

Frenchtown School District #40

Financial Information

2024 – 2025 School Year



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BOARD OF TRUSTEES

2024—2025 SCHOOL YEAR



DEBBIE LESTER
BOARD CHAIR

Served on Board of Trustees 2012-2022, and 2024 to present
Committees: Policy, Negotiations/Labor Relations/
Finance, Curriculum



BRYCE SIMPSON
BOARD VICE CHAIR

Served on Board of Trustees since 2017
Committees: Insurance, Negotiations/Labor
Relations/Finance, Transportation, Safety,
Facilities



JAMI ROMNEY FITZGERALD
TRUSTEE

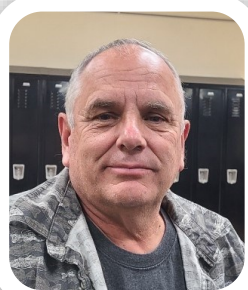
Served on Board of Trustees since 2012
Committees: Policy, Negotiations/Labor Relations/
Finance, School Improvement/Goals, Wellness

RAINIER BATT
TRUSTEE



Served on Board of Trustees since 2022
Committees: Transportation, Safety,
Facilities

DENNIS NORMAND
TRUSTEE



Served on Board of Trustees since 2024
Committees: Policy, Safety, School
Improvement/Goals, Facilities



NOAH PETERS
TRUSTEE

Served on Board of Trustees since 2021
Committees: School Improvement/Goals,
Wellness



HOLLI RANKIN
TRUSTEE

Served on Board of Trustees since 2024
Committees: Insurance, Curriculum

MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

Hello Frenchtown!

The 2024-2025 school year is already upon us, and before you know it, December will be here... Guess what? December *is* here! Jamie Vollmer's book, *Schools Cannot Do It Alone*, emphasizes the power of partnership between schools and communities. It's this partnership that helps us navigate challenges and celebrate successes, fostering a positive school culture that benefits everyone in Frenchtown.



Recently, the Frenchtown Board of Trustees participated in a community crossover exercise to develop a strategic plan for the future of our district. Over 30 participants—parents, business owners, senior citizens, teachers, and students—dedicated more than nine hours to shaping a vision for Frenchtown Schools. While this initial step is complete, there's more to do as we work to establish actionable, measurable goals with clear timelines. The completed strategic plan is available on our website at www.ftsd.org under *Our District > FTSD Strategic Plan*.

Every day brings both positives and challenges—for parents, schools, and businesses alike. By keeping what's best for kids at the forefront, we can overcome obstacles together, even when we may not agree on every detail.

Positives at Frenchtown Schools:

1. Bronc Fast Track Charter School: Students can graduate high school with an Associate's Degree.
2. Transformational Learning: Inspiring creativity and innovation in our classrooms.
3. Career and Technical Education (CTE): Offering hands-on opportunities to prepare students for future careers.
4. Collaborative Classroom Reading Curriculum: Enhancing and tailoring reading instruction for all learners.

This Financial Booklet provides a glimpse into the history, facilities, and financial details of the Frenchtown School District. As you review it, please don't hesitate to reach out with any questions.

A "glass-half-full" mindset, while focusing on growth and optimism will allow us to tackle challenges together. Positive approaches to problem solving, will assist our students in building resilience to achieve great things as they embody the Frenchtown mission: *Learn Today – Lead Tomorrow*.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "L. Meyer". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Les Meyer
Superintendent



INTEGRATED STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN

Our Mission



Vision Statement

We inspire passion for learning, leadership, and service, while preparing students to strengthen our community and their futures!

Core Values

Community: We value a strong sense of pride and trust amongst our school, community, and families. Our role in education is supported by quality school campus and community.

Excellence in Education: We value opportunities for future activities and growth resulting in an excellent education focused on individual needs. We have dedicated and qualified staff who take pride in their work and professional development while striving to consistently provide students with exceptional and vast experience. Our offerings give our students access to a broad range of opportunities and activities inside and outside of the classroom.

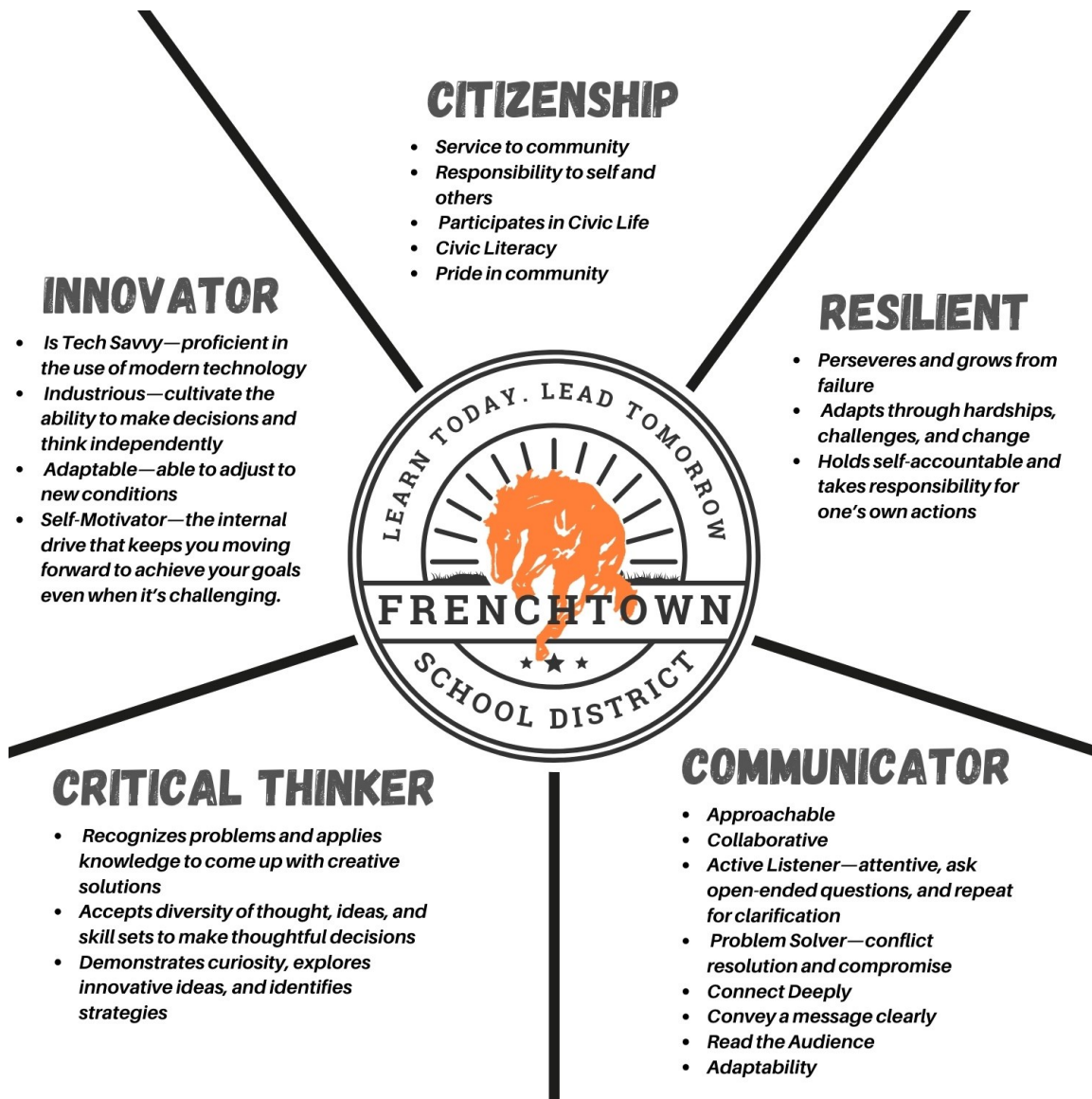
Safe and Nurturing Environment: Students and staff have a right to a safe, nurturing environment where they thrive mentally, physically, and emotionally. We celebrate and support diversity and are responsive to the needs of students, staff, and community.

Personal Responsibility: We believe that personal accountability, self-discipline, self-control, and good citizenship are critical to our success. We value showing and having respect for others, being respected and maintaining our integrity during times of success and times of challenge.

Please see the District website for the complete Integrated Strategic Action Plan

INTEGRATED STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN

Frenchtown School District Profile of a Learner



Please see the District website for the complete Integrated Strategic Action Plan

DISTRICT INFORMATION

OUR SCHOOLS

- Established in 1868
- 2024 Niche Ranking—4th Best School District in Montana
- 2024 US News and World Report—#3 High School among area schools



FACILITY FACTS

- Average School Age: 44
- Oldest Building: 1959
- Newest Building: 2009
- 290,018 square feet of building space
- 102 acres of land



OUR STAFF

Teachers	99
Transportation	15
Food Service	10
Administrators	8
Custodial	7
Support Personnel	7
Clerical	6
Guidance Counselors	5
Paraprofessionals	5
Instructional Aides	4
Playground Aides	4
Maintenance	4
Nurses	2
Psychologists	2
Speech Pathologists	2
	180

ENROLLMENT SEPTEMBER 2024

Preschool	6	8th Grade	110
Kindergarten	97	9th Grade	115
1st Grade	83	10th Grade	96
2nd Grade	116	11th Grade	109
3rd Grade	117	12th Grade	104
4th Grade	98		
5th Grade	78	TOTAL	1,330
6th Grade	94		
7th Grade	107		



TRANSPORTATION

- Number of Bus Routes: 13
- Number of Bus Drivers: 13
- Number of Student Riders: 716
- Number of Miles Traveled: 102,762



FRENCHTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT FACILITIES



Campus	Approximate School Building Square Footage	Approximate Student Capacity	Grades Served	Year Constructed/ Major Additions
South Campus	68,630	800	PK–5	1959/1969
North Campus	123,454	900	6-12	1979/2009

Frenchtown School District Critical Issues:

- ◆ The South Campus (Elementary and Intermediate School) HVAC system is aged and difficult to keep operational in the winter.
- ◆ The South Campus is at septic capacity.
- ◆ Parking lot asphalt repairs are needed on both campuses.
- ◆ The South Campus exterior needs significant repair and cosmetic updates.
- ◆ Roof repair is needed to sections of all buildings.

FRENCHTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT FACILITIES

Planning for Growth

District Considerations for the future:

- ◆ How much will Frenchtown grow?
- ◆ What will the population look like 5, 10, 15 years from now?
- ◆ Will our existing school buildings be enough?
- ◆ Do our existing school facilities support contemporary and inclusive education models?
- ◆ Is the age and condition of our buildings an urgent concern?

All of these issues and more are being addressed by the FTSD Facilities Committee



FRENCHTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT TECHNOLOGY

Enhancements and Planning for Growth

Over the past three years, to address the increasing need for technology in the classroom, the FTSD technology inventory has grown to:

- ◆ 1892 Chromebooks
- ◆ 450 Laptops/PC's
- ◆ 65 Promethean Active Panel Boards
- ◆ 10 Servers

To continue to stay up-to-date and provide our students and staff with current, supported



and secure devices, the cost to the District for replacement hardware alone is estimated to be \$225,000 per year.

Continued growth will impact this significantly as the District adds to inventory to meet the needs of additional students and staff.

SCHOOL DISTRICT FINANCE Q & A

Facts and Definitions

Source: “Understanding Montana School Finance And School District Budgets”, Montana Office of Public Instruction

Fund Accounting

School district accounting systems are organized and established on a fund basis. A fund is a self-balancing set of accounts used to track the fiscal activity for a specific purpose or activity. Each fund must be accounted for separately so that its resources, obligations, revenue, and expenditures are kept apart from other funds. Legal reference to fund accounting for schools may be found at 20-9-201, MCA. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board, (GASB) establishes accounting and financial reporting standards for U.S., state, and local governments that follow Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP).

The School Accounting Manual is a great resource to find additional information. Visit the OPI School Finance webpage for more information.

Q: What *types of funds* are used by school districts?

Governmental Funds—Most school district functions are financed through four types of governmental funds: General, Special Revenue, Capital Projects, and Debt Service. These funds are classified as either budgeted or non-budgeted funds.

Proprietary Funds—The two types of proprietary funds, Enterprise and Internal Service, are used to account for a school district’s ongoing organizations and business-type activities that are similar those found in the private sector. Proprietary funds are non-budgeted funds.

Fiduciary Funds—The two types of fiduciary funds, Trust and Custodial, are used to account for assets held by a school district in a trustee capacity or as a custodian for another entity or fund. Fiduciary funds are non-budgeted funds.

Q: What are district budgeted funds?

A: A budgeted fund means any fund for which a budget must be officially adopted by the board of trustees to expend money from the fund. 20-9-201(2)(a), MCA. Budgeted funds include: General Fund, Transportation, Bus Depreciation, Tuition, Retirement, Adult Education, Technology, Flexibility, Debt Service, and Building Reserve Fund.

Q: What are district *non-budgeted funds*?

A: A non-budgeted fund is any fund for which an official budget is not required to be adopted in order to expend money on deposit in the fund, 20-9-201(2)(b), MCA. Expenditures from these funds are limited to the amount of cash balance in the fund. Non-budgeted funds include: Food Services Fund, Miscellaneous Fund, Compensated Absence Fund, Building Fund, Self Insurance Fund, Endowment Fund, Student Activities Fund, Enterprise Fund.

Q: What are district accounting codes?

A: By law, each district must use the accounting codes designated by the OPI. This ensures continuity and uniformity across the state. The OPI uses accounting codes suggested by the U.S. Department of Education.

Q: What are the different components of an expenditure accounting code?

A: District clerks issue payments for expenditures using codes that identify the purpose, program, function and other details of the transaction.

The accounting structure is designed to give the desired informational breakdown of expenditures and other financing sources.

