

2025-2026 Pottstown School District Second Look Budget



Maureen K. Oakley, Business Administrator

2025 - 2026 BUDGET TIMELINE

9/30/2024	ACT 1 Base Index 4% & Pottstown Adjusted Index 5.8% Released by PDE
11/14/2024	Finance Committee Meeting- Opt out Resolution discussion
11/21/2024	Board Action- Opt out Resolution
02/13/2025	Finance Committee First Look Budget Presentation
3/13/2025	Finance Committee Preliminary Budget Review
4/17/2025	Preliminary Budget Adoption
5/15/2025	Final Budget Adoption- including HF Resolution & 2024-2025 READY-TO-LEARN BLOCK GRANT TAX EQUITY SUPPLEMENT
6/30/2025	School District Deadline to Adopt 2024/2025 Budget
7/15/2025	Deadline to File PDE 2028 (or 15 days within Final Budget Adoption)

Historical ACT 1 Index & Millage

<u>Year</u>	<u>BASE</u>	<u>ADJUSTED</u>	<u>Millage</u>
2025-2026	4.0%	5.8%	
2024-2025	5.3%	7.9%	41.96
2023-2024	4.1%	6.0%	41.96
2022-2023	3.4%	5.0%	41.96
2021-2022	3%	4.4%	41.96

***PSD raised taxes to half (50%) of the allowable rate as indicated by the index for the 2012-13 school year while there was no tax increase in the 2015-16, 2016-17 and 2017-18 school years. The district raised taxes to the adjusted index 3.5% for a millage rate of 40.62 in 2018-2019 and raised taxes to the adjusted index 3.3% for a millage rate of 41.96 in 2019-2020. The District did not raise taxes in 2020-21, 2021-22, 2022-23, 2023-24, or 2024-25 the millage rate remains at 41.96.

In the Past 10 years the school district raised taxes **2 times** (18/19 & 19/20) the year the Hospital came off the tax role and the following year.

Tax Base

*2015 Certified Tax Duplicate \$810,196,679

2020 Certified Tax Duplicate \$761,992,039

2021 Certified Tax Duplicate \$761,470,629

2022 Certified Tax Duplicate \$762,090,941

2023 Certified Tax Duplicate \$ 761,331,952

2024 Certified Tax Duplicate \$ 758,342,862

2025 Certified Tax Duplicate \$ 760,445,232

Act 1

<u>Index</u>	<u>Millage+ / -</u>	<u>New Millage</u>	<u>Addl Revenue</u>
0.5	0.21	42.17	\$ 132,413
1	0.42	42.38	\$ 285,247
1.75	0.73	42.69	\$ 514,499
2	0.84	42.80	\$ 590,916
2.5	1.05	43.01	\$ 743,750
3	1.26	43.22	\$ 896,584
3.5	1.47	43.43	\$ 1,049,419
4	1.68	43.64	\$ 1,202,253
4.5	1.89	43.85	\$ 1,355,087
4.75	1.99	43.95	\$ 1,431,504
5	2.10	44.06	\$ 1,507,922
5.25	2.20	44.16	\$ 1,584,339
5.8	2.43	44.39	\$ 1,752,456

ACT 1 Tax Increase per Homestead at adjusted index 5.8%

Average Assessed Value Residential Property	\$78,995
CURRENT Millage Rate 41.96 Tax Per Residential Property	\$3,314
NEW: Millage 44.39 Rate Tax Per Residential Property	\$3,506
Increased Homestead (Estimated 24-25) + 25%	\$670* 1.25% = \$837
Net Annual Tax Per Household Increase 5.8%	\$192
Increased Homestead (Estimated 24-25) + 25% (month)	\$167.50
Net Annual Increase with Homestead Rebate	\$24.50
Net Monthly Increase with Homestead Rebate	\$2.04

Homestead Farmstead Rebate

	<u>2022-2023</u>	<u>2023-2024</u>	<u>2024-2025</u>
Allocation	\$2,040,708	\$2,047,500	\$2,456,885
Homesteads	3,715	3,645	3,664
HF Reduction	\$549	\$561	\$670.55
Reduction in Assessed Value	\$13,091	\$13,388	\$15,980

8,425 Total Parcels
7,601 Residential
830 (Commercial, Industrial, Apartment)
343 (Utility & Exempt)
Median 2024 Value 78,995

2025-2026 Budget 1st Look

Assumptions

- **State Revenues @ 50% of Governor's Proposal**
- **PA Property Tax Rebate Program \$0**
- **Healthcare & Insurance 4% Increases**
- **Charter & Special Ed Tuition Increases based on actuals**
- **Federal Funding Flat**
- **No Change to Staffing / Programming**

2025-2026 Budget

HOW DID WE GET \$9M

Deficit??

