SAN MATEO COUNTY OFFICE OF EDUCATION
Excellence and Equity in Education
Marco A. Chávez • County Superintendent of Schools

September 15, 2026

Sherrett Walker, President, Governing Board
Jefferson Union High School District
123 Edgemont Drive, Building A
Daly City, CA, 94015-3868

RE: 2026-27 Adopted Budget

Dear Board President Walker:

The San Mateo County Office of Education (SMCOE) has completed its review of Jefferson Union High School District's Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP) and Adopted Budget for the 2026-27 fiscal year pursuant to Education Codes *42127* and *52070*.

A. LOCAL CONTROL ACCOUNTABILITY PLAN (LCAP)

The County Superintendent is required to approve the District's LCAP if it is determined that the following criteria have been met:

- The LCAP adheres to the template adopted by the State Board of Education (EC 52064)
- The budget includes expenditures sufficient to implement the specific actions and strategies included in the LCAP
- The LCAP adheres to the expenditure requirements for funds apportioned on the basis of the number and concentration of unduplicated pupils (EC *42238.02* and *42238.03*)
- The LCAP includes the required calculations to determine whether there is a carryover requirement, and if applicable, includes a description of the planned uses of the specific funds and a description of how the planned uses are to be considered as contributing towards meeting the increased or improved services requirement {(*EC 52070(d)(4)*}

The San Mateo County Superintendent of Schools has approved your Local Control Accountability Plan for the 2026-27 school year, pursuant to Education Code (EC) Section *52070.5(d)*. California Education Code requires the County Superintendent to review and approve the LCAP prior to the approval of the LEA's adopted budget per EC Section *42127(2)*. Your board approved LCAP will be posted on the SMCOE website.

B. ADOPTED BUDGET

In accordance with Education Code Section 42127, the County Superintendent of Schools has examined the Adopted Budget of Jefferson Union High (the District) for fiscal year 2026-27 to determine if it complies with the criteria and standards adopted by the State Board of Education, allows the District to meet its financial obligations during the fiscal year, and is consistent with a financial plan that will allow the District to meet its multi-year financial commitments.

The County Office's review and analysis confirms that the 2026-27 Budget, adopted by the Governing Board on June 9, 2026, meets the requirements outlined in Education Code 42127(c).

The San Mateo County Office of Education **approves** Jefferson Union High School District's 2026-27 Adopted Budget with the following comments:

The 2026-27 Adopted Budget shows a $6.5 million decrease in the General Fund Balance. Compared to 2025-26 Estimated Actuals, deficit spending has increased by $2.7 million.

Total revenues increased by $2.3 million, primarily driven by a 4% increase in property tax revenues totaling $2.9 million. Local revenues were adjusted to remove $600,000 in one-time Kaiser grant funding.

Total expenditures increased by $5.4 million. Salary and benefit costs rose by $4.5 million, reflecting a 4% salary increase, salary restructuring, and higher employee benefit costs. All other expenditures increased by $845,000, primarily due to Consumer Price Index (CPI) adjustments and higher insurance premiums associated with the ongoing impacts of AB 218.

RESERVES

The state-recommended minimum reserve for Jefferson Union High School District is 3.00% of total General Fund expenditures and Transfers Out. The District is projecting approximately $4.8 million in available reserves or 4.82% of the total General Fund expenditures for 2026-27.

MULTI-YEAR PROJECTIONS (MYP)

Reserves are expected to increase to 5.00% in 2027-28 and 5.66% in 2028-29.

Total revenues are projected to increase by $4.7 million in 2027–28 and $3.7 million in 2028–29. Property tax revenues are forecasted to grow by an average of 5% or approximately $3.6 million annually. In 2027–28, local revenues are projected to rise $1 million due to the anticipated approval of a new parcel tax on the November 2026 ballot.

Total expenditures are projected to increase by $1.0 million in 2027–28 and $1.5 million in 2028–29. Salary and benefit costs are expected to increase by an average of $1.2 million annually, primarily due to step and column adjustments and higher pension and health benefit

costs. In 2027–28, services and other operating expenditures include $200,000 in budget reductions recommended by the Budget Committee. All other expenditure categories are projected to increase based on Consumer Price Index (CPI) adjustments.

DEFICIT SPENDING

The multi-year projections show an operating deficit of $4.6 million in the Unrestricted General Fund for 2026-27 followed by a deficit of $2.7 million in 2027-28 and a deficit of $521,000 in 2028-29.

CASH FLOW

The District submitted cash flow projections for 2026-27 and 2027-28 showing negative cash balances in the months of October, November in 2026-27 and August, September, October, November, March in 2027-28 in the General Fund. Negative cash balances will be covered with cash in other funds.

The projected year-end cash balances are approximately $10.1 million in 2026-27 and $5.6 million in 2027-28.

The County Superintendent advises the district to review cash balances across all funds monthly to ensure they remain positive. The San Mateo County Controller's Office allows a negative balance in any fund only if the total district-wide cash balance is positive.

The District is reminded that the San Mateo County Controller's Office does not allow negative cash balances in any account at the end of the fiscal year.

OTHER FUNDS

The District maintains positive fund balances across all other funds. Below is a summary of funds with notable changes in the 2026-27 Adopted Budget.

Building Fund (Fund 21) – Expenditures increased by $30 million due to various large projects including modernization at various school site wings, restroom renovations, and gymnasium upgrades.

There are no other significant changes in other District funds from the 2025-26 Estimated Actuals to the 2026-27 Adopted Budget report.

SALARY NEGOTIATIONS

The District has finalized salary negotiations, resulting in a 4% increase for Classified and Certificated bargaining units for the 2026-27 school year, which was included in the Adopted Budget.

CHARTER SCHOOL

The District is the authorizing agency for One (1) charter schools:

Summit Public Schools: Shasta

As the authorizing agency, the District maintains fiscal oversight responsibilities, particularly in the key areas of accounting, attendance reporting, budgeting, and payroll.

As an authorizing agency, the District must continue to closely monitor the charter school's Local Control Accountability Plan and budget to ensure that sufficient funds are maintained to support all goals, actions and services included in the LCAP for 2026-27.

Should any circumstances arise related to the charter school that would negatively impact the financial condition of the District, please notify the County Office of Education as soon as possible.

We commend the work done by the Board and district staff to develop this year's LCAP and Budget. Please contact us if you have any questions about our review of your district's 2026-27 LCAP or Budget.

Sincerely,

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Enclosures

c: Toni Presta, Superintendent, Jefferson Union High School District
Tina Van Raaphorst, Deputy Superintendent of Business Services, Jefferson Union High School District
Kareen Baca, Deputy Superintendent of Educational Services, Jefferson Union High School District
Dhanya Unni, Executive Director, District Business Services, SMCOE
Joy Dardenelle, Executive Director, District Improvement and Support, SMCOE