BUDGET REPORT SUMMARY

2024—2025 SCHOOL YEAR



Budget Report

FY 2025

32 Missoula

Submit ID: 0599-28589049

0599 Frenchtown K-12 Schools

Summary

Fund [A]	Adopted Budget [B]	Total Reserves (961-966) [C]	Reserve Limit [D]	% of Adopted Budget Reserved (C/B) x 100 [E]	Unreserved Fund Balance Reappropriated (970) [F]	Other Revenue [G]	District Property Tax Requirements (B - F - G = H) If < 0, enter 0 [H]	District Mill Levies H / (TV x .001) [I]
01 General	11,330,641.01	1,192,186.13	10%	10.52%	0.00	9,338,622.81	1,992,018.20	93.95
10 Transportation	804,827.00	160,965.40	20%	20.00%	79,568.46	185,914.23	539,344.31	25.44
11 Bus Depreciation Reserve	445,041.09	0.00	N/A	0.00%	271,022.69	0.00	174,018.40	8.21
13 Tuition	383,561.93		N/A		184,278.65	0.00	199,283.28	9.40
14 Retirement	1,715,475.00	343,095.00	20%	20.00%	175,713.20	1,539,761.80		
17 Adult Education	82,643.30	0.00	35%	0.00%	61,443.89	0.00	21,199.41	1.00
19 Non-Operating	0.00	0.00	N/A	0.00%	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
28 Technology	209,767.10	0.00	N/A	0.00%	165,442.80	9,324.30	35,000.00	1.65
29 Flexibility	1,031,981.44	0.00	N/A	0.00%	527,820.36	297,333.08	206,828.00	9.76
61 Building Reserve	845,982.64	0.00	N/A	0.00%	652,192.64	122,212.44	71,577.56	3.38
Total of All Funds	16,849,920.51	1,696,246.53			2,117,482.69	11,493,168.66	3,239,269.16	152.79

District property tax requirements represent 23% of District funding sources for all budgeted funds.

50 Debt Service								
Tax Jurisdiction								
32-0599	1,387,275.02	0.00	20-9-438	0.00%	407,416.85	0.00	979,858.17	46.22

Budgeted funds require the Board of Trustees to adopt an official budget establishing expenditure limits by fund. These funds have a local tax levy as some or all of their funding source.

How much of Montana's school funding comes from local property taxes, federal, state, county and local sources?

Funding Source	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023
State	42.99%	43.43%	40.63%	39.69%	40.30%
Local Property Taxes	30.57%	30.81%	28.99%	27.87%	27.82%
County	8.75%	8.88%	8.35%	7.87%	7.99%
Local Non-Tax	4.86%	4.52%	2.98%	3.45%	5.25%
Federal	12.83%	12.36%	19.05%	21.12%	18.64%
Total	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%

Source: OPI

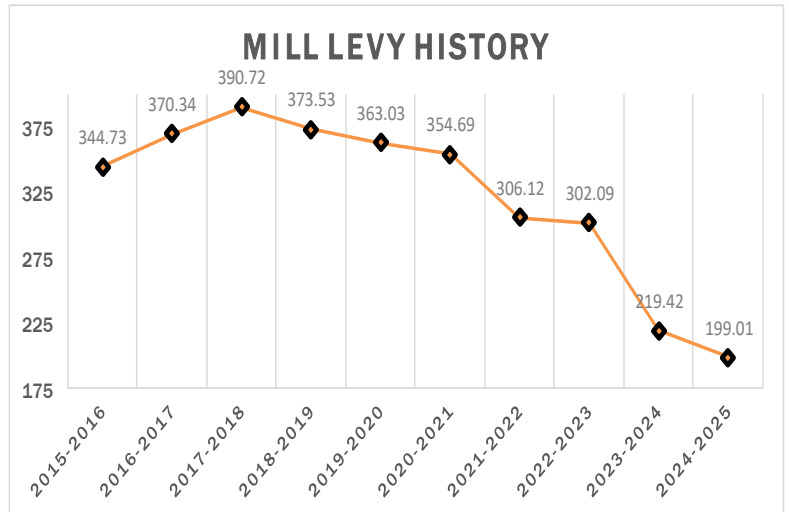
BUDGETED FUNDS PREVIOUS YEAR COMPARISON

Taxpayer Impact by Budgeted Fund

	2023-2024			2024-2025			Dollar Impact on Residence		
	Property Tax Requirement 23-24	Mills	\$100,000	Property Tax Requirement 24-25	Mills	Mills Difference	\$100,000 House	\$300,000 House	\$600,000 House
General Fund	\$ 2,099,047.59	101.01	\$ 190.06	\$ 1,992,018.20	93.95	-7.06	\$ (9.53)	\$ (28.59)	\$ (77.19)
Transportation Fund	\$ 521,760.94	25.12	\$ 47.24	\$ 539,344.31	25.44	0.32	\$ 0.43	\$ 1.30	\$ 3.52
Bus Depreciation Fund	\$ 254,565.60	12.25	\$ 23.05	\$ 174,018.40	8.21	-4.04	\$ (5.46)	\$ (16.37)	\$ (44.19)
Tuition Fund	\$ 246,962.45	11.89	\$ 22.36	\$ 199,283.28	9.40	-2.49	\$ (3.36)	\$ (10.08)	\$ (27.22)
Adult Education Fund	\$ 20,773.99	1.00	\$ 1.88	\$ 21,199.41	1.00	0.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Technology Fund	\$ 35,000.00	1.68	\$ 3.17	\$ 35,000.00	1.65	-0.03	\$ (0.04)	\$ (0.12)	\$ (0.32)
Flexibility Fund	\$ -	0.00	\$ -	\$ 206,828.00	9.76	9.76	\$ 13.17	\$ 39.51	\$ 106.69
Debt Service Fund	\$ 1,313,512.54	63.23	\$ 118.93	\$ 979,858.17	46.22	-17.01	\$ (22.96)	\$ (68.89)	\$ (185.99)
Building Reserve Fund	\$ 67,302.19	3.24	\$ 6.09	\$ 71,577.56	3.38	0.14	\$ 0.18	\$ 0.55	\$ 1.49
All Budgeted Funds		219.42			199.01	-20.41	\$ (27.56)	\$ (82.68)	\$ (223.23)

From 2019 - 2025, Frenchtown voters received a reduction in the number of mills levied by the local school district.

20 Year Mill Levy History		
	Total Mills	% Change
2005-2006	189.34	3.02%
2006-2007	190.66	0.70%
2007-2008	294.63	54.53%
2008-2009	259.77	-11.83%
2009-2010	285.78	10.01%
2010-2011	290.47	1.64%
2011-2012	289.74	-0.25%
2012-2013	295.65	2.04%
2013-2014	305.75	3.42%
2014-2015	328.28	7.37%
2015-2016	344.73	5.01%
2016-2017	370.34	7.43%
2017-2018	390.72	5.50%
2018-2019	373.53	-4.40%
2019-2020	363.03	-2.81%
2020-2021	354.69	-2.30%
2021-2022	306.12	-13.69%
2022-2023	302.09	-1.32%
2023-2024	219.42	-27.37%
2024-2025	199.01	-9.30%



For 2024-2025, Frenchtown School District levied fewer mills than the number of mills levied in 2007-2008.

PROPERTY TAX INFORMATION

Where do Property Tax Dollars Go?

Property taxes are used to fund all levels of government. Generally, property taxes are paid to the county treasurer in November and May. The county treasurer then distributes the money to each entity based on the approved mill levy.

School tax collections, which account for 58% of all property taxes, are controlled by a funding formula contained in law. Operating budgets are determined mainly by student and staff numbers. Schools are required to budget a minimum amount and are limited to a maximum amount. The legislature is responsible for setting an inflation factor for the general fund budgets. Schools also budget for retirement costs, transportation, and facilities.

County, city and Special District mills, which account for 41% of all property taxes, are controlled by law. They may levy enough mills to raise the dollars they budgeted the previous year and increase that amount by one half the rate of inflation. Mills can be increased to fund some of their health insurance costs. All other mill increases must be approved by the voters. Special district levies are usually limited by the resolution that created the district.

From the Office of Public Instruction
Every Student Succeeds Act 2022-2023
Frenchtown School District
Per Pupil Expenditures = \$11,060.22

What is a mill, and how does it impact our taxpayers?

A mill is one-thousandth of a dollar.

Property taxes are based on the market value of a property and the taxable rate, which is the percentage of market value considered taxable.

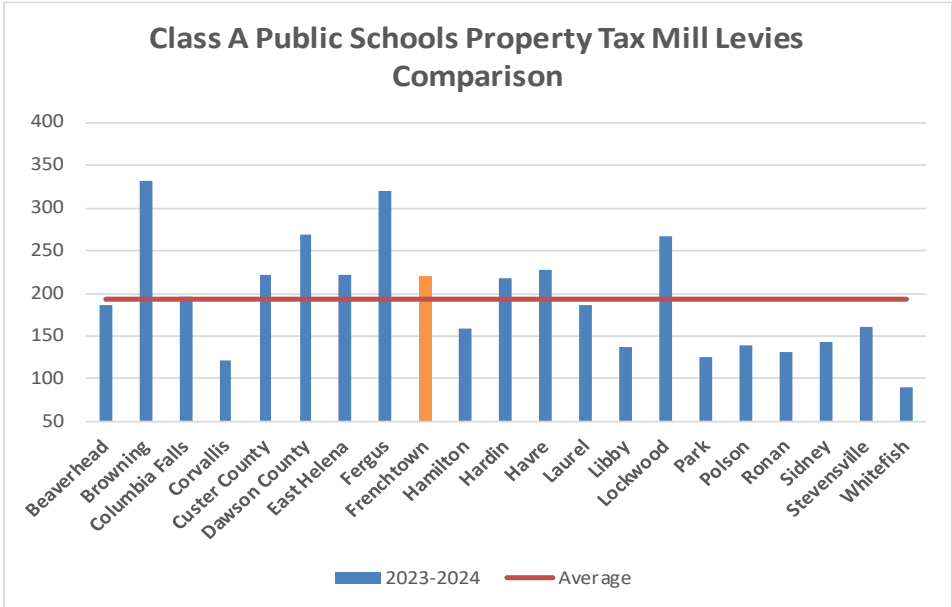
Market value times the taxable rate determines taxable value of the property, which then determines the mill value. Mill value times mills levied determines property tax liability.

The mills collected by the State and university are set by law and account for 1% of the total property taxes.

Market Value x 1.35% = Taxable Value

Taxable Value x .001 = Mill Value

(Mill Value x Mills Levied) + Special Assessments = Property Tax Liability

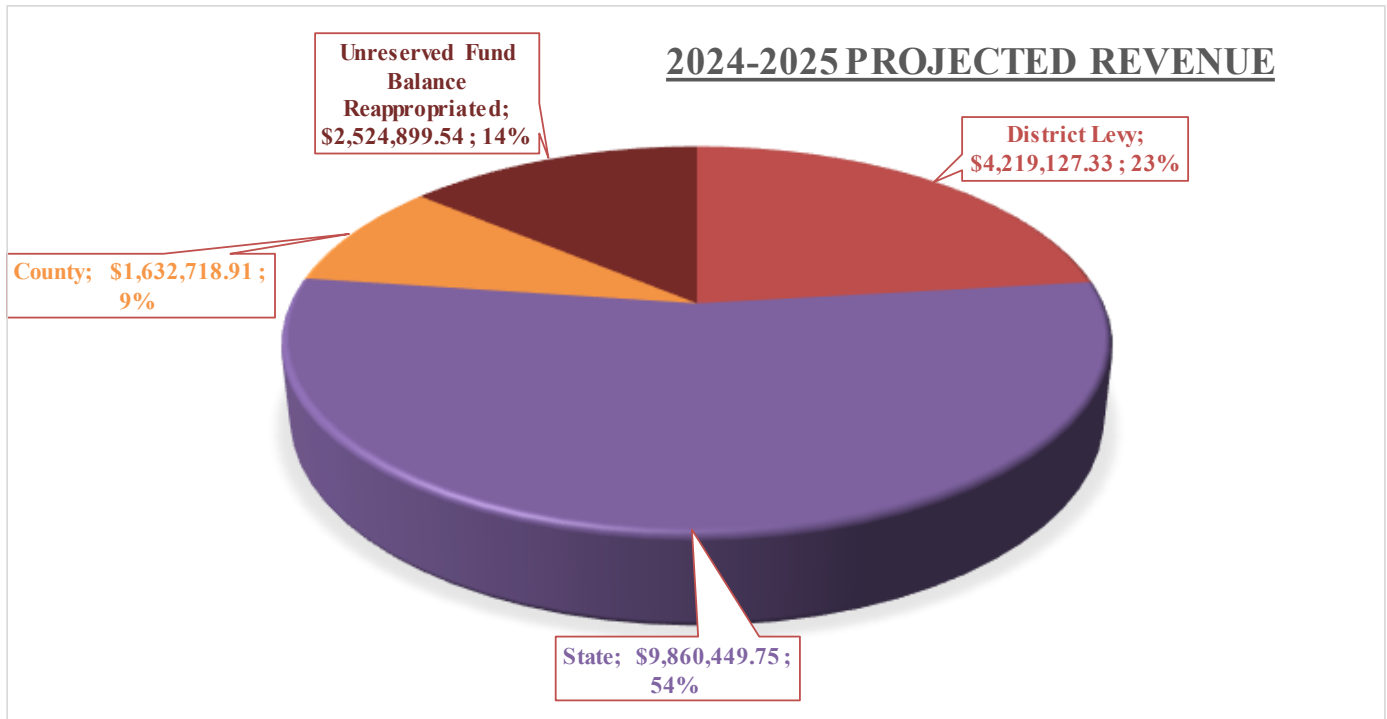


All of these values can be found on an individual's property tax bill

How did Frenchtown compare with other Montana Class A Districts in 2023-2024?

