

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

A. Additional Information on Elementary School Library Budgets – Information item

School libraries play a critical role in ensuring Idaho’s students develop strong literacy skills, which lay the foundation for academic success. However, most elementary school libraries in Idaho do not have sufficient funding to meet the academic and recreational reading needs of their students.

The ideal book budget for a school library depends on the size of the student body. According to the International Reading Association, a school library should contain a minimum of 20 books per student. The school’s library book budget should be sufficient to add two new books per year for each student. This allows school libraries to regularly replace old, worn, and/or outdated books. Most school districts in Idaho do not meet this funding standard, and even some of the largest districts in the state provide no library book budget.

According to “School Library Journal,” the average 2022 prices for hardcover library books for an elementary school library range from \$16 to \$26.50 each. Meanwhile, more than 60% of elementary schools in Idaho have an annual book budget of \$1,000 or less.

Without adequate annual book budgets, librarians must rely on book fairs and donations to fill the shelves. It is an uneven system that often results in library collections built according to titles provided by the school’s book fair vendor rather than the needs of its students and teachers.

Some schools provide a regular annual budget that is calculated based on the number of students attending the school. In this more equitable system, librarians can depend on that budget for long-term collection development planning and prioritization. They have funds on hand to meet demand for popular titles and provide content to support curriculum.

The Idaho Commission for Libraries (ICfL) currently offers two funding opportunities to help build elementary school library collections:

- Through the [School Library Access Mini-Grant Program](#), ICfL has awarded \$1,852,000 in state funds to 280 elementary schools since the 2012-2013 school year and 24 secondary schools in the 2022-2023 school year. Grants range from \$1,000-\$5,000 and are primarily used to purchase library books. An important element of this grant program is the professional development school librarians receive when they are awarded these funds.
- Through the [Bucks for Books Award Program](#), a partnership with the Idaho Lottery, the ICfL and Idaho Lottery have awarded \$185,000 to 69 elementary schools since the 2019-2020 school year, with another \$50,000 to be awarded this school year.

Both programs aim to increase the number of students who are reading at grade level and becoming proficient readers.

The following data has been collected from more than 290 applications received for both grant programs in the last three school years. The budget figures are self-reported and not verified. Some school budget figures may include one-time windfalls, such as levy dollars or one-time federal funds, but

may not reflect a regular line-item budget. We have included funding from additional sources, such as book fairs, separately. When schools appeared as duplicates, we have included the most recent year reported, resulting in data from 213 elementary school budgets.

Of those 213 schools, 115 (54%) had district book budgets of less than \$1,000 (see breakdowns below).

School book budgets for 213 schools that applied in the last three school years:

School book budget	Number of applicants	Percentage of applicants
No budget	63 applicants	29.58%
\$1 - \$500	36 applicants	16.9%
\$501 - \$1,000	34 applicants	15.96%
\$1,001 - \$2,000	44 applicants	20.66%
\$2,001 - \$3,000	15 applicants	7.04%
\$3,001+	21 applicants	9.86%

Elementary school	School district	Number of students	Total book budget from school or school district	School or school district book budget per student	Funds from additional sources (donations, book fairs, etc.)
A. J. Winters Elementary	Bear Lake County District #33	317	\$2,000	\$6.31	\$2,408.17
A. W. Johnson Elementary	Firth District #59	325	\$1,000	\$3.08	\$539.35
A. B. McDonald Elementary	Moscow District #281	411	\$2,000	\$4.87	\$1,070
Acequia Elementary	Minidoka County Joint District #331	285	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Adams Elementary	Madison District #321	267	\$100	\$0.37	\$1,500
A. H. Bush Elementary	Idaho Falls District #91	400	\$500	\$1.25	\$1,333
Amity Elementary	Boise District #1	416	\$4,529	\$10.89	\$5,667
Ammon Elementary	Bonneville Joint District #93	319	\$1,200	\$3.76	\$327
Arbon Valley Elementary	Arbon Elementary District #383	22	\$200	\$9.09	\$100
Ashton Elementary	Fremont County Joint District #215	250	\$500	\$2	\$1,000
Atlas Elementary	Coeur d'Alene District #271	400	\$100	\$0.25	\$320
Bellevue Elementary	Blaine County District #61	185	\$2,299	\$12.43	\$1,300
Betty Kiefer Elementary	Lakeland Joint District #272	399	\$2,000	\$5.01	\$ -

