



JASPER COUNTY COUNCIL
SPECIAL CALLED WORKSHOP
Jasper County Clementa C. Pinckney Government Bldg
358 3rd Avenue Ridgeland, SC 29936
Wednesday, June 25, 2025
Minutes

Officials Present: Chairman John Kemp, Councilman Chris VanGeison, Councilman Joe Arzillo
Absent: Vice Chairman Joey Rowell

Staff Present: County Administrator Andrew Fulghum, Clerk to Council Wanda Giles, County Attorney David Tedder, Kimberly Burgess, Lisa Wagner, James Iwanicki, Chief Russell Wells, and Videographer Jonathan Dunham.

Others Present: Joyce Gerald – President of the School Board; Ms. Golden, Ms. Riley and Ms. Mitchell, Jasper County School Board Members; Dr. Whack and Ms. Norris, Consultant for the state of South Carolina School System.

1. Call to Order of the Jasper County Council Workshop by Chairman Kemp

Chairman Kemp called the meeting to order. The Report of Compliance with the Freedom of Information Act was read for the records as follows: *In accordance with South Carolina Code of Laws, 1976, Section 30-4-80(d), as amended, notification of the meeting and the meeting agenda were posted at least 24 hours prior to the meeting on the County Council Building at a publicly accessible place, on the county website, and a copy of the agenda was provided to the local news media and all person's or organizations requesting notification.*

The Pledge to the Flag was given and the Invocation was given by Councilman VanGeison.

Approval of the Agenda:

Motion to approve the agenda: Councilman VanGeison

Second: Councilman Arzillo

Vote: Unanimous

The motion passed.

• **Jasper County School District Budget**

Ms. Norris noted for the Council that she was coming in as a Consultant as per the request of the State of South Carolina. She noted that they had prepared the budget for Council's approval. Ms. Norris was at the meeting tonight to give a presentation to the Jasper County Council for the Jasper County School District Budget FY2025-2025 Budget. She gave an overview and discussed the JCSD Fund Balance History; Operating Budget History; Historical Budget Increases; the FY2025-26 Funding Sources of State Revenue, State Reimbursements, Local Revenue including no millage increase and use of Fund Balance. A pie chart was shown for Revenue and Funding by Source noting that Local Revenue generated 69% of the funding; State Reimbursements generated 8% of the

funding; and State Revenue generated 23% of the funding. She covered the 2025-2026 Expenditures noting that Salaries and Benefits were 65%; Operations were 11%; School Allocations were 5% and Other Expenditures totaled 19%. She noted the State minimum Teacher Salary, JCSD Salaries and the non-negotiable minimum and steps. She discussed the School Millage Rate and what that entailed and Debt Service Millage to pay off debt. She discussed the previous year's budgets, what they were doing now, the reason she was at the JCSD at this time as a Consultant and what that may entail in the future. Council discussed concerns that they had with Ms. Norris. For additional information on this item please see Attachment "A".

- **FY 2025-2026 Budget Discussion**

Ms. Burgess discussed the changes that had been made from the 2nd reading to the 3rd reading with Council.

For more information on this meeting please go to our YouTube Channel for the video go to https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCBmloqX05cKAsHm_ggXCJIA . There are also Closed Captions available for all of our County Council videos. Just click the "CC" button to follow along.

Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn: Councilman VanGeison

Second: Councilman Arzillo

Vote: Unanimous

The motion passed.

The motion passed and the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted:



Wanda H. Giles
Clerk to Council



John A. Kemp
Chairman

Attachment "A"

