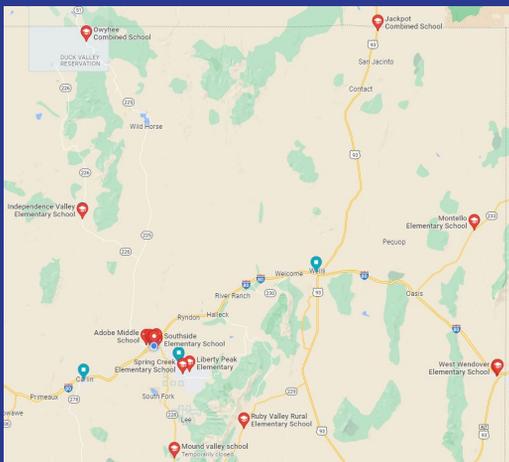# Elko County School District

22-23 Tentative Budget Forum

Learning For All

District Overview

- Elko County School District has 26 schools, including 4 rural schools, spread across approximately 17,169 square miles, making it the second largest geographical school district in the contiguous 48 states.

- Each year, the District serves between 9,500 and 10,000 students and employs approximately 1,200 people.

Base Funding Changes

Per Pupil Funding -

- FY22 per pupil base funding (PCFP) $9,279
- FY23 per pupil base funding (PCFP) $9,267

                               -$12 or -0.13%

  This means inflation, step increases or COLAS are not funded.

- The Pupil Centered Funding Plan was implemented to add $275m to Nevada school districts in FY23 alone (compared to FY20 funding levels) -
    - The highest increase is Clark County at an increase of $197.4m.
    - The largest decrease is Elko County with an estimated decrease in FY23 of about $622k (per NDE). In FY22, the decrease is expected to be $3.3m (estimated) due to the mandatory return of $4.1m in FY21 NPOM (net proceeds of mines tax) received in FY22.

Changes

Pupil-Center Funding Plan (est. FY22)

- Local source revenues such as ad valorem property tax, net proceeds of mines tax, Local Government tax and School Support tax now go through the State education fund.

- Local rates in addition to the $0.75 would stay local, the $0.75 set in FY23 is state mandated, so it goes to the state education fund.

- The way weighted funding works, if a student is in a weighted funding category (Special Ed, At Risk, Gifted and Talented and English Learner), they are not counted in the base funding.

- Categorical grants are now funded through the base funding (such as Class Size Reduction). This is the reason for the transfer from General Fund to State Funds.

Changes Continued

- Transportation funding used to be based on a rolling 4 year average. Now funding from the state is based on FY20, a year in which the District did not purchase buses. Therefore, future funding is based on this base year and bus purchases need to come from the adjusted base funding.

- The bus fleet is aging. We've received buses from other school districts when they are deemed too old and ran them a few more years. Replacement parts are getting expensive and hard to find.

Transportation Amount Detail

Northside needs a truck & plow	$42,000
Mountain View plow	$6,600
Owyhee truck	$35,000
Suburbans (Wells & Carlin)	$65,000 each, budgeted one
5 bus replacement rotation or	
4 busses and light fleet	$1,000,000 ($200k each x5)
	$1,148,600
	$1,150,000 rounded

These transportation costs really should be yearly. Out of 26 schools, we should be rotating between them. By the time we get through all the schools in the rotation, the first school would be due for an update.

The bus budget may need to be flexible depending on revenues and expenses for the year. A replacement schedule of 5 buses a year would result in a 16 year replacement cycle.

This amount will need to be flexible as revenues decrease and depending on needs elsewhere in the budget.

Tentative Budget - General Fund Expenditures by Object

Salaries & wages	$ 56,334,373	54%
Benefits	26,684,401	27%
Purchased services	6,636,039	6%
Supplies	11,682,390	11%
Property	1,605,000	2%
Misc & other	97,190	Less than 1%
Total	105,039,393	

81% of the budget is in salaries, wages and benefits, including health insurance premiums to the Health Insurance Fund.

3% of salaries, wages and benefits is central services.

Tentative Budget - Large Purchases and Information

- Estimated / budgeted increase in wages is not strictly the negotiated COLA increases since there are step increases as well.

- Math curriculum purchase - estimated $2,000,000

- ChromeBook and warranty costs to maintain 1-1 ratio, had been funded by grants to get us up to the ratio - $1,356,720

Ending Fund Balance - Summary

Maximum (NAC 354.660, NRS 354.107)	16.6% of budgeted expenditures
Board policy ideal (DBAB)	8.3%
Minimum (NAC 354.650, NRS 354.107, 360.090)	4%
April 12, 2022 Tentative Budget FY23	10.11%
Draft Final Tentative Budget FY23 ● Decrease due to $4.1m FY21 NPOM deducted from FY22 PCFP payments from state. ● Addition of $1,356,720 for maintenance of 1-1 ChromeBook ratio. ● Transfer to Other Special Funds for incentive grant donation match $250,000. ● Transfer for Federal Funds for E-Rate projects match of 30% (grants cover 70%) $300,000	5.03%

How Supplies Budget is Allocated to Schools

- Based on per student and teacher counts

- This allocated budget is for supplies and services, not for utilities or rentals of Xerox or postage machines.

