs.

The District's Capital Improvement Plan also provides funding to continue the construction of the Debbie Smith Career & Technical Education Academy, a modernization study for school facilities, a rebuild of Vaughn Middle School, a new elementary school, and a \$46.2 million Capital Renewal Program.

This Budget-in-Brief document is intended to provide you with facts about our school district; the District's approach to balancing the budget; the major sources of funding; as well as major changes included in the Fiscal Year 2024 budget. We hope you find this budget document useful to understanding the Washoe County School District's Fiscal Year 2024 budget.

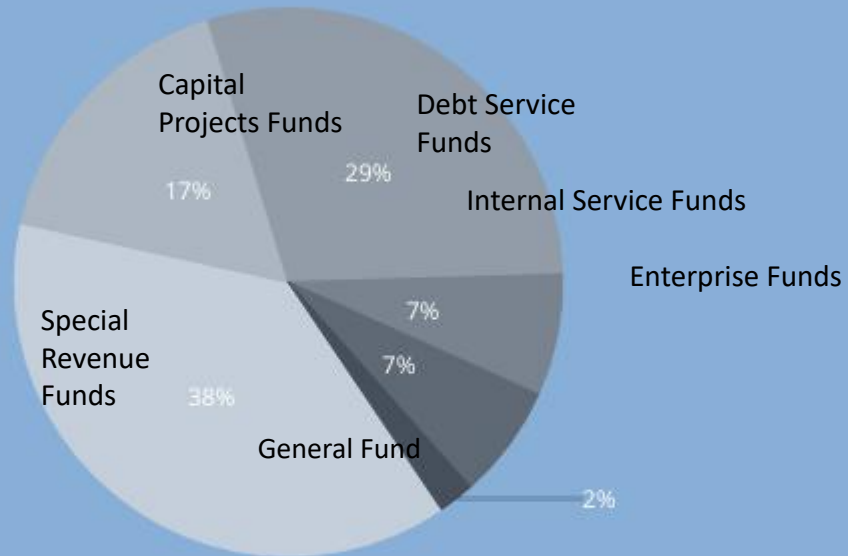
Respectfully,

Mark Mathers
Chief Financial Officer



District-Wide Budget

District-Wide Budget FY 24



General Fund 622,645,998	Special Revenue Funds 275,892,972
Capital Projects Funds 481,299,572	Debt Service Funds 117,628,387
Internal Service Funds 110,489,529	Enterprise Fund 34,832,188

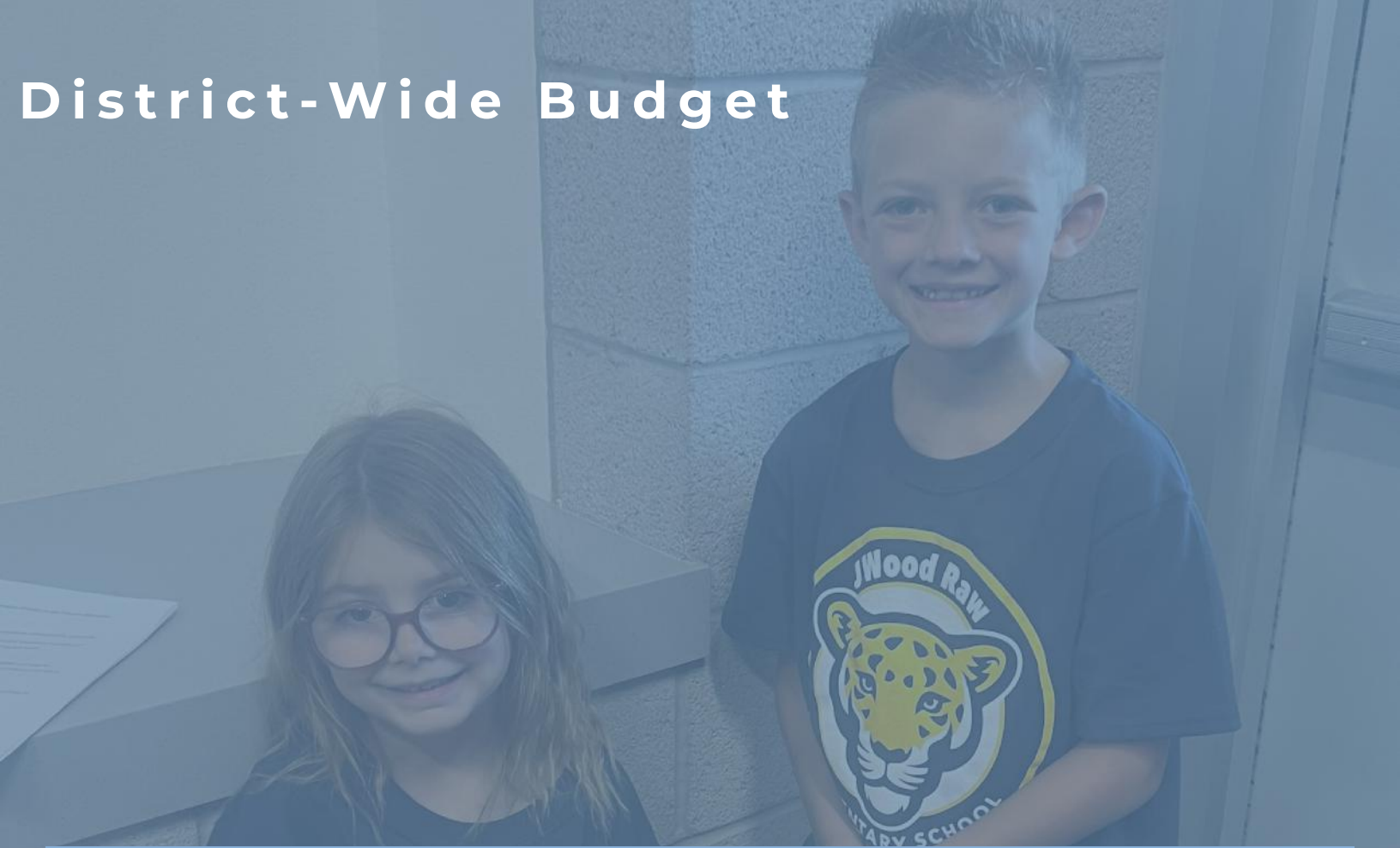
The Fiscal Year 2024 District-wide expenditure budget amounts to \$1.6 billion. This budget includes \$133.3 million in inter-fund transfers, resulting in a net District-wide expenditure budget of \$1.5 billion. As illustrated in the pie chart, the majority of the expenditures occur in the District's General Fund, which supports daily operations (please see page 5 for a detailed discussion).