Jasper County School District

FY 2025-26

Budget Presentation

June 25, 2025



Jasper County School District

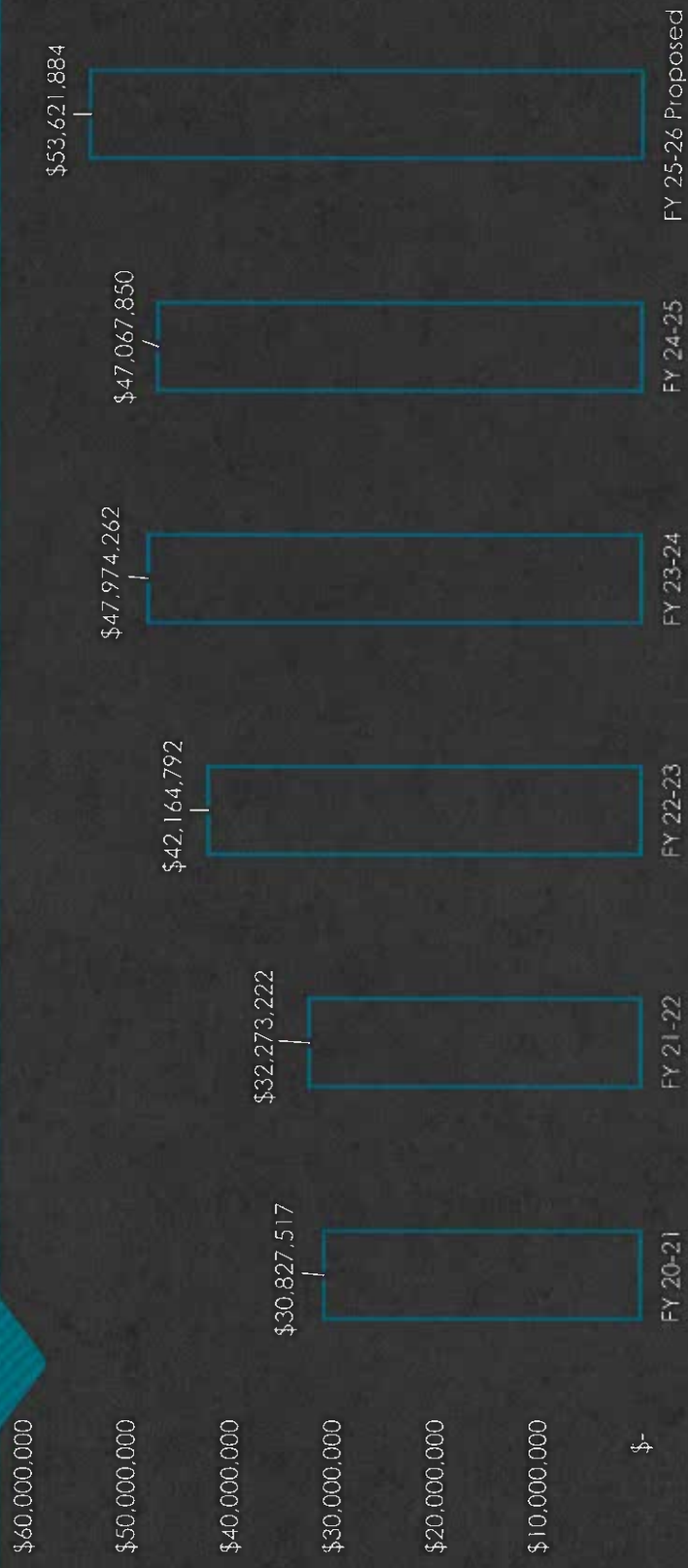
135 Day Average Daily Membership



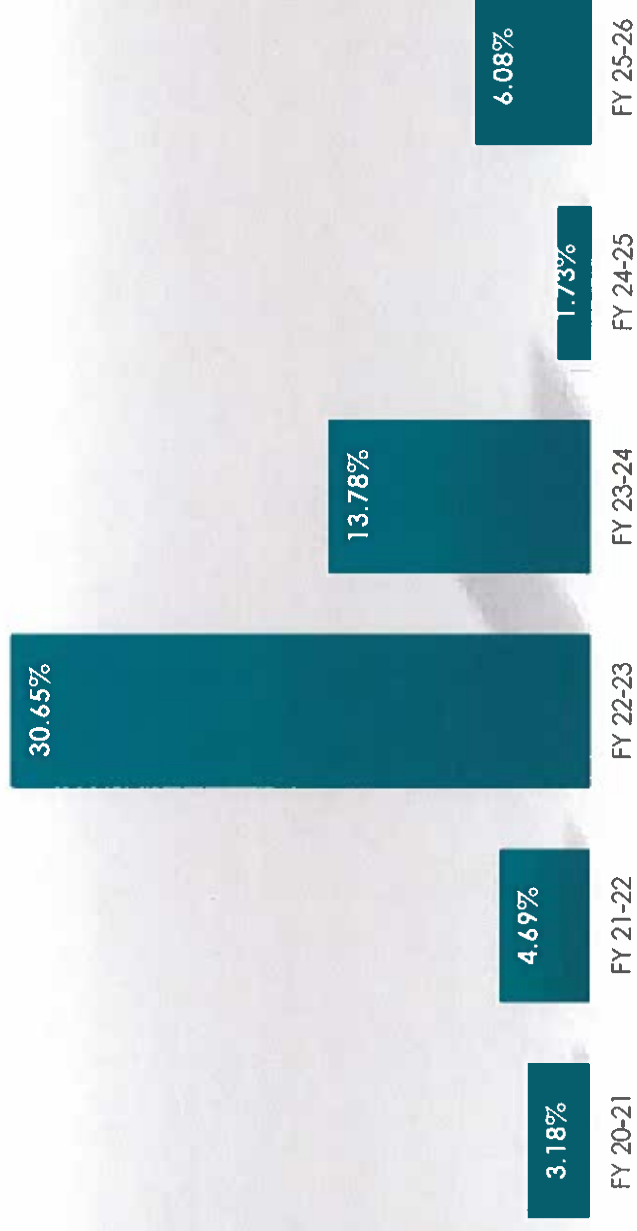
JCSD Fund Balance History

Year	Fund Balance	GF Expenditures	% of GF Expenditures
FY 21	\$ 17,393,974	\$ 28,091,404	61%
FY 22	\$ 21,304,554	\$ 30,757,166	69%
