

# George County School District



2025-2026 Public Hearing  
July 29, 2025

# George County Board of Education

Chris Hilbun - President

Maria Clanton - Vice President

Matthew Smith - Secretary

James Hill - Trustee

Wade Whittington - Trustee

Cherie Wade - Board Attorney

Debra Joiner - Superintendent of Education

# Administration Leadership Team

Caleb Davis.....	Chief of Campus Police
Sarah Crenshaw.....	Child Nutrition Coordinator
Clint James .....	Transportation Coordinator
Gina Hataway.....	Director of Student Assessment & Elem. Curriculum
Jeff Mathis.....	Director of CTE & Logistics
Jennifer Flowers.....	Data/MSIS Coordinator
Jennifer Mathis.....	Director of Secondary Curriculum & Academics
Erin Weaver.....	Technology Coordinator
James Ray.....	Director of Athletics & Operations
Natasha Henderson.....	Chief Financial Officer
Patti Wilkins Seaman.....	Director of Federal Programs
Phyllis McDonald.....	Director of Human Resources
Richard Maples.....	Maintenance Coordinator
David King.....	Director of Special Education
Sid Taylor.....	Director of Alternative School and Special Services

George County School District serves pre-k through twelfth grades with a student population of 4,015. The district consists of 6 elementary schools, 1 middle school, and 1 high school.

<u>SCHOOL</u> <u>ENROLLMENT</u>	<u>PRINCIPAL</u>	<u>GRADES</u>	
Agricola Elementary	Mrs. Jan French	Pre K-6	538
Benndale Elementary	Mr. Sean Riley	Pre K-6	133
Central Elementary	Mrs. Sherry Pilkington	Pre K-6	652
George County High School	Mr. Jason Holland	9-12	1,110
George County Middle School	Mr. Morgan Dean	7-8	603
LC Hatcher Elementary	Ms. Kristi Kirkwood	Pre K-2	283
L T Taylor Intermediate	Mrs. Mitzi Davis	3-6	292
Rocky Creek Elementary	Mrs. Sheila Taylor	Pre K-6	404

# Budget Presentation

The public hearing is being held in accordance with Mississippi Code Section 37-61-9,

*“Prior to the adoption of a budget, the school board of each school district shall hold at least one (1) public hearing to provide the general public with an opportunity to comment on the taxing and spending plan incorporated in the proposed budget. The public hearing shall be held at least one (1) week prior to the adoption of the budget with advanced notice.”*

Section 37-61-21, allows for revisions to the budget during the fiscal year. Final budget revisions must be approved by the school board on or before October 15th of the following fiscal year.

# Budget Process

The George County School District strategically budgets an annual spending plan that provides quality educational programs for all students while carefully managing the District's resources. The development, review, and consideration of the 2025-2026 budget was completed with a detailed review of revenue and expenditure items to ensure the necessary resources are available and allocated to meet the needs of the District while minimizing tax increases for the District's taxpayers.

The proposed budget includes anticipated revenues from local, state, and federal resources. Expenditures are projected based on these revenues in each fund and are made subject to all requirements imposed by the United States Department of Education, the Mississippi Department of Education, the State Legislature, and the Local Board of Trustees.

