



# PAULDING COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT FY2021 BUDGET OVERVIEW

## Engage. Inspire. Prepare.

PCSD's Strategic Plan provides a framework and sets the tone for creating a dynamic culture, where students are engaged, inspired and prepared for their future. Student success for ALL starts with a passion for effective stewardship of taxpayer dollars. The budget is the catalyst for creating safe schools and engaging environments, where students can thrive.

**INTEGRITY.** Results of the most recent financial audit were outstanding, and the District received Georgia Department of Audits and Accounts' *Excellence in Financial Reporting Award*.

**STEWARDSHIP.** PCSD recently received a 4-Star *Financial Efficiency Rating*, which measures a district's per-pupil spending in relation to the academic achievements of its students. Only 14 of 180 districts or 8% scored better than PCSD (FY19).



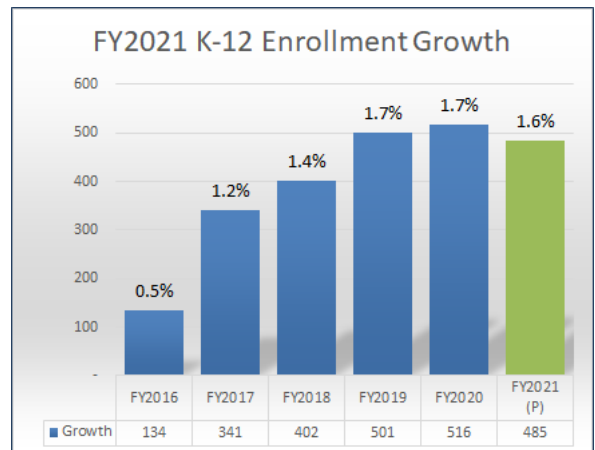
Engage. Inspire. Prepare.  
Superintendent Dr. Rickan Clark

Every year the Paulding County School District (PCSD) develops and adopts a budget for the next fiscal year. This report is designed to inform parents, students, staff and stakeholders about the key metrics involved in developing our budget and highlights for the upcoming year.

## FY2021 Budget Highlights

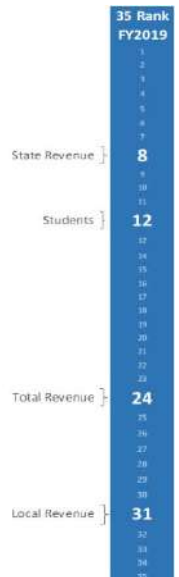
**Enrollment Growth.** PCSD is projected to educate 30,711 students in FY2021 (school year 2020-2021), an increase of 485 students or 1.6%.

In the 8 years preceding the collapse of the housing market, the district experienced tremendous enrollment growth, increasing more than 80% from fiscal years 2000 to 2007. From 2008 to 2011 enrollment growth declined by two-thirds. By 2012, enrollment was declining, compared to modest increases statewide. From 2013 to 2020 enrollment grew 2,116 or 7.5%. 2020 enrollment grew 1.7%, to 30,226.



**Low Wealth.** Despite favorable employment, income and free-and-reduced lunch statistics, PCSD is considered low wealth due to a limited commercial and industrial tax base and the large number of school-aged children per household. Below are rankings against the 35 large districts in Georgia (school districts over 10,000). Rankings against all 180 school districts in Georgia are in parentheses.

- 12th Largest District as of FY2019
- 31st in Local Revenue per Student (121<sup>st</sup> out of 180)
  - ✓ Collect \$1,331 less than Average per Student or \$40 million
- 8th in State Revenue per Student (92<sup>nd</sup> out of 180)
  - ✓ Collect \$816 more than Average per Student
  - ✓ 3<sup>rd</sup> Largest Recipient of Equalization (\$29 million)
- 24th in Total Revenue, including Federal sources, per Student (150<sup>th</sup> out of 180)
  - ✓ Collect \$698 or 7% less than Average per Student or \$21 million



# Demographics and Statistics

## Paulding County

- 1.5% State Population
- 1.3% Housing Units
- 9.2% More Persons per Household (Age 5-18)
- 3% Commercial / Industrial Land Use

## PCSD

- 19 Elementary Schools
- 9 Middle Schools
- 5 High Schools
- Alternative Education
- College & Career Academy
- 3,610 Employees
- 2,347 Instructional (65%)

