

POLK AVENUE ELEMENTARY – 1351
BUDGET NARRATIVE
FY2026

Recent funding cuts at both the federal & state levels have placed a strain on the budget process. Polk Avenue Elementary (PAE) will continue to focus on English Language Arts (ELA) for all grade levels, and to support B.E.S.T. Math Standards.

Over the past three school years, our Reading Proficiency (3rd - 5th) has increased from 30% to 47%. Our 3rd-grade reading proficiency has improved 18 percentage points from 35% to 53% in the spring of 2025. Our Math proficiency has seen overall growth in the past three years from 31% to 45%. Science scores for 5th grade have grown from 34% to 43% proficient. We are also very proud of the work in our Kindergarten and 1st grade classrooms, as they achieved proficiency rates over 65% in Reading and 68% Math.

This budget includes our most important resource, our teachers and support staff, needed to continue to make our gains. Closing our student achievement gaps is our priority!

Revenues:

- The budget revenues are based on serving 530 FTE.
- Polk Avenue is requesting 70% (\$102,816) of the cleaning contract to be covered using the Fund Balance from the General Fund.

Expenditures:

- The proposed budget reflects salary adjustments funded with the Teacher Salary Increase Allocation for Instructional staff at a 2% increase for returning teachers. All Non-Instructional staff are budgeted to receive the lesser of a 1% increase of their current base or \$1,000.
- Due to the Federal funding cuts, the general fund is budgeted to support more of the salaries normally paid for with IDEA & Title I.
- All travel, professional development & capital expenses are put on hold. Should there be changes in the funding, we will re-evaluate these needs.

LAKE WALES CHARTER SCHOOLS, Inc.

FY26 Adopted General Fund Budget

All School Sites & Administration

		Polk Avenue Elementary	
		FY25 General Fund ¹	FY26 General Fund ²
REVENUES			
State and local sources		\$ 4,733,025	\$ 4,500,513
Contributions and other revenue		-	-
Other financing sources		80,923	102,816
Total Revenues		4,813,948	4,603,329
EXPENDITURES			
Instruction		3,263,447	3,034,176
Pupil Personnel Services		57,961	58,476
Instructional Media		89,203	90,282
Instruction & Curriculum Development			19,743
Instructional Staff Training			
Instructional Related Technology			
Board of Education		18,750	18,000
General Administration			
School Administration		424,735	475,536
Facilities Acquisition & Construction			
Fiscal Services		20,319	20,670
Central Services			
Transportation			
Operation of Plant		346,291	407,399
Maintenance of Plant			
Administrative Related Technology			
Community Services/Athletics			
Debt Service			
Operating Transfers		593,242	479,047
Total Expenditures		4,813,948	4,603,329
Net Changes in Fund Balance		-	-
FEFP Budgeted Enrollment		521.00	530

E Estimate

1. Adopted by Board of Trustees - February 24, 2025
2. Presented for Board Approval- August 11, 2025
3. Other Financing Sources will be the schools fund balance as needed.

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