



# Recommended Budget Presentation 2026 - 2027

Board of Education  
March 30, 2026

# District Goals and Mission Statement

- Students will graduate college and career ready.
- Students will productively engage in their school community.
- Students will be digitally fluent by demonstrating the ability to live productively and safely in a technology-influenced society.



# Guiding Principles

- The budget is the financial representation of our academic program.
- Our district goals must drive how we utilize our limited financial and human resources.
- We must use data to guide our decisions.
- Where possible, we will reduce staff through attrition.
- Where reasonable, we will make reductions.
- Where reasonable, we will use fund balance/reserves.

# Budget Pressures



# Employee Retirement

- Employee Retirement System Contribution Rate
  - Increase from 16.5% to 17.6%
  - Budget Impact
    - Increase of \$239,000



# Health Insurance

- Approximately 20% of the Budget
- Plans
  - Family - \$42,000
    - District Share - \$34,000
  - Individual - \$16,000
    - District Share - \$13,000



# Health Insurance

- Health Insurance
  - Medical
    - Highmark - Increase of 16.5%
    - CDPHP - Increase of 10.45%
  - Budget Impact
    - \$1.1 Million



# Utilities

- **Electric Costs**
  - **Recent History**
    - 2023 - \$302,436
    - 2024 - \$391,390
    - 2025 - \$485,388
      - Increase of 60%
  - **Budget Impact**
    - Increase of \$190,000



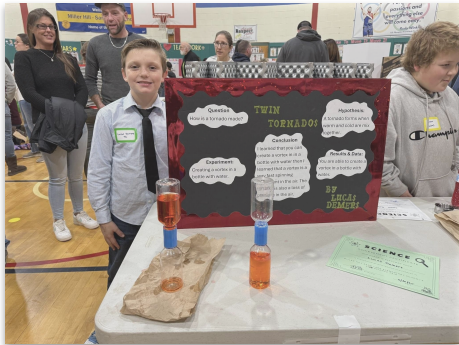
# Current Budget

- Guidelines from the Auditor
  - Year End Expenses to be Between 95-97% of Budget
  - 3-5% of Budget Remains at Year End
- Current Expense Projection
  - 3% Under Budget
    - Will spend 97% of projected expenses
- Current Revenue Projection
  - 1.4% Over Budget
- Differential Between Expenses/Revenue (Projected)
  - Approximately \$523,000



# Budget Pressures Summary

- Employee Retirement, Health Insurance and Electric Costs
  - Increase of approximately \$1.5 million
- Expenses Nearly Matching Revenue
  - Leads to use of Fund Balance and Reserves





# Financial Information

# How Schools Are Funded

- In 2000,
  - Approximately 60% of Revenue from State
  - Approximately **33%** of Revenue from Local Taxpayers
- In 2005,
  - Less than 50% from the State for the First Time
- In 2025,
  - Approximately 36.5% of Revenue from State
  - Approximately **53%** of Revenue from Local Taxpayers

*20% more of our revenue comes from the local taxpayer over the last 25 years.*

# State Aid

- Foundation Aid (Governor's Proposal)
  - Originally
    - \$513,899 (2.66%)
  - Updated
    - \$451,271 (2.34%)



# State Aid

	<b>2025-2026 Budgeted Aid</b>	<b>2026-2027 Budgeted Aid</b>	<b>Difference</b>
Foundation Aid	\$18,964,893	\$19,745,265	\$780,372
Building Aid	\$2,055,637	\$2,666,859	\$611,222
Reimbursable Aids	\$6,451,994	\$7,138,412	\$686,418
Total	\$27,472,524	\$29,550,536	\$2,078,012

# Budget Numbers - Expenditures

	<b>2025-2026</b>	<b>2026-2027</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>% of Budget</b>
Salaries	\$33,707,851	\$34,176,034	\$468,183	46.64%
Benefits	\$20,215,183	\$21,320,809	\$1,105,626	29.10%
Contractual Items	\$3,669,660	\$4,022,275	\$352,615	5.49%
Tuitions	\$1,312,080	\$1,637,335	\$325,255	2.23%
Equipment/Supplies	\$1,967,455	\$1,922,785	(\$44,670)	2.62%
BOCES	\$5,122,822	\$5,009,645	(\$113,177)	6.84%
Debt Service	\$3,328,849	\$4,984,127	\$1,655,278	6.80%
Interfunds Transfers	\$180,000	\$200,000	\$20,000	0.27%
	\$69,503,900	\$73,273,010	\$3,769,110	100.00%

