

Timestamp	What questions do you have about the 2025 - 2026 budget?	Tell us who you are.	Please provide your full name (First & Last)	Response
2/27/2025 19:07:24	How do you expect teachers to be able to service on these wages? We can not even afford to live on the salary provided.	Employee	No thank you	N/A
2/27/2025 19:07:50	I want know how you plan to resolve the lack of bus driver issues that we have had for more than 3 years. We need a sufficient budget for an assigned bus driver for each route.	Parent/Guardian	Luis Servellon	Page 147 of the Superintendent's Proposed Budget has 135 positions and the funding for those positions, part-time/over time pay for additional runs like athletics and field trips, the attendance bonus, safety bonus, referral bonus, extra money for driving a Special Needs bus, drivers (non-CDL to drive 2 cars), and all the 12 month benefits costs. We currently have 123 routes and are actively seeking to hire bus drivers and expedite training.
2/27/2025 19:11:52	A pay rise or a bonus for all employees	Employee	Neal J Williams	3% to 3.5% raise for all employees
2/27/2025 19:13:03	Will there be any retention bonuses this year?	Employee	Haydee Navarro	ESSER funding paid for this in the past and this funding has expired. We would love to do this but funding is an issue. A \$1,000 taxable bonus nets the employees \$625 but costs the division \$2,200,000.00
2/27/2025 19:18:31	Will Communities In Schools be included to substain the 5 schools they currently serve and will the budget be increased to reach more tittle I schools in the downtown Suffolk area?	Parent/Guardian	Theus Dixon	Communities in Schools for five schools are funded in partnership with CIS who provides grant funding. At this time any funding for expansion is dependent upon grant funding.
2/27/2025 19:34:12	What is it about and the changes	Parent/Guardian	Shanta Harvey	Superintendent's Proposed Budget 2025-2026
2/27/2025 21:00:01	When are more finances going to be allocated toward the special needs kids? To make it easier for parents to get the things their kids need on the IEP or 504 to be successful in school. We need someone who has a special needs child, that understands the struggles of both the child and the parent trying to advocate for their child.	Parent/Guardian	Christina Herbert	Pages 26 and 44 of the Superintendent's Proposed budget show \$3.6M and \$27.7M specifically dedicated to Special needs students. The total number of special needs students attending SPS as of December 1st official count is 2,159. The Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) is a group of parents with special needs children in SPS that works in conjunction with Special Education staff to meet the needs of our special needs students.
2/27/2025 22:25:22	What is the plan to address a new building for Elephants fork?	Parent/Guardian	Heather Freitag	City of Suffolk Capital Improvement Plan
2/28/2025 6:56:07	Does the raise in the budget proposal include the support staff personnel also? S3, safety monitors.	Employee	David McCarson	Yes, this applies to those groups and all support staff as well
2/28/2025 8:42:43	I am a 26 year veteran teacher and I had to use quarters last night at the grocery store so I could feed myself and my family. How many More years will I have to teach before I can afford to live?	Employee	Jennifer patgorski	SPS has for the last 5+ years made Teacher Salary increases a priority. Teachers have received over 23% in raises in the last five years. Please understand that SPS is doing as much as allowed with the resources given and the demands and compliance imposed upon school divisions. 1,100+ teachers means that a 1% raise costs more then \$1.2M. Inflation has hit SPS hard just like household budgets. Here are some things to consider: there are many opportunities within SPS for teachers to get more education, earn educational and other stipends, and to work as tutors, Saturday Academy, etc. SPS has no cost programs offered through Anthem that assist employees in finding lower cost procedures for health issues and an in-house Pharmacy that provides prescriptions at cost. I would be happy to talk with you more about ways that SPS benefits offered could potentially assist you, if you are interested. Please email me directly.
2/28/2025 9:44:08	Are the substitute teachers paid to teach or to babysit?	Parent/Guardian	Angel childers	Substitute Teachers are paid to execute the lesson plans provided by the licensed/certified teacher in his/her absence. If you have a specific instance in mind, please contact the Principal of the School with your concern.
2/28/2025 11:44:28	We aren't going to be in VDOE compliance with the number of EL teachers compared to the number of EL students. As much as we value Academic Coaches, wouldn't another EL teacher make more sense? The VDOE is looking more closely at ELL now, and we won't see the needed progress if we don't have the staff to provide instruction to those kiddos.	Employee	Shana Corday	We are planning to be compliant in ELL staffing for the 2025-2026 school year. At this time we have 4 ELL teacher positions and have requested 3 additional positions. Based on current ELL student numbers and the proposed seven total positions in accordance with the 2025-2026 SOQ requirements for Level 1 and Level 2 support, we are projected to be minimally staffed but meet the SOQ requirements appropriately. While we proposed and would like additional funding to staff for more positions, removing the one needed Academic Coach position at KFMS is not the answer or an option with the current funding. The Level 3, Level 4, and Monitoring support will be distributed among the seven ELL teachers to ensure all students are provided the necessary instructional support.
2/28/2025 14:57:49	Where is the actual budget posted?	Community Member	Deborah Wahlstrom	Superintendent's Proposed 2025-2026 Budget
2/28/2025 15:00:09	Will we be receiving bonuses this year	Employee	Wiggins	ESSER funding paid for this in the past and this funding has expired. We would love to do this but funding is an issue. A \$1,000 taxable bonus nets the employees \$625 but costs the division \$2,200,000.00
3/1/2025 10:06:14	I would like to know if the bus drivers will be considered to have a step raise according to years of service. We need it. Also consider incentive for extra runs. We are usually forgotten but make a tremendous difference getting the students to and from school. We are so short drivers and I can say I did 5 runs yesterday. I ran the conventional big bus for 2 runs then hopped in the special needs bus to do 2 runs. All for different schools. Please don't forget us bus drivers we are working very hard.	Employee	Michelle Woods	Yes, every year for the last five years, Bus Drivers have received a raise (COLA and step) based on their years of experience. In addition, hourly rates over the last six years have risen more than 40% for this group whereas other groups have seen less than half of that in raises. In addition, bonuses for attendance and safety are given to this group that are not afforded to any other employee group. Bus Drivers are paid for 7 hours/day for 184 days and many do not work a full 7/day in their regular routes and then are also paid for additional routes above those hours. Finally, 12 month benefits are paid for this group including Health/Dental, Retirement, etc. when this group only physically works 9.2 months per year. SPS is always actively seeking ways to incentivize this group and to recruit more drivers. SPS recognizes the hard work and dedication of our bus drivers and strives to do all that the division can to keep our Bus Driver wages as high as the market and funding allows.

