

2025-2026 Budget Summary

2025-2026 Budget Consultation & Survey

The Board of Education is developing the 2025–2026 budget and welcomes input from parents, students, staff, and community members. Consultation meetings are being held at each school in the District, as well as with the Indigenous Education Council and the Partner Group Advisory Committee.

A public <u>2025-2026 Budget Survey</u> is now open, inviting feedback from all stakeholders. The survey will remain open until April 26, 2025, and comments can also be submitted via email to <u>BoardofEducation@sd10.bc.ca</u>.

The Board expects to adopt the final budget at a public meeting on May 20, 2025.

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Revenues

The proposed 2025–2026 budget includes approximately \$14.5 million in expenditures, sustaining current service levels but does not increase the elevated funding seen over the past four years. The Basic Operating Grant has risen just w1.1%, excluding any future adjustments for wage increases pending agreements with the BCTF and CUPE. Special Purpose funding for programs such as *Feeding Futures*, *Early Learning & Childcare Capacity, StrongStart, CommunityLINK*, and *Seamless Day* remains unchanged.

Staffing

SD10 continues to benefit from one of the higher staff-to-student ratios in BC, supported by strong Basic Operating funding (mainly due to an outsized Unique Geographic allocation due to the rural, small-school composition) and floor-level Special Purpose funding. Staffing levels are expected to remain stable in 2025–2026.

Services & Supplies

With inflation at 3.0% and only a 1.1% increase in base funding, the District faces reduced purchasing power for services and supplies. This pressure will be managed through adjustments across school and department budgets.

Capital Funding

The District has received \$1.46 million in new capital funding for HVAC, plumbing, and interior upgrades at LESS, NES, and NSS, including \$50,000 for new kitchen and food preparation equipment at NES. No new capital funding was allocated for playgrounds.