Capital Projects funds make up \$481.3 million of the District's expenditure budget, which funds projects in the District's Capital Improvement Plan (please see page 7 for a detailed discussion). The District also has \$275.9 million in budgeted Special Revenue fund expenditures that account for specific revenue sources that are restricted for specific purposes, like Title I, weighted funding under the Pupil Centered Funding Plan, State Special Education, Federal Special Education and other grant programs.

In Fiscal Year 2024, the District has \$117.6 million of expenditures for Debt Service funds to account for the principal and interest payments for the District's long and medium-term debt payments, WCSSD also has \$110.5 million of budgeted expenditures for Internal Service funds that account for employee health insurance, worker's compensation, and the District's property and casualty insurance program.

Lastly, the District has \$34.8 million budgeted for expenditures in its Enterprise Fund, which accounts for activities related to the District's Nutrition Services program.

District-Wide Budget



In order to provide services to its students and families, the District is staffed with 7,053 Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) positions. 4,214 FTEs are for licensed personnel (teachers, deans, librarians, counselors, nurses, principals and assistant principals) that provide instruction or direct support to our schools.

The remaining 2,839 FTEs represent non-licensed personnel, such as bus drivers, custodian/maintenance positions, school secretaries, clerical staff, teacher aides and assistants, School Police and Nutrition Services workers that all provide direct support to schools. Also included are other ventral services positions that provide indirect support to schools (Human Resources, Business & Financial Services, Information Technology, etc.)

FTE's

• CERTIFIED ADMINISTRATORS	246
• TEACHERS	3,676
• COUNSELORS/NURSES/LIBRARIANS	292
• ASSISTANTS & AIDES	785
• BUS DRIVERS	282
• CUSTODIAL/MAINTENANCE	484
• PROTECH/PSYCHOLOGISTS	255
• OTHERS	1,033
TOTAL	7,053

Pupil-Centered Funding Plan



BASE FUNDING

\$614.1 million

AT-RISK WEIGHTED FUNDING

\$15.4 million

ENGLISH LEARNERS WEIGHTED FUNDING

\$27.1 million

GIFTED & TALENTED WEIGHTED FUNDING

\$1.3 million

The Fiscal Year 2024 District-Wide Budget Includes \$658 million in State funding through The Pupil Centered Funding Plan.

Base Funding includes \$614.1 million in General Fund revenues to support everyday operations.

Weighted Funding categories include funding to provide services to students in need of additional support. These categories

also experienced historical increases in State funding:

- Weighted funding for English Learners increased by \$15.8 million, from \$11.3 million in FY2023 to \$27.1 million in FY2024.
- Weighted funding for at-risk students increased by \$11.1 million, from \$4.3 million in FY2023 to \$15.4 million in FY2024.
- Weighted funding for Gifted & Talented students increased by \$0.1 million, from \$1.2 million in FY2023 to \$1.3 million in FY2024.

