

# Dollars and \$ense

January 2014

## **Fund Accounting**

The Department of Public Instruction (DPI) requires all districts to report on financial data using the Wisconsin Uniform Financial Accounting Requirements (WUFAR). Financial administration requires that each transaction be identified for administrative and accounting purposes. The first identification is by "fund" which is an independent fiscal and accounting entity, requiring its own set of books in accordance with special regulations, restrictions, and limitations that earmark each fund for a specific activity or for attaining certain objectives. Each fund must be so accounted for that the identity of its resources and obligations and its revenues and expenditures is continually maintained. By following WUFAR standards, school districts conform to generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP), a uniform minimum standard of guidelines for financial accounting and reporting.

### **Fund 10 General Fund**

The general fund is used to account for all financial transactions relating to the district's current operations, except for those required to be accounted for in other funds.

### **Fund 21 Special Revenue Trust Fund**

This fund is used to account for trust funds that can be used for district operations. The source of such funds is gifts and donations from private parties. Cash and investments in this fund are expended pursuant to donor specifications.

### **Fund 27 Special Education Fund**

The fund is used to account for the excess cost of providing special education and related services for students with disabilities during the school year. No fund balance or deficit may exist in this fund. The general fund (Fund 10) supports any deficit incurred.

### **Fund 38 Non-Referendum Debt Service Fund**

This fund is used to account for transactions for the repayment of debt issues that were incurred without referendum approval. The School District of Weyauwega-Fremont does not currently carry any Fund 38 debt.

### **Fund 39 Referendum Approved Debt**

This fund is used to account for transactions for the repayment of debt issues that were approved by a referendum. The School District of Weyauwega-Fremont does not currently carry any Fund 39 debt.

### **Fund 41 Capital Expansion Fund**

State statute restricts the use of this fund for capital expenditures related to buildings and sites. Levied dollars accumulate in this fund over time and when expended, the costs are amortized over the life of the fund. For example, if a district levies \$100,000 for 10 years and then uses the funds on a \$1,000,000 capital expenditure, the dollars are amortized over 10 years. This stabilizes the tax rate over the ten years and avoids spikes and valleys. The district must levy a dollar amount each year in order to continue to establish the "life" of the fund. The School District of Weyauwega-Fremont utilizes this fund for future capital expenditures.

### **Fund 50 Food Service Fund**

All revenues and expenditures related to pupil food service activities are recorded in this fund. There may be no deficit in this fund. In the event of a deficit, the General Fund (Fund 10) would support the fund.

### **Fund 60 Student Activity Fund**

This fund is primarily used to account for pupil organizations

### **Fund 72 Scholarship Fund**

This fund is used to account for gifts and donations specified for the benefit of private individuals and organizations not under the control of the school board. Cash and investments are expended pursuant to the donor specifications.

### **Fund 73 Employee Benefit Trust Fund**

This fund is used to account for resources held in trust for formally established post-employment benefit plans.

### **Fund 80 Community Service Fund**

This fund is used to account for activities such as adult education, community recreation programs such as evening swimming pool operation, softball leagues and other programs which are not elementary and secondary educational programs but have the primary function of serving the community. The School District of Weyauwega-Fremont utilizes Fund 80 to account for the STEP program.

The Senior Tax Exchange Program (STEP) allows senior citizens, 62 years of age or older, whose primary residences are in the District and who pay property tax on these residences, to work in their local school. Pay is \$6.50 per hour and the yearly maximum is \$429. Compensation is dispersed via a two-party check made out to the worker and the appropriate treasurer in December.