



January 28, 2026

The Honorable Senator Janice Marchman  
Chair, Joint Technology Committee  
State Capitol Building  
Denver, CO 80233

**RE: Amendments to CDE's FY 2026-27 School Finance IT Capital Request**

Dear Chair Marchman:

The Office of State Planning & Budgeting requests to reduce the phase II request for the School Finance Modernization IT capital construction project for FY 2026-27 from \$3,150,000 GF to \$369,279 GF.

At the end of December, the Colorado Department of Education (CDE) finalized the Request for Proposal process with the vendor. The total contract is for \$2,750,000 with \$240,000 in operating costs annually over the 12 year contract period. CDE is able to fund the project through the appropriation received for phase I funding of \$3,000,000 GF in FY 2025-26.

In parallel, CDE submitted an operating request "S-04/BA-05 School Finance Modernization Project Management" to request term limited FTE for the School Finance IT capital project.

OSPB would like to incorporate the funding requested through this operating request to the existing FY 2026-27 IT capital School Finance Modernization request. The amount requested would reflect the funding in S-04/BA-05 across FY 2025-26, FY 2026-27 and FY 2027-28 since IT capital appropriations can be spent down over three fiscal years. The reason for the change is that those FTE are term limited and serve to support the implementation of the School Finance project. Term limited staff used to implement IT capital requests are usually funded through the project's capital funding. CDE has been made aware of this strategy and supports this request. CDE will be able to leverage unspent funds from the original IT Capital appropriation for FY 2025-26 until they receive the full amount of funding, if approved, for FY 2026-27.

The table below summarizes the changes requested herein:



Project	Type	Year	Original Request/ Funding	Fund Source	Updated Request/ Funding Amount
School Finance - Phase I	IT Capital - Funded	FY 2025-26	\$3,000,000	GF	\$3,000,000
School Finance - Phase II	IT Capital - Requested	FY 2026-27	\$3,150,000	GF	\$369,279
S-04/BA-05 School Finance Project Mgmt	Operating - Requested	FY 2025-26, FY 2026-27, and FY 2027-28	\$369,279	GF	\$0
Total			\$6,519,279	GF	\$3,369,279

Thank you for your consideration of the amended request. Please contact me with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

*Adrian Leiter*

Adrian Leiter  
Deputy Director of Budget

CC:

- Representative Brianna Titone, Vice Chair, JTC
- Representative Amy Paschal, JTC
- Senator Robert Rodriguez, JTC
- Representative Ron Weinberg, JTC
- Senator Mark Baisley, JTC
- Samantha Falco, JTC Staff
- Craig Harper, Joint Budget Committee Staff Director
- Andrew McLeer, Joint Budget Committee Staff
- David Edinger, Chief Information Officer
- Mark Ferrandino, OSPB Director