

Ocean- Lakewood Twp

Notice is hereby given to the legal voters of the Lakewood Township school district, in the County of Ocean, of the State of New Jersey, that a Public Hearing will be held at the Lakewood High School Commons at 855 Somerset Avenue, Lakewood, NJ 08701 on Wednesday, April 29, 2026 beginning at 7:00 pm for the purpose of conducting a public hearing on the following budget for the 2026-2027 school year.

If you have any questions regarding this notice, please contact the Lakewood BOE Business Office during regular business hours from 8:00 A.M to 4:00 P.M by calling 732-364-2400 x 7044 or by emailing Mr. Kevin Campbell, Business Administrator/Board Secretary at kcampbell@lakewoodpiners.org.

Advertised Enrollments

Enrollment Categories	October		
	15, 2024 Actual	15, 2025 Actual	15, 2026 Estimated
Pupils On Roll Regular Full-Time	3,413	3,185	3,183
Pupils On Roll Regular Shared-Time	136	142	142
Pupils On Roll Reg Accr. Adult High Sch	37	26	0
Pupils On Roll - Special Full-Time	1,092	942	1,331
Pupils On Roll - Special Shared-Time	26	35	35
Subtotal - Pupils On Roll	4,704	4,330	4,691
Private School Placements	430	430	430
Pupils Sent to Contracted Preschool Prog	0	24	0
Pupils Sent to Other Districts - Reg Prog	3	4	7
Pupils Sent to Other Dists - Spec Ed Prog	30	28	28
Pupils Received	2	0	0
Pupils in State Facilities	8	11	11

Ocean - Lakewood Twp
Advertised Revenues

Budget Category	Account	2024-25 Actual	2025-26 Revised	2026-27 Proposed
Operating Budget:				
Revenues from Local Sources:				
Local Tax Levy-Base Budget	10-1210	113,378,248	116,685,300	123,933,804
Total Tax Levy	10-121x	113,378,248	116,685,300	123,933,804
Total Tuition	10-1300	192,292	0	0
Rents and Royalties	10-1910	51,442	5,000	5,000
Sale of Property	10-1930	0	34,655,942	0
Unrestricted Miscellaneous Revenues	10-1XXX	0	1,597,460	2,057,460
Other Restricted Miscellaneous Revenues / Paycheck Protection Program (APSSDs Only)	10-1XXX	2,681,558	0	0
Total Revenues from Local Sources		116,303,540	152,943,702	125,996,264
Revenues from State Sources:				
Categorical Transportation Aid	10-3121	4,471,500	17,839,762	19,294,386
Extraordinary Aid	10-3131	16,696,536	14,500,000	15,500,000
Categorical Special Education Aid	10-3132	5,347,332	9,493,745	9,739,489
Equalization Aid	10-3176	14,958,782	0	0
Categorical Security Aid	10-3177	2,763,710	1,860,295	1,911,555
Department of Education Loan Against State Aid	10-3199	80,000,000	100,004,409	138,184,006
Other State Aids	10-3XXX	7,785,215	3,250,000	6,000,000
State Reimbursement for Menstrual Products	10-3301	870	0	0
Total Revenues from State Sources		132,023,945	146,948,211	190,629,436
Revenues from Federal Sources:				
Medicaid Reimbursement	10-4200	637,815	130,909	1,261,357
Total Revenues from Federal Sources		637,815	130,909	1,261,357
Budgeted Fund Balance-Operating Budget				
Withdrawal from Capital Reserve for Excess Cost and Other Capital Projects	10-303	0	8,519,027	6,033,153
Withdrawal from Unemployment Fund Balance	10-309	0	1,456,891	0
Adjustment for Prior Year Encumbrances	10-320	0	62,500	0
Actual Revenues (Over)/Under Expenditures		0	1,345,471	0
Total Operating Budget		14,498,584	0	0
		263,463,884	311,406,711	323,920,210
Grants and Entitlements:				
Student Activity Fund Revenue	20-1760	227,952	137,500	200,000
Scholarship Fund Revenue	20-1770	15,082	100,000	30,000
Other Revenue from Local Sources	20-1XXX	4,950,432	3,300,000	0
Total Revenues from Local Sources	20-1XXX	5,193,466	3,537,500	230,000
Revenues from State Sources:				
Preschool Education Aid-Prior Year Carryover	20-3218	0	197,188	0
Preschool Education Aid	20-3218	4,163,316	4,364,518	5,337,298
Nonpublic Teacher Stem Grant	20-3212	49,930	60,802	70,000
Other Restricted Entitlements	20-32XX	60,961,776	66,454,652	48,588,979
Total Revenues from State Sources		65,175,022	71,077,160	53,996,277
Revenues from Federal Sources:				
Title I	20-4411-4416	39,457,884	38,968,085	30,638,453
Title II	20-4451-4455	3,359,342	2,750,133	2,062,560
Title III	20-4491-4494	847,290	1,165,103	919,577
Title IV	20-4471-4474	2,807,291	2,777,040	2,077,530
IDEA Part B (Handicapped)	20-4420-4429	12,634,618	12,065,557	9,049,168
ARP-ESSER Subgrant-Accelerated Learning Coaching and Educator Support Grant	20-4541	14,000	0	0
ARP-ESSER Subgrant-Evidence-Based Summer Learning and Enrichment Activities Grant	20-4542	34,954	0	0
ARP-ESSER Subgrant-Evidence-Based Comprehensive Beyond the School Day Activities Grant	20-4543	4,037	0	0
ARP-ESSER	20-4540	2,896,422	0	0
Other	20-4XXX	584,419	553,382	415,037
Total Revenues from Federal Sources		62,640,257	58,279,300	45,162,325
Transfers from Operating Budget-Pre-Kindergarten	20-5200	1,216,733	0	0
Transfers from Operating Budget-Pre-Kindergarten (Special Education)	20-5200	0	1,320,752	1,416,562
Actual Revenues (Over)/Under Expenditures-Student Activity Fund		-23,384	0	0
Actual Revenues (Over)/Under Expenditures-Scholarship Fund		-8,361	0	0
Total Grants and Entitlements		134,193,733	134,214,712	100,805,164
Repayment of Debt:				
Revenues from Local Sources:				
Local Tax Levy	40-1210	1,703,727	1,670,328	1,717,575