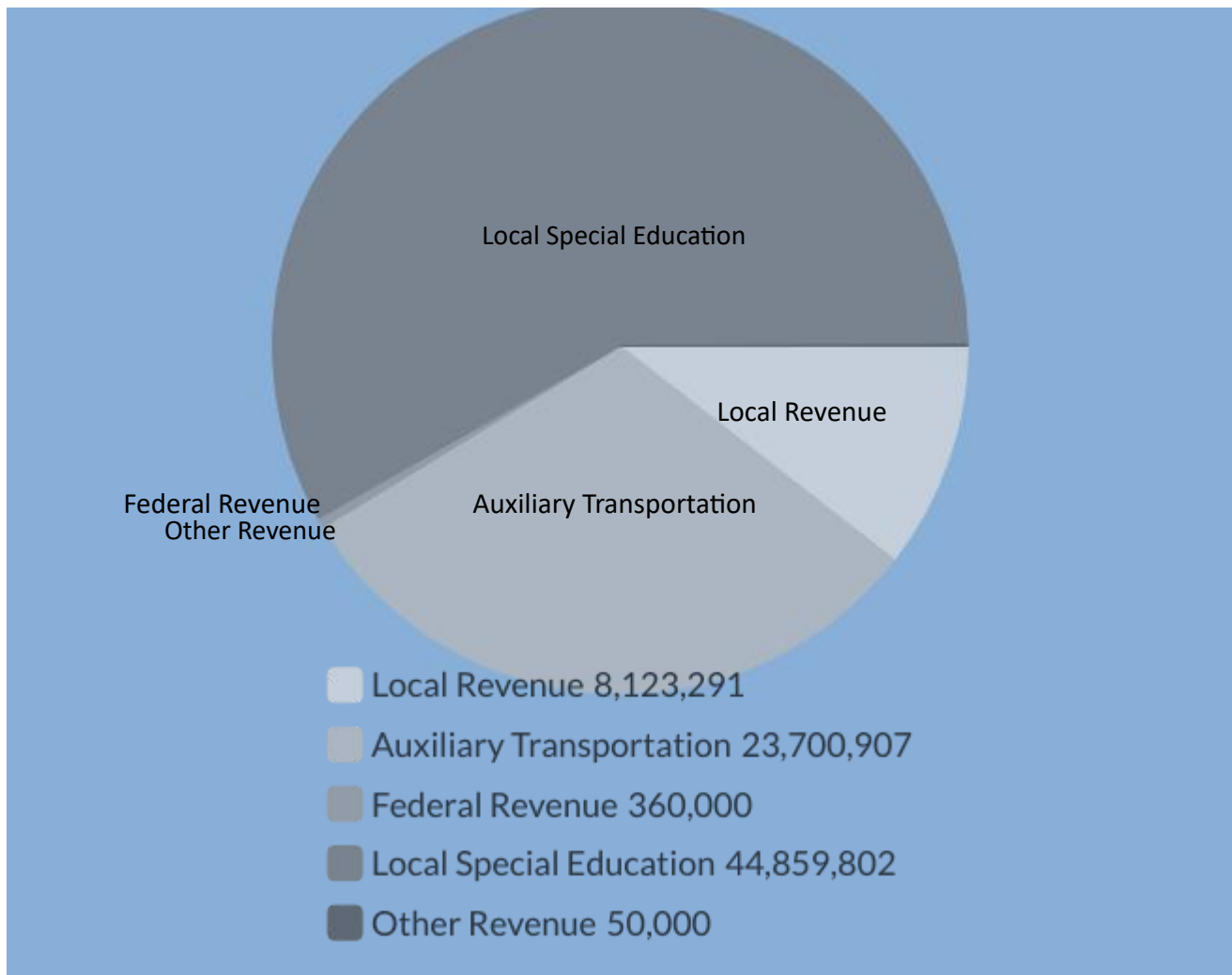
These new funds will be spent on students in need of these additional supports and in alignment with the District's new Strategic Plan.

GENERAL FUND REVENUE

General Fund revenues are made up of \$622.6 million consisting of State, local, federal, and other sources. Under the Pupil Centered Funding Plan, WCSD receives 98.6% of its General Fund revenue from the State. The \$614.1 million is made up of:

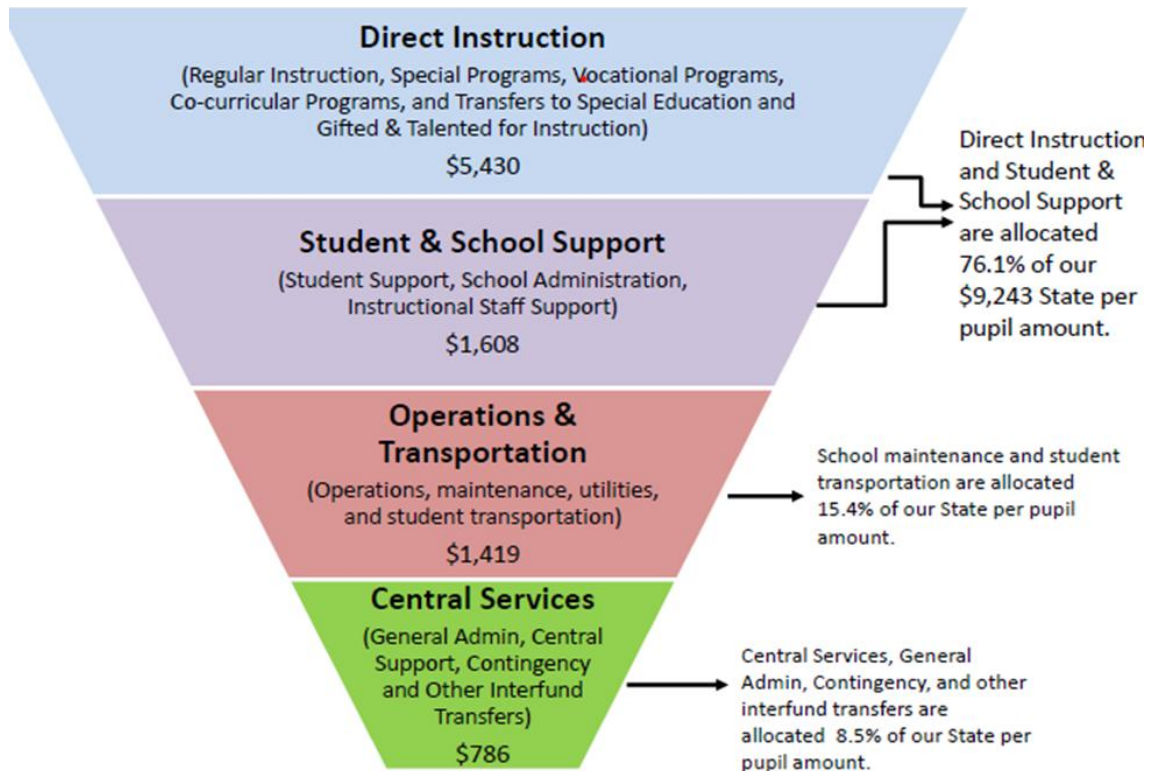
- Adjusted Base Per-Pupil funding - \$545.6 million. This is the District's per pupil amount of \$9,243 multiplied by the projected average daily enrollment (59,023.26) for the 2023-24 school year.
-
- Local Special Education - \$44.9 million. This is a fixed amount of revenue based on historical amounts the District has had to transfer from its General Fund to the Special Education fund due to shortfalls in State Special Education Funding.
-
- Transportation - \$23.7 million. This is a fixed amount of revenue based on historical amounts of the District's transportation cost, so that the District has guaranteed revenue for transporting students to school.