100's	Salaries	\$3.5M
200's	Benefits	\$2.1M
300's	Services	\$2M
510's	Transportation	\$1.1M
560's	Tuition	\$2.7M

2025-2026 Budget

Tuition (560's)

	<u>20/21</u>	<u>21/22</u>	<u>22/23</u>	<u>23/24</u>	<u>24/25</u> <u>YTD</u>	<u>25/26.</u> <u>Budget</u>
1100 Reg Ed	\$1,825,099	\$2,171,176	\$2,469,782	\$2,650,776	\$3,100,000	\$3,410,000
1200 Spl Ed	\$3,746,140	\$3,625,042	\$4,824,864	\$5,572,541	\$6,500,000	\$7,150,000
1400 Alt Ed	\$139,714	\$128,456	\$199,330	\$345,804	\$375,000	\$412,500
TOTAL	\$5,710,954	\$5,924,675	\$7,493,977	\$8,569,122	\$9,975,000	\$10,972,500

*****2023-2024 Actual to 2025-2026 Budget \$2,403,000 increase in 2 years**

Special Education

Function 1200 Costs

	<u>20/21</u>	<u>21/22</u>	<u>22/23</u>	<u>23/24</u>	<u>24/25</u> <u>YTD</u>	<u>25/26.</u> <u>Budget</u>
100	4,104,468	4,517,245	4,977,892	5,668,956	5,665,298	6,444,192
200	3,164,559	3,134,299	3,294,181	3,666,246	3,675,818	4,216,063
300	2,008,599	1,740,215	2,629,860	3,518,640	4,089,261	4,410,000
500	3,753,899	3,635,471	4,892,166	5,606,181	6,786,133	7,202,500
600	451,350	898,150	571,675	388,043	402,937	440,000
TOTAL	13,482,874	13,925,462	16,367,184	18,850,780	20,619,967	22,712,755

2025-2026 Budget

Charter School Data

	2024-2025	2023-2024	2022-2023	2021 - 2022	2020 - 2021	2019-2020
July	224	176	182	22	74	169
August	299	287	175	96	77	171
September	300	295	274	210	193	170
October	302	299	276	222	222	192
November	307	303	277	220	207	191
December	316	302	270	227	202	193
January	313	310	273	232	220	189
February		308	274	238	214	178
March		313	279	238	227	190
April		314	282	251	218	188
May		314	288	252	214	168
June		299	288	244	140	167
AVERAGE	306	304	269	221	194	182

Charter Rates 2024-2025	
Regular Ed	\$11,865.83
B&M Spl Ed	\$34,538.40
Spl Ed	\$27,199.59

Transportation

Historical & Projected

	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26 Budget
Total	1,419,861	2,252,580	2,677,842	3,628,062	3,914,972	4,092,500
MCIU	476,848	257,899	156,124	801,854	963,962	1,007,340
CMD	924,662	1,968,456	2,405,582	2,610,848	2,784,156	2,909,443
Other (misc)	18,351	26,225	116,135	215,361	166,854	174,362

Transportation Costs

MCIU School Age

Pottstown School Age Special Ed 2024-2025 School year					
SchoolName	Student Type	VehicleDays	AverageDailyCost	OneToOneAideCost	TotalCost
Perkiomen Valley High School	School Age	178	\$ 256.99	0	\$ 45,744.22
Arcola Intermediate School	School Age	178	\$ 620.75	\$ 14,065.92	\$ 110,493.50
Woods Services	School Age	188	\$ 760.32	0	\$ 142,940.16
MCIU Transition @ The Discovery Center	School Age	181	\$ 216.00	0	\$ 39,096.00
Lindamood-Bell	School Age	147	\$ 345.60	0	\$ 50,803.20
MCIU Transition @ The Discovery Center	School Age	181	\$ 216.00	0	\$ 39,096.00
Pa. School for the Deaf	School Age	178	\$ 399.72	0	\$ 71,150.40
Perkiomen Valley High School	School Age	178	\$ 256.99	0	\$ 45,744.22
				Total (Estimate)	\$545,067.70

