

Northwest ISD Student Wellness Ambassadors



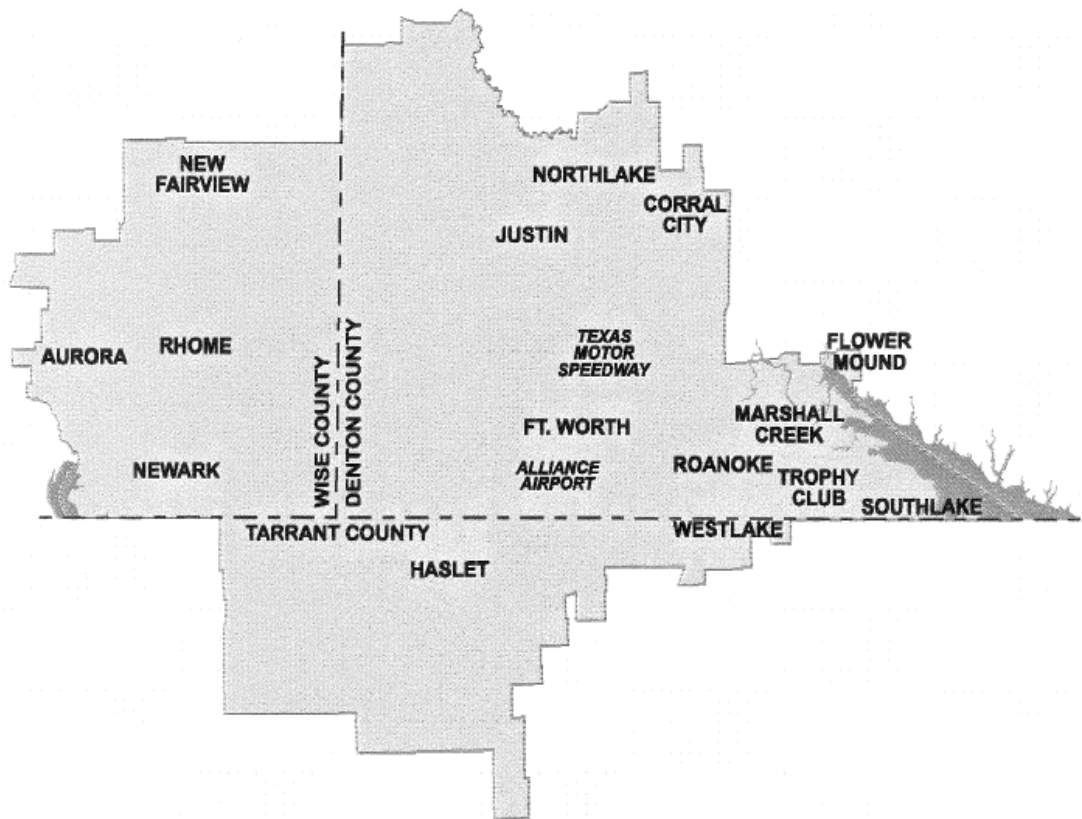
ORGANIZATIONAL SUMMARY

The Northwest Independent School District

Celebrating over 75 years of excellence, the Northwest Independent School District is uniquely situated in the northwest corridor of the Fort Worth/Dallas Metroplex. Our story begins in the late 1800s when schools began appearing in the area amid railroads, general stores, and livery stables. In 1949 the one-school districts of Haslet, Justin, Rhome, and Roanoke joined hands to form the Northwest ISD. Newark was annexed in 1973. The Northwest ISD embraces the communities of Aurora, New Fairview, Haslet, Justin, Newark, Northlake, Rhome, Roanoke, and Trophy Club, along with portions of Flower Mound, Fort Worth, Keller, Southlake, and Westlake. Northwest encompasses 234 square miles and reaches into Denton, Tarrant, and Wise counties. The Board of Trustees for the District has final control over all school matters except as limited by state law, the courts, and the will of the citizens as expressed in elections. The Board's responsibilities are generally; to set policy for the District, ensure efficient operations, to select and evaluate the Superintendent of Schools, to adopt the annual budget and its supporting tax rate, and to foster good community relations and communications.

The Northwest Independent School District lies within one of the fastest growing areas in Texas. The District serves 32,095 students in grades pre-kindergarten through twelfth, a projected increase of 1,290 students. The district operates three comprehensive high schools, an early college high school, seven middle schools, twenty-three elementary schools, and a special programs center.

As a fast-growth school district, the ongoing construction of facilities and infrastructure to provide for student growth is a major priority. On May 5, 2023, District voters passed a \$1.995 billion bond election to accommodate the expected growth. The majority of the bond package was designed to address this growth by providing nearly 8,400 additional seats for new students.



**NORTHWEST INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
2025-2026 BOARD OF TRUSTEES**



Jennifer Murphy
President, Place 7
Post-Secondary Education
Elected 2020
Term Ends 2026



Lillian Rauch, Ph.D.
Vice President, Place 6
Retired Educator
Elected 2014
Term Ends 2026



Judy Copp
Secretary, Place 4
Retired Educator
Elected 2012
Term Ends 2028



Jeff Dearing
Member, Place 3
Financial Advisor
Elected 2025
Term Ends 2028



DeAnne Hatfield
Member, Place 1
Retired School Administrator
Elected 2019
Term Ends 2027



Mark Schluter
Member, Place 2
Senior Project Engineer
Elected 2006
Term Ends 2027



R, Stephen Sprowls
Member, Place 5
Airline Pilot
Elected 2017
Term Ends 2026



Mark Foust, Ed.D.
Superintendent
Appointed by
Board of Trustees 2023

Board Meetings: All Northwest ISD board meetings are open to the public. Regular meetings are typically held at 6:30 p.m. on the second and fourth Monday of each month in the board room located at the NISD Administration Building at 2001 Texan Drive, Justin. With public notice, trustees will also hold special meetings and work sessions as needed. Within the limits of the Texas Open Meetings Act, parts of the board meetings may be closed to the public for topics including, but not limited to, real estate transactions, personnel matters, student hearings, and legal matters.

If You Wish to Address the Board: The public may address the board during the public participation portion of the board meeting. Remarks may be related to any topic, whether agenda items or non-agenda items, and are usually limited to three minutes. Those wishing to speak during public participation may sign the roster in the room within the hour preceding the meeting.

**NORTHWEST INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
2025 – 2026 EXECUTIVE CABINET**



Mark Foust, Ed.D.
Superintendent
Appointed by
Board of Trustees 2023



Michael Griffin, Ed.D.
Asst. Superintendent
for Curriculum and
Instruction



Kim Barker
Asst. Superintendent
for Human Resources



Sarah Stewart
Interim Chief
of Facilities



Jonathan Pastusek
Chief Financial Officer



Anthony Tosie
Executive Director of
Communications



Cara Carter
Chief Technology
Officer



Christie Hobbs
General Counsel

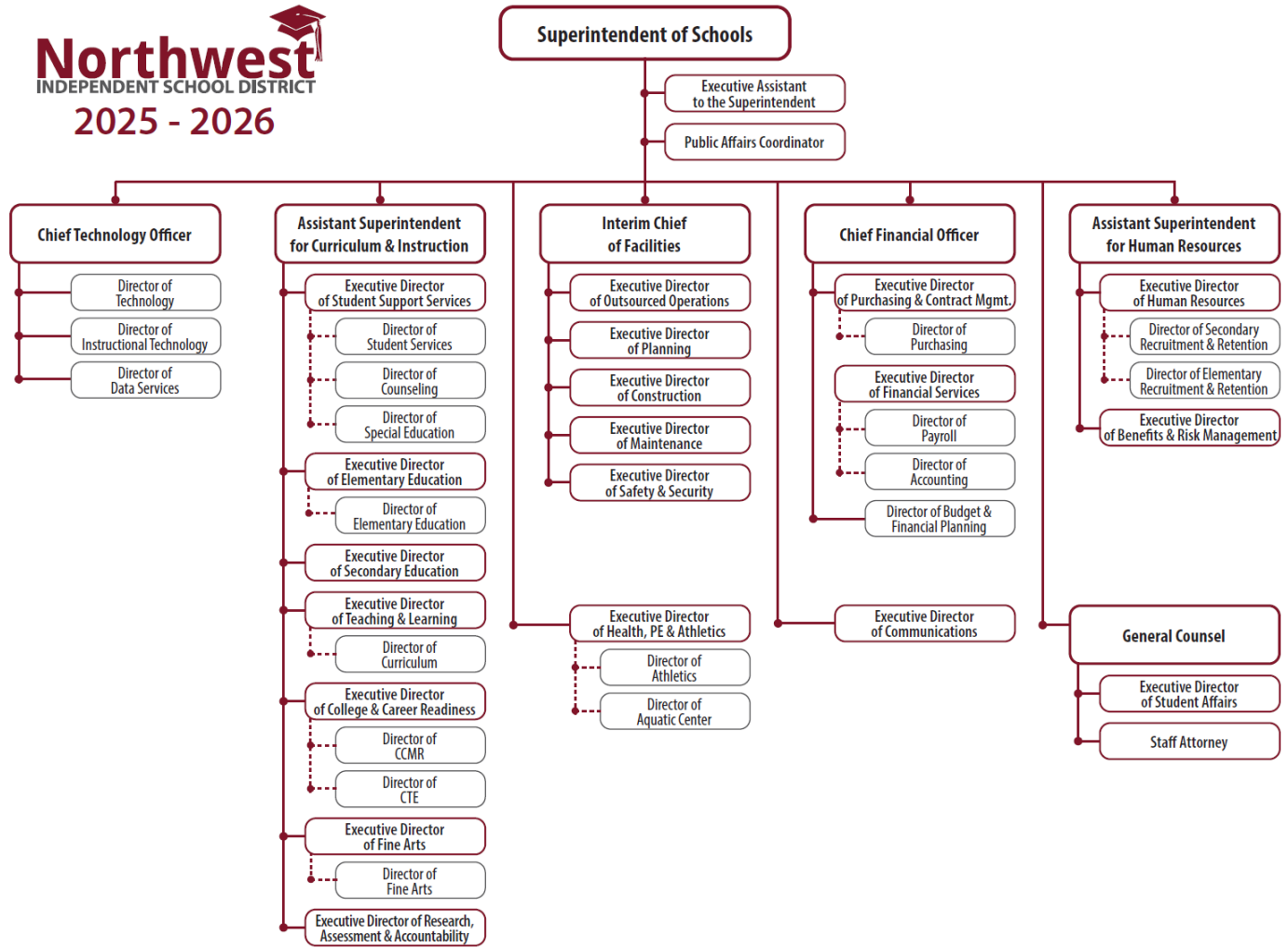


Angela Scott
Public Affairs
Coordinator



Jennifer Cabanski
Executive Asst. to the
Superintendent

2025-2026
Adopted Budget



Mission Statement

Northwest ISD, in collaboration with students, families, communities, and global partners, will engage in a culture of learning that prepares all students to confidently navigate their future.