In addition to State revenue, WCSD's General Fund receives \$8.1 million in various local revenues, \$360,000 in federal revenues and \$50,000 in other revenues.



General Fund Appropriations by Function

The District has a structurally balanced budget meaning it has a General Fund expenditure budget of \$622.6 million, equal to its total General Fund revenues. The chart below shows how the District spends its per pupil revenue, which is spent mainly on student instruction and student/school supports (76.1%) which provides positions like teachers, counselors, nurses, and psychologists, along with curriculum and supplies budgets. The section below the chart provides examples of what is included in each expenditure category.



- Direct Instruction includes positions like classroom teachers, deans, aides, assistants, substitute teachers, and athletic coaches, along with textbook and other instructional material costs. In total, these costs are \$365.8 million.
- Student and School Support include positions such as school principals, assistant principals, other office staff, counselors, nurses, psychologists, and curriculum support staff. These costs are \$108.3 million of the District's General Fund budget.
- Operations and Maintenance include bus drivers and bus fuel, custodians, maintenance staff utility costs, and school police positions. These costs make up \$95.6 million of the General Fund budget.
- Central Services is the Board, Superintendent, General Counsel, Community Relations and other services such as Finance and Purchasing, Human Resources, Information Technology and Accountability, all of which support schools. The General Fund budget for Central Services is \$52.9 million.

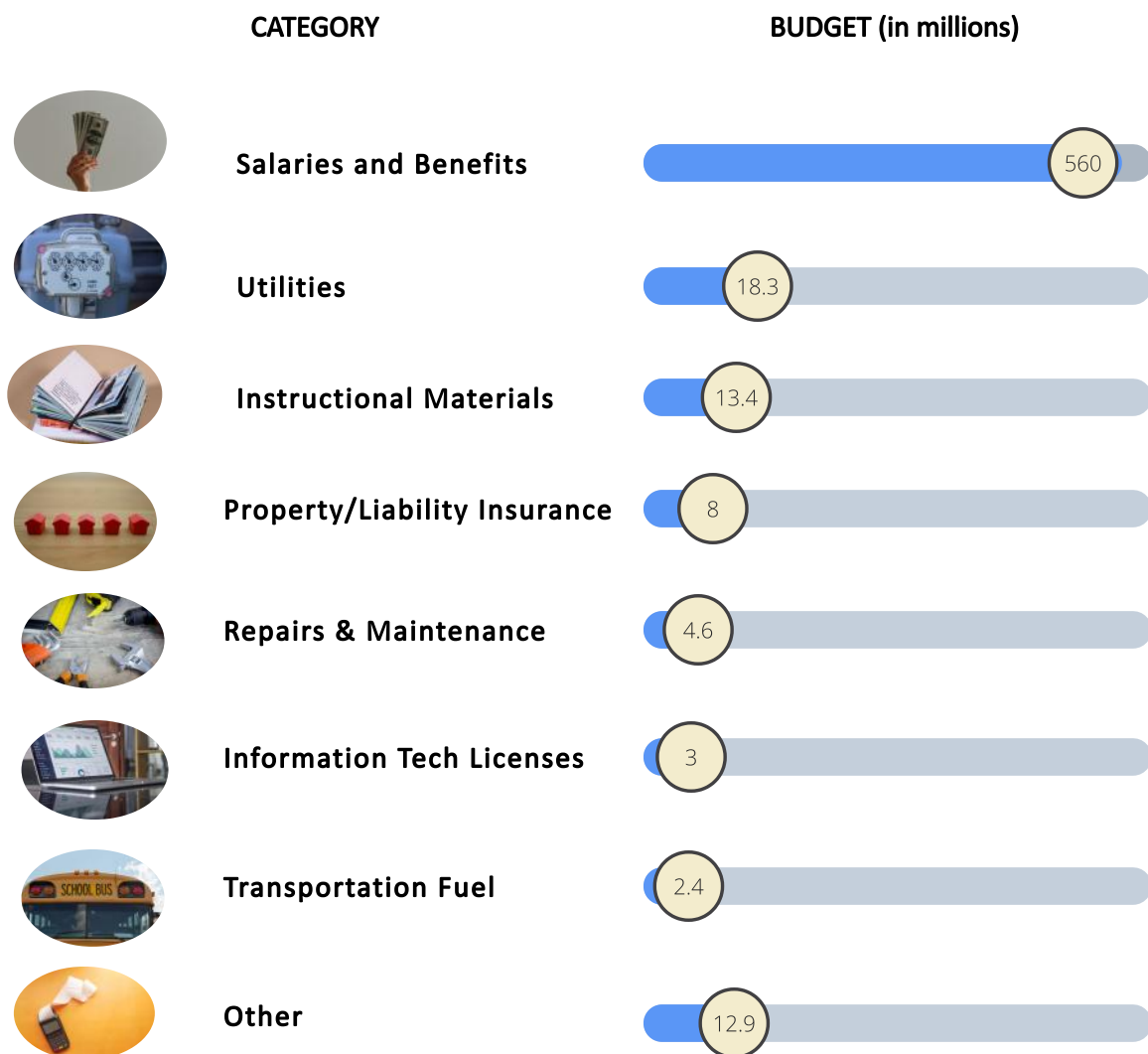
General Fund by Expenditure Type

The chart below shows the major expenditure categories in the General Fund. The most significant cost in the General Fund is for salaries and benefits, due to the 4,677 Full-Time Equivalent positions that provide services and supports to students and schools. The FY24 budget funds employee step increases, a retirement contribution rate increase, and a 6% health insurance rate increase, totaling \$11.5 million.