Transportation Costs

MCIU Early Intervention- School Year

Pottstown Early Intervention 2024-2025 School year					
SchoolName	Student Type	VehicleDays	AverageDailyCost	OneToOneAideCost	TotalCost
MCIU Early Intervention @ ELA	Early Intervention	67	\$ 118.60	\$ -	\$ 7,945.92
Easter Seals School - Kulpsville	Early Intervention	174	\$ 237.64	\$ -	\$ 41,349.74
West Pottsgrove Elementary School	Early Intervention	117	\$ 72.65	\$ -	\$ 8,500.44
West Pottsgrove Elementary School	Early Intervention	90	\$ 143.10	\$ -	\$ 12,879.00
MCIU Early Intervention @ ELA	Early Intervention	77	\$ 107.83	\$ -	\$ 8,303.04
MCIU Early Intervention @ ELA	Early Intervention	90	\$ 302.40	\$ -	\$ 27,216.00
MCIU Early Intervention @ The Discovery Center	Early Intervention	104	\$ 157.47	\$ -	\$ 16,376.44
West Pottsgrove Elementary School	Early Intervention	121	\$ 73.47	\$ -	\$ 8,890.20
West Pottsgrove Elementary School	Early Intervention	120	\$ 85.87	\$ -	\$ 10,304.50
West Pottsgrove Elementary School	Early Intervention	113	\$ 71.85	\$ -	\$ 8,118.86
West Pottsgrove Elementary School	Early Intervention	4	\$ 133.30	\$ -	\$ 533.21
MCIU Early Intervention @ ELA	Early Intervention	86	\$ 214.96	\$ -	\$ 18,486.56
Souderton Mennonite Church	Early Intervention	110	\$ 118.69	\$ -	\$ 13,055.85
West Pottsgrove Elementary School	Early Intervention	121	\$ 86.20	\$ -	\$ 10,429.93
MCIU Early Intervention @ The Discovery Center	Early Intervention	121	\$ 167.06	\$ -	\$ 20,213.96
MCIU Early Intervention @ ELA	Early Intervention	22	\$ 89.28	\$ -	\$ 1,964.16
Davidson Elwyn	Early Intervention	174	\$ 489.05	\$ 31,570.56	\$ 85,095.36
West Pottsgrove Elementary School	Early Intervention	4	\$ 297.22	\$ -	\$ 1,188.86
West Pottsgrove Elementary School	Early Intervention	100	\$ 77.22	\$ -	\$ 7,722.35
West Pottsgrove Elementary School	Early Intervention	37	\$ 216.58	\$ -	\$ 8,013.60
West Pottsgrove Elementary School	Early Intervention	72	\$ 143.10	\$ -	\$ 10,303.20
Vantage Academy - Upper Merion	Early Intervention	20	\$ 345.60	\$ -	\$ 6,912.00
Souderton Mennonite Church	Early Intervention	122	\$ 119.85	\$ -	\$ 14,622.14
MCIU Early Intervention @ ELA	Early Intervention	116	\$ 91.07	\$ -	\$ 10,564.11
MCIU Early Intervention @ ELA	Early Intervention	121	\$ 117.32	\$ -	\$ 14,195.52
West Pottsgrove Elementary School	Early Intervention	100	\$ 68.99	\$ -	\$ 6,899.14
West Pottsgrove Elementary School	Early Intervention	84	\$ 209.35	\$ 3,324.24	\$ 17,585.18
Souderton Mennonite Church	Early Intervention	12	\$ 509.04	\$ 2,177.28	\$ 6,108.48
West Pottsgrove Elementary School	Early Intervention	90	\$ 72.95	\$ -	\$ 6,565.46
MCIU Early Intervention @ ELA	Early Intervention	118	\$ 96.35	\$ -	\$ 11,368.99
				Total (Estimate)	\$ 421,712.19