Vision

Northwest ISD empowers learners and leaders to positively impact the world.

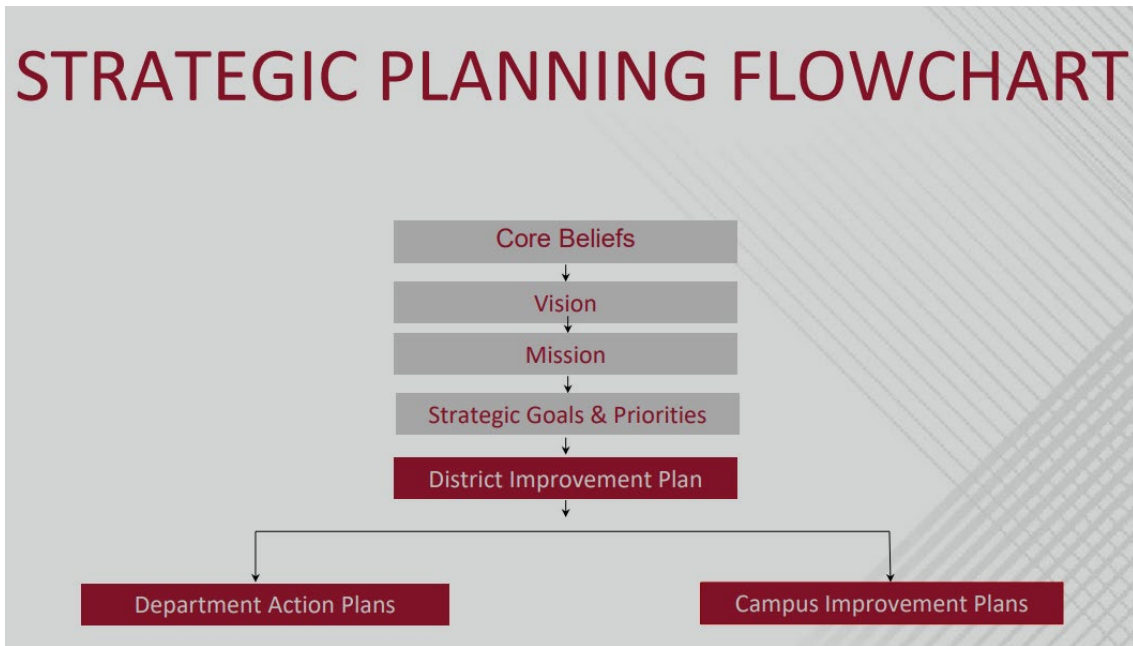
Core Beliefs

Kids come first. Continuous learning is essential to prepare for college and career opportunities. Each student's success is the shared responsibility of students, families, schools, and communities. Learning is influenced by environment.

Strategic Goals

- | | |
|------------------------|---|
| <u>Goal I</u> | Northwest ISD will provide personalized learning experiences and cultivate the growth and achievement of every student. |
| <u>Goal II</u> | Northwest ISD will recruit, value, and retain highly effective staff prepared to meet the individual needs of our students and learning community. |
| <u>Goal III</u> | Northwest ISD will foster a safe environment and a culture of engagement that values the voices of all students, staff, families, and community members |

Strategic Planning Flowchart



Strategic Framework





Profile of an NISD Educator

A professional educator in Northwest ISD will engage all students in a premier education, preparing them to be successful, productive citizens. The Northwest ISD educator is:

Committed to Teaching and Learning:

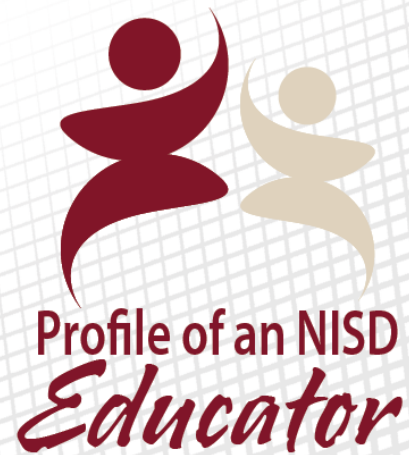
- *Demonstrates a deep understanding of content knowledge and curriculum standards to provide focused and aligned instruction.*
- *Engages students in learning experiences focused on problem solving and critical thinking.*
- *Supports all learners by building on students' strengths and respecting individual differences.*
- *Dedicates to continual learning through collaboration and professional development.*
- *Empowers and encourages students to communicate and collaborate through dynamic, real- world learning experiences.*

Committed to Creativity and Innovation:

- *Engages students through creative instructional strategies.*
- *Fosters purposeful integration and implementation of technology resources.*
- *Creates an environment where students feel safe taking risks.*
- *Constructs and designs innovative lessons that challenge and empower students.*

Committed to Student Success:

- *Partners with parents and the community to enhance student success.*
- *Provides specific, timely feedback to students allowing them to self-reflect, set goals, and monitor their own performance.*
- *Builds positive relationships with students and the school community.*
- *Exhibits professional and ethical conduct toward students, colleagues, and the community.*
- *Designs challenging instruction and sets high expectations for student success.*
- *Models determination, flexibility, and resiliency.*



Teamwork | Pride | Excellence
Northwest
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
Profile of a Graduate

As 21st century citizens, Northwest Independent School District (NISD) students must be prepared with high levels of academic strength including literacy, digital skills, critical thinking, problem solving, collaboration, and communication. The mission of NISD is to provide a premier education, preparing all students to be successful, productive citizens. Embedded in our vision is that our students will be **future ready**: ready for college, ready for the global workplace, and ready for personal success. To accomplish this goal, a student who graduates from NISD will be:

Ready for College

To prepare to be future ready, a student who graduates from NISD will:

- Engage in relevant literacy through proficiency in reading, writing, listening, and speaking.
- Employ proficient and responsible use of digital media to effectively communicate, synthesize, and create new knowledge.
- Problem solve and critically analyze with determination to take risks, learn from mistakes, and adapt to new thinking.
- Determine validity and relevance of information resources in the development of research skills.

Ready for the Global Workplace

To prepare to be future ready, a student who graduates from NISD will:

- Connect and correlate knowledge and skills continuously through real-world applications in reading, writing, mathematics, science, social studies, the arts, and enrichment experiences.
- Construct new ideas through original and innovative thinking.
- Exhibit vision for personal learning and forward thinking to prepare for the future.
- Understand and adapt responsibly to a changing global community.

Ready for Personal Success

To prepare to be future ready, a student who graduates from NISD will:

- Practice ethical behaviors exhibiting integrity, respect, and commitment within a well-balanced lifestyle.
- Show initiative and responsibility through positive actions to express self-motivation, self-discipline, and perseverance.
- Communicate and collaborate by exercising a willingness to help and connect with culturally diverse individuals and groups to make necessary compromises toward accomplishing a common goal.
- Prepare for the unknown by being empowered with tools to face challenges and life-long learning.



Northwest
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

STRATEGIC GOALS

2023-2028



Our Core Beliefs

- 1 Kids come first.
- 2 Continuous learning is essential to prepare for college and career opportunities.
- 3 Each student's success is the shared responsibility of students, families, schools, and communities.
- 4 Learning is influenced by environment.

Our Vision

Northwest ISD empowers learners and leaders to positively impact the world.

Our Mission

Northwest ISD, in collaboration with students, families, communities, and global partners, will engage in a culture of learning that prepares all students to confidently navigate their future.

Strategic Goals

Strategic Goal 1

Northwest ISD will provide personalized learning experiences and cultivate the growth and achievement of every student.

NISD PRIORITIES:

Literacy

- 1.1 Our students will annually increase literacy proficiency to reach or exceed grade-level standards.

Academic Progress

- 1.2 Our students will achieve individualized academic goals to reach a year's growth or more in all content areas.

College, Career, Military & Life Readiness

- 1.3 Our students will graduate life ready and prepared for success in career, college, or military service.

Strategic Goal 2

Northwest ISD will recruit, value, and retain highly effective staff prepared to meet the individual needs of our students and learning community.

NISD PRIORITIES:

Recruit

- 2.1 Northwest ISD will have an unwavering commitment to attract and welcome high-quality staff.

Value

- 2.2 Northwest ISD will invest in all staff through a culture of support, development, and empowerment to make a positive impact on the learning community.

Retain

- 2.3 Northwest ISD will retain highly effective staff through meaningful relationships, ongoing support, and professional growth opportunities.

Strategic Goal 3

Northwest ISD will foster a safe environment and a culture of engagement that values the voices of all students, staff, families, and community members.

NISD PRIORITIES:

Engagement

- 3.1 Northwest ISD will foster an environment of engagement with every member of our community through collaborative dialogue and partnership opportunities.

Culture

- 3.2 Northwest ISD will model and instill a culture of belonging where all students, staff, families, and community voices are heard and valued.

Safety

- 3.3 Northwest ISD will continuously improve, maintain and communicate systems of support to strengthen the physical and emotional well-being of our students, staff, and community.