3/1/2025 14:47:42 Will there be an increase in pay for long term subs? Or a bonus for sta Employee	Miranda Goulet	No, SPS pays Long-term substitutes \$232/day and is one of the highest in the region. Bonuses had been funded by ESSER and All-in Grant funding and both have expired. SPS would love to give bonuses but funding is an issue. A \$1,000 bonus costs the division \$2.2 million dollars. This is a huge challenge for SPS without additional funding.
3/3/2025 19:39:06 My question is have anyone, consider a different approach for the school system to save a lot of money on building cost and maintenance. Such as using Terrazzo flooring in place of cvc tile. It's easy to maintain and it's beautify . All it needs is to be swept and scrubbed. Where as the tile is very hard to maintain it takes more material to maintain a tile floor, Stripper \$ floor cleaner \$ a host of different pads \$ Wax that doesn't hold a shine unless there are at least eight coats applied to the tile, not to mention broken tile replacement that cost alone adds up to \$\$\$\$\$\$ a great amount of money. For every month that supplies are ordered, for each school, each school year. The other item is lighting LED is the way to go they don't take bulbs I've installed LED's in my home over ten years ago these LEDs are a lifetime big saving on the bulbs such as the many different types we use in the schools.	Employee David Rascoe	Terrazzo flooring is easier to maintain. However, when a school building is being built and is funded by the City of Suffolk, there are always budget restrictions. Since 2006 all schools have terrazzo corridors and rubber tiles instead of VCT in classrooms. All new buildings are designed with LED lighting and we have been retrofitting older schools with LED's. Currently finished are all High Schools and some Middle Schools. We are making our way through the schools as funding allows. In addition, any ballasts that fail are being replaced with LED. Just to give you an example of the price, High Schools cost about \$300,000 each so this is an expensive project that will span multiple school years.
3/5/2025 10:30:21 If I read the report properly, there is no proposal to increase the budget for the Fine and Performing Arts at this time? Like everything else, the cost of materials are quickly rising. How does SPS compare with other local school systems in our allocations for Fine and Performing Arts? Thank you!	Employee Sarah Krantz	SPS details out in the Budget what funds are dedicated to Fine and Performing Arts. I have looked at other divisions and many of them do not show in their budget book what is dedicated to Fine and Performing Arts. In the last five years, SPS has established funding dedicated to this program and is tracking the spending. Most years, all funds are not spent fully. For example: the Actual column on page 36 for the Materials and Supplies Fine Perf. Arts showing \$32,874 spent of \$40,000 budgeted and a few lines down on the same page, Allocation Instruments and Repairs Actual column showing \$47,243 spent of a Budget of \$85,000.
3/11/2025 7:27:31 Will pest extermination be included in the budget?	Student Gabriel Schmidt	SPS has contracts with Orkin to cover pest control in all our buildings. This company comes to each building monthly and has traps and sprays the buildings. If you know of a building/classroom or area that needs attention please make sure to report it to your Teacher or Principal.
3/11/2025 11:00 AM How does the .6 reduction in Health Services affect current staffing?	Employee S. Williford	It does not affect any current staff. The position was filled with a regular part time staff member and those budget dollars are shown on the part time/overtime line and are not considered a full time equivalent position.
3/11/2025 2:31pm Field Trips: Why have we budgeted between \$75K - \$100K for field trips the last three years when the actual \$ amounts spent for field trips during 2021/22, 2022/23 and 2023/24 were (\$2,000), (\$1,127), (\$6,298) respectively.	Board Member Kimberly Slingluff	During the years listed, there was an initial decrease in the number of field trips due to the height of Covid-19 and partnering facilities limiting their allowance of group attendance. Some organizations created virtual opportunities to be used in classroom settings. The increase in field trip amounts are primarily for Fine and Performing Arts for various local, regional, state, and national participation in events. The content and curriculum aligned specific field trips and opportunities are the same, but the cost and availability of transportation has hampered the schools ability to use these funds fully. Decreasing this will limit the number of trips and will necessitate a new vote from the School Board on the approved trips.
3/11/2025 2:31pm Why have we budgeted between \$1,291,771 - \$1,746,771 for the last three years when the actual \$ amounts spent during 2021/22, 2022/23 and 2023/24 were (\$66,307), (\$682,494), (\$57,745) respectively and the explanation only explains an increase of \$455,000 for this year to cover VLA Phonics & curriculum.(p.36)	Board Member Kimberly Slingluff	Textbook adoptions for K-12 usually take up multiple years of funding. No adoption was done last year due to all the change coming down to curriculum from VDOE. Due to grant funding of textbooks during the last few years, the division met this requirement using Material curriculum consumables in materials and supplies, electronic software like IXL Math, Edmentum, and other subscription based curriculum services to meet the requirement for textbooks. The amount requested for 2025-2026 includes a Science K-12 adoption, All District reads, partial funding for Chromebooks (grant funds are gone) and as shown on page 35 increases to cover the Virginia Literacy Act phonics and curriculum materials.
3/11/2025 2:31pm Why have we budgeted between \$34,312 - \$83K in the revised / adopted budgets for the last three years when the actual \$ amounts spent during 2021/22, 2022/23 and 2023/24 were (\$10,861), (\$14,550), (\$8,172) respectively.	Board Member Kimberly Slingluff	The revised 2024-2025 column and the 2025-2026 Proposed budget are \$34,312 on page 36. This budget covers itinerate travel, travel for Teachers to meeting, and training for teachers and instructional staff. Year to year, itinerate travel and meetings scheduled are not known but the amount of reimbursement for travel which is set by the Federal Government is increased annually. Staff provide targeted and in-person training and support to all instructional leaders within buildings. As district level leaders, traveling to buildings provides the necessary coaching and modeling, professional learning communities participation and guidance along with observations and follow-up. We have staff who will be doing more building level training, especially with new standards and expectations. To ensure progressive learning and participation in VDOE, VLP, and other required learning, staff are also attending professional learning opportunities (i.e. conferences, required training) and leading professional learning across the state.
3/11/2025 2:31pm Where are the long-term subs in the budget book? Are they included under Teachers or Substitute Teacher?	Board Member Kimberly Slingluff	Long-term substitutes are usually hired in the event of a vacant teacher position so those Actual costs are in the Actual column Salaries Teachers line. SPS budgets for every teacher position. Long-term substitutes can also be hired due to short term or long term disability and FMLA. In those events, SPS would still be paying the employee using their leave AND for the short term disability and for the Long term substitute.

