

# Wayne RESA

## 2026-2027 Proposed Budget

### Frequently Asked Questions

QUESTION	RESPONSE
1. What are the Agency's assumptions regarding revenue?	Due to the uncertainty of the State School Aid Budget, no increases in State Aid have been budgeted. State Aid related to one-time payments for reimbursement of retirement costs has been removed. Although Property Tax values are not yet available from the counties, we are projecting an increase in taxable values based on current trends.
2. What salary adjustments are included in the proposed budget?	Salaries have been updated to align with current collective bargaining agreements.
3. What assumptions were made about retirement costs?	The budget holds the retirement rate at a composite rate of 45% including passthrough revenue related to Section 147c of the state school aid budget to help offset a portion of the gross retirement expense.
4. What assumptions were made about health care costs?	The preliminary budget reflects the continued compliance with the Public Act 152 hard cap and has included the 2.9% increase for 2026 to raise the cap, as imposed by law.
5. How much does the Wayne RESA General Fund contribute toward the support of the Wayne County IT Consortium and the MiStar DNA/Illuminate Project?	The General Fund is budgeted to contribute \$4,977,600 to the Wayne County IT Consortium and \$218,400 to IT field services in 2026-27. The General Fund is budgeted to contribute \$1,079,800 to the MiStar DNA/Illuminate Project.
6. The budget projections indicate that the Agency will have a \$5,589,500 operating deficit in 2026-27. Is this expected to be a continued trend?	The agency has budgeted to use fund balance in a planned way to minimize impact on services to local schools and to cover one-time costs of necessary capital projects including remodeling and updating aging facilities, as well as upgrades related to security and replacements of equipment for the conference rooms vital to providing professional development. The projected 2026-27 operational deficit is reflective of that planned use of fund balance. The Wayne RESA Board's long-term strategy has been to maintain fund balance necessary to provide

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	stability in the delivery of operational services to constituent districts.
7. What are the revenue assumptions in the Act 18 Special Education fund?	Property tax revenues are budgeted to increase due to expected increases in taxable values across the county. Neither the State School Aid Budget nor the 2026 property values have been released at this time. Interest income is budgeted to remain stable for the upcoming year based on current market rates.
8. Why are transfers to other agencies increasing in the Act 18 Fund?	Transfers to other agencies (school districts and charter schools) are based on 2026-27 budgets submitted by Center Program Operating Districts.
9. Are one-time payments for unreimbursed special education costs included in the budget?	Yes, one-time payments related to unreimbursed special education and special education transportation costs are included in the 2026-27 budgets. Due to the diminishing level of projected fund balance available and the increase in center program budgets, the one-time payments related to the SE-4096 special education costs have been reduced by 50% compared to 2025-26.
10. What is the purpose of the Capital Projects Fund?	This fund was established by the Board of Education to provide for the capital needs of the organization and has been funded through transfers from the General Fund. The 2026-27 budget will use available fund balance from projected unfinished 2025-26 projects as well as an additional allocation from the General Fund. The projects budgeted to be completed in the 2026-27 school year will focus on enhancing conference space and remodeling aging facilities.
11. How will the Enhancement Millage fund be distributed during the 2026-27 Budget year?	The Renewal of the Enhancement Millage in 2020 and changes to legislation require RESA to distribute current year collections to both local Districts and Public School Academies. An increase in total current collections is budgeted based on projected property value increases.