



RICHLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT TWO

Proposed General Fund Budget

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

Kim D. Moore
Superintendent

Nancy W. Williams
Senior Chief Financial Officer

**RICHLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT TWO
PROPOSED GENERAL FUND BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS
FY 2025-2026**

Revenue Highlights

The Proposed FY 25-26 General Fund Budget includes additional revenues over the prior year that total \$28,568,105 (6 mills and the use of fund balance) and includes:

- State estimates from the Appropriations Act as adopted by the SC House of Representatives results in a net state funding increase of \$9,079,685. This budget reflects projections for the State Aid to Classroom Program and the related transfer from EIA funds, as well as both Health Insurance and State Retiree Insurance funding as provided by the State Department of Education.
- The local revenue projections are based on a proposed millage rate of 317.1, which reflects a 6 mill increase over the prior year. The millage cap per Act 388 is calculated to be 17 mills and is based on a prior year population growth percentage of 2.53% and CPI of 2.95%.
- Included in the increase over the FY 25 budget is a use of fund balance in the amount of \$15,543,045 to fund non-recurring district needs.

Expenditure Highlights

The Proposed General Fund Budget also includes expenditures that total \$415,350,055. So that we can strive to accommodate the needs of each child within our District, the budget projections have an emphasis on salaries; retention and recruitment of high quality employees; special education compliance; and academic achievement by focusing on high-quality Tier I instruction and quality instructional materials.

The proposed budget strives to meet district priorities by:

- Maintaining class size ratios
- Increasing the starting salary on the Teacher Salary Schedule to \$50,750 (includes classroom teachers, librarians, guidance counselors, psychologists, social workers, occupational and physical therapists, school nurses, orientation/mobility instructors, and audiologists, as outlined in the State Appropriations Act)
- Providing step increases for all eligible staff
- Establishing a sign-on bonus for special education teachers and instructional assistants
- Providing a one time retention bonus for all employees
- Addressing numerous other needs to maintain existing programs and address supporting services capacity needs. Some of the other items included in the proposed budget are:
 - Additional positions, technology, and evaluation tools to support Special Education Services
- This budget includes a local millage rate increase of 6 mills and also uses existing resources to meet growing needs

Additional details outlining changes to budgeted expenditures can be found on page 5 of the budget document.

Richland School District Two
FY 2025 - 2026
GENERAL FUND BUDGET SUMMARY

REVENUES

REVENUE SOURCE	2024-25 Budget	2025-2026 Projections	Increase (Decrease) over 2024-25 Budget	% Change*
Local Property Tax	\$132,203,925	\$134,230,699	\$2,026,774	1.53%
Property Tax Relief (Includes Act 388)	61,714,333	63,632,934	\$1,918,601	3.11%
State Revenue for Fringe Benefits <i>(PEBA Credit is included in separate line)</i>	-	-	\$0	0.00%
State Revenue for Pupil Transportation	2,056,173	2,086,173	\$30,000	1.46%
NEW Education Funding - Aid to Classroom Program	138,524,116	143,589,303	\$5,065,187	3.66%
NEW Education Funding - Aid to Classroom Program - Transfer from EIA	28,576,936	30,229,997	\$1,653,061	5.78%
State Health and Retiree Insurance	14,038,359	16,369,796	\$2,331,437	16.61%
Interest Income	750,000	750,000	\$0	0.00%
Federal Impact Aid	250,000	250,000	\$0	0.00%
Indirect Cost	1,135,000	1,135,000	\$0	0.00%
Other State Revenue - PEBA Credit	1,783,108	1,783,108	\$0	0.00%
Revenue from Other Sources	750,000	750,000	\$0	0.00%
Use of Fund Balance	5,000,000	20,543,045.00	15,543,045.00	3.108609
TOTAL REVENUE - GENERAL FUND	\$386,781,950	\$415,350,055	\$28,568,105	7.39%

EXPENDITURES

PROJECTED EXPENDITURES	2024-25 Budget	2025-2026 Projections	Increase (Decrease) over 2024-25 Budget	% Change*
Salaries	\$224,803,482	\$230,942,439	\$6,138,957	2.73%
<i>Salaries Category includes all expenditures paid to employees of the district for wages.</i>				
Benefits	97,350,642	102,517,946	\$5,167,304	5.31%
<i>Benefits Category includes all employer's costs associated with employee benefits, such as, health insurance, retirement, social security match, etc.</i>				
Utilities	9,478,142	9,478,142	\$0	0.00%
<i>Utilities Category includes costs associated with Energy, Gas, Electric, Water, Sewer & Phone</i>				
Property and Operation Contracts	17,130,416	17,130,416	\$0	0.00%
<i>Property and Operation Contracts Category includes costs associated with custodial services, landscaping, pest control, energy management, Property & Casualty Insurance, garbage, etc.</i>				
Maintenance and Repairs	3,122,733	3,122,733	\$0	0.00%
<i>Maintenance and Repairs Category includes costs associated with general Maintenance, repairs and upkeep of the district facilities and equipment.</i>				
Purchased Services	21,149,945	26,236,989	\$5,087,044	24.05%
<i>Purchased Services Category includes SRO contract with Sheriff's department, Contracted Substitute Services, student transportation, staff travel, mileage reimbursements, professional services (legal, audit, etc.), printing/binding, copier rentals, annual subscriptions and all other contracted services</i>				
Supplies and Equipment	6,124,297	6,799,097	\$674,800	11.02%
<i>Supplies and Equipment Category includes Instructional supplies used in the classroom, technology equipment and supplies, periodicals, textbooks/library books, technology software, office supplies and equipment, etc.</i>				
Other Expenditures	7,622,293	19,122,293	\$11,500,000	150.87%
<i>Other Expenditures includes items not broken out in the above categories. Some examples are organization membership, other insurance costs (including costs associated with workers' compensation), and transfers to other funds</i>				
TOTAL EXPENDITURES - GENERAL FUND	\$386,781,950	\$415,350,055	\$28,568,105	7.39%