Current & Projected Transportation Costs MCIU Early Intervention ESY

Early Intervention 2024 Summer					
SchoolName	Student Type	VehicleDays	AverageDailyCost	OneToOneAideCost	TotalCost
Audubon YMCA	Early Intervention	18	\$ 66.96	\$ -	\$ 1,205.28
Easter Seals School - Kulpville	Early Intervention	22	\$ 201.69	\$ -	\$ 4,437.18
Ringing Rocks Elementary School	Early Intervention	1	\$ 216.00	\$ -	\$ 216.00
Ringing Rocks Elementary School	Early Intervention	18	\$ 420.00	\$ -	\$ 7,560.00
MCIU Early Intervention @ ELA	Early Intervention	1	\$ 95.40	\$ -	\$ 95.40
Audubon YMCA	Early Intervention	22	\$ 79.90	\$ -	\$ 1,757.90
Ringing Rocks Elementary School	Early Intervention	18	\$ 100.80	\$ -	\$ 1,814.40
Ringing Rocks Elementary School	Early Intervention	18	\$ 104.09	\$ -	\$ 1,873.69
Ringing Rocks Elementary School	Early Intervention	18	\$ 100.80	\$ -	\$ 1,814.40
Ringing Rocks Elementary School	Early Intervention	18	\$ 78.07	\$ -	\$ 1,405.27
Audubon YMCA	Early Intervention	18	\$ 88.04	\$ -	\$ 1,584.72
Ringing Rocks Elementary School	Early Intervention	18	\$ 78.07	\$ -	\$ 1,405.27
Audubon YMCA	Early Intervention	1	\$ 66.96	\$ -	\$ 66.96
Ringing Rocks Elementary School	Early Intervention	18	\$ 78.07	\$ -	\$ 1,405.27
Dock Mennonite Academy EC-8	Early Intervention	9	\$ 302.40	\$ -	\$ 2,721.60
Audubon YMCA	Early Intervention	18	\$ 66.96	\$ -	\$ 1,205.28
Ringing Rocks Elementary School	Early Intervention	18	\$ 104.09	\$ -	\$ 1,873.69
Audubon YMCA	Early Intervention	18	\$ 66.96	\$ -	\$ 1,205.28
Audubon YMCA	Early Intervention	3	\$ 79.54	\$ -	\$ 238.63
Ringing Rocks Elementary School	Early Intervention	18	\$ 100.80	\$ -	\$ 1,814.40
Audubon YMCA	Early Intervention	18	\$ 66.96	\$ -	\$ 1,205.28
MCIU Early Intervention @ ELA	Early Intervention	18	\$ 275.60	\$ -	\$ 4,960.80
Ringing Rocks Elementary School	Early Intervention	18	\$ 104.09	\$ -	\$ 1,873.69
Audubon YMCA	Early Intervention	4	\$ 122.76	\$ -	\$ 491.04
Audubon YMCA	Early Intervention	4	\$ 198.72	\$ -	\$ 794.88
Ringing Rocks Elementary School	Early Intervention	18	\$ 78.07	\$ -	\$ 1,405.27
Audubon YMCA	Early Intervention	22	\$ 79.90	\$ -	\$ 1,757.90
MCIU Early Intervention @ ELA	Early Intervention	1	\$ 95.40	\$ -	\$ 95.40
				Total (Estimate)	\$ 48,284.87

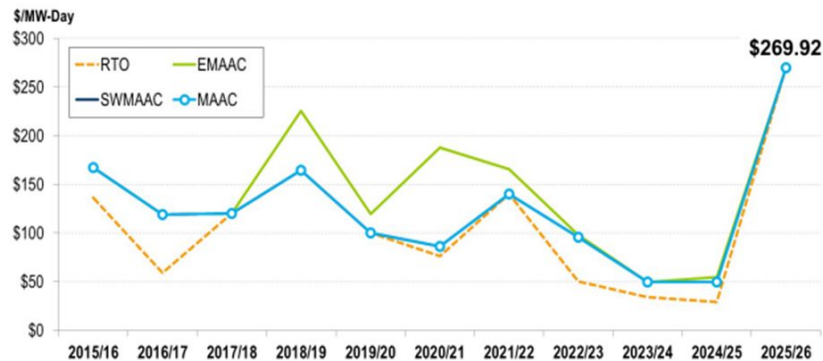
Post Covid Programming & Expenses \$4,188,771

\$167,762.00	MS Asst. Princ	
\$155,782.00	MS Asst. Princ	
\$170,867.00	Spl Ed Superv.	
\$167,291.00	Spl Ed Superv.	
\$150,360.00	Spl Ed Compliance	
\$46,371.00	Spl. Ed Admin Asst contracted	
\$54,330.00	BSLS 2 Staff	
\$83,000.00	BSLS 2 Contracted	
\$75,301.00	Elem Counsler	
\$74,199.00	Elem Counsler	
\$89,039.00	Elem Counsler	
\$117,224.00	Elem Counsler	
\$76,545.00	Elem Counsler	
\$93,379.00	MS Counsler	
\$80,000.00	Title 1 funded MTSS	
\$80,000.00	Title 1 funded MTSS	
\$87,000.00	Spl Ed Social Worker	
\$86,918.00	Spl Ed Social Worker	
\$149,760.00	MS Security Contracted	
\$149,760.00	HS Security Contracted	
\$97,362.00	Edgewood Social Worker	
\$100,000.00	Edgewood Creative Art	

