

Budget Hearing

Monday, September 11, 2023 6:00 PM

Room 810, Elm Creek High School
230 Calkins Avenue
Elm Creek, NE 68836-0490

1. Call to Order
2. Open Meetings Act
3. Roll Call
4. Information Item
 - 4.1. Presentation of the Budget
5. Receive Public Comment Concerning the Proposed 2023-2024 Budget.
6. Adjournment

NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARING AND BUDGET SUMMARY

Elm Creek Public Schools (10-0009) in Buffalo County, Nebraska

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given, in compliance with the provisions of State Statute Sections 13-501 to 13-513, that the governing body will meet on the 11th day of September, 2023 at 6:00 o'clock, P.M., at Elm Creek Public Schools Room 810 for the purpose of hearing support, opposition, criticism, suggestions or observations of taxpayers relating to the following proposed budget and to consider amendments relative thereto. The budget detail is available at the office of the Clerk/Secretary during regular business hours. For more information on statewide receipts and expenditures, and to compare cost per pupil and performance to other school districts, go to: <https://nep.education.ne.gov>

FUNDS	Actual Disbursements & Transfers		Actual/Estimated Disbursements & Transfers		Budgeted Disbursements & Transfers		Necessary Cash Reserve (4)	Total Available Resources Before Property Taxes (5)	Total Personal and Real Property Tax Requirement (7)
	2021-2022 (1)	2022-2023 (2)	2022-2023 (2)	2023-2024 (3)					
General	\$ 5,049,014.00	\$ 5,550,748.00	\$ 5,550,748.00	\$ 6,477,271.00	\$ 590,000.00	\$ 3,158,288.00	\$ 3,948,468.00		
Depreciation	\$ 13,911.00	\$ 36,584.00	\$ 36,584.00	\$ 1,275,954.00		\$ 1,275,954.00			
Employee Benefit	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 11,435.00	\$ -	\$ 11,435.00			
Contingency	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -			
Activities	\$ 426,355.00	\$ 312,705.00	\$ 312,705.00	\$ 500,000.00	\$ -	\$ 500,000.00			
School Nutrition	\$ 217,018.00	\$ 213,195.00	\$ 213,195.00	\$ 336,075.00	\$ -	\$ 336,075.00			
Bond	\$ 683,951.00	\$ 794,506.00	\$ 794,506.00	\$ 1,513,000.00	\$ -	\$ 617,639.00	\$ 904,405.00		
Special Building	\$ 1,959,776.00	\$ 7,265,804.00	\$ 7,265,804.00	\$ 4,686,961.00		\$ 4,604,961.00	\$ 82,828.00		
Qualified Capital Purpose Undertaking	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		
Cooperative	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		
Student Fee	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		
TOTALS	\$ 8,350,025.00	\$ 14,173,542.00	\$ 14,173,542.00	\$ 14,800,696.00	\$ 590,000.00	\$ 10,504,352.00	\$ 4,935,701.00		

Breakdown of Property Tax		Bond Purposes	Non-Bond Purposes	Total
\$	904,405.00	\$	4,031,296.00	\$ 4,935,701.00

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Determining a districts budget and property tax requirement is a complex process. You need to balance the needs of the school district, while considering the desire for property tax relief. You need to be fiscally responsible while providing the funds needed to provide a high quality, education for your students.

Variables to Consider

State Aid

LB 583 - Created Foundation Aid: \$1,500 for every student enrolled in a district.
\$492,772 for Elm Creek during the 2023-24 school year.

Impact on State Aid - Under state aid formula Foundation Aid is considered a formula resource and equalization aid is reduced by an equal amount.

Equalization Aid: Covers the difference between a district needs and its local resources under the state aid formula.

\$433,036 of equalization aid in 2022-23 \$0 in 2023-24

Foundation Aid = 59,736 increase in State Aid
Option Funding =103,024 increase for 2023-24

New Expenses

New teaching Position	60,000
Property Insurance Increase	20,000
Salary & Benefit Increases for staff 4.6%	130,000
Other Expenses (Inflation)	30,000
Unknown costs associated with building project	?
Track Repair	?
Plan for routine maintenance of equipment and facilities	?

