



**Minutes from the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors
Monday, August 24, 2026**

The Board of Directors held a Regular Board Meeting on Monday, August 24, 2026. This meeting was held in-person and virtually via a Zoom link posted on the Mead School District website. The meeting began at 6:00pm and was held at Union Event Center. Directors Gray, Nolan, Cannon, and Woodworth were present. Director Killman was excused. Also in attendance were Superintendent Travis Hanson and Assistant Superintendents Jared Hoadley and Jay Jordan.

I. Pledge of Allegiance

The meeting began with Director Gray asking all to rise for the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. Approval of Agenda

Director Nolan made a motion to approve the meeting agenda. Director Cannon seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

III. Approval of Minutes

Director Nolan made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 27, 2026 Regular Board Meeting, the August 10, 2026 Work Session, and the August 12, 2026 Special Board Meeting as presented. Director Cannon seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

IV. Remarks for the Good of the Schools

Board/Staff Comments

Director Nolan commented on the “Welcome Back” kickoff morning for staff held at Mead High School on Thursday, August 20th. He thought it was a great way to start off the year.

Public Comments on Agenda Items

No individuals signed up to comment on agenda items.

V. Continuing Business

Adoption of 2026-2027 Board Goals

President Gray presented a final draft of the 2026/2027 Board Goals for board consideration. This draft was the result of discussions that took place at the June 8, 2026 Work Session and the August 10, 2026 Work Session. The goals include the top priorities for the district over the next year. Director Nolan commented on the third goal under “Curriculum & Technology” involving the use of AI in the district. It was determined that at either the upcoming September or October work session, district staff will present a report regarding the current AI training taking place in the district and the board may discuss possibly establishing a district policy around the appropriate use of AI. Superintendent Hanson noted that a key proponent already embedded in the final draft of the Board Goals is continued staff training on appropriate AI use in instruction as well as integration of AI instruction in the district’s Digital Citizenship curriculum.

Director Cannon made a motion to adopt the 2026/2027 Board Goals, as presented. Director Woodworth seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. A copy of the 2026/2027 Board Goals is attached and will be posted on the district website.

VI. New Business

A. Consent Agenda

In response to a question from Director Cannon regarding hiring, Superintendent Hanson shared there haven’t been any difficulties with hiring, quality candidates are applying, and even despite

the alarming lack of spring kindergarten enrollment, the district is getting much closer to the projected enrollment number for 2026-2027. Director Nolan inquired about the supplemental contracts listed and Chief Financial Officer Heather Ellingson stated that some are summer contracts and some are for teachers having taught “college in the high school” last spring.

Director Nolan made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda, as presented. Director Cannon seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Consent Agenda

1. Hired Certificated Personnel:

Levi Bareither	Mead HS	Cert	1.0 FTE Spanish Teacher effective 8/26/26
Laurel Davis	Special Services	Cert	1.0 FTE Psychologist effective 8/26/26
Delaney Ferguson	Special Services	Cert	1.0 FTE Psychologist effective 8/26/26
Kainoa Figueira	Mt Spokane HS	Cert	0.8 FTE Math Teacher effective 8/26/26
Chad Hand	Mt Spokane HS	Cert	1.0 FTE Inclusion/Behavior Teacher effective 8/26/26
Lisa Harris	Special Services	Cert	1.0 FTE Psychologist effective 8/26/26
Kyle Hoerner	Mt Spokane HS	Cert	1.0 FTE Culinary Teacher effective 8/26/26
Hailey Horn	Shiloh Hills ES	Cert	1.0 FTE Spec Ed Teacher effective 8/17/26
Julie Huber	Mountainside MS	Cert	0.6 FTE Spanish Teacher effective 8/26/26
Sean Johnson	Cat Tracks	Cert	1.0 FTE Spec Ed Teacher effective 8/13/26
Julia Maher	Northwood MS	Cert	0.2 FTE Leave Replacement Band Teacher effective 8/26/26
Jonathan Robledo	Mead HS	Cert	1.0 FTE Spec Ed Teacher effective 8/26/26
Shannon Wenman	Mountainside MS	Cert	0.4 FTE Leave Replacement Science Teacher effective 8/26/26
Amanda Workman	Special Svcs/Cat Tracks	Cert	1.0 FTE Teacher effective 8/24/26
Kevin Workman	Mead HS	Cert	1.0 FTE English Teacher effective 8/26/26
David Chandler	Mountainside MS	Cert	1.0 FTE Leave Replacement Science Teacher 1 st semester effective 8/26/26
John Drake	Brentwood ES	Cert	1.0 FTE Teacher effective 8/26/26
Zachary Johnson	Mead HS	Cert	0.8 FTE Non-Continuing LAP Intervention effective 8/26/26
Courtney McGregor	Colbert ES	Cert	1.0 FTE LAP Interventionist effective 8/26/26
Tavia Morgan	Mead HS	Cert	1.0 FTE Leave Replacement English Teacher effective 8/26/26
Nicholas Sampson	Brentwood ES	Cert	0.2 FTE Non-Continuing Combo Support effective 8/26/26
Margaret Van Dyke	Creekside ES	Cert	1.0 FTE Library Info Tech effective 8/26/26

2. Hired Classified Personnel:

Dawnette Ajaz-Reeves	Transportation	Class	8 hrs/day Transp Tech effective 7/21/26
Utsah Banerjee	Human Resources	Class	8 hrs/day HR Support Staff effective 7/29/26
Brittany Brett	Special Svcs/Cat Tracks	Class	6.5 hrs/day Para Ed effective 8/26/26
Alicia Lamecker	Special Svcs/Cat Tracks	Class	6.5 hrs/day Para Ed effective 8/26/26
Miranda McNerney	Transportation	Class	4 hrs/day Itinerant Driver effective 8/25/26
Debra Ramelow	Mead HS/Nutrition	Class	4.5 hrs/day Cook II effective 8/24/26
Staci Schneider	Mt Spokane HS	Class	8 hrs/day Counseling AA effective 8/10/26
Autumn Vargas	Mead Learning Options	Class	6 hrs/day Para Ed effective 8/26/26
Kathryn Zeidler	Highland MS	Class	8 hrs/day Building AA effective 8/10/26

3. **Hired Certificated Substitutes:**

Elizabeth Sabata	Lindsey Ellingsen	Casey Dietz	Christopher Kopel
Blayne Foster	Andrea Cross	Rachel Anderson	Tammy Daddato
Zakyla Foster	Karen Lonn		