**2025-2026
Adopted Budget**



2025-2026 School Year

Strategic Planning Schedule

2025-2026 Date	Description	Responsibility
May 12	DEIC - End of Year DIP Review and Needs Assessment	DEIC
June 10	2023-2024 DIP Summative Review	Executive Cabinet
June 23	2023-2024 DIP Summary Report to the Board	Dr. Griffin
July 14	2025-2026 DIP Brainstorm	Executive Cabinet
July 15-16	Leadership Academy	Dr. Foust/Dr. Griffin
July 21	Nuts and Bolts	Dr. Foust
July 28	Needs Assessment and Strategy Development	Executive Cabinet
August 4	Team of 8 Training	Dr. Foust
September 2	Finalize 2025-2026 DIP and Board Agenda Submission	Executive Cabinet
September 2	Draft of DIP to Campuses	Dr. Griffin
September 8	2025-2026 DIP Board Review	School Board
September 9	DEIC Meeting – DIP Overview and Formal Vote	DEIC
September 10	Deadline to Submit CIPs and Department Action Plans	Staff
September 22	2025-2026 DIP Board Adoption	School Board
September 22	2025-2026 CIPs Board Review	School Board
October 6	2025-2026 CIPs Board Adoption	School Board
November 17	DIP Formative Review	Executive Cabinet
January 29	DIP Formative Review	Executive Cabinet
February 9	2025-2026 DIP Mid-Year Summary Report to the Board	Dr. Griffin
March 9	DIP Formative Review	Executive Cabinet
May 12	DEIC - End of Year DIP Review and Needs Assessment	DEIC
June 8	2025-2026 DIP Summative Review	Executive Cabinet
June 22	2025-2026 DIP Summary Report to the Board	Dr. Griffin
June 22	Strategic Framework (Beliefs, Vision, Mission, Goals, Priorities) - Board Discussion / Action	School Board

District Processes & Programs

District Processes & Programs Summary

All additions to the budget were prioritized as items needed to support the districts Strategic Goals. It represents the vision of Northwest ISD empowering learners and leaders to positively impact the world.

Human Resources

Northwest ISD Human Resources department aligns with **Strategic Goal 2 “Northwest ISD will recruit, value and retain highly exceptional staff prepared to meet the individual needs of our students and learning community.”** The 89th Legislature mandated increases in teacher salaries based on district size and years’ experience. While this was much needed for teachers, it did nothing for the remaining staff. A 4% pay increase that cost the district \$4,106,545 was given to remaining staff to demonstrate a commitment to valuing and retaining a highly effective staff who strive to meet the needs of students. Teachers with 0-2 years’ experience were given a \$2,250 pay increase costing the District \$The District increased the monthly health care contributions from \$345 to \$355 impacting the budget by \$264,000.

Finance

The Financial Services department for Northwest ISD is responsible for many areas related to the business operations within the school district. Our programs include Payroll, Purchasing, Accounts Payable, Accounts Receivable, Accounting, Reporting, and many other supporting roles. The primary goal is to provide the financial resources to support the District’s vision/mission while maximizing salaries and maintain pristine educational programs, while maintaining a healthy fund balance.

Facing a significant budget shortfall because of a lack of legislative action to increase public education funding, Northwest ISD adopted a deficit budget of \$15.8 million for the 2024-2025 school year. The district was able to erase this deficit and adopt a balanced budget for 2025-2026 school year by making drastic changes to staffing models and programs. The state has not provided a substantial funding increase over the last six years. The state allows school districts to increase the (“M&O”) tax rate within a certain range, increasing revenue, through the community’s passing of a Voter Approval Tax Rate Election (“VATRE”). This is the only tool districts have to increase revenue from the (“M&O”) tax rate. The Northwest ISD Board called a (“VATRE”) to potentially increase the (“M&O”) tax rate by three cents, generating at least \$12 million in additional revenue. All three cents are classified as “golden pennies,” meaning all revenue generated from the potential tax rate increase would remain in Northwest ISD for local use and not be subject to recapture for state use. If approved, Northwest ISD will use the additional funding to lower class sizes, increase funding for some programs such as Fine Arts, and provide compensation increases in the future. This (“VATRE”) will have huge impacts on future budget development and the budgets will vary greatly depending on the outcome of the November election.

Instructional Programs

Northwest ISD has extensive curricular programs for all students which tie directly to **Strategic Goal 1 “Northwest ISD will provide personalized learning experience and cultivate the growth and achievement of every student.”** Beginning in kindergarten, students annually are assessed in reading and math using universal screening methods that allow teachers and campuses to best meet the needs of all students. In addition, the Northwest ISD counseling department and the college and career readiness department provide a variety of resources to allow students to individualize their learning experiences. While most students participate in the general curriculum, Northwest ISD has support systems in place for students behind their peers such as, but not limited to:

- Full-day Pre-Kindergarten
- Dyslexia support
- ELL support
- MTSS student plans
- Credit recovery programs

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In addition, Northwest ISD offers systems for students that are performing ahead of their peers such as, but not limited to:

- Math acceleration (by grade level)
- CBE opportunities
- Internships
- Open enrollment in Pre-Advanced Placement and Advanced Placement courses and Dual Credit

Northwest ISD's Career and Technical Education (“CTE”) programs strives to provide real academic, real skills, and a real high school experience unlike any other. In 2024-2025, 80% of all secondary students were in a CTE course and students successfully earned 7,136 certifications, compared to 6,620 in 2023-2024. Participation in Dual Credit and OnRamps also increased, with 2,928 OnRamps courses taken, and a total of 7,756 college credit hours accepted.

Northwest ISD meets **Strategic Goal #1** by implementing many intervention programs targeting all ages to increase their literacy proficiency to reach or exceed grade level standards. The cost of these interventions is approximately \$100,000 and comes from our Instructional Materials Allotment.

Strategic Goal #2 “Northwest ISD will recruit, value and retain highly exceptional staff prepared to meet the individual needs of our students and learning community.” Curriculum and Instruction play a critical role in meeting the needs of our staff through:

- Professional learning all year long
- Coaching support
- Job-embedded professional learning
- Choice options for professional development
- Behavior support – 6 additional Behavior Interventionists - \$438,000

Strategic Goal 3, “Northwest ISD will foster a safe environment and a culture of engagement that values the voices of all students, staff, families, and community members.” Implementation of the Northwest ISD Student Wellness Center providing evening counseling services twice a week to support the emotional and physical well-being of students. Total budgeted dollars is approximately: \$100,000.

Communications

Northwest ISD maintains a robust set of communication methods to keep families, staff, and community members informed about district news and events. ParentSquare continues to serve as the district’s primary direct communication tool at all levels, including teacher, school and district-level communication with families. District-level communications methods include community and staff newsletters, social media channels, website postings, photo and video updates, and media engagement. Campuses also send regular newsletters and manage social media channels. The streamlined communications tool assists in managing a multitude of messages and keeping various messages organized and easy to locate. ParentSquare along with campus newsletters help support **Strategic Goal #3 “Northwest ISD will foster a safe environment and a culture of engagement that values the voices of all students, staff, families, and community members.”**

Parental Involvement and Engagement

Parental engagement and involvement are a cornerstone of student success. Parental involvement, particularly the presence of male authority figures, has a significant impact on student behavior, academic performance, and social-emotional development. Watch D.O.G.S. is a familiar program on Northwest ISD campuses, and efforts continue to encourage participation in this valuable program – particularly at our secondary schools. The district's growth and evolving societal expectations have led to inconsistent parent understanding of school interaction roles and varying interpretations of acceptable behavior. This causes conflicts that could be mitigated with clear expectations and contributes to increased teacher stress and distractions from their instructional duties. As Northwest ISD continues to grow, the inclusion of new families in school and district activities is essential. Strengthening these connections will

**2025-2026
Adopted Budget**

enhance community ties, support academic achievement, build our Northwest ISD culture, and contribute to the overall wellbeing of our students which support **Strategic Goal #3 “Northwest ISD will foster a safe environment and a culture of engagement that values the voices of all students, staff, families, and community members.”**

Safety and Security

Strategic Goal 3, “Northwest ISD will foster a safe environment and a culture of engagement that values the voices of all students, staff, families, and community members.” The Safety and Security department continually strives to meet the needs of students, staff, family, and community members when it comes to safety. With the (“TEA”) mandate, Northwest ISD has spent an additional \$1,200,000 to ensure each campus has a security officer on site each day.

Northwest ISD has a comprehensive emergency operations plan that addresses emergency mitigation/prevention, preparedness, response, and recovery procedures relevant to natural and human-caused disasters. To help maintain consistency, between district and campus leaders and emergency responders, the following emergency responses are in place at every Northwest ISD school to respond as a crisis takes place: Secure, Lockdown, Evacuate, Shelter, and Hold. While these common emergency responses are in place, continued training is necessary to help ensure correct and consistent responses.

Budget and Financial Policies

Legal Requirements for Budgets

Legal requirements for school district budgets are formulated by the state, TEA, and the local district. Additional legal requirements also may be imposed by state and federal grants.

Statement of Texas Law

Sections 44.002 through 44.006 of the Texas Education Code establish the legal basis for budget development in school districts. The following items summarize the legal requirements from the code:

- The superintendent is the budget officer for the district and prepares or causes the budget to be prepared.
- The district budget must be prepared by a date set by the state board of education - currently June 19.
- The president of the board of trustees must call a public meeting of the board of trustees, giving ten days public notice in a newspaper, for the adoption of the district budget. Any taxpayer in the district may be present and participate in the meeting. Concurrently with the publication of notice of the budget above, a school district must post a summary of the proposed budget on the school district’s website or in the district’s central administrative office if the school district has no website. The budget summary must include a comparison to the previous year’s actual spending and information relating to per-student and aggregate spending on instruction, instructional support, central administration, district operations, debt service, and any other category designated by the commissioner. (Section 44.0041, TEC).

The summary of the budget should be presented in the following function areas:

- (A) Instruction – functions 11, 12, 13, 95
- (B) Instructional Support – functions 21, 23, 31, 32, 33, 36
- (C) Central Administration – function 41
- (D) District Operations – functions 51, 52, 53, 34, 35
- (E) Debt Service – function 71
- (F) Other – functions 61, 81, 91, 92, 93, 97, 99

The “per student” will be based on student enrollment.

