



Cambrian School District

Fiscal Outlook: Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

We want our community to be informed about the fiscal challenges our district faces and the steps we are taking to address them. Below are answers to common questions based on the Cambrian Board-approved Fiscal Stability Plan and county-level guidance for the 2025–26 Second Interim budget revision and multiyear projections.

1. What is the current fiscal outlook for Cambrian?

Like many districts in California, Cambrian faces ongoing fiscal challenges due to declining enrollment, rising pension and benefit costs, and the expiration of one-time funding sources. These factors continue to put long-term pressure on district budgets.

2. What steps has Cambrian taken to address these fiscal challenges?

The Cambrian Board of Trustees approved a \$2.6 million Fiscal Stability Plan to correct our structural budget imbalance by 2026–27. The plan includes a school consolidation and strategic adjustments to align expenditures with projected revenues. These actions are designed to protect our educational programs from more disruptive cuts in future years.

3. Why is school consolidation part of the Fiscal Stability Plan?

Enrollment declines mean some schools no longer have sufficient student numbers to sustain optimal class sizes and operational efficiency. Consolidating schools allows the district to conserve resources, reduce costs, and strengthen districtwide instructional programs.

4. Can the new state budget proposal solve Cambrian's budget issues?

While the Governor's January proposal includes modest cost-of-living adjustments (COLA), these increases do not fully offset declining enrollment and rising fixed costs. The state budget is not finalized until summer, and additional funding beyond COLA is uncertain. Districts have been advised to plan conservatively.

5. What does 'Fiscal Stability Plan' mean, and how is it different from making budget cuts?

A Fiscal Stability Plan identifies clear, measurable actions to eliminate a structural budget deficit. It is proactive, focusing on long-term sustainability rather than temporary solutions. The goal is to ensure the district remains financially stable and solvent over time.

6. How will these fiscal adjustments impact schools?

The plan includes a school consolidation and strategic adjustments. The district is committed to minimizing disruption, maintaining high-quality instructional programs, and supporting students and staff throughout any transitions.

7. Is Cambrian in a financial crisis?

No. Cambrian is not insolvent. The Board has taken early, responsible action to address structural challenges before they become more serious. This proactive approach supports long-term stability and protects educational programs.



8. How can families stay informed?

The district will continue providing updates through Board meetings, district communications, and school site leaders. We encourage families to stay engaged and reach out with questions.

For additional questions, please contact the Cambrian School District Office.

Linh Nguyen
Interim Chief Business Officer
Cambrian School District
nguyenl@cambriansd.com