



**White Plains  
City School  
District**

# **Church Street Elementary School School Start & End Time Update**

**Transportation Analysis 2025-2026**

**Monday, December 09, 2024**





# Existing Challenge

- The cost of district transportation has increased dramatically
- The transportation audit anticipated a 30-40% increase in market costs and the actual cost increase reached 51- 61%
- We must identify cost saving measures to address the shortfall and future sustainability





# Considerations

- Reduce existing expenditures elsewhere in the WPCSD to compensate for the transportation cost increases (e.g. cut programming, purchases and/or services)
- Ask the White Plains community to support an annual budget that exceeds the tax cap and increases taxes to address the shortfall (e.g. submit a budget that exceeds the tax levy cap and achieve a supermajority (60% of the vote))
- Adjust the transportation service tiers to achieve efficiencies identified in the 2023-2024 audit of the Transportation services and reduce overall costs



# 2025-2026 Budget Preparation & Fiscal Outlook

- Prior Year's Long-Range Plan (LRP) 2023-2024 to 2027-2028 was updated based on 2024-2025 final budget estimates and reflects a projected budget shortfall of \$5 million for 2025-2026
- The projected shortfall is primarily the result of the following:
  - Zero increase in property tax assessments due to increase in PILOTS by the City and Westchester County Industrial Development Authority (IDA)
  - State Aid is conservatively projected to increase by only 2%
  - Significant increases health insurance costs (10%), property insurance costs (20%) and pension expenses (approx. 15%)





# 2025-2026 Budget Preparation & Fiscal Outlook

- These estimates **due not include** any changes for the new transportation agreement. If included, would result in an increase of \$2.8 million in additional expenses for a total projected budget shortfall of \$7.8 million for 2025-2026
- The District is currently updating its LRP 2024-25 to 2028-2029 and beginning 2025-2026 Budget Development
- Additionally, the District is currently exploring ways to close the existing budget gap (not including the increased costs associated with maintaining the present CSS schedule) as part its Budget Development process:
  - Retirement Incentive
  - Lease revenue from available space
  - Efficiencies
  - Use of Fund Balance - not a long-term solution, once used it is gone



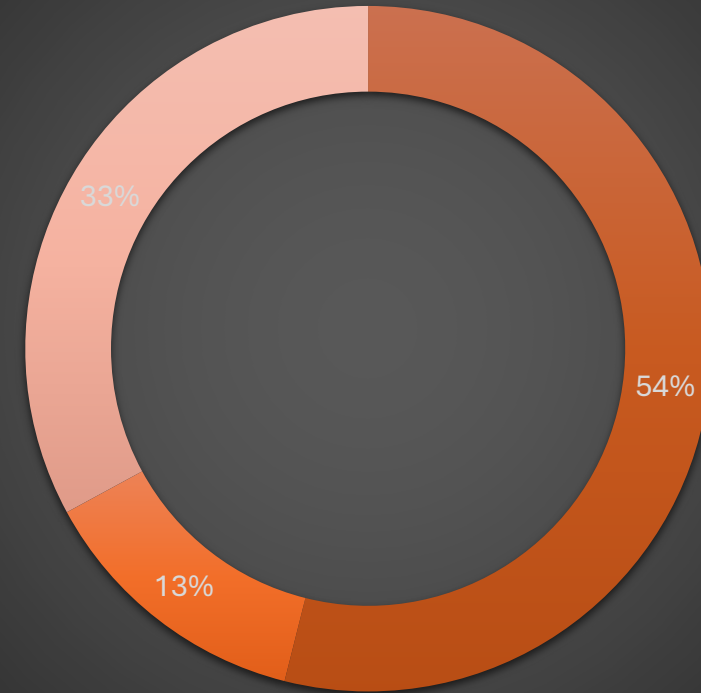
# Communication with the Church Street Elementary School Community

Share	Share the challenge with our community
Receive	Receive feedback in a variety of ways
Solicit	Solicit additional feedback (mixed-method – quantitative and qualitative - community survey over four weeks)
Analyze	Analyze the survey feedback (over 300 respondents)
Seek	Seek avenues to provide additional support for parents/guardians and students
Continue	Continue to learn from community members



# Feedback Matters

## Impact of Alignment of Start/End Time



■ Highly Negative

■ Low/Minimal Negative Impact

■ No Negative Impact or Positive Impact

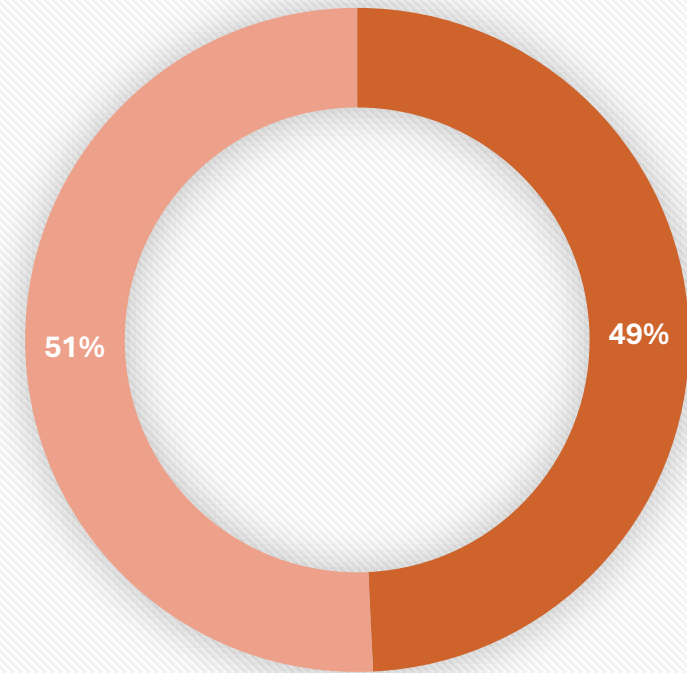
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# Feedback Matters

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Concerns Expressed



■ Parent/Guardian Work Hours ■ Before/After School Childcare



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# Examples of Community Member Recommendations Received in Feedback Surveys

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Align	Align all elementary schools to Church Street School's present start/end time (all elementary schools to start at earlier timeframe)
Explore	Explore expansion of Before & After School services (especially at Church Street)
Pay	Pay for all Before & After School Services
Increase	Increase taxes
Cut	Cut other programs
Align	Align Church Street to the other four elementary schools' current schedule (a 30 minute later start and end time)

# Questions from the Board of Education

**Is this necessary? Is there another way?**

**Can we cut from another area in the organization without negatively impacting our children/community?**

**Can we extend the present structure for another year?**

**Can we work to make sure there is before and after school care in every building, especially CSS, without wait lists?**

**Can we reconfigure the routes to maintain the present schedule at CSS?**

**Are there grant funds available to maintain the CSS schedule?**



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# Additional Support

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- **Before & After Care Wraparound Services (All Schools, Especially Church Street:**
  - Increased capacity
  - Based in each Elementary School
  - Earlier Enrollment
  - Focus on Church Street Elementary
  - Flexibility of enrollment parameters (certain days, weeks, etc.)
  - Consideration of Costs
  - Additional Community Partners/Opportunities



# Community Communication

Update to the entire WPCSD Community

On-going Budget Updates

Long Range Plan

Non-Instructional Budget

Instructional Budget

Proposed Budget





# Questions from the Board of Education?