

Article 3-Operating Budget

The Operating Budget for 2024-25 consists of:

Fund 10 General Fund	\$54,415,352		
Fund 21 Food Service	\$ 1,191,685		
Fund 22 Federal Funds	\$ 600,000		
Fund 23 Pass Through	\$ 41,000		
Total	\$56,248,037	Default	\$55,929,305

The Fund 10, General Fund, is the budget supported by local property tax as well as local, state, and federal sources of revenue. This budget contains staff salaries and benefits, instructional supplies and equipment, utilities and maintenance costs, debt service as well as legal and professional services costs. The proposed general fund budget for next year has increased by \$3,036,939. To bring this down the board has identified additional revenue. Sources such as \$30,471 in food service sales, interest earnings, tuition, and intent to use \$311,320 of the Retained Fund Balance Account, \$250,000 from the Health Insurance Trust Fund, \$250,000 from the Special Education Trust Fund.

Fund 21, Food Service Budget, supports the school nutrition program in all the schools and is supported primarily by revenues generated by the federal government and program sales.

Fund 22, Federal Projects, covers grant and other revenues that come from federal sources.

Fund 23, Pass Through, covers those funds that are awarded to the District from either the state or from sources other than the federal government or from local donations.

Funds 21,22, and 23 remain the same regardless of the vote. The Default Budget becomes the General Fund budget if and when the proposed operating budget fails to be approved by the voters. Per state statute, the Default Budget for FY2025 consists of the amount of the appropriations for FY2024 (current year), reduced or increased by legal and contractual obligations such as debt service, employee contracts, and other obligations previously incurred and/or mandated by law. It is also reduced by one-time expenditures contained in the operating budget, such as appropriations that originated in special or individual warrant articles.

Article 4 - Oyster River Interventionists and Tutors Association

Article 4 The School Board and the Oyster River Intervention and Tutors Association have reached an agreement for a three-year contract. This contract would be in effect from July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2027. This agreement is a brand-new contract that establishes pay rates, benefits, and contract language for this association.

Article 5- Addition to Facilities Development, Maintenance, and Replacement Trust Fund

Article 5 proposes to add \$125,000 of unreserved (unspent) FY2024 appropriated funds to the existing Facilities Development, Maintenance, and Replacement Trust Fund. These funds would be used to purchase the solar array on the new middle school. The best option for savings in energy costs are obtained when this is purchased after 6 years. By saving \$125,000 each year we would have the total needed and avoid the need to budget for the entire amount in one year.

Article 6- Establish an Artificial Turf Replacement Expendable Trust Fund

Article 6 proposes to establish and add \$125,000 of unreserved (unspent) FY2024 appropriated funds to the Artificial Turf Replacement Expendable Trust Fund. These funds would be used for the future replacement of the turf fields at the middle and high school. By saving \$125,000 each year we would have the amount needed for the replacement of a field and avoid the need to budget for the entire amount in one year.

Article 7- Establish a non-lapsing Athletic Field Revolving Fund

Article 7 proposes to establish a non-lapsing Athletic Field Revolving Fund to be funded by revenue generated by facility use fees. By collecting these fees and allocating them to this fund the district will be able to offset the expenses for maintaining the district's fields.