\$3,160.00	Dept Chair Nurse	
\$3,160.00	Dept Chair Guidance	
\$109,617.00	HS Guidance	
\$33,144.00	Spl Ed RBT	
\$33,732.00	Spl Ed RBT	
\$31,351.50	PT to FT Co Curricular Admin	
\$125,598.00	ELA HS Teach	
\$136,028.00	Title 1 funded Math Support	
\$97,953.00	HS Visitor	
\$110,807.00	Residency Coord	
\$166,803.00	MTSS Superv	
\$137,745.00	MTSS Coach	
\$107,567.00	MTSS Coach	
\$98,049.00	MTSS Coach	
\$87,687.00	MTSS Coach	
\$136,008.00	MTSS Coach	
\$101,180.00	MTSS Coach	
\$129,289.00	MTSS Coach	
\$139,956.00	MTSS Coach	
\$13,879.00	Volleyball	
\$22,696.00	Girls Wrestling	
\$11,112.00	Bowling	

Pottstown Footprint & Building Utilities

	Electric		Natural Gas		TOTAL	
School Year	kWh	Total \$	DTH	Total \$		
2020-21 SY	3,561,723	\$355,671	23,985	\$175,085	\$530,756	
2021-22 SY	4,462,505	\$406,272	28,980	\$212,669	\$618,941	16.61%
2022-23 SY	4,466,591	\$413,862	18,006	\$181,373	\$595,235	-3.83%
2023-24 SY	4,566,542	\$506,062	10,452	\$108,036	\$614,098	3.17%
2024-25 SY	4,485,985	\$562,014	12,949	\$137,516	\$699,530	13.91%
20245-26 SY	4,485,985	\$710,215	12,949	\$136,514	\$846,729	21.04%



The increase for SY25-26 is driven largely by increased PJM Grid capacity costs related to reliability. These unavoidable costs are a result of the annual PJM reliability auction which spiked for the 2025-26 year (See below graph). The auction seeks to incentivize electric generators to help maintain the Grid's ability to meet the most extreme times of system stress.

The [PJM Capacity](#) costs are passed through, along with Transmission, and are not contracted in your agreement. As these auction results are considered a "Change in Law" the impact is passed on to all agreements even those "Fully-fixed" agreements where Capacity and Transmission costs are included. ***There is no way to avoid these charges. These increased Capacity costs will even show up in the utility company's "Price to Compare" for those who choose not to utilize a supplier.***

Source = Provident Energy 3.7.25

Proposed State Revenue from Governor's Proposal BEF (Basic Ed. Subsidy)

Budget = \$20,549,721

<i>25/26 Base</i>	<i>\$20,018,806</i>
<i>25/26 Proposed BEF (Feb 2025)</i>	<i>\$21,081,638</i>
<i>25/26 Budgeted BEF</i>	<i>\$20,549,721</i>
<i>23/24 Actual</i>	<i>\$19,577,500</i>
<i>24/25 Projected</i>	<i>\$20,810,644</i>

Proposed State Revenue from Governor's Proposal SEF (Special Ed. Subsidy)

Budget \$3,632,1080

	<u>2017-18</u>	<u>2018-19</u>	<u>2019-20</u>	<u>2020-21</u>	<u>2021-22</u>	<u>2022-23</u>	<u>2023-24</u>
SEF Subsidy	2,178,878	2,232,034	2,437,714	2,437,564	2,663,200	3,024,777	3,210,321
Spl. Ed Expend	12,677,319	13,729,409	13,850,055	13,482,875	13,925,463	16,367,184	18,850,781

Proposed State Revenue from Governor's Proposal R2L (Ready To Learn)

Budget = \$5,969,990

<i>25/26 R2L Foundation</i>	\$4,999,655
<i>25/26 Proposed Adequacy</i>	\$892,056
<i>25/26 Proposed Tax Equity</i>	\$1,048,614
<i>25/26 TOTAL R2L Proposed</i>	\$6,940,327
<i>24/25 R2L Foundation</i>	\$3,059,007
<i>24/25 Proposed Adequacy</i>	\$891,826
<i>24/25 Proposed Tax Equity</i>	\$1,048,614
<i>24/25 TOTAL R2L</i>	\$4,999,448

1st Look

February 13, 2025

REVENUES	\$87,247,889
EXPENDITURES	\$96,435,736
BUDGET SHORTFALL	(\$9,187,847)
USE OF FUND BALANCE	?

