



Green Island

UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT

# **Budget Workshop #1**

## **How We Build Our Budget**

January 12, 2026



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## Purpose

- Explain how the school budget is built
- Increase transparency and understanding
- Connect financial decisions to student learning



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## What is the School Budget?

- A one-year financial plan
- Reflects the district priorities and goals
- Must follow state laws and required timelines

### Mission Statement

Heatly will continue to rise by optimizing the engagement of all school community members to help students meet their maximum potential.

### Goals

- **Academic:** All programs will be research based, inclusive, culturally responsive, challenging and relevant.
- **Community School:** Strengthen partnerships to ensure all members have access to school and community resources.
- **Human & Fiscal Resources:** In an effort to sustain and maintain Heatly's identity, the district will develop programs and services that are effective and efficient with human and fiscal resources.



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## Budget Timeline



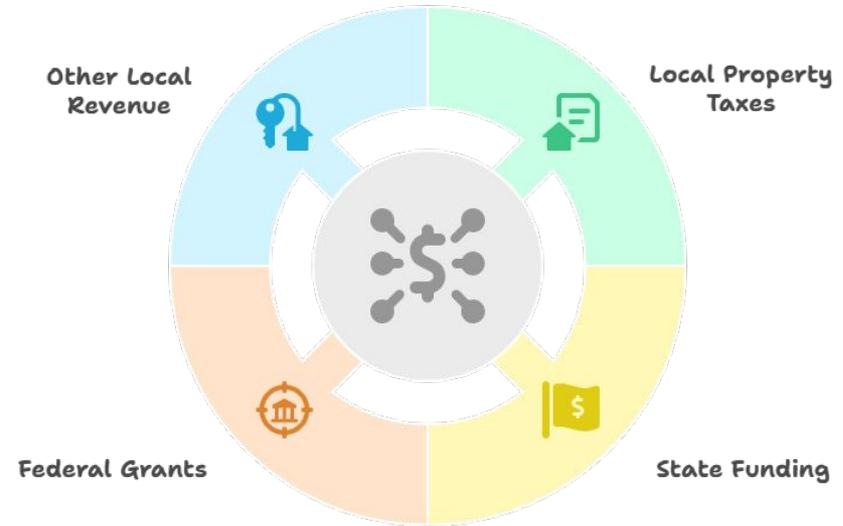


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## Where does the money come from?

- Revenues Sources:
  - Local Property Taxes
  - State Funding:
    - State Aid, State Grants (UPK)
  - Federal Grants:
    - Title Grants, IDEA 611/619
  - Other Local Revenue:
    - Rental
    - Cross Contracts

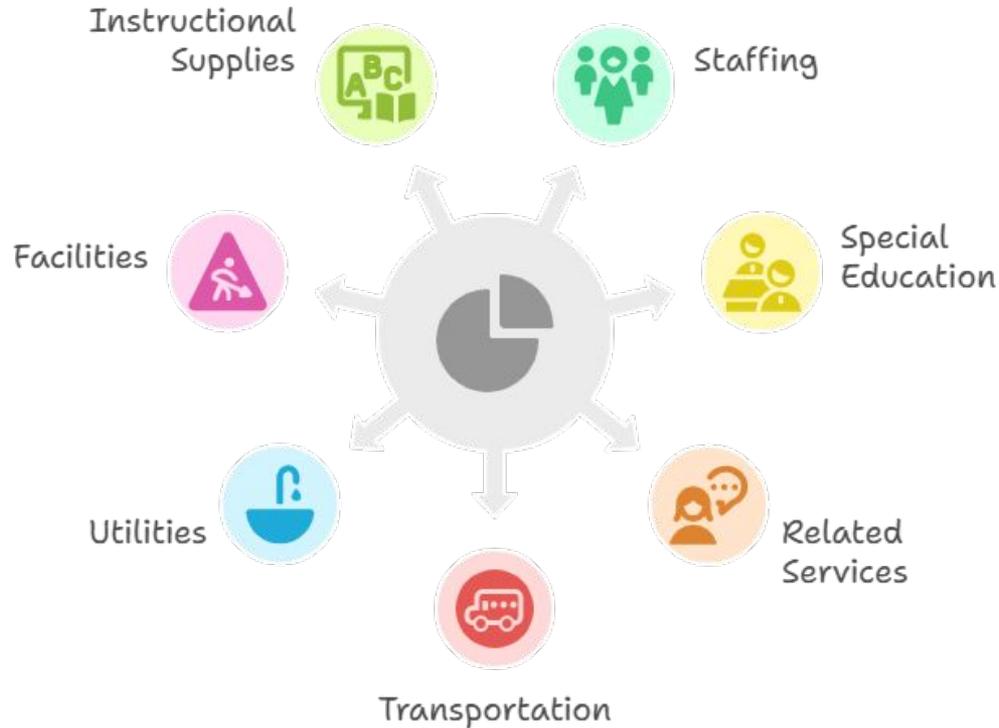




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## What does the money pay for?





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## What drives the budget?

Our Largest Investment = STAFFING

Accounting for almost 60% of the  
2025-2026 Budget



### Teachers

Provide direct instruction and guidance



### Support Staff

Assist with daily operations and student needs



### Administrators

Oversee school management and policies



### Benefits & Pensions

Cover employee health and retirement



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## Required vs Discretionary Costs

What We Can and Cannot Change:

### Required:

- Contracts
- Special Education
- Debt
- Utilities

### More Flexible:

- Supplies
- Equipment
- Staffing Patterns

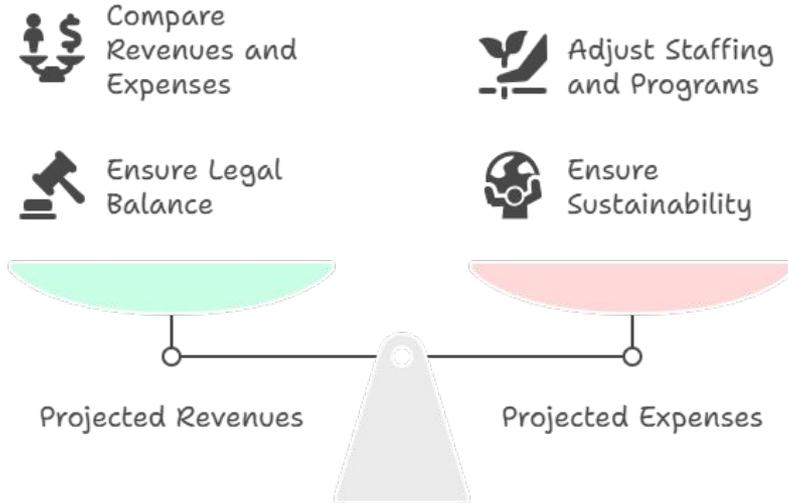


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## Balancing the Budget

### Balancing Revenues and Expenses for a Sustainable Budget





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## Board & Community Role



### Oversight & Transparency

Board sets priorities and approves the budget.



### Information Sharing

Public workshops and board meetings provide information.



### Feedback Encouraged

Ongoing questions and feedback encouraged.



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## Key Takeaways

- What to Remember:



### Step-by-Step Process

The budget is a  
step by step  
process.



### People and Services

Majority of costs  
are a reflection of  
people and services.



### Student Focus

Decisions are guided  
by students and  
sustainability.



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Questions?