

Fairfax County PUBLIC SCHOOLS
ENGAGE • INSPIRE • THRIVE®

FISCAL YEAR 2027 PROPOSED BUDGET

School Board Meeting
January 22, 2026



#SustainingExcellence



SUSTAINING EXCELLENCE

262

2026 NATIONAL MERIT SEMIFINALISTS

a 37% increase compared to 2025



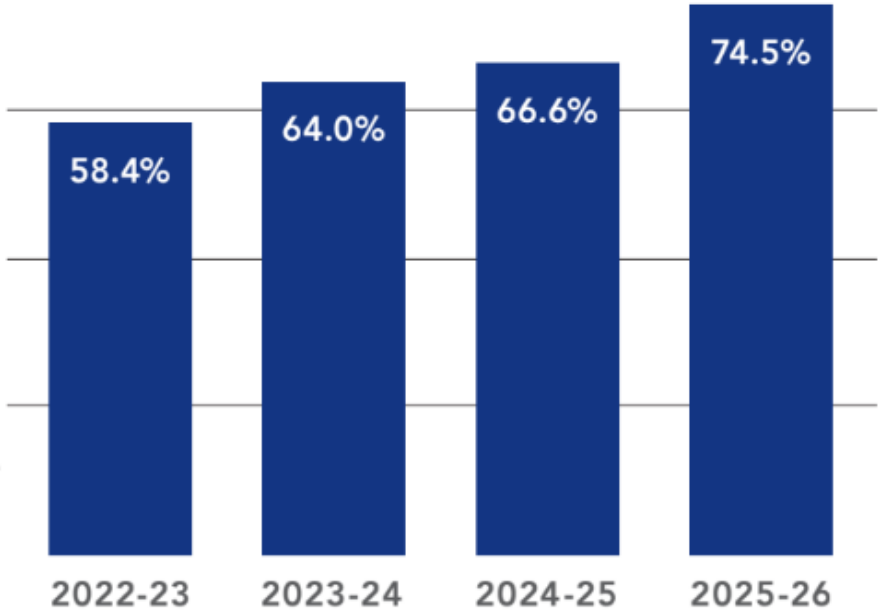
FCPS HAS 7 OF THE TOP 10 HIGH SCHOOLS AND 5 OF THE TOP 10 ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS IN VIRGINIA

including the #5 high school in the nation[1]

2025 AVERAGE SAT SCORE



FCPS has increased the number of 8th graders enrolled in Algebra 1 or higher from 58.4% in 2022 to 74.5% for the start of this school year.



10.6%

INCREASE IN 5TH GRADERS TAKING ADVANCED MATH SINCE 2022-23

FCPS is also expanding access to Algebra 1 for 6th graders this school year.

[1]*U.S. News & World Report*

STRATEGIC PLAN 2023-2030

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GOALS

1. Strong Start: PreK-12
2. Safe, Supported, Included, and Empowered
3. Academic Growth and Excellence
4. Equitable Access and Opportunity
5. Leading for Tomorrow's Innovation

The Four Pillars identify what FCPS must do well to be able to reach our goals for all students.

A	B	C	D
Differentiated & Culturally Responsive Learning Environments	Vibrant Home, School, & Community Partnerships	Diverse, Adaptive, & Supported Workforce	Culture of Equity, Excellence, & Accountability

BUDGET PRIORITIES



- Recognizing the current economic environment, this needs-based budget reflects the **base requirements** of the school division which include:
  - Compensation adjustments to meet the collective bargaining agreements
  - Benefit rate changes and baseline adjustments
  - Enrollment and student needs
  - Multiyear and future-focused strategic investments

EFFORTS TOWARD GREATER EFFICIENCY

- Given economic uncertainty, no new resource requests were considered
  - Departments were encouraged to review their budgets and repurpose existing resources for programmatic needs
- Significant reductions were required to balance the FY 2026 Approved Budget
- FCPS' ongoing work includes:
  - Baldrige Performance Excellence
  - Comprehensive Boundary Review
  - National Center on Education and the Economy (NCEE) Review
  - Public Education Leadership Project (PELP)

BUDGET SUMMARY

- The FY27 School Operating Fund budget totals $4.1 billion, a net increase of $197.0 million, or 5.0%, over the FY26 Approved Budget
- The county transfer request is an increase of $138.4 million, or 5.1%, over the FY26 transfer

The FY27 requested increase in the county transfer is $129.8 million or 48% LESS than the requested increase last year