Cash Reserve

A healthy cash reserve helps mitigate the financial impact of major, non-recurring or unforeseen financial events. It also can reduce or even eliminate a district's need to cut staff, programs and services in response to certain financial obligations, such as emergency repairs or inconsistent tax receipts.

Bond Fund Payments

12/15/23	692,741 principal and interest
6/15/24	112,691 interest payment
8/31/24	175,000 Loan repayment to the building fund
	980,432 During 23-24 Budget Period
12/15/24	617,691 principal and interest

Fund Currently has 440,080

Valuation Increase – 8.9 % increase

2023-24. \$449,503,387
2022-23. \$412,569,498

State Statutes

Budget Authority

Total Allowable Budget Authority - 5,473,508

Special Education cost and grants are exempt from budget authority limits.

Total Adjusted General Fund Budget and Transfers - 5,472,271

Allowable Reserves

Total Allowable Reserves - 2,914,772

Necessary Cash Reserve as presented - 590,000

Depreciation Fund - 1,275,954

Total Reserves - 1,865,954

Levy Limit

1.05 applies to General and Building fund

2023-24 Levy as presented - 89.6834

Property Tax Request Authority

A formula sets a maximum amount of property taxes a school district may request

Applies to General and Building Funds combined

Total Property Tax Request Authority - 4,432,793

Total Property Tax Request as presented - 4,031,296

Unused Property Tax Authority - 401,497

Allowable Growth Percentage

Applies to General and Building Funds combined

Total Allowable Growth Percentage - 2.87%

Allowable dollar amount of increase - 114,654

Total Property Tax Request allowed - 4,109,569

(Without needing to attend Joint Hearing or postcard notification)

2023-24 Actual Non-Bond Property Tax Request - 4,031,296

Strategic Plan

Climate and Culture

Creating opportunities for students and staff to establish and maintain a district culture that emphasizes the importance of respect, acceptance, inclusion, social-emotional, mental health well-being, and connectedness is vital to the success of students and staff of ECPS.

High-Quality Expanded Learning Opportunities

Comprehensive and diverse learning experiences are critical to student growth. By offering diverse experiences (i.e., AP, HAL, STEM, CTE, non-athletic choices, etc.) students will be able to achieve greater success. Furthermore, enhancing expanded learning opportunities will help foster students' problem-solving abilities to prepare for their future success. Relevant curriculum and effective instructional methods are critical to student learning that focuses on achievement and provides for the needs of all students, thus maximizing student betterment. Through adopted core curriculum, vertical and horizontal alignment, the district promotes effective transitions for students at each grade and level throughout the PK-12 system.

District Resources

We are committed to providing well-maintained and safe buildings and grounds to support an environment in which students can learn and staff can perform effectively. To ensure success the district will establish the following:

- a. Short and long-term budgetary planning

- b. Facilities Planning and Goals
- c. Curriculum Plans and Clear Academic Goals and Processes
- d. Safety Planning and Preparation

Personnel Effectiveness

Fundamental to the success of the Elm Creek Public Schools is the ability of the district to recruit, develop, and retain high-quality educators. The success of the ECPS district and its ability to bring the mission and vision to life for the students is predicated on the district's most valuable assets — the dedicated and professional teachers, administrators, and staff. Investing in their skills, knowledge, and personal expertise will advance the content and instruction provided throughout the district. ECPS must provide professional development for all staff to ensure a cohesive and growing school community.

Family and Community Partnerships

Creating the necessary partnerships that emphasizes the importance of the school district to the future of the community and to fully engage all stakeholders, ECPS must grow and improve our methods of communication, engagement, and transparency to build trust internally and reach and engage the community at large. Through purposeful communication and engagement, the district will create and maintain a unified vision

Board Governance

As the board, we will commit resources to support the long-term goals of the school district. Through evaluation, accountability, and policy, we leverage the capacity to ensure the success of our goals.