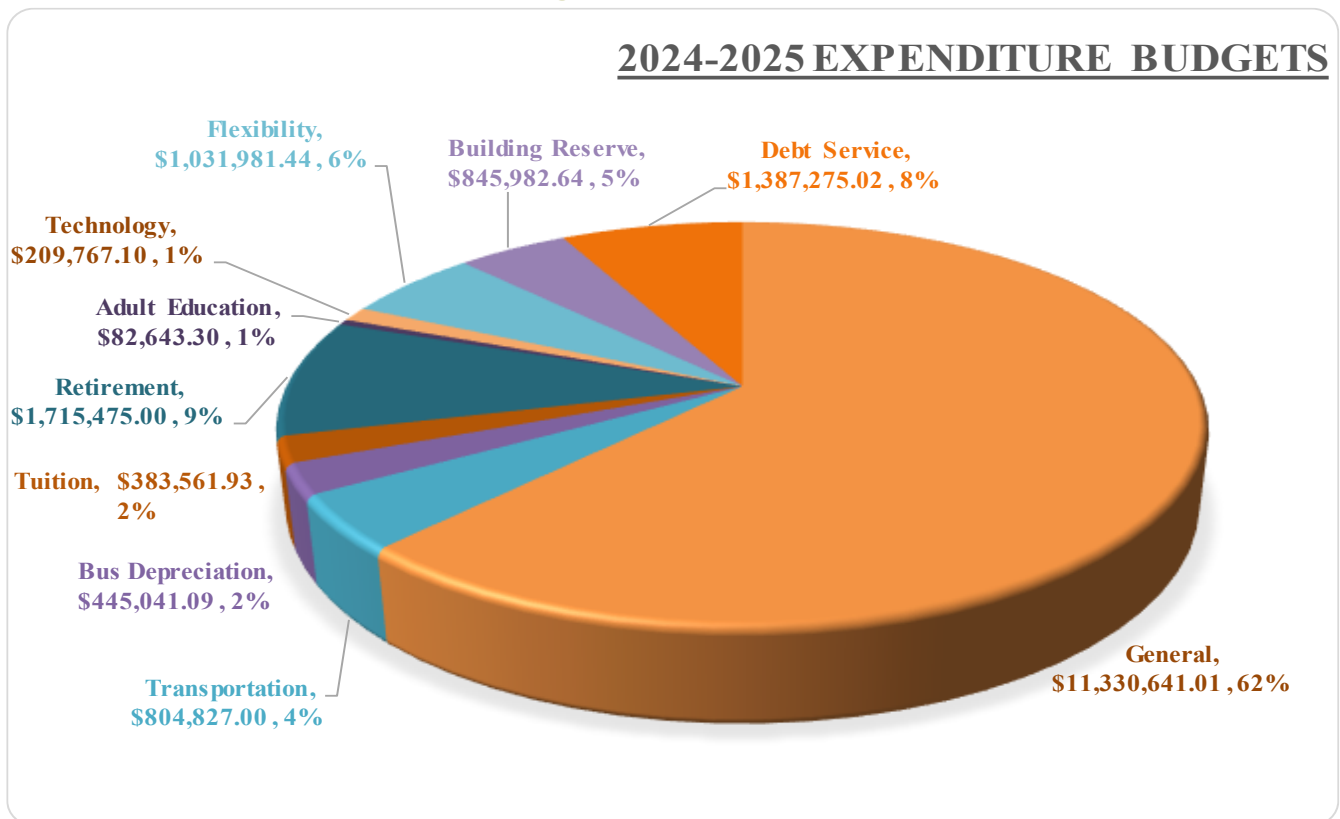
REVENUE—ALL BUDGETED FUNDS

2024—2025 SCHOOL YEAR



EXPENDITURE BUDGETS

All Budgeted Funds 2024-2025



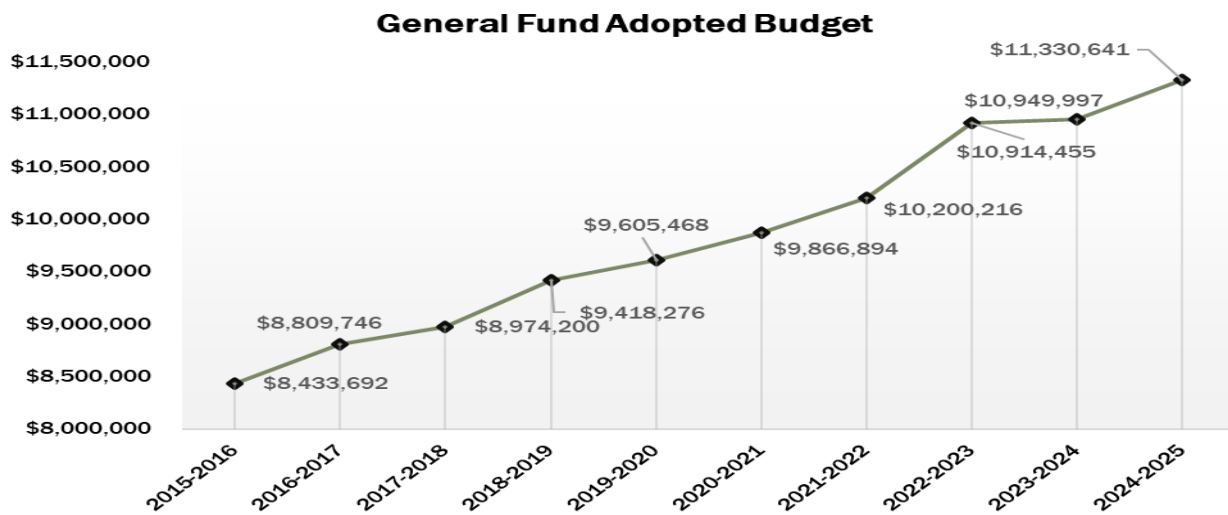
GENERAL FUND BUDGET

The General Fund is the main operating fund for the District

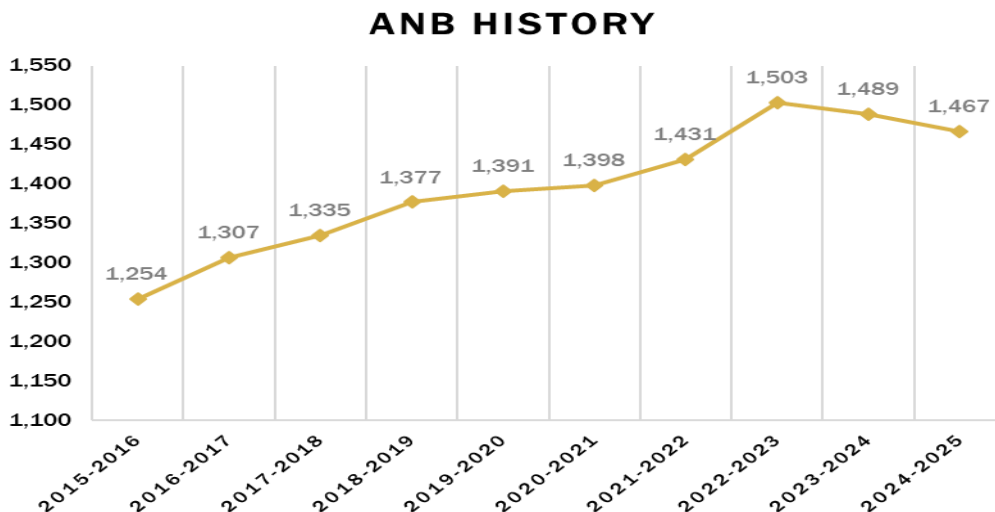
The General Fund Budget finances the general maintenance, operational and instruction costs of the district. It is a budgeted fund that requires a voted levy to increase the budget up to the maximum budget allowed. Budget limits are determined primarily by student enrollment.

PURPOSE—This fund is used for the instructional programs and general operations of the school district. Budget limits are established per MCA 20-9-308.

VOTING REQUIREMENTS—Voter approval is necessary for a district to increase over-BASE taxes from the prior year.



ANB (Average Number Belonging) is based on the average of enrollment counts occurring in October and February of each school year. You can see from these charts how the General Fund Budget is impacted by changes in enrollment.



ANB is an enrollment-based number that determines the majority of the General Fund Budget.

School districts can use current year ANB or 3-year average ANB for each budget unit (elementary or high school), whichever is highest. A 3-year average was used for the FY25 budget limits.

Enrollment is the most impactful component of the General Fund budget.

GENERAL FUND BUDGET

Funding Component Breakdown

State law establishes General Fund budget limits based on enrollment. Districts must adopt a budget up to the maximum allowable, and no lower than the state mandated minimum (Base), 80% of max.

100% Maximum Allowable Budget—\$12,555,807.05

2024-2025 Budget: \$11,330,641.01

90.24% of Maximum

Over-Base Property Tax \$1,221,291.62
Guaranteed Tax Base \$3,212,831.43
Local Base Property Tax \$770,726.58
Non-Levy Revenue \$137,525.64
Direct State Aid \$5,067,132.06
Quality Educator \$494,018.50
Special Education \$298,807.47
At Risk Student \$35,803.64
Indian Education for All \$36,132.21
Data for Achievement \$34,591.86
American Indian Achievement Gap \$21,780.00

The difference between the maximum allowable budget and the adopted 2024-2025 budget is the voted levy potential amount needed to reach the maximum budget. This amount equals \$1,225,166.04.

Amount approved by local taxpayers.
80% Base (minimum) Budget—\$10,109,349.39

State and local funding required to obtain the mandatory Base Budget level.

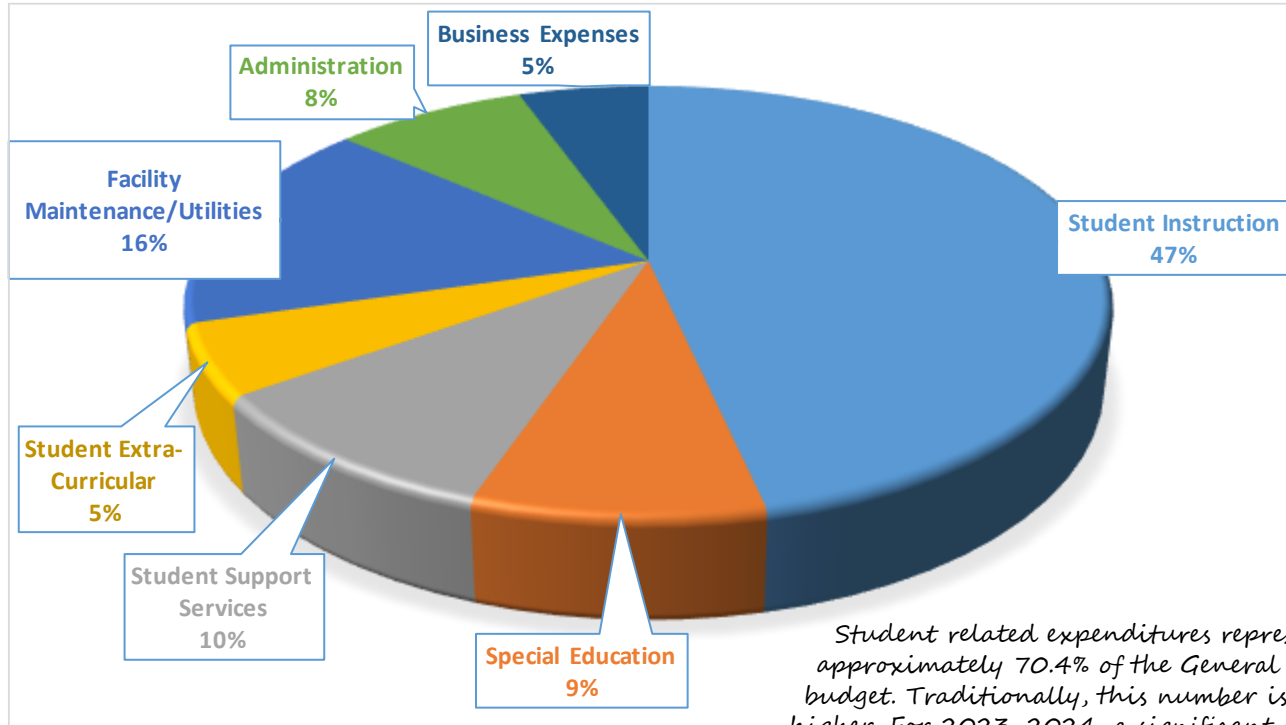
State revenue, broken down into separate categories outlined by law. A majority of the sections are based on a designated dollar amount per student times the number of students in the district.

The total local levy for 2024-2025 equals the over-base property tax plus the local base property tax, \$1,992,018.20. This local levy amount represents only 17.58% of the District's General Fund budget.

GENERAL FUND BUDGET CATEGORY SPENDING

2023-2024 School Year

The chart below represents the actual expenditures by budget category from the General Fund budget for the 2023-2024 school year. Category descriptions are below.



Student related expenditures represent approximately 70.4% of the General Fund budget. Traditionally, this number is much higher. For 2023-2024, a significant amount of instructional expenses such as Chromebooks were paid with federal COVID relief funds.

Direct Student Expenses

Category	Amount	%	Description
Student Instruction	\$5,099,290.78	46.57%	Costs associated with classroom teacher salaries and supplies.
Special Education	\$947,841.31	8.66%	These are the costs related to the Special Education program including teachers and aides.
Student Support Services	\$1,077,519.62	9.84%	Costs associated with Counselors, Librarians, Nurses, Technology and other staff who support students.
Student Extra-Curricular	\$584,503.07	5.34%	These cover the costs associated with providing extra-curricular activities, including coach stipends, uniforms and supplies.
Facility Maintenance/Utilities	\$1,756,097.18	16.04%	Costs associated with staff who maintain all buildings including snow removal and grounds. The costs for utilities including electricity and heating are included in this part of the budget.
Administration	\$887,469.12	8.10%	District and Building Administration salaries, administrative supplies, Board of Trustees expenses and labor consultants.
Business Expenses	\$597,275.83	5.45%	Category includes all the business functions of the District including Payroll, Purchasing, Accounts Payable, District Property Insurance, Audit expense, postage, dues & fees.
TOTAL	\$10,949,996.91	100.00%	

TRANSPORTATION FUND BUDGET

2024-2025 School Year

The Transportation Fund is used to pay for the costs of transporting students from home to school and back. This can include the purchase of buses, building a bus barn, bus maintenance, bus driver salaries and benefits, hiring a private contractor to run the transportation program, and transportation reimbursement contracts. The State and County share in funding “on-schedule costs” are based on bus routes and mileage contracts with parents. Additional funding is provided through fund balance re-appropriated, non-levy revenues and a district transportation fund levy.