3/11/2025 2:31pm	Who pays for Virtual Virginia? Parent or SPS?	Board Member	Kimberly Slingluff	During the regular academic year, SPS pays, based on our band (Band I), for courses offered to students through VVA when there is not a class within the buildings. This is for secondary students only. VVA allocates a small amount of 'free' courses per division on a first come first served basis and then divisions are required to pay additional amounts. During the summer, for courses requested, parents pay the costs for VVA courses.
3/11/2025 2:31pm	I understand that the "Non-Regular Day School" category includes summer school, tutoring & Saturday Academy. In previous years, where were the monies for Saturday academy in the budget?	Board Member	Kimberly Slingluff	In the past four years, the C.A.R.E.S. Act (ESSER funding) and then the ALL-IN Grant from the state have paid for the Saturday Academy. Please see slide 11 in the February 27, 2025 presentation of the Superintendent's Proposed Budget 2025-2026 for details.
3/11/2025 2:31pm	How many students do we have in Special Education for Elementary? Middle school? High School?	Board Member	Kimberly Slingluff	Elementary 504 and IEP's 1,175, Middle 579, and High School 837 for a total of 2,590 students.
3/11/2025 2:31pm	Board Services: How / where will the additional \$6K be spent? What trainings will we be adding for new board members?	Board Member	Kimberly Slingluff	The Travel and Training actual column on page 123 shows expenditures of \$26,947 for fiscal year 2024. Cost of travel, mileage, hotels, conference costs, and food have all gone up. In a detailed report already received by the School Board, all travel for 2023-2024 was detailed. The \$6,000 increase covers the cost of that increased travel actual costs from what was previously budgeted. New board members will determine their professional learning.
3/11/2025 2:31pm	Office of Superintendent: Please provide a breakdown of all projected (or actual) purchased services.	Board Member	Kimberly Slingluff	Professional Learning division wide - professional learning resources for LEAD SPS, Copier contract maintenance for 7th Floor, SAO Postage machine quarterly lease, liveschool subscription, consultant fees for Risk Management property and casualty insurance review and future possible baseball at the MS field study or other special projects requested or needed.
3/11/2025 2:31pm	Please show the breakdown of the increased \$24K allocation for Materials & Supplies \$\$ by NTO, Recruitment Materials, Employee Recognition, Substitute training categories, as outline	Board Member	Kimberly Slingluff	Badge printing supplies 7,900, service pins 475, district winner plaques 88, rookie, admin, TOY, support plaques 1,050, banquet decorations 3,500, retirement gifts 1,250, NTO 2,000, recruiting supplies 2,000, onboarding paper 50, new shredder 3,000, and desk, chair, supplies new employee 3,000. These are estimated increased costs and are not exact numbers.
3/11/2025 2:31pm	How are we projected to save \$40K for uniforms if we have only decreased our SPS custodial staff by 5 employees? Are all cleaning supplies provided by HES? What materials & supplies do we provide? What	Board Member	Kimberly Slingluff	The company HES is providing the uniforms for ALL custodians regardless of who they work for so that all will be in the same uniform as a team. The remaining \$40,000 is for our non Custodial Trades uniforms and the jackets that we allowed the SPS Custodians to keep as part of their employment with SPS, they will still work on sidewalks and walkways in the event of snow or ice.
3/11/2025 2:31pm	The increase in Purchased Services is to be moved from Salaries and Benefits, but it is not reflected in the compensation. Please explain.	Board Member	Kimberly Slingluff	The contract with HES provides that IF a Grounds person resigns, then HES will pick up the vacancy. The numbers shown in the compensation lines including the FTE number represent those who are currently employed with SPS. As that changes, the compensation will be moved to purchased services as HES then will provide an employee to ensure that the contract is fulfilled.
3/11/2025 2:31pm	What has necessitated the nearly \$1MM increase in Part-time/Overtime compensation? (page 23)	Board Member	Kimberly Slingluff	\$977,131 is detailed out on page 68 under Non-regular Day school and was a part of our presentation on February 27th. Additionally, on page 50, you will see the \$48,500 that is now included to cover the cost of our S.T.A.R. student workers across the division.
3/11/2025 2:31pm	How many of our students, on average, eat the free lunches? What percentage of our students? What are the benefits of offering free lunches to everyone? Could we increase the food options and perhaps quality of food (if needed) if food was not free to everyone? <i>(Submitted by a constituent)</i>	Board Member	Kimberly Slingluff	All students eat Free in the school division due to the Communities Eligibility Provision is a program that allows SPS to be reimbursed for all students to eat free of charge. The average number of breakfast meals served is 8,504.88 and the average number of lunches is 5,834.38. Studies show that children who eat at school, have better attendance, grades, and better test scores. Reimbursements are fixed amounts based on meals served and have to be USDA regulations AND the price has to be within the fixed amount of reimbursement.
3/11/2025 2:31pm	Why do we not charge for summer school? Did the students who attend summer school take advantage of tutoring opportunities during the year? Do they have to achieve a certain level of attendance during the regular school year in order to qualify for the free summer school? <i>(Submitted by a constituent)</i>	Board Member	Kimberly Slingluff	Summer schools shall be designed to enrich the education of students who so desire and to permit students to earn credits needed for graduation or promotion. School Board Manual Section 8-19.2. Fees for summer programs. — Summer school programs may be financed by fees as determined by the School Board. (Adopted January 12, 1995) Since 2021-2022 SPS has used CARES Act Funding and the required per pupil percentage of state funding for summer school to support the academic slide due to Covin-19 and have not charged SPS students for summer school participation. Students outside of SPS are charged tuition for SPS Summer School. Students who fail SOL tests and/or courses are provided an opportunity to be retaught and remediated to progress them to completion, with their cohort. Elementary and middle school students who need additional support in English and/or Math are provided the same learning and remediation opportunities to advance them to the next grade and provide the support and skills needed. Tutoring is offered for all students; which is one opportunity for students to receive additional support. Attendance may be a factor in a student not being successful in a course, however, that is not the case for all. All students do not learn or excel the same. Attendance is required for summer school based on Article 19 of the School Board Manual and School Board Regulations Manual Section 2-4.2, Section 2-4.3, Section 2-7.2 and Section 6-1.3 for more details.

3/11/2025 2:31pm	Considering the 89% of graduates who continue on to college, military or technical school, can you please provide the breakdown percentage for each of these 3 categories? <i>(Submitted by a constituent)</i>	Board Member	Kimberly Slingluff	College 72%, Military 6% and Technical 11%
3/11/2025 2:31pm	How many ELL / ESL students do we currently have in SPS? How many did we have the past two years?	Board Member	Kimberly Slingluff	As reported in our Fall 2024 membership and what is available on the VDOE School Quality Profile for 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 respectively 198 students and 237 students.