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- No funds may be expended in any manner other than as provided for in the adopted budget. The board does have the authority to amend the budget or adopt a supplementary emergency budget to cover unforeseen expenditures.
- The budget must be prepared in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (“GAAP”) and state guidelines.
- The budget must be legally adopted before the adoption of the tax rate. However, if a school district has a July first fiscal year start date, then a school district must **not** adopt a tax rate until after the district receives the certified appraisal roll for the district required by Section 26.01, Tax Code. Additionally, a school district **must publish a revised notice and hold another public meeting before the district may adopt a tax rate** that exceeds the following: (1) The rate proposed in the notice prepared using the estimate; or (2) The district’s rollback rate determined under Section 26.08, Tax Code, using the certified appraisal roll. If a school district elects to adopt a tax rate before adopting a budget, the district must publish notice and hold a meeting for the purpose of discussing the proposed tax rate as provided by TEC 44.004. Following adoption of the tax rate, the district must publish notice and hold another public meeting before the district may adopt a budget. The comptroller shall prescribe the language and format to be used in the notices. The school district may use the certified estimate of taxable value in preparing a notice. HB 3, 81st Regular Session, added TEC 39.084 which requires that on final approval of the budget by the school board, the school district shall post on the district’s website a copy of the adopted budget. The website must prominently display the electronic link to the adopted budget until the third anniversary of the date the budget was adopted.

Texas Education Agency Legal Requirements

TEA has developed additional requirements for school district budget preparation as follows:

- The budget must be adopted by the board of trustees, inclusive of amendments, no later than June 30. In order to prepare the public notice to be published 10 days prior to the meeting, the district budget must be prepared by a date set by the state board of education, currently June 19.
- Minutes from district board meetings will be used by TEA to record adoption of and amendments to the budget.

Budgets for the General Fund, the Food Service Fund (whether accounted for in the General Fund, a Special Revenue Fund or Enterprise Fund) and the Debt Service Fund must be included in the official district budget (legal or fiscal year basis). These budgets must be prepared and approved at least at the fund and function levels to comply with the state’s legal level of control mandates. Funds are to be budgeted and reported through the Public Education Information Management System (“PEIMS”).

Note: Districts may prepare and approve budgets for other funds and/or with even greater detail at their discretion. Such local decisions may affect the need for budget amendments and financial reporting requirements.

- The officially adopted district budget, as amended, must be filed with TEA through PEIMS by the date prescribed in the annual system guidelines. Revenues, other sources, other uses, and fund balances must be reported by fund, object (at the fourth level), fiscal year, and amount. Expenditures must be reported by fund, function, object (at the second level), organization, fiscal year, program intent and amount.
- A school district must amend the official budget *before exceeding a functional expenditure category*, i.e., instruction, administration, etc., in the total district budget. The annual financial and compliance report should reflect the amended budget amounts on the schedule comparing budgeted and actual amounts. The requirement for filing the amended budget with TEA is satisfied when the school district files its Annual Financial and Compliance Report.

Local District Requirements

ANNUAL OPERATING BUDGET CE (LEGAL) DATE ISSUED: 10/19/21

**2025-2026
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Authorized Expenditures

A district shall not lend its credit or gratuitously grant public money or things of value in aid of any individual, association, or corporation. *Tex. Const. Art. III, Sec. 52; Brazoria County v. Perry, 537 S.W.2d 89 (Tex. Civ. App.—Houston [1st Dist.] 1976, no writ)*

A district shall not grant any extra compensation, fee, or allowance to a public officer, agent, servant, or contractor after service has been rendered or a contract entered into and performed in whole or in part. Nor shall a district pay or authorize the payment of any claim against the district under any agreement or contract made without authority of law. *Tex. Const. Art. III, Sec. 53; Harlingen Index. Sch. Dist. v. C.H. Page and Bro., 48 S.W.2d 983 (Comm. App. 1932)*

The public school funds may not be spent except as provided by Education code 45.105. The state and county available funds may be used only for the payment of teachers' and superintendents' salaries and interest on money borrowed on short time to pay those salaries that become due before school funds for the current year become available. Loans for the purpose of payment of teachers may not be paid out of funds other than those for the current year.

Local funds from district taxes, tuition fees, other local sources, and state funds not designated for a specific purpose may be used for salaries of any personnel and for purchasing appliances and supplies; for the payment of insurance premiums; for buying school sites; for buying, building, repairing, and renting school buildings, including acquisition of school buildings and sites by leasing through annual payments with an ultimate option to purchase [see CHG]; and for other purposes necessary in the conduct of the public schools to be determined by a board. *Education Code 45.105(c)*

No public funds of a district may be spent in any manner other than as provided for in the budget adopted by the board. *Education Code 44.006(a)*

Use of District Resources Improvements to Real Property

Except as provided below or by Education Code 45.109(a-1), (a-2), or (a-3) [see CX], a board shall not enter into an agreement authorizing the use of school district employees, property, or resources for the provision of materials or labor for the design, construction, or renovation of improvements to real property not owned or leased by the district. This section does not prohibit the board from entering into an agreement for the design, construction, or renovation of improvements to real property not owned or leased by the district if the improvements benefit real property owned or leased by the district. Benefits to real property owned or leased by the district include the design, construction, or renovation of highways, roads, streets, sidewalks, crosswalks, utilities, and drainage improvements that serve or benefit the real property owned or leased by the district. *Education Code 11.168*

Hotels

The board may not impose taxes, issue bonds, use or authorize the use of district employees, use, or authorize the use of district property, money, or other resources, or acquire property for the design, construction, renovation, or operation of a hotel. The board may not enter into a lease, contract, or other agreement that obligates the board to engage in an activity prohibited by this section or obligates the use of district employees or resources in a manner prohibited by this section. "Hotel" means a building in which members of the public obtain sleeping accommodations for consideration. The term includes a motel. *Education Code 11.178*

Electioneering

A board may not use state or local funds or other resources of the district to electioneer for or against any candidate, measure, or political party. *Education Code 11.1*

Commitment of Current Revenue

A contract for the acquisition, including lease, of real or personal property is a commitment of a district's current revenue only, provided the contract contains either or both of the following provisions:

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1. Retains to a board the continuing right to terminate the contract at the expiration of each budget period during the term of the contract.
 2. Is conditioned on a best effort attempt by the board to obtain and appropriate funds for payment of the contract.
- Local Gov't Code 271.903*

Fiscal Year

The fiscal year of a district begins on July 1 or September 1 of each year, as determined by the board. *Education Code 44.0011*

Budget Preparation

A superintendent shall prepare, or cause to be prepared, a proposed budget covering all estimated revenue and proposed expenditures of a district for the following fiscal year. *Education Code 44.002*

Funds for Accelerated Instruction

A district that is required to provide accelerated instruction under Education Code 29.081(b-1) [see EHBC] shall separately budget sufficient funds, including funds under Education Code 42.152, for that purpose. A district may not budget funds received under Education Code 42.152 for any other purpose until the district adopts a budget to support additional accelerated instruction. *Education Code 29.081(b-2)*

Deadlines

The proposed budget shall be prepared on or before a date set by the State Board of Education, currently August 20 (June 19 if a district uses a July 1 fiscal year start date). *Education Code 44.002(a); 19 TAC 109.1(a), .41*

The adopted budget must be filed with the Texas Education Agency on or before the date established in the *Financial Accountability System Resource Guide*. *Education Code 44.005; 19 TAC 109.1(a)*

Public Meeting on Budget and Proposed Tax Rate

After the proposed budget has been prepared, a board president shall call a board meeting for the purpose of adopting a budget for the succeeding fiscal year. Any taxpayer of a district may be present and participate in the meeting. *Education Code 44.004(a), (f)* [See CCG for provisions governing tax rate adoption.]

The meeting must comply with the notice requirements of the Open Meetings Act. *Gov't Code 551.041, .043*

Published Notice

A board president shall also provide for publication of notice of the budget and proposed tax rate meeting in a daily, weekly, or biweekly newspaper published in a district. If no daily, weekly, or biweekly newspaper is published in a district, the president shall provide for publication of notice in at least one newspaper of general circulation in the county in which the district's central administrative office is located. The notice shall be published not earlier than the 30th day or later than the tenth day before the date of the hearing.

Form of Notice

The published notice of the public meeting to discuss and adopt the budget and the proposed tax rate must meet the size, format, and content requirements dictated by law. The notice is not valid if it does not substantially conform to the language and format prescribed by the comptroller.

Taxpayer Injunction

If a district has not complied with the published notice requirements in the FORM OF NOTICE described above, and the requirements for DISTRICTS WITH JULY 1 FISCAL YEAR below, if applicable, and the failure to comply was not in good faith, a person who owns taxable property in the district is entitled to an injunction restraining the collection of taxes by the district. An action to enjoin the collection of taxes must be filed before the date a district delivers substantially all of its tax bills. *Education Code 44.004(b)–(e)*

**2025-2026
Adopted Budget**

Publication of Proposed Budget Summary

Concurrently with the publication of notice of the budget under Education Code 44.004, a district shall post a summary of the proposed budget on the school district's Internet website or, if the district has no Internet website, in the district's central administrative office.

The budget summary must include a comparison to the previous year's actual spending and information relating to per student and aggregate spending on:

1. Instruction;
2. Instructional support;
3. Central administration;
4. District operations;
5. Debt service; and
6. Any other category designated by the Commissioner.