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Ocean- Lakewood Twp
Advertised Revenues

Budget Category	Account	2024-25 Actual	2025-26 Revised	2026-27 Proposed
Total Revenues from Local Sources		1,703,727	1,670,328	1,717,575
Revenues from State Sources:				
Debt Service Aid Type II	40-3160	689,045	691,160	694,175
Budgeted Fund Balance	40-303	0	39,787	0
Total Local Repayment of Debt		2,392,772	2,401,275	2,411,750
Actual Revenues (Over)/Under Expenditures		1,153	0	0
Total Repayment of Debt		2,393,925	2,401,275	2,411,750
Total Revenues/Sources		400,051,542	448,022,698	427,137,124
Deduct Transfer-Transfers from Operating Budget-Pre-Kindergarten	20-5200	1,216,733	0	0
Deduct Transfer-Transfers from Operating Budget-Pre-Kindergarten (Special Education)	20-5200	0	1,320,752	1,416,562
Total Revenues/Sources Net of Transfers		398,834,809	446,701,946	425,720,562

Ocean- Lakewood Twp
Advertised Appropriations

Budget Category	Account	2024-25 Actual	2025-26 Revised	2026-27 Proposed
General Current Expense:				
Instruction:				
Regular Programs-Instruction	11-1XX-100-XXX	3,612,063	4,875,030	5,289,568
Special Education-Instruction	11-2XX-100-XXX	3,166,559	3,055,145	2,965,702
Bilingual Education-Instruction	11-240-100-XXX	97,234	280,917	146,742
School-Sponsored Cocurricular or Extracurricular Activities-Instruction	11-401-100-XXX	176	250	250
School-Sponsored Athletics-Instruction	11-402-100-XXX	1,243,192	1,158,061	939,803
Before/After School Programs	11-421-XXX-XXX	0	7,000	0
Summer School	11-422-XXX-XXX	1,066,785	1,189,810	905,000
Support Services:				
Undistributed Expenditures-Instruction (Tuition)	11-000-100-XXX	69,448,589	83,937,166	94,054,887
Undistributed Expenditures-Attendance and Social Work	11-000-211-XXX	224,419	219,362	217,491
Undistributed Expenditures-Health Services	11-000-213-XXX	6,574	71,448	62,500
Undistributed Expenditures-Speech, OT, PT and Related Services	11-000-216-XXX	5,704,196	7,751,650	7,261,906
Undistributed Expenditures-Other Support Services, Students>Extraordinary Services	11-000-217-XXX	3,253,249	3,876,732	3,590,204
Undistributed Expenditures-Guidance	11-000-218-XXX	75,723	82,193	83,235
Undistributed Expenditures-Child Study Teams	11-000-219-XXX	4,558,739	5,472,827	4,990,525
Undistributed Expenditures-Improvement of Instruction Services	11-000-221-XXX	2,766,936	2,785,875	2,774,047
Undistributed Expenditures-Instructional Staff Training Services	11-000-223-XXX	34,689	67,000	67,000
Undistributed Expenditures-Support Services-General Administration	11-000-230-XXX	25,450,091	42,937,784	41,018,818
Undistributed Expenditures-Support Services-School Administration	11-000-240-XXX	126,528	135,724	0
Undistributed Expenditures-Central Services	11-000-251-XXX	1,981,782	2,185,545	1,794,875
