ANNUAL OPERATING BUDGET

of the

OUACHITA PARISH SCHOOL BOARD
Monroe, Louisiana

OUACHITA
PARISH SCHOOLS
Building Bridges to the Future

For the Fiscal Period
July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026

OUACHITA PARISH SCHOOLS

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For the Fiscal Period
July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2026

Todd Guice
Superintendent

Regina R. Mekus, CPA
Chief Financial Officer

Tommy Comeaux, District A
Board President

Prepared by the Ouachita Parish School Board
Business Department

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INTRODUCTORY

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Ouachita Parish School Board
Annual Operating Budget
Fiscal Year 2025-2026

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Ouachita Parish School Board
Annual Operating Budget
Presentation of the Budget Document
Fiscal Year 2025-2026

Budget Adoption Instrument
The operating budget shall be accompanied by a proposed budget adoption resolution.

Adoption Procedures
The school board shall adopt and otherwise implement the budget in an open meeting prior to September 15th of the fiscal year. The adopted budget shall be balanced with approved expenditures not exceeding the total of estimated funds available. If the school board fails to adopt budget by September 15th, the school board's budget for the new fiscal year will be limited to 50% appropriation for all items appropriated in the previous year's budget. (R.S. 39:1309(A)(1), R.S. 39:1309(B), R.S. 39:1312)

All action necessary to adopt or revise the budget shall be taken in an open meeting with a simple majority of the Board voting in favor of the proposed resolution and/or revisions. This adoption is scheduled for September 10, 2025 at a regular board meeting at 12:00 p.m. at the Ouachita Parish School Board office, 1600 North 7th Street, West Monroe, Louisiana.

Public Involvement in the Budget
Upon completion of the proposed budget, the Superintendent shall publish a notice in the newspaper stating that the proposed budget is available for public inspection. The notice shall also state that a public hearing on the proposed budget shall be held; the date, time and place of the hearing shall be specified in the notice. The guidelines for following public involvement shall apply as follows:

Public Inspection of the Proposed Budget
The proposed budget document shall be made available for public inspection at least 15 days prior to the date of budget adoption by the School Board, by publishing a notice stating the proposed budget is available for public inspection. Also, it shall be made available to the public at the School Board Central Office, 1600 North 7th Street, West Monroe, Louisiana, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding holidays. (R.S. 39:1306)

Public Hearing on the Proposed Budget
The Ouachita Parish School Board shall conduct at least one public hearing prior to the adoption of the proposed budget. The notice shall be published at least 10 days prior to the date of the first public hearing. The notice of the public hearing was published on August 21, 2025 in the School Board's official journal, *The Ouachita Citizen,* and is scheduled for September 10, 2025 at 11:00 a.m. at the Ouachita Parish School Board Office, 1600 North 7th Street, West Monroe, Louisiana. (R.S. 39:1307)

Periodic Budget Reconciliation
The adopted budget and any duly authorized amendments shall form the framework from which the Superintendent or his designee shall monitor revenues and control expenditures. When total revenues fail to meet total budgeted revenue by 5% or more and/or when total actual expenditures exceed total budgeted expenditures by 5% or more and/or actual beginning fund balance, within a fund, fails to meet estimated beginning fund balance by 5% or more and fund balance is being used to fund current year expenditures and/or there has been a change in operation upon which the original adopted budget was developed, the school board shall adopt a budget amendment in an open meeting to reflect such change. In no event shall a budget amendment be adopted proposing expenditures which exceed the total of estimated funds available for the fiscal year. (R.S. 39:1311 and R.S. 39:1310)

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Ouachita Parish School Board
Annual Operating Budget
Presentation and Format of the Budget Document
Fiscal Year 2025-2026

The Superintendent shall prepare or cause to be prepared a comprehensive budget for the ensuing fiscal year by no later than September 15th of each year (R.S. 17:88). This budget document shall be presented to the Ouachita Parish School Board and shall include:

Budget Message
A budget message signed by the superintendent of education shall include a summary description of the proposed financial plan, policies and objectives, assumptions, budgetary basis, and a discussion of the most important features. (R.S. 39:1305(c)(1))

Funds Budgeted
Activities of the General Fund and Special Revenue Funds are presented to the Board for adoption annually. Formal adoption of the budget for Capital Projects and Internal Service Funds are not required in accordance with the Louisiana Local Government Budget Act.

Organization of the Budget
The accounts of the School Board are organized on the basis of funds, each which is considered a separate accounting entity. The operations of each fund are accounted for with separate sets of self-balancing accounts that comprise its assets, liabilities, fund balances, revenues, and expenditures. The School Board's operating budget consists of the following funds:

General Fund
Special Revenue Funds:
- District No. 1 Maintenance & Operating Sales Tax
- 1968 Sales Tax Fund – Supplemental Salaries
- 1995 Sales Tax Fund – Supplemental Salaries & Benefits
- West Ouachita Sales Tax Fund
- Child Nutrition Program Fund
- Title I Program Fund
- Special Education Fund (IDEA)
- Other Federal Grant Fund
- State Grant Fund

Debt Service Funds
- East Ouachita School District Debt Service – General Obligation Bonds
- West Ouachita School District Debt Service – Sales Tax Revenue Bonds

Each fund is comprised of another sub-set of funds that are combined to establish each primary fund above. After the presentation of each fund above, a more detailed listing of funds and their respective budgets described in detail by function and object is further presented.

Ouachita Parish School Board
Annual Operating Budget
Presentation and Format of the Budget Document
Fiscal Year 2025-2026

Budget Document
The budget document shall include a statement for the general fund and each special revenue fund showing:

- Estimated fund balances at beginning of year;
- Estimate of all receipts and revenues to be received;
- The revenue itemized by source;
- The recommended expenditures itemized by department, function and character;
- The other funding sources and uses;
- The estimated fund balance at the end of the fiscal year.
  [R.S. 39:1305(C)(2)(a)]

Basis of Budgeting
Budgets are prepared on the same basis of accounting as is used in the comprehensive annual financial statements. The basis of budgeting refers to when revenues and expenditures are recognized in the accounts and reported in the financial statements. All funds within this document are maintained on the modified accrual basis of accounting. Under the modified accrual basis of accounting, revenues are recorded when susceptible to accrual, i.e., when it is both measurable and available.

Budget Classification
The presentation of the budget includes clearly presented side-by-side detailed comparisons of information for the current year, including fund balances at the beginning of the year, year-to-date actual receipts and revenues received and estimates of all receipts and revenues to be received for the remainder of the year;

- Estimated and actual revenues itemized by source;
- Year-to-date actual expenditures and estimates of all expenditures to be made the remainder of the year itemized by agency, department, function, and character;
- Other financing sources and uses by source and use, both year-to-date actual and estimates for the remainder of the year; and
- The percentage change for each item of information.
  [R.S. 39:1305(C)(2)(a)]

Revenues are budgeted by source and expenditures are budgeted by function as defined by the Louisiana State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education under Bulletin 1929.

PUBLIC NOTICE

OUACHITA PARISH SCHOOL BOARD

PROPOSED 2025-2026 ANNUAL OPERATING BUDGET

The Ouachita Parish School Board's proposed 2025-2026 annual operating budget is available for public inspection at the Ouachita Parish School Board office at 1600 North 7th Street, West Monroe, Louisiana, during regular business hours from 8:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. A public hearing on the proposed budget will be held at 11:00 A.M. on September 10, 2025 in the Ouachita Parish School Board meeting room at 1600 North 7th Street, West Monroe, LA. The School Board will consider the adoption of the proposed budget at its regular meeting at 12:00 P.M. on September 10, 2025.

Publish Date:

Thursday, August 21, 2025 in *The Ouachita Citizen*

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OUACHITA PARISH SCHOOL BOARD
Monroe, Louisiana

BUDGET RESOLUTION

A resolution adopting the annual operating budget which sets forth the revenues, expenditures, fund balances, and designations made thereof, for the General Fund, Special Revenue, and Debt Service funds of the Ouachita Parish School Board for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025 and ending June 30, 2026.

Whereas, Todd Guice, in his capacity as chief administrative officer of the Ouachita Parish School Board, has caused to be prepared with the assistance of Regina Mekus, Chief Financial Officer, the proposed General Fund, Special Revenue Fund, and Debt Service Fund budgets for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025 and ending June 30, 2026, which was accompanied by a budget adoption resolution; and

Whereas, the proposed General Fund, Special Revenue Fund, and Debt Service Fund Budgets as shown in the Annual Operating Budget document following the budget adoption resolution shows the estimated fund balances at the beginning of the year, estimates of all receipts and revenues to be received; revenues itemized by source, recommended expenditures itemized by function; other financing sources and uses by source and use; and the estimated fund balance at the end of the fiscal year as required by Louisiana R.S. 39:1305; and

Whereas, the accompanying budget adoption resolution has been submitted to the School Board for review and consideration; and

Whereas, notice of a public hearing on the proposed General Fund and Special Revenue Fund Budgets and notice of the availability of the proposed budgets for review have been timely published in *The Ouachita Citizen* on Thursday, August 21, 2025; and

Whereas, a public hearing on the proposed General Fund, Special Revenue Funds, and Debt Service Fund budgets was held on September 10, 2025 at 11:00 A.M. at the meeting place of the Ouachita Parish School Board has now been reviewed and considered;

BE IT RESOLVED by the Ouachita Parish School that:

SECTION 1: The accompanying detailed estimate of revenues, expenditures, and classifications of fund balances for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026, is hereby adopted to serve as the operating budget for the Ouachita Parish School Board during the same period.

SECTION 2: Amounts are available for expenditures only to the extent included within the 2025-2026 operating budget within a five percent (5%) variance in accordance with Louisiana Revised Statute 39:1309-1310. The Board hereby grants authorization to

administration to make the expenditures provided for herein and to implement the policies provided herein.

SECTION 3: The Superintendent or his/her designee shall have authority to reallocate expenditures between budget categories and to make cumulative budget adjustments that increase or decrease total fund revenues and expenditures in the General Fund and in individual Special Revenue and Debt Service Funds without prior Board approval. Any changes in total revenue that exceed 5% of budgeted revenue and changes in total expenditures that exceed 5% of budgeted expenditures in each respective fund shall be approved in advance by action of the School Board. The Superintendent or his/her designee shall provide to the Board for approval a fund budget of all accumulated changes incorporated into a final revised operating budget that is to be submitted to the Finance Committee for review and recommendation for approval by the School Board at the close of the fiscal year.

SECTION 4: Further authority is granted to Superintendent Todd Guice and Chief Financial Officer Regina Mekus, or their successors, to enter into routine and necessary contracts or agreements to implement the general business operations of the School Board. Any service contracts or agreements to conduct School Board operations non-routine in nature are required to be submitted to the School Board for consideration and approval.

SECTION 5: The School Board shall be notified in writing when:

A. Total revenues & other sources plus projected revenues & other sources for the remainder of the year, within a fund, are failing to meet the total budgeted revenues & other sources by five-percent (5%) or more; or

B. Total expenditures & other uses plus projected expenditures & other uses for the remainder of the year, within a fund, are exceeding the total budgeted expenditures & other users by five-percent (5%) or more, or

C. The actual beginning fund balance, within a fund, fails to meet the estimated beginning fund balance by five percent (5%) or more and the fund balance is being used to fund current year expenditures.

SECTION 6: Further authority is granted to Superintendent Todd Guice and Chief Financial Officer Regina Mekus, or their successors, to make assignments of fund balances within the definition of Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 54, and, likewise, re-assign or eliminate any previous assignments, for purposes necessary to conduct the business of the Ouachita Parish School Board in a prudent manner and in accordance with state laws.

SECTION 7: The School Board reserves solely and exclusively unto itself the right, power and authority to:

A. Adopt budgets and make, approve, change, or reject appropriations for any and all funds, fund types, programs, grants, awards or projects, irrespective of the source of funding;

B. Make such amendments to any budgets as the economic circumstances prevailing or arising during the fiscal year may demand; and

C. Make appropriations and expenditures for any contingency or emergency of any nature that may arise during the course of the fiscal year.

SECTION 8: Authorization of any expenditure or award of any contract by the School Board during the fiscal budget period shall constitute authority granted to administration to disburse funds and make such budget amendments as may be required.

SECTION 9: Approval of employment positions, salary schedules or compensation adjustments by the School Board shall constitute authority to disburse funds and make such budget amendments as may be required.

SECTION 10: The School Board hereby commits the following fund balances to be set aside for specific purposes:

(a) General Fund:

i. Air Conditioning Redemption Fund – The General Fund shall maintain a reserve of $1,000,000 to provide for major heating and air conditioning system breakdowns and replacements, as long as the School Board maintains its minimum fund balance requirements. If the minimum fund balance policy is not met, only expenditures for emergency repairs of major heating and air conditioning system breakdowns are to be incurred. Routine maintenance and upkeep of systems shall be provided through made available within the District No. 1 Maintenance and Operating Sales Tax Fund.

ii. School Instructional Funds – An allocation of $20 per student, based on each school's October 1st student information system enrollment count reported to the State Department of Education in the most recent school year, shall be made to schools from the General Fund to primarily provide for instructional materials and supplies for each school at the discretion of the school principal. Any balance of allocated funds remaining for each school at the end of the fiscal year is to be reserved and made available to each respective school, in addition to the following year's annual allocation, for use during the following school year until all such funds have been expended. A school that spends over the allocation of instructional funds shall reimburse the School Board from its school funds (non-School Board funds) as the deficit spending occurs.

iii. Restoration of 16th Section Lands – A portion of the proceeds from the 2014 sale of 16th section land timber (S16,T16N,R4E Harmon Johnson Road) received by the Ouachita ($101,230) and Richland ($3,770) parish school boards shall be set aside for the future replanting and management of said 16th section timber. A record of these funds will be maintained for this purpose until all funds have been expended.

(b) Child Nutrition Program – Equipment Reserve – In accordance with the resolution adopted by the School Board on March 10, 2015, a portion of the child nutrition programs fund balance is designated as a reserve for the replacement of large cafeteria equipment within the Child Nutrition Program Fund. If the total

program fund balance exceeds 30% of program annual operating expenditures, 100% of the annual surplus is to be transferred to the Equipment Reserve at the beginning of the next fiscal year. If the total program fund balance is within 10-30% of program annual operating expenditures, then only 50% of any surplus is to be transferred to the equipment reserve. If the program fund balance falls below 10% or there is no annual surplus, a transfer shall not be made to the equipment reserve. The management of the reserve funds and planned expenditures is the responsibility of the Director of Child Nutrition Services.

