

Investing in Our Future:

Fayette County Public Schools' Budget & Spending

Interim Joint Committee on Education September 16, 2025

How did we get here?

Summer 2021

Fayette County Board of Education commissions independent review of district operations.

21-22 school year

Staffing shortages: bus drivers & food service staff. Board approves reorganization in district office. Strategic plan development. Study of classified hourly salaries.

Budget Season '22

New budget process to increase board input. Priorities include: implement classified salary study, minimum hourly pay of \$15.55.

May 2022

Board adopts "New Way Forward" strategic plan, based on 132 community meetings, 90 input sessions, and 17,071 survey responses.

22-23 school year

New: Grow Your Own, preschool expansion, employee wellness, innovative programs showcase, free dual credit at BCTC. Third facility nickel. Studies of HR, technology, and certified pay.

Academic Data '22

ES: 48% R; 43% M MS: 47% R; 40% M HS: 46% R; 40% M Grad Rate: 88.4% CSI: 2; TSI: 33; ATSI: 1

Budget Season '23

Board priorities: implement certified salary schedule, fine arts, AC on school buses, continued expansion of preschool & STEM programs, more teachers, nurses.

23-24 School Year

Full-time nurses, additional professional learning days for all staff, districtwide professional learning activities, ESSER funding ends in October.

Budget Season '24

Board priorities: Advancement
Via Individual Determination
(AVID), fine arts, \$250 allowance
for classroom expenses, 7
weeks parental leave

24-25 School Year

Only district in KY fully staffed.

National study finds students in

FCPS are recouping pandemic
learning losses faster than the

rest of the country.

Academic Data '24

ES: 52% R; 47% M MS: 50% R; 43% M HS: 50% R; 38% M Grad Rate: 92.8% CSI: 0; TSI: 12

Budget Season 2025

Late Fall 2024

During draft budget
development, staff reports
current year is balanced, but
recommend departments be
asked to identify 10%
reductions to be in better
position for 2025–26 budget

May 2025

- 1. Staff reports \$16 million difference between revenue and proposed investments, even after district cuts.
- 2. Staff suggests OLT rate increase despite timing.

August 2025

During year-end closing staff determines beginning fund balance will be less than projected in Tentative Budget. Investigation launched

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Current

Balanced budget
developed without tax
rate increase by making
additional district cuts.
Investigation continues.

