

BOARD AGENDA ITEM

June 23, 2015

SUBJECT:

2015 – 2016 Proposed Budget

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

In its 2015– 2016 budget calendar, the Board scheduled presentations of the preliminary budget for April 21, 2015, the tentative budget for May 12, 2015, and the final budget for June 23, 2015.

To date, the Board has also conducted three budget work studies and held a public input session and the budget hearing as part of its preparation of the 2015 – 2016 budget.

ADMINISTRATIVE CONSIDERATION:

The proposed budget version is presented for Board discussion. General Fund revenue reflects a higher Education Finance Act (EFA) allocation in comparison to 2014 – 2015, based on estimates provided by the South Carolina Department of Education. The increase is due in part to the proposed increase in base student cost (BSC) from \$2,120 to \$2,220. The Tier 3/Act 388 allocation reflects the projected increase as provided by the State. Current property tax revenues reflect an increase from growth based on recent assessed values. Operating millage remains unchanged in the preliminary version of the budget at 141.6 mills.

Items proposed for approval, pending additional Board discussion, include: a step increase and a 1% cost of living adjustment for all employees; funding for a Freshman Academy at South Aiken High; funding for a STEM program at Jackson Middle and a STEAM program at New Ellenton Middle; revision of the formula for middle school and elementary school assistant principals which would provide a minimum of one full-time assistant principal, regardless of a school's enrollment; funding for Board room upgrades; one-time funding for technology; creation of a PowerSchool Assistant position; one-time funding for copier and janitorial supplies equal to \$4 each per pupil; one-time funding for Adult Education testing supplies; funding for one additional electrician position; creation of a Human Resources Coordinator for Recruiting & Staffing position; one-time funding for bands totaling \$100,000; and increasing middle schools' attendance aide allocations from a half allocation to a full allocation.

Budgets for the Special Revenue Fund, EIA Fund, Debt Service Fund, Capital Projects Fund, and School Food Service Fund are also presented for Board review.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the 2015 – 2016 proposed version of the budget with any changes resulting from Board discussion.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. 2015 – 2016 Proposed Budget (summary)
2. 2015 – 2016 General Fund Proposed Expenditures Budget by object (summary)
3. 2015 – 2016 General Fund Proposed Expenditures Budget by location (summary by object)
4. Matrix of remaining budget considerations
5. Matrix narrative
6. Proposed staffing formulas
7. Proposed 2015 – 2016 Salary Schedule

PREPARED BY:

M. O. Traxler III