3/11/2025 3:11pm	Where is the Tidewater Education Consortium Grant money accounted for (noted / referenced) in the revenues? Please cite the page. Thank you!	Board Member	Kimberly Slingluff	This is a grant funded item and is included on page 26, in other federal grants \$5M line. As reminder Isle of Wight County is the funding agent as was explained during the Tidewater Education Consortium press celebration, previous emails and previous school board meetings.
3/11/25 4:05pm	In previous budget years, as an example of funding used under Other State Funds, you shared that the Graduation Money was one item found under the category of "Other State Funds"? What other items would be found under this category? Please provide all items that would be found listed for this category.	Board Member	Dr. Brittingham	Other State Funds provides for a margin of change in state funding. Some examples are when the state releases funding for special incentives such as Project Graduation.. If the state keeps the funding like Project Graduation, you will see where the next year it is in bold as its' own line. Last year, mid-year the state released extra funding for Virginia Pre-K unused slots. That is the amount in the actual column on page 19 under other funds. For Fiscal 2025-2026, it is under the line of VA-PreK since it seems to be a more permanent source of funding. It would be impossible to detail this out as we do not know at the time of the Budget adoption what these items may be.
3/11/25 4:05pm	Please provide a compiled list of Purchasing Services for Instructional Support, Office of the Superintendent, Admin Communication and Community Engagement, Human Resources, Admin Finance, and Food Services Fund,	Board Member	Dr. Brittingham	Instructional Support includes: the Chartway graduation venue rental and copier maintenance for the 5th and 6th floors of the SAO. Office of the Superintendent: Professional Learning division wide - resources for LEAD SPS, Copier contract maintenance for 7th Floor, SAO Postage machine quarterly lease, liveschool subscription, consultant fees for Risk Management property and casualty insurance review and future possible baseball at the MS field study or other special projects requested or needed. Community Engagement: includes the copier contract maintenance for that department, advertisements about SPS events, mobile STEM lab and website development consultants. Human Resources: Employee Assistance Program, Criminal investigations, fingerprinting, drug testing, repair of badge machine and copier maintenance contract for the 3rd floor SAO. Finance includes: External Audit for the School Activity funds and Grants fund, Operating Funds, and Food and Nutritional Services funds, consultant for Benefits, and copier maintenance contract for the 2nd floor SAO. This is not an exhaustive list, just the large expense items.
3/11/25 4:05pm	Please provide a compiled list of Dues and Subscriptions for Instructional Support, Office of the Superintendent, Admin Legal services, Admin Communication and Community Engagement, and Human Resources.	Board Member	Dr. Brittingham	Instructional Support:NAPSA, APBS, ASCD/Office of the Superintendent:VASS, School Leadership Institute, Hampton Roads Chamber of Commerce, ASCD, Virginia Association of School Superintendents, American Association of School Superintendents, and District wide Prime membership /Legal Services: Suffolk news Herald, VSBA council of School Attorneys, Suffolk Bar Assoc., Matthew Bender & Co, Bridgetower Media newspaper, Bar Dues/Communication and Community Engagement: Newspaper subscriptions, translations and ADA services subscriptions, Shutterstock, VEED, VEED IO, Grammarly, Banners on the cheap, discounted digital, Hootsuite, Premium Beat, simplecast / Human Resources: Virginia Association of School Personnel Administrators. This is not an exhaustive list.
3/11/25 4:05pm	On page 20 there is a category called Other Funds. Please provide a detailed description of all items that fall under this section	Board Member	Dr. Brittingham	Actually, there are two Other funds revenue categories on page 20. These provide a margin for change in funding that cannot be estimated one year out. Examples include: release of prior year Impact Aid funding or donations from community partners, a higher than expected sales of surplus equipment.
3/11/25 4:05pm	On page 44, Instruction –Special Education – under purchasing service, is this where the funding is found for the Airport Express LPR student transportation cost? Please provide the exact amount being budgeted for the 2025-2026 school year, how many students receive this service, and how many drivers will be utilized.	Board Member	Dr. Brittingham	On Page 44 the amount of \$1,026,800 is the amount of money needed for the contract therapy services like occupational therapy, physical therapy, speech language pathologists, and psychological services. The division, much like all other school divisions, is unable to hire these positions directly due to shortages in staffing and has to contract many of these services out to serve the needs of our students. Private carriers on page 147 budget for \$650,000 shows the estimated cost of the student transportation for Special Education. However, the division has purchased 2 vehicles and are doing several things within transportation to contain this cost while remaining compliant for next fiscal year. The number of students varies and LPR is only contracted as a final resort.
3/11/25 5:28 PM	Could you provide a detailed list of all dues and services that we currently pay for, including their costs and purposes?	Board Member	Sean Mcgee	To completely fulfill this request would take the budget and finance department several weeks to pull. A description for all dues and services that are spent are included in the monthly bills and payroll information that the board receives. Suffolk Public Schools works with 600-700 vendors on average throughout the year.
3/11/25 5:28 PM	Could you provide a detailed list of all purchased services we currently pay for, including the vendor, cost, and a description of each service?	Board Member	Sean Mcgee	To completely fulfill this request would take the budget and finance department several weeks to pull. A description for all purchased services that are spent are included in the monthly bills and payroll information that the board receives. Suffolk Public Schools works with 600-700 vendors on average throughout the year.

3/11/25 5:28 PM	Can you explain the cost increase between the 2023/2024 actual expenditures and the 2025/2026 budget for textbooks and SPS Connect? Specifically, what factors contributed to the increase?	Board Member	Sean Mcgee	Textbook adoptions for K-12 usually take up multiple years of funding. No adoption was done last year due to all the changes coming down to curriculum from VDOE due to new SOL standards. Due to grant funding during the last few years, the division met this requirement using Material curriculum consumables in materials and supplies, electronic software like IXL Math, Edmentum, and other subscription based curriculum services to meet the requirement for textbooks. The amount requested for 2025-2026 includes a Science K-12 adoption, All District reads, partial funding for Chromebooks (grant funds are gone) and as shown on page 35 increases to cover the Virginia Literacy Act phonics and curriculum materials.
3/11/25 5:28 PM	Can you clarify the purpose of Account 6050 – School Allocations? Specifically, what expenses are covered under this account?	Board Member	Sean Mcgee	Page 176 of the Budget book gives an overview of the School Allocations. Schools need student supplies, postage, copy paper, etc., and teachers need items for their classrooms. Most of this is covered with School Allocation money. The SPS website under Finance/School Activity Funds/School Allocation Totals that show all the allocation money given to the schools over the last four years.