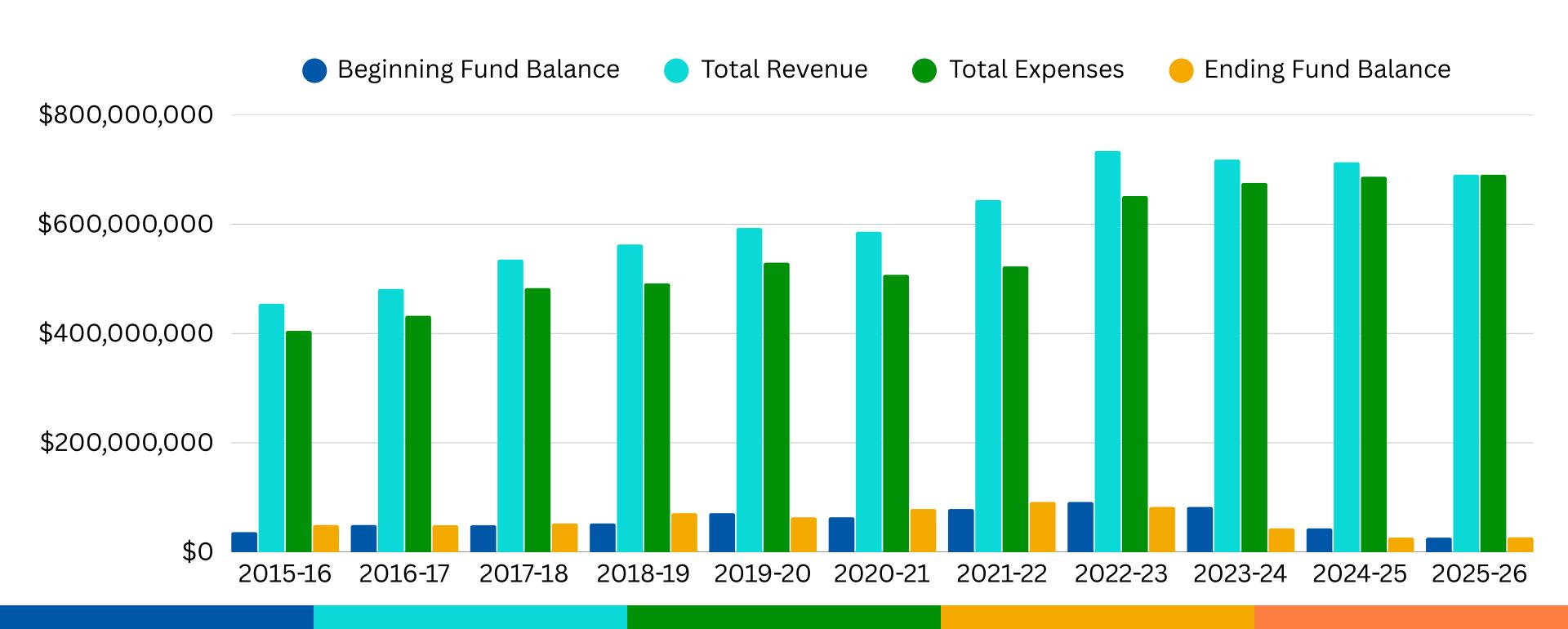
Spring 2025

Budget development process. Board priorities:
AVID, 1% raise, Dual Credit investments, no meal price increase. District cuts made:
\$8.9 million (including \$1.1 million in staff costs)