- Each school receives a Part A and Part B budget.

  - Instructional and support services is part A

  - Facilities maintenance is part B

Capital Improvement

- Capital projects are not funded in the PCFP (nor was it funded under the prior Nevada Plan).

- Pay-As-You-Go tax rate ends June 30, 2022, with an estimated $14.7m remaining to carry forward to FY23.

- Pay-As-You-Go tax can not be used for maintenance, only new construction or major renovations or replacements.

Questions Received -

- How are playground improvements budgeted? Are there any funds allocated to playground updates in this budget?

    - Each school is allocated a maintenance budget, to be used as they deem necessary. Capital improvements are not funded through the per pupil state funding. Playgrounds have largely relied on grants and donations in the past. The building and sites fund can handle limited projects a year due to revenue stream limitations.

- What is the process for using public/private partnerships such as grants, fundraising, volunteering and PTA funds to improve the playground?

    - Private donations initiate with the donors contacting the district stating they would like to donate x dollars for a specified purpose. We then have a gifts and donations fund where we track the donation and related expenditures, to ensure it is used for the specified purpose. Fundraising can be done; each school has student activity funds where fundraisers can be tracked and accounted for. Volunteering and PTA would heavily rely on the school principal's coordination with the district and volunteers. The district has incentive grants where the district matches a donation amount (up to $3k in FY22, though this is expected to increase to $10k in FY23). These need to be run through the principal of the schools as they determine which projects are submit for the match, based on needs and priorities.

Questions Received -

- How many students were enrolled in ECSD in 1996-1997 school year?
  What was the number of staff employed at Central office in 1996-1997 school year? Then how many of those positions were admin level?
  What was the number of school site administration during school year 1996-1997?

  - Information from 1996 information is limited.

  - Per the FY1997 audit, weighted enrollment for the funding formula was 10,057 students.

  - Per the FY1997 audit, general fund site administration salaries and benefits were 7% of expenditures, including transfers out. This includes office of the principal support staff and secretaries.

- Now looking at school year 21-22 how many students are currently enrolled in ECSD?
  What is the number of staff employed at central office currently? Then how many of those positions are admin level?
  What is the current number of school site administration?

  - There are currently 9,968 students enrolled. Pre covid 2020 enrollment was 10,316.

  - For central work location, across various function codes, there are approximately 31 FTE (5 admin), including instructional and special services and support multiple sites or district wide functions.

  - Per the FY2021 audit, general fund site administration salaries and benefits were 7% of expenditures, including transfers out. This includes office of the principal support staff and secretaries.

  - Current levels estimate about 68 FTE managing 30 sites (31 secretaries and assistants and 37 admin)

Questions Received -

- What is the procedure for petitioning the Elko county commissioners for funding on behalf of work to be done at a school? Since the PAYG tax failed, I was told we have the option to request the money from them.

  - Assuming the work referred to is capital improvement, the $0.75 Pay-As-You-Go (PAYG) tax rate ends June 30, 2022. The $0.50 bond proposal failed on the special election ballot. The taxpayers have voted against taxpayer dollars going towards school improvements. Requesting tax funds from the County would override what the taxpayers voted down. Additionally, the state has stated that there is no precedent of a county funding school district projects and they are not even sure if it is legal.

  - The Pupil Centered Funding Plan does not fund capital improvements, however, it is intended to fund routine maintenance. The buildings and sites fund is available for smaller projects as the fund had $774,726 as of June 30, 2021 with annual revenues of approximately $100,000. This can be used for maintenance/repairs or improvements.

Questions Received -

- For those schools on a 4-day school week, have they realized any cost savings? In light of budgetary constraints, in addition to staff recruitment and retention challenges, will the Board of Trustees consider implementing a 4-day school schedule for the Elko AND Spring Creek schools?
    - No, 4-day schools do not realize savings in payroll as they have the same number of contract hours as 5-day schools, just longer days.
    - The CFO does not have the authority to comment on what the board will consider.

- Has the ECSD Board of Trustees been presented with anything that would suggest that there would, or would not be, cost-savings or other efficiencies associated with moving Elko and Spring Creek schools to a 4-day school week / alternate schedule?
    - No, nothing related to the cost of 4-day school weeks for Elko or Spring Creek has been presented to Board of Trustees.

Questions?