



Superintendent Update April 28, 2025

Enrollment Projections

Grade Level	Resident	Open Enroll	Placements	04-24-2025	School
12	100	33	(22)	125	High School 592
11	146	32		171	
10	107	23		124	
9	146	27		172	
8	124	34	(2)	157	Middle School 478
7	133	31		164	
6	133	25		157	
5	122	32	(2)	153	Bear Cave Intermediate 442
4	123	32		155	
3	103	32		134	
2	118	31	0	149	Bonner Elementary 417
1	104	27		131	
Kindergarten	97	40		137	
Total	1556	399	(26)	1929	

Legislative Update

- Three weeks remain in the legislative session. Various budget bills continue to advance through the legislative process.
- The Senate education finance bill (SF2255), which was heard in the Senate Tax Committee last week, has one more committee stop before a full vote in the Senate.
- The House Education Finance bill is not yet released. It is anticipated that we will have more on the bill early next week.
- Overall, negotiations between the House, Senate, and Governor have been ongoing to reach a final budget framework that will provide the framework for the respective budget bills. If a budget agreement is not reached by May 19, a special session may be required ahead of the June 30 fiscal year-end.

Senate Education Policy Bill Advances

Thursday, the Senate debated and passed the [Omnibus Education Policy Bill](#). Several amendments were adopted. They include:

- Short-Call Substitute Teacher Program is made permanent, and the \$200 daily minimum pay requirement is removed.
- Requires that a student enrolled in a dual immersion program be screened in English in kindergarten, in the primary language of instruction at each screening window, and in English starting in third grade when the program is taught equally in English and the partner language, whichever occurs first.
- Allows the use of seclusion through grade 6 upon agreement with the parent and the IEP team.
- Requires that the Minnesota State High School League insurance policies have at least \$5 million in lifetime coverage per catastrophic injury.
- Limits school district data requests.
- School districts must prohibit cell phones and smartwatches.
- 5 ½ hours of instruction flexibility in elementary and secondary grades for 2025-2026 to allow for READ Act training.
- Schools are required to allow drumming at graduation ceremonies and upon request at other times.

Senate Elections Bill

The [Senate Elections bill](#) includes a provision to require school board members, school superintendent, and other school district staff involved with school district budgets to file an economic interest statement.

SF2255 - Senate Education Budget Bill

Budget Target

- Overall, the Senate education budget target is zero for FY26-27 and a reduction of \$687 million in FY28-29.

Per-Pupil Formula

- Removes the annual inflation adjustment from the per-pupil formula allowance.
- Sets the formula allowance at \$7,481 in FY26 (2.74%) and \$7,705 in FY27 and later (3%).

Compensatory Revenue

- Appropriates one-time funding of \$46 million in FY26 for compensatory aid based on the higher of two student counts at the building level - the FY26 (fall 2024) pupil counts or FY24 (fall 2022) pupil counts which are adjusted for any enrollment decline.
- Includes students who qualify for free or reduced-price meals, either through direct certification or by completing a paper form.
- Establishes a task force to examine the compensatory revenue formula, including revenue amounts under the program, purposes of the program, and eligible uses of the revenue.

Unemployment insurance aid

- Appropriates \$100 million in aid for FY26-27 only.

Special Education Cross-Subsidy Aid

- Increases cross subsidy reduction rate from 50% to 53.26% for FY28 and later.

English Learner Cross-Subsidy Aid

- Increases the English learner cross subsidy reduction rate from 25% to 33.6475% beginning in FY28.

Literacy incentive aid

- Beginning in FY27, establishes a new literacy aid formula based on counts of student enrollment, students who are English learners, and students determined eligible for free or reduced-price meals.
- Requires literacy aid to be used to meet the requirements and goals adopted in the district's local literacy plan, rather than listed specific eligible uses.

Nonpublic Education Aid and Nonpublic Transportation Aid

- Eliminates the state and school district obligations for nonpublic pupil education aid and transportation aid.

Long-Term Facilities Maintenance Revenue

- Authorizes a school district to include roof repair and replacement costs totaling \$100,000 or more per site in the district's annual long-term facilities maintenance plan.
- Increases equalizing factor to offset projected levy increases.
- Effective FY27 and later.

Student Support Personnel Modifications

- Increases minimum aid guarantee for school districts from \$40,000 to \$80,000.
- Reduces the per-pupil allocation from \$48.73 to \$34.24.
- Expands allowable uses to include chronic absenteeism, transportation costs, training, and technology upgrades.
- Allow a declining enrollment district to use funds to maintain staff that would otherwise be eliminated due to budget concerns.
- Establishes a separate funding formula for cooperative school districts.
- Effective FY26 and later.

Capital Projects Referendum Board Renewal

- Allows board renewal of a capital projects referendum ballot to include a notice that the board has authority to renew by board vote.
- Exempts referenda up for renewal before November 2025.

Food Service Funds

- Expands allowable uses to include:
 - Lunchroom supervision
 - Waste management related to food service activities
 - Costs of serving food, including related technology and systems costs
 - Facility expansion
- Effective FY26 and later.

School Library Aid

- Reduces library aid from \$16.11 to \$7.38 per apu for those districts that receive more than the \$40,000 minimum.
- Removes electronic, computer, and audiovisual equipment, information technology infrastructure, and digital tools from the list of eligible uses of school library aid.
- Effective FY26.

Cardiac Emergency Response Plan

- Requires a school district to develop a cardiac emergency response plan beginning in the 2026-2027 school year.
- Components include placement of automatic external defibrillators on school grounds and athletic venues.
- Appropriates \$2 million to implement cardiac emergency response plans in FY26 only.

Financial Projections for Stewartville Public Schools

	FY 2025 Current Law	FY 2026 Current Law	FY 2026 Proposed SF2255	FY 2027 Estimate Current Law	FY 2027 Proposed SF2255
Compensatory Aid	554,721	603,955	520,486	634,231	634,231
Literacy Incentive Aid	97,805	na	na	88,540	74,140