Bickel Elementary	Twin Falls District #411	206	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Birch Elementary	Vallivue District #139	646	\$435	\$0.67	\$600
Blackfoot Heritage Sixth Grade	Blackfoot District #55	275	\$1,000	\$3.64	\$ -
Bonneville Online Elementary	Bonneville Joint District #93	520	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Borah Elementary	Coeur d'Alene District #271	300	\$ -	\$ -	\$1,600
Bridgewater Elementary	Bonneville Joint District #93	416	\$2,000	\$4.81	\$ -
Bryan Elementary	Coeur d'Alene District #271	404	\$ -	\$ -	\$3,450
Burton Elementary	Madison District #321	677	\$1,300	\$1.92	\$2,500
Butte View Elementary	Emmett Independent District #221	160	\$2,000	\$12.50	\$200
Caldwell School District Migrant Program	Caldwell District #132	75-300	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Camas County Elementary School	Camas County District #121	175	\$1,500	\$8.57	\$1,098
Camelot Elementary	Boise District #1	355	\$1,700	\$4.79	\$392.79
Carey Public School	Blaine County District #61	127	\$1,000	\$7.87	\$1,000
CDA K-12 Project-Based Magnet School	Coeur d' Alene District #271	400-450	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Centennial Elementary	Nampa District #131	485	\$ -	\$ -	\$3,284.61
Centennial Elementary	Lewiston Independent District #340	360	\$2,000	\$5.56	\$ -
Central Elementary	Sugar-Salem District #322	426	\$1,000	\$2.35	\$450
Challis Elementary	Challis Joint District #181	156	\$400	\$2.56	\$990
Chief Joseph School of the Arts	West Ada District #2	524	\$2,000	\$3.82	\$1,500
Christine Donnell School of the Arts	West Ada District #2	500	\$100	\$0.20	\$500
Clearwater Valley Elementary	Mountain View District #244	152	\$1,800	\$11.84	\$250

Cloverdale Elementary	Bonneville Joint District #93	520	\$ -	\$ -	\$1,798.95
Coeur d' Alene Tribal School	Coeur d'Alene Tribal School #535	107	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Connor Academy	Connor Academy Charter #460	561	\$2,000	\$3.57	\$1,700
Cottonwood Elementary	Jefferson County Joint District #251	631	\$100	\$0.16	\$3,500
Council Elementary	Council District #13	177	\$ -	\$ -	\$1,750
Culdesac Elementary	Culdesac Joint District #342	61	\$300	\$4.92	\$1,000
Cynthia Mann Elementary	Boise District #1	364	\$3,844	\$10.56	\$1,120
Declo Elementary	Cassia Joint District #151	445	\$ -	\$ -	\$150
Desert Sage Elementary	West Ada District #2	663	\$ -	\$ -	\$2,551.74
Desert Springs Elementary	Vallivue District #139	750	\$1,000	\$1.33	\$3,000
Discovery Elementary	Bonneville Joint District #93	572	\$ -	\$ -	\$2,080
Donald D. Stalker Elementary	Blackfoot District #55	264	\$500	\$1.89	\$450
Downey Elementary	Marsh Valley Joint District #21	95	\$1,500	\$15.79	\$ -
Driggs Elementary	Teton County District #401	288	\$2,040	\$7.08	\$ -
Eagle Hills Elementary	West Ada District #2	605	\$ -	\$ -	\$3,000
East Elementary	Mountain Home District #193	421	\$ -	\$ -	\$2,875.37
Ernest Hemingway STEAM School	Blaine County District #61	504	\$6,650	\$13.19	\$3,744
Fairview Elementary	Bonneville Joint District #93	291	\$ -	\$ -	\$700
Falls Valley Elementary	Bonneville Joint District #93	501	\$1,500	\$2.99	\$1,800
Fernan STEM Academy	Coeur d'Alene District #271	400	\$ -	\$ -	\$200
Filer Elementary	Filer District #413	454	\$500	\$1.10	\$2,592
Frontier Elementary	West Ada District #2	357	\$ -	\$ -	\$3,640.97
Fruitland Elementary	Fruitland District #373	564	\$1,000	\$1.77	\$3,000