The District has also experienced significant increases to its electricity, natural gas, and other utility rates. Projected utilities costs for FY24 increased by \$6.8 million, to a total of \$18.3 million. This represents a 59.1% increase to projected utility costs compared to the previous fiscal year.

Property and liability insurance rates also continue to increase due to the increased risk and exposure with the addition of new schools and school expansions. The projected property and liability insurance cost will increase by \$1.2 million (or 17.9%) from \$6.8 million in FY23 to \$8 million in FY24.

The \$10 million Strategic Plan reserve for new initiatives and programs is budgeted across salaries, benefits and instructional materials



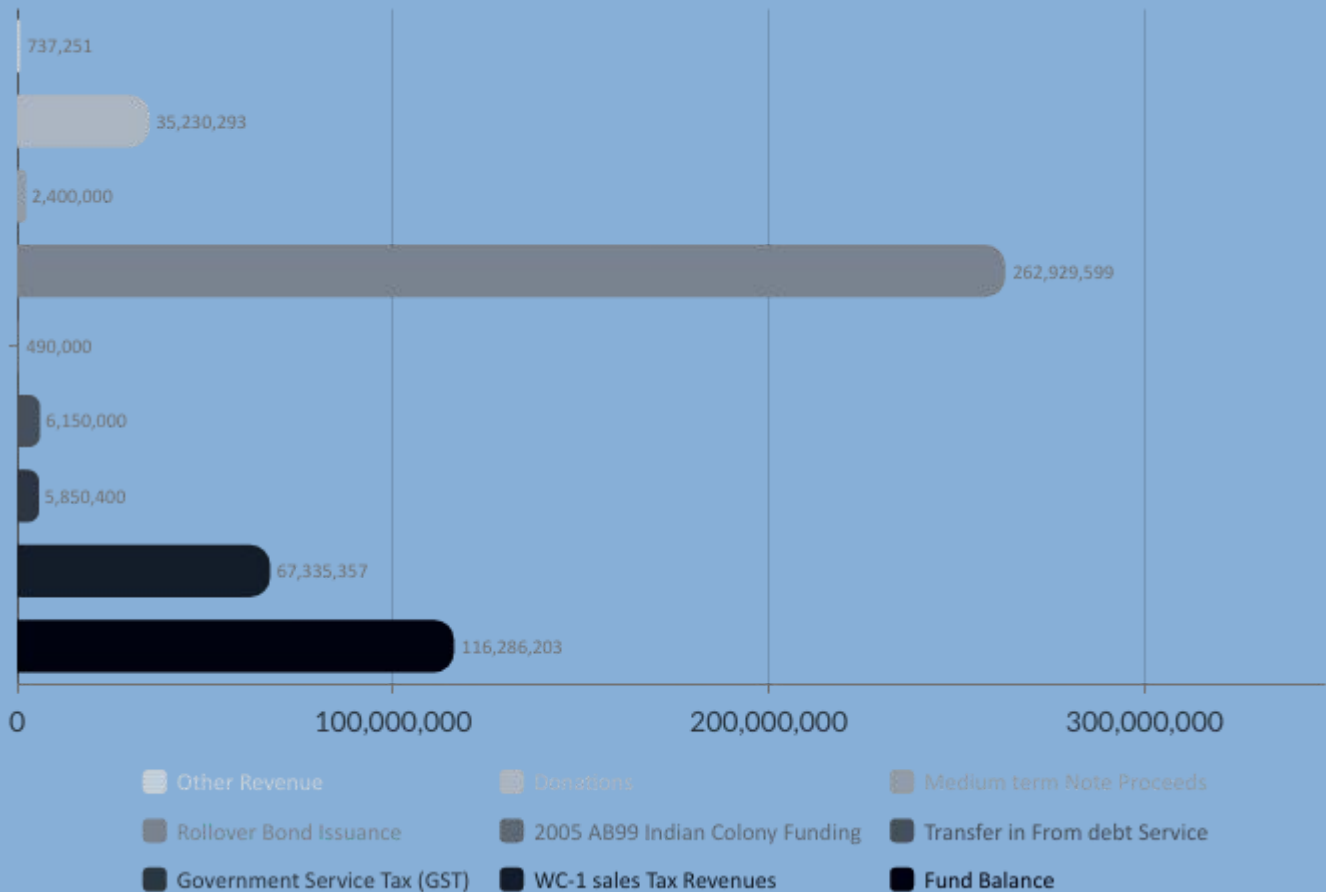
Capital Projects Funds

**FY 2024 Funding Sources
= \$497.4 million**



Washoe County School District's Fiscal Year 2023-24 Capital Projects budget aligns with its Capital Improvement Program (CIP). The District has various revenue streams to fund its CIP including its largest sources, Rollover Bonds and WC-1 Sales Tax Revenues. The fund has other revenue sources as shown in the chart below, along with approximately \$116.3 million in opening fund balance. All of the sources shown below are used to fund the expenditures in the District's CIP, which can be found on the next page.

Capital Projects Sources



2024 Expenditures & Other Uses = \$481.3 million

The CIP includes expenditures in various categories, including annual capital renewal (enter examples here), new school and site expansions, information technology device refresh, and a vehicle fleet purchase (buses, maintenance and school police vehicles). In addition to these expenditures, the District will also transfer \$36.5 million to the District's Debt Service funds to pay principal and interest payments for debt that was previously issued to complete capital projects across the District. The District anticipates the Capital Projects Funds ending the Year with approximately \$16.1 million in fund balance.