4. **Hired Coaches:**

Oromrow Opiew	Highland Middle School	8 th Grade Asst Football Coach
Casey Dietz	Highland Middle School	7 th Grade Football Head Coach
Kainoa Figueira	Mt Spokane High School	Boys Cross Country Asst Coach
Kaydin Renken	Mt Spokane High School	Girls Basketball Coach
Michael Brose	Mt Spokane High School	Girls Basketball Coach

5. **Approved AP Vouchers for General Fund, Capital Projects, Transportation Vehicle, Private Purpose Trust and ASB.**

Vouchers audited and certified by auditing officers as required by RCW 42.24.080, and those expense reimbursement claims certified as required by RCW 42.24.090, have been recorded on a listing which has been made available to the Board. As of this day, **August 24, 2026**, the Board, by a unanimous vote does approve for payment the vouchers included in the above referenced list and further described as **Warrant Numbers 128376 to 128716** in the following amounts:

<u>Fund</u>	<u>Amount</u>
General Fund - AP	\$ 3,972,579.05
General Fund - PR	\$13,834,546.75
Capital Projects Fund	\$ 804,587.59
ASB Fund	\$ 195,446.02
Transportation Fund	\$ 734.00

6. **Approved Co-Curricular, Supplemental & Extra-Curricular Contracts.**

7. **Approved Unpaid Leaves (i.e. parenting, medical, good of the district, education etc.):**

Elizabeth Bennett	Farwell ES	Class	6.5 hrs/day Para Ed effective 8/26/26-1/22/27
Catherine Armstrong	Student Services	Class	6.25 hrs/day Nurse; up to 7 days/mo effective 26/27 school yr
Elisabeth Burrell	Midway ES	Class	8 hrs/day Principal AA; up to 3 days/mo effective 26/27 school yr
Madisen Guastella	Mead HS	Class	6.15 hrs/day Para Ed; Mondays effective 8/31/26 - 12/14/26
Rachel Markum	Shiloh Hills ES	Cert	1.0 FTE Teacher; 0.4 FTE leave effective entire 26/27 school yr
Ellie Powers	Midway ES	Cert	0.8 FTE Teacher; 3.75 hrs on 11/6/26
Alexis Benjamin	Shiloh Hill ES	Class	6.25 hrs/day Para Ed; effective 8/26/26 - 1/3/27
Patrick Deubel	Farwell ES	Cert	1.0 FTE Teacher; effective 8/26/26 - 11/11/26
Matthew Hebert	Custodial	Class	8 hrs/day Custodian; effective 9/28/26 - 11/22/26
Hanna O'Leary	Mt. Spokane HS	Class	6.25 hrs/day Para Ed; effective 8/26/26 - 12/1/26
Emily Overfelt	Creekside ES	Class	6 hrs/day Para Ed; effective 8/26/26 - 1/3/27
Anna May	Mead HS	Cert	1.0 FTE Teacher; effective 8/26/26 - 10/4/26

Laura Williams	Evergreen ES	Class	6.25 hrs/day Para Ed; effective 10/1/26 - 10/2/26, 4/22/27 & 4/28/27
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8. Accepted the Following Resignations/Retirements:

Jared Bone	Mead HS	Class	Resignation effective 8/25/26 (Para)
Derek Borst	Shiloh Hills ES	Class	Resignation effective 8/3/26 (Para)
Emma Braddock	Meadow Ridge ES	Class	Resignation effective 8/17/26 (Para)
Stacie Floyd	Mead HS	Class	Resignation effective 8/25/26 (Para)
Alison Hood	Special Services	Cert	Resignation effective 8/18/26 (SLP)
Thomas Hood	Transportation	Class	Resignation effective 8/18/26 (Driver)
Kaitlin Jenkins	Prairie View ES	Class	Resignation effective 8/6/26 (Behavior Tech)
Meghan Johnson	Colbert ES	Cert	Resignation effective 8/24/26 (Teacher)
Brian Keen	Transportation	Class	Resignation effective 8/24/26 (Driver)
Breanna Klein	Student Svcs/Evergreen ES	Class	Resignation effective 8/25/26 (Nurse)
Colleen Ferguson	Highland MS	Class	Resignation effective 8/20/26 (Para)
Thomas Ferry	Mead HS	Class	Resignation effective 8/19/26 (Para)
Glenna Marquez	Meadow Ridge ES	Class	Resignation effective 8/18/26 (Behavior Tech)
Heather Ruiz	Evergreen ES	Class	Resignation effective 8/14/26 (Para)
Katie Zimmerman	Evergreen ES	Cert	Resignation effective 8/20/26 (Teacher)
John Mires	Mead HS	Cert	Retirement effective 8/25/26 (Teacher)

9. Declared the Following Items as Surplus:

Item	Qty	Location
Makita EB5300TI Backpack Blower	1	Maintenance
Stihl BR350 Backpack Blower	1	Maintenance
Sheet Board Cutting Machine	1	Mead HS
Wooden Tennis Racket	55	Mead HS
Prolight CNC Mill	1	Mead HS
Versa Climber	2	Mead HS
Prentice Hall Science Explorer Life Science (ISBN: 0-13-201243-X)	1	Highland MS
Prentice Hall Science Explorer Life Science - Adaptive Tests (ISBN: 0-13-166597-9)	1	Highland MS
Prentice Hall Science Explorer Life Science - All-in-one Teaching Resources (ISBN: 0-13-190318-7)	1	Highland MS
Prentice Hall Science Explorer Life Science - All-in-one Teaching Resources (ISBN: 0-13-190320-9)	1	Highland MS
Prentice Hall Science Explorer Life Science - All-in-one Teaching Resources (ISBN: 0-12-190321-7)	1	Highland MS
Prentice Hall Science Explorer Life Science - DVD (ISBN: 0-13-190305-5)	2	Highland MS
Prentice Hall Science Explorer Life Science - teacher guide (ISBN: 0-13-201245-6)	1	Highland MS
Prentice Hall Science Explorer Life Science - transparencies (ISBN: 0-13-126089-8)	1	Highland MS

10. Declared the (emailed prior) provided list of books from Evergreen as Surplus.

B. Public Hearing - 2026-2027 Budget

Chief Financial Officer Heather Ellingson, in accordance with state law, presented the proposed 2026-2027 budget for public comment. Ms. Ellingson shared that last week the board received the 2026-2027 proposed budget and the "Citizen's Guide to the District Budget" document. Once adopted, the budget will be made publicly available on the district's website. She noted that state law requires that school district budgets be adopted on or before August 31st each year. Ms. Ellingson spent the majority of the budget presentation on the General Fund which is the primary operating fund that supports the day-to-day operations of the district. The 2026-2027 proposed budget was developed in the context of several significant financial pressures and operational realities that required careful planning and prioritization which include enrollment fluctuations, depletion of capital projects fund, special education growth, program maintenance and critical investments. Ms. Ellingson spoke to each of these topics and the presentation is attached.