2nd Look

March 13, 2025

REVENUES	\$87,345,783
EXPENDITURES	\$93,470,035
BUDGET SHORTFALL	\$6,124,252
USE OF FUND BALANCE	?

2nd Look

Assumptions

- **PKC Pass through Amounts Updated**
- **Transportation Subsidy Updated**
- **Workers Comp Contribution Updated**
- **Administrative Recommendations aiming to reduce impact on programs**

PA Property Tax / Rent Rebate Program

- The Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program supports homeowners and renters across Pennsylvania. This program provides a rebate ranging from \$380 to \$1,000 to eligible older adults and people with disabilities age 18 and older.

Income	Maximum Rebate
\$0 - \$8,000	\$1,000
\$8,001 - \$15,000	\$770
\$15,001 - \$18,000	\$460
\$18,001 - \$45,000	\$380

- **Age Criteria**

- 65 and older
- Widows and widowers 50 and older
- People with disabilities 18 and older

- **Income Criteria**

- In addition to age requirements, to qualify for the Property Tax/Rent Rebate, your household income must be \$45,000 or less annually.

PA Property Tax / Rent Rebate Program

Income	
\$0 - \$8,000	\$750
\$8,001 - \$15,000	\$578
\$15,001 - \$18,000	\$345
\$18,001 - \$35,000	\$285
\$35,001 - \$45,000	\$285

- 2024 Program increased maximum from \$650 to \$1,000
- Pottstown Rebate Amount \$285-\$750
- 2024 Income Requirement Raised from \$35k to \$45k
- Claimant Data based off \$35k income threshold
- Pottstown median Household Income (2022) \$57,647

PA Property Tax / Rent Rebate Program

Income	number	NEW Maximum Rebate	Amount	Supplements	Supplements	at 50%	at 60%	at 75%	Plus Supplements	
\$0 - \$8,000	376	\$1,000	\$376,000	40	\$12,836	\$188,000	\$225,600	\$282,000	\$ 9,627	
\$8,001 - \$15,000	257	\$770	\$197,890	109	\$27,250	\$98,945	\$118,734	\$148,418	\$ 20,438	
\$15,001 - \$18,000	42	\$460	\$19,320	33	\$4,950	\$9,660	\$11,592	\$14,490	\$ 3,713	
\$18,001 - \$35,000	234	\$380	\$88,920	92	\$11,500	\$44,460	\$53,352	\$66,690	\$ 8,625	
\$35,001 - \$45,000	unknown	\$380	\$114,000	150	\$57,000	\$57,000	\$68,400	\$85,500	\$ 42,750	
	909		\$ 796,130		\$ 113,536	\$398,065	\$477,678	\$597,098	\$ 85,152	
									\$ 682,250	
**unknown estimated at 300										

Pottstown Property Tax / Rent Rebate Program

How are we doing?

<u>Number of Applicants</u>	<u>Total \$\$ Rebated</u>	<u>Homeowners</u>	<u>Renters</u>
190	\$87,609	134	56

- State Report had 909 Eligible Participants
- 3 ineligible address (Pottsgrove or OJR)
- 3 Rebates at 100% so \$0 rebate amount

Fund Balance

	<u>2020-2021</u>	<u>2021-2022</u>	<u>2022-2023</u>	<u>2023-2024</u>
Unassigned	5,280,749	5,957,395	6,394,253	6,785,182
Committed PSERS	3,799,409	3,799,409	3,799,409	3,119,774
Assigned Capital	7,535,435	7,535,435	9,535,435	9,535,435
Assigned Next Year Budget	1,425,451	740,132	679,635	37,636
Assigned Tuition & Transp.	2,102,329	5,029,873	5,029,873	5,105,130
Capital Projects	2,192,117	2,194,488	2,274,297	2,427,149
TOTAL (excludes Non Spend, Restricted & Non Major)	22,335,490	25,256,732	27,712,902	27,800,719