(c) District No. 1 Maintenance & Operations Sales Tax (10-year) – for the 2025-2026 fiscal year the proceeds collected from this ½-cent district-wide sales tax is committed for the same purposes as originally prescribed in an ordinance adopted by the School Board on August 18, 1992 as follows:

i.	Classroom instruction	36%
ii.	Capital improvements	23%
iii.	Facility and equipment support	15%
iv.	Inflation-regulated/mandated Costs	14%
v.	Salary supplements	12%

SECTION 11: If, at the end of any fiscal year, the appropriations necessary for the support of expenditures of the ensuing fiscal year have not been made, then fifty-percent (50%) of the amounts appropriated by the budget resolution for the last completed fiscal year shall be deemed re-appropriated for the objects and purposes specified in the resolution for the preceding fiscal year, as provided by R.S. 39:1311.

SECTION 12: This resolution shall continue in effect until superseded by a subsequent budget adoption resolution.

PASSED AND ADOPTED at Monroe, Louisiana, on this 10th day of September, 2025.

Tommy Compton
President, Ouachita Parish School Board

ATTEST:

Secretary, Ouachita Parish School Board

OUACHITA PARISH SCHOOLS
Building Bridges to the Future

Ouachita Parish School Board • 1600 North 7th Street • West Monroe, Louisiana 71291

August 21, 2025

To the Citizens of Ouachita Parish
and Members of the
Ouachita Parish School Board:

In accordance with Louisiana Revised Statutes Title 39, Chapter 9, Louisiana Local Government Budget Act (LA R.S. 39:1301 et. seq.), we submit herewith the proposed budget for the period July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026. A Public Hearing on the budget will be held on September 10, 2025, at 11:00 A.M. in the board meeting room immediately prior to the regular scheduled board meeting to receive comments and recommendations from the public on this proposed budget before the budget resolution is recommended to the School Board for approval. Until then, the budget will be available for public inspection at the school board office at 1600 North 7th Street, West Monroe, Louisiana from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm Monday through Friday, excluding holidays.

Educational Goals and Objectives

Educational goals are established each year by district administration, and resources are allocated in order to meet these goals. It is a delicate balance of policy choices. It also represents a delicate balance between the educational needs of the students and the ability of the community to provide the necessary financial support.

The *Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)* signed by President Barack Obama on December 10, 2015 (formerly the *No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act* of 2002) reauthorizes the *Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA)* - the nation's education law. The new ESSA and the revised Louisiana Standards approved by the state Legislature in the 2017 session have placed specific mandates on local school systems to meet growth and performance targets setting the course for the continued improvement of education in Louisiana. ESSA was fully implemented in fiscal year 2020. Guiding the educational goals established and decisions are the tenets of the Ouachita Parish School Board …

…our vision to "*Build Bridges to the Future*"

…our mission statement:

> "*As a community, Ouachita Parish Schools will connect learning to 21st Century skills needed for college and career ready students who will excel in a global society.* "

…and our philosophical beliefs:

- Ouachita Parish students will learn at high levels
- Parents, students, teachers, and community matter
- Safe schools are a top priority
- Bridges connect past and present learning to future dreams

Financial Goals and Objectives

The development of the 2025-2026 Annual Operating Budget was a coordinated effort of the Superintendent and Management. All revenue and expenditure items were reviewed and considered. The goals, mission and financial policies of the school system were considered in the allocation of funds.

The school board is required by state law to provide a balanced budget. A balanced budget is defined as "a budget with total expenditures not exceeding total revenues and monies available in the fund balance within an individual fund." The proposed budget presented herewith is considered to be a balanced budget.

In the State of Louisiana, each school system is required to expend a minimum of 70% of all dollars in instructional areas. The Ouachita Parish School Board meets or exceeds that requirement each year and will continue to meet the goal of spending a minimum of 70% of planned expenditures in the area of instruction. Additionally, the state requires each school system to spend the additional "weighted" funding received within the Minimum Foundation Program (MFP) formula on those specific weighted categories generating the additional funding. Those categories of weighted expenditures and their assigned weights per identified student/unit are:

Economically disadvantaged	22%
Special education	150%
Gifted & talented	60%
Career & technical education units	6%

In addition, the School Board will strive to budget and maintain a General Fund ending fund balance within 10% to 15% of total General Fund expenditures in accordance with the School Board's minimum fund balance policy, which exceeds the State of Louisiana Department of Education recommended fund balance of 7.5%. There are three primary reasons to maintain an adequate fund balance.

- **Cash Flow** – It is essential for the School Board to have enough cash on hand to meet payroll and other obligations when they come due. This is necessary mainly due to (1) annual collections of property taxes only becoming available for use at mid-year when received during the months of January, February, and March, and (2) most state and federal grants requiring the School Board to pay expenses first before receiving a reimbursement from grant funds.

- **Unforeseen Events** – Reserves often act as a contingency to meet unbudgeted and unexpected needs, thus allowing time to make permanent changes to the budget and preventing fiscal problems from needlessly worsening. An example of an unforeseen event could be property damage from a flood, tornado, or fire; a sudden drop in student enrollment; or a loss of state funding.

- **Financial Security** – A fund balance reserve demonstrates a sign of financial strength and security to banking and financial institutions allowing the School Board to borrow funds and sell bonds when schools need to be built or renovated at more favorable financing rates, saving taxpayers' money.

Funds and Fund Types

The Ouachita Parish School Board follows the standards set by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) and Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP). Accordingly, these standards require all school boards to use individual funds categorized as one of 11 different fund types. Only three of those fund types are represented in this operating budget: General Fund, Special Revenue Fund, and Debt Service Fund. The Capital Projects Fund and Internal Service Fund are not included. Only the General Fund and Special Revenue Fund are required to adopt an annual operating budget under the Louisiana Local Government Budget Act. The Debt Service Funds are included as the allocation of local revenue sources is required.

Summary of All Funds

- Total revenues of the School Board are projected to decrease this year over the prior fiscal year.
  - State funding from the Minimum Foundation Program (MFP) is projected to decrease in total by $700k, or 0.61% due to the projected decrease in student count. The state plans to continue the Differentiated Pay along with the stipends for certificated and non-certificated employees, both of which originated in the prior year.
  - ESSER grants ended in the prior fiscal year. While these funds were a great help to the district, there are no continuing costs associated with this funding.
  - Sales tax collections are projected to increase 2.5% from prior year.
  - Property tax revenues are budgeted to increase 2.5% over the prior year's collections.

- Operating expenditures are projected to decrease in the current year over the prior fiscal year.
  - Employer contribution percentages to state retirement systems are projected to decrease.
  - The number of staffed positions has been decreased to coincide with the decrease in student count which will offset the loss of related loss of funding.
  - Costs of group health insurance premiums are budgeted to increase by 6.5%, this change will take affect with the new plan year effective January 1, 2026.
  - The district is experiencing and budgeting to address general inflation of materials and supplies as well as in the cost of utilities.
  - Expenditures related to cost reimbursement grants account for approximately $41.9 million.

General Fund

The General Fund is the principal operating fund of the School Board. It accounts for all financial resources of the school system except for those required to be accounted for in a separate fund. The primary revenues of this fund are state Minimum Foundation Program (MFP) funds, a 5.18 mill constitutional parish-wide property tax, and a 24.15 mill parish-wide property tax renewed by voters in May 2022 for 10 years.

Explanation of Net Change in Fund Balance There is no projected change in fund balance.

Revenue:

General Fund resources are expected to increase overall, showing an increase in local revenue offset by a decrease in state funding. The decrease in state funding is directly related to the Minimum Foundation Program. The following are primarily the noted changes in anticipated General Fund revenues:

1. State Minimum Foundation Program (MFP) Funding
   A decrease of approximately $700k in state MFP funding is anticipated based on the following changes in the state MFP Funding formula:

   (1) Based on current enrollment and prior student count information, the student enrollment is budgeted to be 100 students less than the projected enrollment calculated in the initial state MFP funding budget letter received in July 2025. Adjustments to the MFP allocation will be made in March 2026 for any increases or decreases in student counts taken during the current school year on October 1st and February 1st.

   (2) Level 2 funding is expected to decrease due to the increase in the district's effort in local per pupil funding and decrease in relative wealth as compared to other school districts.

   (3) Deductions representing local revenue of $1.56 million will be withheld from the MFP allocation to be transferred to other Louisiana Education Agencies to offset the cost of educating students who reside in Ouachita Parish.

(4) The base per pupil amount used in the MFP formula decreased by 100 students in the current year.

2. Property Tax Collections
   Property tax collections traditionally increase 2-3% annually. Management believes normal trends will continue through this assessment cycle.

Expenditures:
This budget projects General Fund expenditures to be consistent with the prior year for operational costs as follows:

- Certified school district employees across the state received a one-time stipend pay of $2,000 while support employees received a $1,000 stipend. This stipend was granted by the legislature in the 2025 session to be paid outside of the MFP formula.
- Employer contribution rates to Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana (TRSL) decreased by 0.56% and Louisiana School Employees' Retirement System (LSERS) decrease by 3.8%.
- Health insurance premiums paid to Office of Group Benefits are projected to increase 6.0% mid-year translating to a 4.0% increase in the cost of health insurance benefits.

Other Sources (Uses) of Funds: The loss of Operating Transfers In related to indirect costs from ESSER grants has been projected to be $1.5 million. No significant change in Other Uses of Funds is anticipated for the fiscal year.

Fund Balance:
The General Fund is budgeted to end the year with a fund balance of $22.5 million, or 14.23% of total projected General Fund expenditures. This fund balance percentage falls within the School Board's minimum fund balance policy of 10-15% percent of total General Fund expenditures. This is also above the State Department of Education's recommended level of 7.5%. For bond rating purposes, a minimum balance of 10% or more is favored by bond rating agencies for maintaining the School Board's current bond ratings which may be beneficial for securing future financing for capital projects at the lowest cost possible to local taxpayers.

District No. 1 Maintenance & Operating (M&O) Sales Tax (½ Cent)
This parish-wide tax was originally passed by voters on October 3, 1992 has continued to be renewed by voters every 10 years with the last renewal being approved by voters in May 2022 to provide additional support for the school system. The proceeds of this tax were originally committed by an ordinance adopted by the school board on August 18, 1992 and it is recommended these funds be committed for the following spending purposes and allocations for the fiscal year:

36% for instruction
23% for capital improvements
15% for facility and equipment support
14% for inflation/regulated mandated costs
12% for salary restoration

Revenue:
An increase of 2..5% is anticipated in sales tax collections within the district for the fiscal year based on the average trend over the last 5 years.

Expenditures:

Instruction –

- School instructional allotments for band, choir, technology, early-bird classes and math and science funds are approximately $1.29 million.
- Funds allotted for elementary school counselors and enrichment teachers (music and art) are approximately $1.07 million.
- Teacher classroom supply allocations remain at $100 per teacher for the school year. These funds are allocated to classroom teachers to help offset the cost of classroom setup expenditures.

Salary Support –

- The continuation of the one-time annual support staff supplement is provided in this annual budget to be paid from available funds in the *Salary Restoration* allocation (originally authorized by the School Board at its meeting on October 27, 2015). This provides all permanent support employees a one-time minimum $350 salary supplement to be paid in January 2026 to support employees with an active employment status on December 1, 2025. This base amount is increased proportionately for support employee annual contracts exceeding 9 months. The future payment of this supplement is subject to the availability of funds and recommendation through the Finance Committee for approval by the School Board in the annual budget.
- This supplement is in addition to the fixed $500 supplement (prorated based on full-time status) already included in each support employee's annual base salary and funded in this same funding category.

Mandated Cost –

- The estimated expenditures for mandated costs include maintaining national board certified stipends for teachers and counselors as well as supporting the cost of providing health insurance to retirees.

Other Financing Sources (Uses):

An operating transfer received from the General Fund is budgeted for $300,000 to assist with facility and equipment support.

Fund Balance:

The District #1 M&O Sales Tax fund balance is projected to decrease by $3.1 million. Fund balances remain true to the original allocations outlined above.

1968 Sales Tax – Supplemental Salaries (½ Cent)

This parish-wide sales tax, including the City of Monroe, is a permanent tax approved by voters on May 25, 1968 to pay supplemental salaries only to School Board personnel. This sales tax is collected and shared with the Monroe City School Board based on the percentage of average daily enrollment of students on October 1st each year within each school district. Collections are currently disbursed at a split of 69.9% and 30.1% to Ouachita and Monroe City school boards, respectively. The distributions of tax collections to employees are dedicated in the following percentages for each employee class by the taxing proposition:

88% certified school personnel
12% non-certified/support personnel

A fixed annual amount is paid to eligible employees, excluding district administrative staff, in monthly payroll checks in the annual amounts described below, with any remaining balance of sales tax collections being disbursed annually in June.

	Annual
Certified Staff	$2,400
9 & 10 Month Support Staff	$180
11 & 12 Month Support Staff	$300

Explanation of Net Change in Fund Balance –

- No major change in fund balances anticipated. No related benefits are charged to this sales tax fund. Related benefits (Medicare and retirement) are charged to the General Fund for these supplemental payments in accordance with the legal restrictions of the voter-approved referendum.

1995 Sales Tax – Supplemental Salaries (1-Cent)

This parish-wide sales tax, excluding the City of Monroe, is a permanent tax approved by voters on July 15, 1995 to pay supplemental salaries and benefits to School Board personnel. A fixed supplement amount is included in monthly salary payments as set by the resolution of the school board on June 5, 1995 as follows:

(1) Regular Instructional Personnel	$3,100
(2) Non-instructional Personnel (11-12 Mo.)	$2,000
(3) Non-instructional Personnel (9-10 Mo.)	$1,500

Any remaining balance of collections through September is disbursed annually in November.

Explanation of Net Change in Fund Balance –

- No major change in fund balances anticipated. Benefits charged to this fund include employer Medicare and retirement system contributions related to the supplements paid.

West Ouachita Sales Tax (1 Cent)

The West Ouachita Sales Tax fund accounts for the collection and disbursement of a 1% sales tax in the West Ouachita Parish School District. Voters originally approved this 1% tax in 1997 to be effective for the period January 1998 through December 2026. In May 2015, voters approved a referendum to make the tax permanent. The proceeds from this tax are used for constructing, maintaining, equipping and operating schools, and incurring related debt within the taxing district.

