Knox County R-I School District

2026-2027 Budget

Knox County R-I School District
052-096

2026-2027 Budget

This budget approved by action of the Knox County R-I School Board of Education on September 15, 2026.

Shelly Bugh - Board President
Kim Jansen- Board Vice-President
Jason Doss - Board Treasurer
Karisha Devlin - Board Secretary
Carolyn Primm - Board Member
Marty Strange - Board Member
Jaron Poor - Board Member

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President (Signature)

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Secretary (Signature)

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Treasurer (Signature)

The 2026–2027 budget is designed to address our recent budget imbalance directly, reduce ongoing expenditures, and begin rebuilding our financial position while protecting the quality of education we provide to our students. Our financial position has changed significantly over the past several years. At the end of the 2025–2026 school year, our fund balance was approximately 6.93%. We recognize that our reserves are lower than we want them to be. Understanding how we reached this point, however, requires looking at the entire financial picture rather than focusing on one number or one year.

A significant part of the change in our fund balance was related to construction and facility projects. Several years ago, the district intentionally accumulated funds in the Capital Projects Fund to prepare for major facility improvements. Those funds were set aside for a specific purpose and were subsequently used for those projects. During the 2025–2026 school year alone, the district had more than $771,000 in project-related expenditures. These were planned expenditures that helped us complete significant improvements to our facilities, but they also had an important financial consequence: they reduced the reserves that had been accumulated for those projects.

At the same time, our ongoing revenue picture changed. For budgeting purposes, we are projecting a State Adequacy Target of $6,830 per student, compared with the $7,145 per student we had previously anticipated. That difference represents approximately $153,000 less in projected revenue for Knox County R-1. Our district is currently on the waitlist for the Missouri Quality Pre-K program. That program provided approximately $161,000 in funding to the district last year, so we are budgeting cautiously and are not assuming those funds will be available this year. In addition, our federal Title I allocation was reduced by 10%.

We also recognized that our ongoing expenditures needed to better align with our ongoing revenues. For the 2026–2027 school year, the district has reduced projected expenditures by approximately $1,029,080 compared with 2025–2026. This reduction includes approximately $775,000 in one-time construction costs associated with our 2024 lease-purchase project that will not continue into the new budget year, along with reductions from absorbing staff retirements and resignations rather than refilling two high school teaching positions and 3.5 paraprofessional positions and reducing new technology purchases by $25,000.

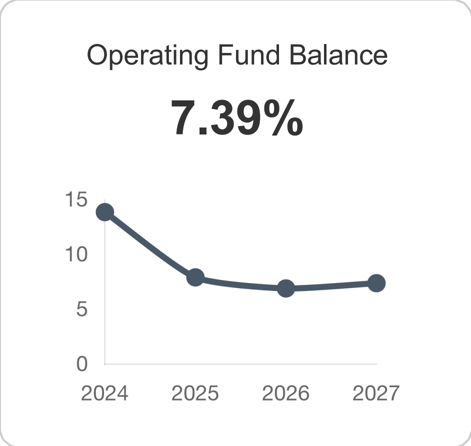
It is important to recognize that the reduction in spending is not simply the result of construction projects ending. Our operating budget has also been reduced significantly. From 2024–2025 to 2026–2027, our operating budget decreased by approximately $702,683, or 7.7%. These are meaningful changes, and they reflect a deliberate effort to bring ongoing spending more closely in line with anticipated ongoing revenues. The decisions behind these reductions were not easy. However, they were made strategically. Our goal is not simply to spend less. Our goal is to make sure the resources we have are directed toward the areas that have the greatest impact on students while protecting core classroom sizes and the quality of daily instruction.

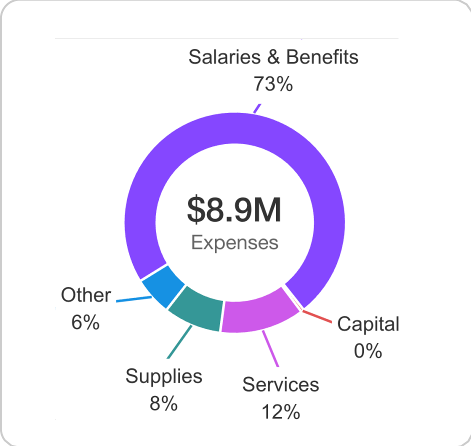
Because of these combined efforts, we are moving in the right direction. The current budget projects a $23,000 increase in our general fund balance. We are also projecting a $14,000 drawdown in the debt service fund. Taken together with the activity in our other funds, this results in an overall positive fiscal balance of $8,127 across all funds. Our total anticipated fund balance is projected to improve from 6.93% at the end of last year to 7.39%. Our goal is not simply to balance one year's budget. Our goal is to stabilize the district financially, rebuild our reserves over time, and create a sustainable financial position for the future.