Undistributed Expenditures-Administrative InformationTechnology	11-000-252-XXX	1,378,391	1,578,661	1,290,077
Undistributed Expenditures-Operation and Maintenance of Plant Services	11-000-26X-XXX	14,182,206	15,360,932	14,662,665
Undistributed Expenditures-Student Transportation Services	11-000-270-XXX	46,071,133	48,764,608	48,014,177
Personal Services-Employee Benefits	11-XXX-XXX-2XX	28,024,092	19,888,738	21,040,513
Total Undistributed Expenditures		203,287,337	235,116,245	240,922,920
Total General Current Expense		212,473,346	245,682,458	251,169,985
Capital Expenditures:				
Equipment	12-XXX-XXX-730	584,816	361,677	304,200
Facilities Acquisition and Construction Services	12-000-400-XXX	2,353,529	1,500,439	1,653,096
Total Capital Outlay		2,938,345	1,862,116	1,957,296
Transfer of Funds to Charter Schools	10-000-100-56X	12,032,320	12,775,052	13,699,830
General Fund Contribution to School Based Budgeting	10-000-520-930	36,019,873	51,087,085	57,093,099
General Fund Grand Total		263,463,884	311,406,711	323,920,210
Special Grants and Entitlements:				
Local Projects	20-XXX-XXX-XXX	4,950,432	3,300,000	0
Student Activity Fund	20-475-XXX-XXX	204,568	137,500	200,000
Scholarship Fund	20-476-XXX-XXX	6,721	100,000	30,000
Preschool Education Aid:				
Preschool Education Aid Instruction	20-218-100-XXX	2,693,563	2,962,882	1,993,113
Support Services	20-218-200-XXX	2,686,486	2,919,576	4,610,747
Facility Acquisition and Construction Services	20-218-400-XXX	0	0	150,000
Total Preschool Education Aid	20-218-XXX-XXX	5,380,049	5,882,458	6,753,860
Other State Projects:				
Nonpublic Textbooks	20-XXX-XXX-XXX	2,230,829	2,674,381	1,736,176
Nonpublic Auxiliary Services	20-XXX-XXX-XXX	34,230,204	35,049,726	25,535,760
Nonpublic Handicapped Services	20-XXX-XXX-XXX	7,961,480	9,158,260	6,637,829
Nonpublic Nursing Services	20-XXX-XXX-XXX	4,718,234	7,303,729	5,477,797
Nonpublic Technology Initiative	20-XXX-XXX-XXX	2,192,678	1,985,141	1,488,856
Nonpublic Security Aid	20-XXX-XXX-XXX	9,628,351	10,283,415	7,712,561
Nonpublic Teacher Stem Grant	20-481-XXX-XXX	49,930	60,802	70,000
Total Other State Projects		61,011,706	66,515,454	48,658,979
Total State Projects	20-XXX-XXX-XXX	66,391,755	72,397,912	55,412,839
Federal Projects:				
Title I	20-XXX-XXX-XXX	38,692,383	36,225,630	29,638,453
Title II	20-XXX-XXX-XXX	3,359,342	2,750,133	2,062,560
Title III	20-XXX-XXX-XXX	847,290	1,165,103	919,577
Title IV	20-XXX-XXX-XXX	2,807,291	2,777,040	2,077,530
IDEA Part B (Handicapped)	20-XXX-XXX-XXX	12,634,618	12,065,557	9,049,168
Other	20-XXX-XXX-XXX	584,419	553,382	415,037
ARP-ESSER Grant Program	20-487-xxx-xxx	2,896,422	0	0
ARP-ESSER Subgrant Accelerated Learning Coaching and Educator Support Grant	20-488-xxx-xxx	14,000	0	0
ARP-ESSER Subgrant Evidence-Based Summer Learning and Enrichment Activities Grant	20-489-xxx-xxx	34,954	0	0