Explanation of Net Change in Fund Balance –

- An increase of 2.5% in revenue is estimated based on market projections.
- Funds are budgeted for use as the need arises for various building or facility repairs or updates, replace school signs, school security and safety upgrades, technology infrastructure expansion, and instructional equipment replacements.

Child Nutrition Program

This fund is used to account for all revenues and expenditures related to the operation of school cafeterias. The major revenues for this fund is derived from charges for meals, reimbursement from the U.S. Department of Agriculture for free and reduced priced meals, and an allocation from the state MFP of $1,259,682. An additional allocation of $80k is budgeted for the district's portion of the Community Eligibility Program. This transfer will be made at the end of the fiscal year based on actual costs of the program.

Explanation of Net Change in Fund Balance –

- An increase in revenues is anticipated due to an increase in federal reimbursement rates.
- Expenditure increases are partly due to the pay raise for personnel and partly due to the replacement of equipment across the district due to normal wear.

In March 2015 the school board approved the establishment of a large cafeteria equipment reserve within the Child Nutrition Program Fund to provide for the ongoing replacement of large kitchen equipment. The reserve requirements are:

1. No funds shall be transferred to the Equipment Reserve Fund in any fiscal year in which the fund balance of the Child Nutrition Program Fund, excluding the Equipment Reserve balance, falls below the benchmark of 10% of its total annual operating expenditures;
2. In fiscal years in which the minimum fund balance requirement is met:
    a. 50% of any excess of revenues over expenditures at the end of each fiscal year shall be transferred to the Equipment Reserve Fund for its ongoing maintenance, or
    b. 100% of any excess of revenues over expenditures at the end of each fiscal year shall be transferred to the Equipment Reserve Fund for its ongoing maintenance should the total fund balance of the Child Nutrition Program Fund, including the Equipment Reserve balance, exceed 30% of its total annual operating expenditures; and
3. Annual expenditures restricted for the replacement of large food service equipment from the Equipment Reserve Fund shall be limited to a maximum of 20% of the equipment reserve fund balance. Any funds required in excess of this annual spending limit in any subsequent fiscal year must be authorized by making the appropriate request to the Finance Committee for consideration and recommendation to the School Board for approval.

The equipment reserve fund balance is projected to be $7.6 million at the end of 2024-2025 due largely to supply chain issues and not being able to purchase needed equipment. It is anticipated that this balance will continue to correct itself over the next 12 months.

Title I Programs

These federal funds are awarded through the State by the federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESSA). These funds are designated to meet the special needs of educationally challenged students at schools with the highest percentage demographic of economically disadvantaged students. These funds are used to supplement existing programs, rather than replace district funds already being used for district-wide programs or for other state and local mandated activities.

Programs included in the Title I Programs are Title I, Part A, Title I Redesign Planning Grant 1003a, CLSD grants covering birth through grade 12, and Direct Student Services.

Explanation of Net Change in Revenues and Expenditures –

- For grants funded on a reimbursement basis, budgeted revenues will always equal budgeted expenditures.
- The Louisiana Department of Education at the time this budget is prepared has not allocated remaining rollover funds from the prior year's allocation. Adjustments for any subsequent allocations will be provided in a subsequent budget revision

Special Education Programs

These federal funds are awarded through the State under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). The purpose of these funds are to provide a free and appropriate education for all identified special needs students from 3 to 21 years of age in the least restrictive environment. These funds are used to supplement existing regular education programs, rather than replace district funds that would otherwise be used for regular education programs or for other state and local mandated activities.

Programs included in the Special Education Grant Programs are IDEA Part B, IDEA Preschool, and Jobs for American's Graduates-Aim High.

Explanation of Net Change in Fund Balance –

- For grants funded on a reimbursement basis, budgeted revenues will always equal budgeted expenditures.

Other Federal Programs

This fund accounts for all other federally funded programs and includes: Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) for early childhood programs, Title II (Teacher Quality), Title III (English Language Acquisition), Title IV, Part A, Career & Technical Education (Carl Perkins Vocational Program), Jobs for America's Graduates, Safe Routes to School, Real time Early Access to Literacy, and the Achieve grants.

Explanation of Net Change in Fund Balance –

- For grants funded on a reimbursement basis, budgeted revenues will always equal budgeted expenditures. An decrease in federal revenues is budgeted for 2025-2026.
- The Louisiana Department of Education at the time this budget is prepared has not allocated remaining rollover funds from the prior year's allocation, which is normal at the time this budget is prepared. These additional funds will be included in a subsequent budget revision if awarded in the current year.

State Grant Programs

This fund accounts for all state-funded awards from departments or agencies of the State of Louisiana that are restricted for specific purposes. Funding for state grant programs must be approved by the legislature and then subsequent allocations approved through the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) or other state awarding agency. These funds include Education Excellence Funds, Cecil J. Picard LA-4 Early Childhood Education Program, 8(g) funds for Preschool and Believe and Prepare, Non-public textbooks, Medicaid Direct Services, Medicate Student Health Services, and Cameras in Special Education Classrooms.

Explanation of Net Change in Fund Balance –

- For grants funded on a reimbursement basis, budgeted revenues will always equal budgeted expenditures. Revenues and expenditures in State Grant Funds are expected to be level with prior year amounts.
- Medicaid reimbursements for administrative costs related to school-based nursing services, mental health and therapy services are anticipated to be received from the Department of Health and Hospitals more than 12 months after the end of the fiscal year in which the reimbursements are derived. Billing for direct services provided by pupil support staff performing mental health and therapy services is only allowed for the "special needs" student population at this time. The fund balance in this fund represents balances accumulated from these Medicaid Programs from prior years.

Debt Service Fund

The Debt Service Fund is used to accumulate funds to pay outstanding debt obligations of the School Board. Bonds are issued by individual school districts. The Ouachita Parish School Board has budgeted funds to service 15 outstanding bond issues in all three of its taxing districts: School District No. 1, the East Ouachita School District, and the West Ouachita School District. Also, one debt service fund services privately placed debt, Qualified School Construction Bonds, of the Ouachita Parish School Board. Total combined outstanding debt going into the 2025-2026 fiscal year is $114 million. Revenues restricted for making debt service payments in the East Ouachita School District are derived from a 36-mill property tax levied by the School Board to finance the sale of bonds approved by voters in the East Ouachita School District. In addition, transfers of West Ouachita Sales Tax Fund revenues are made monthly to the School District No. 1 and West Ouachita School District to service the outstanding debt in those taxing districts.

Student Enrollment Trends

Total *projected* student enrollment for the school year is based on projections made using census date coupled with recent trends. The budget is based on a projection of 17,074 students, which is a decrease of 100 students from the prior year.

Minimum Foundation Program

The Minimum Foundation Program (MFP) is the single largest source of funding received by the Ouachita Parish School System. The MFP accounts for approximately 42% of total operating revenues. The MFP is based on a formula used by the Louisiana Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) that funds school systems based on the number of students enrolled on October 1st and adjusted for student counts on February 1st of the budgeted school year. The formula determines the State's cost of educating students in Louisiana and helps to equitably allocate funds to parish, city, charter, and special schools throughout the state. An annual inflationary growth factor of 2.75% has been part of the current MFP funding formula since it was implemented in 1992-93. This growth factor was suspended by the state legislature from 2010-11 to 2013-14 due to the financial conditions the State budget during this time. A partial growth factor of 1.375% was authorized in 2014-15, increasing the funded per pupil amount from $3,855 to $3,961. The mandate within the MFP formula to provide a 2.75% annual growth factor was removed entirely from the 2014-15 MFP funding formula when the funding resolution was approved by the state legislature that year. Therefore, the MFP funding formula has not included growth funds since 2014-15 to cover normal inflationary costs until 2020-2021 when a partial growth factor of 1.375% was included bringing the base amount per pupil from $3,961 to $4,015. The current MFP formula does not include an inflationary growth factor.

Sales Taxes

Sales tax collections for the Ouachita Parish School Board account for approximately 20% of total operating revenues. The four School Board sales taxes are collected from vendors by the City of Monroe who remits vendor tax collection payments to the School Board on a monthly basis. The School Board deposits these tax payments into the 1995 Sales Tax Fund (1%) for salary and benefit supplements; the 1968 Sales Tax Fund (1/2%) for employee salary supplements; the West Ouachita Sales Tax Fund (1%) for construction, maintenance and operations; and the District No. 1 Maintenance & Operating Sales Tax Fund (1/2%) for parish-wide maintenance and operations.

Property Tax Collections

Revenues from property tax collections account for approximately 17% of all operating revenues. Taxes are billed to taxpayers by the Ouachita Parish Tax Assessor and collected by the Ouachita Parish Sheriff's Office. The Constitutional Tax is a perpetual 5.18-mill parish-wide tax authorized by the state constitution for general operations of the school board. A renewable 24.15 mill parish wide 10-year tax is levied for general operations and maintenance. Collections from these two taxes are recorded as General Fund revenue. The third is a 36.0 mill tax approved by the voters in the East Ouachita Parish School District to repay bonds issued to construct and maintain facilities in that district. Collections of this tax are deposited in the East Ouachita School District Debt Service Fund to pay the annual principal and interest payments on outstanding bonded debt for the district.

Property Tax Assessments

The Ouachita Parish Assessor's Office reassesses property values once every four years. The last full reassessment of parish property was conducted in 2024. Property values have steadily risen over the last ten-year period. The taxable assessed value of property in Ouachita Parish as of January 1, 2025, was $1,644,980,339.

Changes in Debt

The low interest rates prevailing in current bond markets have been advantageous for government debt issuers with high bond ratings. Ouachita Parish School Board has maintained it bond rating of AA- from Standard & Poors for all taxing districts – the East Ouachita School District, West Ouachita School District, and its' School District No. 1 – on its outstanding debt.

The School Board continues to manage current and future debt by complying with all bond covenants and authorizing new policies to guide the debt management process. In August 2017, the School Board adopted a policy for Debt Management to provide guidance for the issuance of debt, compliance, and purposes and limitations for incurring debt.

Proposed Plan and Spending Policies for the Current Year

Management will continue to be conservative with the resources provided us by the residents of Ouachita Parish. Although student counts are projected to decline, management strongly feels that with thorough planning and review of current practices we will meet the challenge before us and in turn grow to become an even stronger and more cohesive entity. Management will continue to closely monitor the district's financial position and provide regular reports to the Board.

Conclusion

We would like to take this opportunity to express our appreciation to the taxpayers who support the Ouachita Parish School System with its financial support through taxes received and by working directly with schools to provide for specific needs. Additionally, we express gratitude to the members of the Ouachita Parish School Board and this current administration for the prudent fiscal practices they exercise day in and day out to implement their programs and activities to meet the various needs and achieve the goals of the School System. As we embrace changes in education standards, student demographics, and limited fiscal resources, this administration will continue to be creative and selective in implementing the best practices to achieve greater successes.

The Ouachita Parish School System has been blessed with resources in years past that have provided great facilities, educational programs and technology resources. However, this School System is great because of the great people working in it, and it takes all of us to be successful in working towards the goal of developing future lifelong learners and valuable contributors to the workforce and in our communities. People working together in the Ouachita Parish School System to "*build bridges to the future*" is what makes this School System the best education choice for the students and families in the communities we serve.

Respectfully submitted,

Todd Guice, Superintendent
Ouachita Parish School Board

Respectfully submitted,

Regina Mekus, CPA
Chief Financial Officer

FINANCIAL

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Ouachita Parish School Board
Annual Operating Budget
Most Important Features
Fiscal Year 2025-2026

1. A decrease of 100 students is budgeted for the school year with a projected decrease of $700,000 in the Minimum Foundation Program funding.

2. Sales Tax collections are budgeted for a 2.5% increase, which is conservative compared to the market trend and recent historical data.

3. General Fund property tax collections for the 2024 calendar year show an anticipated 2.5% increase over prior year collections.

4. Teachers Retirement System employer contribution rate will decrease from 21.51% to 20.95% for the fiscal year 2025-2026.

5. School Employees' Retirement System employer contribution rate will decrease from 25.8% to 22.0% for the fiscal year 2025-2026.

6. Employee health insurance plan premiums are expected to increase 6% for the upcoming renewal in January 2025 which translates to a 4.0% increase in budget health insurance costs over the upcoming fiscal year.

7. A $300,000 transfer is budgeted from the General Fund to the District #1 Maintenance & Operating Sales Tax Fund to support routine facility maintenance costs.

8. A $700,000 transfer is budgeted from the General Fund to the School Board's Internal Service funds for Self-Insurance and Workers Compensation benefits to restore and manage risk exposure.

9. A $200,000 transfer is budgeted from the General Fund to the Internal Service/Centralized Printing Fund to cover excess staffing costs not covered by program fees.

10. Ending fund balance in the General Fund is projected to be 14.2% of the total expenditures at the end of the budget year, which is within the School Board's minimum fund balance policy of 10 to 15% of General Fund expenditures.