Education Code 44.0041

Decrease in Debt Service Rate

If the debt service rate calculated under Education Code 44.004(c)(5)(A)(ii)(b) decreases after the publication of the notice required by this section, the board president is not required to publish another notice or call another meeting to discuss and adopt the budget and the proposed lower tax rate. *Education Code 44.004(g-1)*

Budget Adoption

A board shall adopt a budget to cover all expenditures for the succeeding fiscal year at the meeting called for that purpose and before the adoption of the tax rate for the tax year in which the fiscal year covered by the budget begins. *Education Code 44.004(f)-(g)*

Certified Estimate

By April 30, the chief appraiser shall prepare and certify an estimate of the taxable value of school district property. *Tax Code 26.01(e)*

Districts with July 1 Fiscal Year

A district with a fiscal year beginning July 1 may use the certified estimate of the taxable value of district property in preparing the published notice if the district does not receive the certified appraisal roll on or before June 7. A district that uses a certified estimate may adopt a budget at the public meeting designated in the published notice prepared using the estimate, but a district may not adopt a tax rate before the district receives the certified appraisal roll for the district. *Education Code 44.004(h)-(i)*

Budget Adoption after Tax Rate Adoption

Notwithstanding Education Code 44.004(g), (h), and (i), above, a district may adopt a budget after the district adopts a tax rate for the tax year in which the fiscal year covered by the budget begins if the district elects to adopt a tax rate

before receiving the certified appraisal roll for the district as provided by Tax Code 26.05(g). Following adoption of the tax rate [see CCG], the district must publish notice and hold a public meeting before the district may adopt a budget. The comptroller shall prescribe the language and format to be used in the notice. The district may use the certified estimate of taxable value in preparing the notice. *Education Code 44.004(j)*

Publication of Adopted Budget

On final approval of the budget by the board, a district shall post on the district's website a copy of the budget adopted by the board. The district's website must prominently display the electronic link to the adopted budget. A district shall maintain the adopted budget on the district's website until the third anniversary of the date the budget was adopted. *Education Code 44.0051*

**2025-2026
Adopted Budget**

Amendment of Approved Budget

A board shall have the authority to amend the approved budget or to adopt a supplementary emergency budget to cover necessary unforeseen expenses. Copies of any amendment or supplementary budget must be prepared and filed in accordance with State Board rules.

Education Code 44.006

Failure to Comply with Budget Amendments

A board member who votes to approve any expenditure of school funds in excess of the item or items appropriated in the adopted budget or a supplementary or amended budget commits a misdemeanor offense. *Education Code 44.052(c)*

Certain Donations

A district may donate funds or other property or service to the adjutant general's department, the Texas National Guard, or the Texas State Guard. *Gov't Code 437.111(b), .252, .304(a)*

Annual Operating Budget CE (Local) Date Issued: 11/03/08

Fiscal Year

Northwest ISD shall operate on a fiscal year beginning July 1 and ending June 30.

Budget Planning

Budget planning shall be an integral part of overall program planning so that the budget effectively reflects the District's programs and activities and provides the resources to implement them. In the budget planning process, general educational goals, specific program goals, and alternatives for achieving program goals shall be considered, as well as input from the District- and campus-level planning and decision-making committees. Budget planning and evaluation are continuous processes and shall be a part of each month's activities.

Budget Meeting

The annual public meeting to discuss the proposed budget and tax rate shall be conducted as follows:

1. The Board President shall request at the beginning of the meeting that all persons who desire to speak on the proposed budget and/or tax rate sign up on the sheet provided.
2. Prior to the beginning of the meeting, the Board may establish time limits for speakers.
3. Speakers shall confine their remarks to the appropriation of funds as contained in the proposed budget and/or the tax rate.
4. No officer or employee of the District shall be required to respond to questions from speakers at the meeting.

Authorized Expenditures

The adopted budget provides authority to expend funds for the purposes indicated and in accordance with state law, Board policy, and the District's approved purchasing procedures. The expenditure of funds shall be under the direction of the Superintendent or designee who shall ensure that funds are expended in accordance with the adopted budget.

Budget Amendments

The Board shall amend the budget when a change is made increasing any one of the functional spending categories or increasing revenue object accounts and other resources.

BOARD POLICY: BUSINESS AND SUPPORT SERVICES

Section C: BUSINESS AND SUPPORT SERVICES

CAA	FISCAL MANAGEMENT GOALS AND OBJECTIVES - FINANCIAL ETHICS
CB	STATE AND FEDERAL REVENUE SOURCES
CBA	STATE AND FEDERAL REVENUE SOURCES - STATE
CBB	STATE AND FEDERAL REVENUE SOURCES - FEDERAL
CCA	LOCAL REVENUE SOURCES - BOND ISSUES
CCB	LOCAL REVENUE SOURCES - TIME WARRANTS
CCC	LOCAL REVENUE SOURCES - CERTIFICATES OF INDEBTEDNESS
CCD	LOCAL REVENUE SOURCES - RECREATIONAL FACILITIES BONDS
CCE	LOCAL REVENUE SOURCES - ATHLETIC STADIUM AUTHORITY
CCF	LOCAL REVENUE SOURCES - LOANS AND NOTES
CCG	LOCAL REVENUE SOURCES - AD VALOREM TAXES
CCH	LOCAL REVENUE SOURCES - APPRAISAL DISTRICT
CDA	OTHER REVENUES - INVESTMENTS
CDB	OTHER REVENUES - SALE, LEASE, OR EXCHANGE OF SCHOOL-OWNED PROPERTY
CDBA	SALE, LEASE, OR EXCHANGE OF SCHOOL-OWNED PROPERTY - REVENUE BONDS FROM PROCEEDS
CDC	OTHER REVENUES - GRANTS FROM PRIVATE SOURCES
CDH	OTHER REVENUES - PUBLIC AND PRIVATE FACILITIES
CE	ANNUAL OPERATING BUDGET
CEA	ANNUAL OPERATING BUDGET - FINANCIAL EXIGENCY
CFA	ACCOUNTING - FINANCIAL REPORTS AND STATEMENTS
CFB	ACCOUNTING - INVENTORIES
CFC	ACCOUNTING - AUDITS
CFD	ACCOUNTING - ACTIVITY FUNDS MANAGEMENT
CFEA	PAYROLL PROCEDURES - SALARY DEDUCTIONS AND REDUCTIONS
CG	BONDED EMPLOYEES AND OFFICERS
CH	PURCHASING AND ACQUISITION
CHE	PURCHASING AND ACQUISITION - VENDOR RELATIONS
CHF	PURCHASING AND ACQUISITION - PAYMENT PROCEDURES
CHG	PURCHASING AND ACQUISITION - REAL PROPERTY AND IMPROVEMENTS
CHH	PURCHASING AND ACQUISITION - FINANCING PERSONAL PROPERTY PURCHASES
CI	SCHOOL PROPERTIES DISPOSAL
CJA	CONTRACTED SERVICES - CRIMINAL HISTORY
CK	SAFETY PROGRAM/RISK MANAGEMENT
CKA	SAFETY PROGRAM/RISK MANAGEMENT - INSPECTIONS
CKB	SAFETY PROGRAM/RISK MANAGEMENT - ACCIDENT PREVENTION AND REPORTS
CKC	SAFETY PROGRAM/RISK MANAGEMENT - EMERGENCY PLANS
CKD	SAFETY PROGRAM/RISK MANAGEMENT - EMERGENCY MEDICAL EQUIPMENT AND PROCEDURES
CKE	SAFETY PROGRAM/RISK MANAGEMENT - SECURITY PERSONNEL
CL	BUILDINGS, GROUNDS, AND EQUIPMENT MANAGEMENT

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CLA	BUILDINGS, GROUNDS, AND EQUIPMENT MANAGEMENT - SECURITY
CLB	BUILDINGS, GROUNDS, AND EQUIPMENT MANAGEMENT - MAINTENANCE
CLC	BUILDINGS, GROUNDS, AND EQUIPMENT MANAGEMENT - TRAFFIC AND PARKING CONTROLS
CLE	BUILDINGS, GROUNDS, AND EQUIPMENT MANAGEMENT - FLAG DISPLAYS
CMD	EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES MANAGEMENT - INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS CARE AND ACCOUNTING
CNA	TRANSPORTATION MANAGEMENT - STUDENT TRANSPORTATION
CNB	TRANSPORTATION MANAGEMENT - DISTRICT VEHICLES
CNC	TRANSPORTATION MANAGEMENT - TRANSPORTATION SAFETY
CO	FOOD SERVICES MANAGEMENT
COA	FOOD SERVICES MANAGEMENT - FOOD PURCHASING
COB	FOOD SERVICES MANAGEMENT - FREE AND REDUCED-PRICE FOOD PROGRAM
CPAB	OFFICE COMMUNICATIONS - MAIL AND DELIVERY
CPC	OFFICE MANAGEMENT - RECORDS MANAGEMENT
CQ	TECHNOLOGY RESOURCES
CQA	TECHNOLOGY RESOURCES - DISTRICT, CAMPUS, AND CLASSROOM WEBSITES
CR	INSURANCE AND ANNUITIES MANAGEMENT
CRB	INSURANCE AND ANNUITIES MANAGEMENT - LIABILITY INSURANCE
CRD	INSURANCE AND ANNUITIES MANAGEMENT - HEALTH AND LIFE INSURANCE
CRE	INSURANCE AND ANNUITIES MANAGEMENT - WORKERS' COMPENSATION
CRF	INSURANCE AND ANNUITIES MANAGEMENT - UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE
CRG	INSURANCE AND ANNUITIES MANAGEMENT - DEFERRED COMPENSATION AND ANNUITIES
CS	FACILITY STANDARDS
CV	FACILITIES CONSTRUCTION
CVA	FACILITIES CONSTRUCTION - COMPETITIVE BIDDING
CVB	FACILITIES CONSTRUCTION - COMPETITIVE SEALED PROPOSALS
CVC	FACILITIES CONSTRUCTION - CONSTRUCTION MANAGER-AGENT
CVD	FACILITIES CONSTRUCTION - CONSTRUCTION MANAGER-AT-RISK
CVE	FACILITIES CONSTRUCTION - DESIGN-BUILD
CVF	FACILITIES CONSTRUCTION - JOB ORDER CONTRACTS
CW	NAMING FACILITIES
CX	RENTING OR LEASING FACILITIES FROM OTHERS
CY	INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Balanced Budget

According to the Texas Education Agency (“TEA”), case law is where the definition of a balanced budget is found for all Texas school districts. A balanced budget is framed by case law as a budget with total expenditures not greater than the sum of total revenues plus fund balance. *Crystal City Independent School District, Appellant v. Bank of Dallas, Appellee, Court of Appeals of Texas-Dallas, March 24, 1987.*

2025-2026
Adopted Budget
Budget Process

Objectives of Budgeting

The objectives of budgeting are outlined by the Texas Education Agency in the Financial Accountability System Resource Guide.

