

# 2025-2026

## USD Budget Profile



PIPER USD 203

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# 2025-2026 Budget – General Information

## USD #: 203

### **Introduction**

Piper Unified School District 203 is located in Kansas City, Kansas, within Wyandotte County. Our goal is to ensure that each student receives top-notch education, diverse learning experiences, and a secure learning environment that encourages academic achievement, personal growth, and responsible citizenship.

With a student body of more than 2,800, Piper caters to learners from Pre-K to 12th Grade. Our diverse community comprises of more than 40% of students hailing from various cultural backgrounds, collectively speaking over 27 different languages.

The district consists of five schools: Piper Early Childhood Center, Piper Prairie Elementary (K-2), Piper Creek Elementary (3-5), Piper Middle School (6-8), and Piper High School (9-12). To provide further options, Piper has also collaborated with Greenbush Academy to offer a virtual learning program that allows students to learn at their own pace.

In response to being the third fastest-growing school district in Kansas, Piper approved a 64 million dollar bond issue in 2022. This funding has brought about significant improvements to current facilities and the construction of a new high school.

### **Board Members**

Julian Wells, President- [julian.wells@piperschools.us](mailto:julian.wells@piperschools.us)  
Ashley Biondi, Vice-President- [ashley.biondi@piperschools.us](mailto:ashley.biondi@piperschools.us)  
Allison Armstrong- [allison.armstrong@piperschools.us](mailto:allison.armstrong@piperschools.us)  
John Bakarich, III- [john.bakarich@piperschools.us](mailto:john.bakarich@piperschools.us)  
Larry Beashore- [larry.beashore@piperschools.us](mailto:larry.beashore@piperschools.us)  
Desiree' Fergus- [desiree.fergus@piperschools.us](mailto:desiree.fergus@piperschools.us)  
Jeb Vader- [jeb.vader@piperschools.us](mailto:jeb.vader@piperschools.us)

### **Key Staff**

Superintendent:	Dr. Jessica Dain
Associate or Assistant Superintendents:	Dr. John Nguyen
Director of Business:	Kim Buckner
Director of Communications:	Katelyn Kaminski
Director of Facilities:	Mike Williams
Director of Human Resources:	Jenny Hurley
Director of Student Services:	Darcey Bast
Coordinator of Curriculum & Assessment:	Meg Richard
Accounts Payable Specialist:	Leta Dehner
Payroll & Benefits Specialist:	Jennifer Barry
Student Information Specialist & Food Service Representative:	Regan Agre

# **The District's Accomplishments and Challenges**

## **Accomplishments:**

### Student Achievement & Outcomes

- Improved Test Scores: State assessment data show steady growth in reading and math proficiency, with notable gains in grades 3–8. ACT participation and college readiness benchmarks remain above state averages.
- Graduation Rates: Four-year cohort graduation rates have increased to 98% with special emphasis on improved outcomes for students with disabilities and English Learners through targeted support systems.
- Special Education Innovation: The district established a locally governed special education program, modeled after successful regional approaches, giving schools greater flexibility to tailor services, increase compliance, and strengthen inclusion efforts.

### Programs & Services

- Expanded Career Pathways: The district has increased access to career and technical education programs, providing more pathways to graduation and postsecondary success.
- Community Partnerships: Stronger ties with local businesses and higher education institutions have expanded internship opportunities and dual-credit enrollment.
- Wellness & Services: Enhanced mental health supports, partnerships with local providers, and expanded after-school programs ensure the whole child is supported.

## **Challenges:**

### Enrollment & Demographics

- Growing Enrollment: The district is experiencing continual growing enrollment as is now considered, per pupil, the second-fast growing school district in the state. Keeping up with this growth and lack of state and federal funding continues to remain a challenge.
- Changing Student Needs: A growing percentage of students require additional language support, special education services, or mental health interventions.

### Workforce & Operations

- Rising Health Care & Benefits Costs: Employee benefit costs are increasing faster than state aid, creating long-term financial pressures.
- Facilities & Infrastructure: Aging school buildings require ongoing maintenance and modernization to meet safety, accessibility, and technology integration standards.

### Instructional & Policy Pressures

- Technology Integration: While significant progress has been made in 1:1 devices and blended learning, ensuring equitable access and meaningful integration remains a challenge.

## Supplemental Information for the Following Tables

1. Summary of Total Expenditures by Function (All Funds)
2. Summary of General Fund Expenditures by Function
3. Summary of Supplemental General Fund Expenditures by Function
4. Summary of General and Supplemental General Fund Expenditures by Function
5. Summary of Special Education Fund by Function
6. Instruction Expenditures (1000)
7. Student Support Expenditures (2100)
8. Instructional Support Expenditures (2200)
9. General Administration Expenditures (2300)
10. School Administration Expenditures (2400)
11. Central Services Expenditures (2500)
12. Operations and Maintenance Expenditures (2600)
13. Transportation Expenditures (2700)
14. Other Support Services Expenditures (2900)
15. Food Service Expenditures (3100)
16. Community Services Operations (3300)
17. Capital Improvements (4000)
18. Debt Services (5100)
19. Miscellaneous Information – Transfers (5200)
20. Miscellaneous Information Unencumbered Cash Balance by Fund
21. Reserve Funds Unencumbered Cash Balance
22. Other Information – Enrollment Information
23. Miscellaneous Information Mill Rates by Fund
24. Other Information – Assessed Valuation and Bonded Indebtedness

***Note: FTE is the audited enrollment 9/20 and 2/20 (if applicable) and estimated for the budget year, which includes preschool-aged at-risk and virtual enrollment. Enrollment does not include non-funded preschool. Beginning 2017-2018, full-day Kindergarten is 1.0 FTE. Beginning 2021-2022, three-year-old at-risk students were funded. This information is used for calculating Amount Per Pupil for Sumexpen.xlsx and Budget At A Glance (BAG).***

## **KSDE Website Information Available**

### **K-12 Statistics (Building, District or State Totals) Report Generator:**

[https://datacentral.ksde.gov/report\\_gen.aspx](https://datacentral.ksde.gov/report_gen.aspx)

- Attendance / Enrollment Reports
- Staff Reports
- Graduates / Dropouts Reports
- Crime / Violence Reports

### **School Finance Reports (Data Central) website below:**

<https://datacentral.ksde.gov/default.aspx>

- Assessed Valuation
- Cash Balances
- Headcount Enrollment
- Mill Levies
- Personnel (Certified/Non-Certified)
- Salary Reports

### **Kansas Building Report Card website below:**

<http://ksreportcard.ksde.gov/>

- Attendance Rate
- Graduation Rate
- Dropout Rate
- School Violence
- Assessments
  - Reading
  - Mathematics
  - Writing
- Graduates Passing Adv. Science Courses
- Graduates Passing Adv. Math Courses

### **Accountability Reports website below:**

<https://datacentral.ksde.gov/accountability.aspx>

- Performance Accountability Reports
- Financial Accountability Reports
- Longitudinal Achievement Reports