



Preliminary 2025-2026 Budget Forecast and Tax Levy Limit

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February 18, 2025
Woodstock Elementary School



TAX LEVY LIMIT CALCULATION (FINAL)

	2024-2025	2025-2026	
Prior Year Tax Levy	\$47,023,416	\$48,434,118	
Tax Base Growth Factor	1.0075	1.0083	
Prior Year Pilots	\$20,292	\$20,698	
Prior Year Exemptions	\$0	\$352,370	
Allowable Growth Factor (CPI)	1.02	1.02	
Current Year PILOT	\$20,698	\$21,000	
Current Year Exemptions	\$352,370	\$428,433	
Available Carryover from Prior Yr	\$467,300	\$ 0	
Employee Retirement Exclusion	\$ 5,822	\$ 0	
Max Allowable Tax Levy	\$48,649,264	\$49,881,971	
Tax Levy Adopted/Recommended	\$48,343,118		\$49,402,800
Dollar Increase/(Decrease)	\$1,319,702	\$1,447,741	\$968,682
Percentage Increase/(Decrease)		2.99%	2.00%



2025-2026 UPDATED PROJECTED REVENUES

	2024-2025 Actual	2025-2026 Initial	2025-2026 Updated	\$ Difference	% Difference
Tax Levy*	\$48,434,118	\$49,880,450	\$49,402,800*	\$968,682	2.00%
State Aid **	\$10,263,146	\$10,631,452	\$10,631,452	\$ 368,306	3.59%
Misc ***	\$835,292	\$835,292	\$835,292	\$ 0	0%
Total	\$59,532,556	\$61,347,194	\$60,869,544	\$1,336,988	2.25%

* Based on 2% tax levy increase (less than allowable tax levy limit)

** Adjusted based on District projections

** Misc includes interest earned on deposits, BOCES refund, foster care billing, Interfund Transfer



FOUNDATION AID ANALYSIS



Foundation Aid Funding Analysis

District: ONTEORA CSD
County: Ulster

Foundation Aid	2024-25	2025-26	Change	% Change	Amount of Save-Harmless Funding (if any)	Save-Harmless as % of 2025-26 Foundation Aid
Governor's Proposal	7,817,819	7,974,175	156,356	2.0%	7,283,675	91.3%

Selected Aid Factors

	Selected TAFPU (Weighted Pupils)*	Property Wealth/Pupil Ratio**	Income/Pupil Ratio**	Combined Wealth Ratio**	K-6 Free and Reduced Price Eligible %***	English Language Learners
2007-08	2,399	2.417	0.913	1.664	25.6%	20
2022-23	1,534	2.960	1.362	2.161	48.6%	40
2023-24	1,473	3.100	1.670	2.385	48.0%	33
2024-25	1,430	3.328	1.824	2.576	46.8%	36
2025-26	1,381	3.786	1.977	2.881	44.4%	36

All figures in the table directly above are those used in calculating School Aid for that year and are typically derived from at least a year prior to the calculating year (e.g., 2024-25 enrollment for 2025-26 aid)

	Current Law	Gov. Proposal
Pupil Needs Index	1.792	1.829
State Sharing Ratio	1.2%	1.2%

The Executive Budget proposes replacing poverty measures included in the Pupil Needs Index and modifying the State Sharing Ratio used to determine district local revenue contributions

2025-26 Selected Total Aidable Foundation Pupil Units*

November Projection	1,381
Enacted Budget Count	TBD



FUTURE OF FOUNDATION AID

- ❖ Onteora is projected to receive an additional \$156,000 in Foundation Aid for 2025-2026 (2% state-wide minimum increase)
- ❖ Last year NYSED considered Onteora \$6.05 million overfunded in Foundation Aid
- ❖ According to NYSED, Onteora is now considered almost \$7.3 million overfunded (91.3% of Foundation Aid allocation)
- ❖ Rockefeller Report recommended that changes need to be made to the Foundation Aid formula
- ❖ It is likely any change to the Foundation Aid formula will show a dramatic decrease for Onteora as the Combined Wealth Ratio (CWR) is a large component of the formula and indicates that the community of Onteora has a greater ability to pay as compared to other schools with a CWR of 1 or less. (A CWR of 1 is the statewide average.)
- ❖ School taxes are required to remain within the tax levy limit regardless of fluctuations in other revenues such as state aid.
- ❖ In order to avoid potential future consolidation due to drastic funding cuts, we are proposing to plan for centralization thoughtfully, collaboratively, and proactively.



