



District Accountability Committee Budget Priorities for 2024-25

- 1. Support salary initiatives underway in the district:** The District Accountability Committee supports the work of the district and its staff in investing in our most precious resources in serving our students – our staff. We believe the investment in our compensation system is one of our highest budget priorities for the 2023-24 school year and encourage that to be the top priority in budget planning this year.
- 2. Fund initiatives to continue to increase security in our schools:** The safety of our students and our schools are of utmost importance to our community. We encourage the district continue its efforts to fund school safety and security efforts to improve overall safety of our facilities. In the coming year, the district hopes to expand its armed personnel to ensure each school has a full-time armed staff member present on each campus.
- 3. Support the acquisition of staff to support students with unique needs in Special Education:** We recognize that many students in Elizabeth have growing needs and the availability of staff to serve those students has become challenging. We encourage the district continue to invest resources in securing additional staff to support students with unique needs in this area.
- 4. Continue the effort to increase fund balance:** Earlier this year, the board changed their policy to work toward increasing overall fund balance to a total fund balance of 10% in reserve. By doing so, this will allow the district when an economic downturn occurs in the future to have a reserve to prevent deep cuts from being necessary to programs based upon board direction. Currently the board only retains a 2% reserve in addition to the required 3% tabor reserve.