FY27 SUMMARY	CHANGE FROM FY26 ($ in millions)
County Transfer	$138.4
State Revenue	$71.1
Federal Revenue	($0.2)
Other Revenue	($12.4)
Total FY27 Projected Revenue Increase*	**$197.0**
Compensation (Collective Bargaining Agreements and Benefits)	$178.4
Baseline Adjustments	$11.0
Multiyear Investments	$7.5
Total FY27 Expenditure Adjustments*	**$197.0**

*Does not add due to rounding

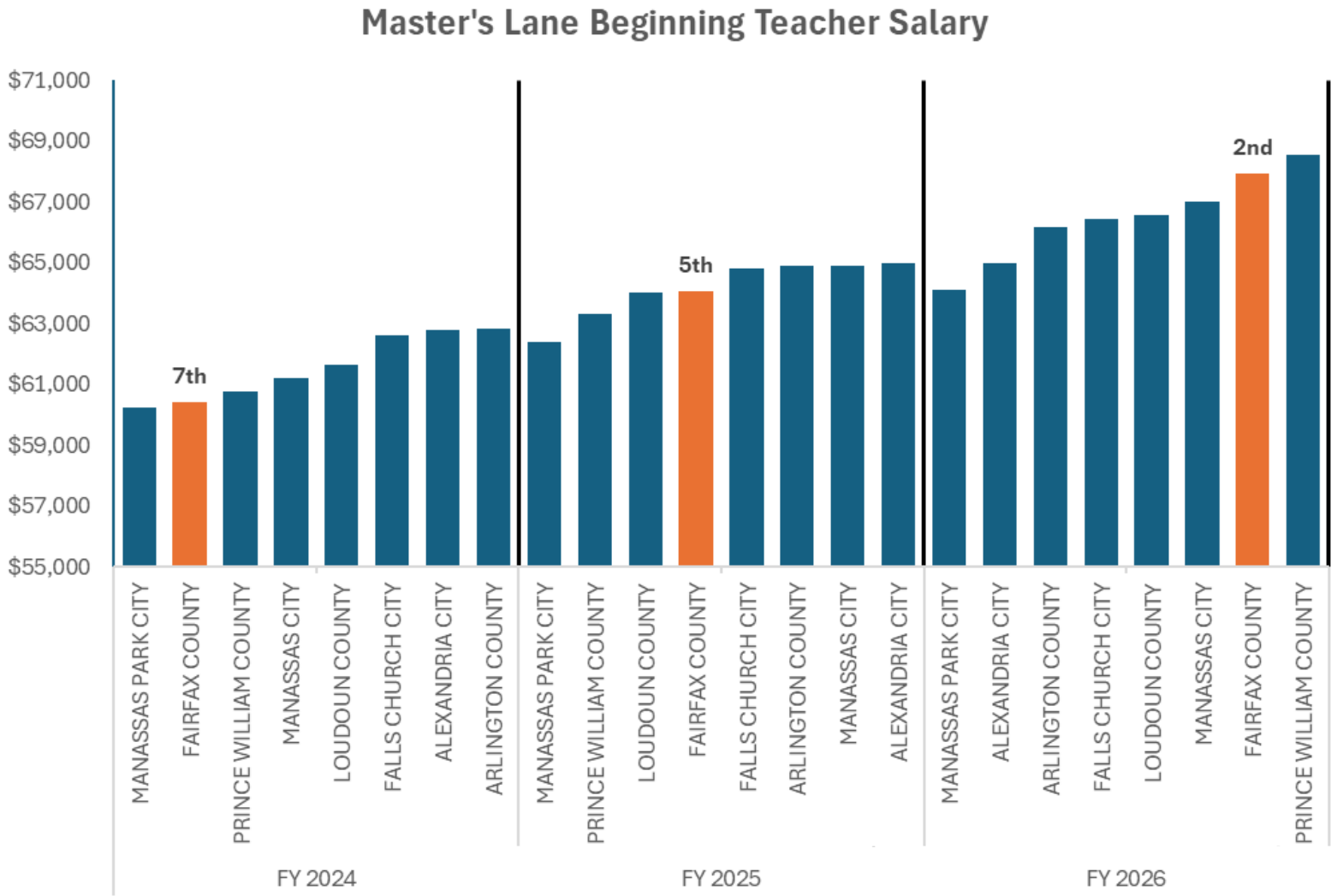
COMPENSATION ADJUSTMENTS



COMPENSATION ADJUSTMENTS	CHANGE FROM FY26 ($ in millions)
FEU Compensation Adjustments	$163.0
FCFPSA Compensation Adjustments	$17.7
Benefit Rate Changes	($2.3)
Total Compensation Adjustments	**$178.4**

