



Saint Paul
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

FY27 Budget Assumptions

Tom Sager, Executive Chief of Financial Services
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Agenda

- FY27 Budget Drivers
- Voter-Approved Increase to Operating Levy
- Communications & Engagement Framework
- FY27 Budget Timeline

Key Drivers to a School District Budget

1. Enrollment
2. State funding formula (Basic allowance and all categories)
3. Property taxes, especially voter approved referendums
4. Employment contracts
5. Other: Inflation, federal funding, transportation, utilities, technology, other special initiatives

FY27 Budget Assumptions

- Budget must adhere to School Board policy 701.01 by maintaining a minimum of a 5% unassigned fund balance
- Enrollment is not expected to increase from current levels
- Base funding formula and current voter approved operating levy will increase by 2.37% and \$1,073 per pupil, respectively
- No other changes to other parts of the funding formula: Extended time, local option revenue, operating capital, LTFM, etc.
- Slight increases to special education and English learner revenue formula will also be applied

Assumptions (Continued...)

- Inflationary increases to non-employment expense, such as transportation, utilities, technology, etc.: 4.0%
- Paid Family Leave is new starting in January 2026, and will add \$2.8 million in expense in FY27.
- While 4 critical employment contracts are settled for the FY27 budget year, a few will be negotiated in spring 2026. These percentages will be applied to address the current and potential contractual increases.

Voter-Approved Increase to Operating Levy

- The approved 2025 School District Referendum will provide greater financial stability for FY27
- The current operating levy will increase by \$1,073 per student, per year—generating approximately \$37.2 million per year in new revenue
- This levy will extend for 10 years with annual inflation adjustments
- Due to enrollment, state funding formula, and employment contract settlements, budget adjustments will be made

Public Participation

Board Policy Public Input Requirements

The district shall host public meetings to gather feedback from community members for the purpose of informing budgetary decisions.

- At least one of these public input sessions will take place prior to winter break: **December 11, 5:30-7 p.m**
- At least one will take place within the eight weeks prior to the adoption of the budget: **Prior to April 28, 2026.**

Spectrum

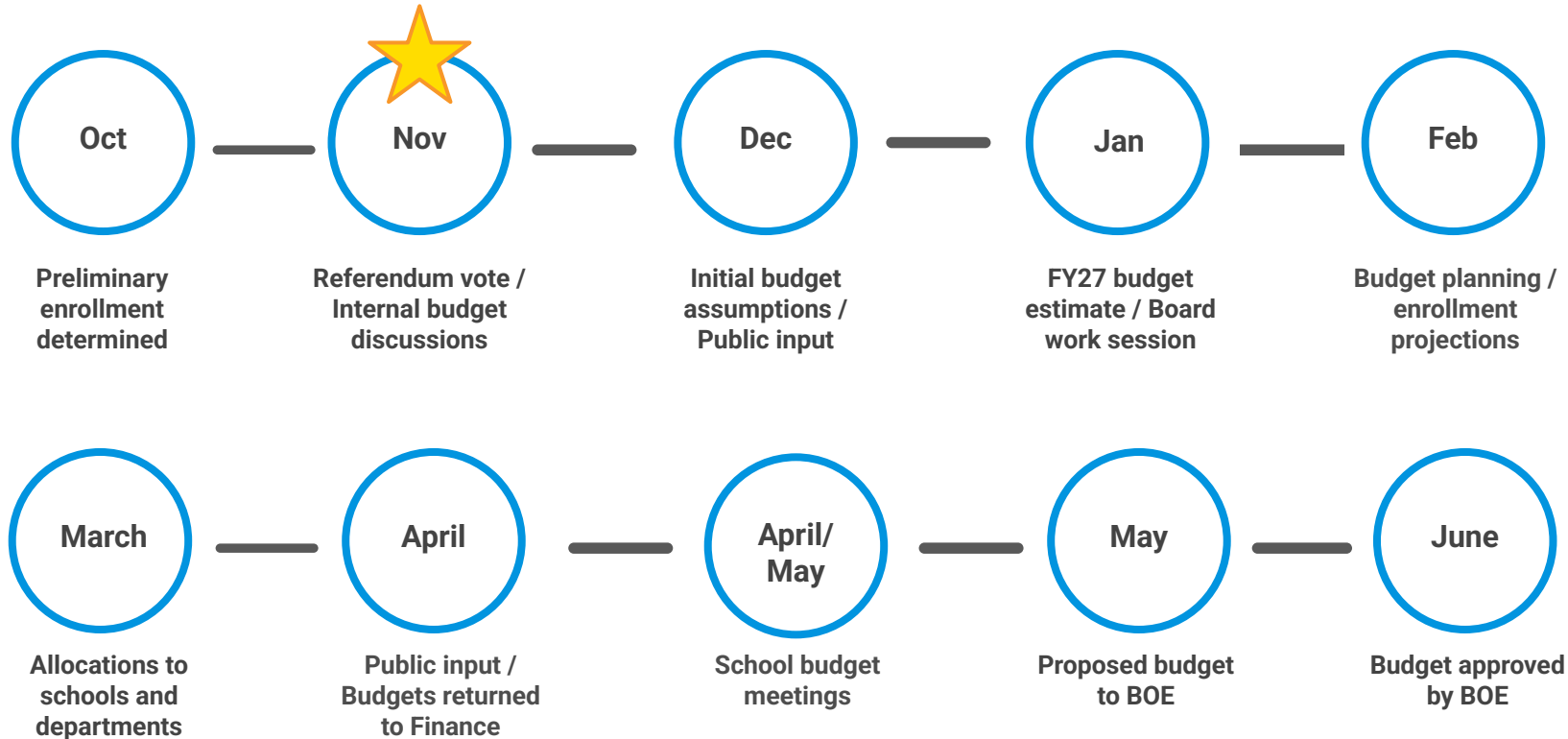
Increasing Impact on the Decision

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SPECTRUM	INFORM	CONSULT	INVOLVE Aligned to Board Policy	COLLABORATE	EMPOWER
ENGAGEMENT GOAL	To provide the public with balanced and objective information to assist them in understanding the problem, alternatives, opportunities and/or solutions.	To obtain public feedback on analysis, alternatives and/or decisions.	To work directly with the public throughout the process to ensure that public concerns and aspirations are consistently understood and considered.	To partner with the public in each aspect of the decision including the development of alternatives and the identification of the preferred solution.	To place final decision making in the hands of the public.

Budget Communications & Engagement Timeline

INVOLVE			
December	-Public budget process presentation -FY25 Audit Results -Truth in Taxation meeting for FY27 -Public input opportunity* -District Financial Advisory Council (DFAC) - Dec 8, 2025	April	-BOE or COB -Monthly budget update -School budget information meetings -Budget feedback form -Public comment -Public input opportunity* -DFAC - April 13, 2026
January	-Budget Work Session -Budget update following public input	May	-BOE or COB -Monthly budget update -Budget feedback form -Public comment
February	-BOE or COB -Budget update (email/web) -Budget feedback form -Public comment -DFAC - Feb 9, 2026	June	-Monthly budget update -Budget Book -Budget feedback form -Public comment -DFAC - June 22, 2026
March	-BOE or COB -Monthly budget update -Budget feedback form -Public comment		

FY27 Budget Timeline



Thank You