PURPOSE—The transportation fund can be used to support the costs of transporting students between home and school, including:

- costs of yellow school bus purchase, repair, maintenance and operations;
- safety activities related to bus driver training, crosswalk attendants, etc.;
- bus storage facilities and maintenance; and
- payments to parents for individual transportation contracts.

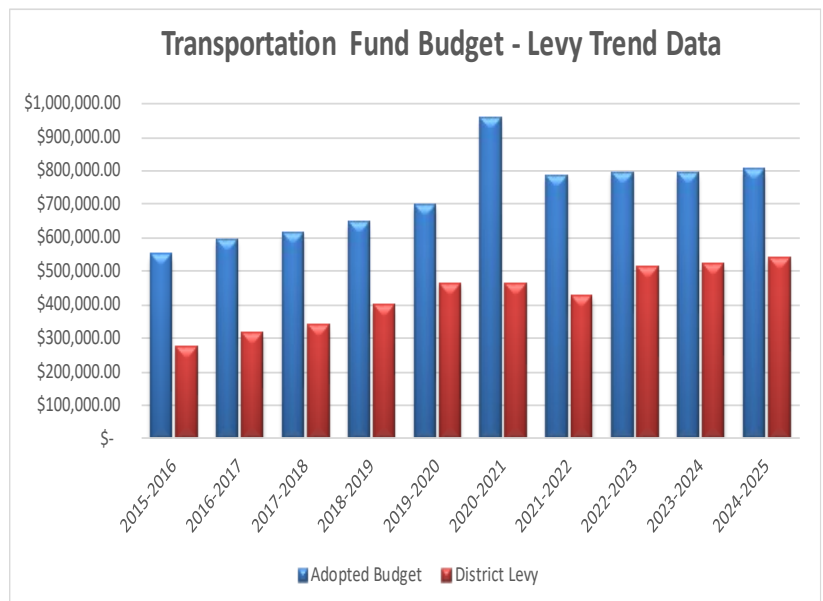
Costs of field trips, travel costs related to extracurricular activities and athletics, and staff travel costs are **NOT ALLOWABLE** costs of the fund.

Reimbursements are based on eligible riders (a student who resides at least 3 miles from the nearest school), bus route miles and rated capacity of the bus, and individual transportation contracts. The County pays a County reimbursement after receiving State payment report. State funding is paid based on semi-annual claims to OPI in February for the first semester and in May for the second semester. The State will pay up to the lesser of the State funding calculated on the budget or one-half (1/2) of the total fund budget. The State pays the District for first semester in March and for second semester in June. At the same time, the County directs the County Treasurer to pay the District the County’s portion of the funding (MCA 20-10-146).

VOTING REQUIREMENTS—The transportation fund tax levy is permissive. Consequently, it is not subject to voter approval. Reserve Limit: 20% of ensuing year’s budget. Re-appropriated amounts are applied first to reduce the local tax levy, then County reimbursement, then State reimbursement.

The adopted budget includes the State reimbursement plus the County reimbursement plus the District tax levy. The District only levies the amount needed in the fund for expenditures in excess of the State and County reimbursement. The reimbursement rate set by the State has not increased in many years, requiring an increase to the District levy.

	Adopted Budget	District Levy
2015-2016	\$ 548,000.00	\$ 272,480.84
2016-2017	\$ 595,000.00	\$ 316,008.63
2017-2018	\$ 614,500.00	\$ 339,091.08
2018-2019	\$ 645,850.00	\$ 397,072.37
2019-2020	\$ 698,577.00	\$ 464,881.12
2020-2021	\$ 955,355.00	\$ 464,367.34
2021-2022	\$ 785,330.00	\$ 428,098.36
2022-2023	\$ 795,455.00	\$ 511,711.04
2023-2024	\$ 794,380.00	\$ 521,760.94
2024-2025	\$ 804,827.00	\$ 539,344.31



BUS DEPRECIATION FUND BUDGET

2024-2025 School Year

The Bus Depreciation Reserve Fund is designed as a method for school districts to replace buses or provide communication systems and safety devices on existing buses.

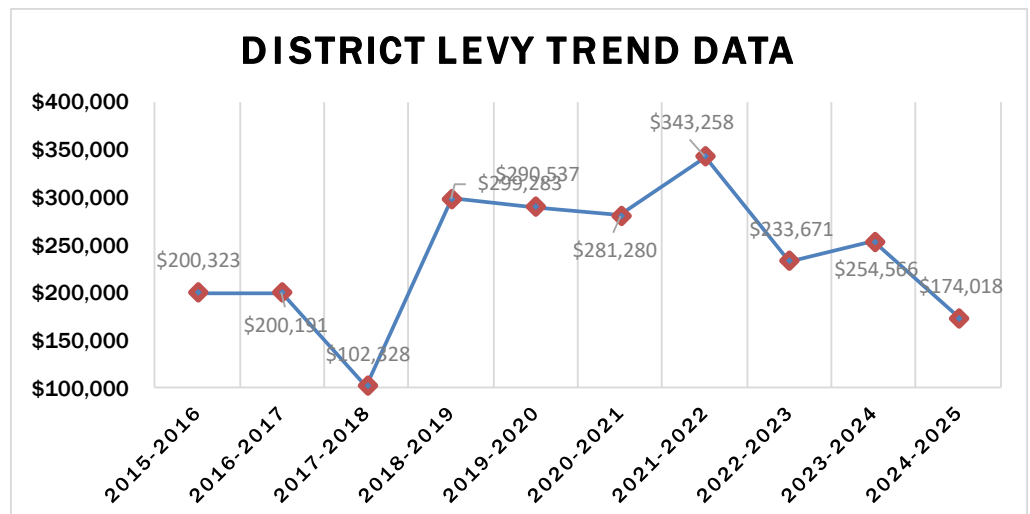
PURPOSE – A district that owns buses, including Type E buses, used for transportation of students to and from school may establish a Bus Depreciation Reserve Fund. This fund is to be used for the conversion, remodeling, or rebuilding of a bus or for the re-placement of a bus or communication systems and safety devices installed on the bus, including but not limited to global positioning systems, cameras, and two-way radios. The trustees of a district may also use the Bus Depreciation Reserve Fund to purchase an additional bus for purposes of transportation, as defined in 20-10-101 MCA.

The Bus Depreciation Reserve fund allows the trustees to include an amount each year that does not exceed 20% of the original cost of a bus, including at Type E vehicle, or communication systems and safety devices installed on the bus. The amount budgeted may not, over time, exceed 150% of the original cost of a bus or communication systems and safety devices installed on the bus.

Any expenditure of Bus Depreciation Reserve Fund money must be within the limitations of the district's final Bus Depreciation Reserve Fund budget.

VOTING REQUIREMENTS - Tax levies are permissive. No voter approval is required for this fund.

	District Levy
2015-2016	\$ 200,323
2016-2017	\$ 200,191
2017-2018	\$ 102,328
2018-2019	\$ 299,283
2019-2020	\$ 290,537
2020-2021	\$ 281,280
2021-2022	\$ 343,258
2022-2023	\$ 233,671
2023-2024	\$ 254,566
2024-2025	\$ 174,018



The Bus Depreciation budget depends on the Transportation Department bus replacement schedule. The District fleet requires approximately two route bus replacements each year. The levy is associated with the cost of the replacement buses.



TUITION FUND BUDGET

2024-2025 School Year

The Tuition Fund is used in limited cases to pay tuition for a student who attends school outside their district of residence.

Usually, the District pays tuition only for students the trustees have placed in another district or where geographic conditions make it impractical for the student to attend in student's own district. Rates are set under MCA 20-5-323 based on 20% of the per-ANB entitlement for the year of attendance. Special education add-on rates are calculated under ARM 10.16.3818. Funding sources are fund balance re-appropriated, direct aid (for out-of-state tuition), non-levy revenue and a non-voted district tax levy.

Effective July 1, 2013 a district may include in its tuition levy an amount necessary to pay for the full costs of providing FAPE (Free Appropriate Public Education) to any child with a disability who lives in the district, and the amount of the levy imposed is limited to the actual cost of service under each child's IEP, less applicable state and federal special education funding.

LEVY CALCULATION - Actual cost of service(s) under the child's IEP minus:

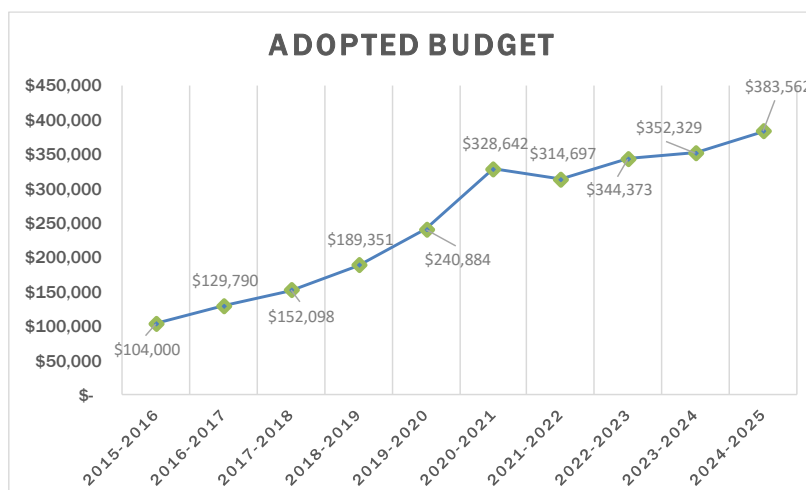
- The student's state special education payment
- The student's federal special education payment
- The student's per ANB amount
- The prorated portion of the district's basic entitlement for each qualifying student
- The prorated portion of the district's general fund payments (Quality Educator, At-Risk, Indian Education for All, and American Indian Achievement Gap)

The Montana Office of Public Instruction site has an In-District Special Education Permissive Levy Tuition Calculator Spreadsheet for school districts to use to help determine the potential tuition amount which may be levied.

Under 41-5-1807 MCA, Tuition is for students detained in youth detention centers for more than nine consecutive days, the county where the detention center is located may charge the student's district of residence \$20/day.

Reserve Limit: None. Fund balance is re-appropriated to support the ensuing year's budget.

	Adopted Budget	
2015-2016	\$	104,000
2016-2017	\$	129,790
2017-2018	\$	152,098
2018-2019	\$	189,351
2019-2020	\$	240,884
2020-2021	\$	328,642
2021-2022	\$	314,697
2022-2023	\$	344,373
2023-2024	\$	352,329
2024-2025	\$	383,562



In Frenchtown, the increase to the Tuition Fund Budget is due to the rising costs of special education.

LEGISLATIVE CHANGE - House Bill 206 (2021) made significant changes to tuition for students placed in foster and group homes outside their district of residence. The district of residence will now be responsible for paying a portion of the tuition due to school districts. The district is able to levy the Tuition fund.

RETIREMENT FUND BUDGET

2024-2025 School Year

The Retirement Fund is used to pay the school district’s share of specific employer contributions, including social security and Medicare taxes, Teacher’s Retirement System (TRS) and Public Employees Retirement System (PERS) contributions, and state unemployment insurance. It is funded by a countywide retirement levy.

Senate Bill 424, enacted by the 2003 Montana Legislature and signed into law by the Governor, requires school districts to use federal funds for employer contributions to the retirement, federal social security and unemployment insurance systems for all employees whose salaries are paid from a federal funding source, excluding Impact Aid and school foods.

PURPOSE—This fund is used to pay the employer contributions to the Teachers’ Retirement System, Public Employees’ Retirement System, unemployment insurance, social security and Medicare for district employee whose salary and health-related benefits, if any, are paid from state or local funding sources;

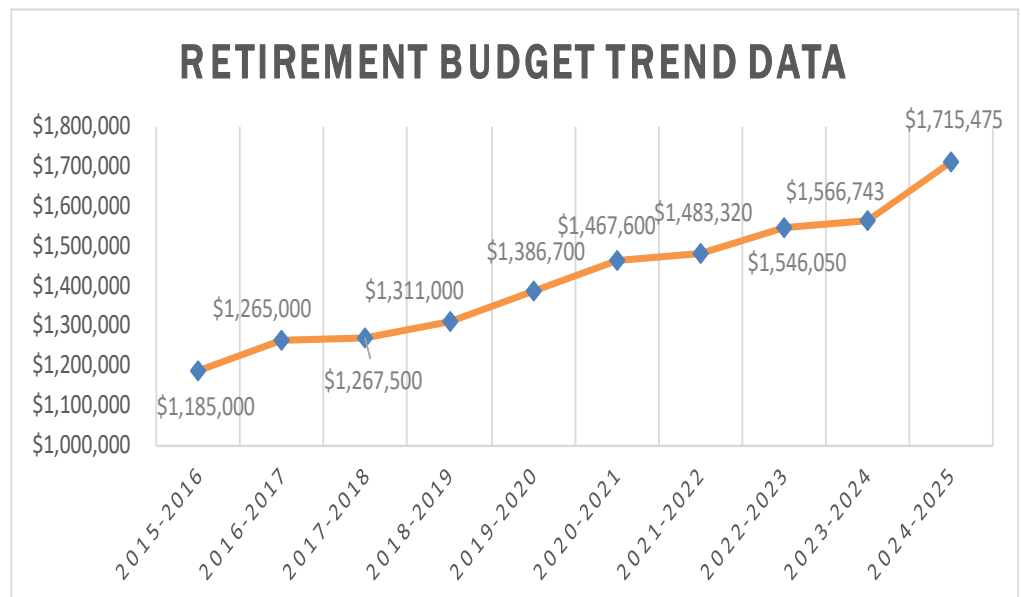
The fund CANNOT be used to pay: 1) retirement incentives; 2) any portion of a retirement fund contribution on behalf of an employee (i.e., only the employer’s contributions can be paid from the fund); or 3) any amount paid to an employee directly. (MCA 20-9-501)

BUDGET—In order for the county to accurately determine the levy, districts must submit a list of all employment positions and their salaries to the County Superintendent when submitting the adopted budget. (MCA 20-9-132)

FUNDING—District non-levy revenue and fund balance re-appropriated reduces the county retirement distribution requirement. The county retirement distribution is funded by countywide levy, county oil and gas taxes, county coal gross proceeds taxes, county school retirement fund block grant (20-0-631, MCA), and Guaranteed Tax Base Aid if the county retirement mill value per ANB is less than the statewide mill value per ANB.