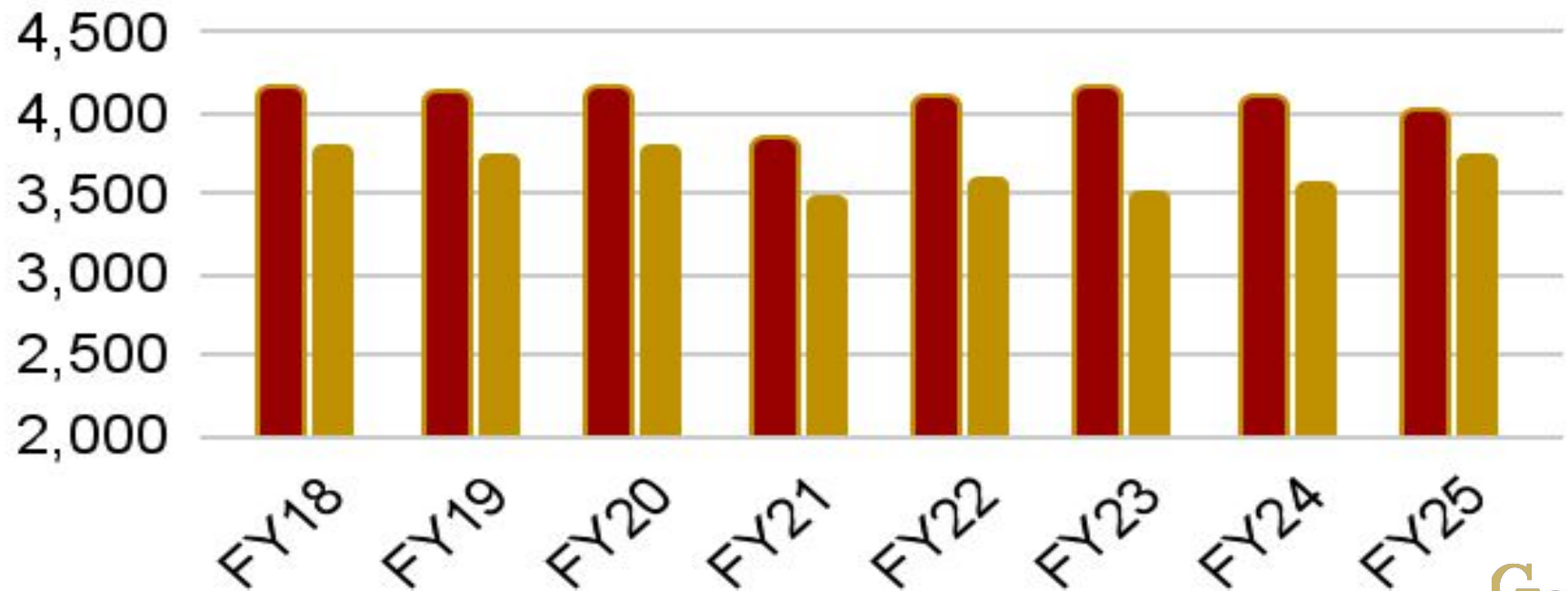
# George County School District



ENROLLMENT

# ADA and Net Membership Trends

Net Membership ADA



# George County School District



FUNDS

# Fund Budgets

- ❖ The school district's budget is comprised of many individual funds that contain revenues and expenditures.
- ❖ A fund is a self-balancing set of accounts that captures and reports transactions for specific or general revenue sources and the expanding of those revenues.
- ❖ The 55 funds are then combined into an overall combined budget.
- ❖ The school board will approve both individual fund budgets and the combined budget for the 2025-2026 year, and the budget will be a guide for educational spending.

# Funds

## \*19 General Funds

- District Maintenance
- Activity Funds
- Emergency Fund
- 3 Mill Principal
- 16th Section Interest

## \*28 Special Revenue Funds

- Child Nutrition
- IDEA
- IDEA PreSchool
- CTE
- Title I, II, V
- 16th Section Forestry Escrow
- Misc. Grants

## \*5 Capital Improvement Funds

- GCHS Bleachers
- GCHS Culinary
- GCHS Softball Bleachers ( $\frac{1}{3}$ )
- GCHS Track
- Paving Project

## \*5 Debt Service Funds

- GO Bond
- 3 Mill Note
- Shortfall Note

# George County School District



FUNDING SOURCES

# Funding Sources

## \*Local Sources

- Ad Valorem
- Bank Interest
- Grants

## \*State Sources

- MSFF
- EEF (pledged to 3 Mill note)
- Homestead
- National Board
- Early Learning Collaborative
- Grants

