

Fiscal Year 2027 Draft Budget

FEBRUARY 2026

Presented by Scott Hough, Superintendent of Schools



About Summit



Highly Ranked School District

We consistently rank among the top school districts in NJ, as well as best places to live.



Highly Qualified Teachers and Leaders

We continue to recruit, develop, retain, empower, and support the highest caliber educators to provide outstanding educational experiences for all students.



Our Commitment to Excellence

The tradition of excellence in Summit Public Schools has been supported by an involved community and strong and effective Board of Education.

Our Strengths



Academic Rigor PreK-12

Comprehensive Curriculum
New English Language Arts
AP Courses
Honors Courses
National Merit Scholars
K-12 STEAM Initiative



Athletics & Co-Curriculars

30 Varsity Sports
United Gold Division Champions: Football
Watchung Division Champions: Boys Soccer
Approx. 900 students participate
Over 40 Co-Curricular Activities



The Arts

Award-winning Performing Arts
Department
53 Music, Theater, and
Visual Arts offerings
Full & Half Year courses
Approx. 500 students participate

Our Values

As an educational community, we believe that...

Finance and Facilities

A robust and innovative curriculum and the needs of students should drive the budget.

Finance and Facilities

There needs to be a thorough and transparent budget and allocation process and analysis with fiscal responsibility.

Finance and Facilities

Facilities need to meet the students' learning needs while creating a welcoming and warm learning environment.

Finance and Facilities

Recruiting and retaining top talent is essential for student success.