RESERVES—An operating reserve of up to 20% of the ensuing year’s budget is permitted. This percentage was reduced from 35% during the 2013 legislation session. Shortfalls in the retirement fund can present significant problems to both the District and County.

	Adopted Budget
2015-2016	\$ 1,185,000
2016-2017	\$ 1,265,000
2017-2018	\$ 1,267,500
2018-2019	\$ 1,311,000
2019-2020	\$ 1,386,700
2020-2021	\$ 1,467,600
2021-2022	\$ 1,483,320
2022-2023	\$ 1,546,050
2023-2024	\$ 1,566,743
2024-2025	\$ 1,715,475



Impacts to the county-wide retirement levy include increases in staff and increases in the required employer contributions to the Teacher’s Retirement System and Public Employee’s Retirement System.

ADULT EDUCATION FUND

2024-2025 School Year

State law authorizes districts to establish an adult education program (MCA 20-7-702). The program may provide any area of instruction approved by the trustees, including basic and secondary general education and vocational/technical education. Revenue sources for this fund are fund balance re-appropriated, non-levy revenue (including student fees) and a non-voted district tax levy.

PURPOSE—A district that operates an adult education program must use this fund. Taxes levied for support of the adult education program and student fees for adult education are deposited in this fund pursuant to MCA 20-7-705.

VOTING REQUIREMENTS—Tax levies are permissive. No voter approval is required for this fund.

	Adopted Budget
2015-2016	\$ 28,150
2016-2017	\$ 26,331
2017-2018	\$ 24,302
2018-2019	\$ 24,967
2019-2020	\$ 26,947
2020-2021	\$ 27,329
2021-2022	\$ 39,272
2022-2023	\$ 49,844
2023-2024	\$ 66,270
2024-2025	\$ 82,643



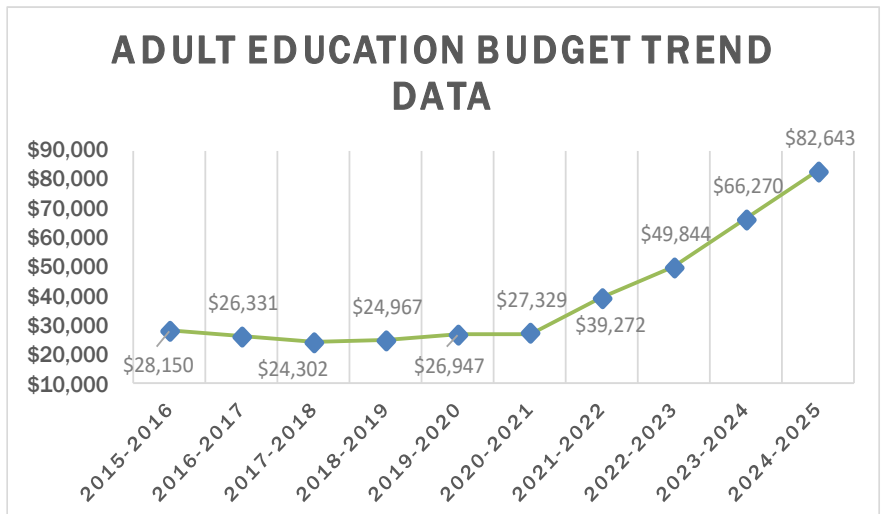
Frenchtown School District partners with the Lifelong Learning Center to provide adult education courses in our school buildings. The District has committed at least one mill per year to fund this program. Courses offered recently include Floral Arranging, Wilderness Survival, Oula and Shine Dance Fitness. For a full schedule of courses offered, please go to: <https://missoulaclass.com/>



OULA



ADULT EDUCATION BUDGET TREND DATA



TECHNOLOGY FUND BUDGET

2024-2025 School Year

The Technology Fund is used for the purchase, rental, repair and maintenance of technology equipment and computer network access, associated technical training for school district personnel, cloud computing services, including any subscription or any license-based or pay-per-use service that is accessed over the internet or other remote network to meet the district’s information technology and other needs. It is funded by state technology grant, fund balance re-appropriated, non-levy revenues, state, federal and private grants or donations that will be spent in the budget year, and a district tax levy. The district tax levy is limited to 20% of the cost of the computer equipment and computer network access, not to exceed 150% of the cost over time.

PURPOSE—This fund is used for: 1) Purchasing, renting, repairing or maintaining technology equipment and computer network access using the State Technology Grant (“Timber Money”) under MCA 20-9-534 and associated tax levies under MCA 20-9-533; and 2) State, Federal and private grants and donations received for the purpose of funding technology or technology-associated training.

Employer contributions for Social Security, Medicare, TRS, PERS, and unemployment insurance may not be paid from this fund.

Reserves limit = none. Re-appropriate all fund balance to support the ensuing year’s budget.

Levies approved *prior to July 1, 2013*

- Can be permanent or durational
- Annual levy cannot exceed 20% of the original cost of equipment owned by the district
- Amount levied over time cannot exceed 150% of the original cost of the equipment
- \$\$ can be used for equipment, network access and training of school personnel

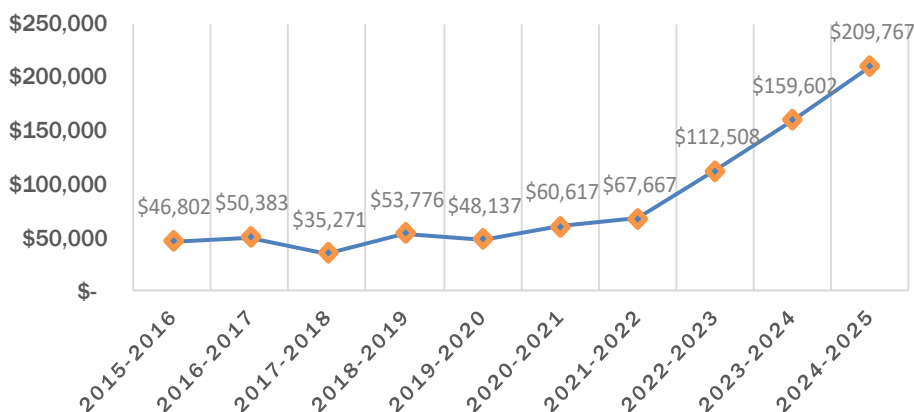
Levies approved *after July 1, 2013*

- May not exceed 10 years
- Can be based on all allowable costs listed in the statute (equipment, cloud storage, training, etc.)
- Districts with an existing perpetual levy can ask for an increase in the amount of the levy to cover cloud computing and training, **and/or** seek relief from tracking depreciation under existing levy and an propose a duration for each, not to exceed 10 years .

Frenchtown voted for and passed a \$35,000 permanent levy in 2006.

	Adopted Budget
2015-2016	\$ 46,802
2016-2017	\$ 50,383
2017-2018	\$ 35,271
2018-2019	\$ 53,776
2019-2020	\$ 48,137
2020-2021	\$ 60,617
2021-2022	\$ 67,667
2022-2023	\$ 112,508
2023-2024	\$ 159,602
2024-2025	\$ 209,767

TECHNOLOGY FUND BUDGET TREND DATA



Federal COVID relief funding has allowed for increased fund balance in the technology fund for 2024—2025.

FLEXIBILITY FUND BUDGET

2024-2025 School Year

This fund was created by legislative action in 2001 (20-9-543 MCA). Its intent was to provide schools one-time only source of funding which could be used for its own unique circumstances. This fund is used for technology, facility expansion, student assessment and evaluation, curriculum development and other types of expenditures as described in MCA 20-9- 543.

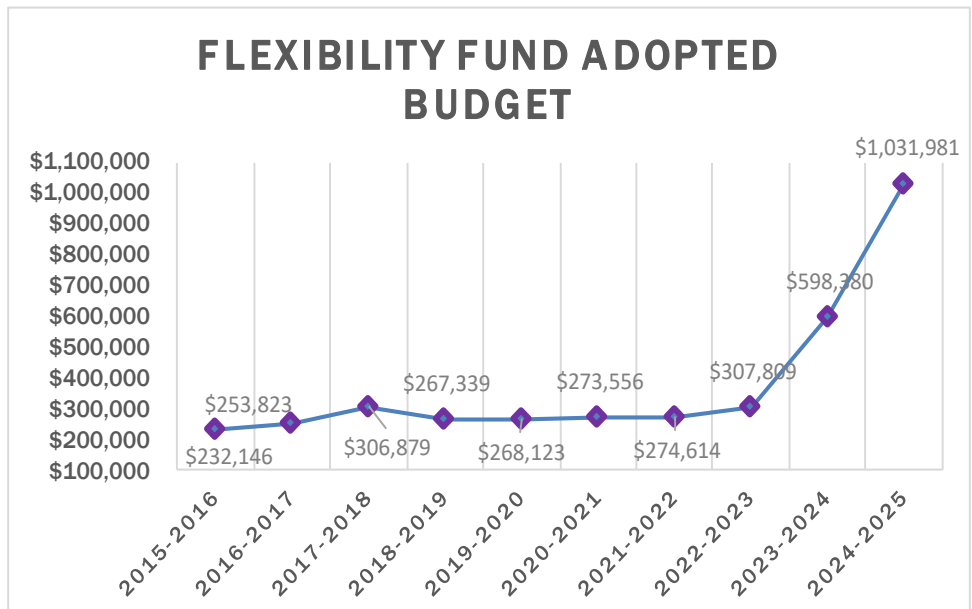
PURPOSE—This fund is used for technology, facility expansion, student assessment and evaluation, curriculum development, and other types of expenditures as described in 20-9-543, MCA. Revenues include non-levy revenues, state and permissively levied funds related to the Transformational Learning Aid program under section 20-7-1602, MCA (Terminates the end of FY2027) are to be deposited to the fund as well as state support for the Advanced Opportunities Aid program authorized under section 20-7-1506, MCA.

Reserve limit = none. The fund balance is re-appropriated to support the ensuing year’s budget. Beginning July 1, 2020 fund balance limit is 150% of the Maximum General Fund budget. Excess must be remitted to the state.

The Montana Advanced Opportunity Act, passed by the legislature in 2019, provided State funding in the form of a Advanced Opportunities Grant. The funding, \$90,505.08 for Fiscal Year 2025, is to be used to reduce out-of-pocket costs for students to participate in Career and Technical education programs that offer personalized learning opportunities intended to accelerate their career and college readiness.

The Transformational Learning Grant, \$206,828.00 for Fiscal Year 2025, allows for Districts to have expanded flexibility to support each pupil’s postsecondary success path by aligning each pupil’s individual interests, passions, strengths, needs and culture through individualized pathways. Financial guidance from the Office of Public Instruction designates this funding is to be tracked through the Flexibility Fund.

	Adopted Budget
2015-2016	\$ 232,146
2016-2017	\$ 253,823
2017-2018	\$ 306,879
2018-2019	\$ 267,339
2019-2020	\$ 268,123
2020-2021	\$ 273,556
2021-2022	\$ 274,614
2022-2023	\$ 307,809
2023-2024	\$ 598,380
2024-2025	\$ 1,031,981



The reason for the 2024-2025 increase in this Fund is due to the Montana Advanced Opportunity Act State funding, Transformational Learning grant State funding, as well as a local tax levy to support innovative and personalized learning programs.

DEBT SERVICE FUND BUDGET

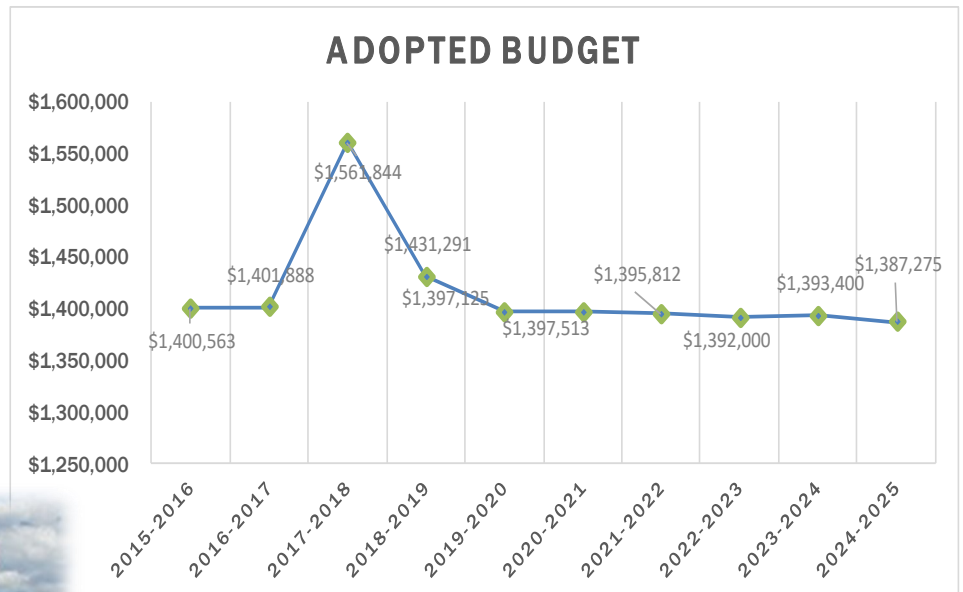
2024-2025 School Year

The Debt Service Fund (20-9-438 MCA) is used to budget and pay for a school district’s bond debt, including principal and interest payments and agent fees, and/or special improvement district payments (SIDs). State equalization aid (known as state reimbursement for school facilities) may be available to school districts that have a district mill value per ANB that is less than the corresponding statewide mill value per ANB. Debt Service Fund revenues also include fund balance re-appropriated, and non-levy revenue.

PURPOSE—This fund is used to pay debt service payments for principal and interest on bonds or Special Improvement Districts (SIDs). The expenditure budget of the fund should include both principal and interest payments due on bonds for each fiscal year of the bond term. OPI recommends a district budget and pay the obligations due 1/1 and 7/1 in each budget year.

The sharp increase in the budget for 2017-2018 was in part due to the M2Green (Smurfit-Stone) payment of delinquent taxes owed prior to 2017.