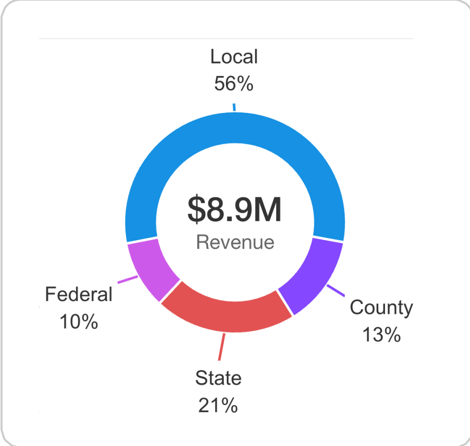
We know there is work ahead. Our reserves need to be strengthened, our ongoing expenditures must remain aligned with our revenues, and we must continue making thoughtful financial decisions. Our commitment is simple: to be responsible stewards of the resources entrusted to us, to communicate openly with our community, and to continue providing our students with the opportunities they deserve.

Fiscal Year 2027 Budget

	2024 Actual	2026 ASBR Final	2027 September 2026 Updated Budget	Difference
Revenue	$12,166,308	$9,070,824	$8,872,624	$-198,200
Expense	$11,170,909	$9,893,577	$8,864,497	$-1,029,080
Net	**$995,399**	**$-822,753**	**$8,127**	**$830,880**







Budget Summary

	Total	Operating	General	Teacher	Debt	Capital
Tax Levy	$3.8792	$0.0000	$3.6792	$0.0000	$0.2000	$0
Opening Balance	$974,360.74	$594,747.12	$594,747.12	$0	$379,613.62	$0
Estimated Revenue	$8,872,622	$8,449,526	$5,720,465	$2,729,061	$268,926	$154,170
Estimated Receipts and Balances	$9,846,982.74	$9,044,273.12	$6,315,212.12	$2,729,061	$648,539.62	$154,170
Estimated Expenditures	$8,864,495	$8,350,455	$3,417,860	$4,932,595	$283,156	$230,884
Revenue - Expenditures	$8,127	$99,071	$2,302,605	-$2,203,534	-$14,230	-$76,714
Balance Prior to Transfer	$982,487.74	$693,818.12	$2,897,352.12	-$2,203,534	$365,383.62	-$76,714
Transfers	$0	-$76,714	-$2,280,248	$2,203,534	$0	$76,714
Zero Teach Fund Balance	$0	$0	-$2,203,534	$2,203,534	$0	$0
7% Capital Transfer	$0	-$76,714	-$76,714	$0	$0	$76,714
Estimated Fund Balance 2027	$982,487.74	$617,104.12	$617,104.12	$0	$365,383.62	$0
Estimated Restricted Money	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
Estimated Unrestricted Money	$982,487.74	$617,104.12	$617,104.12	$0	$365,383.62	$0
% Unrestricted Fund Balance		7.39%				

Revenue by Source and Fund

Object	General	Teacher	Debt	Capital
Local (5100-5199)	$3,945,419	$738,914	$207,326	$71,000
County (5200-5299)	$1,095,227	$20,000	$61,600	$0
State (5300-5399)	$365,839	$1,481,900	$0	$0
Federal (5400-5499)	$313,981	$488,247	$0	$83,171
Total	**$5,720,466**	**$2,729,061**	**$268,926**	**$154,171**

Expense by Object and Fund

Object	General	Teacher	Debt	Capital
Certified Salaries	$6,000	$3,264,710	$0	$0
Non-Certified Salaries	$1,155,626	$448,082	$0	$0
Benefits	$415,614	$1,194,802	$0	$0
Purchased Services	$1,067,223	$25,000	$0	$0
Supplies	$749,055	$0	$0	$0
Capital Outlay	$0	$0	$0	$38,960
Principal, Interest, and Fees	$24,344	$0	$283,156	$191,925
Total	**$3,417,861**	**$4,932,595**	**$283,156**	**$230,885**

Expense by Object over Time

Object	2024 Actual	2026 ASBR Final	2027 September 2026 Updated Budget	Change
Certified Salaries	$3,456,698	$3,312,380	$3,270,710	-$41,670
Non-Certified Salaries	$1,655,677	$1,765,689	$1,603,709	-$161,981
Benefits	$1,648,540	$1,628,585	$1,610,416	-$18,169
Purchased Services	$1,016,155	$1,053,212	$1,092,223	$39,011
Supplies	$868,458	$827,905	$749,055	-$78,850
Capital Outlay	$2,234,972	$804,727	$38,960	-$765,767
Principal, Interest, and Fees	$290,410	$501,079	$499,424	-$1,655
Total	**$11,170,910**	**$9,893,577**	**$8,864,497**	**-$1,029,080**

Assessed Value over Time

	2024 Actual	2026 ASBR Final	2027 September 2026 Updated Budget	Change
Assessed Value	$86,222,326	$123,456	$102,229,920	$102,106,464