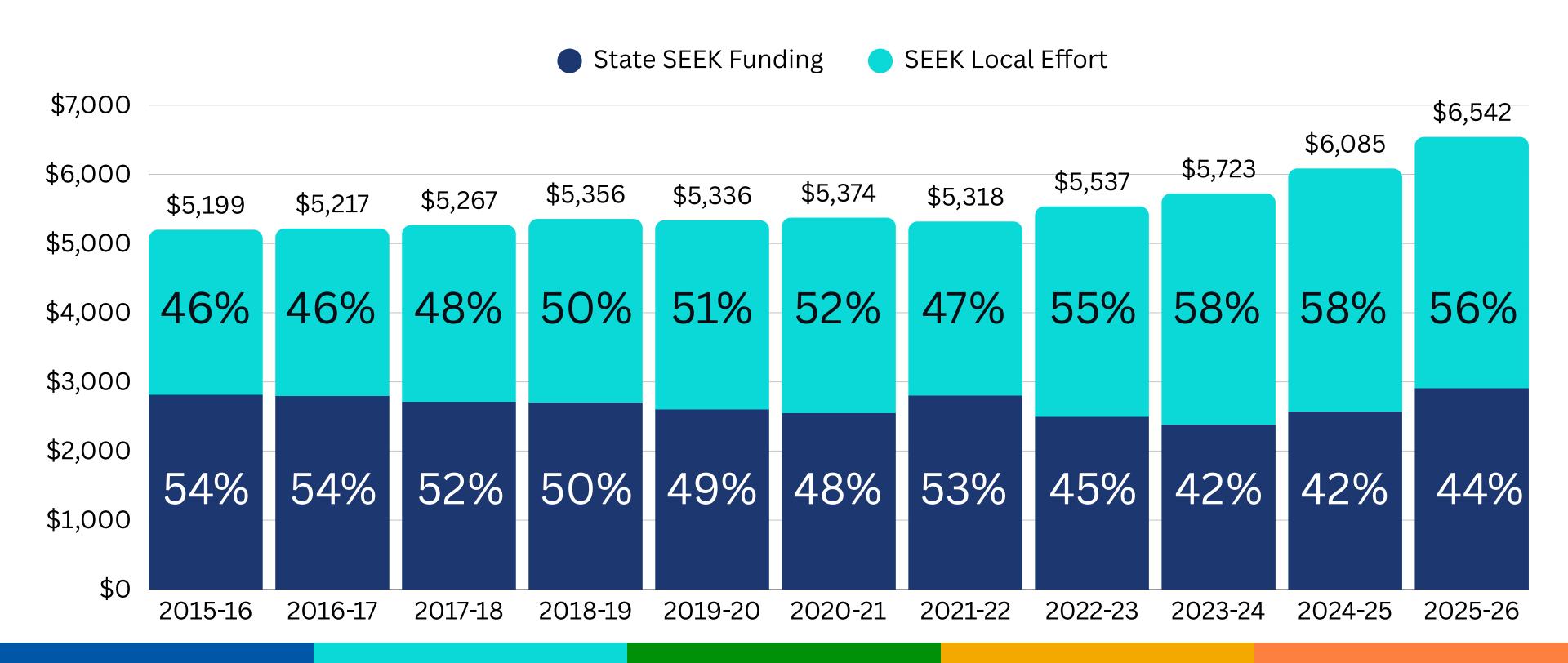
Summer 2025

Budget Solutions Work
Group established. They
develop and prioritize 10
recommendations. The top
suggestion is to reduce the
contingency fund.