	Adopted Budget
2015-2016	\$ 1,400,563
2016-2017	\$ 1,401,888
2017-2018	\$ 1,561,844
2018-2019	\$ 1,431,291
2019-2020	\$ 1,397,125
2020-2021	\$ 1,397,513
2021-2022	\$ 1,395,812
2022-2023	\$ 1,392,000
2023-2024	\$ 1,393,400
2024-2025	\$ 1,387,275



Bond principal and interest payments remaining:

	FY25	FY26	FY27	Total
Interest	114,875	79,950	40,650	\$ 235,475.00
Principal	1,270,000	1,310,000	1,355,000	\$ 3,935,000.00
Total	1,384,875	1,389,950	1,395,650	\$ 4,170,475.00

BUILDING RESERVE FUND

2024-2025 School Year

PURPOSE—A voted Building Reserve Fund accumulates funding for the future construction, equipping or enlarging of school buildings and purchasing land needed for school purposes. The funds can also be used for transition costs related to opening or closing a school, replacing a school building or to repay an Inter-cap loan (MCA 20-9-502).

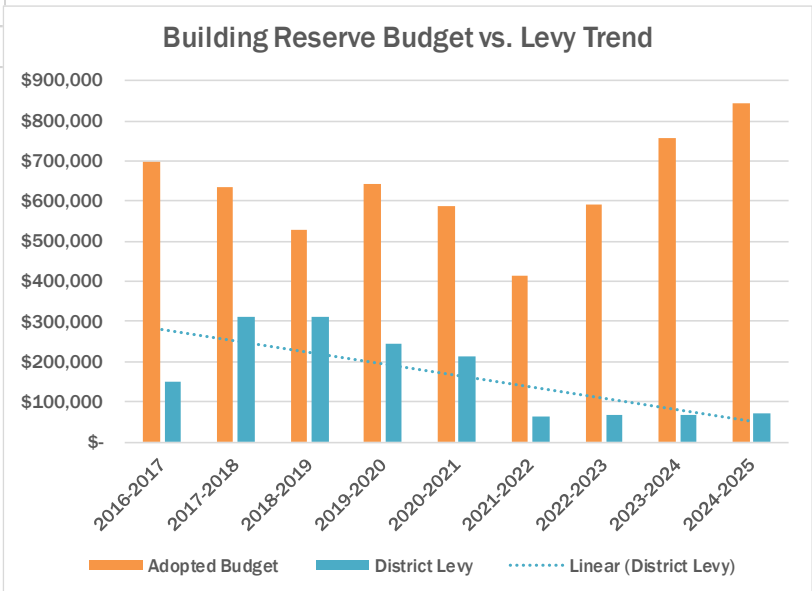
The 2017 legislature created a permissive levy sub-fund. The revenues are to be used to address repairs categorized as "safety", "damage/wear out", or "codes and standards" identified in the Facilities Condition Inventory (FCI). After addressing the identified FCI repairs, the District may use the funds for projects designed to produce operational efficiencies. Examples include projects that provide utility savings, reduced future maintenance costs, and improved utilization of staff. Items to be addressed include roofs, heating, air conditioning, ventilation, energy-efficient windows, doors, insulation, plumbing, electrical and lighting systems, information technology infrastructure and other critical re-pairs to an existing school facility.

LEVY LIMITS AND VOTING REQUIREMENTS—Tax levies are limited by the building reserve election(s): For a "regular" building reserve project, the annual tax levy is limited to the total authorized by the vote, divided by the number of years authorized. School Safety transfers may be made from any budgeted or non-budgeted fund (except Retirement and Debt Service) to Building Reserve. In 2017, legislative action allows the board to permissively levy up to 10 mills for School Facilities Maintenance. The permissive levy is limited to a total of \$110 per student plus \$15,000 per district. If the full amount possible is levied, the district receives Guaranteed Tax Base (GTB) aid to offset the local costs.

Reserve limit – None. Fund balance is re-appropriated to fund the ensuing year’s budget.

	Adopted Budget	District Levy
2016-2017	\$ 697,610	\$ 150,000.00
2017-2018	\$ 636,066	\$ 310,700.00
2018-2019	\$ 529,578	\$ 313,500.00
2019-2020	\$ 644,324	\$ 244,245.15
2020-2021	\$ 588,870	\$ 213,281.67
2021-2022	\$ 415,710	\$ 63,968.86
2022-2023	\$ 593,288	\$ 66,031.65
2023-2024	\$ 756,012	\$ 67,302.19
2024-2025	\$ 845,983	\$ 71,577.56

The Building Reserve Voted Levy of \$750,000 sunset (ended) in FY2021. This voted levy funded many facility projects such as elementary window replacement, north campus boiler installation, parking lot resurfacing and the soccer/softball concessions building.



NON-BUDGETED FUNDS

A Non Budgeted Fund does not require Board approval so no formal adoption of a budget is needed in order to spend the existing fund balance. Expenditures are limited to cash available in the fund (20-9-210 MCA).

Individual Fund Descriptions and Cash Balance as of June 30, 2024

School Food Services Fund 212: Authorized by Section 20-10-201, MCA, for the purpose of accounting for school food service operations, including state and federal reimbursements. End of year fund balance is limited to the equivalent of 3 months of expenditures. June 30, 2024 balance: \$55,288.35

Miscellaneous Fund 215: Authorized by Section 20-9-507, MCA, for the purpose of accounting for local, state or federal grants and reimbursements. Donations that allow the expenditure of both principal and interest for support of district programs are deposited in this fund. Allowable expenditures are determined by the grant award or agreement. Indirect costs may be recovered at the approved Indirect Cost Rate. June 30, 2024 balance: \$1,399,348.70

Traffic Education Fund 218: Authorized by Section 20-7-507 and 30-9-510, MCA, for the purpose of accounting for traffic education activities. Revenue is generated from student fees and a State Traffic Education Reimbursement. June 30, 2024 balance: \$79,247.96

Compensated Absence Fund 228: Authorized by Section 20-9-512, MCA, for the purpose of financing the accumulated sick leave and vacation pay that a non-teaching or administrative school district employee is entitled to upon termination of employment. It is funding using budgeted General Fund transfers. This fund is limited to 30% of the sick and vacation leave payout for non-teaching and administrative employees. Funds in excess of limit must be returned to the General Fund. There must be budget authority in the General Fund to transfer. June 30, 2024 balance: \$44,694.87

Building Fund 260: Authorized by Section 20-9-508, MCA, primarily to account for the proceeds of bonds sold for the purposes provided in Section 20-9-403, MCA. The fund is also used to account for insurance proceeds for damaged property as provided in 20-6-608, MCA, or the sale or rental of property as provided by 20-6-604 and 607, MCA. June 30, 2024 balance: \$21,959.90

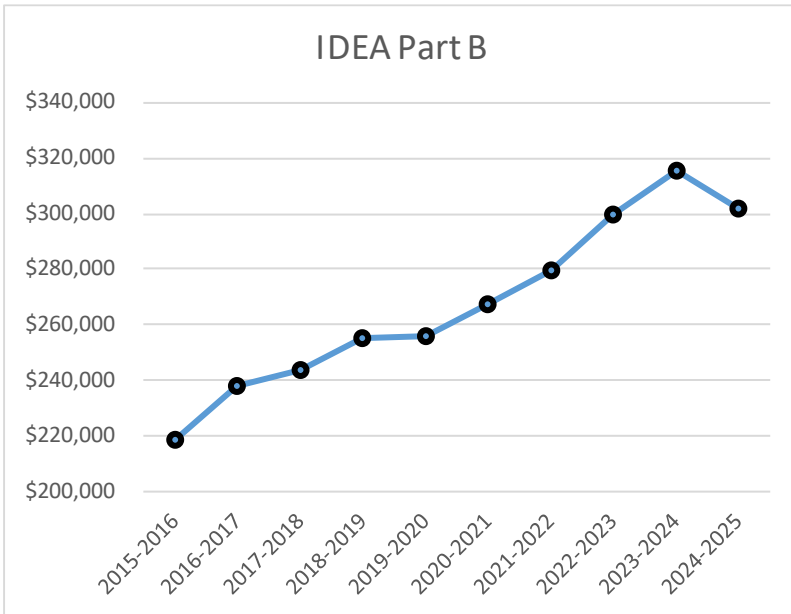
Self Insurance—Health Fund 278: Authorized by Section 20-3-331, MCA, for the purpose of accounting for financial activities for health plans on a self-insurance basis. June 30, 2024 balance: \$357,606.57

Endowment Fund 281: Authorized by Section 20-9-604, MCA, to account for gifts, legacies and devises received by the district for non-district operating purposes such as student scholarships. June 30, 2024 balance: \$50,954.11

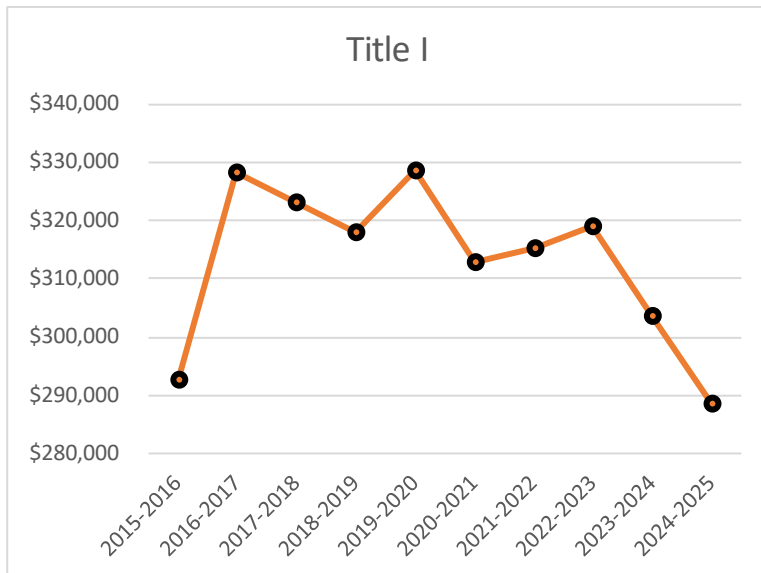
Student Extracurricular Activities Fund 284: Authorized by Section 20-9-504, MCA, for the purpose of receiving and expending money collected for pupil extracurricular functions. Examples include athletics, clubs, classes, student government organizations and student publications. Funds may be maintained in a separate bank account outside control of the county treasurer. June 30, 2024 balance: \$368,811.75

FEDERAL PROGRAMS

Major Grants—IDEA and Title I



The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) is a federal law that makes available a free appropriate public education to eligible children with disabilities throughout the nation and ensures special education and related services to those children. The IDEA governs how schools provide early intervention, special education, and related services to more than 7.5 million eligible children, and youth with disabilities. Funding comes in the form of formula grants to support special education related services and discretionary grants. The goal for the funding is to ensure equality of opportunity, full participation, independent living, and economic self-sufficiency for individuals with disabilities. This grant's main factor is based on the poverty level by the school. Enrollment trends at both the secondary and elementary levels are also the main factors. As enrollment fluctuates, so does the base funding in these areas.



Title I programs provide additional academic support and learning opportunities to help low-achieving children master challenging curricula and meet state standards in core academic subjects. Schools in which children from low-income families make up at least 40 percent of enrollment are eligible to use Title I funds to operate school wide programs that serve all children in the school in order to raise the achievement of the lowest-achieving students. The funds are used in schools with the highest percentages of children from low-income families. If a Title I school is operating a targeted assistance program, the school provides Title I services to children who are failing, or most at risk of failing, to meet challenging State academic standards. The funds are allocated through four formulas that are based primarily on census poverty estimates and the cost of education in each state. These include: Basic Grants, Concentration Grants, Targeted Grants, and Education Finance Incentive Grants

FEDERAL PROGRAMS, CONT.

ESSER Funds

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act, also known as the CARES Act, is a law intended to address the economic fallout of the COVID-19 pandemic in the United States.

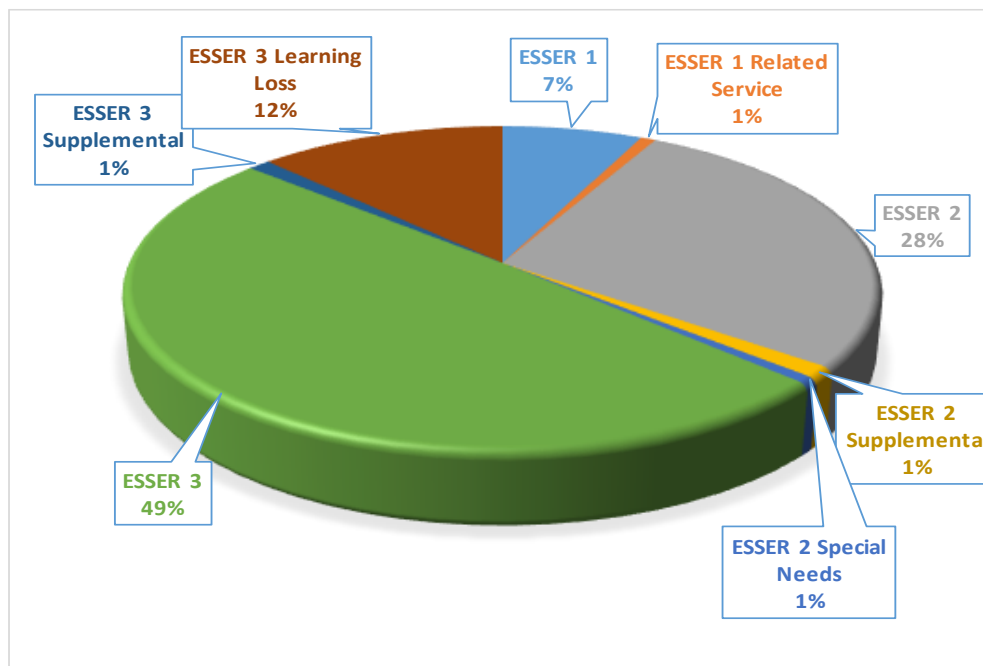
The Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER) was established as a part of the Education Stabilization Fund in the CARES Act. The Montana Office of Public Instruction was awarded money to pass along to local schools to address the impact of COVID-19.