She stated that the overall budget theme for 2026-2027 is a stable budget with no major adjustments. Enrollment is the foundation for state funding and the presentation included a chart showing enrollment over the last 5 years. The state did reduce funding for the district's Transition to Kindergarten (TTK) program taking it from 126 students last year (2025-2026) to 63 students for this year (2026-2027). The district is proactively adjusting staffing and resource allocation to reflect lower enrollment in TTK and Kindergarten and this enrollment trend is expected to continue in the near term. Middle School enrollment is very stable, High School enrollment has had several consecutive years of decline but is showing signs of stabilization with a modest projected increase for 2026-2027, and Mead Learning Options, the district's ALE program has grown substantially showing the increased demand for flexible learning pathways.

The budget presentation also included, as required by state law, disclosure of MSOC (materials, supplies & operating costs) revenue and expenditures. In 2026-2027 the district's MSOC budgeted allocation is \$13,744,993 with budgeted expenditures of \$29,256,145. It is projected the district will spend \$15,511,152 more than the state provided allocation. This excess cost is covered by local levy funding and other financing sources as permitted by law.

Also, as required by state law, the budget presentation included a four-year forecast through the 2029-2030 school year.

Ms. Ellingson gave an overview of the Associated Student Body (ASB) Fund, the Debt Service Fund, the Capital Projects Fund, and the Transportation Vehicle Fund. She noted the Capital Projects Fund is dwindling so the proposed 2026-2027 budget sets aside some funding for capital projects and maintenance needs in the future. There was discussion around the change in depreciation schedule for buses (purchased from the Transportation Vehicle Fund) and how that may lead to additional maintenance costs to keep older buses on the road longer. Director Cannon inquired if there are any updates regarding the state's approach to electric buses. Ms. Ellingson stated the district currently has 2 electric buses and the district may not choose to continue in that direction for various reasons.

Director Cannon clarified on the MSOC section of the presentation that to the untrained eye, it could look like the district is overspending based on the negative number, but in reality, the negative number essentially shows the state does not cover the total cost of education as provided by the Mead School District. The district spends more than what the state provides and does so through levies. He further stated that the increase in the district's ALE enrollment is a real point of pride as it is providing other learning options for families. It continues to be a bright spot in the district's enrollment trends and he thanked Nick Edwards, Principal of Mead Learning Options, for the excellent work.

Public Hearing Comments:

David Knaggs asked what the discrepancy has been in student enrollment numbers in past years and typically how accurate are the district's estimates? Ms. Ellingson shared that in the past the

district typically estimated for a small percentage of growth each year and hit it each year. However, that has changed and kindergarten enrollment numbers specifically are getting to be very difficult to predict. The district is now researching birth rates with the County in order to project out kindergarten enrollment numbers 5 years from now. She shared that last year the kindergarten enrollment number was off by approximately 90 students.

David Knaggs also inquired when was the last time the district was in an overstaffing situation to start a school year? Ms. Ellingson said perhaps back when coming out of the 2020 pandemic but it isn't a typical issue for the district.

Director Gray concluded the Public Hearing.

**Resolution 26-06
2026-2027 Budget Adoption**

Chief Financial Officer Heather Ellingson presented Resolution 26-06, 2026-2027 Budget Adoption, for board consideration. Adoption of the 2026-2027 budget sets the appropriation level or spending limit for each of the district's five funds (General, ASB, Debt Service, Capital Projects and Transportation Vehicle) consistent with the assumptions and estimates utilized in its preparation.

Director Nolan made a motion to adopt Resolution 26-06, 2026-2027 Budget Adoption, as presented. Director Cannon seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. A copy of the resolution is attached.

**C. Resolution 26-07
2026-2027 School Nutrition Fees**

Nutrition Services Director, Kim Elkins, presented Resolution 26-07, 2026-2027 School Nutrition Fees, for board consideration. Approval of lunch and breakfast fees is a part of the annual budget adoption process that must be completed by August 31st of each year.

Ms. Elkins recommended no changes in student meal pricing in order to keep the district's prices competitive with other districts (that still have paid meals) and to encourage meal participation of paid students. Nutrition Services is in a self-sustaining mode. However, Ms. Elkins did recommend raising adult meal prices by \$0.50 for breakfast and lunch in order to cover the expense of meals for which the district receives zero federal reimbursement and to meet adult pricing requirements from USDA. With the increase, an adult breakfast would cost \$4.00 and an adult lunch would cost \$5.75.

Director Nolan inquired which schools are free in the district currently? Ms. Elkins shared there are 9 free schools currently. There was some discussion around other school districts in the area and what their current status is related to free meals.

Director Cannon made a motion to adopt Resolution 26-07, 2026-2027 School Nutrition Fees, as presented. Director Woodworth seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. A copy of the resolution is attached.

D. Award of Milk & Dairy Contract

Ms. Elkins noted that she recently conducted a 5-hour Nutrition Services staff training and in it she shared with her staff that Nutrition Services served 336,395 breakfasts and 932,921 lunches to students last year, 2025-2026. These numbers don't include staff or parent meals. She gave a shout out to the Nutrition Services staff and all of their hard work.

Ms. Elkins shared that Bid No. 401-25-06R is available through the district's inter-local agreement with Central Valley School District. The base year for this bid was the 2025-2026 school year with one-year renewal options through 2029-2030. The district has been satisfied with Terry's Dairy performance and is confident in their ability to meet the district's milk and dairy needs for the 2026-2027 school year. The overall pricing is consistent with the prior year.

Director Cannon made a motion to award the Milk and Dairy contract for the 2026-2027 school year to Terry's Dairy, as presented. Director Nolan seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

E. Award of Prime Vendor Contract

Ms. Elkins presented that the district has the option to participate in PSJPC RFP# 3-202526 Prime Vendor with US Foods providing food products and supplies to the Mead School District. This contract is available through the district's membership in the Puget Sound Joint Purchasing Cooperative (PSJPC). The base year for this RFP is the 2026-2027 school year with one-year renewal options through 2030-2031. US Foods was the district's Prime Vendor in 2025-2026 and the district has been satisfied with their performance. Nutrition Services is confident in their ability to meet district food and supply needs for the 2026-2027 school year. The overall pricing is consistent with the prior year.