FY 23	\$ 26,488,836	\$ 36,116,232	73%

JCSD Operating Budget History



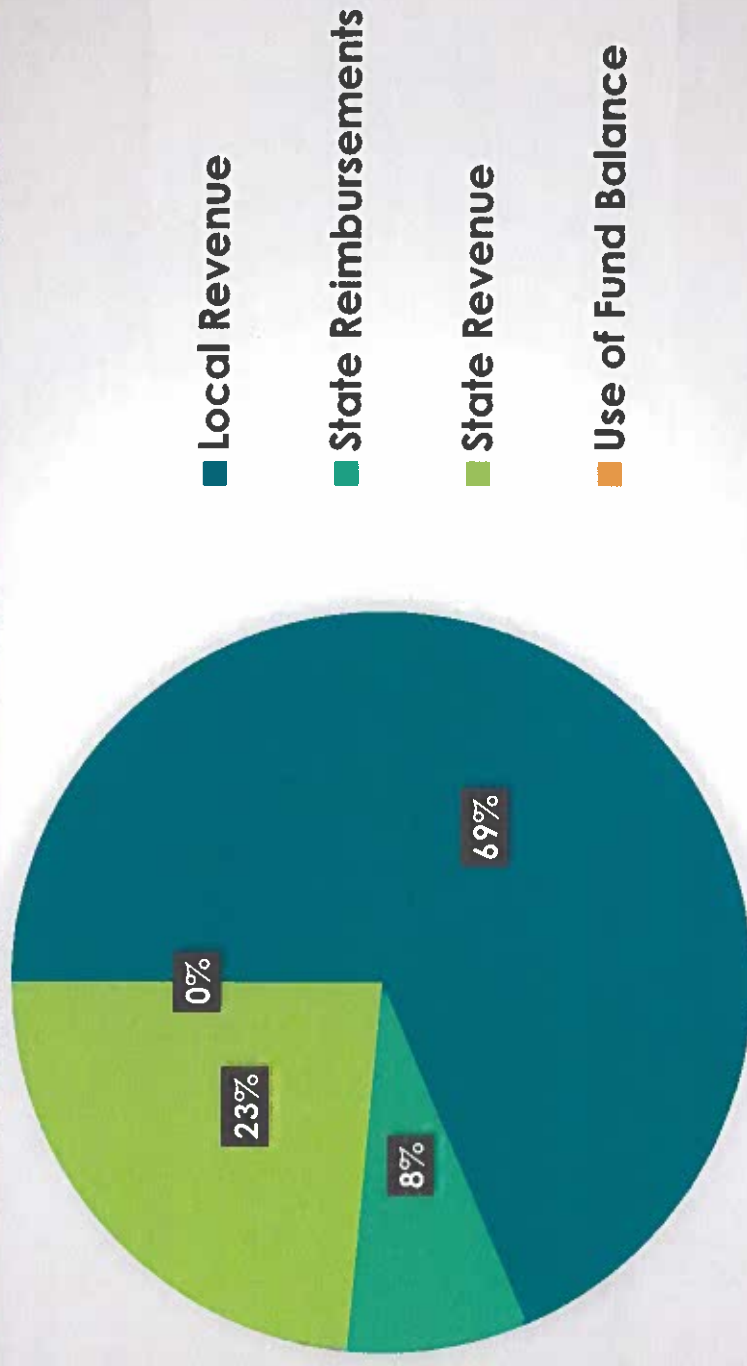
JCSD Historical Budget Increases



JCSD FY 2025-2026 Funding Sources

State Revenue	\$12,607,375
State Reimbursements	\$4,248,726.30
Local Revenue includes no millage increase	\$36,765,784
Use of Fund Balance	\$0
Total Funding Sources	\$53,621,885.30