# Revenue & Fund Balance

	<b>2025-2026</b>	<b>2026-2027</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>% of Revenue</b>
Property Tax Levy	\$37,022,118	\$38,499,300	\$1,477,182	52.54%
State Sources	\$27,472,524	\$29,550,536	\$2,078,012	39.53%
Federal Source	\$180,000	\$180,000	\$0	0.26%
Other Local	\$2,222,650	\$2,136,566	(\$86,084)	3.20%
Interfund Revenue	\$0	\$300,000	\$300,000	0.00%
Assigned Fund Balance	\$1,631,608	\$1,631,608	\$0	2.35%
Planned Use of Reserves	\$975,000	\$975,000	\$0	1.40%
Total	\$69,503,900	\$73,273,010	\$3,769,110	100.00%

# Budget Summary

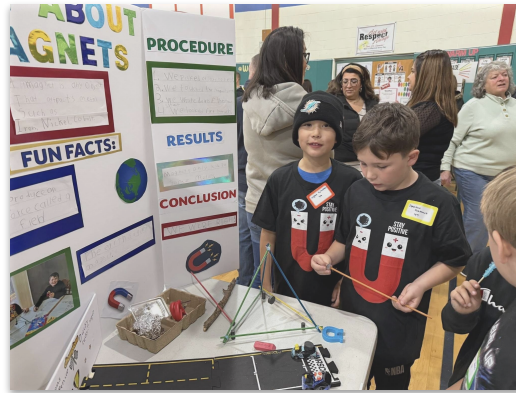
	<b>2025-2026</b>	<b>2026-2027</b>	<b>Change</b>
Expenditures	\$69,503,900	\$73,273,010	\$3,769,110
Revenue	\$66,897,292	\$70,666,402	\$3,769,110
Difference	\$2,606,608	\$2,606,608	\$0
Assigned Fund Balance	\$1,631,608	\$1,631,608	\$0
Planned Use of Reserves	\$975,000	\$975,000	\$0
Difference	\$0	\$0	



# Tax Cap

# Tax Cap

- Tax Cap Maximum
  - 4.66%
  - Board had to decide if to go to the maximum



# Tax Cap

## Why is our tax cap so high?

- **Capital Projects**
  - 2021 - From temporary to permanent financing
  - 2024 - Starting temporary financing
  - This impacts the tax cap formula
- **Tax cap formula**
  - Capital exclusion - allows for capital projects to not impact program
- **Voters approved the capital projects**
  - They approved the debt
  - The tax levy is how they pay debt

# Tax Cap

Did we expect the tax cap to be high as a result of the capital projects?

- Yes
  - This is why we spent so much time analyzing what should be included in the project and what should be left out
  - Strike a balance between what we needed, what we wanted, and what we could afford

# Tax Cap

How do mitigate the impact of capital projects?

- Capital Reserve Fund
- Retiring old debt



# Tax Cap History

	2012-13	2013-14	2014-2015	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-19
Tax Levy	3.95%	2.99%	2.02%	2.25%	3.85%	0.76%	2.73%
Tax Cap	3.95%	2.99%	2.02%	2.25%	3.85%	0.76%	2.73%

# Tax Cap History

	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
Tax Levy	2.59%	2.58%	0.95%	2.97%	2.96%	3.98%	2.41%
Tax Cap	2.59%	2.58%	1.90%	2.97%	2.96%	3.98%	2.41%

# Compounding Effect of Not Going to the Tax Cap Max

Below Numbers Based on 2021-22 at 2.5% Per Year

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Total
\$308,847	\$316,568	\$324,482	\$332,594	\$340,909	\$349,432	\$358,168	\$367,122	\$376,300	\$385,708	\$3,460,131

**\$308,847 equals \$3,460,131 over 10 years**

# Tax Levy Data

	<b>4.66%</b>	<b>4.5%</b>	<b>4.25%</b>	<b>3.99%</b>	<b>3.75%</b>	<b>3.50%</b>
<b>Tax Levy</b>	38,746,409	38,688,113	38,595,558	38,499,301	38,410,447	38,317,892
<b>Levy Increase</b>	1,724,291	1,665,995	1,573,440	1,477,183	1,388,329	1,295,774
<b>Difference to Cap</b>	0	(58,296)	(150,851)	(247,108)	(335,962)	(428,517)

# Tax Levy Data

	<b>4.66%</b>	<b>4.50%</b>	<b>4.25%</b>	<b>3.99%</b>	<b>3.75%</b>	<b>3.50%</b>
<b>Estimated Impact Per \$100,000</b>	\$62.62	\$60.50	\$57.14	\$53.64	\$50.42	\$47.06
<b>Difference to Cap</b>		\$2.12	\$5.48	\$8.98	\$12.20	\$15.56

