

# What We Heard on the FY27 BUDGET



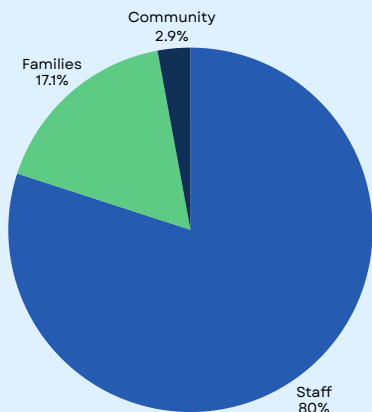
## Overview

In the spring of the 25-26 school year, the East Baton Rouge Parish School System (EBRPSS) launched a community engagement effort to gather feedback on budget priorities and decision-making processes, reinforcing its focus on transparency, collaboration, and strategic financial planning.

## 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.
- **Social Media:** Engaged community through live social media event regarding the budget.

## Priorities

The top spending priorities for the community are::

- **School Staff Compensation**
- **Student Literacy**
- **Facilities Improvements**

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## FEEDBACK

The community wants more academic support and remediation.

## ACTION

### **Budget Discussions and Literacy**

**Opportunities:** Engaging stakeholders in budget discussions and expanding Foundational Learning Centers to improve literacy.

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*“FOR ME, IT MEANS TRUST AND ACCOUNTABILITY. I WOULD LIKE TO UNDERSTAND HOW THE BUDGET IS BEING USED.” - PARENT*

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## FEEDBACK

The community wants equitable staffing allocations and programming.

## ACTION

### **Launched the School-by-School Budgets**

**Guide:** Providing transparent, school-specific budget information on district website.

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*“BE OPEN ABOUT WHAT IS HAPPENING AND INCLUDE THE PUBLIC AND SCHOOL EMPLOYEES IN DECISIONS.” - SCHOOL STAFF MEMBER*

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## FEEDBACK

The community wants clear and concise communication regarding the budget.

## ACTION

### **Incorporated multiple opportunities for**

**community engagement:** An online budget survey, a series of focus groups, and two community conversations on the budget.

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*“THIS IS VITAL IN GAINING THE TRUST OF THE COMMUNITY AND ALL STAKEHOLDERS.” - COMMUNITY MEMBER*

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