Ouachita Parish School Board
Combined Operating Budget
Fiscal Year 2025-2026

Budget Summary by Function

	General Fund	District No. 1 M&O Sales Tax	Special Revenue Funds	Debt Service Funds	Total Operating Budget
Revenues:					
Local Sources	$ 35,857,841	$ 13,131,384	$ 59,412,503	$ 15,906,614	$ 124,308,342
State Sources	121,963,614	-	4,718,878	-	126,682,492
Federal Sources	267,878	-	27,021,891	-	27,289,769
Total Revenues	$ 158,089,333	$ 13,131,384	$ 91,153,272	$ 15,906,614	$ 278,280,603
Expenditures					
Regular Programs	$ 64,608,190	$ 3,095,646	$ 21,735,361	$ -	$ 89,439,197
Special Education Programs	10,107,617	786,791	3,734,549	-	14,628,957
Vocational (CTE) Programs	2,376,038	174,523	791,983	-	3,342,544
Other Instructional Programs	5,581,063	717,545	3,122,055	-	9,420,663
Special Programs	571,864	134,633	5,257,517	-	5,964,014
Pupil Support Services	9,836,493	835,341	4,393,947	-	15,065,781
Instructional Staff Services	7,697,098	1,316,842	9,117,902	-	18,131,842
General Administration	1,893,007	82,177	378,924	437,368	2,791,476
School Administration	11,872,671	514,920	2,492,889	-	14,880,480
Business Services	2,950,954	134,661	384,287	-	3,469,902
Plant Services	24,052,888	3,026,085	2,836,940	-	29,915,913
Student Transportation Services	11,477,642	2,332,243	2,356,249	-	16,166,134
Central Services	3,265,710	97,736	240,886	-	3,604,332
Food Services	1,169,120	376,498	14,987,918	-	16,533,536
Community Service Programs	25,851	-	-	-	25,851
Facility Acquisition & Construction	271,101	2,500,000	23,069,935	-	25,841,036
Debt Service	3,069	-	800	14,196,055	14,199,924
Total Expenditures	$ 157,760,376	$ 16,125,641	$ 94,902,142	$ 14,633,423	$ 283,421,582
Other Sources (Uses)					
Other Sources of Funds	$ 4,268,314	$ 300,000	$ 46,294	$ 3,508,640	$ 8,123,248
Other Uses of Funds	(4,597,271)	(391,894)	(2,819,725)	-	(7,808,890)
Total Other Sources (Uses)	$ (328,957)	$ (91,894)	$ (2,773,431)	$ 3,508,640	$ 314,358
Net Change in Fund Balance	$ -	$ (3,086,151)	$ (6,522,301)	$ 4,781,831	$ (4,826,621)
Beginning Fund Balance	$ 22,448,305	$ 27,724,286	$ 52,790,843	$ 15,733,034	$ 118,696,468
Ending Fund Balance	$ 22,448,305	$ 24,638,135	$ 46,268,542	$ 20,514,865	$ 113,869,847

Ouachita Parish School Board
Combined Operating Budget
Fiscal Year 2025-2026

Budget Summary by Object

	General Fund	District No. 1 M&O Sales Tax	Special Revenue Funds	Debt Service Funds	Total Operating Budget
Revenues:					
Local sources	$ 35,857,841	$ 13,131,384	$ 59,412,503	$ 15,906,614	$ 124,308,342
State sources	121,963,614	-	4,718,878	-	126,682,492
Federal sources	267,878	-	27,021,891	-	27,289,769
Total Revenues	158,089,333	13,131,384	91,153,272	15,906,614	278,280,603
Expenditures:					
Salaries	$ 88,360,510	$ 2,176,563	$ 46,782,354	$ -	$ 137,319,427
Employee Benefits	47,426,075	5,800,686	7,743,143	-	60,969,904
Purchased Professional Services	2,615,993	354,766	3,424,876	631,043	7,026,678
Purchased Property Services	2,747,943	3,589,342	22,644,500	-	28,981,785
Other Purchased Services	3,884,719	178,473	2,319,864	-	6,383,056
Supplies	10,879,423	2,359,510	11,240,861	-	24,479,794
Property	1,771,127	1,655,563	715,011	-	4,141,701
Miscellaneous	74,586	10,738	31,533	14,002,380	14,119,237
Total Expenditures	$ 157,760,376	$ 16,125,641	$ 94,902,142	$ 14,633,423	$ 283,421,582
Other Sources of Funds	$ 4,268,314	$ 300,000	$ 46,294	$ 3,508,640	$ 8,123,248
Other Uses of Funds	(4,597,271)	(391,894)	(2,819,725)	-	(7,808,890)
Total Other Sources (Uses)	$ (328,957)	$ (91,894)	$ (2,773,431)	$ 3,508,640	$ 314,358
Net Change in Fund Balance	$ -	$ (3,086,151)	$ (6,522,301)	$ 4,781,831	$ (4,826,621)
Beginning Fund Balance	$ 22,448,305	$ 27,724,286	$ 52,790,843	$ 15,733,034	$ 118,696,468
Ending Fund Balance	$ 22,448,305	$ 24,638,135	$ 46,268,542	$ 20,514,865	$ 113,869,847

Fund Balance Classification

Unspendable Fund Balance					
Inventory	$ -	$ -	$ 250,857	-	$ 250,857
Restricted Fund Balance					
Workmen's compensation surety	625,000				625,000
MFP Funds	1,292,722				1,292,722
Debt service	-		306,769	$ 20,514,865	20,821,634
Salaries and benefits			16,273,000		16,273,000
School food service			12,304,200		12,304,200
Special education services			1,172,234		1,172,234
Committed Fund Balance					
Capital Improvements		$ 7,537,329	-		7,537,329
Equipment Repairs & Maintenance		(150,147)			(150,147)
Instructional Programs		12,428,149			12,428,149
Major Equipment Repairs	1,000,000	-			1,000,000
Mandated Costs		2,167,909			2,167,909
Salary Supplements		2,654,895			2,654,895
School Instructional Funds	-				-
Proceeds from Sale of Property	1,274,825				
16th Section Land Timber Reserve	213,540				213,540
Assigned Fund Balance					
Drivers Education	308,511				308,511
Chromebook Student Fees	357,529				
Gifted and Talented Instruction	164,677				164,677
Special Education Funds	132,206				132,206
Scholarship Funds	4,636				4,636
Student support services			1,593,868		1,593,868
West-side operations and maintenance			14,367,614		14,367,614
Unassigned Fund Balance	17,074,659	-	-	-	17,074,659
Total Ending Fund Balance	$ 22,448,305	$ 24,638,135	$ 46,268,542	$ 20,514,865	$ 112,237,493

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General Fund

The General Fund is the primary operating fund of the Ouachita Parish School Board that supports current operations.

It is used to account for all financial resources except for those required to be accounted for in another fund. It is primarily supported by local property taxes and state Minimum Foundation Program funding.

A summary of the General Fund budget by function and by object is provided in this section.

Ouachita Parish School Board
Annual Operating Budget
General Fund - Combined
Fiscal Year 2025-2026

Budget Summary by Function

	2024-2025 Final Budget	2024-2025 Actual (Unaudited)	2024-2025 % Change	**2025-2026 Budget**	2025-2026 % Change
Revenues					
Local Revenues	$ 33,754,419	$ 33,598,011	-0.5%	**$ 35,857,841**	6.7%
State Revenues	122,435,050	122,419,309	0.0%	**121,963,614**	-0.4%
Federal Revenues	309,244	267,890	-13.4%	**267,878**	0.0%
Total Revenues	$ 156,498,713	$ 156,285,210	-0.1%	**$ 158,089,333**	1.2%
Expenditures					
Regular Programs	$ 64,831,118	$ 64,685,748	-0.2%	**$ 64,608,190**	-0.1%
Special Education Programs	10,449,751	10,090,947	-3.4%	**10,107,617**	0.2%
Vocational (CTE) Programs	2,528,988	2,328,988	-7.9%	**2,376,038**	2.0%
Other Instructional Programs	5,063,352	5,553,390	9.7%	**5,581,063**	0.5%
Special Programs	660,465	574,560	-13.0%	**571,864**	-0.5%
Pupil Support Services	9,956,720	9,876,117	-0.8%	**9,836,493**	-0.4%
Instructional Staff Services	8,192,818	7,495,215	-8.5%	**7,697,098**	2.7%
General Administration	1,854,836	1,878,283	1.3%	**1,893,007**	0.8%
School Administration	11,865,354	11,965,199	0.8%	**11,872,671**	-0.8%
Business Services	2,907,619	2,959,935	1.8%	**2,950,954**	-0.3%
Plant Services	23,420,923	23,403,446	-0.1%	**24,052,888**	2.8%
Student Transportation Services	11,125,179	11,960,234	7.5%	**11,477,642**	-4.0%
Central Services	3,399,513	3,285,551	-3.4%	**3,265,710**	-0.6%
Food Services	1,194,361	1,147,687	-3.9%	**1,169,120**	1.9%
Community Service Programs	25,851	25,851	0.0%	**25,851**	0.0%
Facility Acquisition and Construction	371,424	382,449	3.0%	**271,101**	-29.1%
Debt Service	2,894	2,500	-13.6%	**3,069**	0.0%
Total Expenditures	$ 157,851,166	$ 157,616,100	-0.1%	**$ 157,760,376**	0.1%
Other Sources of Funds	$ 4,747,785	$ 5,729,107	20.7%	**$ 4,268,314**	-25.5%
Other Uses of Funds	(3,395,332)	(4,597,228)	35.4%	**(4,597,271)**	0.0%
Total Other Sources (Uses)	$ 1,352,453	$ 1,131,879	-16.3%	**$ (328,957)**	-129.1%
Net Change in Fund Balance	$ -	$ (199,011)	-100.0%	**$ -**	-100.0%
Beginning Fund Balance	$ 22,696,276	$ 22,647,316	-0.2%	**$ 22,448,305**	-0.9%
Ending Fund Balance	$ 22,696,276	$ 22,448,305	-1.1%	**$ 22,448,305**	0.0%
Fund Balance as a Percentage of Total Expenditures	14.38%	14.24%		14.23%	

Ouachita Parish School Board
Annual Operating Budget
General Fund - Combined
Fiscal Year 2025-2026

Budget Summary by Object

	2024-2025 Final Budget	2024-2025 Actual (Unaudited)	2024-2025 % Change	2025-2026 Budget	2025-2026 % Change
Revenues					
Local Sources	$ 33,754,419	$ 33,598,011	-0.5%	**$ 35,857,841**	6.7%
State Sources	122,435,050	122,419,309	0.0%	**121,963,614**	-0.4%
Federal Sources	309,244	267,890	-13.4%	**267,878**	0.0%
Total Revenues	$ 156,498,713	$ 156,285,210	-0.1%	**$ 158,089,333**	1.2%
Expenditures					
Salaries	$ 87,397,912	$ 88,522,202	1.3%	**$ 88,360,510**	-0.2%
Employee Benefits	48,194,550	48,173,115	0.0%	**47,426,075**	-1.6%
Professional Services	3,011,582	2,659,299	-11.7%	**2,615,993**	-1.6%
Property Services	3,391,005	3,466,993	2.2%	**2,747,943**	-20.7%
Other Purchased Services	4,208,114	3,749,337	-10.9%	**3,884,719**	3.6%
Supplies	10,181,772	9,811,961	-3.6%	**10,879,423**	10.9%
Property	1,310,083	1,158,607	-11.6%	**1,771,127**	52.9%
Miscellaneous	156,148	74,586	-52.2%	**74,586**	0.0%
Total Expenditures	$ 157,851,166	$ 157,616,100	-0.1%	**$ 157,760,376**	0.1%
Other Sources of Funds	$ 4,747,785	$ 5,729,107	20.7%	**$ 4,268,314**	-25.5%
Other Uses of Funds	(3,395,332)	(4,597,228)	35.4%	**(4,597,271)**	0.0%
Total Other Sources (Uses)	$ 1,352,453	$ 1,131,879	-16.3%	**$ (328,957)**	-129.1%
Net Change in Fund Balance	$ -	$ (199,011)	-100.0%	**$ -**	-100.0%
Beginning Fund Balance	$ 22,696,276	$ 22,647,316	-0.2%	**$ 22,448,305**	-0.9%
Ending Fund Balance	$ 22,696,276	$ 22,448,305	-1.1%	**$ 22,448,305**	0.0%

Fund Balance Classification

Restricted Fund Balance					
Workmen's Compensation Surety	$ 625,000	$ 625,000	0.0%	**$ 625,000**	0.0%
MFP Funds	1,622,435	1,617,208	-0.3%	**1,292,722**	-20.1%
Committed Fund Balance					
Major Equipment Repairs	1,000,000	1,000,000	0.0%	**1,000,000**	0.0%
School Instructional Funds	-	236,443	100.0%	**-**	-100.0%
16th Section Land Timber Reserve	149,540	149,540	0.0%	**149,540**	0.0%
16th Section Land Timber Sales	754,857	451,109	-40.2%	**64,000**	-85.8%
Sale of OPSB Property	-	1,274,825	100.0%	**1,274,825**	0.0%
Assigned Fund Balance					
Drivers Education	414,061	352,011	-15.0%	**308,511**	-12.4%
Chromebook Student Fees	183,448	283,529	54.6%	**357,529**	26.1%
Gifted and Talented Instruction	140,354	149,177	6.3%	**164,677**	10.4%
Special Education Funds	132,206	132,206	0.0%	**132,206**	0.0%
Relief Fund 2019	-	24,002	100.0%	**-**	-100.0%
Scholarship Funds	4,636	4,636	0.0%	**4,636**	0.0%
Unassigned Fund Balance	17,669,739	16,148,619	-8.6%	**17,074,659**	5.7%
Total Ending Fund Balance	$ 22,696,276	$ 22,448,305	-1.1%	**$ 22,448,305**	0.0%

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District No. 1 Maintenance & Operating Sales Tax (0.5%)

The District No. 1 Maintenance & Operating Sales Tax (M&O Sales Tax) is the second major operating fund of the Ouachita Parish School Board. It is used to account for all financial resources received from a parish wide ½ -cent, 10-year renewable sales tax. This tax was renewed by the voters in April 2021 for a ten-year period beginning January 1, 2022.

These resources provide support for current operations in the following categories:

- Instructional Support
- Equipment Maintenance Support
- Capital Improvements
- Salary Restoration and Support
- Mandated Programs and Costs

A summary of the M&O Sales Tax budget by function and by object is provided in this section.