**Richland School District Two
Estimated General Operating Value of a Mill
Budget 2025-2026**

Calculation of Mill Cap

Population Growth		2.53%
CPI		2.95%
Percent Millage can increase		5.48%
Current Millage Rate		311.10
Plus: Millage Cap Increase		17.0
Total Allowable Mills based on Cap for FY 2025-26		328.10

	PRIOR YEAR FOR REFERENCE ONLY	FY 25-26 With a 6 Mill Increase
Projected Mill Value for FY 25-26 (Based on Estimated Value)	394,000	404,000
Millage Rate	311.1	317.1
Projected Net Local Property Tax Revenue	122,573,400	128,108,400
State Property Tax Relief:		
Tier I	8,759,334	8,759,334
Tier II	1,894,248	1,894,248
Tier III	51,060,751	52,979,352
	61,714,333	63,632,934
Estimated Other State Reimbursements	3,826,355	4,122,299
Estimated Carry-Forward	5,804,170	2,000,000
Total Revenue from Local Tax and State Tax Reimbursements that Flow through Richland County	193,918,258	197,863,633

	No Mill Increase
	6 Mill Increase
	Uses fund balance
*	Required by State Law

RICHLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT TWO
General Fund Budget Increases Estimated with a 6 Mill Increase
FY 2025 - 2026

	Description	FTE's	Estimated Increase	Remaining
	Estimated Total Revenue Increase over Prior Year Budget		\$ 28,568,105	
	Recurring Revenue		\$ 13,025,060	
1	Step Increase for Teachers*		2,398,000	\$ 26,170,105
2	Estimated Health Insurance- 5.9% from last year's mandate-Active Employees*		1,809,181	\$ 24,360,924
3	4.6% Health Insurance- Retirees*		1,406,548	\$ 22,954,376
4	Bus Driver Salary increase-2%*		184,275	\$ 22,770,101
5	Step increase for all other employees		2,195,100	\$ 20,575,001
6	Special Education Compliance (4 teachers, 2 instructional assistants, 2 RBTs, 1 SLP, 1 interpreter and 2 office professionals)	12.0	1,061,160	\$ 19,513,841
7	Special Education Compliance (2 teachers, 12 instructional assistants, and 3 office professionals)	17.0	1,116,429	\$ 18,397,412
8	Increase in the SRO Contract with RCSD		80,000	\$ 18,317,412
9	Teacher salary increase (increase teacher salary by \$750)		2,774,367	15,543,045
	Total From Recurring Revenue		13,025,060	\$ 15,543,045
	Funded with Non-Recurring Fund Balance		\$ 15,543,045	
10	Maintenance-DHEC Retention Ponds		250,000	\$ 15,293,045
11	HVAC Compliance-Freon		30,000	\$ 15,263,045
12	Retention Bonus for all Staff		2,314,475	\$ 12,948,570
13	Special Education Sign-on Bonus		193,770	\$ 12,754,800
14	K-3 UFLI Foundations n Support Lessons		40,000	\$ 12,714,800
15	Read 180 curriculum for Reading Seminar		40,000	\$ 12,674,800
16	Per Pupil Expenditure for Library Books		420,000	\$ 12,254,800
17	Guided Math Training for Secondary Teachers		40,000	\$ 12,214,800
18	Equipment for SRO at Blythewood Academy		80,000	\$ 12,134,800
19	Consultant for new ERP System		400,000	\$ 11,734,800
20	Contractor-Program Evaluation		60,000	\$ 11,674,800
21	School Psychologists Supplies: 68 iPad and 34 laptops for school psychologists		74,800	\$ 11,600,000
22	Standardized Evaluation Tools		100,000	\$ 11,500,000
23	Transfer to Capital Projects Fund		11,500,000	\$ -
	Total from Non-Recurring Fund Balance		15,543,045	\$ -
	Estimated Total Expenditures Increase Over Prior Year Budget	29.0	\$ 28,568,105	
	Estimated Excess Revenues over Expenditures		\$ -	