Performance evaluation allows citizens and taxpayers to hold policy makers and administrators accountable for their actions. Because accountability to citizens often is stated explicitly in state laws and constitutions, it is considered a cornerstone of budgeting and financial reporting. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (“GASB”) recognizes its importance with these objectives in its GASB Concepts Statement No. 1 (Section 100.177):

- Financial reporting should provide information to determine whether current-year revenues were sufficient to pay for current-year services.
- Financial reporting should demonstrate whether resources were obtained and used in accordance with the entity's legally adopted budget. It should also demonstrate compliance with other finance-related legal or contractual requirements.
- Financial reporting should provide information to assist users in assessing the service efforts, costs, and accomplishments of the governmental entity.

Meeting these objectives requires budget preparation to include several concepts recognizing accountability. Often these concepts have been mandated for state and local public sector budgets. They include requirements that budgets should:

- Be balanced so that current revenues are sufficient to pay for current services.
- Be prepared in accordance with all applicable federal, state, and local legal mandates and requirements.
- Provide a basis for the evaluation of a government's service efforts, costs, and accomplishments.

Note: Although the objective of balanced budgets is generally applicable to all school districts to ensure long-term fiscal health, variations of this objective which are considered appropriate for some school districts over short-term periods are available. For example, the balanced budget objective may be met through the use of fund balance reserves to pay for current services during certain periods. Such uses of fund balance reserves must be in accordance with applicable state and local fund balance policies.

Budget Process Overview

The budgeting process is comprised of three major phases: planning, preparation, and evaluation. The budgetary process begins with sound planning. Planning defines the goals and objectives of campuses and the school district and develops programs to attain those goals and objectives. Once these programs and plans have been established, budgetary resource allocations are made to support them. Budgetary resource allocations are the preparation phase of budgeting. The allocations cannot be made, however, until plans and programs have been established.

Finally, the budget is evaluated for its effectiveness in attaining goals and objectives. Evaluation typically involves an examination of how funds were expended, what outcomes resulted from the expenditure of funds, and to what degree these outcomes achieved the objectives stated during the planning phase. This evaluation phase is important in determining the following year's budgetary allocations. In summary, budget preparation is not a one-time exercise to determine how a school district will allocate funds. Rather, school district budget preparation is part of a continuous cycle of planning and evaluation to achieve district goals.

2025-2026 Adopted Budget

Budget Process

The Budget Process covers the entire financial cycle starting with budget planning and ending with the audited ACFR:

- | | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------|-------------|
| • Budget Planning | January - February | 2025 |
| • Budget Preparation | February | 2025 |
| • Board of Trustees Budget Review | March - May | 2025 |
| • Budget Adoption | June | 2025 |
| • Tax Rate Adoption | July - August | 2025 |
| • Budget Amendments | July - June | 2025 - 2026 |
| • ACFR | November | 2025 |

2023-2028 Northwest ISD Strategic Framework

The Northwest ISD Board of Trustees approved the district's 2023-2028 Strategic Framework at the meeting on June 12, 2023. The framework includes the district's Core Beliefs, Vision, Mission, and Strategic Goals. Based on the recommendations of the Strategic Summit participants, this plan establishes the direction of the district for the next five years. A team of approximately 110 participants made up of students, parents, community members, school and district leaders, and teachers served to develop this plan that will set the tone for Northwest ISD's future.

2024-2025 Northwest ISD District Improvement Plan

Northwest ISD's annual development of a District Improvement Plan helps maintain the direction of the district as we empower learners and leaders to positively impact the world. In accordance with the Texas Education Code, the superintendent is to annually develop the District Improvement Plan, with the Board of Trustees annually approving the performance objectives.

The 2025-2026 District Improvement Plan is an extension of the district's Strategic Framework. As part of our strategic initiative, the emphasis in developing the District Improvement Plan was again placed on focusing on identified imperatives for the coming school year. It was approved by the Northwest ISD Board of Trustees on September 22, 2025.

Budget Planning

As a fast (student) growth district, the Board of Trustees regularly receive Academic Performance, Financial Forecast, Financial & Investment, and Demographic, Facilities, Planning & Construction reports throughout the year. The annual development of the District's budget incorporates all the District planning efforts into a single process.

Capital Budget Development Process

The citizen Long-Range Planning Committee, which serves in an advisory capacity, reviews data, prioritizes the capital needs, and formulates a plan to address the needs. It then presents recommendations to the Board of Trustees who act upon the Long-Range Planning Committee recommendations including any modifications to the original plan.

In September 2022, the Long-Range Planning Committee began meeting to discuss the upcoming facility, technology, curriculum, and extra-curricular needs of Northwest ISD. The committee membership consisted of a well-rounded cross section of the District to ensure all of the areas of Northwest ISD were represented. During the meetings, the Long-Range Planning Committee received and evaluated information regarding the previous and projected growth of Northwest ISD, technology needs, new facility construction, major building component replacement needs, and program enhancement needs. After extensive analysis of all the presented needs of Northwest ISD, the Long-Range Planning

2025-2026 Adopted Budget

Committee recommended that the School Board authorize a Capital Bond Election for \$1,995,500,000. On February 13 the Board of Trustees approved an Order Calling a \$1,995,500,000 Bond Election which passed on May 6, 2023.

Budget Preparation

The District uses site-based budgeting to enhance the ability of principals to serve as effective instructional leaders. Site-based budgeting places the principal at the center of the budget preparation process. The Campus Improvement Plans referenced under the previous paragraph, Budget Planning, link the resources required to the local campus strategies to improve student achievement. The accomplishments are reviewed in the subsequent year.

Board of Trustee Budget Review

The Preliminary Budget including the Personnel & Compensation Plan was reviewed in detail throughout May. The 2025-2026 Personnel & Compensation Plan was then adopted June 23, 2025.

Budget Adoption

The Central Appraisal Districts (“CAD”) 2025 Certified Estimate Appraisal Roll Totals occurred in early June and the rollback tax rate was calculated shortly thereafter. The required legal notice was published on June 7, 2025. The Board of Trustees held the required public meeting and adopted the budget on June 23, 2025.

Tax Rate Adoption

The Central Appraisal Districts (“CAD”) Certification of the 2025 Appraisal Records occurred in late July and the Denton County Tax Assessor-Collector calculated the effective and rollback tax rates shortly thereafter. The required legal notice was published on July 30 and August 3, 2025. The Board of Trustees held the required public meeting and adopted the tax rate on August 12, 2025.

Budget Amendments

The initial Campus Budget Worksheet allocation represents 80% of the campus funding allocation based on projected enrollment. 10% of the remaining amount is distributed in November based on actual enrollment on hand at snapshot. The Final Amended Budget for the Year Ending June 30, 2026, will be submitted at the June 22, 2026 Board meeting. It will reflect all amendments previously approved by the Board of Trustees plus any final amendments. The Final Amended Budget for the Year Ending June 30, 2026 will be used in the preparation of the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (“ACFR”).

Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (“ACFR”)

The final stage of the budget cycle is the approval by the Board of Trustees of the audited Annual Comprehensive Financial Report which includes budget to actual comparisons scheduled for November 2026.

District Approach

The District approach to coping with the combination of fast student growth in a restricted funding environment that satisfies minimum constitutional requirements with increasing academic standards has been to ensure that the budget process is instructionally driven and guided by the Strategic Plan. The Board of Trustees, administration, and staff are committed to Our Vision.

Our Vision

Northwest ISD empowers learners and leaders to positively impact the world.

**2025-2026
Adopted Budget**



2025-2026 Budget Timeline

Activity	Responsibility	Date
Projected Enrollments	Zonda/HR/Finance	December 9, 2024
Budget Parameters	Board Meeting	December 16, 2024
DEIC Timeline Presentation	Financial Services	January 14, 2025
DLT Timeline Presentation	Financial Services	January 16, 2025
Campus/Dept Staffing Matrices	Board Meeting	January 23, 2025
Budget Packets Completed	Financial Services	February 4, 2025
DLT Meeting Distribute Packets	Financial Services	February 6, 2025
Schedule Exec. Dir. Meetings	Financial Services	February 2025
Campus/Dept Staffing	Cabinet/Exec Dir/Principals	February 2025
Raise Discussion/Action	Board Meeting	February 24, 2025
Budget Workshop	Board Meeting	February 24, 2025
Exec Dir. Meetings	Cabinet/Executive Directors	March 2025
Campus/Dept Staffing	Cabinet/Exec Dir/Principals	March 2025
Board Update	Board Meeting	March 10, 2025
Campus/Dept Budget Entries Due	Campuses/Departments	March 14, 2025
Budget Decision Forms Due	Campuses/Departments	March 14, 2025
Campus/Dept Staffing	Cabinet/Exec Dir/Principals	April 2025
Compensation Plan Approval	Board Meeting	April 7, 2025
Preliminary Values	TCAD/DCAD/WCAD	April 2025
Board Workshop	Board Meeting	April 21, 2025
Campus/Dept Staffing	Cabinet/Exec Dir/Principals	May 2025
Budget Workshop	Board Meeting	May 5, 2025
Publish Notice of Pub. Mtg	Financial Services	June 7, 2025
Budget Workshop	Board Meeting	June 9, 2025
Budget Adoption	Board Meeting	June 23, 2025
Final Amendment Adoption	Board Meeting	June 23, 2025
Certified Values	TCAD/DCAD/WCAD	July 24, 2025
Publish Tax Rate Notice	Financial Services	August 1, 2025
Tax Rate Adoption	Board Meeting	2 nd August Meeting

**2025-2026
Adopted Budget**

NORTHWEST INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT						
CAMPUS FUNDING ALLOCATIONS						
BUDGET FOR THE YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2026						
Account				Elementary	Middle	Senior
Code	Description			School	School	High School
Pupil Allocations:						
Function 11 - Instruction						
6399	General Supplies			\$ 56.70	\$ 53.55	\$ 59.50
Function 12 - Instructional Related and Media Services						
6329	Reading Materials			12.60	13.00	17.00
6399	General Supplies			3.60	3.40	3.40
Function 23 - School Leadership						
6399	General Supplies			4.50	5.10	8.50
Function 31 - Guidance, Counseling and Evaluation Services						
6399	General Supplies			1.80	1.70	1.70
Function 33 - Health Services						
6399	General Supplies			1.80	1.70	1.70
	Total Pupil Allocations			\$ 81.00	\$ 78.45	\$ 91.80
Staff Allocations:						
Function 13 - Curriculum Development and Instructional Staff Development						
6411	Employee Travel			\$ 50	\$ 50	\$ 50
Function 36 - Cocurricular/Extracurricular Activities						
6499	Miscellaneous (UIL events)			\$ 500	\$ 2,000	\$ 37,500
Function 51 - Plant Maintenance and Operations						
6319	Maintenance and/or Operations			\$ 500	\$ 500	\$ 1,000
Function 11 - Instruction						
6499	Graduation Expenses					\$ 6,000
Function 36 Fund 184 Middle Schools only					\$ 850.00	
6399	General Supplies					

Initial allocation should be revised by the principal, working with the site-based decision-making team, to reflect the Campus Improvement Plan subject to Executive Cabinet review.