3/11/25 5:28 PM	Can you explain the difference between Account 3170 – Professional Learning and Account 5500 – Travel and Training? Specifically, what types of expenses are covered under each account?	Board Member	Sean Mcgee	Account 3170 is the allocation sent to the Schools for Teachers to attend conferences. This money is held at the school level and the Principal is responsible for managing these funds. If they are not spent, then like the other allocation money, the unspent and unobligated (not encumbered) is returned to the division at year end. 5500 is for itinerate travel within the city for work of the Specialists, travel for division wide meetings, and limited conference travel for instructional staff.
3/11/25 5:28 PM	Can you explain the cost increase between the 2023/2024 actual expenditures and the 2025/2026 budget for Account 6000, Materials and Supplies Athletics? Specifically, what factors contributed to the increase? What specific items are being purchased using this account?	Board Member	Sean Mcgee	The actual expenses in 2023-2024 of \$31,493 did not include allocation money for replacement MS uniform schedules for both the middle and high schools. Nor did it include a \$2,000 allocation for replacement balls, paint for fields and other consumables for each MS. All of this is now included in the 2024-2025 and 2025-2026 budgets.
3/11/25 5:28 PM	Can you clarify why there are two accounts labeled 6000 on page 36 of the budget book? Is this a duplication, or do they represent different categories of expenditures?	Board Member	Sean Mcgee	Page 36 is the consolidated list of all General Education which includes Athletics. Any category that is listed with Athletics in the title corresponds to page 40 directly. These are two distinct areas of expense.
3/11/25 5:28 PM	Can you provide a detailed line item breakdown of the salary and benefits costs for all unfilled positions included in the FY 2025/2026 budget?	Board Member	Sean Mcgee	It will be extremely difficult to provide an exact number in the time allotted as I would have to check each program and each line of salaries in the program. Please remember that vacancy salaries and benefits also pays for Long-term substitutes for vacancies, short term disability for teachers and hybrid retirement employees, for leave, annual and sick leave for teachers/staff for whom we are also in many cases paying for a short term substitute and for employees who are using leave as part of Worker's Compensation and/or FMLA.
3/11/25 5:28 PM	Can you explain the reason for the 358.33% increase in 'Food for Meetings' costs for the School Board? What factors contributed to this significant rise?	Board Member	Sean Mcgee	Page 123, the actual column shows the expenses for 2023-2024 at \$21,159. The School Board spent that much for meetings and The Teacher of the Year banquet. Therefore, the budget was increased to cover actual expenses that would occur BEFORE the school board decided to have two meetings per month. Expenses are now expected to be higher. Please see the details of the School Board expenditures for the last two fiscal years provided to the School Board.
3/11/25 5:28 PM	Can you explain Account 2800 – Other Benefits under Legal Services and Office of the Superintendent? What specific expenses are included in this account?	Board Member	Sean Mcgee	The contracts for these two employees include items that are in addition to their salary that are part of their compensation package. Please see the contracts for both positions as executed by the School Board for the details.
3/11/25 5:28 PM	On page 26 of the budget book, under 'Other State Grants,' can you specify which grants are included? Additionally, which grants are contributing to the \$2 million increase from the 2024/2025 budget?	Board Member	Sean Mcgee	All grants received by the division that are not listed as ongoing state grants would be included in this line. Each year it varies on what the state will ask school divisions to apply for an opportunity to get additional funding. Grants such as State Security Grant, TEC grant, Stronger Communications grant, and many others come as opportunities throughout the year for the division to access additional funding.
3/11/25 5:28 PM	The proposed FY 2025/2026 budget reflects an approximate \$4 million decrease from the FY 2024/2025 budget. Can you provide a detailed list of all services and expenditures that will not be funded this year compared to last year? Basically, I'm trying to understand what we are losing now that the budget is smaller—what has been cut?	Board Member	Sean Mcgee	This difference comes from the increase in operating funds of \$10M and the decrease in grant funding of \$14M. These are two different funds. The majority of the decrease in the grants funding is the final ESSER funding leaving and the All-in grant \$5.8M that was not funded in 2025-2026 by the Governor or General Assembly. This details of this are shown on slides 11 and 12 less those items detailed in slide 6 of the Presentation to the School Board on February 27th, 2025. The C.A.R.E.S. funding cliff was discussed at the 2024-2025 Superintendent's Proposed Budget presentation in February 2024.
3/11/25 5:28 PM	On page 30, at the bottom under the diagram, it states, 'Employees at the top of the scale will not receive a COLA increase.' I thought these employees were receiving a COLA increase—can you clarify if this is a typo or if they are indeed excluded from the increase?	Board Member	Sean Mcgee	This is in fact a typo and has been fixed in the online book on page 30. Employees at the top of the scale will receive the cost of living raise(COLA). Thank you for finding this.

3/11/25 5:28 PM	Can you explain the overtime process in SPS? How are certain employees eligible to earn overtime and compensatory time while others are not?	Board Member	Sean Mcgee	All non-exempt employees must be either compensated time worked -with either over-time or compensatory time. ALL extra time must be pre-approved by the supervisor and ANY time that is paid as over-time must have the Superintendent's written approval along with the supervisor. Contracted teachers, administrators and exempt employees are not allowed to have compensatory time as they do not have to keep a time sheet and account for exact hours under Fair Labor Standards laws.
3/11/25 5:28 PM	On Thursday, can either Wendy or you explain the total expenditure costs by major classification on page 29? Specifically, for the Instruction line item in the FY 2025/2026 budget, which totals \$178,009,787. When reviewing the detailed breakdown of subcategory expenditures, I am unable to account for approximately \$6.5 million in differences compared to the FY 2024/2025 Instruction expenditures. Can you clarify where this difference comes from? When I add up all instructional operating expenditures by program from pages 37-119, I arrive at a total of \$208,386,458. However, the Instruction line item on page 29 for FY 2025/2026 is listed as \$178,009,787.	Board Member	Sean Mcgee	Page 29 includes ALL funds: Operating, Grants, and Food and Nutritional Services. Operating Fund categories listed EXCEPT instruction correspond to page 22. The Food and Nutritional Services corresponds to page 28. Instruction is the total of page 21 \$157,994,786 and page 26 \$20,015,000 as noted on the bottom of page 29.
3/11/25 5:28 PM	How does the requested \$7M additional appropriation from the City of Suffolk align with city funding trends? What will happen if the city does not approve the full request?	Board Member	Sean Mcgee	Suffolk Public Schools requests money from the City of Suffolk based on the amount of money that is received from the state and the needs of the school division. SPS Administration balances the needs of the school division with the requests from school board members, schools and departments and then discusses this figure with the City Manager. We also review tax revenue that is coming into the city in order to determine a reasonable number. If the city does not fully fund the request, then the school division begins to cut needs or reduce raises in order to make up the difference.