Future Public Charter School	Future Public School Charter #499	303	\$3,000	\$9.90	\$1,800
Genesee Elementary	Genesee Joint District #282	300	\$1,000	\$3.33	\$500
Georgetown Elementary	Bear Lake Country District #33	102	\$850	\$8.33	\$1,000
Glenns Ferry Elementary	Glenns Ferry District #192	219	\$1,000	\$4.57	\$ -
Gooding Elementary and Middle	Gooding Joint District #231	850	\$3,000	\$3.53	\$1,750
Grace Elementary	Grace District #148	188	\$ -	\$ -	\$348
Greensferry Elementary	Post Falls District #273	423	\$392	\$0.93	\$3,000
Groveland Elementary	Blackfoot District #55	198	\$600	\$3.03	\$2,630.75
Hagerman Elementary	Hagerman District #233	175	\$1,400	\$8	\$200
Hailey Elementary	Blaine County District #61	398	\$2,000	\$5.03	\$1,450
Hamer Elementary	West Jefferson District #253	38	\$495	\$13.03	\$50
Hansen Elementary	Hansen District #415	190	\$500	\$2.63	\$ -
Harrison Elementary	Kootenai District #274	64	\$1,500	\$23.44	\$ -
Harrison Elementary	Twin Falls District #411	449	\$ -	\$ -	\$1,500
Hawthorne Elementary	Idaho Falls District #91	392	\$1,500	\$3.83	\$2,750
Hayden Meadows Elementary	Coeur d'Alene District #271	525	\$ -	\$ -	\$6,500
Hazel Stuart Elementary	Shelley Joint District #60	376	\$2,500	\$6.65	\$1,440
Henry's Fork Elementary	Fremont County Joint District #215	550	\$1,000	\$1.82	\$537.69
Heritage Community Charter	Heritage Community Charter #481	532	\$ -	\$ -	\$5,900
Heyburn Elementary	Minidoka County Joint District #331	567	\$ -	\$ -	\$4,898.69
Heyburn Elementary	St. Maries Joint District #41	401	\$ -	\$ -	\$600
Hibbard Elementary	Madison District #321	240	\$ -	\$ -	\$1,494