The FY 2027 Proposed Budget honors FCPS' collective bargaining agreements with the unions

MASTER'S LANE SALARY COMPARISON



- In just two years FCPS has improved its Master's lane beginning teacher salary to nearly the top of the market
- FCPS' ranking for Master's lane beginning teacher salary has improved to 2nd of 8 in FY26, from 7th of 8 in FY24
- Due to investments in compensation, retention rates have surpassed 90% over the past two years

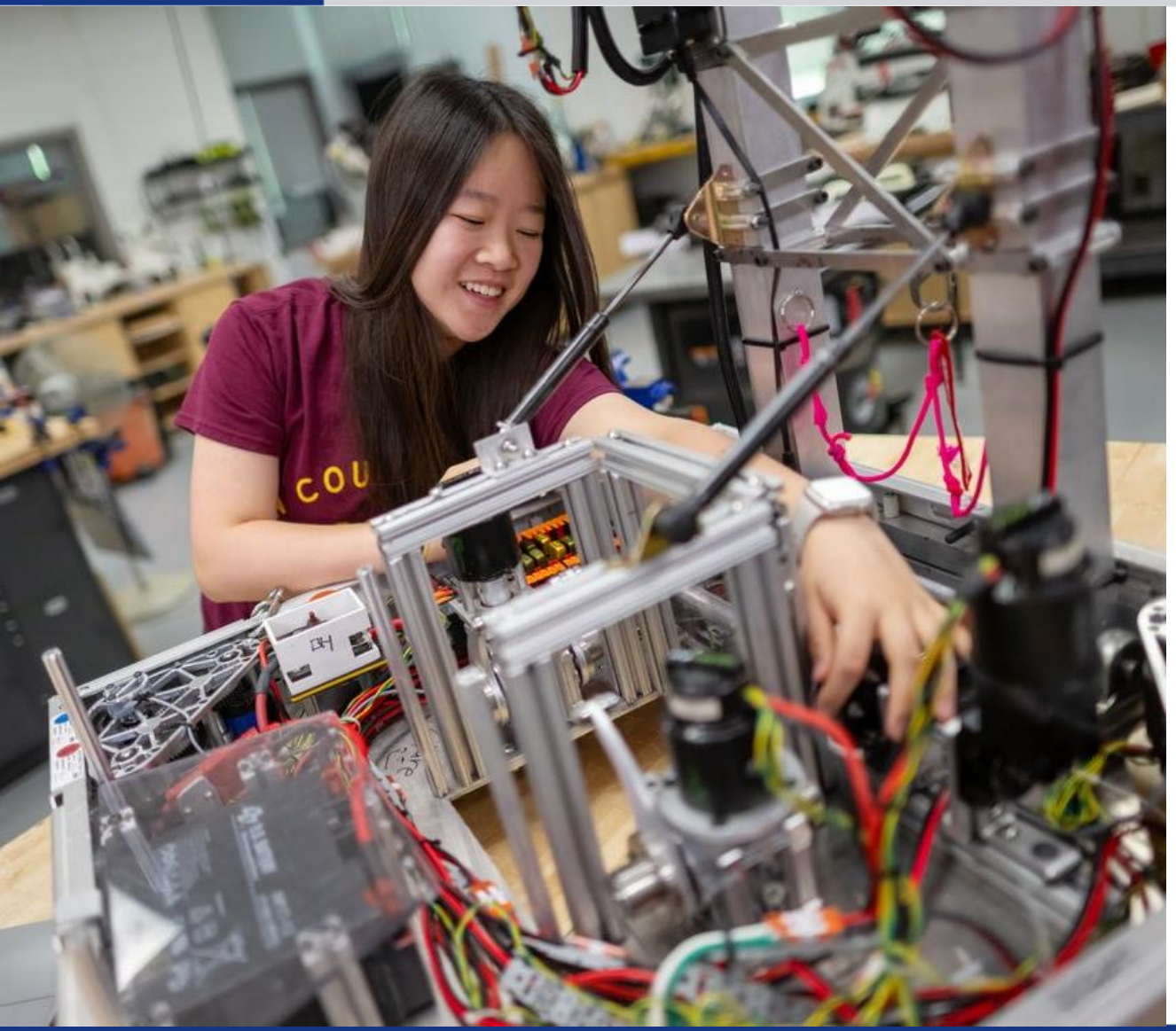
BASELINE ADJUSTMENTS



BASELINE ADJUSTMENTS	CHANGE FROM FY26 ($ in millions)
Enrollment and Student Needs	($35.7)
Partial Class Size Restoration	$17.5
Elementary Special Education Department Chair	$9.5
Contractual and Recurring Baseline Adjustments	$8.9
Advanced Academic Resource Teachers	$6.0
Transfers to Other Funds	$4.9
Total Baseline Adjustments*	**$11.0**