3/11/25 5:28 PM	Given the 3% salary increase for all full-time staff, how does this compare to inflation and regional salary competitiveness?	Board Member	Sean Mcgee	This is a state mandated raise. Therefore, most divisions will be giving this raise percentage. Inflation as per the GDP for 2024-2025, the most recent amount published was 2.1%. Salaries are always a priority and SPS works diligently to watch the salaries of other districts and remain competitive. As explained during the budget presentation, if we receive any additional funds, increasing the raise will be the top priority.
3/12/25 5:28 PM	The Alternative Education budget increased by 25.73%—what new programs or services are being added?			Page 74 of the Superintendent's Proposed Budget details the increase due to the State changing coding for ELL teachers from General Education to Intervention, Prevention, and Remediation.
3/11/25 5:28 PM	Why did vehicle parts costs rise by 23.21%, while fuel costs dropped by 10.02%?	Board Member	Sean Mcgee	At the bottom of page 145 of the Superintendent's Proposed budget book, the explanation for the increase and decrease are given.
3/11/25 5:28 PM	The materials and supplies budget dropped by 15.90%—does this reflect efficiency improvements, or is there a risk of resource shortages?	Board Member	Sean Mcgee	It reflects the decrease in several programs to move the budget to other lines. The program pages outline any changes to Materials and Supplies and the why. The largest decrease occurs on page 153 Facilities and Maintenance where the decrease is \$380,000 that is being moved to purchased services due to the HES contract now providing Janitorial supplies.
3/11/25 5:28 PM	Are there plans to reevaluate salary scales in future budgets to maintain competitiveness with surrounding school districts?	Board Member	Sean Mcgee	Every year, salary scales for teachers are reviewed with surrounding districts and a ranking determination by step is reviewed. Support, Bus Driver, and Administrative scales are reviewed on a rotating basis and from feedback from department Directors and Human Resources as hiring occurs.
3/11/25 5:28 PM	How does this budget ensure that teachers have enough planning time and resources to effectively support students?	Board Member	Sean Mcgee	The hiring of positions such as safety, security and support monitors were designed to provide teachers with more planning time throughout the week. Planning times are school and schedule based and are afforded to teachers. If the question is related to staffing and teacher planning, it is the division's intent and goal for all schools to be fully staffed with licensed and endorsed teachers to provide all course needs, have adequate coverage for all schedules, use substitutes, or paraprofessional staff, as needed, if there are absences.
3/15/25 9:49 PM	Itemized breakdown of Dues and Subscriptions 2023-2024	Board Member	Dr. Brittingham	See attached List - Dues and Subscriptions TAB \$141,391.04
3/16/25 9:49 PM	25 walkies for each of our 21 schools at \$200 a piece would be \$105,000	Board Member	Dr. Brittingham	New Walkie Talkies are closer to \$441. The School Division just allotted 300 into our schools this year. We also do not agree with putting additional walkie talkies into schools, specifically classrooms, as it will be disruptive in class. Also, as we have previously explained, every teacher has the RAVE App panic button on their phones. We have also explained that grant funding has also assisted in the purchasing of walkie talkies.
3/17/25 9:49 PM	7% raise for SPS Educators -funds anchored or used as placeholders	Board Member	Dr. Brittingham	There are not placeholders in the budget. Revenue is not predictable due to our locality controlling school division allocations, the Governor making changes to the budget, and the Federal Government or Medicaid release varies as well as the reimbursement being received as the budget is built. There may also be a surplus at the local level during some years. It has also been explained that for each percentage of raise that teachers receive, it costs \$1.2M. This total request would cost \$8.4M.

<p>LPR Contract -timeline as to how soon we can expect a significant portion of the cost to be offset by providing SPS transportation for both the SPED and homeless students who are currently being serviced by LPR.</p>	<p>Board Member</p>	<p>Dr. Brittingham</p>	<p>We utilize LPR cars to provide specialized transportation for special education students who are unable to ride a standard SPS bus due to behavioral challenges that impact their own or others' safety. Additionally, LPR cars are used for students who are the sole attendees of a specific private day program or those placed in specialized home settings due to domestic circumstances. LPR services are assigned to families that are McKinney Vento and that number varies depending on the total number of McKinney-Vento students that we have in the school division that are not a part of a regular bus route. There is not a timeline of when we can expect these costs to be offset by SPS transportation as these services will always need to continue in order to transport students.</p>
<p>What system does SPS use for financial tracking and reporting and does it have an export feature to generate vendor and expenditure reports?</p>	<p>Board Member</p>	<p>Sean Mcgee</p>	<p>SPS is going live with Weidenhammer/LINQ on 3/26/25. Yes it does, however, the Bank of America information comes in as the vendor being Bank of America, and it also comes in as individual invoices and adjustments or credits on the account which do not always show the vendor. Also shown are the batch numbers, invoices, and accounting period so the information has to be sorted and cleaned up so that someone who does not use our system would understand it. This information is not report ready but must be made so through looking up every Bank of America transaction individually and adding the vendor to it. Checking every credit to make sure it is assigned the correct vendor and removing internal system batch numbers and period dates that make sense only to system users.</p>
<p>What is a reasonable timeline for providing this document to the Board? Given that I have been informed by other Board members that this request has been made for two years without fulfillment, what has prevented the administration from providing this information?</p>	<p>Board Member</p>	<p>Sean Mcgee</p>	<p>This request has not been made by other board members in the past. This information is also detailed in the monthly bills and payroll.</p>
<p>Can a preliminary version of this report (e.g., top 100 vendors, services, and subscriptions) be provided within the next 5 days while the full dataset is compiled?</p>	<p>Board Member</p>	<p>Sean Mcgee</p>	<p>SEE DETAILED PURCHASED SERVICES BREAKDOWN FOR 2023-2024 AS ORIGINALLY REQUESTED.</p>
<p>How many unfilled positions/vacancies are currently budgeted for in the FY 2025/2026 budget?</p>	<p>Board Member</p>	<p>Sean Mcgee</p>	<p>Please be very careful with the word unfilled or vacancy. The division has positions in the budget are listed with the goal being to fill all positions. These same positions currently have long-term substitutes in them that we are paying from the Salary line where the licensed teacher would be paid. The budget is built from October 15th's payroll records and is a picture in time the number of "vacancies" in this document do not correspond to the March 17, 2025 vacancy listing by HR. Positions have been filled and others have resigned or retired. There are currently ZERO positions in the budget that we do not currently intend to fill. Those that are in the October document that built the Superintendent's Proposed Budget 2025-2026 have already been scrubbed to ensure that SPS still needs that particular Teacher/staff member. Another example of this would be 135 bus driver positions, we currently have 123 filled but need to keep the other 12 as we are actively seeking to fill these positions all through the year.</p>