New Schools & Site Expansions/Renovations
\$376,778,646



Annual Capital Renewal
\$46,239,600



IT Device Refresh
\$4,692,365



Bond Program Administration
\$5,225,117



Enterprise Planning Resource System
\$4,625,000



Fleet Purchase
\$2,400,000



Transfer Debt Service Funds
\$36,501,867



Other Expenditures
\$4,836,977

Special Revenue Funds

The District budgeted total special revenue fund revenues of \$275.3 million and plans to utilize \$0.6 million in fund balance to pay for program expenditures in Fiscal Year 2024, resulting in \$275.9 million of total expenditures. These special revenue funds provide many student and staff support programs outside of the General Fund operations. These funds include federal grants like Title I, IDEA, and stimulus dollars (ESSER). State revenues include Special Education and weighted funding under the Pupil-Centered Funding Plan. The District receives various other grants across the federal, state and local levels.

\$58.4 Million Locally Funded

\$90.8 Million State Funded

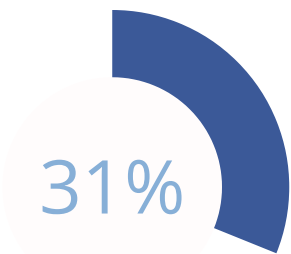
\$70.7 Million Federally Funded

\$55.4 Million Transfers from General Fund

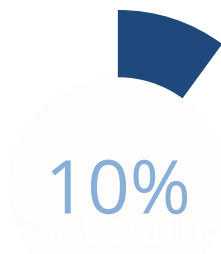
***\$49.7 m to Special Education**

***\$1.7 m to Medicaid**

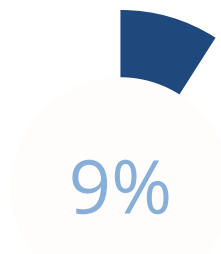
***\$4.0 m to Gifted & Talented**



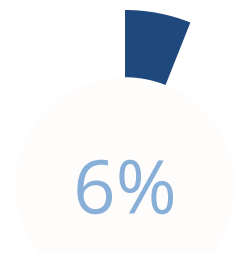
State Special Ed



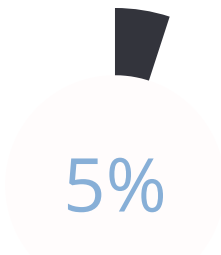
English Language Learners



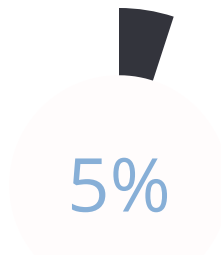
Federal ESSER



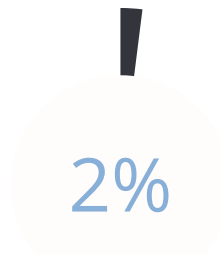
At-Risk Weighted Funding



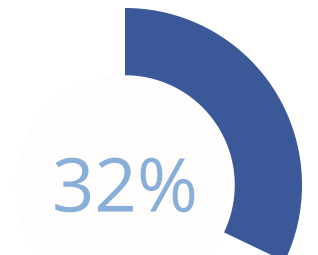
Title I



IDEA



GATE Weighted Funding