*Does not add due to rounding

MULTIYEAR INVESTMENTS



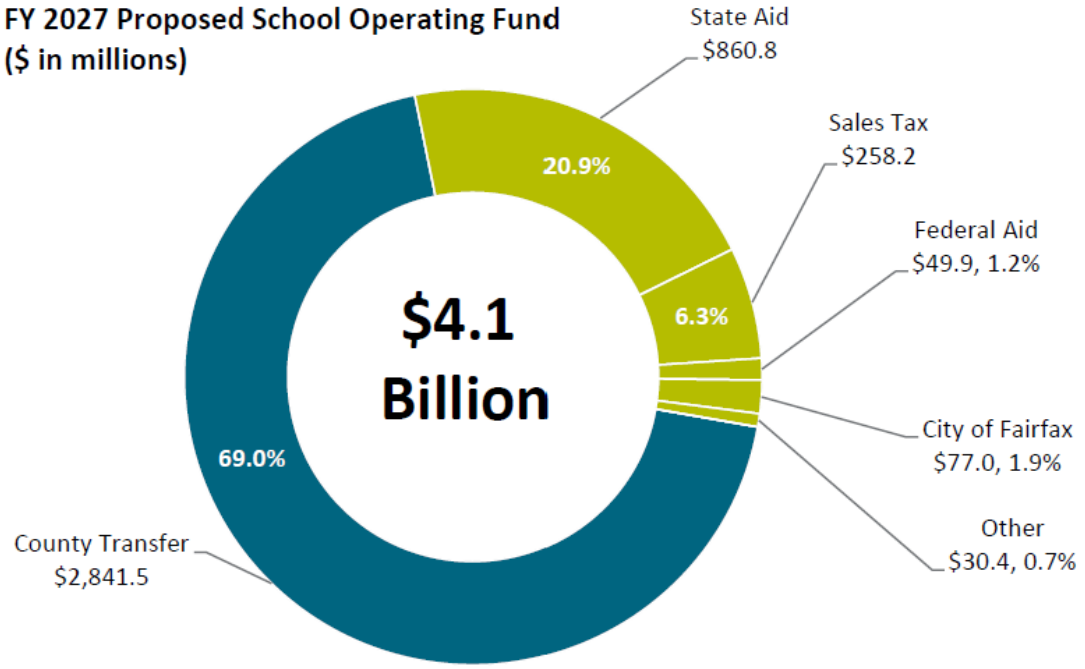
MULTIYEAR INVESTMENTS	CHANGE FROM FY26 ($ in millions)
Family Liaison Position Conversions	$3.4
Student Athletics and Activities Program	$1.9
Fine and Performing Arts Stipends	$1.1
Certified Athletic Trainers	$0.7
K-12 Robotics	$0.3
Educator Math Credentialing	$0.1
Total Multiyear Investments	**$7.5**

REVENUE ADJUSTMENTS

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State Revenue	$71.1
Federal Revenue	($0.2)
Other Revenue	($12.4)
Total FY27 Projected Revenue Increase*	**$197.0**

*Does not add due to rounding

Where it Comes From – Revenue
FY 2027 Proposed School Operating Fund
($ in millions)



LOOKING FORWARD

- To sustain a world class, future-forward school system, additional flexible state funding or additional county funding beyond this budget would allow support for:
  - Class Size (restoration of prior reductions)
  - Elementary STEM
  - Inclusive PreK Expansion
  - Major Maintenance Backlog
  - Professional Technical Partnerships and Apprenticeships
  - World Languages Expansion

