

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	
	<i>FY25 General Fund¹</i>	<i>FY26 General Fund²</i>
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.*