Director Nolan made a motion to award PSJPC RFP# 3-202526 Prime Vendor contract for the 2026-2027 school year to US Foods, as presented. Director Cannon seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

F. Award of Supplemental Prime Vendor Contract

Ms. Elkins shared that the district has the option to participate in Contract 22-1001, Supplemental Prime Vendor, through an interlocal agreement with NEWESD101.

The district's Prime Vendor is US Foods and they partner well with the district. However, issues with distribution and manufacturing shortages could disrupt the supply chain and product availability across the United States. In an effort to minimize unexpected issues and provide a stable supply of core menu products, Ms. Elkins recommends awarding a Supplemental Prime Vendor Contract to Gold Star Foods as a back-up distributor. Ms. Elkins said that the district just purchases a few items from them due to better prices and the district's prime vendor not carrying the items.

Nutrition Services has previously used this distributor as a sole source supplier of some menu products and has been pleased with their customer service and product quality. The overall pricing is consistent with similar products at US Foods.

Director Cannon made a motion to award Contract 22-1001, Supplemental Prime Vendor contract for the 2026-2027 school year to Gold Star Foods, as presented. Director Woodworth seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

G. Award of Disposable Products Contract

Ms. Elkins presented that the district has the option to participate in PSJPC FRP# 3-202324 with Imperial Dade providing disposable products to the Mead School District. This contract is available through the district's membership in the PSJPC. The base year for this RFP was the 2023-2024 school year with one-year renewal options through 2027-2028. The contract meets RCW 70A.455 compostable requirements. The overall pricing is consistent with the prior year.

Director Nolan made a motion to award PSJPC FRP# 3-202324, Disposable Products contract for the 2026-2027 school year to Imperial Dade, as presented. Director Cannon seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

H. Award of Fresh Bakery Contract

Ms. Elkins shared that the district has the option to participate in PSJPC RFP# 2-202223, Fresh Bakery with US Bakery/Franz providing fresh bakery items to the Mead School District with delivery once each week. Items are purchased with this contract are less expensive and fresher than if purchased with US Foods (prime vendor). This contract is available through the district's membership in the PSJPC. The base year for this RFP was the 2023-2024 school year with one-year renewal options through 2027-2028. Nutrition Services has previously used this

manufacturer for frozen bread products through US Foods and has been pleased with their product quality. The overall pricing will result in savings by purchasing directly from US Bakery/Franz.

Director Nolan asked about product loss due to the Spokane Complex Fires and Ms. Elkins stated that around \$8,900.00 worth of frozen food was lost.

Director Nolan made a motion to award PSJPC RFP# 2-202223, Disposable Products contract for the 2026-2027 school year to US Bakery/Franz, as presented. Director Woodworth seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

I. Award of Fuel Contract

Transportation Director Tony Davis presented a contract with PetroCard for fuel services for the 2026-2027 school year for board consideration. In 2024, the district requested bid proposals for fuel services and PetroCard was the sole responsible bidder. The base year for the Request for Proposal was the 2024-2025 school year, with four one-year renewal options through 2028-2029.

The district has been satisfied with PetroCard's performance and is confident in their ability to meet fuel needs in the 2026-2027 school year. The overall pricing is consistent with the prior year.

Director Cannon made a motion to award PetroCard the contract for fuel services for the 2026-2027 school year, as presented. Director Woodworth seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

VII. Reports

A. Financial Report for July 2026

Ms. Ellingson presented the financial report for July 2026. With one week left in the fiscal year there is much more clarity on the 2025-2026 year and the district will end the year stronger than budgeted. It was budgeted to add \$1.2 million to fund balance in 2025-2026 and she is estimating that the district will be closer to adding \$3-\$4 million to fund balance. This is primarily due to one-time costs associated with curriculum adoption and facilities maintenance coming in slower than projected. This has nothing to do with the talents and abilities of the curriculum adoption team or the maintenance and facilities staff. It is due to accounting rules and the timing and types of purchases.

As the district closes out the 2025-2026 year, the district will assign some of the fund balance to ensure there is earmarked money to be spent in 2026-2027, and future years on the district's commitment to curriculum adoption and to have money set aside for critical facilities projects. This is an effort to align one time funding sources with one time spending. The year end close process is time consuming and will take until mid-October to complete. Ms. Ellingson stated she will have a full report in November once there is final approval from ESD and will keep the board informed if the amount is significantly less than the current projection.

Director Cannon asked how much of the \$3-\$4 million will be dedicated to expenses for the 2026-2027 year. Ms. Ellingson stated that essentially all of it with approximately \$1.5-\$1.8 million for curriculum and a comparable amount for facilities and maintenance projects.

B. Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Hanson reported that the start of school this week is a bit earlier than in past years and that seems to be top of mind for people due to the change to a more balanced calendar. However, it really is only 3-4 days earlier than "normal" because with Labor Day as late as it is, Mead would have had to start school before Labor Day regardless of the balanced calendar. He stated this is a regional reality and that towards the end of this school year, the district will gather feedback about the new calendar.

Superintendent Hanson noted how much work is done during the summer months in order to prepare for the upcoming school year, from buildings being cleaned, budgets being built, buses being prepared, food being purchased, new staff being hired, PowerSchool being updated and the list goes on and on. It is not a small thing and it is worth acknowledging all of the staff who prepare for each school year. Additionally, and particularly with the significant challenges that the custodial and facility staff faced due to the Spokane Complex Fires at the beginning of August, Superintendent Hanson acknowledged the fantastic work done by them in order to have students able to come back to their schools and have that sense of normalcy.

The staff back-to-school kick off day last week was well received and a great way to welcome staff back. The keynote speaker, Ben Sand, was inspiring with a compelling story. He highlighted the fact that as educators and support staff, we are here to help kids learn and grow and how relational learning is. Additionally, a video was shown made up of various Mead staff in various roles describing what working in the Mead School District means to them, how much they love working with students and how having an impact is so meaningful.

Superintendent Hanson has received positive comments already about ParentSquare, the district's new communication platform. While this will continue to be a work in progress, parents are now getting communication through one source and this will be a big win for our parents long-term. It is good to see the change already paying some dividends.

Behind the scenes, Learning & Teaching Assistant Superintendent Jay Jordan, along with the Learning & Teaching team, have been rolling out the district's curriculum purchases from the 2025-2026 school year. As has been noted in the curriculum adoption process, it is important to have consistent materials and processes across all of the district's schools. This coming year, the plan is to adopt new math curriculum. The district wants to continue to put great, uniform materials into teachers' hands. Superintendent Hanson is pleased with the district's curriculum adoption process and the commitment of funds to the process which bodes well as the district goes into a levy year. Adopting new curriculum was never meant to be a one levy cycle, rather a long-term process to continue to get updated curriculum and materials for teachers.