Hillcrest Elementary	Boise District #1	346	\$3,725	\$10.77	\$1,100
Hillsdale Elementary	West Ada District #2	795	\$ -	\$ -	\$5,300
Hillview Elementary	Bonneville Joint District #93	510	\$ -	\$ -	\$1,234.06
Hollister Elementary	Filer District #413	65	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Homedale Elementary	Homedale Joint District #370	460	\$3,037.50	\$6.60	\$1,042.50
Hope Elementary	Lake Pend Oreille District #84	103	\$523	\$5.08	\$225
Horizon Elementary Kindergarten Center	Jerome Joint District #261	120	\$6,175	\$51.46	\$2,000
I.B. Perrine Elementary	Twin Falls District #411	456	\$500	\$1.10	\$1,170
Idaho Arts Charter School	Idaho Arts Charter School #795	600	\$ -	\$ -	\$3,808.50
Idaho Arts Charter School Primary Campus	Idaho Arts Charter School #795	720	\$ -	\$ -	\$1,600
Idaho Hill Elementary	West Bonner County District #83	122	\$1,783	\$14.61	\$ -
Idaho School for the Deaf and the Blind	Idaho Educational Services for the Deaf and the Blind #596	440	\$8,000	\$1.81	\$635
Indian Creek Elementary	Kuna Joint District #3	270	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Indian Hills Elementary	Pocatello/Chubbuck District #25	500	\$3,203	\$6.41	\$ -
Inkom Elementary	Marsh Valley Joint District #21	228	\$1,500	\$6.58	\$ -
Iona Elementary	Bonneville Joint District #93	580	\$1,000	\$1.72	\$1,000
Iowa Elementary	Nampa District #131	512	\$ -	\$ -	\$2,001
J. Russell Elementary	Moscow District #281	190	\$1,800	\$9.47	\$325
Jefferson Elementary	Boise District #1	270	\$3,162	\$11.71	\$1,000
Jefferson Elementary	Jerome Joint District #261	584	\$4,050	\$6.93	\$3,720
Jefferson Elementary	Jefferson County Joint District #251	552	\$1,500	\$2.72	\$1,900

John Brown Elementary	Lakeland Joint District #272	350	\$2,548	\$7.28	\$ -
Juliaetta Elementary	Kendrick District #283	135	\$472.29	\$3.50	\$ -
Kamiah Elementary	Kamiah Joint District #304	120	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Kennedy Elementary	Madison District #321	387	\$500	\$1.29	\$1,258.18
Kershaw Intermediate School	Sugar-Salem District #322	315	\$900	\$2.86	\$2,167
Kimberly Elementary	Kimberly District #414	433	\$3,769	\$8.70	\$7,382.67
Koelsch Elementary	Boise District #1	350	\$4,000	\$11.43	\$200
Kootenai Elementary	Lake Pend Oreille District #84	386	\$2,563	\$6.64	\$ -
Lake Ridge Elementary	Nampa District #131	583	\$100	\$0.17	\$3,000
Lakevue Elementary	Vallivue District #139	714	\$1,800	\$2.52	\$10,432
Leadore School	South Lemhi District #292	88	\$700	\$7.95	\$ -
Lena Whitmore Elementary	Moscow District #281	252	\$2,000	\$7.94	\$991.31
Lewis and Clark Elementary	Caldwell District #132	462	\$600	\$1.30	\$3,900
Liberty Elementary	Boise District #1	525	\$4,662	\$8.88	\$2,288.03
Lincoln Elementary	Caldwell District #132	320	\$ -	\$ -	\$500
Lincoln Elementary	Madison District #321	380	\$300	\$0.79	\$ -
Lincoln Elementary	Twin Falls District #411	364	\$700	\$1.92	\$7,297.29
Linden Park Elementary	Idaho Falls District #91	393	\$1,000	\$2.54	\$4,100
Lindy Ross Elementary	Clark County District #161	59	\$2,000	\$33.90	\$250
Longfellow Elementary	Idaho Falls District #91	560	\$500	\$0.89	\$2,160
Malad Elementary	Oneida County District #351	306	\$ -	\$ -	\$160.46
Mary McPherson Elementary	West Ada District #2	550	\$500	\$0.91	\$1,250

