SCHOOL DISTRICT THREE

PRELIMINARY FIRST READING

Public Hearing

General Fund Budget

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

Dr. Laura Hickson Superintendent

Hope Gibson, CSBO Director of Finance

May 08, 2025

MISSION

Ensuring Our Students are College or Career Ready and are Productive and Responsible Members of Society



2025-2026 DISTRICT GOALS

- 1. To improve the academic success of all students.
- 2. To ensure the safety of all district schools, offices, students, and staff.
- 3. To increase the number of students reading on grade level in grades K-3.
- 4. To recruit, retain, and train excellent instructional and administrative staff.
- 5. To build effective school, community and business relationships/partnerships.
- 6. To ensure financial stability.

135 AVERAGE DAILY MEMBERSHIP TREND

SCHOOL YR	ADM	TREND
• 2012-2013	3,570.04	92.60
• 2013-2014	3,558.52	(11.52)
• 2014-2015	3,601.45	42.93
• 2015-2016	3,560.55	(40.90)
• 2016-2017	3,522.93	(37.62)
• 2017-2018	3,362.92	(160.03)
• 2018-2019	3,269.06	(93.86)
• 2019-2020	3,153.65	(115.41)
• 2020-2021	3,127.15	(26.50)
• 2021-2022	2,964.47	(162.68)
• 2022-2023	2,827.76	(136.71)
• 2023-2024	2,752.41	(75.35)
• 2024-2025	2,659.14	(93.27) 45 th Day Count
• 2025-2026	2,500.00	(159.14) Projected

BASIS OF BUDGET FY 2026 GENERAL FUND BUDGET (WAYS AND MEANS)

EDUCATION FUNDING REFORM: AID TO CLASSROOMS PROGRAM -PROPOSED in FY 25-26 Executive Budget

- ❖ Strategy: To fund classrooms based on a statewide average student/teacher ratio (11.23:1)
- Cost of a teacher: State minimum Salary of Master's Degree + 12 years of experience and Fringe (state average) With State Minimum Teacher Salary Increase per cell of \$1,500 costs would be \$77,890.
- ❖ State Share at 75% and Local Share at 25% (Current formula for FSD3: 84% state and 16% Local)
- District receives its share of State Funds based upon Weighted Pupils Units & District's ability to pay (Index of Taxpaying Ability, calculated by Department of Revenue)
- Flexibility Funding is based on number of teachers, WPU and Index of taxpaying ability, Districts will have flexibility to spend funds as determined best; However, the statewide minimum teacher salary scale must be met.

BASIS OF BUDGET FY 2026 GENERAL FUND BUDGET (WAYS AND MEANS)

- ❖ Teacher Pay: The State Minimum Teacher Salary Schedule has been recommended for a \$1,500 increase per cell with the beginning teacher salary at \$48,500 and collapses the teacher salary schedule to four categories, deleting the Bachelor's +18 schedule.
- Bus Driver: 2.0% Proviso 117.141 School Bus Driver salary and fringe funding to school districts shall be increased by two percent.
- ❖ Step Increase: Teachers (152 days) Classified (80% contract days) **salaries only- not on stipend scales**
- ❖ Health Insurance —Proviso 108.6 updates the State Health Plan to January 2026. It sets the employer premium at the present amount except for a 4.6 % increase for working retirees. Employee increase equals \$36.76 per month or \$441.12 per year.
- ❖ State Retirement TBD

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24-25 rate 25.81 % ( 19.56 % + 6.25% ) 25-26 rate 26.81 % ( 20.56 % + 6.25% )
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LOCAL TAX

MILLAGE FOR 25 Tax Yr. (25-26 SY)	
number of mills for 24 Tax Year (24-25 SY)	243.85
2.95% CPI (Consumer Price Index) 0% Population increase	0.0295
cap mill increase for 25-26	7.19
TOTAL NUMBER OF MILLS FY 2025-2026	251.04
VALUE OF AN OPERATIONS MILL for 26	
100% value of a mill (08/1/24)	38,610.46
94% collection rate =	36,293.83
TOTAL AD VALOREM TAXES	9,111,203.08
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(per SC Revenue and Fiscal Affairs)	

MILLAGE HISTORY FOR OPERATIONS

Fiscal Year	Mills CA	AP Mill Percentage I	ncrease Mills	Rate Of Change	Total Mills
19-20	206.00	0.0244	5.03	0.71	211.03
19-20	reassessn	nent year: rollback			
20-21	207.80	0.0181	3.76	-1.27	211.50
21-22	211.50	0.0123	2.60	-1.16	214.10
22-23	214.10	0.0470	10.06	7.46	224.23
23-24	224.20	0.0858	19.24	9.18	243.44
24-25	234.20	0.0412	9.65	-9.59	243.85
25-26	243.85	0.0295	7.19	-2.46	251.04

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FLORENCE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICTS MILLAGE LEVY FY 2024-25 CHART

DISTRICT			SCHOOL TOTALS
Florence 1	210.70	45.00	255.70
Florence 2	236.10	43.00	279.10
Florence 3	243.90	11.00	254.90
Florence 4*	210.70	42.50	253.20
Florence 5	275.00	33.90	308.90
* Merged with Florence 1			