	<b>4.66%</b>	<b>4.50%</b>	<b>4.25%</b>	<b>3.99%</b>	<b>3.75%</b>	<b>3.50%</b>
<b>\$100,000</b>	\$62.62	\$60.50	\$57.14	\$53.64	\$50.42	\$47.06
<b>\$200,000</b>	\$125.24	\$121.00	\$114.28	\$107.28	\$100.84	\$94.12
<b>\$300,000</b>	\$187.86	\$181.50	\$171.42	\$160.92	\$151.26	\$141.18

# Tax Levy Data

	<b>4.66%</b>	<b>4.50%</b>	<b>4.25%</b>	<b>3.99%</b>	<b>3.75%</b>	<b>3.5%</b>
<b>Capital</b>	676,286	676,286	676,286	676,286	676,286	676,286
<b>Program</b>	1,048,005	989,709	897,154	800,897	712,043	619,488
<b>Total</b>	1,724,291	1,665,995	1,573,440	1,477,183	1,388,329	1,295,774

# What's In

Tax Levy	4.66%	4.5%	4.25%	3.99%	3.75%	3.5%
Budget Deficit	\$0	-\$58k	-\$151k	-\$247k	-\$336k	-\$429k
AMS Custodian	X					
ES Classroom Teacher (Intermediate)	X	X				
ES Classroom Teacher (Primary)	X	X	X			
Additional Cuts Needed					X (\$110k)	X (\$159k)

# Background Information

- Last Time District Tax Levy Was At or Above 4.00%
  - 2011-2012
  - 4.87%
  - Budget did not pass
    - Yes Votes - 45.8%



# Tax Levy

- Tax Levy
  - Board has decided to go with a tax cap under the maximum allowed
  - 3.99%



# Compounding Effect of Not Going to the Tax Cap Max

Below Numbers Based on 2026-2027 Tax Levy of 3.99% at 2.5% Per Year

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Total
\$247,108	\$253,286	\$259,618	\$266,108	\$272,761	\$279,580	\$286,570	\$293,734	\$301,077	\$308,604	\$2,768,445

**\$247,108 equals \$2,768,445 over 10 years**

# Budget Development



# Reductions

## Reductions

- **APHS**
  - 1.0 APHS Science
  - 0.5 World Languages
- **AMS**
  - 1.0 AMS Literacy
  - 0.5 World Languages
- **District Office**
  - 1.0 Clerical Office



# Additions

## Athletics Department

- Addition of Girls Golf (\$8,560)
  - Golf course use being donated

## Transportation Department

- GPS/Attendance System (\$36,840)
  - Dispatch will know locations of buses
  - Ability to track student attendance on buses
  - Routes on system for substitutes
  - Parent app for bus tracking and alerts



# Programmatic Changes

## Special Education

- Co-teach Model Expanding to AMS (Grade 6)
- Re-Allocating Resources Based on Need
  - 12:1:1 Section at WSL to a 8:1:2 Section at PES

## District Office

- Duties Being Absorbed
  - Exception: Home Schooling to Questar

# Programmatic Changes

## Career and Technical Education (CTE)

- **Realigning Secondary Curriculum**
  - **Expanding CTE Opportunities to Students at a Younger Age**
    - **8th Grade Elective**
      - **Small Engine and Basic Construction**
    - **Building More a Feeder Program**
- **Preparing for Future Capital Project**

# Universal Pre-Kindergarten (UPK)

- Implementation Dependent on Funding Included in NYS Budget
- Included in Governor's Proposal
  - Offering UPK spots to all eligible students by 2028-29
  - Increased per student allocation
    - From \$5,960
    - To \$10,000
- Opportunity for District-Provided UPK
- Opportunity to Provide Increased Amount of Intervention Services



# Year to Year Increases

	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22
% Increase	2.19%	1.42%	2.23%	0.76	3.93%

# Year to Year Increases

	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
% Increase	3.93%	1.63%	2.61%	4.34%	5.42%

**Note: Debt service is 44% (\$1,655,278) of the 2026-2027 increase.**

AKE

43-89

# Summary

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SOUTHVIEW

NIRVANA

SUPERMAN CLASSIC

POKEMON

# Tax Levy

- Tax Cap
  - 3.99%
  - Revenue Increase of \$1,477,182
  - Below Tax Cap Maximum of 4.66%



# Foundation Aid

- On Formula
- Increase
  - \$451,271
  - 2.34%
- Total Foundation Aid: \$19,745,265
- 28.1% of Revenue



# Budget Summary

- Budget to Budget Increase
  - \$3,769,110
  - 5.42%

Note: Debt service is \$1,655,278 (44%) of that increase.



# Next Steps

- April 13: Board Adoption of the Budget
- May 5: Budget Hearing
- May 19: Budget Vote

