



PARK WEST SCHOOL DIVISION

Date: Wednesday, March 5, 2025

Topic: **Public Budget Presentation**

Yesterday evening, the draft budget for 2025-2026 was shared at a public meeting. For additional information you can:

- View the [presentation slides](#)
- Watch a [recording](#) of the session using passcode: YMEwH=1b

Highlights of the proposed budget include the following:

- Park West received a 1% (\$146K) increase in the province's operating grant which was tied for the smallest increase among Manitoba school divisions. This is significantly lower than the 8.8% increase in funding in 2023-24 and the 7.3% increase received in 2024-2025.
- The budget aims to sustain existing programs and services while prioritizing staffing support, wellness, and addressing inflationary pressures. It also includes plans for new bus purchases, ongoing staffing cost adjustments, and investments in the ICT device replacement plan.
- The proposed Special Levy collected by municipalities will increase from 3.1% in 2024 to 8.3% in 2025. This 8.3% Special Levy is the tax increase for ratepayers.
- The combination of increased property assessment and the \$1500 Homeowners Affordability Tax Credit will result in most residential property owners not paying any education tax on their principal residence. Rebates also continue for farmland. The presentation slides provide examples of the impact of this tax increase on residential, commercial, and farmland property.

Individuals and groups are welcome to provide feedback on this proposed budget to the Board of Trustees at a Zoom session on Tuesday, March 11 at 6:00 pm. Please register your intent to present to the Board by 1:00 pm on Friday, March 7 with Secretary-Treasurer Stevee DeCorby at sdecorby@pwsd.ca or (204) 842-2100.

The remaining timeline for the budget process is as follows:

- March 13 – Budget approval at regular Board meeting
- March 15 – Deadline for informing municipalities of the special levy amount
- March 31 – Budget template due to province