Ouachita Parish School Board

Special Revenue Fund

District No. 1 Maintenance & Operating Sales Tax

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

Budget Summary by Function

	2024-2025			2025-2026	
	Final Budget	Actual (Unaudited)	% Change	**Budget**	% Change
Revenues					
Local Revenues	$ 12,198,395	$ 12,533,469	2.7%	**$ 13,131,384**	4.8%
Total Revenues	$ 12,198,395	$ 12,533,469	2.7%	**$ 13,131,384**	4.8%
Expenditures					
Regular Programs	$ 2,767,611	$ 2,966,400	7.2%	**$ 3,095,646**	4.4%
Special Education Programs	671,353	765,902	14.1%	**786,791**	2.7%
Vocational (CTE) Programs	119,050	170,828	43.5%	**174,523**	2.2%
Other Instructional Programs	848,583	711,104	-16.2%	**717,545**	0.9%
Special Programs	92,590	127,394	37.6%	**134,633**	5.7%
Pupil Support Services	751,658	814,190	8.3%	**835,341**	2.6%
Instructional Staff Services	506,099	1,310,264	158.9%	**1,316,842**	0.5%
General Administration	70,418	79,689	13.2%	**82,177**	3.1%
School Administration	353,334	493,675	39.7%	**514,920**	4.3%
Business Services	87,287	129,791	48.7%	**134,661**	3.8%
Plant Services	2,872,437	3,672,647	27.9%	**3,026,085**	-17.6%
Student Transportation Services	2,100,651	2,330,464	10.9%	**2,332,243**	0.1%
Central Services	61,188	93,617	53.0%	**97,736**	4.4%
Food Services	338,613	368,136	8.7%	**376,498**	2.3%
Facility Acquisition and Construction	2,500,000	2,139,878	-14.4%	**2,500,000**	16.8%
Total Expenditures	$ 14,140,872	$ 16,173,979	14.4%	**$ 16,125,641**	-0.3%
Other Sources of Funds	$ 300,000	$ 300,000	0.0%	**$ 300,000**	0.0%
Other Uses of Funds	(546,141)	(391,894)	0.0%	**(391,894)**	0.0%
Total Other Sources	$ (246,141)	$ (91,894)	-62.7%	**$ (91,894)**	0.0%
Net Change in Fund Balance	$ (2,188,618)	$ (3,732,404)	70.5%	**$ (3,086,151)**	-17.3%
Beginning Fund Balance	$ 31,456,690	$ 31,456,690	0.0%	**$ 27,724,286**	-11.9%
Ending Fund Balance	$ 29,268,072	$ 27,724,286	-5.3%	**$ 24,638,135**	-11.1%

Ouachita Parish School Board
Special Revenue Fund
District No. 1 Maintenance & Operating Sales Tax
Fiscal Year 2025-2026

Budget Summary by Object

	2024-2025 Final Budget	2024-2025 Actual (Unaudited)	2024-2025 % Change	**2025-2026 Budget**	2025-2026 % Change
Revenues					
Local Revenues	$ 12,198,395	$ 12,533,469	2.7%	**$ 13,131,384**	4.8%
Total Revenues	$ 12,198,395	$ 12,533,469	2.7%	**$ 13,131,384**	4.8%
Expenditures					
Salaries	$ 2,216,230	$ 2,176,563	-1.8%	**$ 2,176,563**	0.0%
Employee Benefits	4,774,102	5,533,081	15.9%	**5,800,686**	4.8%
Professional Services	205,765	371,321	80.5%	**354,766**	-4.5%
Property Services	3,550,000	2,550,223	-28.2%	**3,589,342**	40.7%
Other Purchased Services	196,306	169,901	-13.5%	**178,473**	5.0%
Supplies	1,522,151	2,401,352	57.8%	**2,359,510**	-1.7%
Property	1,673,318	2,961,117	77.0%	**1,655,563**	-44.1%
Miscellaneous	3,000	10,421	247.4%	**10,738**	3.0%
Total Expenditures	$ 14,140,872	$ 16,173,979	14.4%	**$ 16,125,641**	-0.3%
Other Sources of Funds	$ 300,000	$ 300,000	0.0%	**$ 300,000**	0.0%
Other Uses of Funds	(546,141)	(391,894)	0.0%	**(391,894)**	0.0%
Total Other Sources	$ (246,141)	$ (91,894)	-62.7%	**$ (91,894)**	0.0%
Net Change in Fund Balance	$ (2,188,618)	$ (3,732,404)	70.5%	**$ (3,086,151)**	-17.3%
Beginning Fund Balance	$ 31,456,690	$ 31,456,690	0.0%	**$ 27,724,286**	-11.9%
Ending Fund Balance	$ 29,268,072	$ 27,724,286	-5.3%	**$ 24,638,135**	-11.1%

Fund Balance Classification

Committed Fund Balance	$ 29,268,072	$ 27,724,286	-5.3%	**$ 24,638,135**	-11.1%
Total Ending Fund Balance	$ 29,268,072	$ 27,724,286	-5.3%	$ 24,638,135	-11.1%

Although the proposition approved by voters in 1992 does not restrict the spending of tax proceeds for other than parishwide maintenance and operations, this fund balance is committed in that the School Board took formal action to restrict spending of proceeds for specific categorical purposes and designated a certain percentage of collections be allocated to each spending category established by the School Board.

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Special Revenue Funds

Special Revenue funds consist of all other School Board funds, except debt service, capital projects, and internal service funds. According to the Louisiana Local Government Budget Act, the School Board is not required to adopt an annual budget for capital projects and internal service funds.

Special Revenue Funds account for revenue sources that are dedicated for specific purposes or obligated to follow state, federal or local laws and regulations.

In this section, a combined budget summary of all special revenue funds is presented by function and by object classifications.

Also, all funds are grouped and summarized into the following 8 primary special revenue funds:

- 1968 Sales Tax – Supplemental Salaries
- 1995 Sales Tax – Supplemental Salaries & Benefits
- West Ouachita Sales Tax
- Child Nutrition Program
- Title I Programs
- Special Education Programs
- Other Federal Programs
- State Grant Programs

A summary of the budget by function and object is provided for each special revenue fund listed above.

Ouachita Parish School Board

Special Revenue Fund

Special Revenue Funds - Combined Budget

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

Budget Summary by Function

	2024-2025			2025-2026	
	Final Budget	Actual (Unaudited)	% Change	**Budget**	% Change
Revenues					
Local Revenues	$ 56,200,466	$ 57,826,781	2.9%	**$ 59,412,503**	2.7%
State Revenues	5,831,787	5,903,908	1.2%	**4,718,878**	-20.1%
Federal Revenues	41,606,063	37,854,949	-9.0%	**27,021,891**	-28.6%
Total Revenues	$ 103,638,316	$ 101,585,638	-2.0%	**$ 91,153,272**	-10.3%
Expenditures					
Regular Programs	$ 21,639,072	21,518,078	-0.6%	**$ 21,735,361**	1.0%
Special Education Programs	5,037,457	4,029,995	-20.0%	**3,734,549**	-7.3%
Vocational (CTE) Programs	592,153	632,333	6.8%	**791,983**	25.2%
Other Instructional Programs	5,678,745	5,584,893	-1.7%	**3,122,055**	-44.1%
Special Programs	6,804,756	5,262,699	-22.7%	**5,257,517**	-0.1%
Pupil Support Services	4,769,169	4,567,772	-4.2%	**4,393,947**	-3.8%
Instructional Staff Services	10,020,386	9,185,353	-8.3%	**9,117,902**	-0.7%
General Administration	345,084	482,942	39.9%	**378,924**	-21.5%
School Administration	2,447,754	2,399,053	-2.0%	**2,492,889**	3.9%
Business Services	438,056	412,666	-5.8%	**384,287**	-6.9%
Plant Services	6,291,108	6,232,928	-0.9%	**2,836,940**	-54.5%
Student Transportation Services	3,948,598	4,004,263	1.4%	**2,356,249**	-41.2%
Central Services	474,927	493,403	3.9%	**240,886**	-51.2%
Food Services	14,403,488	14,920,690	3.6%	**14,987,918**	0.5%
Facility Acquisition and Construction	21,391,674	23,052,215	7.8%	**23,069,935**	0.1%
Debt Service	61,000	61,125	0.2%	**800**	-98.7%
Total Expenditures	104,343,427	$ 102,840,408	-1.4%	**$ 94,902,142**	-7.7%
Other Sources of Funds	$ 25,000	$ 42,499	100.0%	**$ 46,294**	8.9%
Other Uses of Funds	(5,373,719)	(5,085,891)	-5.4%	**(2,819,725)**	-44.6%
Total Other Sources (Uses)	$ (5,348,719)	$ (5,043,392)	-5.7%	**$ (2,773,431)**	-45.0%
Net Change in Fund Balance	$ (6,053,830)	$ (6,298,162)	4.0%	**$ (6,522,301)**	3.6%
Beginning Fund Balance	59,089,005	$ 59,089,005	0.0%	**$ 52,790,843**	-10.7%
Ending Fund Balance	$ 53,035,175	$ 52,790,843	-0.5%	**$ 46,268,542**	-12.4%

Ouachita Parish School Board

Special Revenue Fund

Special Revenue Funds - Combined Budget

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

Budget Summary by Object

	2024-2025 Final Budget	2024-2025 Actual (Unaudited)	2024-2025 % Change	**2025-2026 Budget**	**2025-2026 % Change**
Revenues					
Local Revenues	$ 56,200,466	$ 57,826,781	2.9%	**$ 59,412,503**	2.7%
State Revenues	5,831,787	5,903,908	1.2%	**4,718,878**	-20.1%
Federal Revenues	41,606,063	37,854,949	-9.0%	**27,021,891**	-28.6%
Total Revenues	$ 103,638,316	$ 101,585,638	-2.0%	**$ 91,153,272**	-10.3%
Expenditures					
Salaries	$ 44,855,933	$ 45,548,897	1.5%	**$ 46,782,354**	2.7%
Employee Benefits	8,476,877	8,030,397	-5.3%	**7,743,143**	-3.6%
Professional Services	4,068,215	4,029,856	-0.9%	**3,424,876**	-15.0%
Property Services	19,994,697	21,240,130	6.2%	**22,644,500**	6.6%
Other Purchased Services	3,086,267	2,761,383	-10.5%	**2,319,864**	-16.0%
Supplies	17,630,763	15,751,037	-10.7%	**11,240,861**	-28.6%
Property	6,148,877	4,775,967	-22.3%	**715,011**	-85.0%
Miscellaneous	81,798	702,741	759.1%	**31,533**	-95.5%
Total Expenditures	$ 104,343,427	$ 102,840,408	-1.4%	**94,902,142**	-7.7%
Other Sources of Funds	$ 25,000	$ 42,499	100.0%	**$ 46,294**	8.9%
Other Uses of Funds	(5,373,719)	(5,085,891)	-5.4%	**(2,819,725)**	-44.6%
Total Other Sources (Uses)	$ (5,348,719)	$ (5,043,392)	-5.7%	**$ (2,773,431)**	-45.0%
Net Change in Fund Balance	$ (6,053,830)	$ (6,298,162)	4.0%	**$ (6,522,301)**	3.6%
Beginning Fund Balance	59,089,005	59,089,005	0.0%	**52,790,843**	-10.7%
Ending Fund Balance	$ 53,035,175	$ 52,790,843	-0.5%	**$ 46,268,542**	-12.4%

Fund Balance Classification

Unspendable Fund Balance					
Food inventory	$ 172,834	$ 250,857	45.1%	**$ 250,857**	0.0%
Restricted Fund Balance		-		**-**	
Debt service	906,908	306,769	-66.2%	**306,769**	0.0%
Salaries and benefits	13,961,332	14,995,077	7.4%	**16,273,000**	8.5%
School food service	13,064,305	12,732,921	-2.5%	**12,304,200**	-3.4%
State Grant Programs	2,354,184	1,586,581	-32.6%	**1,172,234**	-26.1%
Committed Fund Balance		-		**-**	
West-side capital outlay	18,729,895	22,713,244	21.3%	**-**	-100.0%
Assigned Fund Balance		-		**-**	
State Grant Programs	1,433,951	2,245,564	56.6%	**1,593,868**	-29.0%
West-side operations and maintena	2,411,766	(2,040,170)	-184.6%	**14,367,614**	-804.2%
Total Fund Balances	$ 53,035,175	$ 52,790,843	-0.5%	**$ 46,268,542**	-12.4%

Ouachita Parish School Board
Special Revenue Fund
1968 Sales Tax - Supplemental Salaries
Fiscal Year 2025-2026

Budget Summary by Function

	2024-2025			2025-2026	
	Final Budget	Actual (Unaudited)	% Change	**Budget**	% Change
Revenues					
Local Revenues	$ 14,888,240	$ 14,969,859	0.5%	**$ 15,418,957**	3.0%
Total Revenues	$ 14,888,240	$ 14,969,859	0.5%	**$ 15,418,957**	3.0%
Expenditures					
Regular Programs	$ 9,326,564	$ 9,096,947	-2.5%	**$ 9,369,856**	3.0%
Special Education Programs	1,060,879	1,036,265	-2.3%	**1,067,348**	3.0%
Vocational (CTE) Programs	212,913	246,536	15.8%	**253,931**	3.0%
Other Instructional Programs	317,727	342,905	7.9%	**353,191**	3.0%
Special Programs	41,480	31,739	-23.5%	**32,690**	3.0%
Pupil Support Services	1,111,287	1,148,422	3.3%	**1,182,883**	3.0%
Instructional Staff Services	524,144	488,174	-6.9%	**502,809**	3.0%
General Administration	97,115	95,864	-1.3%	**98,740**	3.0%
School Administration	914,051	954,179	4.4%	**982,796**	3.0%
Business Services	43,720	41,084	-6.0%	**42,316**	3.0%
Plant Services	581,423	609,621	4.8%	**627,908**	3.0%
Student Transportation Services	389,717	401,575	3.0%	**413,618**	3.0%
Central Services	21,372	20,701	-3.1%	**21,321**	3.0%
Food Services	245,848	248,959	1.3%	**256,415**	3.0%
Total Expenditures	$ 14,888,240	$ 14,762,971	-0.8%	**$ 15,205,822**	3.0%
Net Change in Fund Balance	$ -	$ 206,888	100.0%	**$ 213,135**	3.0%
Beginning Fund Balance	2,439,769	2,439,769	0.0%	**2,646,657**	8.5%
Ending Fund Balance	$ 2,439,769	$ 2,646,657	8.5%	**$ 2,859,792**	8.1%

Ouachita Parish School Board
Special Revenue Fund
1968 Sales Tax - Supplemental Salaries
Fiscal Year 2025-2026

Budget Summary by Object

	2024-2025 Final Budget	2024-2025 Actual (Unaudited)	2024-2025 % Change	**2025-2026 Budget**	2025-2026 % Change
Revenues					
Local Revenues	$ 14,888,240	$ 14,969,859	0.5%	**$ 15,418,957**	3.0%
Total Revenues	$ 14,888,240	$ 14,969,859	0.5%	**$ 15,418,957**	3.0%
Expenditures					
Salaries	$ 14,791,125	$ 14,667,107	-0.8%	**$ 15,107,082**	3.0%
Purchased Professional Services	97,115	95,864	-1.3%	**98,740**	3.0%
Total Expenditures	$ 14,888,240	$ 14,762,971	-0.8%	**$ 15,205,822**	3.0%
Net Change in Fund Balance	$ -	$ 206,888	100.0%	**$ 213,135**	-100.0%
Beginning Fund Balance	2,439,769	2,439,769	0.0%	**2,646,657**	8.5%
Ending Fund Balance	$ 2,439,769	$ 2,646,657	8.5%	**$ 2,859,792**	8.1%

Fund Balance Classification

Restricted Fund Balance	$ 2,439,769	$ 2,646,657	8.5%	**$ 2,859,792**	8.1%
Total Ending Fund Balance	$ 2,439,769	$ 2,646,657	8.5%	**$ 2,859,792**	8.1%

This fund balance is restricted in that the proposition approved by voters in 1968 specifically directs funds to be used for salary supplements for school employees.