Budget Control and Management Process

Management Process

For management control purposes all budgets are assigned a local option code. The local option code designates the individual responsible for the particular budget. Typically principals are responsible for campus budgets and program managers are responsible for districtwide budgets.

Campus principals and program managers are authorized to submit Purchase Requisitions and reimbursements for the purchase of goods and services.

All activities involving payroll costs, salaries and employee benefits, are controlled through the Human Resources department.

Approval Control

All purchases of goods and services are processed through the financial management system with the appropriate approval controls to ensure the legal purpose is met and the appropriate account charged.

Purchase requisitions are initially entered at the campus or department level and are approved by the campus principal or program manager submitting the request.

Purchase requisitions for special revenue funds are then approved by the appropriate grant program manager.

The Director of Purchasing reviews the purchase requisition to verify that appropriate purchasing laws are being complied with and that the goods and services are being requested from a legally qualified vendor.

The Director of Budget and Financial Planning reviews and approves all purchase requisitions. The purchase requisition is then converted into a purchase order and forwarded to the vendor.

Upon receipt of the invoice accounts payable verifies the receipt of the goods or services, cuts a check, and closes the purchase order.

Encumbrance Control

All purchases of goods and services are processed through the financial management system with the appropriate encumbrance controls to ensure the availability of funds.

An encumbrance is an obligation in the form of a purchase order charged to an appropriation which reserves a part of that appropriation. Additionally, pre-encumbrances are also reserved based on submitted purchase requisitions awaiting conversion into purchase orders.

Specifically, the financial software will not allow the entry of a purchase requisition unless there are sufficiently available funds at the full account line-item level.

Budget Amendments

Principals and program managers may request the transfer of available budgeted funds. However, any transfers of funds that increases a revenue object or modifies an expenditure function is approved monthly by the Board of Trustees.

Final Amended Budget

At the last meeting of the fiscal year a formal final amended budget is approved by the Board of Trustees.

2025-2026 Adopted Budget

Adopted Budget

The officially adopted district budget, as amended, must be filed with TEA through PEIMS by the date prescribed in the annual system guidelines.

Monthly Reporting

The district's financial statements and investments are reviewed monthly with the Board of Trustees.

Annual Audit

The final stage of the budget cycle is the approval by the Board of Trustees of the audited financial statements part of which includes budget to actual comparisons.

Financial Structure

Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

The Northwest ISD is a public educational agency operating under the applicable laws and regulations of the State of Texas. It is governed by a seven-member Board of Trustees that are elected by registered voters of the District. The District prepares its basic financial statements in conformity with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles ("GAAP") promulgated by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board ("GASB") and other authoritative sources identified in *Statement of Auditing Standards No. 69* of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. Additionally, the District complies with the requirements of the appropriate version of the Texas Education Agency ("TEA") *Financial Accountability System Resource Guide* ("FASRG") and the requirements of contracts and grants of agencies from which it receives funds.

Reporting Entity

The Board of Trustees for the District are elected by the public; has the authority to make decisions, appoint administrators and managers; significantly influence operations; and has the primary accountability for fiscal matters. Therefore, the District is a financial reporting entity as defined by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board ("GASB") in its Statement No. 14, "The Financial Reporting Entity." There are no component units included within the reporting entity.

Basis of Accounting

Governmental fund financial statements are reported using the current *financial resources measurement focus* and the *modified accrual basis of accounting*. Revenues are recognized as soon as they are both measurable and available. Revenues are considered to be *available* when they are collectible within the current period or soon enough thereafter to pay liabilities of the current period. For this purpose, the government considers revenues to be available if they are collected within 60 days of the end of the current fiscal period. Expenditures generally are recorded when a liability is incurred, as under accrual accounting. However, debt service expenditures, as well as expenditures related to compensated absences and claims and judgments, are recorded only when payment is due.

Revenues from local sources consist primarily of property taxes. Property tax revenues and revenues received from the State of Texas are recognized under the susceptible-to-accrual concept.

Miscellaneous revenues are recorded as revenue when received in cash because they are generally not measurable until actually received. Investment earnings are recorded as earned, since they are both measurable and available.

Grant funds are considered earned to the extent of the expenditures made under the provisions of the grant. Accordingly, when such funds are received, they are recorded as deferred revenues until the related and authorized expenditures have been made. If balances have not been expended by the end of the project period, grantors sometimes require the District to refund all or part of the unused amount.

**2025-2026
Adopted Budget**

The District reports the following major governmental funds:

Governmental Fund Types

The **general fund** is the government's primary operating fund. It accounts for all financial resources of the District, except those required to be accounted for in another fund. Major revenue sources include local property taxes, state funding under the Available School Fund and interest earnings. Expenditures include all costs associated with the daily operations of the District except for specific programs funded by the federal or state government, food service, debt service, and capital projects. This is a budgeted fund.

The **special revenue funds** account for resources restricted to, or designated for, specific purposes by a grantor. Federal and state financial assistance generally is accounted for in a special revenue fund. The Child Nutrition Program adopts an annual budget. All other special revenue funds budgets are provided for informational purposes only.

The District's **food service fund** is considered a special revenue fund since it meets the following criteria: (1) User fees are charged to supplement the National School Lunch Program ("NSLP"), (2) The General Fund subsidizes the Food Service Program for all expenditures in excess of NSLP, and (3) The District does not consider the Food Service Program completely self-supporting. Food Service fund balances are used exclusively for child nutrition program purposes.

The **debt service fund** accounts for the resources accumulated and payments made for principal and interest on long-term general obligation debt of governmental funds. This is a budgeted fund.

The **capital projects fund** accounts for proceeds from long-term debt financing (including the sale of bonds) and revenues and expenditures related to authorized construction and other capital asset acquisitions. The capital projects fund budget is provided for informational purposes only.

The District reports the following proprietary funds:

The **internal service funds** account for revenues and expenses related to services provided to organizations inside the District on a cost reimbursement basis. The District's Internal Service Funds are for student devices. These are not budgeted funds.

Additionally, the District reports the following fiduciary funds:

The **agency fund** accounts for resources held in a custodial capacity by the District and consists of funds that are the property of students or others. The District's Agency Funds are the Student Activity Account, Student Council Account, and the High School Student Activity Account. These are not budgeted funds.

Basis of Budgeting

Legal requirements for school district budgets are formulated by the state, TEA, and the local district. The Board adopts an "appropriated budget" on a basis consistent with GAAP for the general fund, debt service fund and child nutrition program (which is included in special revenue funds). At a minimum, the District is required to present the original and the final amended budgets for revenues and expenditures compared to actual revenues and expenditures for these three funds.

Encumbrance accounting, under which purchase orders, contracts and other commitments are recorded in order to reserve that portion of the applicable appropriation, is used in all governmental funds. Encumbrances outstanding at year-end are commitments that do not constitute expenditures or liabilities but are reported as reservations of fund balances. Since appropriations lapse at the end of each year, outstanding encumbrances are appropriately provided for in the subsequent fiscal year's budget to provide for the liquidation of the prior commitments.

2025-2026
Adopted Budget

Fund Balance

**Northwest Independent School District
Financial Statements Notes
FYE June 30, 2025**

The District has implemented Governmental Accounting Standards Board (“GASB”) Statement No. 54, "Fund Balance Reporting and Governmental Fund Type Definitions" which provides more clearly defined fund balance categories to make the nature and extent of the constraints placed on a government's fund balances more transparent.

Fund Balance Classification: The governmental fund financial statements present fund balances based on classifications that comprise a hierarchy that is based primarily on the extent to which the District is bound to honor constraints on the specific purposes for which amounts in the respective governmental funds can be spent. The classifications used in the governmental fund financial statements are as follows:

- **Nonspendable:** This classification includes amounts that cannot be spent because they are either (a) not in spendable form or (b) are legally or contractually required to be maintained intact. The District has classified prepaid items as being nonspendable as these items are not expected to be converted to cash.
- **Restricted:** This classification includes amounts for which constraints have been placed on the use of the resources either (a) externally imposed by creditors, grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments, or (b) imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation. Debt service resources are to be used for future servicing of the District's bonded debt and are restricted through debt covenants. Capital projects fund resources are to be used for future construction and renovation projects and are restricted through bond orders and constitutional law.
- **Committed:** This classification includes amounts that can be used only for specific purposes pursuant to constraints imposed by formal action of the District's Board of Trustees. The Board of Trustees establishes (and modifies or rescinds) fund balance commitments by passage of a resolution. This can also be done through adoption and amendment of the budget. These amounts cannot be used for any other purpose unless the Board removes or changes the specified use by taking the same type of action that was employed when the funds were initially committed. This classification also includes contractual obligations to the extent that existing resources have been specifically committed for use in satisfying those contractual requirements. The Board of Trustees have committed resources as of June 30, 2025 for campus activities.
- **Assigned:** This classification includes amounts that are constrained by the District's intent to be used for a specific purpose but are neither restricted nor committed. This intent can be expressed by the Board of Trustees or through the Board of Trustees delegating this responsibility to other individuals in the District. Under the District's adopted policy, the Board of Trustees may assign amounts for specific purposes, but it has also delegated authority to assign fund balance to the Superintendent. This classification also includes the remaining positive fund balance for all governmental funds except for the General Fund. The District has assigned fund balance of the General Fund as of June 30, 2025 as detailed below.
- **Unassigned:** This classification includes all amounts not included in other spendable classifications, including the residual fund balance for the General Fund. A negative unassigned fund balance may be reported in other governmental funds if expenditures incurred for specific purposes exceed the amounts restricted, committed, or assigned to those purposes.

