

# Elementary School Budget

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## Overview

An elementary school budget is a financial document that outlines expected revenues and expenditures for a single academic year. It ensures that resources are available to support the educational needs of young students from kindergarten through fifth or sixth grade, depending on the school system.

## Revenue Sources

- **State Funding:** Financial support from the state based on student enrollment and specific educational needs.
- **Local Taxes:** Revenue derived from property taxes within the school district, crucial for supporting school operations.
- **Federal Grants:** Funds aimed at supporting specific programs such as Title I for low-income students, special education, and school nutrition programs.
- **Parent-Teacher Organization (PTO) Funds:** Contributions from PTO fundraisers which often help finance extracurricular activities and classroom resources not covered by other funding sources.

## Expenditures

- **Salaries and Benefits:** The largest expense, covering salaries for teachers, administrative staff, and support personnel such as school nurses and counselors.
- **Instructional Materials and Supplies:** Costs for textbooks, educational software, classroom supplies, and other instructional materials essential for teaching.
- **Facilities Maintenance:** Includes expenses for the upkeep of school buildings and grounds, such as repairs, cleaning, and utilities.
- **Technology:** Investments in computer labs, tablets, smartboards, and other technology to enhance learning.
- **Extracurricular Activities:** Funding for after-school programs and events that provide additional educational opportunities outside the standard curriculum.

## Capital Expenditures

- **Infrastructure Projects:** Major expenditures for building renovations or construction, aimed at improving or expanding school facilities.
- **Equipment Purchases:** Outlays for durable goods such as playground equipment or cafeteria furnishings that have a long-term use.

## Summary and Projections

This section provides a comprehensive overview of the financial health of the school by detailing total revenues against expenditures. It identifies areas where the budget is balanced or where adjustments may be necessary. Future projections help guide long-term financial planning and development.

## Approval Process

- **Draft Review:** The budget draft is prepared by the school's administration in collaboration with district officials and is initially reviewed internally.
- **Public Input:** Draft budgets are often shared with the community through public meetings, allowing for input and revisions based on feedback from parents and other stakeholders.
- **Final Approval:** The school board reviews and approves the budget. This approval finalizes the financial plan the school will operate under for the upcoming school year.

## Monitoring and Adjustments

Ongoing monitoring is crucial to ensure the budget is adhered to throughout the year. Regular financial reports help detect and correct any deviations from the planned budget, ensuring financial stability and accountability.