An email went out to all Mead School District families regarding the Facilities and Long-Range Planning Committee and 19 quality applicants have been received so far, with a variety of professional expertise that lend well to this planning project. The Mead Matters newsletter will be mailed to the whole community soon where this project is highlighted with the hope to receive additional applicants including those who do not have students in the system. The goal being to have a wide variety of community stakeholders.

Lastly, at the August Work Session there was some discussion about Policy 3131 'Assignment to Schools (Intra-District Transfers).' Superintendent Hanson plans to continue this initial discussion at the September Work Session to include how a substantial hardship is currently determined and if there is interest in doing a deeper study to determine if a policy change should occur.

VIII. Remarks for the Good of the Schools – Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items

NOTE: The name of each speaker is listed below along with their affiliation to the district, if indicated, and the topic they commented on. To listen to comments in their entirety please visit www.mead354.org/board where a link to the Zoom recording of the meeting is posted.

Speaker 1

David Knaggs

Parent with student(s) in the Mead School District.

Comment related to AI governance in the district.

IX. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40pm.

President

Secretary



2026-27 Board Goals

EACH STUDENT FUTURE READY

Foster **Belonging** || Instill **Purpose** || Cultivate **Curiosity**

Directors

Tim Woodworth
District 1

Alan Nolan
District 2 - VP

Jennifer Killman
District 3

Michael Cannon
District 4

BrieAnne Gray
District 5 - President

Goals/Target Objectives:

Curriculum & Technology

Improve academic outcomes through data-driven goals in School Improvement Plans (SIPs), updated core instructional materials, and focused, teacher-directed use of technology.

- Close learning gaps with measurable targets and growth goals. Each school's SIP identifies specific growth targets in tested areas (reading, math, science) tied to baseline data, with progress reviewed by building teams at regular checkpoints.
- Initiate and complete the mathematics curriculum adoption. Finalize selection, distribute materials, and complete staff training before the start of instruction in SY27-28, with emphasis on fidelity of implementation through follow-up training and PLC-level monitoring.
- Emphasize ed-tech integration with guardrails in all instructional settings and continue work around developmentally appropriate use and parental transparency. Expand the district's Digital Citizenship curriculum and the distraction-free classroom initiative, while also supporting new legislation that disallows student use of communication technology during the school day. Continue staff training on appropriate AI use in instruction as well as integration of AI instruction in Digital Citizenship curriculum.

Governance and Fiscal Stewardship

Use data-informed, transparent decision-making to guide budget and facilities planning.

- Achieve a net positive budget outcome in SY26-27. Set a specific target for rebuilding unassigned/unrestricted cash reserves consistent with Policy 6022, and report progress against enrollment, revenue, and staffing metrics to the Board on a regular (e.g., quarterly) cadence.
- Set the 2028-2030 EP&O Levy rate based on fiscal evidence. Evaluate current programs, staffing levels, and total tax rate, with a final decision no later than October.
- Form and engage with the Facilities and Long-Range Planning Committee's work. Track the committee's progress against its 18-month timeline, with interim updates to the Board and a final set of recommendations at the conclusion of the term.

School Culture, Safety and Security

Build a school community grounded in clear expectations, meaningful accountability, and open communication — where harassment in any form is addressed directly and families trust the district to respond.

- Reinforce and strengthen response to harassment, intimidation, and discrimination (discrimination in all forms). Ensure complaints are investigated within established policy timelines (Policy 3210/3207/3205), track complaint and resolution data district-wide, and report trends and outcomes to the Board so progress is visible and measurable.
- Build trust through open, consistent two-way communication. Establish regular channels for families and staff to raise concerns and hear from a broad and diverse audience - beyond public comment at board meetings.
- Continue to build confidence in physical safety through ongoing investment in school safety (i.e. - capital upgrades, technology infrastructure, increased personnel) and ensure that priorities and progress are reported to the Board directly by administration, including specific projects and/or initiatives completed.



Purpose of Today's Budget Hearing

This public hearing serves as a critical touchpoint between the district and its community, fulfilling both a civic and legal obligation to ensure full transparency in how public funds are planned and allocated.

Open Discussion

Provides a platform for transparent dialogue about the district's financial plan and proposed 2026-27 budget priorities.

Community Input

Invites essential feedback from stakeholders — including parents, staff, and residents — to shape our final budget decisions.

Compliance

Fulfills state requirements under RCW 28A.505.060 for public disclosure and community input prior to board adoption.



General Fund Overview

The General Fund is the primary operating fund that supports the day-to-day operations of our district, including instruction, support services, and facilities maintenance. Understanding its structure is essential to understanding how the district serves its students and community.

Economic Landscape: Challenges & Considerations

The 2026-27 budget was developed in the context of several significant financial pressures and operational realities that required careful planning and prioritization.

Enrollment Fluctuations

Managing resource allocation amid ongoing enrollment variations across grade levels, particularly at the elementary level.

Depletion of Capital Projects Fund

Planning for ongoing maintenance of buildings and property despite minimal remaining funds in the Capital Projects Fund.

Special Education Growth

Responding to increased numbers and percentages of students qualifying for special education services and supports.

Program Maintenance

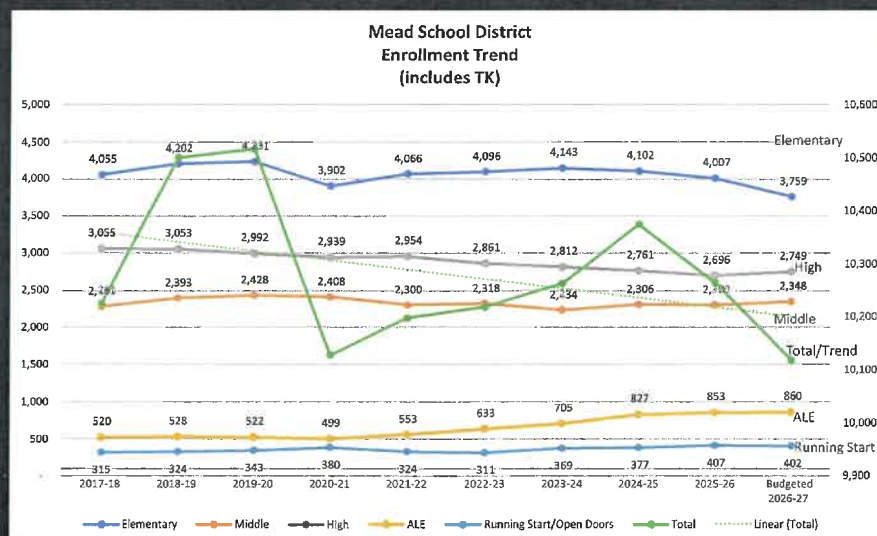
Sustaining existing educational programs and related staffing needs while aligning to enrollment.