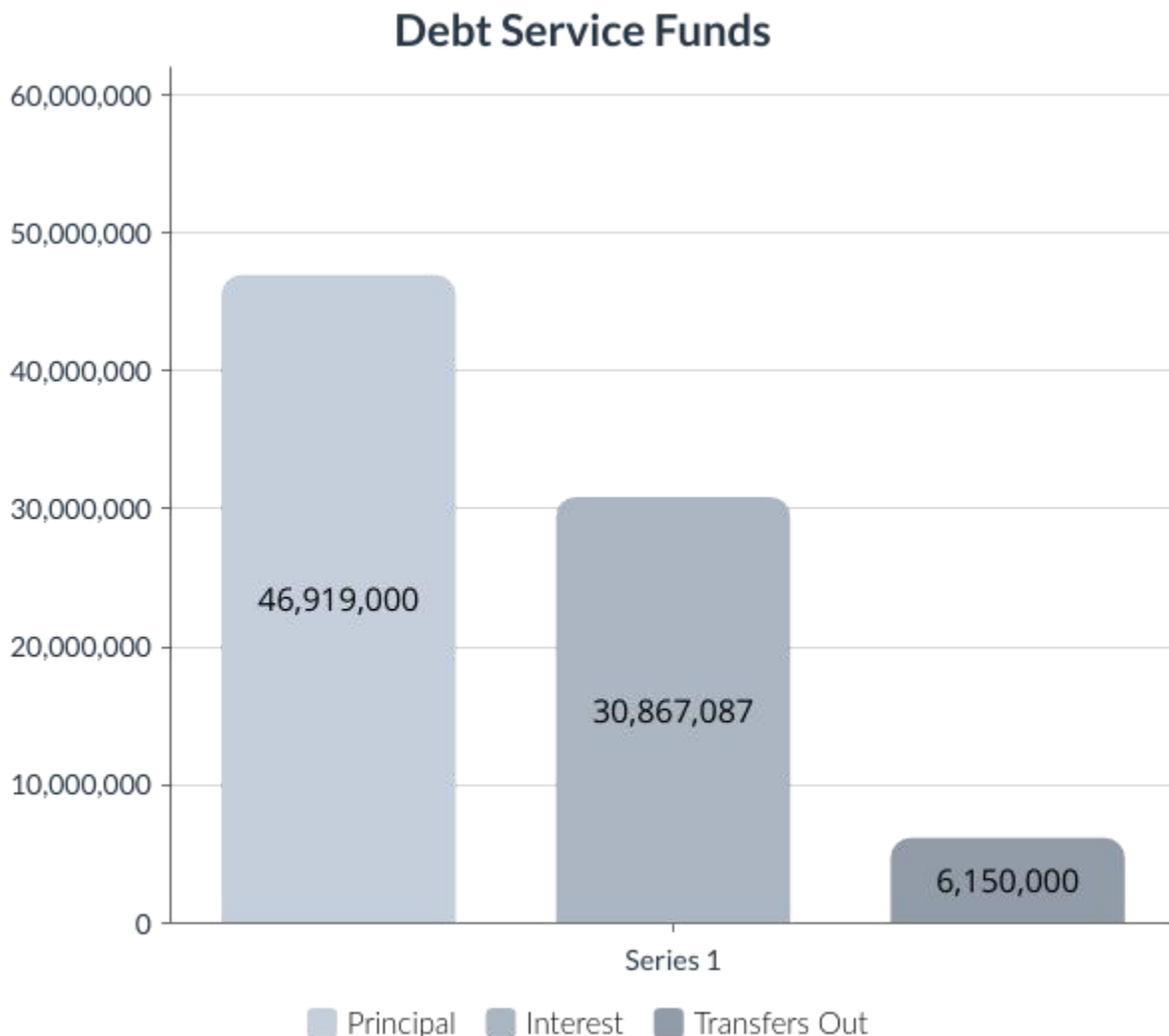


Other Special Revenue Funds
(Across 23 Funds)

DEBT SERVICE FUNDS

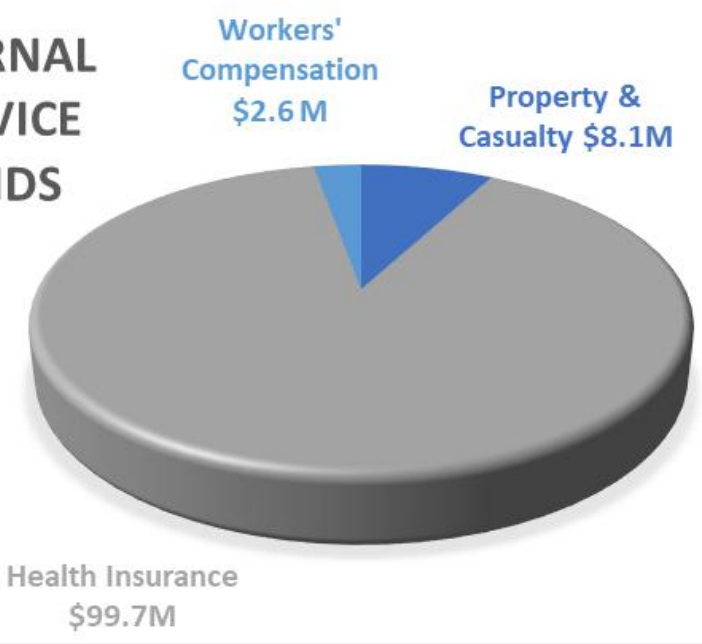
The district has two debt services funds to pay the principal and interest payments on its medium and long-term debt. The Debt Service Fund receives property tax revenues that are used to pay the District's principal and interest on long-term debt from previous issuances of rollover bonds. This fund also receives a transfer from a Capital Projects Fund in order to make debt payments on the District's medium-term debt for textbooks and vehicle fleet purchases.

The WC-1 Debt Service Fund receives sales tax revenue which is used to make debt payments on long-term debt for new schools and school improvements. This fund is also used for pay-as-you-go capital projects, allowing the District to pay for capital projects without issuing debt. The following chart shows the budgeted expenditures of each of the debt service funds.



INTERNAL SERVICE FUNDS

INTERNAL SERVICE FUNDS

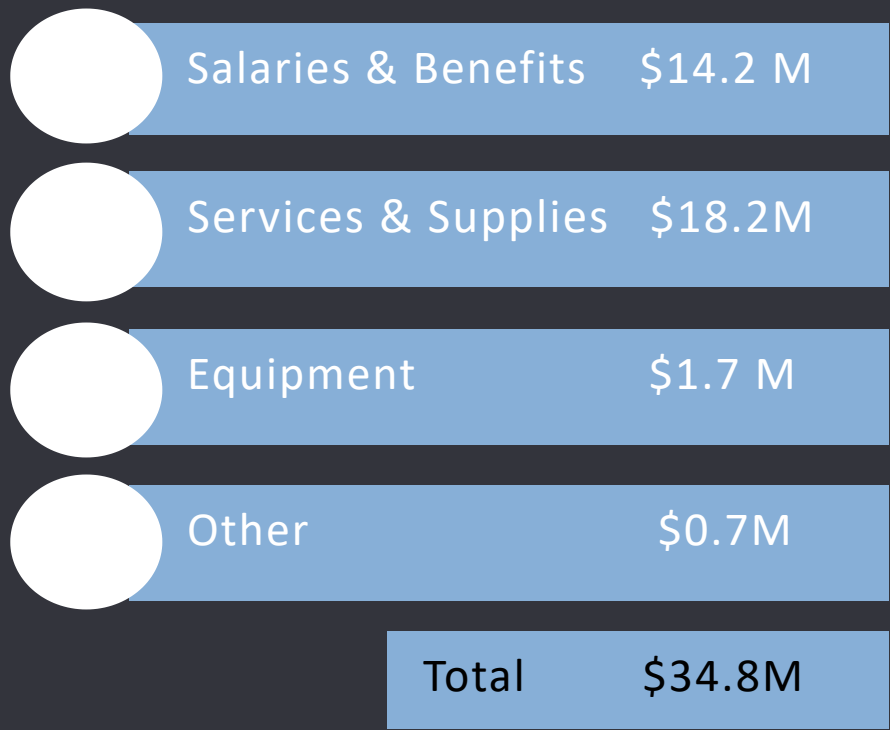


WCSD has three internal service funds that fund various programs. The Property & Casualty Fund includes the District's property and liability insurance premium costs, along with costs related to damaged property and other liabilities. The District has a self-funded health insurance program, so the Health Insurance Fund tracks the revenue and expenditures of that program. Lastly, the Workers' Compensation Fund tracks the District's workers compensation insurance and claims. The chart shows the total budgeted revenues and expenditures for each of the internal service funds.