Ouachita Parish School Board
Special Revenue Fund
1995 Sales Tax - Supplemental Salaries & Benefits
Fiscal Year 2025-2026

Budget Summary by Function

	2024-2025 Final Budget	2024-2025 Actual (Unaudited)	2024-2025 % Change	**2025-2026 Budget**	2025-2026 % Change
Revenues					
Local Revenues	$ 22,320,500	$ 23,089,182	3.4%	**$ 23,781,857**	3.0%
Total Revenues	$ 22,320,500	$ 23,089,182	3.4%	**$ 23,781,857**	3.0%
Expenditures					
Regular Programs	$ 10,386,877	$ 10,467,219	0.8%	**$ 10,942,397**	4.5%
Special Education Programs	1,781,134	1,729,764	-2.9%	**1,808,192**	4.5%
Vocational (CTE) Programs	257,502	275,149	6.9%	**287,630**	4.5%
Other Instructional Programs	387,698	392,122	1.1%	**409,956**	4.5%
Special Programs	47,131	41,649	-11.6%	**43,575**	4.6%
Pupil Support Services	1,385,026	1,374,683	-0.7%	**1,436,990**	4.5%
Instructional Staff Services	934,909	863,701	-7.6%	**902,953**	4.5%
General Administration	151,598	156,070	2.9%	**163,800**	5.0%
School Administration	1,413,703	1,444,874	2.2%	**1,510,093**	4.5%
Business Services	278,358	285,208	2.5%	**295,444**	3.6%
Plant Services	1,881,648	1,997,593	6.2%	**2,036,944**	2.0%
Student Transportation Services	1,523,940	1,591,060	4.4%	**1,623,002**	2.0%
Central Services	186,051	205,638	10.5%	**214,965**	4.5%
Food Services	964,019	996,360	3.4%	**1,041,129**	4.5%
Total Expenditures	$ 21,579,594	$ 21,821,090	1.1%	**$ 22,717,070**	4.1%
Net Change in Fund Balance	$ 740,906	$ 1,268,092	71.2%	**$ 1,064,787**	-16.0%
Beginning Fund Balance	11,080,328	11,080,328	0.0%	**12,348,420**	11.4%
Ending Fund Balance	$ 11,821,234	$ 12,348,420	4.5%	**$ 13,413,207**	8.6%

Ouachita Parish School Board
Special Revenue Fund
1995 Sales Tax - Supplemental Salaries & Benefits
Fiscal Year 2025-2026

Budget Summary by Object

	2024-2025 Final Budget	2024-2025 Actual (Unaudited)	2024-2025 % Change	**2025-2026 Budget**	2025-2026 % Change
Revenues					
Local Revenues	$ 22,320,500	$ 23,089,182	3.4%	**$ 23,781,857**	3.0%
Total Revenues	$ 22,320,500	$ 23,089,182	3.4%	**$ 23,781,857**	3.0%
Expenditures					
Salaries	$ 17,122,756	$ 17,650,437	3.1%	**$ 18,532,974**	5.0%
Employee Benefits	4,326,207	4,030,019	-6.8%	**4,036,431**	0.2%
Purchased Professional Services	130,631	140,634	7.7%	**147,665**	5.0%
Total Expenditures	$ 21,579,594	$ 21,821,090	1.1%	**$ 22,717,070**	4.1%
Net Change in Fund Balance	$ 740,906	$ 1,268,092	71%	**$ 1,064,787**	-16.0%
Beginning Fund Balance	11,080,328	11,080,328	0.0%	**12,348,420**	11.4%
Ending Fund Balance	$ 11,821,234	$ 12,348,420	4.5%	**$ 13,413,207**	8.6%

Fund Balance Classification

Restricted Fund Balance	$ 11,821,234	$ 12,348,420	4.5%	**$ 13,413,207**	8.6%
Total Ending Fund Balance	$ 11,821,234	$ 12,348,420	4.5%	**$ 13,413,207**	8.6%

This fund balance is restricted in that the proposition approved by voters in 1995 specifically directs funds to be used for salary supplements and related benefits for school employees.

Ouachita Parish School Board
Special Revenue Fund
West Ouachita Sales Tax
Fiscal Year 2025-2026

Budget Summary by Function

	2024-2025				2025-2026	
	Final Budget		Actual (Unaudited)	% Change	**Budget**	% Change
Revenues						
Local Revenues	$ 18,072,200		$ 18,514,632	2.4%	**$ 19,070,071**	3.0%
Total Revenues	$ 18,072,200		$ 18,514,632	2.4%	**$ 19,070,071**	3.0%
Expenditures						
Regular Programs	$ 21,125		$ 46,884	121.9%	**$ -**	0.0%
Other Instructional Programs	284,482		247,521	-13.0%	**336,834**	0.0%
General Administration	96,371		111,008	15.2%	**116,384**	0.0%
Plant Services	634,480		355,686	-43.9%	**72,789**	0.0%
Facility Acquisition and Construction	21,265,861		23,052,215	8.4%	**22,959,252**	-0.4%
Debt Service	61,000		61,125	0.2%	**800**	-98.7%
Total Expenditures	$ 22,363,319		$ 23,874,439	6.8%	**$ 23,486,059**	-1.6%
Other Sources of Funds	-		-	100.0%	**-**	0.0%
Other Uses of Funds	(2,840,178)		(2,840,216)	0.0%	**(1,889,471)**	-33.5%
Total Other Sources (Uses)	$ (2,840,178)		$ (2,840,216)	0.0%	**$ (1,889,471)**	-33.5%
Net Change in Fund Balance	(7,131,297)		(8,200,023)	15.0%	**(6,305,459)**	-23.1%
Beginning Fund Balance	$ 29,179,866		$ 29,179,866	0.0%	**$ 20,979,843**	-28.1%
Ending Fund Balance	$ 22,048,569		$ 20,979,843	-4.8%	**$ 14,674,384**	-30.1%

Ouachita Parish School Board
Special Revenue Fund
West Ouachita Sales Tax
Fiscal Year 2025-2026

Budget Summary by Object

	2024-2025 Final Budget	2024-2025 Actual (Unaudited)	2024-2025 % Change	2025-2026 Budget	2025-2026 % Change
Revenues					
Local Revenues	$ 18,072,200	$ 18,514,632	2.4%	**$ 19,070,071**	3.0%
Total Revenues	$ 18,072,200	$ 18,514,632	2.4%	**$ 19,070,071**	3.0%
Expenditures					
Purchased Professional Services	$ 1,327,350	$ 1,561,506	17.6%	**$ 568,438**	-63.6%
Purchased Property Services	17,474,859	19,007,115	8.8%	**22,345,891**	17.6%
Supplies	745,234	471,348	0.0%	**438,189**	-7.0%
Property	2,755,876	2,774,470	0.7%	**133,542**	-95.2%
Miscellaneous	60,000	60,000	100.0%	**-**	-100.0%
Total Expenditures	$ 22,363,319	$ 23,874,439	6.8%	**$ 23,486,060**	-1.6%
Other Uses of Funds	$ (2,840,178)	$ (2,840,216)	0.0%	**$ (1,889,471)**	-33.5%
Total Other Sources (Uses)	$ (2,840,178)	$ (2,840,216)	0.0%	**$ (1,889,471)**	-33.5%
Net Change in Fund Balance	$ (7,131,297)	$ (8,200,023)	15.0%	**$ (6,305,460)**	-23.1%
Beginning Fund Balance	$ 29,179,866	$ 29,179,866	0.0%	**20,979,843**	-28.1%
Ending Fund Balance	$ 22,048,569	$ 20,979,843	-4.8%	**$ 14,674,383**	-30.1%

Fund Balance Classification

Restricted Fund Balance					
Debt Service	$ 906,908	$ 306,769	-66.2%	**$ 306,769**	0.0%
Committed Fund Balance					
West-side Capital Outlays	18,729,895	22,713,244	21.3%	**-**	-100.0%
Assigned Fund Balance					
West-side Operations & Maintenance	2,411,766	(2,040,170)	-184.6%	**14,367,614**	-804.2%
Total Ending Fund Balance	$ 22,048,569	$ 20,979,843	-4.8%	**$ 14,674,383**	-30.1%

Fund Balances are restricted by West Ouachita Sales Tax Bond covenants which require debt service payments to be made from sales tax proceeds first before spending funds for other purposes. The School Board has committed funds to be used for West Ouachita capital outlay projects during the year. Remaining balance of funds are assigned by management for maintenance and operations in the West Ouachita taxing district as prescribed by the sales tax proposition approved by voters originally in 1998, and made permanent in May 2015.

Ouachita Parish School Board
Special Revenue Fund
Child Nutrition Program
Fiscal Year 2025-2026

Budget Summary by Function

	2024-2025			2025-2026	
	Final Budget	Actual (Unaudited)	% Change	**Budget**	% Change
Revenues					
Local Revenues	$ 805,197	$ 801,424	-0.5%	**$ 667,618**	-16.7%
State Revenues	1,414,682	1,397,183	-1.2%	**1,414,682**	1.3%
Federal Revenues	11,111,380	11,191,920	0.7%	**11,190,984**	0.0%
Total Revenues	$ 13,331,259	$ 13,390,527	0.4%	**$ 13,273,284**	-0.9%
Expenditures					
Business Services	$ 77,429	$ 47,825	-38.2%	**$ 46,527**	-2.7%
Plant Services	482	-	-100.0%	**-**	0.0%
Student Transportation Services	7,363	11,640	58.1%	**11,398**	-2.1%
Food Services	13,192,451	13,549,558	2.7%	**13,690,374**	1.0%
Facility Acquisition and Construction	1,171	-	-100.0%	**-**	0.0%
Total Expenditures	$ 13,278,896	$ 13,609,023	2.5%	**$ 13,748,299**	1.0%
Other Sources of Funds	$ 25,000	$ 42,499	70.0%	**$ 46,294**	8.9%
Total Other Sources (Uses)	$ 25,000	$ 42,499	70.0%	**$ 46,294**	8.9%
Net Change in Fund Balance	$ 77,363	$ (175,997)	-327.5%	**$ (428,721)**	143.6%
Beginning Fund Balance	13,159,775	13,159,775	0.0%	**12,983,778**	-1.3%
Ending Fund Balance	$ 13,237,138	$ 12,983,778	-1.9%	**$ 12,555,057**	-3.3%

Ouachita Parish School Board
Special Revenue Fund
Child Nutrition Program
Fiscal Year 2025-2026

Budget Summary by Object

	2024-2025 Final Budget	2024-2025 Actual (Unaudited)	% Change	**2025-2026 Budget**	% Change
Revenues					
Local Revenues	$ 805,197	$ 801,424	-0.5%	**$ 667,618**	-16.7%
State Revenues	1,414,682	1,397,183	-1.2%	**1,414,682**	1.3%
Federal Revenues	11,111,380	11,191,920	0.7%	**11,190,984**	0.0%
Total Revenues	$ 13,331,259	$ 13,390,527	0.4%	**$ 13,273,284**	-0.9%
Expenditures					
Salaries	$ 3,710,171	3,730,839	0.6%	**$ 3,730,847**	0.0%
Employee Benefits	916,499	826,008	-9.9%	**806,785**	-2.3%
Purchased Professional Services	51,250	51,323	0.1%	**51,323**	0.0%
Purchased Property Services	206,137	203,587	-1.2%	**203,592**	0.0%
Other Purchased Services	77,388	76,512	-1.1%	**76,520**	0.0%
Supplies	7,688,600	8,139,289	5.9%	**8,297,763**	1.9%
Property	628,850	581,465	-7.5%	**581,469**	0.0%
Total Expenditures	$ 13,278,895	$ 13,609,023	2.5%	**$ 13,748,299**	1.0%
Other Sources of Funds	$ 25,000	$ 42,499	70.0%	**$ 46,294**	8.9%
Other Uses of Funds	-	-	0.0%	**-**	0.0%
Total Other Sources (Uses)	$ 25,000	$ 42,499	0.0%	**$ 46,294**	8.9%
Net Change in Fund Balance	$ 77,364	$ (175,997)	-327.5%	**$ (428,721)**	143.6%
Beginning Fund Balance	13,159,775	13,159,775	0.0%	**12,983,778**	-1.3%
Ending Fund Balance	$ 13,237,139	$ 12,983,778	-1.9%	**$ 12,555,057**	-3.3%

Fund Balance Classification

Nonspendable Fund Balance					
Food Inventory	$ 172,834	$ 262,642	52.0%	**$ 250,857**	-4.5%
Restricted Fund Balance					
Large Equipment Reserve	7,658,715	7,367,110	-3.8%	**7,625,175**	3.5%
Undesignated	5,405,590	5,354,026	-1.0%	**4,679,025**	-12.6%
Total Ending Fund Balance	$ 13,237,139	$ 12,983,778	-1.9%	**$ 12,555,057**	-3.3%

The non-spendable portion of fund balance represents the food inventory projected to be held at year-end. The remaining fund balance is restricted in that the regulations for participating in the federal meal reimbursement program provide that all funds received by the child nutrition program shall remain with the school food service program and be used for such purpose. A separate reserve was established by the school board in 2014-15 to set aside funds for future replacement of large kitchen equipment.

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Title I Programs

Title I Programs consists of federal programs funded under Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act to provide services to deprived children from low-income families. Improving skills in reading, language arts and math are the primary objectives.

The following federal grant programs are included in this special revenue fund:

- Title I – Part A
- Title I – Redesign Planning 1003a
- CLSD - Grades K-5
- CLSD – Grades 6-8
- CLSD – Grades 9-12
- CLSD3 – Grades 9-12
- Direct Student Services

Summaries of the Title I Program budget by function and object are provided in this section.