Critical Investments

Prioritizing safety, security upgrades, and curriculum adoption as essential investments for the coming year.

Enrollment Trends (Full-Time Equivalent)

	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27 Proposed Budget
Elementary (TTK-5)	4,096	4,143	4,102	4,007	3,759
Middle School (6-8)	2,318	2,233	2,306	2,300	2,348
High School (9-12)	2,861	2,811	2,761	2,696	2,749
Subtotal	9,275	9,187	9,169	9,003	8,856
ALE	633	705	827	853	860
Running Start	294	348	356	393	402
Dropout Reengagement	17	17	13	14	17
Total TTK-12	10,219	10,257	10,365	10,263	10,135



Budgeting for reduced enrollment in TTK and Kindergarten

Alternative learning programs and Running Start continue to grow

High school enrollment shows signs of stabilization after multi-year decline

Enrollment: Key Takeaways



Budgeting for Reduced Elementary Enrollment

The district is proactively adjusting staffing and resource allocation to reflect lower enrollment in TTK and Kindergarten, a trend expected to continue into the near term.



Alternative Programs Continue to Grow

Alternative Learning Experience (ALE) enrollment has grown substantially from 633 in 2022-23 to a projected 860 in 2026-27, reflecting increasing demand for flexible learning pathways.



High School Enrollment Stabilizing

After several consecutive years of decline, high school enrollment shows signs of stabilization, with a modest projected increase from 2,696 to 2,749 in 2026-27.



Revenue Highlights

Local Levy Funding

- Authorized levy at targeted rate of \$230/\$1,000 for tax years 2026 & 2027
- 2026 includes rollback of \$1,057,000

State Funding Changes

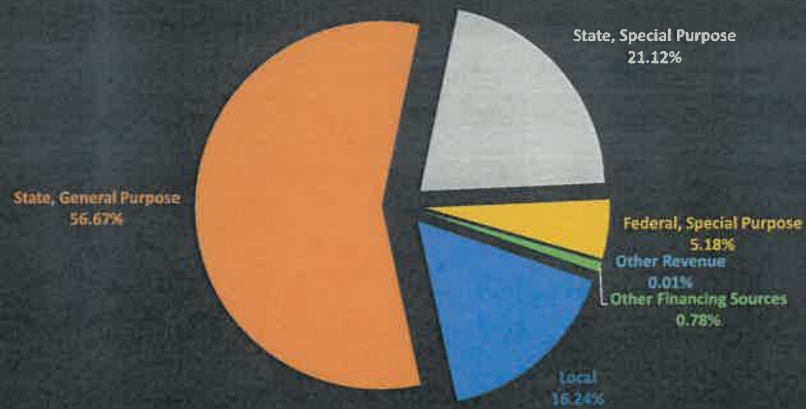
- 2.6% IPD increase applied to prototypical funding model
- Enhanced LEA funding for 2026 and 2027
- Reduced funding for Transitional Kindergarten

Enrollment Projection

- Highlights the need to balance staffing to enrollment
- Strategic planning for program-specific fluctuations

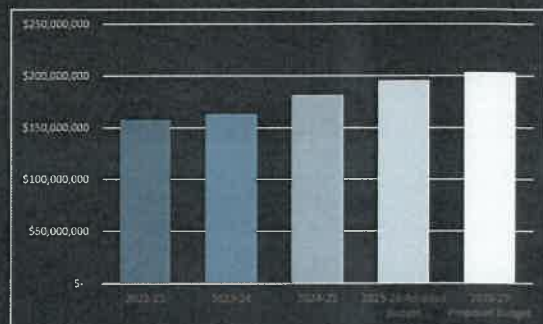


BUDGETED REVENUE BY SOURCE 2026-27



Five-Year Revenue Trends

Source	2026-27 Proposed	% Change vs Prior
Local	\$32,980,637	+4%
State, General	\$115,095,536	+2.6%
State, Special	\$42,891,547	+4.2%
Federal, Special	\$10,515,085	+16.7%
Other Revenue	\$25,000	0.0%
Other Financing	\$1,585,000	2.3%
Total	\$203,092,805	+3.8%



The total 3.8% total revenue increase represents overall relatively stable funding

Expenditure Priorities for 2026-27

The district's proposed expenditures reflect a deliberate focus on four core priorities — maintaining programs, sustaining facilities, making key investments, and managing rising costs responsibly.

Maintain Programs

Preserving existing educational programs and aligning staffing levels with current and projected enrollment to ensure service continuity.

Facilities Maintenance

Funding for current and future facilities maintenance needs to ensure safe, functional learning environments across the district.

Key Investments

Continued funding for curriculum adoption and safety/security enhancements that directly benefit students and staff.

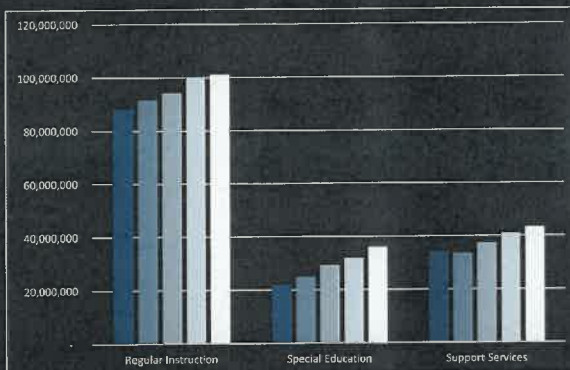
Rising Costs

Addressing increased liability insurance premiums, employee benefit expenses, and other increases in Materials, Supplies, and Operating Costs (MSOCs).



The district has also built capacity for grants to maximize resources and extend educational impact beyond the base budget.

Five-Year Expenditure Trends



	2026-27 Proposed	% Change vs Prior
Regular Instruction	\$101,233,978	+1.6%
Special Education	\$36,040,618	+12.9%
Vocational Education (CTE)	\$9,738,548	+4.6%
Compensatory Education	\$11,208,406	+3.3%
Other Instructional	\$3,111,019	121.8%
Community Services	\$492,951	0.1%
Support Services	\$43,305,622	5.87%
Total	\$205,131,142	+5.45%

Materials, Supplies, and Operating Costs (MSOC) Disclosure

Required by ESSB 5950 - Section 504(8)(a)(ii)

① State law requires districts to disclose specific information about MSOC funding and expenditures during the budget development process.

