

January 21, 2026

Dear Mansfield Public Schools Community,

Last Thursday evening, I presented my Superintendent's Proposed Budget to the Mansfield Board of Education. This budget was developed collaboratively with our school leaders, central office team, and our shared service partners from the Town of Mansfield. Its purpose is to preserve the breadth of programming across our schools, right-size the district, and meet the needs of all students, while continuing to support the whole child.

Through this process, we developed a budget that allocates taxpayer dollars in ways that directly supports student success in the classroom and provides meaningful, real-world learning experiences to ensure active learning. The proposed 2026–2027 budget reflects a 3.49% increase, or \$899,555, over the 2025–2026 budget.

The budget includes several major cost drivers that require annual increases, including contractual salary and benefit obligations, student transportation, and other contractual agreements necessary to maintain daily operations. Approximately 85% of the overall budget increase is attributable to contracted salaries and benefits for our certified and non-certified staff, whose work is essential to supporting the success and well-being of every child. Through attrition, staff reductions will work to right-size educator staffing to match enrollment.

I encourage members of our community to attend upcoming Board of Education meetings to learn more about the proposed budget and to share your perspectives. Two budget presentations are scheduled at workshop meetings prior to the Board's formal vote:

Thursday, January 22 at 6:30 p.m.

Council Chambers, Town Hall

Topics: General Education – Mansfield Elementary School, Mansfield Middle School, and Staffing

Thursday, January 29 at 6:30 p.m.

Council Chambers, Town Hall

Topics: District Management and Student Support Services

The final review and vote on the budget will take place on **Thursday, February 12 at 6:30 p.m.** during a Special Meeting of the Board of Education.

Detailed budget information is available on our district website ([link to the proposed budget](#)), and I invite you to attend our meetings to hear directly from school leaders as they share details about their budget requests.

Thank you for your continued engagement and support of Mansfield Public Schools.

In Partnership,



Candace Morell
Superintendent of Schools