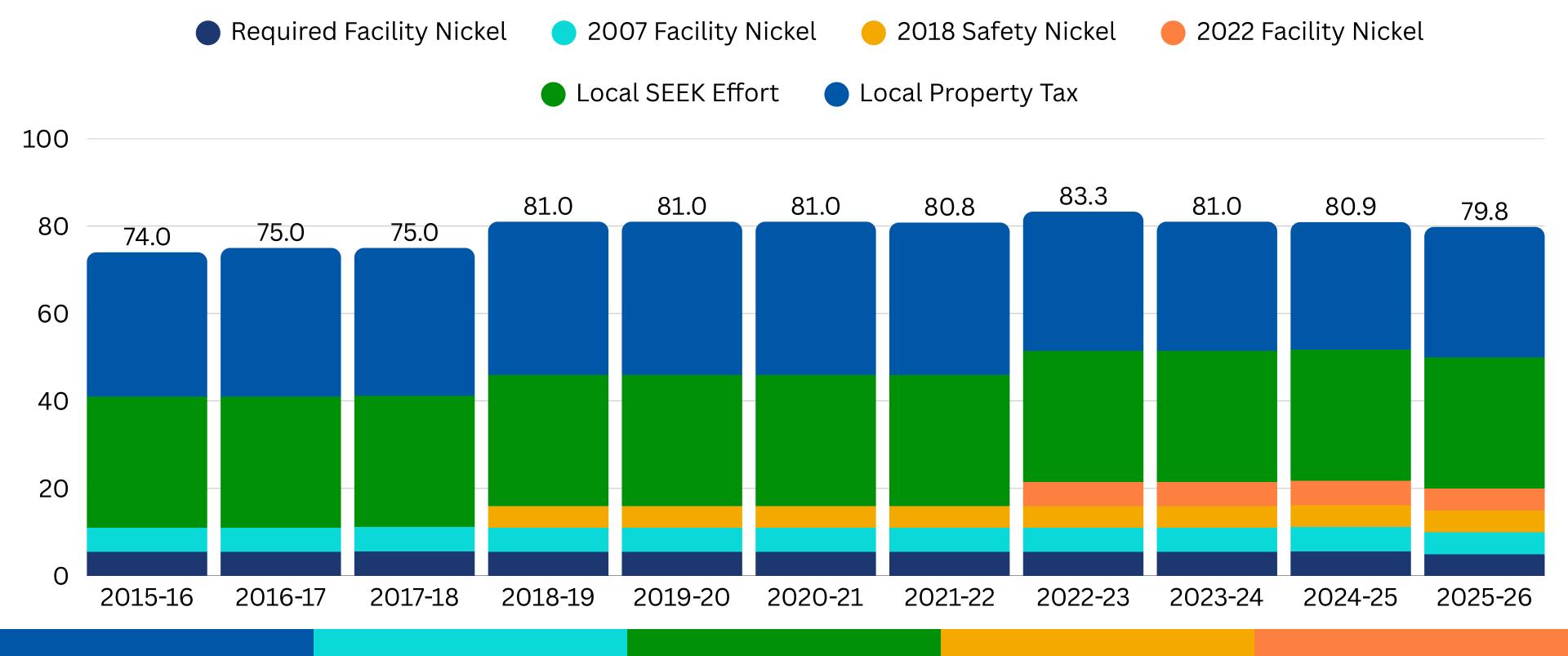
General Fund Working Budgets



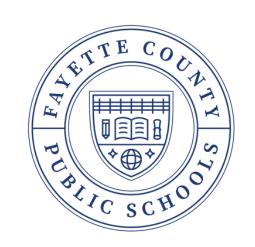
SEEK Per Pupil Funding



Property Tax Rates



2025-26 Proposed Working Budget





\$690,677,988.71

Total 827,252,480.42 Special Revenue Fund (3.5%)

\$29,018,268.70

Building Fund (8.2%)

\$67,789,838.01

Food Service Fund (4.3%)

\$35,946,135

Capital Outlay Fund (0.5%)

\$3,820,250

General Fund Investments







Business Services (5.7%)

\$39,043,721

Contingency (3.9%)

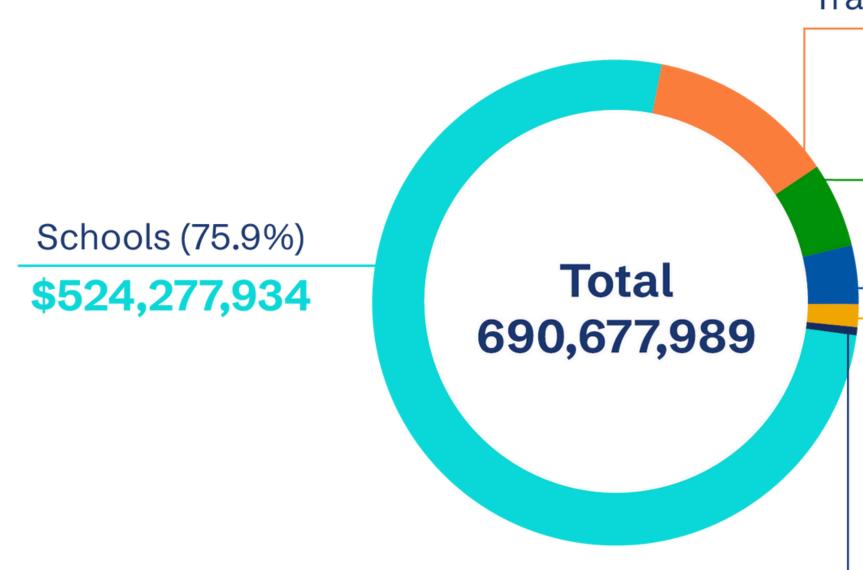
\$27,000,000

District Administration (1.5%)

\$10,441,017

Debt Service and Fund Transfers (0.5%)

\$3,680,882



Salary Investments





\$503,628,049

Total 592,497,075 Transportation and Maintenance (10.1%)

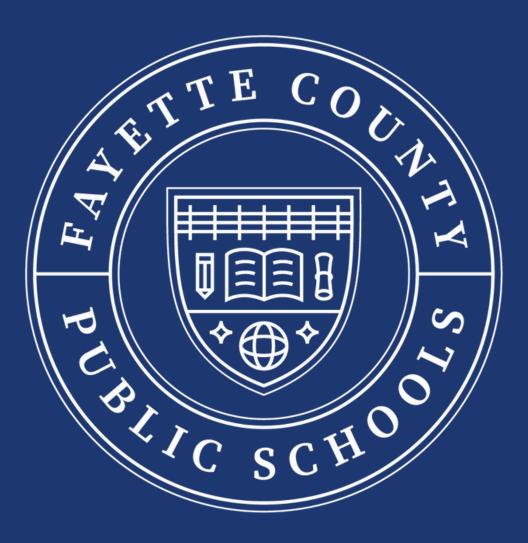
\$59,860,706

Business Services (4.2%)

\$25,066,358

District Administration (0.7%)

\$3,941,962



Questions?