

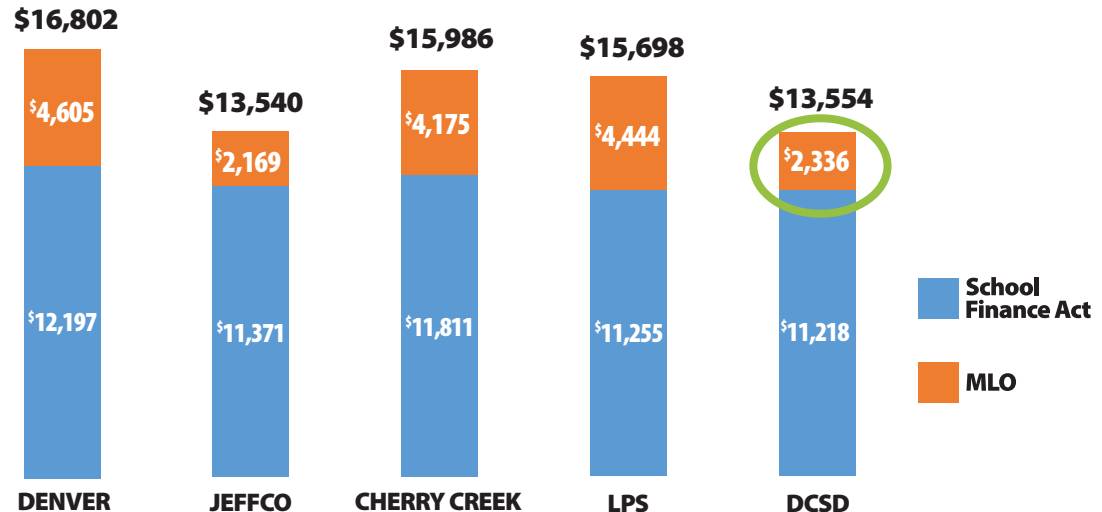
Douglas County School District is considering a 2026 Mill Levy Override

The school district is exploring the possibility of placing a \$54 million Mill Levy Override (MLO) on the November 2026 ballot.

Although recent funding measures have improved teacher and staff compensation, DCSD pay remains **7% below the average** starting salary in the Denver Metro area. **Continued investment in compensation is necessary to keep pace with the rising cost of living and inflation.**

- DCSD's Mill Levy Override is **\$2,000 per student** less than neighboring school districts. This is equivalent to **\$130 million less in funding** each year compared to our neighbors.
- DCSD teachers are paid, on average, **\$7,200 to \$19,300 less** than neighboring school districts.
- Starting teacher pay in DCSD is **\$51,914**, while the average cost of a **1-bedroom apartment** in Douglas County is **\$1,650 to \$2,050 per month**.
- Many DCSD teachers have a **second job** to make ends meet.

District Funding Comparison



Dollar amounts represent Per-Pupil Funding per year.

Proposed Funding Priorities

- **Retain and attract top-quality teachers and staff** by providing salaries that are more competitive with neighboring school districts and better keep pace with inflation.
- **Increase and maintain school security support**, including covering the escalating costs of school resource officers.
- Reduce student waitlists for **Career and Technical Education** programming, including the trades.
- **Restore student programming** such as instrumental music in elementary schools.

We value feedback from every member of our community.
Please take a few moments to complete a short survey by
visiting bit.ly/DCSD-survey2026 or scanning the QR code.



COST TO TAXPAYERS

Additional funding via a potential MLO would cost residential taxpayers approximately **\$33.70** per year (about \$2.81 per month) for every **\$100,000** in home value.



Disclaimer: At the time of the printing of this postcard, the DCSD Board of Education has not voted on whether to place an MLO on the 2026 ballot.