Frenchtown School District identified priorities for utilizing these funds. Priority number one was addressing potential learning loss as a result of the pandemic. The second priority identified infrastructure needs, including facility improvements to provide a safe learning environment and technology needs for individualized learning. The third priority was addressing the social and emotional needs of our students, adding dedicated staff for student support services.

ESSER funds may only be used to prevent, prepare for, and respond to COVID-19. The pandemic identified schools across the nation need for good ventilation, healthy drinking water, internet connectivity, one-to-one student devices, mental health support, math and reading intervention and much more.

Frenchtown Allocations

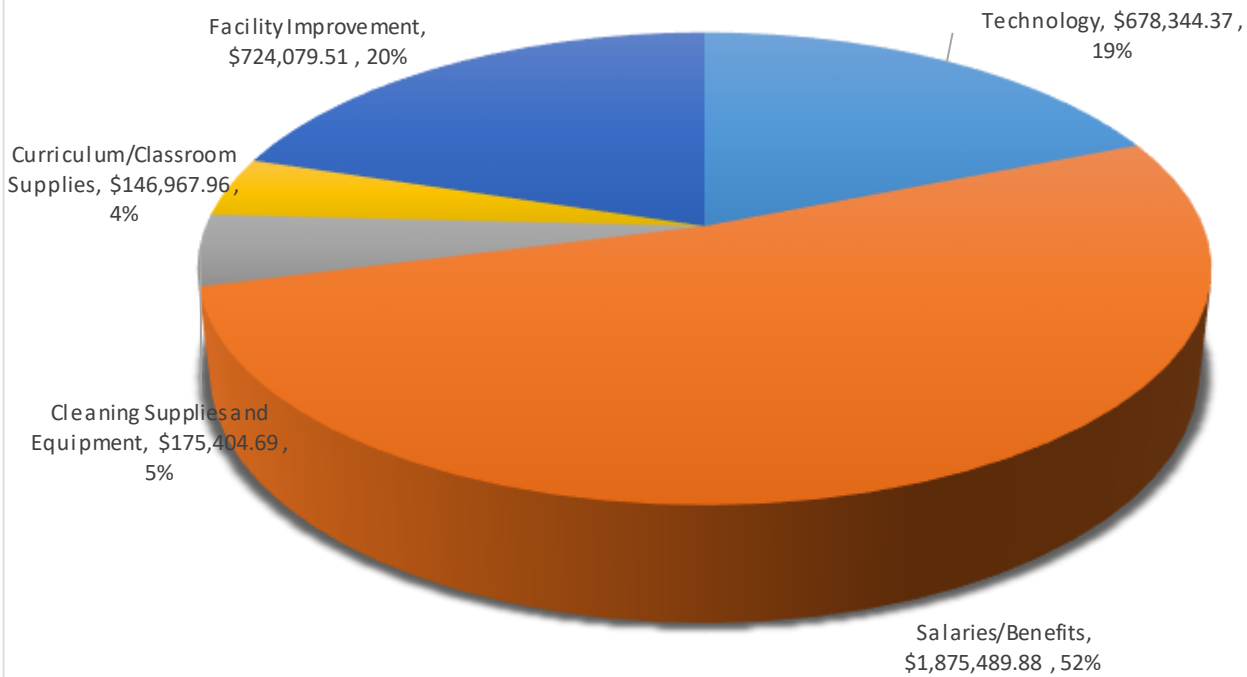
ESSER 1:	\$ 256,864
ESSER 1 Related Services:	\$ 27,109
ESSER 2:	\$1,010,230
ESSER 2 Supplemental:	\$ 40,116
ESSER 2 Special Needs:	\$ 22,378
ESSER 3:	\$1,815,890
ESSER 3 Supplemental:	\$ 40,116
ESSER 3 Learning Loss:	<u>\$ 453,973</u>
TOTAL Allocation:	\$3,666,676



FEDERAL PROGRAMS, CONT.

ESSER Funds

ESSER Expenditures by Category as of 6/30/2024



Category	Expenditures to Date	Description
Salaries/Benefits	\$1,875,489.88	Address learning loss and socio-emotional needs with additional staff such as Special Education Teachers, Intermediate Counselor, School Psychologist, Speech Therapist, Behavior/Intervention, Title Teachers, Jump Start Summer School and additional teacher preparation time
Facility Improvements	\$ 724,079.51	High School and Intermediate School roof repair, air filtration system repair, High School Commons flooring and tables
Technology	\$ 678,344.37	Chromebooks, Desktops, Promethean Boards, Meraki Switches
Cleaning Supplies and Equipment	\$ 175,404.69	Custodial cleaning and disinfecting supplies, air filters, floor cleaning equipment
Curriculum/Classroom Supplies	\$ 146,967.96	Student tables, desks and chairs, data management assessment system, instructional supplies

AUDIT MANAGEMENT DISCUSSION & ANALYSIS

From Audited Financial Statements Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2023

Frenchtown School District is audited annually per State law. Once complete, all audits are posted on the District website and are available from the Office of Public Instruction, Montana Department of Administration Local Government Services and the Federal Audit Clearinghouse. The Management Discussion and Analysis below is an introductory section prepared by the District for each audit.

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

June 30, 2023

This section of the School District No. 40's annual financial report presents the management discussion and analysis of the District's financial performance during the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023. It is intended to provide a clear and concise analysis of the activities, financial results, and financial position during the fiscal years, and is a required element of the reporting model established by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) in Statement Number 34. This management and discussion and analysis (MD&A) should be read in conjunction with the District's financial statements, which immediately follow this section.

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Key financial highlights for Frenchtown Public Schools are as follows:

Total net position is \$10,463,595

Total net position increased by \$1,090,384 or 11.63%

USING THESE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

This annual report consists of a series of financial statements and notes for those statements. These statements are organized so the reader can understand School District No. 40 as a complex financial entity. The Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities provide information about the activities of the whole district, presenting both an aggregate view of the District's finances and a longer-term view of those finances (they include capital assets and long-term liabilities).

Fund financial statements present a short-term view of the District's activities (they include only current assets expected to be collected in the very near future and liabilities expected to be paid in the very near future). There is also summarized financial information about the student activity trust fund for which the District acts as a trustee.

FUND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The District maintains individual government funds. These funds are considered major funds: General Fund, Miscellaneous Programs Fund, Debt Service Fund and Building Reserve Fund.

The General Fund shown in the financial statements is the combined General Fund, Flexibility Fund and on behalf payment. The fund financial statements provide detailed information about the most significant of the District's funds; the District is required to provide detailed information for its "major" funds.

The governmental funds provide a short-term view of the District's operations. They are reported using an accounting method called modified accrual accounting which measures amounts using only cash and other short-term assets and liabilities (receivables and payables) that will soon be converted to cash or will soon be paid with cash.

AUDIT MANAGEMENT DISCUSSION & ANALYSIS, CONT.

From Audited Financial Statements Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2023

OVERVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

This annual report consists of three parts – management discussion and analysis (this section), the basic financial statements, and required supplementary information. The basic financial statements include different kinds of statements that present both a view of the District as a whole, and individual fund statements that focus on various parts of the District’s operations in more detail. The financial statements also include notes that explain some of the information presented in the statements and provide more detailed data. The statements are followed by a section of required supplementary information that further explains and supports the financial statements.

REPORTING THE DISTRICT AS A WHOLE FINANCIAL ENTITY

One important question asked about the District’s finances is, “Is the District better or worse off as a result of each year’s activities”? The information found in the District-wide financial statements helps answer this question. These statements include all assets and liabilities using the accrual basis of accounting (and reports depreciation on capital assets), which is similar to the basis of accounting used by most private-sector companies. This basis of accounting takes into account all of the current year’s revenues and expenses regardless of when cash is received or disbursed.

The change in net position (the difference between total assets and deferred outflow of resources and total liabilities and deferred inflow of resources) is important because it tells the reader whether, for the District as a whole, the financial position of the District has improved or diminished each year. In addition, nonfinancial factors such as changes in enrollment, changes in the State’s funding of education costs, changes in the economy, changes in the District’s tax base, condition of school buildings and other facilities must be considered in making an assessment of the overall health of the District.

DISTRICT NET POSITION AS FOLLOWS:

	2023	2022	Change	%
Current Assets	\$ 5,979,176	\$ 6,106,490	\$ (127,314)	-2.08%
Non-Current Assets	20,926,572	20,989,535	(62,963)	-0.30%
Deferred Outflow of Resources	2,524,191	2,365,335	158,856	6.72%
Total Assets & Deferred Outflow	29,429,939	29,461,360	(31,421)	-0.11%
Total Liabilities & Deferred Inflow	18,966,344	20,088,149	(1,121,805)	-5.58%
Net Position	\$ 10,463,595	\$ 9,373,211	\$ 1,090,384	11.63%

AUDIT MANAGEMENT DISCUSSION & ANALYSIS, CONT.

From Audited Financial Statements Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2023

DISTRICT REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES AS FOLLOWS:

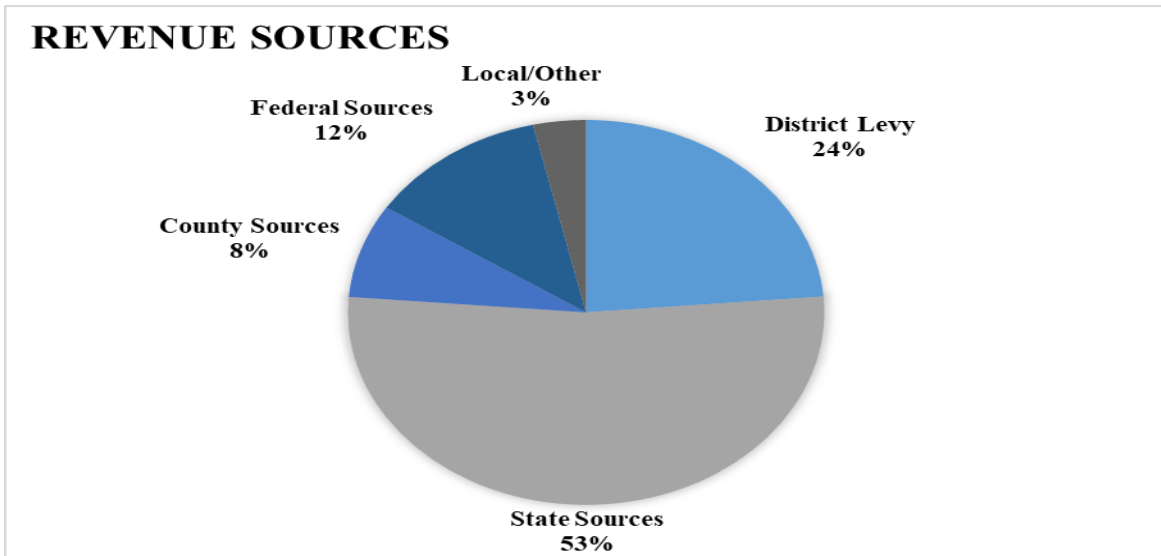
Revenues	2023	2022	Change	%
District Levy	4,524,346	4,502,153	22,193	0.49%
Direct State Aid	8,417,978	7,726,515	691,463	8.95%
Other State Sources	1,631,969	2,199,613	(567,644)	-25.81%
County Sources	1,505,841	1,444,248	61,593	4.26%
Federal Sources	2,339,856	3,607,843	(1,267,987)	-35.15%
User Fees - Program Revenue	61,217	45,626	15,591	34.17%
Interest	150,358	14,351	136,007	947.72%
Other	129,632	114,011	15,621	13.70%
Student Extracurricular	343,312	431,836	(88,524)	-20.50%
Total Revenues	19,104,509	20,086,196	(981,687)	-4.89%
Expenditures				
	2023	2022	Change	%
<i>Instruction</i>				
Regular Programs	7,284,978	7,644,919	(359,941)	-4.71%
Special Programs	1,723,749	1,873,054	(149,305)	-7.97%
Vocational Education	466,916	411,233	55,683	13.54%
Adult Education	5,578	4,462	1,116	25.01%
Educational Media	302,021	257,285	44,736	17.39%
Support Services - Students	608,547	650,233	(41,686)	-6.41%
<i>Administration</i>				
General Administration	209,790	212,315	(2,525)	-1.19%
Building Administration	878,675	861,066	17,609	2.05%
Business Administration	1,024,643	999,751	24,892	2.49%
Operation and Maintenance	2,105,906	2,064,152	41,754	2.02%
Student Transportation	532,183	465,624	66,559	14.29%
Food Services	627,370	811,259	(183,889)	-22.67%
Student Extracurricular	874,471	1,013,873	(139,402)	-13.75%
Capital Outlay	1,066,849	523,568	543,281	103.77%
<i>Debt Service</i>				
Principal	1,220,000	1,175,000	45,000	3.83%
Interest	170,400	218,713	(48,313)	-22.09%
Bond Agent Fees	400	350	50	14.29%
Special Assessments	-	1,325	(1,325)	-100.00%
Total Expenditures	19,102,476	19,188,182	(85,706)	-0.45%
Other Financing Sources - Insurance proceeds	213,178	-	213,178	
Other Financing Sources - Sale of Assets	6,256	12,186	(5,930)	-48.66%
Excess of Revenues over Expenditures	221,467	898,014	(676,547)	-75.34%

AUDIT MANAGEMENT DISCUSSION & ANALYSIS, CONT.