Maxine Johnson Elementary	Parma District #137	387	\$1,500	\$3.88	\$600
McGhee Elementary	Lewiston Independent District #340	255	\$1,700	\$6.67	\$ -
McMillan Elementary	West Ada District #2	233	\$ -	\$ -	\$2,327
McSorley Elementary	Lewiston Independent District #340	280	\$2,150	\$7.68	\$100
Middleton Heights Elementary	Middleton District #134	488	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Midvale Elementary	Midvale District #433	120	\$1,200	\$10	\$ -
Midway Elementary	Jefferson County Joint District #251	365	\$ -	\$ -	\$550
Mill Creek Elementary	Middleton District #134	717	\$ -	\$ -	\$6,515.51
Moreland Elementary	Snake River District #52	265	\$1,275	\$4.81	\$1,200
Morley Nelson Elementary	Boise District #1	557	\$5,113	\$9.18	\$1,272.21
Mountain Valley Elementary	Bonneville Joint District #93	453	\$2,744	\$6.06	\$2,800
Mountain View Elementary	Marsh Valley Joint District #21	232	\$2,000	\$8.62	\$ -
Murtaugh Elementary	Murtaugh Joint District #418	190	\$2,000	\$10.53	\$ -
Naples Elementary	Boundary Country District #101	108	\$500	\$4.63	\$2,750
Nezperce Elementary	Nezperce District #302	93	\$1,000	\$10.75	\$ -
North Gem Elementary	North Gem District #149	162	\$2,500	\$15.43	\$800
North Star Charter	North Star Charter #493	522	\$320	\$0.61	\$100
Northside Elementary	Lake Pend Oreille District #84	171	\$647.92	\$3.79	\$866.78
Northwest Expedition Academy	Coeur d'Alene District #271	305	\$ -	\$ -	\$7,500
Notus Elementary	Notus District #135	200	\$1,000	\$5	\$650
Oakley Elementary	Cassia Joint District #151	183	\$ -	\$ -	\$300

Orchards Elementary	Lewiston Independent District #340	268	\$800	\$2.99	\$ -
Oregon Trail Elementary	Twin Falls District #411	550	\$800	\$1.45	\$131.69
Paris Elementary	Bear Lake County District #33	195	\$1,000	\$5.13	\$1,000
Paul Elementary	Minidoka County Joint District #331	492	\$ -	\$ -	\$2,779.26
Payette Primary School	Payette Joint District #371	428	\$ -	\$ -	\$1,073
Peck Elementary	Orofino Joint District #171	12	\$300	\$25	\$ -
Peregrine Elementary	West Ada District #2	540	\$ -	\$ -	\$1,700
Pioneer Elementary	Preston Joint District #201	501	\$1,500	\$2.99	\$ -
Pioneer Primary	Weiser District #431	391	\$2,500	\$6.39	\$500
Ponderosa Elementary	Post Falls District #273	509	\$300	\$0.59	\$6,000
Popplewell Elementary	Buhl Joint District #412	524	\$ -	\$ -	\$3,000
Potlatch Elementary	Potlatch District #285	261	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Prairie View Elementary	Post Falls School District #273	450	\$250	\$0.56	\$1,382
Priest Lake Elementary	West Bonner County District #83	54	\$700	\$12.96	\$ -
Priest River Elementary	West Bonner County District #83	380	\$6,838	\$17.99	\$ -
Richfield School	Richfield District #316	213	\$1,500	\$7.04	\$ -
Riverside Elementary	Snake River District #52	252	\$2,400	\$9.52	\$ -
Roberts Elementary	Jefferson County Joint District #251	174	\$ -	\$ -	\$6,827.12
Rock Creek Elementary	Twin Falls District #411	675	\$1,000	\$1.48	\$ -
Ross Elementary	Kuna Joint District #3	231	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Russell Elementary	Moscow District #281	190	\$1,800	\$9.47	\$900
Sacajawea Elementary	Caldwell District #132	493	\$ -	\$ -	\$1,500