## PCSD Rank out of 180 School Districts in GA

- 12<sup>th</sup> in Enrollment
  - 121<sup>st</sup> in Local Revenue \$40 million deficit, compared to the statewide average
  - 92<sup>nd</sup> in State Revenue
  - 150<sup>th</sup> in Total Revenue
- \*Per Pupil, GaDOE FY2019

## PCSD Funding Sources

- 30% Local (42% Average)
  - 66% State (52% Average)
  - 4% Federal
- \*GaDOE FY2019

## \$363.9m FY2021 Budget

All Funds

- General Fund (80%)
- Special Revenue (6%)
- Capital Projects (7%)
- Debt Service (2%)
- School Nutrition (5%)



# The vision of the Paulding County School District is to prepare ALL students for success today and tomorrow.

## General Fund Revenue Highlights: Equalization Grant and Austerity Reductions

The General Fund accounts for approximately 80% of all District spending and is the main operating fund for the school district. Projected revenues for FY2021 total \$283.1 million, a decrease of \$13.1 million or 4.4%.

As a low wealth school district, the product of a limited commercial / industrial tax base and more students per household than statewide averages, PCSD will receive \$28.9 million of Equalization Grant funding in FY2021 (the third highest recipient in the State).

	FY20 Budget	FY21 Budget	Change	%
QBE Funding, net	\$ 171.3	\$ 154.0	\$ (17.3)	-10.1%
Equalization Grant	28.8	28.9	0.2	0.6%
Local Taxes	93.8	98.0	4.2	4.5%
Other Local Revenue	2.3	2.1	(0.2)	-8.4%
<b>Total GF Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 296.2</b>	<b>\$ 283.1</b>	<b>\$ (13.1)</b>	<b>-4.4%</b>

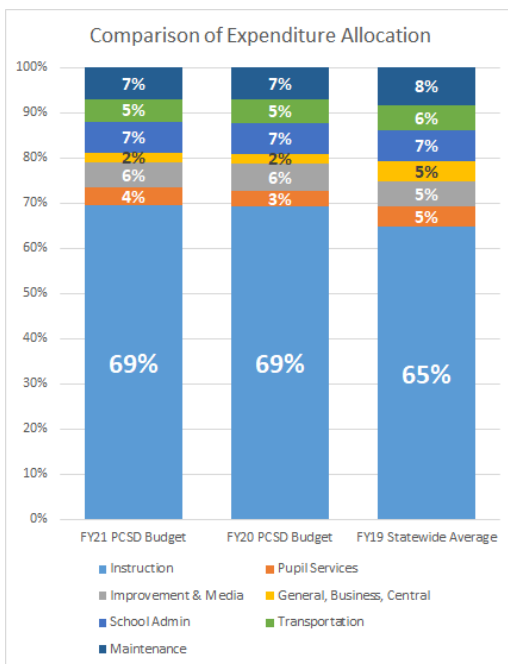
\*Excludes Grants and Transfers to Other Funds

Funding under the state Quality Basic Education (QBE) formula will be reduced by 10.4% or \$17.5 million in austerity reductions due to decreases in state revenue related to COVID-19. Local taxes are projected to increase \$4.2 million, with an improving tax digest and a millage rate of 18.750 (2020 rate).

## General Fund Expenditure Highlights: Instruction, Human Capital and Student Safety

The District will continue to focus on safety and instruction in FY2021. PCSD allocates more of its resources to instruction than statewide averages, while central office type expenditures are half the size of the average district.

Projected expenditures for FY2021 total \$291.0 million, a decrease of \$5.1 million or 1.7%.



89% of the budget is spent on salaries and benefits. The remaining 11% of the General Fund budget covers all other operating expenditures, including critical areas such as technology and textbooks.

As the District copes with the operational and financial ramifications of COVID-19, here are the goals guiding our budget decisions:

- Minimize disruptions to schools, staff and students
- Position district for potential further declines in funding and a protracted recovery
- Prepare for new instructional delivery methods
- Carefully monitor short and long-term consequences of cost mitigations

Please visit our website for more information and sources for the information presented in this report. Go to [www.paulding.k12.ga.us](http://www.paulding.k12.ga.us).