Required Disclosures

1. Amount of state funding to be received by the district
2. Amount the district proposes to spend for materials, supplies, and operating costs
3. Difference between these two amounts
4. If funding exceeds proposed expenditures, show proposed use of the difference and how it will improve student achievement

Our detailed MSOC disclosure for the 2026-27 fiscal year is presented on the following slide in compliance with this statutory requirement.

2026-27 MSOC Disclosure Details

State MSOC Allocation

Regular Instruction (Column A)	\$13,139,031
Grades 9-12 Additional (Column J)	\$605,962
Total MSOC Allocation	\$13,744,993

District MSOC Expenditures

Supplies and Materials (Object 5)	\$11,493,526
Purchased Services (Object 7)	\$15,468,594
Travel (Object 8)	\$294,025
Capital Outlay (Object 9)	\$2,000,000
Total Budgeted Expenditures	\$29,256,145

Difference: -\$15,511,152

❑ The negative difference indicates that district MSOC expenditures exceed state allocation by over \$15.5 million. This excess cost is covered by local levy funding and other financing sources as permitted by law.

Five-Year Financial Summary



Revenue Growth

36.7% increase over five years, with significant acceleration in 2025-26 due to enhanced state funding formulas and local levy collections.



Financial Stability

We are strategically planning on utilizing fund balance assigned from 2025-26 in 2026-27 on curriculum adoption and facilities maintenance.



Next Steps

Board approval of proposed budget, continued monitoring of enrollment and state funding, and finalizing 2025-26 to solidify unspent amounts available in 2026-27.

FINANCIAL FORECAST

PLANNING

Four-Year Forecast: Key Assumptions

Revenue Projections

IPD (Implicit Price Deflator) estimates applied to state funding formulas:

- 2026-27: 2.6%
- 2027-28: 2.9%
- 2028-29: 2.0%

Also assumes continuation of local levy support and updated LEA formulas.

Enrollment Trends

Decline projected based on historical enrollment patterns and county birth rate data.

Expenditure Factors

- Annual increases aligned with inflation and IPD
- Staffing adjustments proportional to enrollment changes
- Contractual obligations for salary and benefits as negotiated



Fund Balance Management Strategy

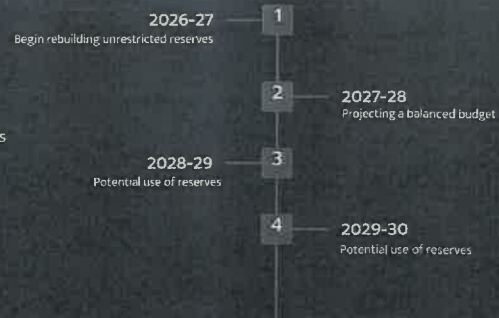
Five-Year Fund Balance Pattern

- Growth in 2019-20 and 2020-21 due to ESSER funding
- Drawdown in 2021-22, 2022-23, and 2023-24
- Growth in 2024-25
- Anticipated growth of fund balance in 2025-26 with funds set aside for one-time costs
- Budgeted use of fund balance in 2026-27

Board Policy 6022 Requirements:

- Unassigned fund balance of 8.33% (one month of operations)
- Combined Committed, Assigned, Unassigned (CAU) of 10-15%

Four-Year Outlook



Other Funds Overview

Beyond the General Fund, the district maintains four additional funds that support specific functions and activities. Each fund operates independently with its own revenue sources and expenditure requirements.

Associated Student Body (ASB) Fund

Supports student activities, clubs, athletics, and events across all schools. Reflects robust student engagement and community participation.

Debt Service Fund

Manages the repayment of voter-approved bonds for capital improvements, ensuring the district meets all debt obligations on schedule.

Capital Projects Fund

Finances facility construction, renovations, and major equipment purchases. Currently facing depletion and under long-range planning review.

Transportation Vehicle Fund

Dedicated to the purchase and maintenance of district buses and vehicles to ensure safe, reliable student transportation throughout the district.



SCHOOL DISTRICT FUND ACCOUNTS

FINANCE OVERVIEW

Associated Student Body (ASB) Fund

Significant Growth

Significant growth in both revenue and expenditures projected for 2025-26 and 2026-27, reflecting a high level of student engagement across schools.

Full Activity Capacity

Budget has been built to accommodate full activity capacity for the upcoming school year, covering clubs, athletics, performances, and school events.

Stable Fund Balance

Fund balance remains stable at approximately **\$1.1 million**, providing a healthy reserve to support student programs and unforeseen needs.



Debt Service Fund

Fund Overview

The Debt Service Fund manages repayment of voter-approved bonds used for capital improvements throughout the district. The tax rate is set annually to ensure adequate funds are available to fulfill all debt obligations on schedule.

Key Analysis

- Planned deficit of **\$1,285,088** in 2025-26 — balanced for 2026-27
- Strong fund balance of **\$5 million** provides adequate coverage for scheduled payments
- Tax rate is calibrated to ensure full debt service coverage each year

Fund Snapshot

\$5M

Fund Balance

Strong reserve ensuring debt payment coverage.

Balanced

2026-27 Status

Revenues projected to cover all debt service obligations.



Capital Projects Fund

Fund Depletion Risk

Without additional financing sources, the Capital Projects Fund balance could be completely depleted by the end of 2026-27, limiting the district's ability to respond to facility needs.

Significant Projects

The cost of projected capital projects exceeds current Capital Projects Fund resources, creating a gap that requires strategic planning and potential new funding mechanisms.

Future Options

The Facilities & Long-Range Planning Committee is being formed to study options for sustaining capital investment and address the long-term infrastructure needs of the district.

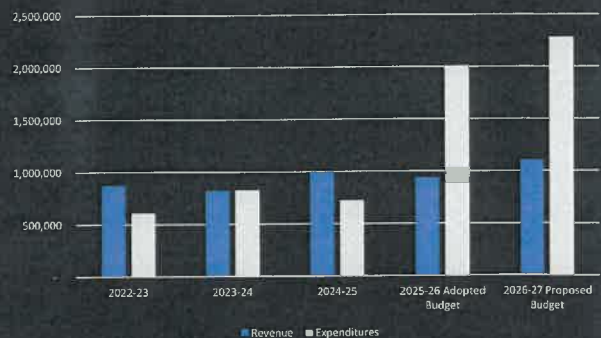
Transportation Vehicle Fund

Fund Operating Model

Buses are ordered during the school year for delivery the following fall. Annually, the district budgets to spend the prior year fund balance plus revenue received. This approach ensures budget capacity is available if buses arrive in August rather than September, preventing delivery timing from disrupting operations.