LOCAL TAX

The property tax is determined: Fair market value x assessment ratio x the millage rate. Example comparison of current to 7.19 mills increase			
Fair Market value of home Assesment ratio Assessed value Mills Taxes	\$50,000 x 4% 2,000 x .24385 \$487.70	\$50,000 x 4% \$2,000 x .25104 \$502.08	\$14.38
Fair Market value of home Assesment ratio Assessed value Mills Taxes	\$100,000 x 4% \$4,000 x. 24385 \$975.40	\$100,000 x 4% \$4,000 x .25104 \$ 1,004.16	\$28.76

PRELIMINARY

GENERAL FUND BUDGET FY 2025-2026

FY 25-26			
GENERAL FUND			
REVENUE:			
	LOCAL	\$9,111,203.00	
	STATE*	\$8,002,029.00	
NEW FORMULA	STATE*	\$17,560,597.00	
	TRANSFER	\$227,000.00	
TOTAL	REVENUES	\$34,900,829.00	

^{*}House Ways and Means Budget Estimates, the District has not received projections from the State Department of Education

PRELIMINARY

GENERAL FUND BUDGET FY 2025-2026

100-001-110-0000-00	PROPERTY TAXES	6,338,484.00
100-001-110-0010-00	DLQT TAXES	362,865.00
100-001-110-0020-00	VEHILCE TAXES	1,706,325.00
100-001-140-0000-00	PENALITIES AND INTEREST	11,740.00
100-001-190-0000-00	OTHER TAXES (WATERCRAFT)	56,877.00
100-001-280-0000-00	REVENUE IN LIEU OF TAXES	567,712.00
100-001-310-0000-00	STUDENT TUITION PAYMENTS	5,000.00
100-001-320-0000-00	TUITION PAYMENT FROM OTHER	15,000.00
100-001-510-0000-00	INTEREST ON INVESTMENTS	15,000.00
100-001-510-0020-00	INTEREST ON CHECKING	3,500.00
100-001-910-0000-00	RENTAL OF PROPERTY	3,000.00
100-001-999-0000-00	MISC ELLANEOUS REVENUE	20,000.00
100-001-999-0040-00	TRANSCRIPTS	5,700.00
		\$
	LOCAL REVENUE	9,111,203.00

GENERAL FUND BUDGET FY 2025-2026

100-003-160-0000-00	SCHOOL BUS DRIVER SALARY	246,129.00
100-003-162-0000-00	TRANSPORTATION WORKERS COM	12,353.00
100-003-180-0000-00	EMPLOYEE FRINGE	0.00
100-003-181-0000-00	RETIREE INSURANCE	1,338,177.00
100-003-810-0000-00	PROPERTY TAX RELIEF (TIER I)	802,083.00
100-003-820-0000-00	HOMESTEAD TAX EXMPT (TIERII)	429,027.00
100-003-825-0000-00	REIMB FOR PROPERTY TAX RELIEF (TIER III)	3,620,995.00
100-003-830-0000-00	MERCHANT'S INVENTORY	94,239.00
100-003-840-0000-00	MANUFACTURER'S DEPRC	836,418.00
100-003-840-0010-00	MANUFACTURER'S (PROPERTY VALUATION EXEMP)	119,108.00
100-003-890-0000-00	OTHER STATE	35,000.00
100-003-993-0000-00	PEBA ON BEHALF PAYMENTS	468,500.00
		\$
	TOTAL STATE REVENUE	8,002,029.00

House Ways and Means Budget Estimates the District has not received projections from the State Department of Education

PRELIMINARY GENERAL FUND BUDGET FY 2025-2026

TRANSFERS

100-005-280-0201-00	TRANSFER - INDIRECT COST: FUND 201	40,000.00
100-005-280-0203-00	TRANSFER - INDIRECT COST: FUND 203	30,000.00
100-005-280-0210-00	TRANSFER - INDIRECT COST: FUND 210	3,000.00
100-005-280-0224-00	TRANSFER - INDIRECT COST: FUND 224	8,000.00
100-005-280-0237-00	TRANSFER - INDIRECT COST: FUND 239	3,000.00
100-005-280-0267-00	TRANSFER - INDIRECT COST: FUND 267	3,000.00
100-005-280-0600-00	TRANSDER - INDIRECT COST: FUND 600	140,000.00
	TOTAL TRANSFERS	\$227,000.00

REVENUE:		
	LOCAL	\$ 9,111,203.00
	STATE	\$ 8,002,029.00
NEW FORMULA	STATE	\$ 17,560,597.00
	TRANSFER	\$ 227,000.00
	FUND BALANCE PRIOR YR	\$
	TOTAL REVENUES	\$ 34,900,829.00
EXPENDITURES :		
	EMPLOYEE SALARIES	\$ 19,764,121.00
	EMPLOYEE FRINGE	\$ 10,240,872.00
	PURCHASED SERVICES	\$ 4,457,997.00
	SUPPLIES AND MATERIALS	\$ 1,682,217.00
	EQUIPMENT	\$ 23,186.00
	OTHER OBJECTS	\$ 560,370.00
	TRANSFERS	\$ 78,956.00
	TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 36,807,719.00
	OUT OF BALANCE AMOUNT	\$1,906,890.00

House Ways and Means Budget Estimates the District has not received projections from the State Department of Education

TIMELINE FOR 2025-2026 BUDGET APPROVAL

Thursday, March 20 2025 1st Reading of PROPOSED Budget

Thursday, April 10, 2025 1st Public Hearing @ 5:00 p.m.

Thursday, May 08, 2025 2nd Reading

Friday, May 16, 2025 2nd Public Hearing @ 12:00 p.m.

Thursday, June 12, 2025 FINAL Reading