



**PUBLIC REQUEST TO ADDRESS
THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA**

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

HILDA L. SOLIS
HOLLY J. MITCHELL
LINDSEY P. HORVATH
JANICE HAHN
KATHRYN BARGER

Correspondence Received

The following individuals submitted comments on agenda item:				
Agenda #	Relate To	Position	Name	Comments
36.		Oppose	Monisha Parker	<p>Explaining the revenue and expenditures for the San Marino Unified School District (SMUSD) for the budget years 2025-2026 and 2026-2027 involves breaking down the components of both revenue sources and expenditures. Here's a structured approach to discussing this:</p> <p>1. Overview of the Budget Process Begin by explaining the context of the budgeting process within the SMUSD. Mention the importance of budgeting in planning for educational programs, facilities maintenance, staffing, and student services.</p> <p>2. Revenue Sources Key Revenue Sources Local Funding: This often includes property taxes, local grants, and fees for services. State Funding: A significant portion of school funding comes from the state through various formulas, including the Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF), which is based on enrollment numbers and specific student demographics. Federal Funding: This includes Title I funds, special education funding, and other federal program grants. Other Sources: Consider including miscellaneous revenue from donations, partnerships, or other income-generating activities. Projections for 2025-2026 and 2026-2027 - Provide estimates for each revenue source over the two fiscal years, noting any expected changes due to increasing enrollment, changes in property tax assessments, or adjustments in state funding formulas. - Discuss the economic factors that might affect local and state revenue, such as housing market trends, economic growth in the area, and state budget conditions.</p> <p>3. Expenditures Major Expenditure Categories Personnel Costs: Salaries and benefits for teachers, administrative staff, and support staff make up the bulk of the expenditures. Instructional Materials: Funding for textbooks, technology, and other educational resources. Facilities Maintenance: Costs associated with keeping school buildings in good repair. Student Services: Funding for counseling, special education services, and extracurricular activities. Administrative Expenses: Costs related to district administration, including legal fees and operational expenses. Projections for 2025-2026 and 2026-2027 - Detail anticipated increases in spending due to salary raises, benefits</p>



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adjustments, or new educational programs.

- Mention any planned investments in technology or infrastructure improvements, as well as any budgetary constraints or potential cuts.

4. Budget Balancing and Challenges

- Discuss the overall strategy for balancing revenue and expenditures, which can include prioritizing funding for essential services while making cuts in less critical areas.

- Address challenges such as rising costs, fluctuating enrollment numbers, or uncertainties in state funding.

5. Community Input and Transparency

Highlight the importance of engaging with the community during the budget planning process. This can involve community forums, surveys, and collaboration with parent-teacher associations to gather input and ensure that the budget aligns with community priorities.

6. Conclusion

Summarize the key points regarding expected revenue and expenditures, reaffirm the commitment to providing quality education, and invite stakeholders to participate in further discussions.

Additional Considerations

- Consider including graphics or charts to visually represent revenue sources and expenditures.

- It may be helpful to provide context on the previous years' budgets to compare trends and provide a clear picture of growth or decline in certain areas.

In presenting this information, ensure to use clear and accessible language, as the audience may include members of the community who are not familiar with financial terminology.

Strengthening the San Marino Unified School District (SMUSD) while reducing expenditures in areas like Personnel Costs, Instructional Materials, Facilities Maintenance, Student Services, and Administrative Expenses involves a multifaceted approach that balances fiscal responsibility with educational quality. Here are some strategies that could be considered:

1. Personnel Costs

Review Staffing Levels: Conduct a comprehensive audit of staff roles and responsibilities to ensure that resources are allocated effectively. Implement a more strategic hiring process that emphasizes flexibility in staffing (e.g., using part-time or temporary staff where applicable).

Professional Development: Invest in training that equips existing staff with skills to handle multiple roles or responsibilities, thus reducing the need for additional hires.

Retirement Incentives: Offer buyout packages to senior staff nearing



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retirement, thus opening positions for new hires at lower salary rates.
Shared Services: Collaborate with neighboring school districts to share specialized staff (e.g., counselors, psychologists), which can reduce costs while maintaining services.

2. Instructional Materials

Digital Resources: Transition to digital instructional materials and resources, which can reduce costs over time. Seek grants and partnerships for technology funding.
Bulk Purchasing: Coordinate bulk purchasing agreements with other districts or educational entities to secure discounts on instructional materials.
Open Educational Resources (OER): Utilize OER to access high-quality instructional materials at little to no cost, reducing the need for costly textbooks and published materials.

3. Facilities Maintenance

Preventive Maintenance: Implement a preventive maintenance program to reduce the long-term costs associated with facilities upkeep. This can extend the life of buildings and systems, thereby saving money over time.
Energy Efficiency: Invest in energy-efficient upgrades to facilities (e.g., solar panels, LED lighting) to reduce utility costs. Seek grants and incentives offered by local and state programs.
Community Partnerships: Collaborate with local organizations for community service projects focused on maintaining school facilities, reducing the burden on district resources.

4. Student Services

Need-Based Programs: Assess the effectiveness of various student services, focusing on evidence-based programs that have a high impact on student outcomes to ensure resources are focused on the most effective areas.
Grant Funding: Actively pursue grants from state and federal sources for student services to offset costs.
Partnerships with Organizations: Establish partnerships with local nonprofits and community organizations that can provide services to students (e.g., mental health support, after-school programs) at reduced costs.

5. Administrative Expenses

Efficiency Audits: Conduct regular audits of administrative processes to identify areas where efficiencies can be improved, thereby reducing overhead costs.
Technology Integration: Invest in technology that streamlines administrative tasks, such as cloud-based systems for data management, financial tracking, and communications.
Centralized Services: Look into consolidating administrative functions between schools within the district to reduce duplicative efforts and overhead.

6. Engage Stakeholders

Involve the Community: Engage parents, teachers, students, and local

				<p>community members in discussions about expenditures to gather ideas and foster support for proposed cost-saving measures.</p> <p>Transparent Budgeting: Maintain transparent communication about the budget process with stakeholders to build trust and ensure buy-in for necessary changes.</p> <p>Conclusion Strengthening the San Marino Unified School District while reducing expenditures requires careful planning, community involvement, and a willingness to innovate. By strategically evaluating resources and embracing new methodologies, the district can maintain high standards of education even in a constrained financial environment.</p>
		Item Total	1	
Grand Total			1	