## \*Federal Sources

- Title I, II, V
- IDEA
- IDEA PreSchool
- Child Nutrition

## \*16th Section

- Leases
- Interest

SIXTEENTH

0.3%

FEDERAL

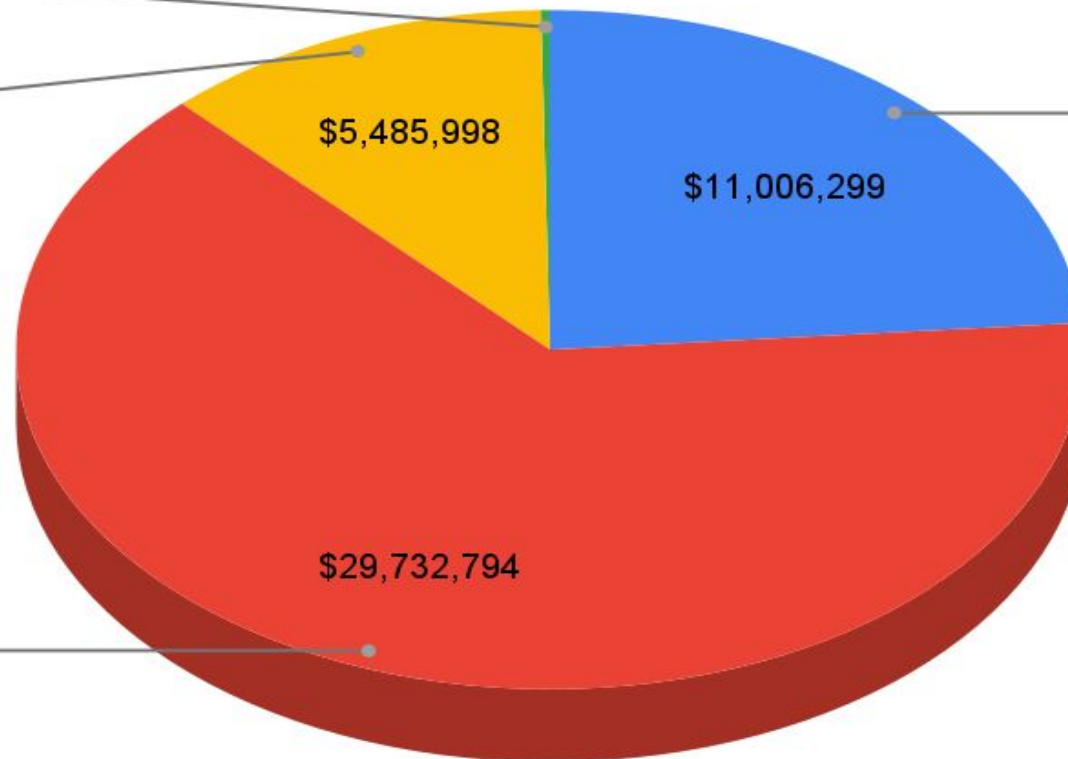
11.8%

LOCAL

23.7%

STATE

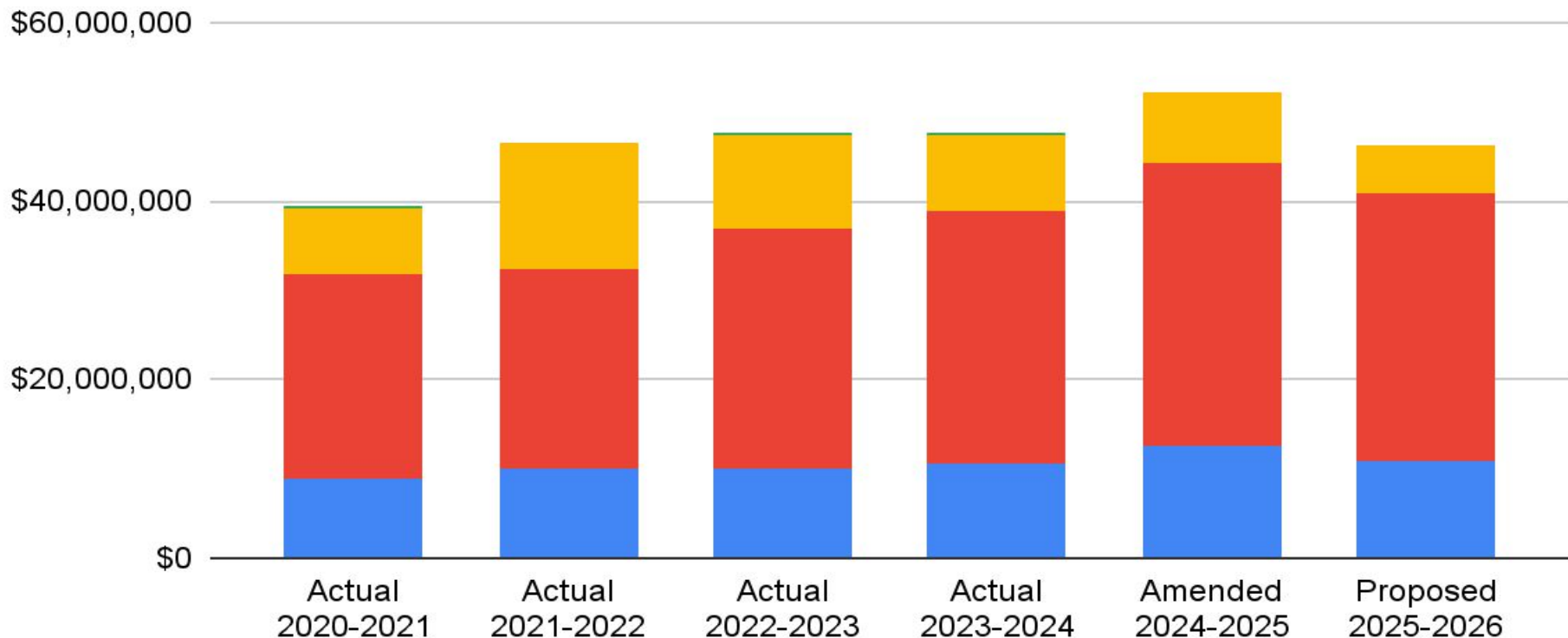
64.1%



**TOTAL PROJECTED REVENUE: \$46,350,736**

# Revenue: Historical Data

■ SIXTEENTH SECTION    ■ FEDERAL SOURCES    ■ STATE SOURCES  
■ LOCAL SOURCES



# Revenue Summary

Anticipated State Sources (64.1%)	\$29,732,794
Anticipated Federal Sources (11.8%)	\$5,485,998
Anticipated Sixteenth Section Sources (.3%)	\$125,645
Anticipated Local Sources (23.7%)	\$11,006,299
<b>Total FY26 Budgeted Revenue</b>	<b>\$46,350,736</b>
Anticipated Beginning Fund Balance	\$21,925,868
<b>Total Anticipated Available Resources</b>	<b>\$68,276,604</b>

# Mississippi Student Funding Formula

\*Net Membership (ADE)

\*Student Based Weighting for ADE additions

\*Local contribution amount calculated on total funding

\*All K-12th grade levels included (Pre K not included)

\*Non-recalculation year-Base Student Cost (BSC) increases by 25% X-year average annual inflation rate change  
FY26 \$6,842.61 BSC

\*BSC recalculated FY 29 (every 4 years)

\*Student Base Amount X Final Weighted Enrollment - Local Contribution = Total MSFF

## Weighted for:

*Low Income	30%
*Concentrated Poverty	10%
*English learners	15%
*Special Education Tier I	60%
*Special Education Tier II	110%
*Special Education Tier III	130%
*Gifted	5% of 5%
*CTE (grades 9-12)	10%



# Mississippi Student Funding Formula

<b>FY24 MAEP (includes teacher pay raise &amp; ADE funds)</b>	<b>FY 25 MSFF</b>	<b>FY 26 MSFF (if fully funded)</b>
\$22,352,418	\$28,850,972	\$27,937,626
	\$6,498,554 increase	\$913,346 decrease
		87.25 decrease in weighted enrollment