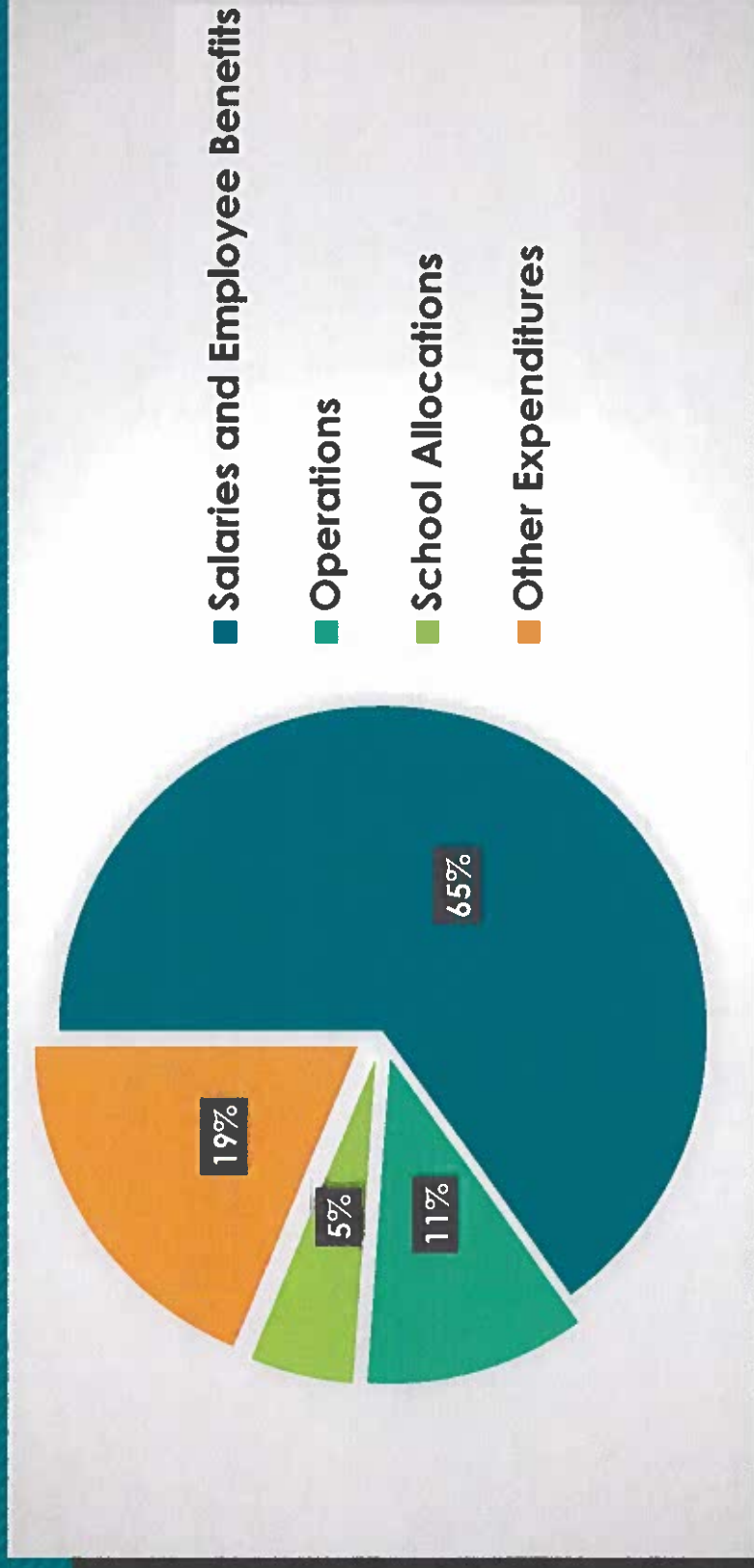
FY 2025-26 JCSD Revenue and Funding by Source



JCSD FY 2025-2026 Expenditures

Salaries and Employee Benefits	\$35,037,562.43
Operations	\$5,795,674.00
School Allocations	\$2,783,588.91
Other Expenditures	\$10,005,059.96
Total Expenditures	\$53,621,885.30

