Budget FY27 **Proposed Reductions**

For BOE 2nd Reading 5/19/2026 **Town Council Finance Committee recommended reduction of $1.2 million for consideration of full Council on 5/20/2026**

Additions required for second reading:	Reason	Estimated cost	Details
Cell phone ban impacts	HS will no longer be able to use student-owned devices for instructional purposes in programs like Photography, Video Production, Art, and Science. Storage solutions will also be required at the MS and HS to collect and store devices during the school day.	(54,261)	Video Production $28,420; Photography $7,900; General Art $3,038; Science/Technology $6,403; HS Cellphone solution $5,000. $3,500 for MS storage solution.
Special Education - incoming K	5 more FLS students identified with one-to-one (11 vs. 6).	(60,000)	Reviewed existing budget details, can reallocate some staff/tuition slots but will need 1 additional ed tech position. Doesn't allow for unexpected outside placement.
Special Education	Add funding for one additional outside placement per latest student data.	(80,000)	
Total budget increase		**(194,261)**	

Potential Cut	Details	Anticipated savings	Consequence/Impact of cut
Level 1 - no impact - recommended			
Anthem- finalized number at 8.06%	Reduce from original +14% estimate (Total reduction is $505,710 but SNP amount doesn't generate tax	489,997	none
Delta Dental	Reduce from original +4% estimate to actual +3.67%	910	none
Retirees budgeted/withdrawn	Remove stipend and add back breakage calc for 3 teachers.	17,249	none
Total budget reduction Level 1		**508,156**	

Potential reductions summary impact:		
Additional + Level 1 (LC recommended)	**Total reduction from 1st reading**	**313,895**

Level 2 - least impact to student programs & services

Potential Cut	Details	Anticipated savings	Consequence/Impact of cut
3% reduction across non-personnel lines in all school & department budgets.	Original budget was developed per LC level services review.	36,186	No room for inflationary pricing, no buffer against rising costs or tariffs. Purchases of student materials may be delayed, deferred or eliminated.
3% reduction in Facilities supplies & contracted services lines.	Original budget was based on estimated FY26 actuals + 3% inflation or per vendor quotes.	39,800	No room for inflationary pricing, no buffer against rising costs or tariffs. Repairs & maintenance may be delayed, deferred or eliminated.

Potential Cut	Details	Anticipated savings	Consequence/Impact of cut
3% reduction in Athletics & Activities supply & equipment lines.	Original budget was developed per LC level services review.	7,203	No room for inflationary pricing, no buffer against rising costs or tariffs. Purchases of equipment may be delayed or shifted to boosters.
Move EC Interventionist position back to Title IA grant.	Original budget moved position into local budget to protect against potential loss of support if grant funds are cut.	101,246	Grant funds have been shrinking in proportion to staff costs. Risks loss of position if federal funds are eliminated/reduced. Received preliminary grant allocation and looks safe to put entire 1.0 back.
Eliminate two Bus Driver positions (currently unfilled)	Budgeted for full staff of 24 drivers, currently have 18. Reduce by 2 positions.	134,800	Bus runs will continue to be combined; potential for longer routes for students & families.
Eliminate one Custodian position (currently unfilled)	Staff resignation effective June 2026 will not be filled.	66,200	With reduction in High School team, work may be delayed or reduced, and coverage for absences will be affected.
Total budget reduction Level 2		**385,435**	

Potential reductions summary impact:			
Additional + Level 1 and Level 2 reductions	**Total reduction from 1st reading**	**699,330**	

Level 2.5 - Reduces student programs & services; creates involuntary staff transfers **REWORKED TO REACH TOTAL $1.2M REDUCTION**