# Ad Valorem

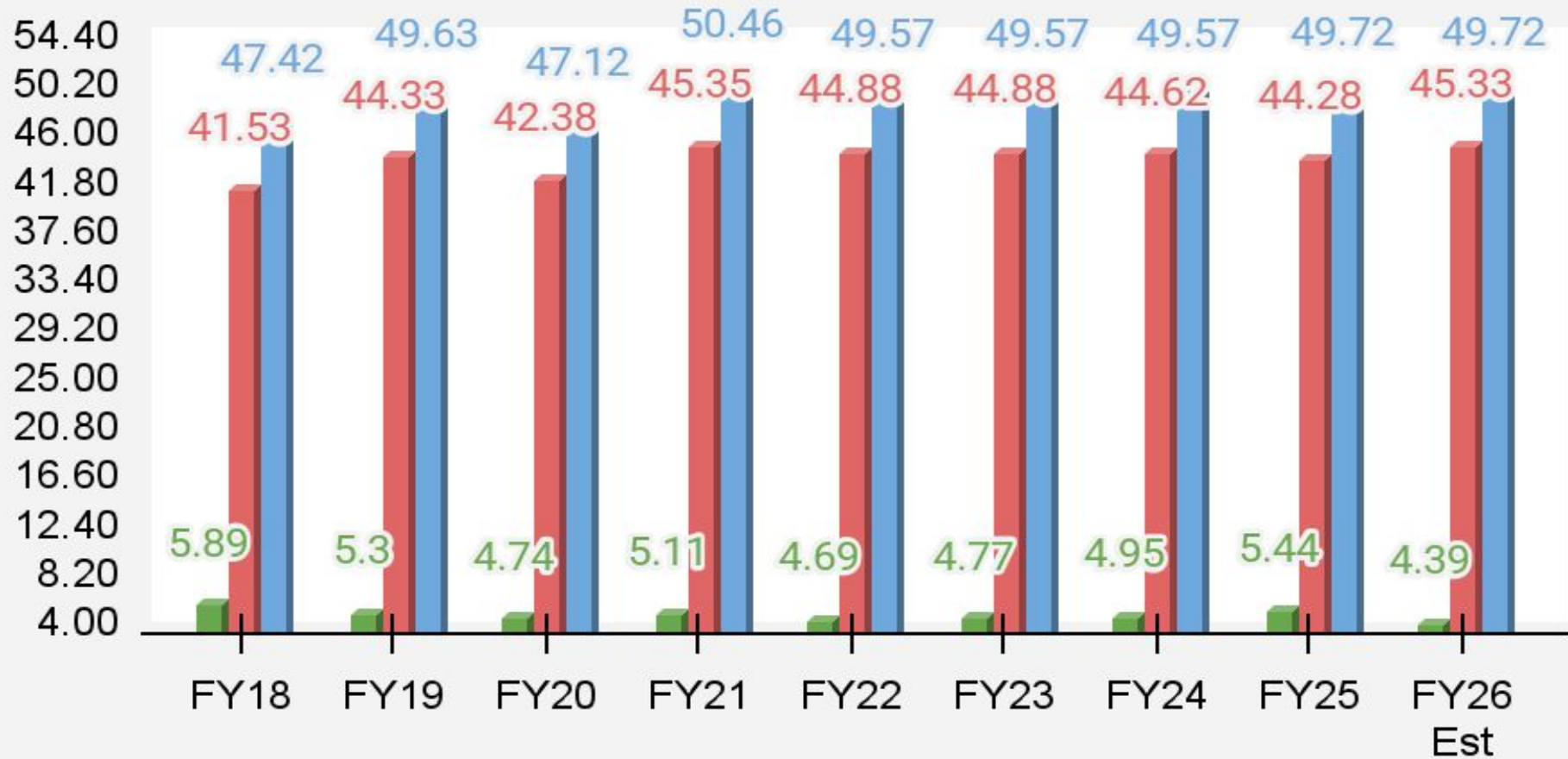
LEVY	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026 ESTIMATED
Mill Value	\$163,463	\$160,045	\$170,145	\$178,305	\$182,701	\$191,701
Operational Request	\$7,093,426	\$7,420,615	\$7,420,615	\$7,956,620	\$8,087,742	\$8,689,580
Bond Issues Request	\$353,139	\$372,000	\$300,000	\$300,000	\$333,753	\$456,321
3-Mill Notes Request	\$366,272	350,000	\$409,070	\$415,000	\$522,379	\$311,945
Shortfall Note Request	\$113,348	\$68,670	\$81,600	\$167,000	\$140,000	\$73,512



# Ad Valorem Millage

LEVY	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026 ESTIMATED
Mill Value	\$163,463	\$160,045	\$170,145	\$178,305	\$182,701	\$191,701
Operational	45.35	44.88	44.8	44.62	44.28	45.33
Bond Issues	2.16	2.2	1.81	1.68	1.82	2.38
3-Mill Notes	2.24	2.07	2.47	2.33	2.85	1.63
Shortfall Note	.71	.42	.49	.94	.77	.38
Total Millage	50.46	49.57	49.57	49.57	49.72	49.72