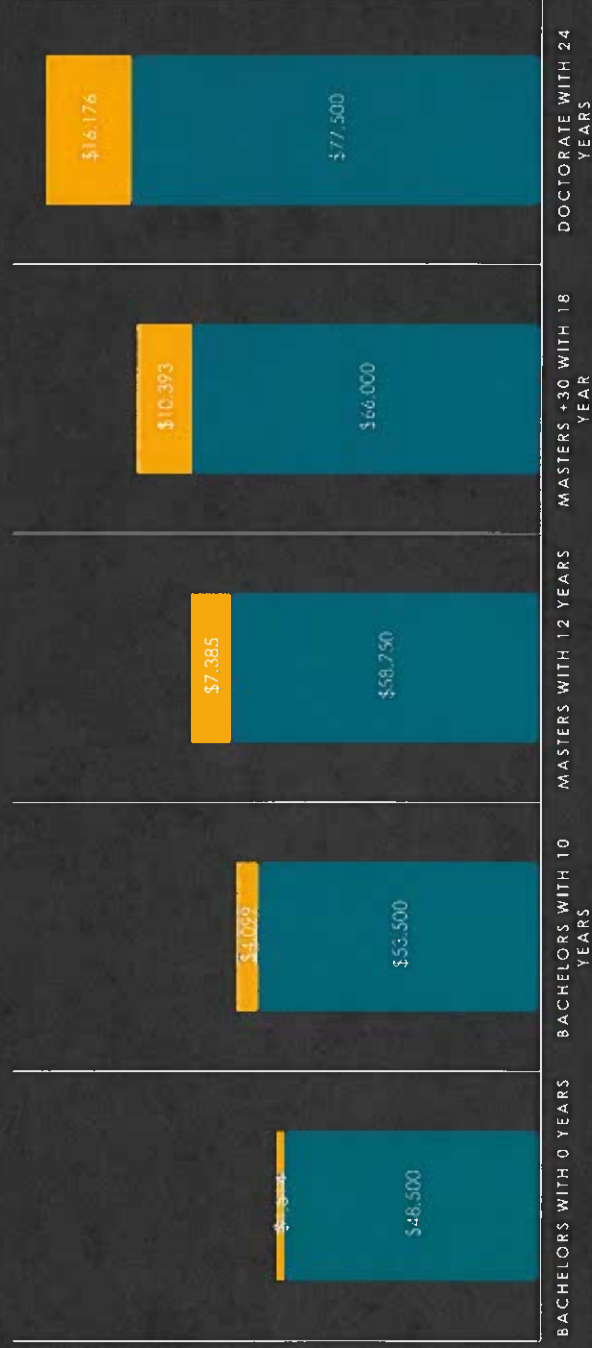
FY 2025 – 2026 Expenditures by Category



State Minimum Teacher Salary vs. JCSD Salaries

PROPOSED FY23 TEACHER SALARY SCALE

■ State Minimum ■ JCSD Salary



JCSD Millage

- Our current operating millage for Fiscal Year 2025 is 166 mills.
- We are not requesting a Board approved millage increase
- Debt service millage is currently 25 mills.

Assumptions

- Health insurance (Employer share) increase of 4.46%
- Not Requesting to use Fund Balance.
- Teacher salary increase of \$2,600 per cell plus a step. Minimum state salary for Bachelor and 0 years increased from \$47,000 to \$48,500. JCSD increased from \$47,414 for FY 25 to \$50,014 for FY 26, which is 3.2% above state minimum.
- We are including \$100,000 funding to implement PLC training for educators, \$120,000 to implement Renaissance training and software for educators, \$35,000 for Board meeting audio translation, and increasing Liability Tort Insurance by \$375,000.
- We are requesting an overall budget increase of 6% over FY 25. The CPI factor, according to the SC Department of Revenue and Fiscal Affairs, is 2.95%.
- We are proposing a 4% cost of living increase for all staff other than the abovementioned teacher increase

What could happen to increase fund balance need?

- All vacancies could be filled at a higher rate than projected
- No additional funding on 45th day
- Expenses could increase due to economic factors
- Tax revenues could decrease from our projected amounts (not likely but possible)
- Unknown expenses could present

What could happen to decrease fund balance need?

- Funding based on the 45th day ADM could increase due to enrollment.
- Tax revenues could out pace current projections
- Vacancies may not be filled.
- Expenditures could not increase as much as projected.

Any
Questions