

#### Finance Office

Derek Pinto, Ed.D. Assistant Superintendent, Finance 155 Merrimack Street Lowell, Massachusetts 01852

dpinto@lowell.k12.ma.us www.lowell.k12.ma.us 978-674-4324

**To:** Liam Skinner, Superintendent of Schools

From: Derek Pinto, Assistant Superintendent of Finance

**Date:** April 2, 2025

Subject: FY25, FY26 Budget Process Updates

Purpose: To share information on the LPS FY25 Budget and FY26 Budget Process

### FY25 Budget

- Feb 24-March 17: Completed a second set of budget meetings with all school site Cost Centers
  - o Hour-long appointments were held twice daily (on most days)
  - o Topics: FY25 Year-to-date budget, open purchase orders, funds transfers, position control and Q&A
- March 4: Presented the first round of Outstanding Prior Year Expenditures to City Council
- Finalized school site transfers moving funds to appropriate accounts for final quarter spending

### **FY26 Budget Process**

### LPS Finance:

- March 27: Sent a note to School Committee to revise Budget Book presentation and hearing dates
- Presented a new set of budget workbooks to the Central Office leadership
- Completed the review of all school site budget workbooks
- Continuing to work on the review/refining of budget lines

# Next Steps:

- Final draft of the FY26 Budget Book, including the incorporation of LHS student artwork
- Prioritizing budget requests from all Cost Centers
- Polling the school committee on availability for proposed hearing dates

## Additionally, LPS Finance:

- March 14: Attended the Urban Superintendents Network to get updates on the FY26 state budget forecast
- Announced 5 new grant awards totaling \$270K+
- Continues to engage with the City IT Dept. to secure access to MUNIS for site leaders and Cost Center Managers