■ Debt Service   ■ Operational   ■ Total



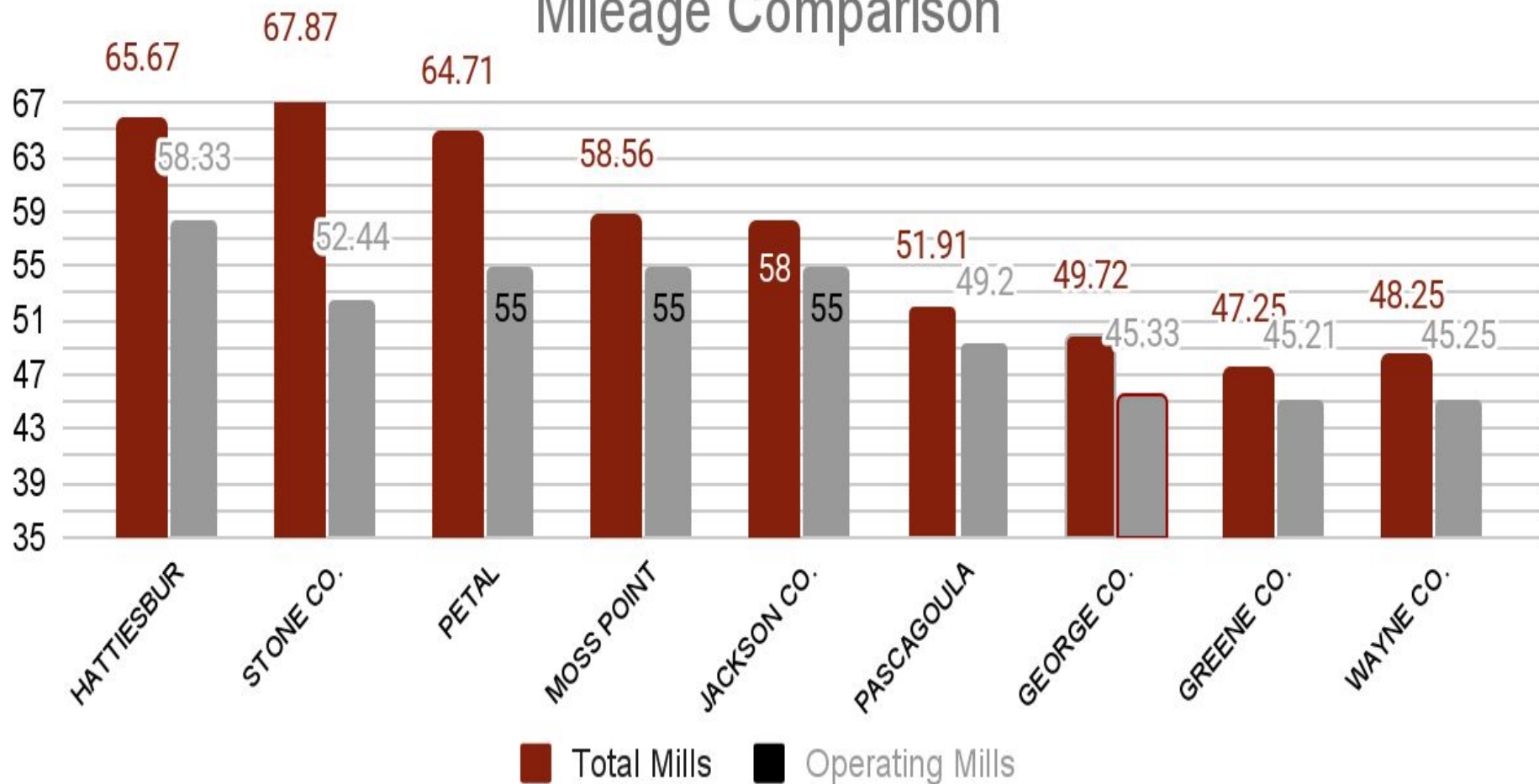
# Example of Property Taxes

House appraises for		Property Assessment Ratio		Assessed Value
\$150,000	X	10%	=	\$15,000

Assessed Value		Millage Rate		Tax Revenue for
\$15,000	X	.04972	=	George County
				Schools
				\$745.80

The Property assessment is 10 percent applied to the “true market value” of real property and to the usual selling price of personal property. The example above explains how to calculate the amount that George County Schools receives from your property taxes. The assessed value is multiplied by the millage rate which is 49.72 total mills for the FY 25-26 school year.