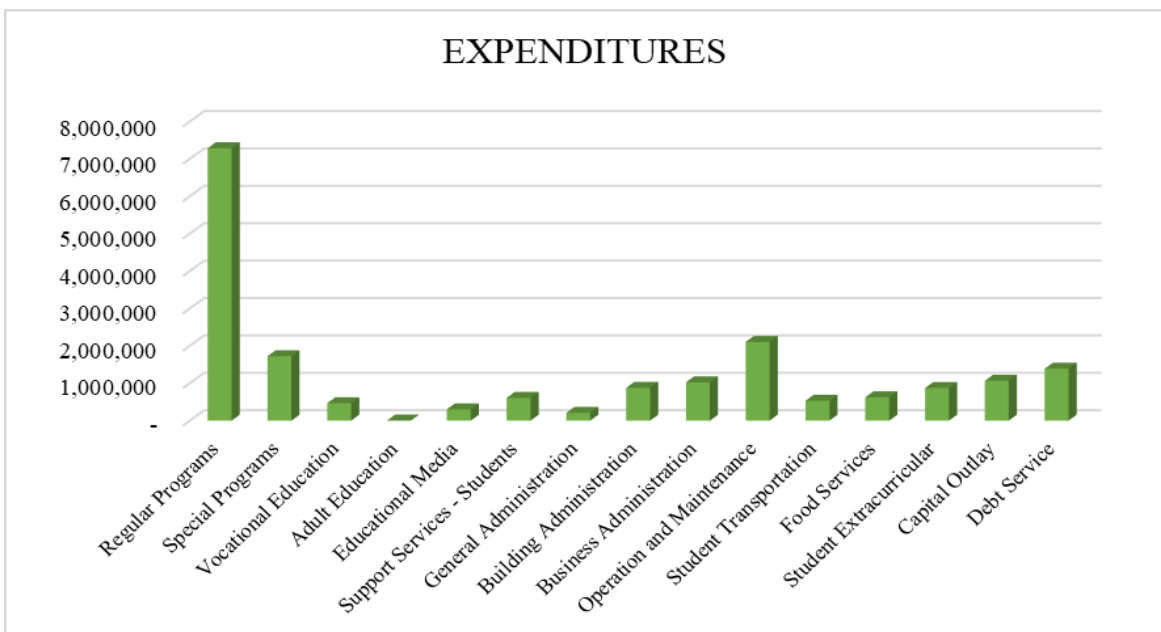
From Audited Financial Statements Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2023

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

The District levied \$4,486,422 in local property taxes and collected \$4,336,841 (96.7%) for the current tax year. In addition, prior year taxes were also received, bringing the total property tax revenue to 99.1% of levied taxes. This collection has allowed for sufficient operating reserves for the 2023 fiscal year end. State revenue increased by 3.63% primarily due to inflationary increases by the legislature.



Expenditures decreased in fiscal year 2023 by 0.45%, as expected with the District reducing staff due to the failure of the general fund operating levy. Capital outlay increased from prior year by 103.77%, with the District investing in safety and security upgrades to entry doors on the north campus, two replacement busses, and critical kitchen equipment replacement.

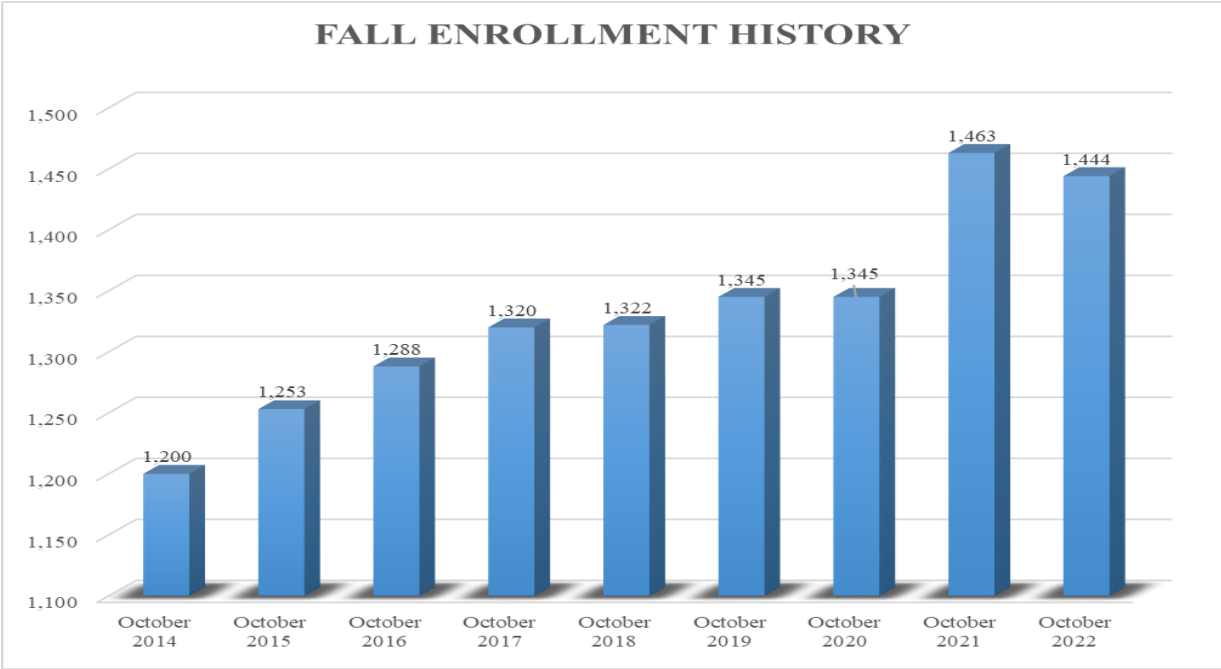


AUDIT MANAGEMENT DISCUSSION & ANALYSIS, CONT.

From Audited Financial Statements Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2023

THE FUTURE OF THE SCHOOL

Since the 2012-2013 school year, fall enrollment has shown an upward trend, stabilizing in 2022 with minor decreases. Despite the global pandemic causing enrollment declines in many districts across the state, the Frenchtown School District experienced a significant enrollment boost in fall 2021, greatly benefiting the general fund budget, which relies heavily on student count for state funding.



The major contributing factor to growth was increased housing starts in Frenchtown, as several new housing developments have completed and there continues to be an influx of people moving to the area from out of state. The District continued to allow enrollment of discretionary non-resident students who were in good standing at their previous school. Admitting non-resident students has been a financial benefit to both the school district and the district taxpayers. Admission of non-resident students created additional revenue for the district through increased enrollment while not increasing expenses.

Even with the new housing opportunities, the cost to own a home is problematic. The Frenchtown School District area does not have many opportunities for affordable housing or affordable rent. This is keeping the FTSD from growing too much too fast. In a way this is fortunate since the District relocated grade 6 to the North campus, transitioning the 7-8 junior high into a 6-8 middle school. The transition created additional space at the South campus for anticipated future growth. The North campus was able to house the additional students, but with bigger classes it became clear that more space was needed. The District secured two modular buildings, invested in bringing those buildings to code, and was able to alleviate the North campus crowding issues in the 2020-2021 school year.

With enrollment increases, the District also received an inflationary increase of 2.57% to the general fund as a statutory funding formula increase from the 2021 legislative session. In total, the general fund, the main operating fund for the District, saw a budget increase of \$714,238.92. However, due to increased costs for maintenance and facility repair, utilities, and costs associated with recruiting and retaining quality staff, the Frenchtown School Board voted at the regular Board meeting in March 2022 to ask the public to approve a levy for school operations. Frenchtown School District has not asked for additional school operational levies for 18 years. The levy was not successful, which impacted budgetary decisions for the 2022-2023 school year. The FTSD also asked for a mill levy for the 2023-2024 school year in the amount of \$513,551. It failed.

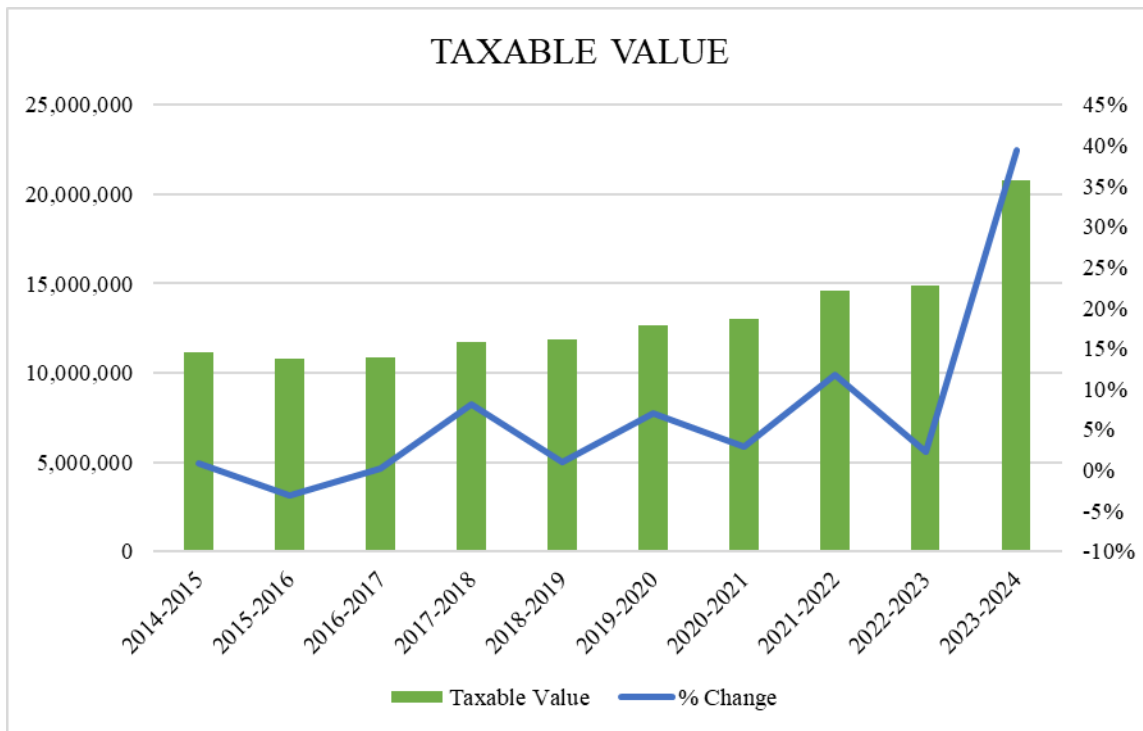
AUDIT MANAGEMENT DISCUSSION & ANALYSIS, CONT.

From Audited Financial Statements Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2023

Eleven years ago, the general fund was operating at 94.86% of the State’s mandated maximum for the Frenchtown School District. Currently, the District operates at 90.54% of the state’s mandated maximum. The FTSD general fund is growing closer to the State minimum budget allowed, and farther away from the maximum allowed budget set by the State. In addition, there is a growing concern regarding the condition of the buildings on the South campus. The District and community must address these concerns in the near future.

Each year in August, school boards across the state approve budgets for the fiscal year, which runs from July 1 to June 30. These budgets establish how much local taxpayers will pay to support the school district they live in. Taxing units are called mills, and unlike many other taxing jurisdictions across the state (county, city, and state schools), the Frenchtown School Board has reduced the number of mills they asked the taxpayers for in fiscal years every year since FY18. Fiscal year 2022 saw a reduction in mills from 354.69 to 306.12, a decrease of 48.57 mills, which equated to a 15.87% reduction. The Frenchtown School Board again drastically reduced the number of mills for the 2023-2024 school year by 82.67 mills, another 27.37% reduction.

Frenchtown has also seen a recent 39.34% increase in taxable valuation. Increases in taxable valuation does not provide additional funding for the District, but does impact local taxpayers as an increase in taxable value raises the value of a mill and thus decreases the number of mills necessary to fund the District budget. In other words, as our community grows, a larger tax base shares the tax burden.



Nonetheless, the District continues to be impacted by the former mill site. In February of 2019, Wakefield-Kennedy filed a complaint to foreclose on all 15 taxable parcels in Missoula County currently owned by M2Green. No taxes have been paid on these parcels since the 2017 settlement agreement and 45% of delinquent taxes owed by M2Green are due to the Frenchtown School District. Another issue for the site is its possible status as an EPA Superfund and the delays in determining this designation. Once this is resolved and site cleanup is complete, there remains hope for possible redevelopment.

AUDIT MANAGEMENT DISCUSSION & ANALYSIS, CONT.

From Audited Financial Statements Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2022

In addition, the pandemic seems to have created a housing shortage within the Frenchtown School District. Houses and subdivisions are being built at a rapid rate and yet they are sold and bought before they are even finished at prices that have outpriced previous market values significantly, thus increasing the tax values on homes in the area. More people allows for the tax burden to be shared, thus fewer mills are needed to fund the school district; however, there are fewer renters and prices for homes are at an all-time high and we are seeing more and more homeless students. This creates a burden on families and district personnel. The housing situation creates a problem with the recruitment and retention of highly qualified staff with both certified and classified groups. Many of our certified staff find housing more available and affordable in Missoula than they do in Frenchtown. Many of our classified staff have quit since they cannot afford to work in the school for the wages available.

Another impact on the general fund is the continued rise in health insurance premiums. High premiums and rising claim costs jeopardized the financial health of the District's self-insurance program and as a result, the District transitioned to a fully insured program beginning with fiscal year 2021. As stated earlier regarding recruitment and retention, the rising costs of health insurance impact staff, both certified and classified.

Since the end of fiscal year 2020, the unprecedented challenge of the global health pandemic COVID-19 continued through fiscal year 2023. Significant investment into technology improvements were necessary to address the needs of remote learners. Operations and maintenance expenses rose because of the sanitization requirements needed and continued with supply challenges. State funding remained intact, and the District provided both in person and remote learning to students, continued food services, and maintained overall business operations.

The impacts and challenges of the pandemic and the growth of the District continue to help and hinder the District. Additional funding due to COVID-19 provided much relief from a technology and infrastructure standpoint; however, the need for support staff continues to increase as quality applicants decrease. The District struggles to attract and retain a transportation department. As wages increase for support personnel in the areas of manual labor and in the food industry, the number of applicants for transportation, custodial/maintenance, food service, and paraprofessional decreases and threatens the viability of each program within the school district. The student population growth has provided some general fund relief, and coupled with inflationary increases through the legislature, has allowed the district to hire staff to meet the needs of students and accreditation standards; however, providing support staff and compensating said staff to a point of retaining will remain a challenge for the District.

CONTACTING THE DISTRICT'S FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

This financial report is designed to provide a general overview of the District's finances and to show the District's accountability for the money it receives. If you have questions about this report or need additional financial information, contact District Administration, Business Manager, School District No. 40, P.O. Box 117, Frenchtown, Montana 59834.