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Ocean- Lakewood Twp
Advertised Appropriations

Budget Category	Account	2024-25 Actual	2025-26 Revised	2026-27 Proposed
ARP-ESSER Subgrant Evidence-Based Comprehensive Beyond the School Day Activities	20-490-xxx-xxx	4,037	0	0
Grant				
Contribution to School Based Budgeting-Other Federal Projects	20-XXX-520-930	765,501	2,742,455	1,000,000
Total Federal Projects	20-XXX-XXX-XXX	62,640,257	58,279,300	45,162,325
Total Special Revenue Funds		134,193,733	134,214,712	100,805,164
Repayment of Debt:				
Total Regular Debt Service	40-701-510-XXX	2,393,925	2,401,275	2,411,750
Total Debt Service Funds		2,393,925	2,401,275	2,411,750
Total Expenditures/Appropriations		400,051,542	448,022,698	427,137,124
Deduct Transfer-Local Contribution-Transfer To Special Revenues-Regular	11-105-100-935	1,216,733	0	0
Deduct Transfer-Local Contribution-Transfer To Special Revenues-Inclusion	11-105-100-936	0	1,320,752	1,416,562
Total Expenditures Net of Transfers		398,834,809	446,701,946	425,720,562

Ocean - Lakewood Twp
Advertised Recapitulation of Balances

Budget Category	Audited Balance 06-30-2024	Audited Balance 06-30-2025	Estimated Balance 06-30-2026	Estimated Balance 06-30-2027
Unrestricted:				
(General Operating Budget)	12,714,436	10,891,614	10,684,072	4,650,919
(Repayment of Debt)	40,940	39,787	0	0
Restricted for Specific Purposes:				
(General Operating Budget)				
--Capital Reserve	4,067,876	1,456,891	0	0
--Adult Education Programs	0	0	0	0
--Maintenance Reserve	0	0	0	0
--Legal Reserve	17,306,037	8,311,485	0	0
--Unemployment Fund	62,500	62,500	0	0
--Tuition Reserve	0	0	0	0
--Current Expense Emergency Reserve	0	0	0	0
--Impact Aid Reserve for General Expenses (Sections 8002 and 8003)	0	0	0	0
--Impact Aid Reserve for Capital Expenses (Sections 8007 and 8008)	0	0	0	0
(Special Revenue Fund)				
--Student Activity Fund	182,774	206,158	206,158	206,158
--Scholarship Fund	175,963	184,324	184,324	184,324
(Repayment of Debt)				
--Restricted for Repayment of Debt	0	0	0	0