# Mileage Comparison



# George County School District



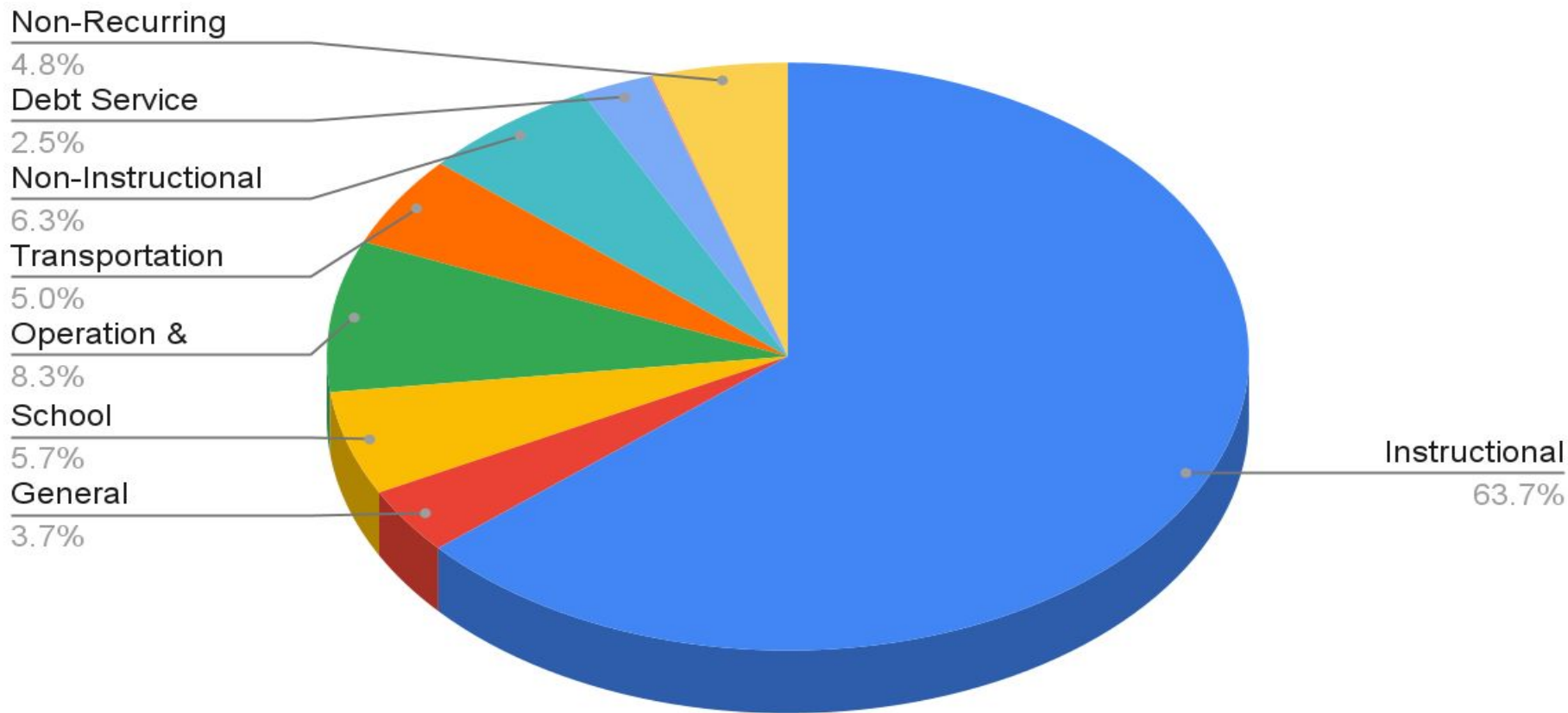
EXPENSES

# Expenditures

- \*Instructional: All related expenses related to direct teaching and learning activities
  - Teachers-Subs-Counselors-Teacher Assistants-Librarians-Nurses-Speech-MSIS-School Resource Officer
- \*School Administration: All related expenses related to the principal office
  - Principals-Assistant Principals-Secretaries
- \*General Administration: All related expenses to Central office
  - Board of Education-Superintendent-Business Office-Federal Programs-Special Education
- \*Operations & Maintenance: All related expenses for the upkeep of buildings, grounds, and equipment
  - Maintenance-Janitors-Custodians-Lawn Care-Utilities

# Expenditures

- \*Transportation: All related expenses transporting students to and from school
  - Buses-Drivers-Mechanics-Bus Maintenance
- \*Non-Instructional: All related expenses other than instruction and support services
  - Human Resources-Technology-Child Nutrition-Community Involvement-Public Relations
- \*Sixteenth Section: Activities tied to the Sixteenth section land trust-fund
- \*Debt Services: Payments for principal and interest on debt bonds
- \*Non-Recurring Expenditures: One-time capital outlays or special projects
  - Construction-Renovations-Capital Equipment