Revenue

Account	2024 Actual	2026 ASBR Final	2027 September 2026 Updated Budget	Change
revenue	$12,166,308	$9,070,824	$8,872,624	$-198,200
5100 - Local	$4,667,824	$5,125,995	$4,962,659	$-163,336
5110 - Taxes	$4,044,557	$4,676,888	$4,630,646	$-46,242
5120 - Tuition	$0	$13,500	$9,000	$-4,500
5140 - Earnings on Investments	$309,198	$54,900	$35,000	$-19,900
5150 - Food Service - ProgramsPupils	$58,363	$74,210	$60,000	$-14,210
5160 - Food Service - ProgramsAdults	$40,748	$47,306	$50,000	$2,694
5170 - Enterprise Sources	$176,599	$217,143	$146,013	$-71,130
5190 - Other Revenue From Local Sources	$38,360	$42,048	$32,000	$-10,048
5200 - County	$1,249,896	$1,092,844	$1,176,827	$83,983
5210 - Court Related - County	$14,883	$19,791	$20,000	$209
5220 - Tax Collected by County for the LEA	$1,235,013	$1,073,053	$1,156,827	$83,774
5300 - State	$1,956,257	$1,978,073	$1,847,739	$-130,334
5310 - Foundation Formula State Aid	$1,674,631	$1,745,075	$1,765,900	$20,825
5320 - Foundation Formula State Aid	$30,212	$24,320	$28,000	$3,680
5330 - State Revenue	$191,413	$195,968	$28,839	$-167,129
5380 - State Revenue	$50,000	$0	$0	$0
5390 - State Revenue	$10,000	$12,710	$25,000	$12,290
5400 - Federal	$1,945,190	$858,876	$885,399	$26,523
5410 - Federal Unrestricted Direct	$46,754	$71,572	$70,000	$-1,572
5420 - Federal-Restricted	$1,024,359	$0	$0	$0

Account	2024 Actual	2026 ASBR Final	2027 September 2026 Updated Budget	Change
5426 - Federal-Restricted	$3,655	$0	$0	$0
5430 - Federal-Restricted	$21,978	$0	$0	$0
5440 - Federal-Restricted	$364,894	$374,981	$343,824	$-31,157
5450 - Federal-Restricted	$403,663	$313,885	$310,000	$-3,885
5460 - Other Federal - Restricted	$60,211	$60,419	$49,423	$-10,996
5480 - Other Federal - Restricted	$17,580	$14,345	$14,000	$-345
5490 - Other Federal - Restricted	$2,097	$23,674	$98,152	$74,478
5600 - Non-Current	$2,335,919	$2,946	$0	$-2,946
5610 - Sale of Bonds	$2,250,000	$0	$0	$0
5640 - Sale of School Buses	$63,000	$0	$0	$0
5650 - Sale of Other Property	$22,919	$2,946	$0	$-2,946
5800 - From Other LEAs	$11,221	$12,090	$0	$-12,090
5810 - Tuition From Other LEAs	$0	$6,329	$0	$-6,329
5830 - Tuition From Other LEAs	$11,221	$5,761	$0	$-5,761

Expenses

Account	2024 Actual	2026 ASBR Final	2027 September 2026 Updated Budget	Change
expense	$11,170,909	$9,893,577	$8,864,497	$-1,029,081
1000 - Instruction	$4,682,172	$4,577,630	$4,319,981	$-257,649
1100 - Regular Programs	$2,518,600	$2,299,591	$2,230,573	$-69,017
1200 - Special Programs	$1,211,011	$1,352,830	$1,226,428	$-126,402
1300 - Career Education Programs	$378,467	$323,533	$329,815	$6,283
1400 - Student Activities	$516,456	$556,228	$471,774	$-84,454
1600 - Adult Education Programs	$15,184	$15,214	$16,392	$1,178
1900 - Payments to Other Districts	$42,454	$30,236	$45,000	$14,764
2000 - Support	$5,505,930	$4,522,525	$3,803,112	$-719,413
2100 - Support Services - Pupils	$510,044	$444,708	$460,593	$15,885
2200 - Support Services - Instructional Staff	$240,202	$155,303	$165,016	$9,713
2300 - Support Services - General Administration	$568,244	$596,956	$588,918	$-8,038
2400 - Support Services - Building Level Administration	$477,293	$484,973	$478,233	$-6,739
2500 - Business Support Services	$3,710,146	$2,840,585	$2,110,352	$-730,233
3000 - Early Childhood and Public Services	$217,305	$234,720	$241,979	$7,259
3500 - Early Childhood Program	$204,684	$230,045	$231,979	$1,934
3900 - Other Community Services	$12,621	$4,675	$10,000	$5,325
4000 - Facilities Acquisition and Construction	$475,092	$57,624	$0	$-57,624

Account	2024 Actual	2026 ASBR Final	2027 September 2026 Updated Budget	Change
4000 - Facilities Acquisition and Construction Services	$475,092	$57,624	$0	$-57,624
5000 - Debt Related Fees	$290,410	$501,079	$499,424	$-1,654
5100 - Principal	$165,000	$310,425	$310,425	$0
5200 - Interest	$82,992	$177,286	$172,732	$-4,554
5300 - Other Debt Related Fees	$42,418	$13,368	$16,268	$2,900