Ouachita Parish School Board
Special Revenue Fund
Title I Programs - Combined Budget
Fiscal Year 2025-2026

Budget Summary by Function

	2024-2025 Final Budget	2024-2025 Actual (Unaudited)	2024-2025 % Change	**2025-2026 Budget**	2025-2026 % Change
Revenues					
Federal Revenues	$ 15,948,589	$ 8,529,345	-46.5%	**$ 9,551,463**	12.0%
Total Revenues	$ 15,948,589	$ 8,529,345	-46.5%	**$ 9,551,463**	12.0%
Expenditures					
Instructional Programs	$ 364,451	$ 260,050	-28.6%	**$ 1,177,537**	352.8%
Other Instructional Programs	476,567	551,263	15.7%	**347,335**	-37.0%
Special Programs	8,627,679	2,819,089	-67.3%	**3,029,977**	7.5%
Pupil Support Services	330,328	351,610	6.4%	**281,693**	-19.9%
Instructional Staff Services	4,909,793	3,943,279	-19.7%	**3,943,802**	0.0%
Plant Services	38,277	21,378	-44.1%	**23,367**	9.3%
Student Transportation Services	180,583	39,360	-78.2%	**194,491**	394.1%
Total Expenditures	$ 14,927,678	$ 7,986,029	-46.5%	**$ 8,998,202**	12.7%
Other Sources of Funds	$ -	$ -	0.0%	**$ -**	0.0%
Other Uses of Funds	(1,020,911)	(543,316)	-46.8%	**(553,261)**	1.8%
Total Other Sources (Uses)	$ (1,020,911)	$ (543,316)	-46.8%	**$ (553,261)**	1.8%
Net Change in Fund Balance	$ -	$ -	0.0%	**$ -**	0.0%
Beginning Fund Balance	-	-	0.0%	**-**	0.0%
Ending Fund Balance	$ -	$ -	0.0%	**$ -**	0.0%

Ouachita Parish School Board
Special Revenue Fund
Title I Programs - Combined Budget
Fiscal Year 2025-2026

Budget Summary by Object

	2024-2025 Final Budget	2024-2025 Actual (Unaudited)	% Change	**2025-2026 Budget**	% Change
Revenues					
Federal Revenues	$ 15,948,589	$ 8,529,345	-46.5%	**$ 9,551,463**	12.0%
Total Revenues	$ 15,948,589	$ 8,529,345	-46.5%	**$ 9,551,463**	12.0%
Expenditures					
Salaries	$ 5,354,421	$ 4,140,711	-22.7%	**$ 4,254,413**	2.7%
Employee Benefits	1,810,798	1,357,113	-25.1%	**1,062,380**	-21.7%
Purchased Professional Services	751,032	620,542	-17.4%	**1,066,649**	71.9%
Purchased Property Services	33,576	22,044	-34.3%	**20,000**	-9.3%
Other Purchased Services	1,497,971	716,200	-52.2%	**1,191,788**	66.4%
Supplies	5,479,880	1,098,096	-80.0%	**1,402,972**	27.8%
Miscellaneous	-	31,323	0.0%	**-**	-100.0%
Total Expenditures	$ 14,927,678	$ 7,986,029	-46.5%	**$ 8,998,202**	12.7%
Other Sources of Funds	$ -	$ -	0.0%	**$ -**	0.0%
Other Uses of Funds	(1,020,911)	(543,316)	-46.8%	**(553,261)**	1.8%
Total Other Sources (Uses)	$ (1,020,911)	$ (543,316)	-46.8%	**$ (553,261)**	1.8%
Net Change in Fund Balance	$ -	$ -	0.0%	$ -	0.0%
Beginning Fund Balance	-	-	0.0%	**-**	0.0%
Ending Fund Balance	$ -	$ -	0.0%	**$ -**	0.0%

Fund Balance Classification

Title I Programs are funded through cost reimbursement grants. Grant revenues are recognized as obligations are incurred during the fiscal year. Title I Programs do not carry a fund balance.

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Special Education Programs (IDEA)

Special Education Programs consists of federal programs funded under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act to provide services all disabled children from preschool ages four to twenty-one.

The following federal grant programs are included in this special revenue fund:

- Special Education – IDEA Part B
- Special Education – IDEA Part B (611) Set Aside
- Special Education – IDEA Preschool
- Special Education – IDEA Preschool (619) Set Aside
- Jobs for America's Graduates - Aim High

Summaries of the Special Education Programs (IDEA) budget by function and object are provided in this section.

Ouachita Parish School Board
Special Revenue Fund
Special Education Programs (IDEA) - Combined Budget
Fiscal Year 2025-2026

Budget Summary by Function

	2024-2025 Final Budget	2024-2025 Actual (Unaudited)	2024-2025 % Change	2025-2026 Budget	2025-2026 % Change
Revenues					
Federal Revenues	$ 6,505,689	$ 5,010,735	-23.0% %	**$ 4,556,781**	-9.1%
Total Revenues	$ 6,505,689	$ 5,010,735	-23.0%	**$ 4,556,781**	-9.1%
Expenditures					
Special Education Programs	$ 2,157,991	$ 1,224,623	-43.3%	**$ 761,855**	-37.8%
Other Instructional Programs	417,769	432,983	3.6%	**546,252**	26.2%
Pupil Support Services	1,404,032	1,203,467	-14.3%	**953,802**	-20.7%
Instructional Staff Services	2,052,609	1,792,956	-12.6%	**1,948,543**	8.7%
Plant Services	17,353	21,136	21.8%	**11,963**	-43.4%
Student Transportation Services	40,721	55,079	35.3%	**47,551**	-13.7%
Central Services	774	734	-5.2%	**4,600**	526.7%
Total Expenditures	$ 6,091,249	$ 4,730,978	-22.3%	**$ 4,274,566**	-9.6%
Other Sources of Funds	$ -	$ -	0.0%	**$ -**	0.0%
Other Uses of Funds	(414,440)	(279,757)	-32.5%	**(282,215)**	0.9%
Total Other Sources (Uses)	$ (414,440)	$ (279,757)	0.0%	**$ (282,215)**	0.0%
Net Change in Fund Balance	$ -	$ -	0.0%	**$ -**	0.0%
Beginning Fund Balance	-	-	0.0%	**-**	0.0%
Ending Fund Balance	$ -	$ -	0.0%	$ -	0.0%

Fund Balance Classification

Special Education Programs (IDEA) are funded through cost reimbursement grants. Grant revenues are recognized as obligations are incurred during the fiscal year. Special Educationl Programs do not carry a fund balance.

Ouachita Parish School Board
Special Revenue Fund
Special Education Programs (IDEA) - Combined Budget
Fiscal Year 2025-2026

Budget Summary by Object

	2024-2025 Final Budget	2024-2025 Actual (Unaudited)	2024-2025 % Change	**2025-2026 Budget**	2025-2026 % Change
Revenues					
Federal Revenues	$ 6,505,689	$ 5,010,735	-23.0%	**$ 4,556,781**	-9.1%
Total Revenues	$ 6,505,689	$ 5,010,735	-23.0%	**$ 4,556,781**	-9.1%
Expenditures					
Salaries	$ 2,323,375	$ 2,217,042	-4.6%	**$ 2,210,910**	-0.3%
Employee Benefits	894,938	788,524	-11.9%	**836,771**	6.1%
Purchased Professional Services	202,667	187,340	-7.6%	**168,682**	-10.0%
Purchased Property Services	279,570	108,100	-61.3%	**10,000**	-90.7%
Other Purchased Services	419,046	340,554	-18.7%	**407,641**	19.7%
Supplies	666,941	503,318	-24.5%	**640,562**	27.3%
Miscellaneous	1,304,712	586,100	-55.1%	**-**	100.0%
Total Expenditures	$ 6,091,249	$ 4,730,978	-22.3%	**$ 4,274,566**	-9.6%
Other Sources of Funds	$ -	$ -	0.0%	**$ -**	0.0%
Other Uses of Funds	(414,440)	(279,757)	-32.5%	**(282,215)**	0.9%
Total Other Sources (Uses)	$ (414,440)	$ (279,757)	0.0%	**$ (282,215)**	0.0%
Net Change in Fund Balance	$ -	$ -	0.0%	**$ -**	0.0%
Beginning Fund Balance	-	-	0.0%	**-**	0.0%
Ending Fund Balance	$ -	$ -	0.0%	**$ -**	0.0%

Fund Balance Classification

Special Education Programs (IDEA) are funded through cost reimbursement grants. Grant revenues are recognized as obligations are incurred during the fiscal year. Special Educationl Programs do not carry a fund balance.

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Other Federal Programs

Other Federal Programs consist of all other federally funded programs whether funding was awarded directly by the federal government or passed through the state, other school districts or local governments.

The following other federal grant programs are included in this special revenue fund:

- Title II, Part A – Improving Teacher Quality
- Title III – English Language Acquisition (ELA)
- Title III – Immigrant
- Title IV, Part A – Student Support and Academic Enrichment Grants
- IDEA Contract Grant
- Career and Technical Education – Basic Grant to States
- REAL-time Early Access to Literacy

Summaries of the Other Federal Programs budget by function and object are provided in this section.

Ouachita Parish School Board
Special Revenue Fund
Other Federal Programs - Combined Budget
Fiscal Year 2025-2026

Budget Summary by Function

	2024-2025			2025-2026	
	Final Budget	Actual (Unaudited)	% Change	**Budget**	% Change
Revenues					
Federal Revenues	$ 13,282,658	$ 13,122,949	-1.2%	**$ 1,722,663**	-86.9%
Total Revenues	$ 13,282,658	$ 13,122,949	-1.2%	**$ 1,722,663**	-86.9%
Expenditures					
Regular Education Programs	$ 1,498,047	$ 1,485,102	-0.9%	**$ 52,211**	-96.5%
Vocational (CTE) Programs	119,738	90,692	-24.3%	**198,322**	118.7%
Other Instructional Programs	2,658,458	2,860,114	7.6%	**266,830**	-90.7%
Special Programs	65,966	76,731	16.3%	**-**	-100.0%
Pupil Support Services	220,809	240,599	9.0%	**171,568**	-28.7%
Instructional Support Services	1,742,914	1,388,966	-20.3%	**874,569**	-37.0%
General Administration	120,000	120,000	0.0%	**-**	-100.0%
Business Services	38,549	38,549	0.0%	**-**	-100.0%
Plant Services	3,105,241	3,105,242	0.0%	**-**	-100.0%
Student Transportation Services	1,900,764	1,904,013	0.2%	**66,189**	-96.5%
Central Services	266,330	266,330	0.0%	**-**	-100.0%
Facility Acquisition	125,813	125,813	0.0%	**-**	-100.0%
Total Expenditures	$ 11,862,629	$ 11,702,151	-1.4%	**$ 1,629,689**	-86.1%
Other Sources of Funds	$ -	$ -	0.0%	**$ -**	0.0%
Other Uses of Funds	(1,420,029)	(1,420,798)	0.1%	**(92,974)**	-93.5%
Total Other Sources (Uses)	$ (1,420,029)	$ (1,420,798)	0.1%	**$ (92,974)**	-93.5%
Net Change in Fund Balance	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	0.0%
Beginning Fund Balance	$ -	$ -	0.0%	**$ -**	0.0%
Ending Fund Balance	-	-	0.0%	**-**	0.0%
	$ -	$ -	0.0%	**$ -**	0.0%

Ouachita Parish School Board
Special Revenue Fund
Other Federal Programs - Combined Budget
Fiscal Year 2025-2026

Budget Summary by Object

	2024-2025 Final Budget	2024-2025 Actual (Unaudited)	2024-2025 % Change	**2025-2026 Budget**	2025-2026 % Change
Revenues					
Federal Revenues	$ 13,282,658	$ 13,122,949	-1.2%	**$ 1,722,663**	-86.9%
Total Revenues	$ 13,282,658	$ 13,122,949	-1.2%	**$ 1,722,663**	-86.9%
Expenditures					
Salaries	$ 970,653	$ 817,011	-15.8%	**$ 658,990**	-19.3%
Employee Benefits	267,897	238,565	-10.9%	**191,258**	-19.8%
Purchased Professional Services	416,996	618,168	48.2%	**176,612**	-71.4%
Purchased Property Services	1,867,960	1,867,960	0.0%	**-**	-100.0%
Other Purchased Services	1,567,089	1,426,364	-9.0%	**332,943**	-76.7%
Supplies	5,367,497	5,325,987	-0.8%	**238,353**	-95.5%
Property	1,384,439	1,384,439	0.0%	**-**	-100.0%
Miscellaneous	20,098	23,657	17.7%	**31,533**	33.3%
Total Expenditures	$ 11,862,629	$ 11,702,151	-1.4%	**$ 1,629,689**	-86.1%
Other Sources of Funds	$ -	$ -	0.0%	**$ -**	0.0%
Other Uses of Funds	(1,420,029)	(1,420,798)	0.1%	**(92,974)**	-93.5%
Total Other Sources (Uses)	$ (1,420,029)	$ (1,420,798)	0.1%	**$ (92,974)**	-93.5%
Net Change in Fund Balance	$ -	$ -	0.0%	$ -	0.0%
Beginning Fund Balance	-	-	0.0%	**-**	0.0%
Ending Fund Balance	$ -	$ -	0.0%	**$ -**	0.0%

Fund Balance Classification

Other Federal Programs are funded through cost reimbursement grants. Grant revenues are recognized as obligations are incurred during the fiscal year. Other Federal Programs do not carry a fund balance.

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State Grant Programs

State Grant Programs consist of grants or entitlements awarded by the State of Louisiana or through its departments or agencies, or programs that are primarily funded with state funds.

The following state grant programs are included in this special revenue fund:

- Education Excellence Funds
- Cecil J. Picard LA-4 Early Childhood Education Program
- 8(g) Block – Preschool
- Non-Public Assistance Textbooks
- Medicaid Direct Services
- Medicaid Student Health Services
- Cameras in Special Education Classrooms
- Accelerate: High Dosage Tutoring Initiative

Summaries of the State Grant Funds budget by function and object are provided in this section.