<p>Are you confirming that all programs listed on Slide 11 of the budget presentation will no longer be funded in the proposed budget? If not all, which specific programs, services, or positions will be impacted? Please provide a detailed list of what will no longer be funded and which programs will see budget reductions. If not all, which specific programs, services, or positions will be impacted? Please provide a detailed list of what will no longer be funded and which programs will see budget reductions.</p>	<p>Board Member</p>	<p>Sean Mcgee</p>	<p>Slide 11 is the overview of all items covered under the All -in grant. The remaining slides detail which items will be funded by the Operating fund as proposed IF funded. There are only four items that do not appear in the subsequent slides: Virtual Tutoring (see slide 12), this will have to be done in person by our teachers and staff. Incentives for Attendance, personnel for attendance support, and CANVAS. Dr. Gordon in his presentation discussed all three of them. Incentives for Attendance will not be funded, personnel for attendance will not be funded but be absorbed by the administration at the school, and CANVAS was up in the air with whether the state would fund it at the time of his presentation and he stated this in his presentation. The other three: Tutoring, Saturday Academy and Summer Series are all discussed in slides: Before and After school tutoring, Saturday Academy, and Summer series are all presented in slide 27 as being funded by the Operating fund and appear in the Non-Regular Day Programs (formerly Summer School). The only programs directly affected are the virtual tutoring and incentives for attendance.</p>
<p>Can you provide a line-item breakdown of all projected expenses under "Food for Meetings"?</p>	<p>Board Member</p>	<p>Sean Mcgee</p>	<p>Page 45 Special Education -Elementary \$14,000 ECSE snacks for children in this program/ Intervention, prevention, and remediation \$3,000 Restorative Practices Training food for meetings/ Page 82 \$75,000 this is for Pre-K children's breakfast and snacks that are not provided via reimbursement from the USDA under the Food and Nutritional Services budget/Page 108 Instructional Support \$15,000 food at graduation, SPS Leadership meetings, and quarterly Administrative Assistant meetings/Page 109 \$3,500 Instructional Support Student Services food for meetings Security, Counselors, and Student services trainings/Page 123 \$22,000 School Board meetings and Teacher of the Year banquet/Page 127 Office of the Superintendent \$3,000 LEAD SPS meetings food quarterly for meetings. Total of \$135,000 in Proposed Budget. Various vendors and amounts spent in the past mostly p-card so vendors are not readily available. The majority of this budget is from Special Education \$14,000 and VA Pre-K \$75,000 which are billings from the Food and Nutritional Funds who supply those meals and snacks to those students that do not qualify under U.S.D.A. reimbursement.</p>
<p>Can you provide a complete list of all exempt and non-exempt positions within Suffolk Public Schools? For exempt employees, are there instances where they receive additional compensation for extra duties, such as stipends for additional responsibilities?</p>	<p>Board Member</p>	<p>Sean Mcgee</p>	<p>Please see attached list. This provides the job code of every employee and their FMLA status as defined by FLSA regulations. Yes, there are cases when and exempt employee is asked to handle responsibilities above their pay band (for example: Assistant Principal in the absence of the Principal) and a stipend or 10% of their pay is authorized by the Superintendent. This applies to non-exempt employees as well in the event of a vacancy or duties of a pay grade above their current one.</p>

3/16/25 2.59pm	Could you clarify whether I am misinterpreting the data or is there an adjustment that accounts for the difference in pages 37-119?	Board Member	Sean Mcgee	There are consolidated pages within those page numbers. Please see page 21 which details the total budget amount by program/levels (it does not include the consolidated page amount) for all Instructional Programs. Without physically seeing what you are adding up, I do not see the difference you are speaking about.
3/16/25 2.59pm	If the City of Suffolk does not approve the full \$7M request, what specific programs, services, or positions will be cut first?	Board Member	Sean Mcgee	If the City of Suffolk does not approve the full \$7M request, then any reductions or cuts would be determined by the total amount needed to balance the budget. It could be the elimination of requested positions, or it could be an overall percentage reduction in several areas.
3/16/25 2.59pm	Are there any non-instructional expnese that would be reduced before impacting the classroom instruction and staff salaries?	Board Member	Sean Mcgee	It depends as some of the non-instructional expenses are necessary for the daily operations of the school division. The school division focuses on the need to preserve infrastructure and technology as it is needed for the daily operations. Please see prior responses. Reductions would more than likely begin with new positions. All vacant positions are needed within the school division as they are needed for student and staff services. If it is decided to eliminate a position, a viable replacement must also be considered. There are not any new planned initiatives that are included in the budget except for what is mandated by the state.
3/16/25 2.59pm	Would reductions start with vacant positions? discretionary programs, or planned initiatives?	Board Member	Sean Mcgee	Please see prior responses. Reductions would more than likely begin with new positions. All vacant positions are needed within the school division as they are needed for student and staff services. If it is decided to eliminate a position, a viable replacement must also be considered. There are not any new planned initiatives that are included in the budget except for what is mandated by the state.
3/16/25 2.59pm	What is the administration's prioritization process for determining what gets cut first?	Board Member	Sean Mcgee	Please see prior responses. Reductions would more than likely begin with new positions. All vacant positions are needed within the school division as they are needed for student and staff services. If it is decided to eliminate a position, a viable replacement must also be considered. There are not any new planned initiatives that are included in the budget except for what is mandated by the state.
3/16/25 2.59pm	Has the Board been provided with a tiered list of potential reductions based on different funding scenarios?	Board Member	Sean Mcgee	This would depend on any reductions from the state or local level. The board would need to vote in May/June once we have the final appropriations and Governor's signed budget.
3/16/25 2.59pm	If salary increases are reduced, what would be the expected adjustment in the raise percentage?	Board Member	Sean Mcgee	Unknown. This cannot be determined until we see the final numbers.
3/16/25 2.59pm	How does SPS's 3% salary increase compare to the salary increases in surrounding school divisions (e.g. Chesapeake, Virginia Beach, Norfolk, Portsmouth, Isle of Wight, ect.?)	Board Member	Sean Mcgee	As was stated to you via telephone and via the budget presentation, the City of Suffolk has a lesser revenue stream than other localities to tourism and revenue from Casinos. SPS is usually in the middle of the pack as it comes to the salary scale and has been as high as 3rd in the region.