Doing Our Homework

CONDUCTING A ROBUST EXAMINATION OF SIGNIFICANT EXPENSES



HEALTH BENEFITS

Checking the market for healthcare provider solutions



PROPERTY & CASUALTY INSURANCE

Evaluating with our brokers for property & casualty solutions



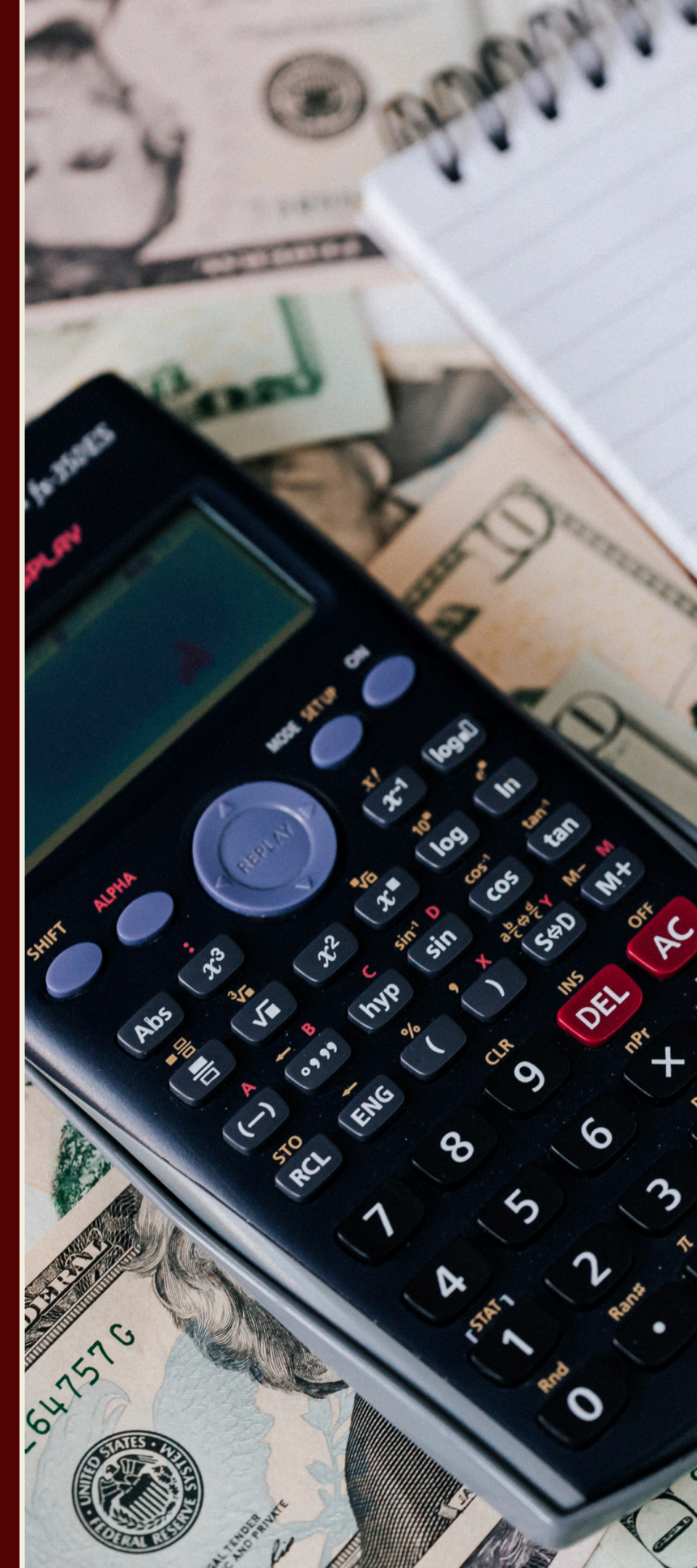
SALARIES

Reviewing staffing with administration; Using attrition, positions not being filled based on student need



ENERGY COSTS

Working with energy consultants to maximize efficiencies with gas and electric usage



Doing Our Homework

CONDUCTING A ROBUST EXAMINATION OF SIGNIFICANT EXPENSES



SUPPLIES AND RESOURCES

Conducting thorough audit of our existing inventory and leveraging current resources



SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES

Reviewing our in-district programs and out-of-district placements



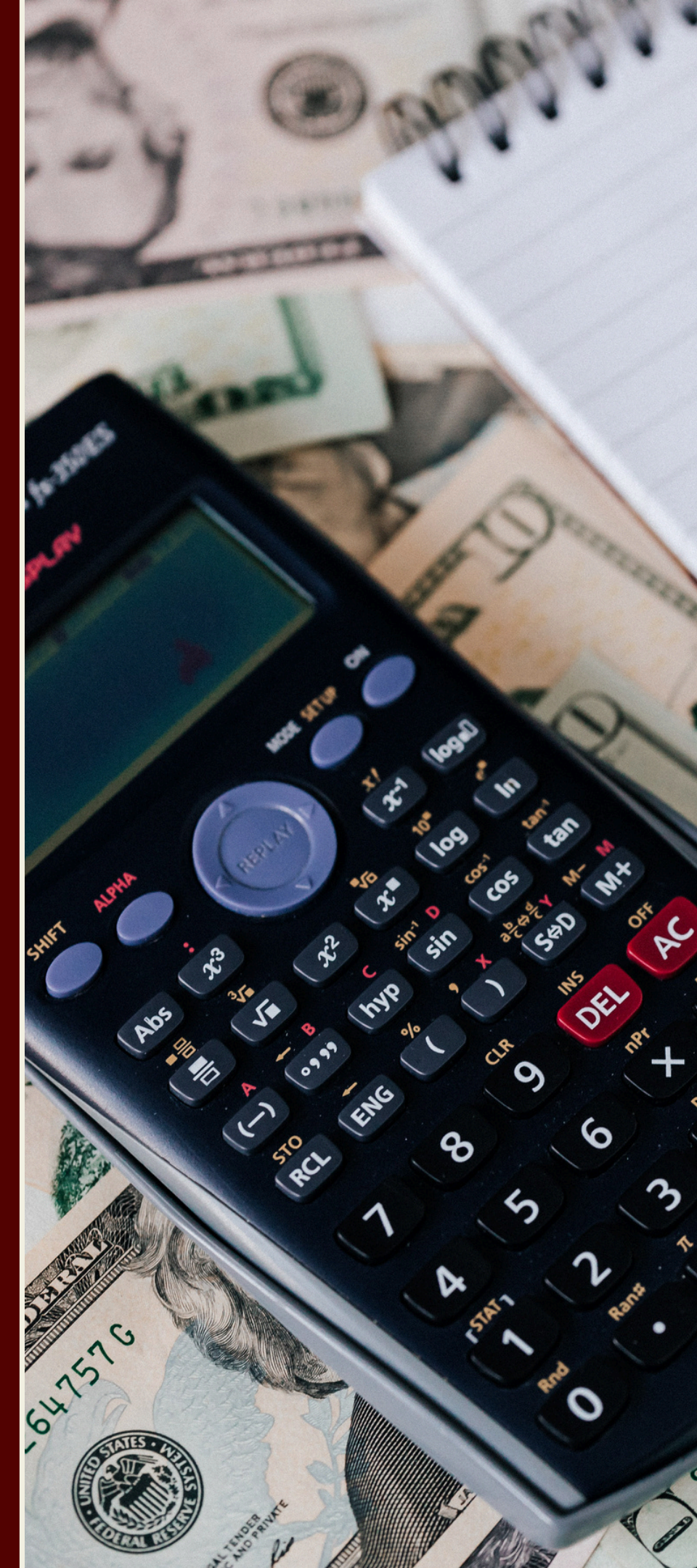
FACILITIES

Assessing our multi-year maintenance and facilities plan, along with federal and state grants



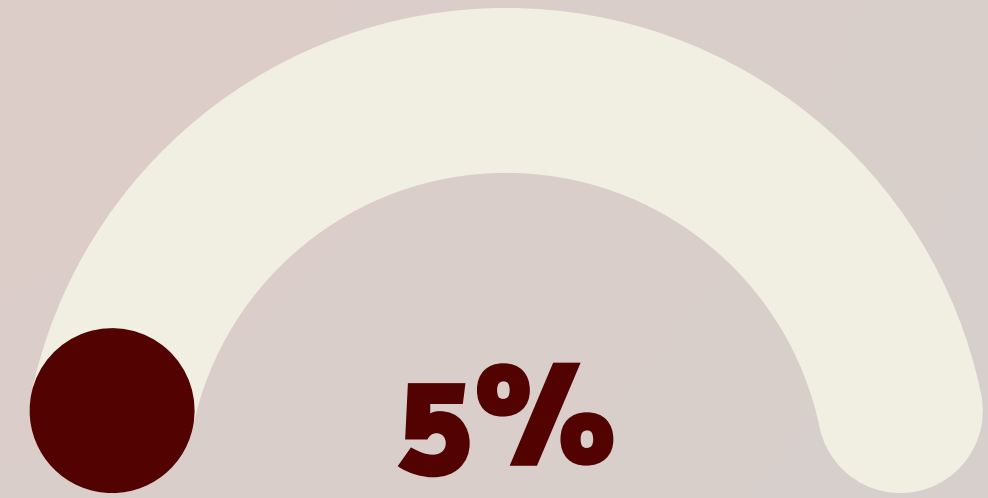
OTHER OPERATIONS

Evaluating overall operations: print services, purchasing consortiums and cooperatives, potential shared services

