

OPERATIONAL SERVICES**Fiscal and Business Management****Goals and Objectives**

Adequate financial support is necessary to operate the schools and to provide a quality educational program. To make that support as effective as possible the School Board will:

1. Operate on a fiscally sound basis.
2. Require maximum efficiency in the expenditure of funds and in accounting and reporting.
3. Provide a clean, comfortable and safe environment which facilitates the educational process.
4. Promote community understanding and support of the fiscal requirements of the school program.

The School Board perceives the operational services of the District as essential to the central function of the District - the education of children. The Board serves as trustee of the District's facilities and overseer of all business operations for the purpose of providing the facilities and services that will support the educational goals and objectives of the Sunset Ridge School District 29.

The Board shall ensure that operation and maintenance of the school facilities, equipment and services will set high standards of safety, promote the health of students and staff and reflect the aspirations of the community to support the staff in providing good instruction.

With the assistance of the Superintendent and personnel designated by him/her, the School Board shall establish efficient and businesslike procedures for fiscal accounting, purchasing and management of equipment and supplies. It will strive to establish a thorough, effective and economical maintenance program that will assure a useful life of school sites, facilities and equipment.

The School Board recognizes that money and money management comprise the fundamental support of the whole school program. To make that support as effective as possible, the following fiscal objectives are subscribed by the Board:

1. To maintain the level of per student expenditure necessary to meet educational goals.
2. To encourage advance planning through effective budget procedures.
3. To consider all practical and legal sources of dollar income.
4. To guide the expenditure of funds so as to achieve effective educational returns.
5. To require maximum efficiency in accounting and reporting procedures.

Fiscal and Business Management

The Superintendent is responsible for the School District's fiscal and business management. This responsibility includes annually preparing and presenting the District's statement of affairs to the School Board and publishing it before December 1 as required by State law.

The Superintendent shall ensure the efficient and cost-effective operation of the District's business management using computers, computer software, data management, communication systems, and electronic networks, including electronic mail, the Internet, and security systems. Each person using the District's electronic network shall complete an *Authorization for Access to the District's Electronic Network*.

Budget Planning

The District's fiscal year is from July 1 until June 30. The Superintendent shall present to the Board, no later than the first regular meeting in August, a tentative budget with appropriate explanation. This budget shall represent the culmination of an ongoing process of planning for the fiscal support needed for the District's educational program. The District's budget shall be entered upon the Illinois State Board of Education's *School District Budget Form*. To the extent possible, the tentative budget shall be balanced as defined by the State Board of Education guidelines. The Superintendent shall complete a tentative deficit reduction plan if one is required by the State Board of Education guidelines.

Preliminary Adoption Procedures

After receiving the Superintendent's proposed budget, the Board sets the date, place, and time for:

1. A public hearing on the proposed budget, and
2. The proposed budget to be available to the public for inspection.

The Board Secretary shall arrange to publish a notice in a local newspaper stating the date, place, and time of the proposed budget's availability for public inspection and the public hearing. The proposed budget shall be available for public inspection at least 30 days before the time of the budget hearing.

At the public hearing, the proposed budget shall be reviewed, including the cash reserve balance of all funds held by the District related to its operational levy and, if applicable, any obligations secured by those funds, and the public shall be invited to comment, question, or advise the Board.

Final Adoption Procedures

The Board adopts a budget before the end of the first quarter of each fiscal year, September 30, or by such alternative procedure as State law may define. To the extent possible, the budget shall be balanced as defined by the State Board of Education; if not balanced, the Board will adopt a deficit reduction plan to balance the District's budget within three years according to State Board of Education requirements.

The Board adopts the budget by roll call vote. The budget resolution shall be incorporated into the meeting's official minutes. Board members' names voting *yea* and *nay* shall be recorded in the minutes.

The Superintendent or designee shall perform each of the following:

1. Post the District's final annual budget, itemized by receipts and expenditures, on the District's Internet website; notify parents/guardians that it is posted and provide the website's address.
2. File a certified copy of the budget resolution and an estimate of revenues by source anticipated to be received in the following fiscal year, certified by the District's Chief School Business Official, with the County Clerk within 30 days of the budget's adoption.
3. Ensure disclosure to the public of the cash reserve balance of all funds held by the district related to its operational levy and, if applicable, any obligations secured by those funds, at the public hearing at which the Board certifies its operational levy.
4. Present a written report that includes the annual average expenditures of the District's operational funds for the previous three fiscal years at or before the board meeting at which the Board adopts its levy. In the event the District's combined cash reserve balance of its operational funds is more than 2.5 times the annual average expenditures of those funds for the previous three fiscal years, the Board will adopt and file with ISBE a reserve reduction plan by December 31.

5. Make all preparations necessary for the Board to timely file its Certificate of Tax Levy, including preparations to comply with the Truth in Taxation Act; file the Certificate of Tax Levy with the County Clerk on or before the last Tuesday in December. The Certificate lists the amount of property tax money to be provided for the various funds in the budget.
6. Submit the annual budget, a deficit reduction plan if one is required by State Board of Education guidelines, and other financial information to the State Board of Education according to its requirements.

Budget Amendments

The Board may amend the budget by the same procedure as provided for in the original adoption.

Implementation

The Superintendent or designee shall implement the District's budget and provide the Board with a quarterly financial report that includes all deficit fund balances. The amount budgeted as the expenditure in each fund is the maximum amount that may be expended for that category, except when a transfer of funds is authorized by the Board.

The Board shall act on all interfund loans, interfund transfers, transfers within funds, and transfers from the working cash fund or abatements of it, if one exists.

LEGAL REF.: 35 ILCS 200/18-55 et seq. TRUTH IN TAXATION LAW.
105 ILCS 5/10-17, 5/10-22.33, 5/17-1, 5/17-1.2, 5/17-2A, 5/17-3.2,
5/17-11, 5/20-5, 5/20-8, and 5/20-10.
23 Ill.Admin.Code Part 100.

APPROVED: JULY 9, 2020
REVISED: JANUARY 17, 2023
RE-ADOPTED JANUARY 16, 2024
REVISED: DECEMBER 10, 2024
REVISED: JANUARY 13, 2026