3/16/25 2.59pm	Can you provide a comparative salary scale ranking for SPS versus neighboring divisions?	Board Member	Sean Mcgee	As was stated to you via telephone and via the budget presentation, the City of Suffolk has a lesser revenue stream than other localities to tourism and revenue from Casinos. SPS is usually in the middle of the pack as it comes to the salary scale and has been as high as 3rd in the region.
3/16/25 2.59pm	Has the administration considered whether a 3% increase is enough to keep SPS salaries competitive in the region?	Board Member	Sean Mcgee	Yes, the administration has considered the impact of providing a 3% increase to staff. The state determines the minimum rate that takes into consideration inflation. SPS would love to increase the raises, but also understands the limited amount of funds provided by the state, and the reasonable request to the City of Suffolk. It is always the goal of the school division to be able to improve our staff salaries in Region II. If additional funding becomes available then staff would share this information with the board as a viable option to adjust the budget based on the unfunded needs that have been presented.
3/16/25 2.59pm	If additional funding becomes available, what is the process for revisiting the percentage increase?	Board Member	Sean Mcgee	Yes, the administration has considered the impact of providing a 3% increase to staff. The state determines the minimum rate that takes into consideration inflation. SPS would love to increase the raises, but also understands the limited amount of funds provided by the state, and the reasonable request to the City of Suffolk. It is always the goal of the school division to be able to improve our staff salaries in Region II. If additional funding becomes available then staff would share this information with the board as a viable option to adjust the budget based on the unfunded needs that have been presented.
3/16/25 2.59pm	Has SPS conducted a salary market study in the past 2-3 years? If so, can the Board be provided with the results? If not, is there a plan to conduct one in the near future to ensure our salaries remain competitive?	Board Member	Sean Mcgee	Suffolk Public Schools has not contracted out a salary market study in the past 2-3 years, but has completed a salary comparison with Region II, three years ago. The board allowed a two year phase-in of re-doing the salary scales for teachers, teacher assistants, and support staff in year one, and then administration, transportation, and others in year two. This is what allowed the school division to overall be more competitive.. Any market survey would need to be in conjunction with the City of Suffolk commitment to fund the result of that study so that the estimated \$200,000 cost spent would not be in vain. The salaries of Teachers are compared and evaluated every year with all region II districts. Bus Drivers rates are also compared annually. All other scales were updated in 2021-2022 to pay grades. At that time SPS began working to ensure our minimum wage was above the \$15/hour that the state will mandate in 2026. When work began, SPS was paying a minimum wage of \$9.29/hour. Three years later, SPS minimum wage is \$15.80/hour. Support Staff, Bus Drivers, and Administrators scales are in line with other divisions.
3/16/25 2.59pm	I am very focused on school safety, so I'd like to know how much funding is allocated to keep our schools safe.	Board Member	Sean Mcgee	Pages 160-161 provide the details on School Security and the types of expenditures for keeping our schools safe. The total allocated is \$3,998,447 of the Superintendent's Proposed Budget.

<p>How many purchase cards in SPS? Who has a card? Title/Position? Authorized limit? SOP? Audit? What company/companies issue cards? Reconciliation procedures?</p>	Board Member	Sean McGee	<p>71 Cards, see attached list for title/position, authorized limit. See attached for SOP. The purchases are made by one staff and authorized one level above that staff/director. All transactions are reviewed prior to payment to Bank of America that issues all cards. Cards can only be issued upon the approval in writing by the Superintendent. Increases to cards for any reason must be approved by the Chief Financial Officer and are temporary unless approved in writing by the Superintendent. The Chief Financial Officer then signs off on the payment and then re-reviews all entries prior to reporting to the School Board. These cards and all purchases are subject to the external audit with Cherry Bekaert LLC and to any State/Federal audits for funds where grant funds or Food and Nutritional Services are charged. Every month all departments must submit to Finance all detailed receipts for all p-card purchases for review and then scanning so that all audit documents are complete.</p>
<p>Do you know the lines item for virtual learning providers, such as Edmentum? How provider options are qualified and selected?</p>	Board Member	Sean McGee	<p>Page 39 Purchased services includes \$610,269 for Virtual learning providers such as Virtual Virginia and Edmentum. The provider is selected via RFP OR cooperative contract based on what is offered and evaluated based on the needs of the students in the division versus the teachers available to teach specific classes.</p>
<p>Did the district really order buses in early 2024, and if so, what is the timeframe that they will be arriving in the Suffolk School District?</p>	Board Member	Sean McGee	<p>Yes, Purchase orders #240568 and 240569 made the order official June 3, 2024. Prior to that a letter of intent was sent in March 2024. The vendor Sonny Merryman is stating that eight sixty five passenger busses will be delivered on or about November 2025. This is subject to change.</p>
<p>I am at the top of the salary scale. Will I be getting a raise, and if so, how much?</p>	Board Member	Sean McGee	<p>As stated numerous times and shown on slides 8 and 23 of the Superintendent's presentation to the School Board on February 27th. Employees who are at the top of the scale will receive the cost of living adjustment. It has yet to be determined how much that it due to funding. Once the funding is known and the budget adopted, this information will be released.</p>
<p>Can you explain Account 2800 Other benefits under Legal Services and Office of the Superintendent? What specific expenses are included in this account? Could you summarize the types of benefits included (e.g., vehicle allowances, insurance contributions, etc.) without needing to reference full contracts?</p>	Board Member	Sean McGee	<p>Specifically on page 125 the \$10,085 is the Attorney's annuity and on page 127 the \$9,000 shown is the Superintendent's automobile allowance.</p>
<p>I respectfully request that the aforementioned departments provide a detailed, itemized breakdown of budget placeholders, similar to the funds recently reallocated to support the innovation center. The aforementioned departments are: Instructional Support, Office of the Superintendent, Communications and community engagement, Human Resources, Finance, and Food and Nutritional Services fund.</p>	Board Member	Dr. Dawn Brittingham	<p>Attached is the list of all the operating funds Dues and Subscriptions and Purchased Services paid in the 2023-2024 year. The itemized breakdown of all amounts allocated to these departments' budget are clearly outlined in the Superintendent's Proposed Budget 2025-2026 on those respective pages. There are no "placeholders" in the budget. The funds allocated to each department are those requested and justified based historical needs, the needs of the department to accomplish what the department is required to by law, policy and/or will of the School Board. Also, there is not impact by these reallocations as these occur due breaks in service, or new employees replacing more experienced employees.</p>