ENTERPRISE FUND

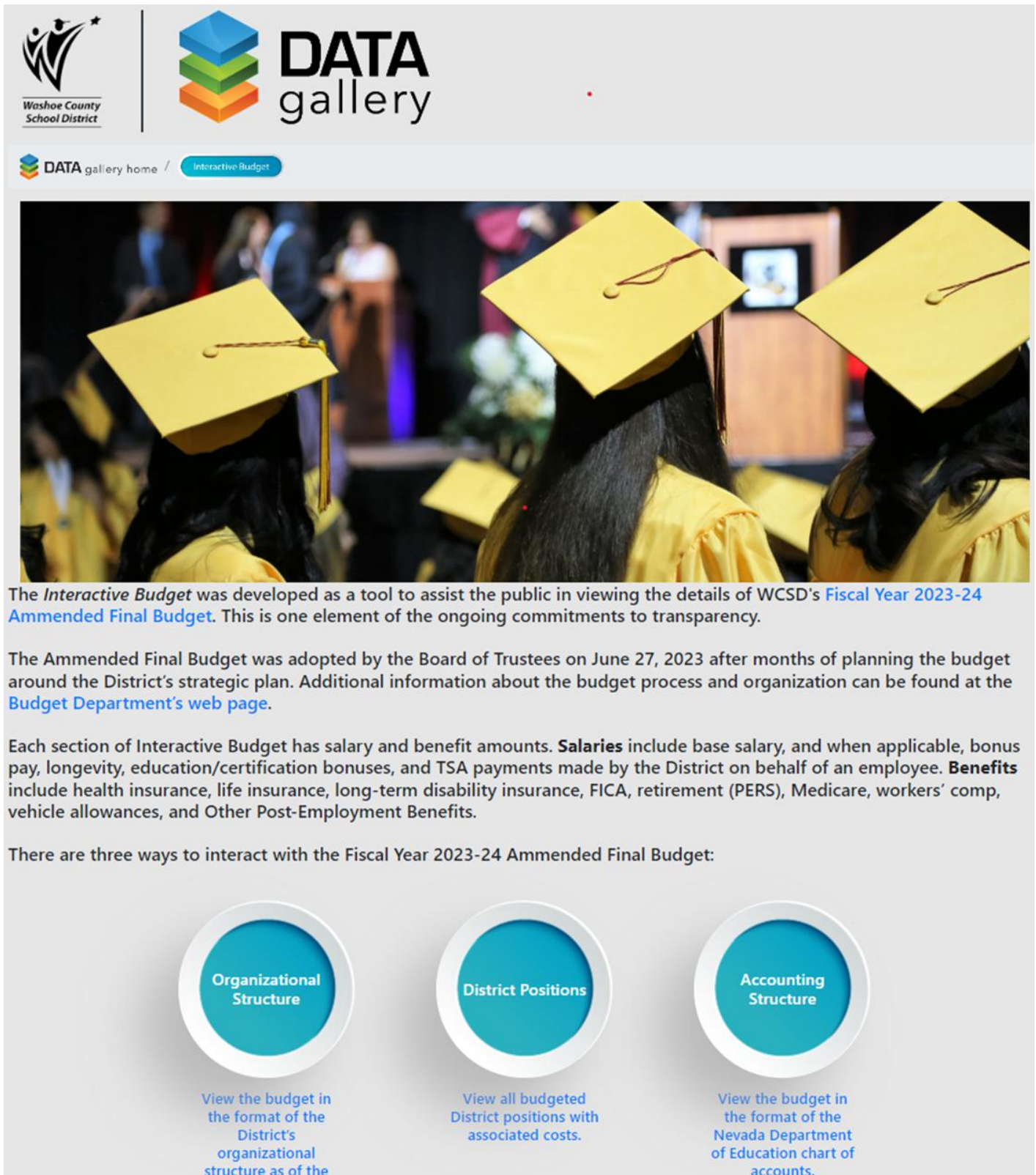
The District has one enterprise fund which accounts for activities related to its Nutrition Services program. The costs of the Nutrition Services program are supported mainly by federal meal reimbursements and some user charges for a la carte meals.

The FY24 budget includes a \$1.8 million spend-down plan for food, equipment and supply upgrades.



WCSD Interactive Budget

More detailed information about the District's budget can be found on the Interactive Budget site of the Washoe County School District's Data Gallery webpage. The Interactive Budget site allows for users to view the District's budget in a variety of ways, including detailed budget information for individual schools and departments, a list of all District positions, and revenues and expenditures by fund type.



The *Interactive Budget* was developed as a tool to assist the public in viewing the details of WCSD's [Fiscal Year 2023-24 Ammended Final Budget](#). This is one element of the ongoing commitments to transparency.

The Ammended Final Budget was adopted by the Board of Trustees on June 27, 2023 after months of planning the budget around the District's strategic plan. Additional information about the budget process and organization can be found at the [Budget Department's web page](#).

Each section of Interactive Budget has salary and benefit amounts. **Salaries** include base salary, and when applicable, bonus pay, longevity, education/certification bonuses, and TSA payments made by the District on behalf of an employee. **Benefits** include health insurance, life insurance, long-term disability insurance, FICA, retirement (PERS), Medicare, workers' comp, vehicle allowances, and Other Post-Employment Benefits.

There are three ways to interact with the Fiscal Year 2023-24 Ammended Final Budget:

- Organizational Structure**
View the budget in the format of the District's organizational structure as of the
- District Positions**
View all budgeted District positions with associated costs.
- Accounting Structure**
View the budget in the format of the Nevada Department of Education chart of accounts.