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When an expenditure is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted fund balance is available, the District considers restricted funds to have been spent first. When an expenditure is incurred for which committed, assigned, or unassigned fund balances are available, the District considers amounts to have been spent first out of committed funds, then assigned funds, and finally unassigned funds, as needed, unless the Board of Trustees has provided otherwise in its commitment or assignment actions. During the current fiscal period, the Board of Trustees adopted a fund balance policy that expresses an intent to maintain a level of assigned and unassigned fund balance in the general fund equal to 25% of the fund's operating expenditures.

The details of the fund balances are included in the Governmental Funds Balance Sheet and are described below:

General Fund

The General Fund has unassigned fund balance of \$113,731,890 at June 30, 2025. Prepaid items of \$1,245,389 and inventories of \$118,798 are considered nonspendable fund balance.

Other Major Funds

The Debt Service Fund has restricted funds of \$98,707,125 at June 30, 2025, consisting primarily of property tax collections that are restricted for debt service payments on bonded debt. The Capital Projects Fund has restricted funds of \$427,465,367 at June 30, 2025, consisting primarily of unspent bond funds and \$1,949,089 set aside for capital replacements.

Other Funds

The fund balance of \$5,329,211 of the Campus Activity Fund, \$26,242 in the Northwest ISD Education Foundation, and \$42,304 in Other Local Funds (all special revenue funds) are shown as committed due to Board policy committing those funds to those purposes. The fund balance of \$2,821,250 in the Child Nutrition Fund is shown as restricted for the food service program.

Local District Requirements

The Northwest Independent School District Board Policy Manual is available through the Texas Association of School Boards *Policy On Line* at: <http://pol.tasb.org/Policy/Section/391?filter=C>

Budgets are prepared on the same basis of accounting as that used in the financial statements. The basis of budgeting refers to when revenues and expenditures are recognized in the accounts and reported in the financial statements. Governmental fund types, the general fund, special revenue funds, debt service fund, and capital projects fund, are budgeted using the *current financial resources measurement focus* and the *modified accrual basis of accounting*. The proprietary funds, the internal services funds, and the fiduciary funds, the agency fund, are not budgeted funds.

Account Code Structure

Section 44.007 of the Texas Education Code (“Code or TEC”) requires that a standard school district fiscal accounting system be adopted by each school district. The system must meet at least the minimum requirements prescribed by the State Board of Education and also be subject to review and comment by the state auditor. Additionally, the accounting system must conform to Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (“GAAP”). This section further requires that a report be provided at the time that the school district budget is filed, showing financial information sufficient to enable the state board of education to monitor the funding process and to determine educational system costs by school district, campus, and program.

The Texas Education Code, Section 44.008, requires each school district to have an annual independent audit conducted that meets the minimum requirements of the state board of education, subject to review and comment by the state auditor. The annual audit must include the performance of certain audit procedures for the purpose of reviewing the accuracy of the fiscal information provided by the district through the Public Education Information Management System (“PEIMS”). The audit procedures are to be adequate to detect material errors in the school district’s fiscal data to be reported through the PEIMS system for the fiscal period under audit.

A major purpose of the following accounting code structure is to establish the standard school district fiscal accounting system required by law. Although certain codes within the overview may be used at local option, the sequence of the codes within the structure, and the funds and chart of accounts, are to be uniformly used by all school districts in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

Account Code Structure

XXX - X - XX - XXX - XX - XXX XXXX - XX

Fund Code	Year Code	Function Code	Organization Code	Program Intent Code	Local Option Code	Object Code	Sub-Object Code
(1xx-8xx) Account Groups (9xx)	(0-9)	(11-99)	(001-999)	(11-99)	(xxx)	Assets (1xxx) Liabilities (2xxx) Fund Equity (3xxx) Clearing Accounts (4xxx) Revenues/Income (5xxx) Expenditures/Expenses (6xxx) Other Resources/Non Operating Revenues/Residual Equity Transfers In (7xxx) Other Uses/Non Operating Expenses/Residual Equity Transfers Out(8xxx)	(xx)

Basic System Code Composition

Fund Code

A mandatory 3-digit code is to be used for all financial transactions to identify the fund group and specific fund. The first digit refers to the fund group, and the second and third digit specifies the fund.

Fund	Title
100	General Fund
	100-199 General Fund
200/300/400	Special Revenue Funds
	200-289 Federal Programs
	290-379 Shared Services Arrangements - Federally Funded
	380-429 State Programs
	430-459 Shared Services Arrangements - State/Local Funded
	460-499 Local Programs
500	Debt Service Funds
	500-599 Debt Service Funds
600	Capital Projects Funds
	600-699
	600-700 Capital Projects Funds
700	Proprietary Fund Types
	700-749 Enterprise Funds
	750-799 Internal Service Funds
800	Fiduciary Fund Types and Similar Component Units
	800-829 Trust Funds
	830-849 Investment Trust Funds
	850-859 Pension Trust Funds
	860-899 Agency Funds
900	General Fixed Assets and General Long-Term Debt Account Groups
	901 General Fixed Assets Account Group
	902 General Long-Term Debt Account Group

Fiscal Year Code

A mandatory single-digit code that identifies the fiscal year of the transaction or the project year of inception of a grant project.

Function Code

A mandatory 2-digit code applied to expenditures/expenses that identify the purpose of the transaction. The first digit identifies the major class, and the second digit refers to the specific function within the area.

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Function	Title
10	Instruction and Instructional Related Services
11	Instruction
12	Instructional Resources and Media Services
13	Curriculum Development and Instructional Staff Development
20	Instructional and School Leadership
21	Instructional Leadership
23	School Leadership
30	Support Services (Pupil)
31	Guidance, Counseling and Evaluation Services
32	Social Work Services
33	Health Services
34	Student (Pupil) Transportation
35	Food Services
36	Cocurricular/Extracurricular Activities
40	Administrative Support Services
41	General Administration
50	Support Services - Non-student Based
51	Plant Maintenance and Operations
52	Security and Monitoring Services
53	Data Processing Services
60	Ancillary Services
61	Community Services
70	Debt Service
71	Debt Service
80	Capital Outlay
81	Facilities Acquisition and Construction
90	Intergovernmental Charges
91	Contracted Instructional Services Between Public Schools
93	Payments to Fiscal Agent/Member Districts of Shared Service Arrangements
95	Payments to Juvenile Justice Alternative Education Programs
97	Payments to Tax Increment Fund
99	Other Intergovernmental Charges

Organization Code

A mandatory 3-digit code that identifies the organization, i.e., High School, Middle School, Elementary School, Superintendent's office, etc. An organization code does not necessarily correspond with a physical location. The activity, not the location, defines the organization. Campuses are examples of organization codes and are specified for each school district in the Texas School Directory.

Organization	Title
001-699	Organization Units - Campuses
700	Organization Units - Administrative
800-997	Organization Units - Locally Defined
998	Unallocated Organization Unit - Local Option
999	Undistributed Organization Unit

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Program Intent Code

A 2-digit code used to designate the intent of a program provided to students. These codes are used to account for the cost of instruction and other services that are directed toward a particular need of a specific set of students. The intent (the student group toward which the instructional or other service is directed) determines the program intent code, not the demographic makeup of the students served.

Program Intent	Title
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1X	Basic Services
11	Basic Educational Services
2X	Enhanced Services
21	Gifted and Talented
22	Career and Technical
23	Services to Students with Disabilities (Special Education)
24	Accelerated Education
25	Bilingual Education and Special Language Programs
26	Nondisciplinary Alternative Education Programs - AEP Services
28	Disciplinary Alternative Education Program – DAEP Basic Services
29	Disciplinary Alternative Education Program – DAEP State Compensatory Education (“SCE”)
	Supplemental Costs
30	Title I, Part A Schoolwide Activities Related to SCE and Other Costs on Campuses with 40% or More Educationally Disadvantaged Students
31	High School Allotment
36	Early Education Allotment
37	Dyslexia Allotment
38	College and Career Readiness Allotment
43	Dyslexia – Special Education
3X-8X	Reserved for Future State Definition and for use by Education Service Centers
9X	Other
91	Athletics and Related Activities
99	Undistributed

Local Option Codes 3

A 3-digit code for optional use to provide special accountability at the local level.

Object Code

A mandatory 4-digit code that identifies the nature and object of an account, a transaction, or a source. The first of the four digits identifies the type of account or transaction, the second digit identifies the major area, and the third and fourth digits provide further sub-classifications.

Object	Title
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5000	Revenue Control Accounts: District revenues are classified by fund and object or source. There are three major sources: local, state and federal. Local sources include tax collections and investment earnings. Texas state sources rely on a formula of local property taxes and student enrollment for state aid and are based on legislated funding formulas. Federal funds are primarily reimbursements received from the School Health Related Service (“SHARS”) program. Other Local Sources: Other local sources include interest earnings, reform from district facilities, gifts and donations, insurance recovery, revenue from activity accounts, lunch sales, athletic gate fees, concessions sales and advertising.
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5700 Revenues from Local and Intermediate Sources

- Local Real and Personal Property Taxes
- Service Rendered to Other School Districts
- Tuition and Fees
- Other Revenues from Local Sources
- Cocurricular, Enterprising Services or Activities
- Revenues from Intermediate Sources

5800 State Program Revenues

- Per Capita and Foundation School Program
- State program Revenues distributed by TEA
- State Revenues Other than TEA
- Shared Services Arrangements

5900 Federal Program Revenue

- Other than State or Federal Agencies
- Federal Revenues Distributed by TEA
- Federal Revenues Distributed other than TEA
- Directly from the Federal Government

6000 Expenditure/Expense Control Accounts: Expenditure budgets are legally adopted at the fund and function level; however, within this document we have talked about segregated expenditures by major objects.

- 6100 Payroll Costs
- 6200 Professional and Contracted Services
- 6300 Supplies and Materials
- 6400 Other Operating Costs
- 6500 Debt Service
- 6600 Capital Outlay

Sub-Object Code

A 2-digit code for optional use to provide special accountability at the local level.