



ETOWAH COUNTY

SCHOOL SYSTEM SNAPSHOT: 2026 EDITION*

401 Broad Street | Gadsden, AL 35901 | (256) 549-7578

Superintendent

Dr. Alan Cosby

Board Members

Timothy Womack, Jay Freeman, Susan Spiker, Scarlett Farley, Danny Golden, Tim Langdale, Amanda Johnson



\$6,984,223

Cost of One Month's Operation/General Fund



4.85

Number of Months Reserve Balance

By the Numbers



Schools¹

22



Students/ADM²

8,376



Free & Reduced Lunch

57%

Community Eligibility Program

56%



Number of Route Buses³

100

Buses 10 yrs. old or less

100%

Students Bused

4,267



Full-Time Employees

1,168

Teachers

549

Principals/
Assistant Principals

36

Counselors

25

Librarians

19

Other Certified Employees

34

Support Personnel

505

¹ Schools with enrollment, including Alternative and Career Technical Education

² Average Daily Membership (includes virtual students)

³ Data collected in 2024 and used for FY26 funding

⁴ 2024-2025 NEA Rankings of the States

Total Per-Pupil Expenditures (PPE)

Etowah County \$12,164

Alabama Average \$13,981

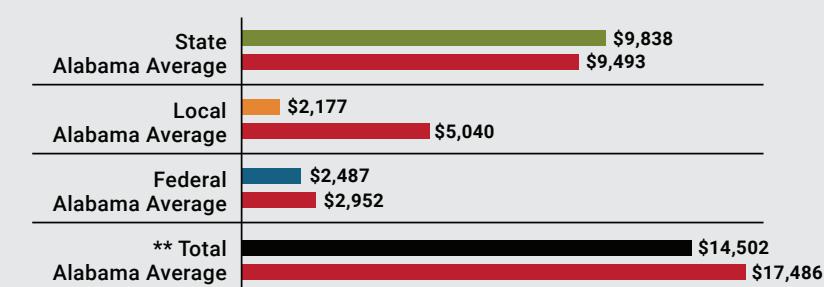
Alabama Lowest System \$9,159

Alabama Highest System \$22,502

United States Average⁴ \$16,990

Per-Pupil Revenue Sources

Etowah County Revenue Sources



**Total Revenue Among 139 School Systems



78

STATE
RANK

130

LOCAL
RANK

86

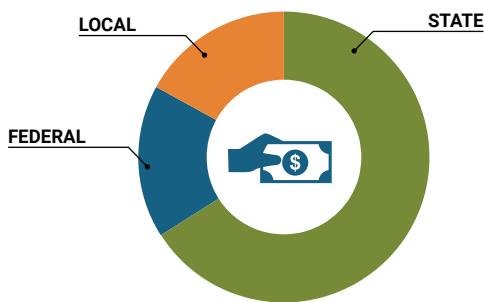
FEDERAL
RANK

OVERALL SYSTEM RANK **131**

LEAs with a substantial increase in reported ADM may show lower rankings since additional revenues reflecting those increases are not received until the following fiscal year. LEAs with a statewide virtual program may also be ranked lower overall due to state revenues received for increased ADM as compared to their local and federal revenue sources.

School System Revenue

How was your school system funded?¹



\$82,405,111	STATE	66%
\$20,832,583	FEDERAL	17%
\$22,482,865	LOCAL	18%
—		
\$5,810,690		
	Local 10-Mill Match	
\$16,672,175		AVAILABLE LOCAL REVENUE

VALUE OF 1-MILL
For Your School System



School System Spending

How did your school system spend state & local dollars?¹

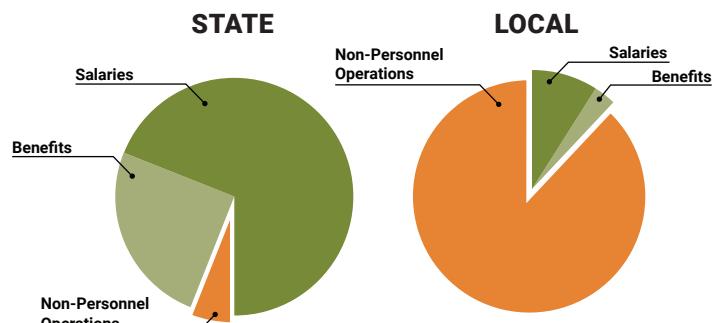
	STATE SPENDING ^{2,3}	LOCAL SPENDING ²
Salaries	\$49,686,925	\$936,403
Benefits	\$18,197,963	\$214,167
Non-Personnel Operations	\$4,557,971	\$8,810,356
TOTAL	\$72,442,859	\$9,960,927

¹ Revenues and expenditures may contain nominal variances due to rounding

² Does not include debt service or capital outlay

³ Includes 10-mill match

⁴ Such as utilities, operations & maintenance, etc.



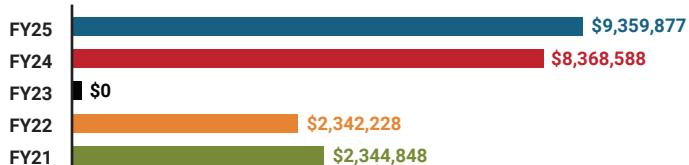
Only 6% of state funding is available for non-personnel expenditures⁴

Instructional Support

■ FY25 ■ FY26*

Classroom Materials & Supplies	■ \$900	■ \$1,000
Technology	■ \$500	■ \$500
Library Enhancements	■ \$158	■ \$158
Professional Development	■ \$100	■ \$100
Textbooks/ Digital Resources	■ \$100	■ \$100
Common Purchase*	■ \$100	■ \$0
Removed for FY26		

Educational Advancement & Technology Fund⁵



⁵ These one-time supplemental funds may be used for repairs and deferred maintenance, capital outlay, classroom instructional supplies, insurance for facilities, transportation, technology and school safety. For FY23, there was no EAT allocation for school systems.

System Debt

TOTAL DEBT⁶ ■ **DEBT PER STUDENT**
\$43,951,186 ■ \$5,247

⁶ The debt totals in system audit reports may differ due to audit adjustments.



ALABAMA
ASSOCIATION OF
SCHOOL BOARDS

Sally Smith, J.D.
Executive Director

Tracey A. Meyer
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