**TOTAL PROJECTED EXPENDITURES: \$49,013,091**



**Property/Equipm**

6.6%

**Supplies**

5.0%

**Other Purchased**

3.5%

**Purchased**

3.6%

**Professional**

5.3%

**Benefits**

20.6%

**Salaries**

\$25,782,523

**Benefits**

\$10,072,587

**Professional Services**

\$2,616,994

**Purchased Services**

\$1,785,268

**Other Purchased Services**

\$1,691,513

**Supplies**

\$2,473,860

**Property/Equipment**

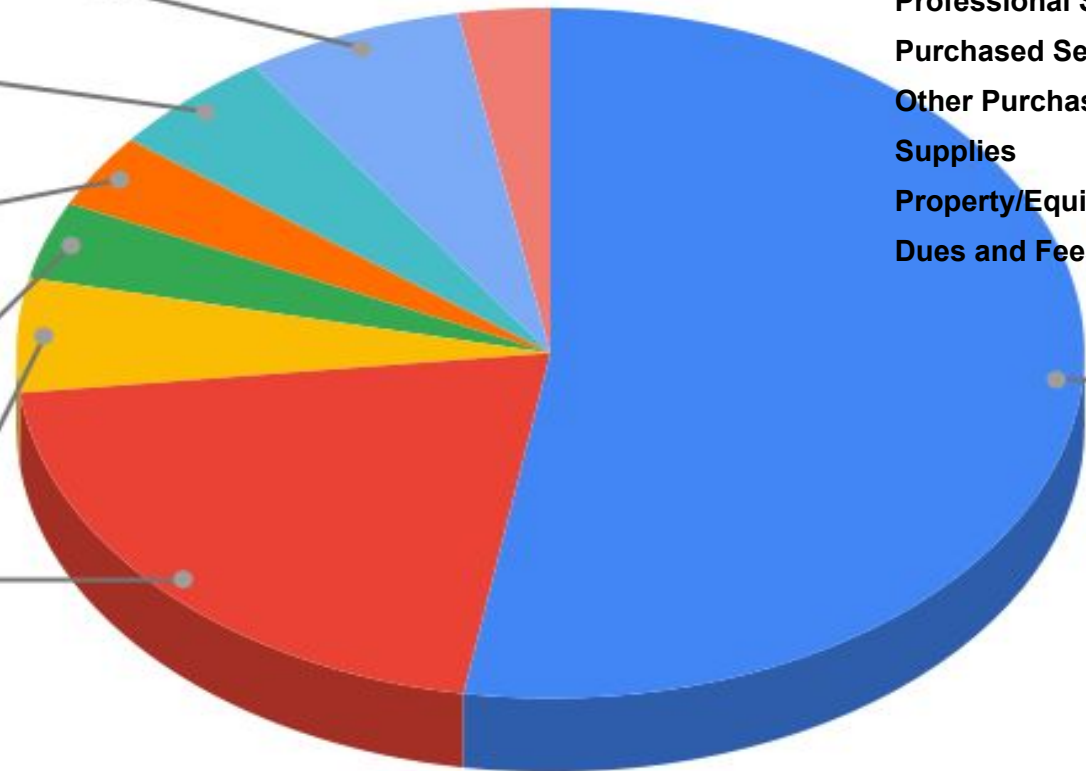
\$3,225,044

**Dues and Fees**

\$1,365,301

**Salaries**

52.6%



**Our teachers are dedicated to helping children achieve the skills and knowledge they need for a lifetime of success. They are part of a friendly, caring, professional staff that works as a team to meet the needs of every student. It takes everyone to make all this possible. George County Schools has approximately 663 employees.**

**\*345 Teachers**

**\*104 Instructional Aids**

**\*9 Nurses**

**\*8 Counselors/Social Workers**

**\*36 Custodians/Maintenance/Mechanic Staff**

**\*26 School Support Specialists**

**\*23 Administrative Staff**

**\*37 Clerical Staff**

**\*61 Bus Drivers/Aids**

**\*14 Part Time Staff**



# Expenditure Summary

Instructional (63.7%)	\$31,217,638
General Administration (3.7%)	\$1,789,171
School Administration (5.7%)	\$2,803,071
Operation & Maintenance (8.3%)	\$4,083,146
Transportation (5.0%)	\$2,455,921
Non-Instructional (6.3%)	\$3,067,620
Debt Service (2.5%)	\$1,228,488
Sixteenth Section (.1%)	\$29,210
Non-Recurring Expenditure (4.8%)	\$2,338,827
<b>Total FY26 Budgeted Expenditures</b>	<b>\$49,013,091</b>

Of the district's budget, \$17,944,382 is categorized as assigned or restricted.

Assigned or restricted funds are set aside for specific purposes by external authorities (such as federal or state mandates) or assigned for intended purposes, such as future projects or activity funds.


\$9,885,034 represents carryover expenses funded by prior years' revenue.



# Expenditures: Historical Data

	Actual 2020-2021	Actual 2021-2022	Actual 2022-2023	Actual 2023-2024	Amended 2024-2025	Proposed 2025-2026
<b>Salaries and Benefits</b>	\$29,771,441	\$30,580,572	\$34,368,667	\$33,877,909	\$34,154,420	\$35,855,110
<b>Professional Services</b>	\$1,304,599	\$1,246,299	\$1,856,762	\$3,769,451	\$3,062,408	\$2,616,994
<b>Purchased Services</b>	\$1,328,945	\$2,517,475	\$1,364,921	\$3,006,450	\$1,736,833	\$1,785,268
<b>Other Purchased Services</b>	\$503,958	\$638,451	\$803,004	\$1,361,631	\$1,577,637	\$1,691,513
<b>Supplies</b>	\$2,459,055	\$3,143,822	\$3,417,935	\$2,037,322	\$2,252,944	\$2,473,860
<b>Property/Equipment</b>	\$2,326,622	\$3,441,561	\$4,113,946	\$2,850,037	\$3,048,534	\$3,225,044
<b>Dues and Fees</b>	\$1,255,934	\$1,052,104	\$971,780	\$1,647,295	\$1,305,980	\$1,365,301
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES/BUDGET</b>	\$38,950,554	\$42,620,283	\$46,897,015	\$48,550,094	\$47,138,756	\$49,013,091

