

What We Heard on the **BUDGET**

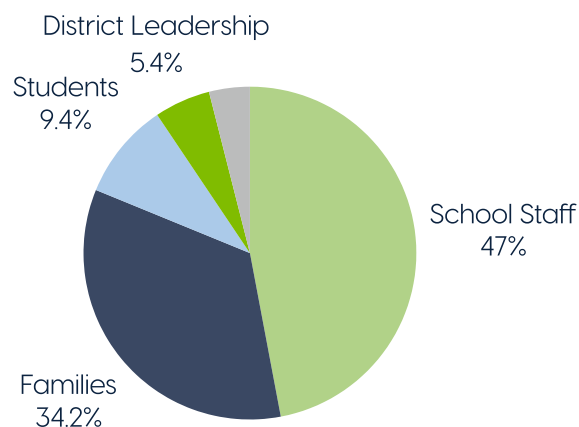
OVERVIEW

East Baton Rouge Parish School System (EBRPSS) is committed to creating a more collaborative, strategic, and responsive budget process. During the fall and winter of 2024-2025, the district engaged the community to get input on the budget priorities and process.

QUESTIONS

- What is the most important aspect of the EBR student experience?
- How would you rank spending priorities for the district?
- What type of information would you like to be shared with the public during the budget process?
- How would you prefer to engage with the district regarding budget decisions?

AUDIENCE



ENGAGEMENT

- **Focus Groups:** Four small-group conversations with the Student, Staff, Principal, and Family Advisory Boards.
- **Online Survey:** A five-question survey posted to the EBR website.
- **Community Conversation on the Budget:** In-person engagement open to the entire EBR community.
- **Interviews:** One-on-one conversations with the school board and district leadership.

PRIORITIES

The top spending priorities for the community are:

- **School Staff Compensation**
- **Safety and Security**
- **Facilities Improvements**

| FEEDBACK | ACTION |
|--|--|
| The community wants to know more about individual school budgets | Sharing school-by-school budget details: A page for each school with information on the resources each receives for a given year |

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SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS AND PARENTS ALIKE
NEED TO BE MADE AWARE OF INDIVIDUAL
SCHOOL BUDGET PLANS. – PARENT

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| FEEDBACK | ACTION |
|---|---|
| The community wants a clear, accessible guide to the budget process and what money is spent on. | <u>Launched the Community Budget Guide:</u> A quick-and-easy-to-follow guide to the EBR budget process (In English and Spanish!) |

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“IT NEEDS TO BE CLEAR EXACTLY WHAT THE
BUDGET IS AND HOW THE MONEY IS BEING
SPENT, AND AN EXPLANATION OF WHY IT IS
BEING SPENT THERE.” – SCHOOL STAFF MEMBER

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| FEEDBACK | ACTION |
|---|---|
| The community wants multiple opportunities to learn about and give feedback on the budget early in the process. | Incorporated multiple opportunities for community engagement: An online budget survey, a series of focus groups, and a community conversation on the budget. |

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“A BUDGET SHOULD BE AVAILABLE BEFORE
APPROVAL BY THE SCHOOL BOARD. COMMUNITY
MEETINGS AND DISCUSSIONS OF THE BUDGETS
SHOULD BE HELD IN EACH DISTRICT.” - PARENT

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