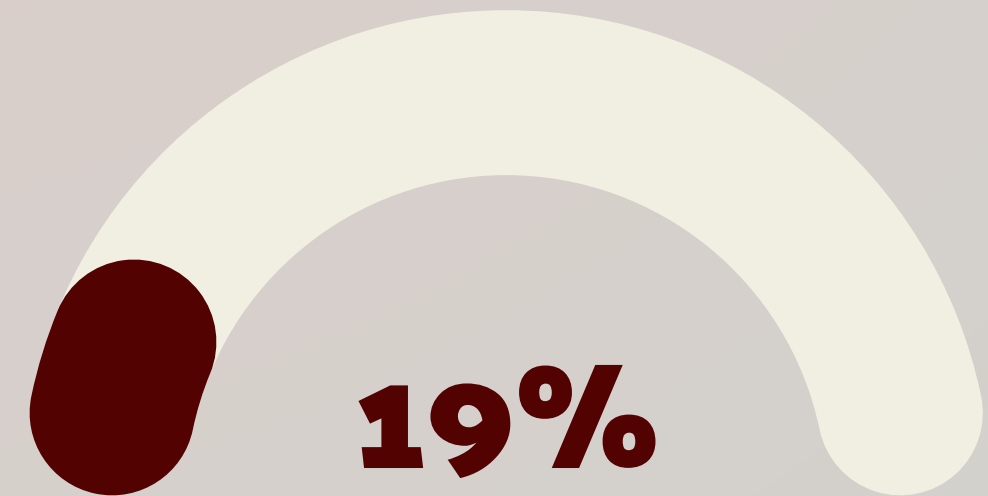


FY 27 Draft Budget Tax Levy Increase of 5.17%

Current Key Assumptions



Projected State Aid Decrease



Projected Healthcare Benefit
Premiums Increase

What Is In 5.17%

3%

HEALTH CARE

3% of the 5.17% increase consists of rising healthcare costs

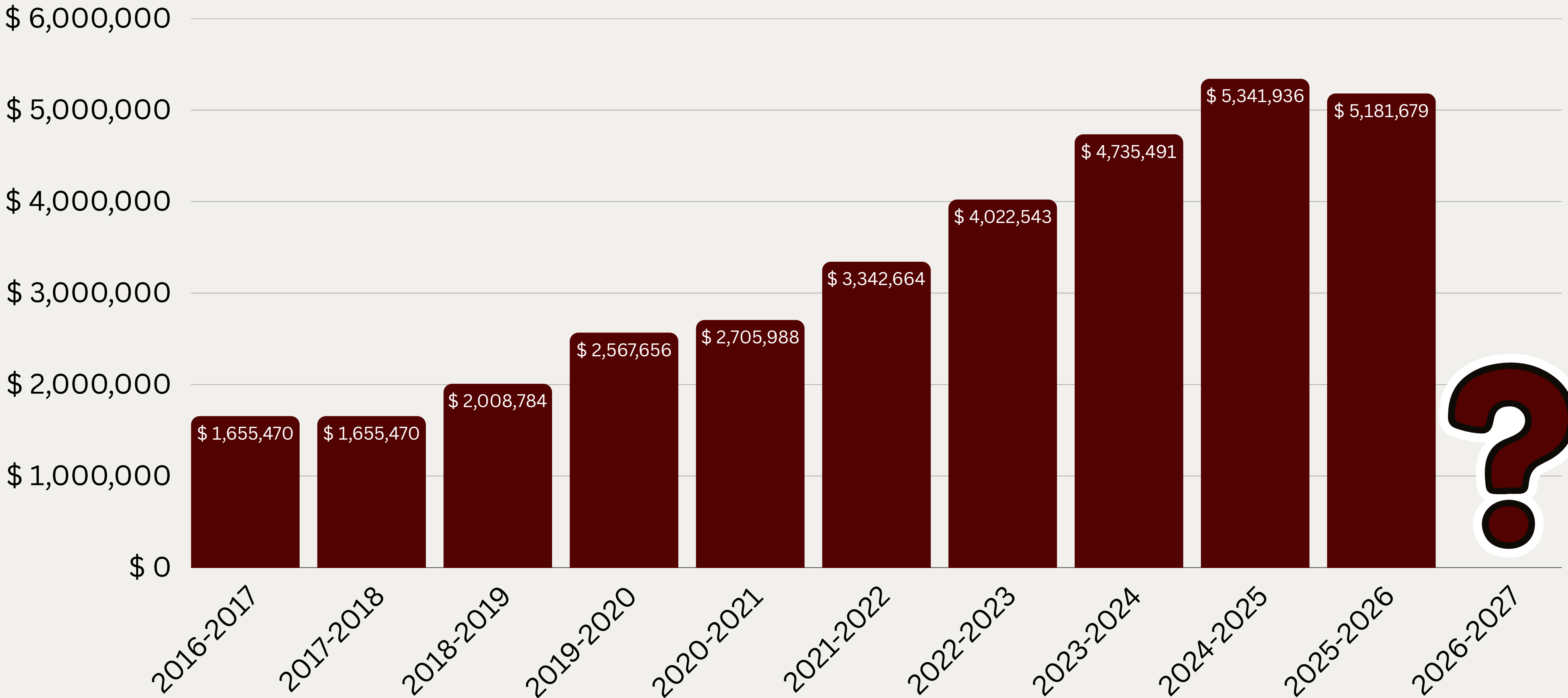
2.17%

ALL OTHER INCREASES

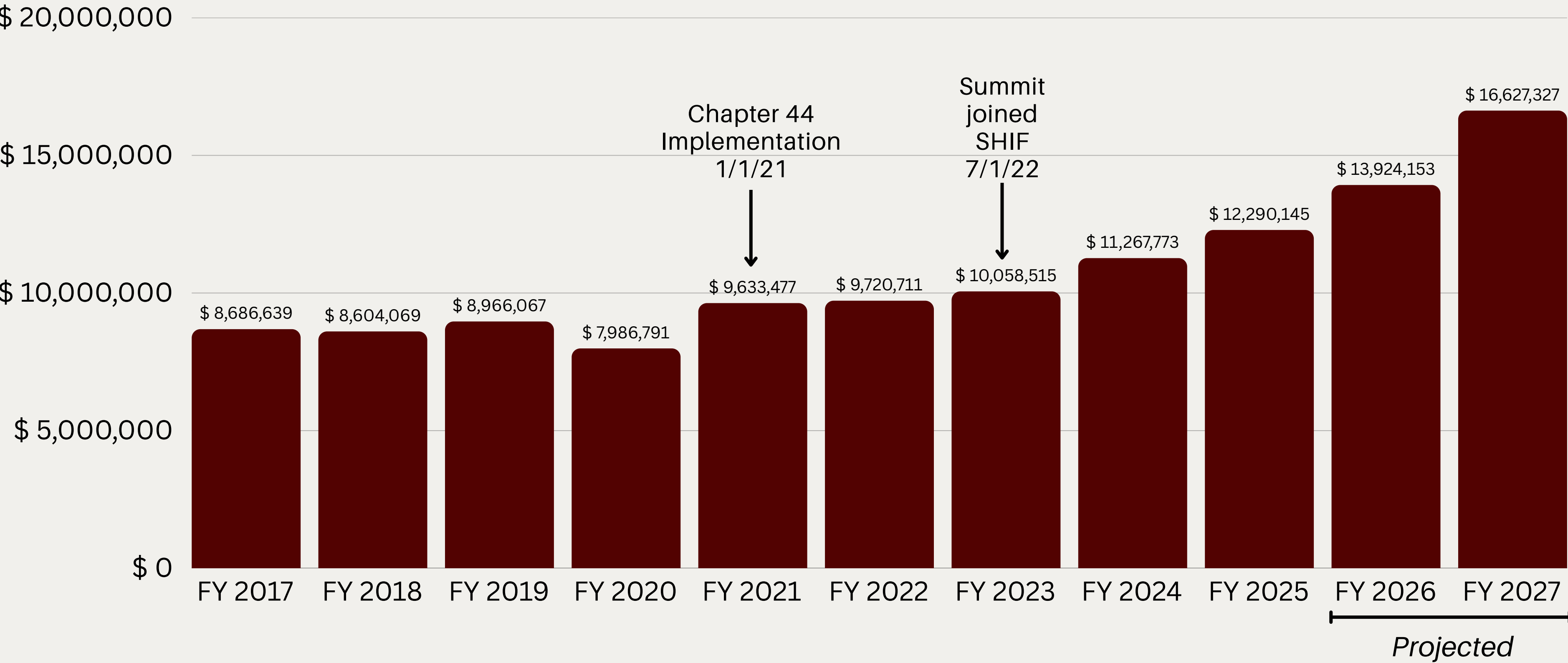
Salaries/Benefits
Other insurance
Energy and utilities
Special Ed tuition/services
Transportation
Other operating needs



History of State Aid



History of Health Benefits Cost





FY27 Tax Levy Allowable Adjusted Cap

Standard Tax Levy Cap Increase + FY27 Health Care Adjustment	5.17%
Eligible Banked Cap	0.38%
TOTAL	5.55%

Student Success



AP COURSES

In the Class of 2025, 73% of seniors took at least one AP Exam during high school, 70% of seniors scored a three or higher on at least one AP Exam, and 9% of seniors took five or more AP Exams



MERIT SCHOLARS

In February, Summit High School is honoring 25 National Merit Scholar recipients



STATE RECOGNITION

Our Elementary World Language program was named a Model Program by the State Dept. of Education



NJSLA SCORES

In 2025, approximately 80% of students scored at or above grade-level standards, which far exceeds state average



Questions from the Board?

Next Presentation: March 2026
Meeting date is dependent on the revised
NJDOE Budget Calendar