# Debt Service

Debt Service	FY 2026 Principal	FY 2026 Interest	June 30, 2026 Principal Balance	Debt Retirement
2022 Shortfall	\$98,261	\$3,744	-0-	8/11/2025
2024 Shortfall	\$45,719	\$9,882	\$111,199	9/04/2027
2022 3-Mill Note	\$220,000	\$34,050	\$1,274,604	4/26/2031
2024 3-Mill Note	\$189,493	\$56,470	\$973,852	8/02/2029
2023 Obligation Bond	\$235,000	\$34,622	\$2,206,063	6/01/2032
2014 Obligation Bond	\$226,250	-0-	\$430,000	6/15/2028
GCHS Carpet-Revolving Loan	\$75,000	-0-	\$525,000	5/01/2033
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,089,723</b>	<b>\$138,768</b>	<b>\$5,520,718</b>	

# District Maintenance Fund

## Revenues:

Local Sources	\$8,841,605.00
State Sources	28,293,723.60
Federal Sources	289,300.00
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$37,424,627.60</b>

## Other Financing Sources (Uses):

Operating Transfer in	60,188.57
Indirect Cost	122,569.78
Operating Transfer Out	(6,208,364.91)
<b>Net Change in Fund Balance</b>	<b>\$330,312.76</b>

## Expenditures:

Instruction	\$18,432,346.39
Support Services	12,552,370.89
Non Instructional Services	8,991.00
Debt Service	75,000
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$31,068,708.28</b>

July 1, 2025 Beginning Fund Balance- Projected	\$9,079,609
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<b>June 30, 2026 Ending Fund Balance</b>	<b>\$9,409,922</b>
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The District Maintenance revenues total \$37,424,627 and are classified as unassigned. These funds are available for general operations of the district and may be used at the discretion of the School Board.

## Adoption of Budget

The FY26 Proposed Budget will be considered for adoption at the meeting of the Board of Trustees on August 12, 2026

	Governmental Fund Types					Total
	General	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	Debt Service	Permanent Trust	
<b>Revenues</b>						
Local Sources	9,603,421.28	522,427.55	0.00	880,449.00	0.00	11,006,297.83
Intermediate Sources	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
State Sources	28,293,722.60	1,439,072.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	29,732,794.60
Federal Sources	289,300.00	5,196,698.57	0.00	0.00	0.00	5,485,998.57
Sixteenth Section Sources	104,945.00	14,000.00	0.00	0.00	6,700.00	125,645.00
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>38,291,388.88</b>	<b>7,172,198.12</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>880,449.00</b>	<b>6,700.00</b>	<b>46,350,736.00</b>
<b>Expenditures</b>						
Instruction	22,330,067.48	4,595,848.89	0.00	0.00	0.00	26,925,916.37
Support Services	14,319,539.16	1,941,482.13	0.00	0.00	0.00	16,261,021.29
Noninstructional Services	8,991.00	2,220,637.57	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,229,628.57
Sixteenth Section	1,500.00	27,710.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	29,210.00
Facilities Acquisition and Construction	0.00	934,103.91	1,404,722.74	0.00	0.00	2,338,826.65
Debt Service	6,705.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	6,705.00
Principal	75,000.00	0.00	0.00	1,013,471.81	0.00	1,088,471.81
Interest	0.00	0.00	0.00	135,765.89	0.00	135,765.89
Other	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,250.00	0.00	4,250.00
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>36,735,097.64</b>	<b>9,719,782.50</b>	<b>1,404,722.74</b>	<b>1,153,487.70</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>49,013,090.58</b>
<b>Other Financing Sources (Uses)</b>						
Indirect Costs	122,569.78	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	122,569.78
Other Transfers In	4,870,750.94	1,599,006.76	0.00	354,100.00	0.00	6,823,857.70
Indirect Costs Transfers Out	0.00	122,569.78	0.00	0.00	0.00	122,569.78
Other Transfers Out	6,255,718.70	335,189.00	0.00	226,250.00	6,700.00	6,823,857.70
<b>Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)</b>	<b>(1,262,397.98)</b>	<b>1,141,247.98</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>127,850.00</b>	<b>(6,700.00)</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>Net Change in Fund Balances</b>	<b>293,893.26</b>	<b>(1,406,335.40)</b>	<b>(1,404,722.74)</b>	<b>(145,188.70)</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>(2,662,354.58)</b>
<b>Fund Balances / Retained Earnings</b>						
July 1, 2025 as restated	12,798,206.87	2,480,890.08	1,404,722.74	5,158,800.50	204,313.12	22,046,933.31
June 30, 2026	13,092,100.13	1,074,553.68	0.00	5,013,611.80	204,313.12	19,384,578.73

# Administrative Percentage Test

- \*Code Section 37-61-9(4) provides a formula to be used to determining the reasonableness of administrative salary expenditures**
- \*Administrative salaries and benefits may not exceed \$150,000 plus 4% of the total expenditures of the school district for any one fiscal year**
- \*FY26 formula allows for \$2,078,523 to be spent on administrative salaries and benefits**
- \*FY26 budgeted amount is proposed at \$1,393,473 which is \$685,049 (49%) below the allowed limit**

# BOARD POLICY DGA

- ❖ It is the goal of the District to achieve and maintain an unassigned fund balance in the General Fund at fiscal year end of not less than 7% of District Maintenance revenues (or expenditures).
- ❖ FY26 projected at 30% fund balance of the District Maintenance Revenue budget; excluding Activity funds and 3-mill Principal/Limited Tax Note funds



**Natasha Henderson**  
**Chief Financial Officer**  
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**Or visit our website at: [www.gcsd.us](http://www.gcsd.us)**