Ouachita Parish School Board
Special Revenue Fund
State Grant Programs - Combined Budget
Fiscal Year 2025-2026

Budget Summary by Function

	2024-2025 Final Budget	2024-2025 Actual (Unaudited)	% Change	**2025-2026 Budget**	% Change
Revenues					
Local Revenues	$ 414,000	$ 451,684	9.1%	**$ 474,000**	4.9%
State Revenues	4,417,105	4,506,725	2.0%	**3,304,196**	-26.7%
Total Revenues	$ 4,831,105	$ 4,958,409	2.6%	**$ 3,778,196**	0.0%
Expenditures					
Regular Education Programs	$ 88,208	$ 161,876	83.5%	**$ 193,360**	19.4%
Special Education Programs	37,453	39,343	5.0%	**97,154**	146.9%
Vocational (CTE) Programs	2,000	19,956	897.8%	**52,100**	161.1%
Other Instructional Programs	1,054,413	757,985	-28.1%	**861,657**	13.7%
Special Programs	2,083,263	2,293,491	10.1%	**2,151,275**	-6.2%
Pupil Support Services	223,129	248,991	11.6%	**367,011**	47.4%
Instructional Support Services	736,941	708,277	-3.9%	**945,226**	33.5%
Plant Services	32,028	122,272	281.8%	**63,969**	-47.7%
Facility Construction Services	-	1,536	0.0%	**110,683**	7105.9%
Total Expenditures	$ 4,257,835	$ 4,353,727	2.3%	**$ 4,842,435**	11.2%
Other Sources of Funds	$ -	$ -	0.0%	**$ -**	0.0%
Other Uses of Funds	(14,402)	(1,804)	-87.5%	**(1,804)**	0.0%
Total Other Sources (Uses)	$ (14,402)	$ (1,804)	-87.5%	**$ (1,804)**	0.0%
Net Change in Fund Balance	558,868	602,878	-100.0%	**(1,066,043)**	-276.8%
Beginning Fund Balance	3,229,267	3,229,267	0.0%	**3,832,145**	18.7%
Ending Fund Balance	$ 3,788,135	$ 3,832,145	1.2%	**$ 2,766,102**	-27.8%

Ouachita Parish School Board
Special Revenue Fund
State Grant Programs - Combined Budget
Fiscal Year 2025-2026

Budget Summary by Object

	2024-2025 Final Budget	2024-2025 Actual (Unaudited)	2024-2025 % Change	2025-2026 Budget	2025-2026 % Change
Revenues					
Local Revenues	$ 414,000	$ 451,684	9.1%	**$ 474,000**	4.9%
State Revenues	4,417,105	4,506,725	2.0%	**3,304,196**	-26.7%
Total Revenues	$ 4,831,105	$ 4,958,409	2.6%	**$ 3,778,196**	-23.8%
Expenditures					
Salaries	$ 2,107,754	$ 2,325,750	10.3%	**$ 2,287,139**	-1.7%
Employee Benefits	761,187	790,168	3.8%	**809,518**	2.4%
Purchased Professional Services	1,090,778	754,479	-30.8%	**1,146,767**	52.0%
Purchased Property Services	32,799	31,324	-4.5%	**65,017**	107.6%
Other Purchased Services	118,046	201,753	70.9%	**310,972**	54.1%
Supplies	145,571	212,999	46.3%	**223,022**	4.7%
Property & Equipment	-	35,593	0.0%	**-**	100.0%
Miscellaneous	1,700	1,661	-2.3%	**-**	-100.0%
Total Expenditures	$ 4,257,835	$ 4,353,727	2.3%	**$ 4,842,435**	11.2%
Other Sources of Funds	$ -	$ -	0.0%	**$ -**	0.0%
Other Uses of Funds	(14,402)	(1,804)	0.0%	**(1,804)**	-100.0%
Total Other Sources (Uses)	$ (14,402)	$ (1,804)	0.0%	**$ (1,804)**	-100.0%
Net Change in Fund Balance	558,868	602,878	-100.0%	**(1,066,043)**	-276.8%
Beginning Fund Balance	3,229,267	3,229,267	0.0%	**3,832,145**	18.7%
Ending Fund Balance	$ 3,788,135	$ 3,832,145	1.2%	**$ 2,766,102**	-27.8%

Fund Balance Classification

Restricted Fund Balance					
Medicaid Direct Services	$ 1,553,653	$ 1,586,581	2.1%	**$ 1,149,530**	-26.0%
Education Excellence Fund	$ 766,563	$ 708,067	-7.6%	**$ 38,778**	-94.9%
Non-Public Textbooks	$ -	$ -	0.0%	**$ -**	0.0%
Preschool	$ 330,225	$ 286,215	-13.3%	**$ 286,215**	-13.3%
Special Ed Classroom Cameras	$ 33,968	$ 33,968	0.0%	**$ -**	-100.0%
High Dosage Tutoring	$ -	$ 102,698	0.0%	**$ 102,698**	0.0%
Title II	$ -	$ 22,704	0.0%	**$ 22,704**	0.0%
Assigned Fund Balance					
Kid-Med Reimbursements	1,103,726	1,091,912	-1.1%	**1,166,177**	5.7%
Total Ending Fund Balance	$ 3,788,135	$ 3,832,145	1.2%	**$ 2,766,102**	-27.0%

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Debt Service Funds

Debt Service Funds are used to accumulate monies to pay outstanding bond issues. Bonds were issued by individual school districts created by the School Board. Monies collected and deposited into the Debt Service Fund can only be used to pay the expenditures of general obligation bonds, sales tax bonds and certificates of indebtedness.

Although the Louisiana Local Government Budget Act does not require the School Board to adopt an annual budget for debt service funds, this budget is presented due to the dependence on local tax revenues for funding.

The Ouachita Parish School Board has the following established taxing districts:

- School District No. 1
- East Ouachita School District
- West Ouachita School District

School District No. 1 debt is secured by local property tax revenues in the General Fund. However, the annual debt service payments are made with transfers of sales tax proceeds from the West Ouachita Sales Tax Fund, as the capital projects funded by the debt benefits all west-side schools.

In this section, a combined budget summary of all debt service funds is presented by function and by object classifications.

Following the summary schedules are the following individual budgets are presented in a more detailed format for the individual debt service funds:

- East Ouachita School District
- Parish of Ouachita School Board QSCB (West)
- West Ouachita School District

Ouachita Parish School Board

Combined Debt Service Funds

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

Budget Summary by Function

	2024-2025			2025-2026	
	Final Budget	Actual (Unaudited)	% Change	**Budget**	% Change
Revenues					
Local Revenues	$ 14,847,599	$ 14,881,084	0.2%	**$ 15,906,614**	6.9%
Total Revenues	$ 14,847,599	$ 14,881,084	0.2%	**$ 15,906,614**	6.9%
Expenditures					
General Administration	$ 437,369	$ 437,369	0.0%	**$ 437,368**	0.0%
Debt Service	27,187,472	27,187,473	0.0%	**14,196,055**	-47.8%
Total Expenditures	$ 27,624,841	$ 27,624,842	0.0%	**$ 14,633,423**	-47.0%
Other Sources of Funds	$ 2,840,178	$ 2,840,217	0.0%	**$ 3,508,640**	23.5%
Total Other Sources	$ 2,840,178	$ 2,840,217	0.0%	**$ 3,508,640**	23.5%
Net Change in Fund Balance	$ (9,937,064)	$ (9,903,541)	-0.3%	**$ 4,781,831**	-148.3%
Beginning Fund Balance	$ 25,636,575	$ 25,636,575	0.0%	**$ 15,733,034**	-38.6%
Ending Fund Balance	$ 15,699,511	$ 15,733,034	0.2%	**$ 20,514,865**	30.4%

Ouachita Parish School Board

Combined Debt Service Funds

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

Budget Summary by Object

	2024-2025 Final Budget	2024-2025 Actual (Unaudited)	2024-2025 % Change	2025-2026 Budget	2025-2026 % Change
Revenues					
Local Revenues	$ 14,847,599	$ 14,881,084	0.2%	**$ 15,906,614**	**6.9%**
Total Revenues	14,847,599	14,881,084	0.2%	**15,906,614**	**6.9%**
Expenditures					
Purchased Professional Services	$ 455,436	$ 455,436	0.0%	**$ 631,043**	**38.6%**
Principal	22,575,000	22,575,000	0.0%	**8,975,000**	**-60.2%**
Interest	4,594,405	4,594,406	0.0%	**5,027,380**	**9.4%**
Total Expenditures	$ 27,624,841	$ 27,624,842	0.0%	**$ 14,633,423**	**-47.0%**
Other Sources of Funds	$ 2,840,178	$ 2,840,217	0.0%	**$ 3,508,640**	**23.5%**
Other Uses of Funds	-	-	0.0%	**-**	**0.0%**
Total Other Sources	$ 2,840,178	$ 2,840,217	0.0%	**$ 3,508,640**	**23.5%**
Net Change in Fund Balance	$ (9,937,064)	$ (9,903,541)	-0.3%	**$ 4,781,831**	**-148.3%**
Beginning Fund Balance	$ 25,636,575	$ 25,636,575	0.0%	**$ 15,733,034**	**-38.6%**
Ending Fund Balance	$ 15,699,511	$ 15,733,034	0.2%	**$ 20,514,865**	**30.4%**

Fund Balance Classification

Reserved Fund Balances					
East Ouachita School District	$ 14,421,557	$ 14,455,080	0.2%	**$ 19,136,328**	32.4%
West Ouachita School District	1,277,954	1,277,954	0.0%	**1,378,537**	7.9%
Total Ending Fund Balances	$ 15,699,511	$ 15,733,034	0.2%	**$ 20,514,865**	30.4%

Ouachita Parish School Board
Debt Service Fund
East Ouachita School District
Fiscal Year 2025-2026

Account Number	Account Description	Final Budget 2024-2025	Actual (Unaudited) 2024-2025	Budget 2025-2026
	REVENUES			
142-41113	Property Taxes - Debt Service	$ 14,064,328	$ 14,098,709	$ 15,226,114
142-41116	Property Taxes - Interest/Penalty	13,380	20,105	20,500
142-41118	Property Taxes - Prior Years	1,446	(2,526)	-
142-41510	Interest on Investments	591,154	587,544	620,000
	Total Local Sources	$ 14,670,308	$ 14,703,832	$ 15,866,614
	Total Revenues	$ 14,670,308	$ 14,703,832	$ 15,866,614
	EXPENDITURES			
142-2315-000-5313	Pension Funds (State Mandated)	$ 421,272	$ 421,272	$ 421,271
142-2315-000-5311	Assessor Fees	16,097	16,097	16,097
	Total General Administration	$ 437,369	$ 437,369	$ 437,368
142-5100-065-5319	Bond Issuance Costs-Other Fees	-	-	-
180-5100-000-5319	Bond Issuance Costs-Other Fees	-	-	-
142-5100-000-5340	Paying Agent Fees	5,000	5,000	4,000
142-5100-065-5340	Bond Issuance Costs-Technical Services	10,867	10,867	189,275
180-5100-000-5340	Paying Agent Fees	-	-	-
180-5100-000-5540	Advertising	-	-	-
142-5100-065-5550	Printing Fees	-	-	-
180-5100-000-5550	Printing Fees	-	-	-
142-5100-000-5831	Debt Payment - Principal	7,805,000	7,805,000	7,660,000
142-5100-000-5832	Debt Payment - Interest	3,985,500	3,985,501	4,513,893
	Total Debt Service	$ 11,806,367	$ 11,806,368	$ 12,367,168
	Total Expenditures	$ 12,243,736	$ 12,243,737	$ 12,804,536
142-45120	Accrued Interest & Premium on Bonds Sold	-	-	1,619,170
	Total Other Sources (Uses) of Funds	$ -	$ -	$ 1,619,170
	Net Change in Fund Balance	$ 2,426,572	$ 2,460,095	$ 4,681,248
	Beginning Fund Balance	$ 11,994,985	$ 11,994,985	$ 14,455,080
	Ending Fund Balance	$ 14,421,557	$ 14,455,080	$ 19,136,328

Ouachita Parish School Board
Debt Service Fund
Parish of Ouachita School Board - QSCB Sinking Fund (West)
Fiscal Year 2025-2026

Account Number	Account Description	Final Budget 2024-2025	Actual (Unaudited) 2024-2025	Budget 2025-2026
	REVENUES			
139-41510	Interest on Investments	$ 130,934	$ 130,934	$ -
	Total Local Sources	130,934	130,934	-
	Total Revenues	$ 130,934	$ 130,934	$ -
	EXPENDITURES			
139-5100-000-5831	Debt Payment - Principal	$ 10,000,000	$ 10,000,000	$ -
139-5100-000-5832	Debt Payment - Interest	-	-	-
	Total Expenditures	$ 10,000,000	$ 10,000,000	$ -
139-45220	Operating Transfers In	$ 441,065	$ 441,065	$ -
139-5200-000-5932	Operating Transfers Out	-	-	-
	Total Other Sources (Uses) of Funds	$ 441,065	$ 441,065	$ -
	Net Change in Fund Balance	$ (9,428,001)	$ (9,428,001)	$ -
	Beginning Fund Balance	$ 9,428,001	$ 9,428,001	$ -
	Ending Fund Balance	$ -	$ -	$ -

Ouachita Parish School Board
Debt Service Fund
West Ouachita School District
Fiscal Year 2025-2026

Account Number	Account Description	Final Budget 2024-2025	Actual (Unaudited) 2024-2025	Budget 2025-2026
	REVENUES			
151-41116	Property Taxes - Interest/Penalty	$ -	$ -	$ -
151-41118	Property Taxes - Prior Years	-	-	-
151-41510	Interest on Investments	46,357	46,318	40,000
	Total Local Sources	$ 46,357	$ 46,318	$ 40,000
	Total Revenues	$ 46,357	$ 46,318	$ 40,000
	EXPENDITURES			
151-5100-065-5319	Bond Issuance Costs	$ -	$ -	$ -
151-5100-000-5340	Paying Agent Fees	2,200	2,200	400
151-5100-000-5831	Debt Payment - Principal	4,770,000	4,770,000	1,315,000
151-5100-000-5832	Debt Payment - Interest	608,905	608,905	513,487
151-5100-000-5833	Bond Issuance Costs	-	-	-
	Total Expenditures	$ 5,381,105	$ 5,381,105	$ 1,828,887
151-45220	Operating Transfers In	$ 2,399,113	$ 2,399,152	$ 1,889,470
	Total Other Sources (Uses) of Funds	$ 2,399,113	$ 2,399,152	$ 1,889,470
	Net Change in Fund Balance	$ (2,935,635)	$ (2,935,635)	$ 100,583
	Beginning Fund Balance	$ 4,213,589	$ 4,213,589	$ 1,277,954
	Ending Fund Balance	$ 1,277,954	$ 1,277,954	$ 1,378,537

Ouachita Parish School Board
Annual Operating Budget
Fiscal Year 2025-2026

For Public Viewing

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1600 North 7th Street
West Monroe, LA 71291

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