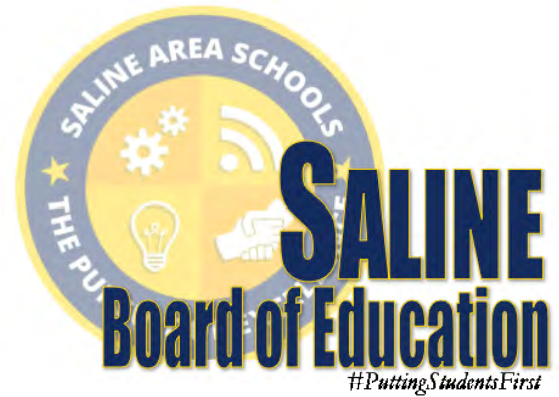


BUDGET HEARING MEETING

Liberty School Board Room

June 10, 2025 at 6:00 PM

MINUTES



1. **CALL TO ORDER** of the Budget Hearing of June 10, 2025

The Budget Hearing was called to order by President Michael Mcvey at 6:02 pm

Board Members Present: Tim Austin, Darcy Berwick, Brad Gerbe, Laurent Gold, Michael McVey, and Jason Tizedes

Board Members Absent: Jennifer Steben

Central Administration Present: Superintendent Laatsch, Assistant Superintendent's Owsley, Baaki Diglio, Executive Directors Clary, Davis, Martin, Voelker

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

3. **PUBLIC COMMENT** - None

4. **REVISIONS/APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

MOTION made by Secretary Berwick, support Trustee Tizedes **to approve the agenda as printed.**

Ayes - All Present - **MOTION CARRIED 6-0**

5. **BUDGET PRESENTATION**

Presenter: Assistant Superintendent Miranda Owsley

Assistant Superintendent Owsley gave a presentation to the Board outlining the 2024-25 Amended Budget and the 2025-26 Budget. The board must adopt the annual budget before July 1, 2025.

The Board received a comprehensive overview of the FY25 amended and FY26 adopted budgets. The General Fund, which supports all instructional operations, totals approximately \$77 million and is primarily funded by the state through the per-pupil foundation allowance. Local revenue sources, including taxes, donations, and activity fees, supplement state funding. Approximately 85% of General Fund expenditures are allocated to salaries and benefits. Revenue projections were adjusted due to a decline in student enrollment and the absence of an anticipated per-pupil increase, which

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was partially offset by a one-time \$2.1 million ORS line item. The Board also reviewed staffing changes, including the addition of several positions in special education and English learner support.

In addition to the General Fund, the Board reviewed separate budgets for special revenue funds (e.g., Community Education), debt service funds, and capital project funds. These funds are governed by separate rules and are restricted in use. Debt service funds are used to repay outstanding bonds, while capital project funds—such as the sinking fund and equipment fund—are limited to infrastructure and facility improvements. The district manages seven active millages and utilizes 100% summer tax collection. The Board was informed of the required annual budget amendment by June 30 and adoption of the new budget by July 1. Projections indicate a \$1.3 million increase to the fund balance, bringing the total to approximately \$18 million (23.8% of General Fund revenue). Other approved budgets included food service, student activities, and bond-funded construction projects.

6. **ADJOURNMENT**

Without objection the Budget Hearing was adjourned at 6:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Darcy Berwick". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Darcy Berwick
Board Secretary

Recorded by: Betty Jahnke