Potential Cut	Details	Anticipated savings	Consequence/Impact of cut
Eliminate new proposal for a second WS GATES Teacher	New position was originally proposed at no added cost due to class size (transfer of classroom teacher).	116,350	Challenge in meeting current job responsibilities: provides enrichment for 3rd/4th math/reading, teacher of record for 5th math/reading, consultation for K-2 high-achieving students). Continued inequity between staffing for services K-5 versus 6-8 (MS has 2 GATES teachers). Less ability to provide enrichment support or consult at K-2. Continued need to cluster group students for scheduling purposes.
Eliminate MS Technology Instructional Coach position	Position has been unfilled since December 2025. MS has restructured responsibilities with other 2 remaining coaches.	118,513	This coaching role was previously cut and took several budget cycles to restore. WS Tech Coach has been supporting grades 3-8.
Eliminate HS MLL Ed Tech III	Based on attrition - the district would look to fill current opening for resigning MLL teacher and eliminate this ed tech role. Involuntary transfer of current MLL ed tech to a SpEd ed tech position.	60,000	Involuntary transfer to open ed tech position. Reduces flexibility at high school for programming. Assumes that MLL student count, which has dropped, does not increase. Need to prioritize the teacher position to provide oversight/plan/instruct for this required programming.
Restructure HS Technology Instructional Coach role	Replace 2.0 full-time open HS positions with 1.0 FTE. One open Math Teacher position and the open HS Tech Coach position will be merged to a 0.6 Instructional Coach/0.4 Math Teacher.	116,350	Reduces the HS Tech coach to a .4 position. Reduces capacity of HS IC program to support continued instructional growth of HS staff. Will move from 1.6 coaching roles, to an overall 1.2 coaching role. Dept heads carry content area leadership.

Potential Cut	Details	Anticipated savings	Consequence/Impact of cut
Fund 0.5 MS Instructional Coach from Title IIA grant	Move 0.5 salary & benefits of current coaching role from local budget to grant for one year only. Changed to value of 0.35 FTE.	39,457	One-year solution for Instructional Coach salary & benefits is made possible due to implementation of MS Math Curriculum. Will not be able to carry this salary in Title II for FY 28. Carry-over grant funds available for FY27 will be exhausted for FY28. Risks potential loss of position if grant funds are cut.
Phase-in of recommended new core math curriculum; implement at MS only, instead of K-8, for FY27	Updated budget includes full cost for MS to start the year plus K-5 pilot to begin January 2027. This reduction represents the cost of digital licensing which will be free with the pilot plan.	50,000	Move forward with MS implementation for next year where achievement levels are lower, and build down to K-5 mid-year; implementation will be slower, which will potentially delay improved achievement outcomes for K-5.
Total budget reduction Level 2.5		**500,670**	

Potential reductions summary impact:			
Additional + Level 1 through Level 2.5 reductions	**Total reduction from 1st reading**	**1,200,000**	+$635 Adult Ed = $1,200,635

Level 3 - Reduces student programs & services; creates involuntary staff transfers **TO GO BEYOND $1.2M REDUCTION**

Potential Cut	Details	Anticipated savings	Consequence/Impact of cut
Eliminate 2.0 WS Classroom Teacher positions, in alignment with class size policy IIB	Transfers of classroom teacher positions to open positions at other schools. No staff lose a job. Class sizes would remain within BOE policy per projected enrollment (at 22 students per class).	232,700	Consequence includes involuntary transfer of staff and increased class size, although still within range of 20-24. Impact to student placement; will not follow the typical path within learning community model. Will likely delay communication of student placement and eliminate step up day while budget process is finalized.
Eliminate 3.0 K-2 building Ed Tech III positions	Reduce 1.0 building ed techs at each primary school.	180,000	Involuntary transfer to open ed tech positions. Currently each K-2 building has 5 Gen Ed ed tech positions, greater than any other phase level. Reduction will impact classroom coverage/duty supervision and MTSS supports.
Convert 2.0 WS Academic Support Ed Tech positions to 1.0 Teacher position	Replace 2.0 support staff positions with 1 Literacy Support teacher.	120,000	Involuntary transfer of 2.0 current Ed Tech III staff to open ed tech positions. Protects professional staff from layoff, while still providing the highest level of expertise for students.
Total budget reduction Level 3		**532,700**	

Potential reductions summary impact:			
Additional + Level 1 through Level 3 reductions	**Total reduction from 1st reading**	**1,732,700**	