*list is alphabetical and not exhaustive

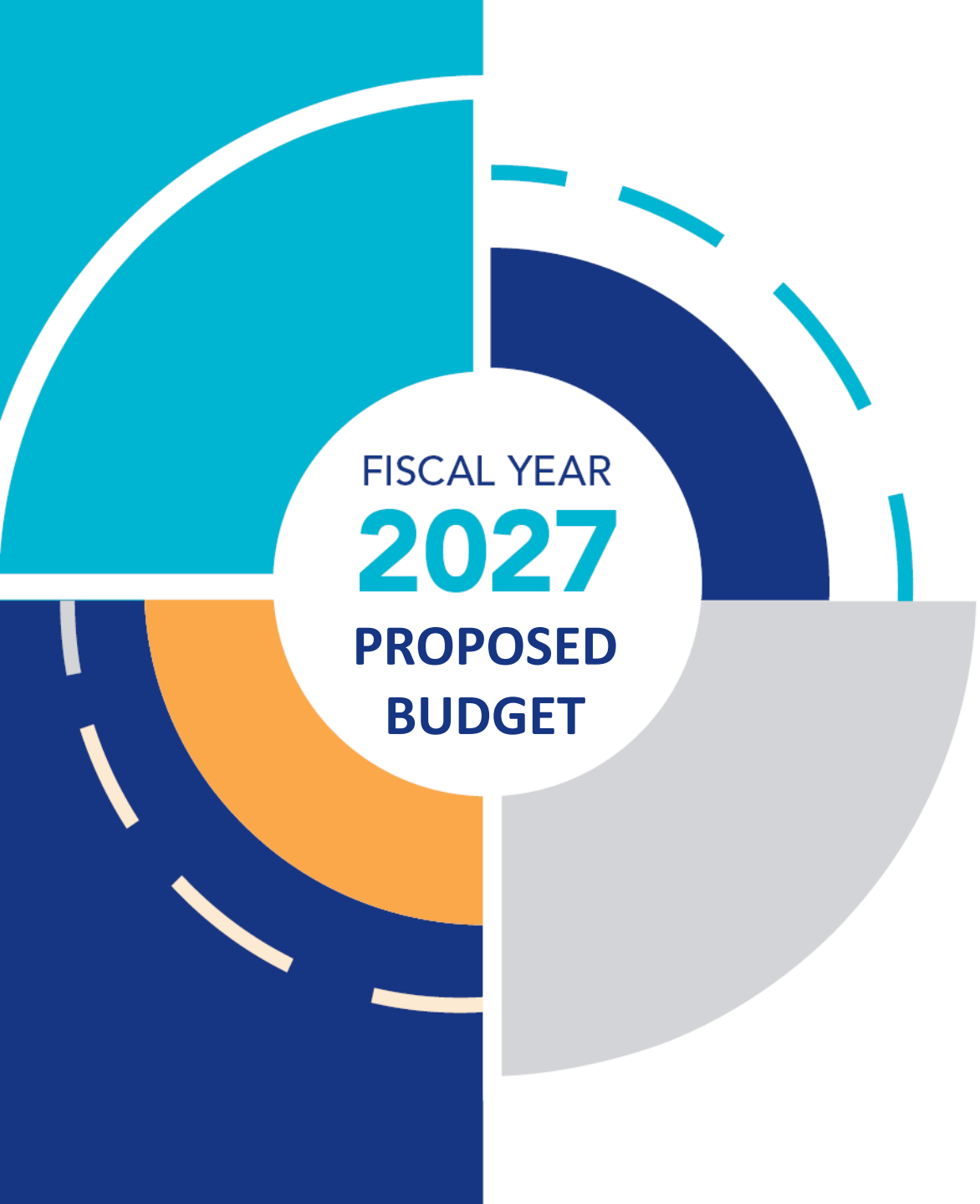
STAY INVOLVED

- Attend School Board meetings, watch meetings streamed via FCPS' website, or view archived videos of past meetings
- To speak at a School Board meeting, call 571-423-1075 or visit: bit.ly/3PJz2fg
- To speak at a Board of Supervisors public hearing, call 703-324-3151 or visit: bit.ly/4hG0gzF
- Testify on a bill – view the Virginia General Assembly guidelines: bit.ly/4jrk4se
- For the latest budget information visit: fcps.edu/budget
- Find the latest information about the state budget: bit.ly/40rRRIS

NEXT STEPS

- School Board Work Session on February 10, 2026
- School Board will hold public hearings on:
  - February 10
  - February 11 (if needed)
- School Board Work Session on February 19
- School Board adopts the FY 2027 Advertised Budget on February 26
- View the full budget calendar - bit.ly/45pB78B


Together
COWBOYS
FOREVER



Thank You

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For more information go to
www.fcps.edu/budget