

Fiscal Year 2025 (FY25) Budget Priorities

Saint Paul Public Schools (SPPS) is continuing to plan for the fiscal year 2025 (FY25) budget. This process included public engagement with students, staff and families in spring and fall 2023 to discuss what our community values in education. Over 10,000 people participated in this engagement. For a summary of what we heard, please refer to the FY25 Budget Engagement Summary.

Our FY25 Budget Priorities

Based on what we heard from you through this year's community engagement, two values rose to the top as the most important:

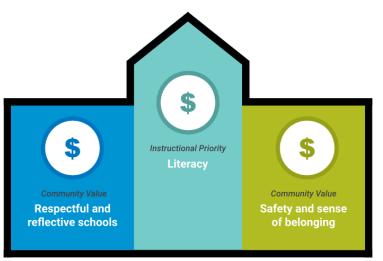
- 1) increasing our school communities' sense of belonging and feeling of safety
- 2) ensuring **students are respected and reflected** in their curriculum and classrooms

This means that SPPS will prioritize programs and services in the FY25 budget that have been proven to positively contribute to these community values.

In addition, SPPS has identified one instructional priority for the FY25 budget: Literacy. Ensuring that all students can read is the foundation of success in school and in life. If a student struggles to read, they will also struggle to learn math, science, social studies, or acquire the skills and knowledge they need to succeed after high school.

These three budget priorities--safety and belonging, respectful and reflective schools, and literacy--will drive decisions that impact the FY25 budget. It's important to remember that **SPPS is planning for a budget shortfall of approximately \$150 million**. In addition, there are many required expenses that fall outside of these three priorities and must be funded using available resources.

SPPS must present a balanced budget to the Board of Education for approval by June 30, 2024.



Saint Paul Public Schools FY25 Budget Priorities

Please share your feedback about the FY25 budget at <u>spps.org/FY25budget</u> and look for the next monthly budget update in late January 2024.