Sage International School of Boise	Sage International School of Boise #475	920	\$7,000	\$7.61	\$7,000
Sawtooth Elementary	Twin Falls District #411	519	\$ -	\$ -	\$1,637.30
Seltice Elementary	Post Falls District #273	392	\$392.33	\$1	\$100
Shadow Hills Elementary	Boise District #1	460	\$4,776	\$10.38	\$2,122
Shoshone Elementary	Shoshone Joint District #312	469	\$300	\$0.64	\$1,000
Siena Elementary	West Ada District #2	675	\$1,000	\$1.48	\$2,500
Silver Hills Elementary	Wallace District #393	278	\$1,500	\$5.40	\$ -
Skyway Elementary	Coeur d'Alene School District #271	650	\$200	\$0.31	\$5,500
Snake River Elementary	Nampa District #131	309	\$ -	\$ -	\$5,688
Sorensen Magnet School	Coeur d'Alene District #271	314	\$300	\$0.96	\$3,200.19
South Fork Elementary	Madison District #321	332	\$1,400	\$4.22	\$2,600
South Fork Elementary	Jefferson County Joint District #251	689	\$2,000	\$2.90	\$3,000
Southside Elementary	Lake Pend Oreille District #84	151	\$700	\$4.64	\$ -
Spirit Lake Elementary	Lakeland Joint District #272	348	\$2,205	\$6.34	\$1,583
Stone Elementary	Oneida County District #351	19	\$250	\$13.16	\$80
Stricker Elementary	Kimberly District #414	591	\$3,769	\$6.38	\$7,709.17
Summit Hills Elementary	Bonneville Joint District #93	541	\$ -	\$ -	\$3,500
Swan Valley Elementary	Swan Valley District #92	72	\$1,000	\$13.89	\$750
Taylor's Crossing Public Charter	Taylor's Crossing Public Charter #461	293	\$460	\$1.57	\$2,201.24
Temple View Elementary	Idaho Falls District #91	360	\$500	\$1.39	\$2,500
Tendoy Elementary	Pocatello/Chubbuck District #25	276	\$1,579	\$5.72	\$611.57
Tetonia Elementary	Teton County District #401	82	\$514	\$6.27	\$ -
Theresa Bunker Elementary	Idaho Falls District #91	294	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -

Thirkill Elementary	Soda Springs Joint District #150	344	\$2,500	\$7.27	\$ -
Tiebreaker Elementary	Bonneville Joint District #93	480	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Treaty Rock Elementary	Post Falls District #273	357	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Troy Elementary	Troy District #287	150	\$2,800	\$18.67	\$ -
Tyhee Elementary	Pocatello/Chubbuck District #25	600	\$3,717	\$6.20	\$200
Ucon Elementary	Bonneville Joint District #93	430	\$600	\$1.40	\$2,500
Upriver Elementary	St. Maries Joint District #41	80	\$400	\$5	\$ -
Valley View Elementary	Boundary County District #101	373	\$2,000	\$5.36	\$1,000
Van Buren Elementary	Caldwell District #132	602	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Victor Elementary	Teton County District #401	152	\$2,000	\$13.16	\$ -
Victory Charter	Victory Charter School #451	380	\$ -	\$ -	\$168.33
Wapello Elementary	Blackfoot District #55	225	\$722.50	\$3.21	\$1,410.51
Washington Elementary	Caldwell District #132	542	\$800	\$1.48	\$3,797
Washington Elementary	Pocatello/Chubbuck District #25	220	\$1,269	\$5.77	\$1,300
West Canyon Elementary	Vallivue District #139	467	\$1,000	\$2.14	\$2,040
West Elementary	Mountain Home District #193	496	\$ -	\$ -	\$2,600
West Ridge Elementary	Post Falls District #273	385	\$237.33	\$0.62	\$ -
Westside Elementary	Payette Joint District #371	205	\$ -	\$ -	\$500
White Pine Charter	White Pine Charter #464	527	\$1,800	\$3.42	\$3,000
White Pine Elementary	Boise District #1	500	\$4,692	\$9.38	\$ -
White Pine Elementary	Cassia Joint District #151	641	\$ -	\$ -	\$1,500
Whittier Elementary	Boise District #1	580	\$5,043	\$8.69	\$300
Willow Creek Elementary	West Ada District #2	548	\$ -	\$ -	\$600

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Winton Elementary	Coeur d'Alene District #271	516	\$ -	\$ -	\$1,700
Woodland Hills Elementary	Bonneville Joint District #93	560	\$2,000	\$3.57	\$1,300