TRUE VALUATION OF ULSTER SCHOOLS VS. ENROLLMENT

School	23/24 Taxable Full Value	2024 Enrollment
Ellenville	\$1,673,060,025	1,394
Highland	\$1,833,930,591	1,508
Wallkill	\$2,660,456,229	2,749
New Paltz	\$3,038,794,315	1,753
Saugerties	\$3,238,089,203	2,270
Rondout	\$3,748,093,145	1,715
Onteora	\$6,059,064,543	1,056
Kingston	\$7,262,812,437	5,977



FEDERAL AID

For 24-25 the total is approx. \$1.5 million:

- ◆ **Title I - \$497,725**
 - Covers additional academic support programs for students from low income families aimed at closing achievement gaps
 - Currently supports additional reading specialists and MTSS
 - Percentage goes to private schools that education district students.
- ◆ **Title IIA - \$50,929**
 - Covers professional development
 - Currently supports Imagine Learning and Branching Minds
- ◆ **Title IV - \$44,192**
 - Allows for well-rounded educational opportunities, safety & health and effective use of technology
 - Currently supports Morningside, Branching Minds
- ◆ **IDEA 611 - \$417,433**
 - Special education supports K-12
 - Represents less than 5% of our budget
- ◆ **IDEA 619 - \$14,228**
 - Special education supports Pre-K
 - Covers admin time, secretarial support and travel to Pre-K programs
- ◆ **School Lunch - \$460,988**
 - 23 - 24 actual received, based on total meals served



2025-2026 UPDATED PROJECTED EXPENSES

	2024-2025 Actual	2025-2026 Rollover	2025-2026 Updated	\$ Difference	% Difference
General Support	\$ 2,224,453	\$ 2,366,712	\$2,366,712	\$ 142,259	6.4%
Operations & Maint	\$ 3,495,829	\$ 3,479,412	\$3,479,412	\$ (16,417)	(0.47)%
Instruction	\$ 28,717,276	\$ 29,305,668	\$29,033,872	\$ 316,596	1.10%
Transportation	\$ 6,252,532	\$ 6,136,873	\$ 6,136,873	\$ (115,659)	(1.85)%
Employee Benefits	\$ 20,586,808	\$ 21,692,121	\$21,661,329	\$ 1,105,313	5.22%
Community Service	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000	\$20,000	\$ 0	0%
Debt Service	\$ 63,602	\$ 63,602	\$63,602	\$ 0	0%
Interfund Transfers	\$ 965,000	\$ 1,215,000	\$1,165,000	\$ 200,000	20.7%
Total	\$ 62,325,500	\$ 64,279,388	\$63,296,800	\$ 971,300	1.56%



2025-2026 EQUIPMENT REQUESTS

\$225,023 budgeted for equipment

- ❖ Buildings and Grounds
 - Tractor
 - Scissor Lift
 - Utility Terrain Vehicle (UTV)
- ❖ Transportation
 - One (1) small bus



WHAT CHANGED IN THE BUDGET

- ❖ Three (3) retirees not being replaced
- ❖ Reduction of BOCES LTTP (Long Term Therapeutic Program)
- ❖ Reduction in School Lunch Transfer due to retirement and fund balance



2025 - 2026 REMAINING AREAS OF UNCERTAINTY

- ❖ ONTEA Union Contract
- ❖ Final Health Insurance Rates
- ❖ Potential additional Special Education placements and services



BUDGET HAS TO BALANCE



Revenue
\$60,869,544

Expenditures
\$63,296,800



UPDATED PROJECTED DIFFERENCE

	2024-2025 Adopted	2025-2026 Initial (2/4/2025)	2025-2026 Updated (2/18/2025)
Projected Revenues	\$59,532,556	\$61,347,194	\$60,869,544
Projected Expenditures	\$62,325,500	\$64,279,388	\$63,296,800
Projected Difference		\$2,932,194	\$2,437,256
Appr. Fund Balance	\$2,792,944		



WHAT HAPPENS IF A SCHOOL BUDGET FAILS?

In the event a budget is not approved by the voters, a Board of Education can either:

- 1) Put forth the same budget on re-vote day (June 17, 2025)
- 2) Put forth a different budget on re-vote day (June 17, 2025)
- 3) Adopt a contingency budget

If a second budget fails, the district must adopt a contingency budget. A third vote is not allowable.

In the event the Board of Education adopts a contingency budget, the tax levy may be no greater than the levy of the prior year (Chapter 97 of the Laws of 2011).

For 2025-2026, based on current information, this would be an additional reduction of the budget of \$1,446,332

In addition, the District would not be able to purchase equipment, and would be required to charge building use fee for all outside organizations.



WHAT'S NEXT?

- March 18, 2025
 - Updated budget
 - Board approval of additional propositions
- April 1, 2025
 - State budget deadline
 - Superintendent's Recommended Budget
- April 21, 2025
 - Board candidate nominating petitions due
- April 22, 2025
 - Board of Education budget adoption
- April 27, 2025
 - Last date legally allowable for Board of Education to adopt budget
- May 6, 2025
 - Budget Hearing
- May 20, 2025
 - Budget Vote

*Budget presentations at Town Board meetings
during May as per Town schedule.*



QUESTIONS?