Ocean - Lakewood Twp
Advertised Per Pupil Cost Calculations

Per Pupil Cost Calculations	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2025-26	2026-27
	Actual Costs	Actual Costs	Original Budget	Revised Budget	Proposed Budget
Total Budgetary Comparative Per Pupil Cost	\$25,637	\$28,177	\$32,375	\$35,030	\$32,020
Total Classroom Instruction	\$12,227	\$13,926	\$16,037	\$17,350	\$16,477
Classroom-Salaries and Benefits	\$11,949	\$13,212	\$14,801	\$16,012	\$15,282
Classroom-General Supplies and Textbooks	\$152	\$232	\$520	\$534	\$348
Classroom-Purchased Services	\$127	\$482	\$716	\$805	\$846
Total Support Services	\$6,355	\$6,617	\$8,910	\$9,223	\$8,328
Support Services-Salaries and Benefits	\$5,326	\$5,465	\$6,652	\$6,916	\$6,390
Total Administrative Costs	\$2,975	\$3,256	\$2,627	\$3,421	\$2,773
Administration Salaries and Benefits	\$2,204	\$2,430	\$1,999	\$2,529	\$2,286
Total Operations and Maintenance of Plant	\$3,502	\$3,762	\$4,313	\$4,384	\$3,877
Operations and Maintenance-Salaries and Benefits	\$902	\$934	\$1,153	\$896	\$942
Board Contribution to Food Services	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Extracurricular Costs	\$451	\$479	\$408	\$439	\$344
Total Equipment Costs	\$34	\$144	\$80	\$101	\$110
Legal Costs	\$273	\$341	\$74	\$323	\$163
Restricted Federal and State Revenue other than Preschool Education Aid Included Above**	\$641	\$187	\$155	\$733	\$242
Employee Benefits as a percentage of salaries*	44.76%	47.68%	58.31%	58.52%	71.62%

*Does not include pension and social security paid by the State on-behalf of the district.

** Federal and State funds in the blended resource school-based budgets.

The information presented in columns 1 through 3 as well as the related descriptions of the per pupil cost calculations are contained in the Taxpayers Guide to Education Spending and can be found on the Department of Education website: <http://www.nj.gov/education/guide/>. This publication is also available in the board office and public libraries. The same calculations were performed using the 2025-26 revised appropriations and the 2026-27 budgeted appropriations presented in this advertised budget. Total Budgetary Comparative Per Pupil Cost is defined as current expense exclusive of tuition expenditures, transportation, residential costs, and judgments against the school district. For all years it also includes the restricted entitlement aids. With the exception of Total Equipment Cost, each of the other per pupil cost calculations presented is a component of the total comparative per pupil cost, although all components are not shown.

Ocean- Lakewood Twp
Capital Projects

Description/Activity	Project Number	Dollar Amount	Eligible for Grant	Request to Exceed Referendum	Funding Source for Request to Exceed Referendum
Surge Protection Project	1	\$75,000	N	N	
Gym Flooring	6	\$100,000	N	N	
Sidewalk Repair/Replacement	7	\$63,387	N	N	
Playground Installation	9	\$114,070	N	N	
Roofing Repair/Replacement	14	\$1,300,000	N	N	

Ocean - Lakewood Twp
 Advertised Blended Resource SBB Statement

Budget Category	2024-25 Ac tual	2025-26 R evised	2026-27 Pr oposed
Resources:			
Adjustment for Prior Year Encumbrances	6,734	0	0
General Fund Contribution (15-5200)	36,802,806	51,087,085	57,093,099
Restricted State Entitlements (15-32XX)	0	0	0
Restricted Federal Entitlements (15-44XX)	0	2,742,455	1,000,000
Total SBB Resources	36,809,540	53,829,540	58,093,099
Appropriations:			
Instruction (15-XXX-100-XXX)	30,353,720	32,037,460	31,256,960
Support Services (15-XXX-2XX-XXX)	6,449,350	21,777,030	26,836,139
Equipment (15-XXX-XXX-73X)	6,470	15,050	0
Total SBB Appropriations	36,809,540	53,829,540	58,093,099

The complete budget will be on file and open to examination at the Lakewood Board of Education, 200 Ramsey Avenue, Lakewood, NJ 08701, Ocean County, New Jersey between the hours of 8:00 am and 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, excluding holidays.

The school district has proposed programs and services in addition to the New Jersey Student Learning Standards adopted by the State Board of Education.