Five-Year Trend

The fund remains self-sustaining through state depreciation payments and investment earnings, covering the cost of scheduled bus purchases and fleet replacements each year.



Public Comment

Public Comment Period

The floor is now open for questions and feedback from school board members and community members regarding the proposed 2026-27 budget, fund projections, and any aspect of the district's financial plan. All comments will be considered as the board prepares to vote on final adoption.



Resolution 26-06

Section 1. Findings and Determinations

The board of Directors (the "Board") of Mead School District No. 54, Spokane County, Washington (the "District"), takes note of the following facts and hereby makes the following findings and determinations:

1. Pursuant to RCW 28A.505.040, the District has completed the budget for the 2026-27 fiscal year and published electronic notice of the same on its website. The 2026-27 budget includes, among other things, a complete financial plan of the District for the ensuing 2026-27 fiscal year and a summary of the four-year budget plan that includes a four-year enrollment projection.
2. Pursuant to RCW 28A.505.060, the Board shall adopt the 2026-27 budget on or before August 31, 2026. Prior to adoption of the 2026-27 budget, the Board shall meet and conduct a public hearing to allow any person to be heard for or against any part of the 2026-27 budget, the four-year budget plan, or any proposed changes to uses of enrichment funding under RCW 28A.505.240.
3. The Board, following notice thereof being published in a newspaper of general circulation within the District, conducted a public hearing on August 24, 2026, in accordance with the requirements of RCW 28A.505.060 for the purpose of adopting the 2026-27 budget.

Section 2. Fixing and Determining Fund Appropriations; Adoption of the 2026-27 Budget, Four-Year Budget Summary and Four-Year Enrollment Projection.

(a) The Board hereby fixes and determines the appropriation from each fund contained in the 2026-27 budget as follows:

- General Fund: \$205,131,142
- Capital Projects Fund: \$4,406,613
- Transportation Vehicle Fund: \$2,286,181
- Debt Service Fund: \$13,885,988
- Associated Student Body Fund: \$3,175,155

(b) The Board hereby adopts the 2026-27 budget, the four-year budget plan summary, and the four-year enrollment projection and the appropriations as fixed and determined above, all of which are on file with the District and incorporated herein by this reference.

Section 3. General Authority and Ratification.

The Secretary to the Board, the President of the Board, the District's Assistant Superintendent, and other appropriate officers of the District are hereby further authorized to take all other action, to do all other things consistent with this resolution, and to execute all other documents necessary to effectuate the provisions of this resolution, and all actions heretofore taken in furtherance thereof and not inconsistent with the provisions of this resolution are hereby ratified and confirmed in all respects.



**Resolution No. 26-06
2026-27 Budget Adoption**

A RESOLUTION of the Board of Directors of Mead School District No. 354, Spokane County, Washington, fixing and determining fund appropriations; adopting the 2026-27 budget, the four year budget plan summary and the four-year enrollment projection; approving certain fund transfers; and providing for other related matters.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF MEAD SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 354 SPOKANE COUNTY, WASHINGTON, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Findings and Determinations: The Board of Directors (the "Board") of Mead School District No. 354, Spokane County, Washington (the "District"), takes note of the following facts and hereby makes the following findings and determinations:

(a) Pursuant to RCW 28A.505.040, the District has completed the budget for the 2026-27 fiscal year and published electronic notice of the same on its website. The 2026-27 budget includes, among other things, a complete financial plan of the District for the ensuing 2026-27 fiscal year and a summary of the four-year budget plan that includes a four-year enrollment projection.

(b) Pursuant to RCW 28A.505.060, the Board shall adopt the 2026-27 budget on or before August 31, 2026. Prior to adoption of the 2026-27 budget, the Board shall meet and conduct a public hearing to allow any person to be heard for or against any part of the 2026-27 budget, the four year budget plan, or any proposed changes to uses of enrichment funding under RCW 28A.505.240 .

(c) The Board, following notice thereof being published in a newspaper of general circulation within the District, conducted a public hearing on August 24, 2026, in accordance with the requirements of RCW 28A.505.060 for the purpose of adopting the 2026-27 budget.

Section 2. Fixing and Determining Fund Appropriations: Adoption of 2026-27 Budget, Four-Year Budget Summary and Four-Year Enrollment Projection.

(a) The Board hereby fixes and determines the appropriation from each fund contained in the 2026-27 budget, as follows:

General Fund	\$205,131,142
Capital Projects Fund	\$ 4,406,613
Transportation Vehicle Fund	\$ 2,286,181
Debt Service Fund	\$ 13,885,988
Associated Student Body Fund	\$ 3,175,155

(b) The Board hereby adopts the 2026-27 budget, the four-year budget plan summary, and the four-year enrollment projection and the appropriations as fixed and determined above, all of which are on file with the District and incorporated herein by this reference.

Section 3. General Authorization and Ratification: The Secretary to the Board, the President of the Board, the District's Assistant Superintendent, and other appropriate officers of the District are hereby further authorized to take all other action, to do all other things consistent with this resolution, and to execute all other documents necessary to effectuate the provisions of this resolution, and all actions heretofore taken in furtherance thereof and not inconsistent with the provisions of this resolution are hereby ratified and confirmed in all respects.

ADOPTED by the Board of Directors of Mead School District No. 354, Spokane County, Washington, at a regular open public meeting thereof, of which due notice was given as required by law, held this 24th day of August 2026, the following Directors being present and voting in favor of the resolution.

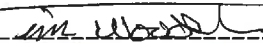
ATTEST:

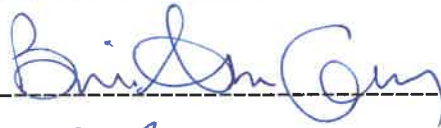
MEAD SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD of DIRECTORS



Secretary to the Board











RESOLUTION 26-07
2026-27 School Nutrition Fees

WHEREAS, fees and budget policies for school nutrition fees are incorporated into the operations of the school budget,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Directors that the amounts set forth on the attached 2026-2027 Meal Price Recommendation be established and administered in the 2026-2027 operating budget.

ADOPTED by the Board of Directors of Mead School District No. 354, Spokane County, Washington and authenticated by the signatures affixed below.

Dated this 24th day of August, 2026.

Attest:

Mead School District No. 354
Board of Directors

Secretary to the Board