

Vision:
100% Student Success

Mission:
"Educate and prepare each
student for college, career
and life."

July 21, 2026

TO: Members, School Board of Pinellas County

FROM: Gary Jeppesen 
Chief Financial Officer

RE: Materials for the First Public Hearing 2026-27 Budget and Tentative Millage Rates

On the evening of Tuesday, July 28, 2026, there will be a Public Hearing, which will be legally advertised (Tampa Bay Times on Sunday, July 26, 2026), on the tentative 2026-27 District Budget and Millage Rates.

It is important to note that this budget is "tentative" and is based on projections for the 2026-27 beginning balances, since the reporting of the financial operations for the 2025-26 school year is not yet complete. Additionally, negotiations with all our labor organizations have not yet been completed. The budget that will be presented at the Final Public Hearing in September will be based on actual balances and, hopefully the results of those negotiations.

The proposed total tax millage rate of 6.273 mills is lower than the actual rate levied for the 2025-26 fiscal year, which was 6.293 mills. This decrease is due to the reduction by the state legislature of the required local effort millage rate. The proposed tax millage of 6.273 mills represents a 0.05% reduction when compared to the 6.276 mills "rolled-back" rate. The proposed taxes to be raised by the total millage rate will be \$16.4 million higher than the proceeds generated by last year's millage rate. Capital Outlay proceeds will increase by \$4.6 million while Operating proceeds will increase by \$11.8 million, all of which is due to increases in the tax roll.

If you have any questions regarding these materials or the budget in general, please contact either Samantha Chastain (727-588-6273) or me (727-588-6318).

Thank you for your support and interest in our budget and finances.

cc: Kevin K. Hendrick, Superintendent
Stephanie Woodford, Deputy Superintendent
David Koperski, School Board Attorney
Samantha Chastain, Executive Director, Budget and Resource Allocation