



SWEET HOME CENTRAL
SCHOOL DISTRICT

Superintendent Report

OUR MISSION: EVERY STUDENT,
ONE COMMUNITY, READY FOR THE FUTURE.



2024 - 2025

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Superintendent Report

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Tonight's Report:

- Budget Update
- 2025/2026 School Calendar
- SmartPhone Task Force Update
- Transportation Update

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SCHOOL DISTRICT**

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2025-26 Budget Study Session #3

April 8, 2025

Vergils Community Center

6:30pm

2023-2024

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Budget Process & School Board Elections Important Dates

Detail	Deadline
Final Tax Cap Calculations Due to the State	March 1, 2025
School Board Candidate Nominating Petitions Due*	April 21, 2025
Last Day for BOE Adoption of Proposed Budget	April 25, 2025
Property Tax Report Cards Due	April 28, 2025
Required Public Hearing on Proposed Budget	May 6 - 13, 2025
Annual Budget Vote & School Board Election	May 20, 2025

**Terms of Brian Laible & Dirk Rabenold expire on June 30, 2025*

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2025-26 Budget Development Process

Sweet Home Dates

Detail	Date(s)
Budget Development: Update State Aid & Property Tax Cap Calculation, Meet with Administrators & Department Heads to review Budgetary Needs, Initial BOCES participation meeting, Meet with Financial Advisor to review aid projections & debt service	January / February 2025
Budget Study Session #1: Program Maintenance Budget based on Executive Proposal / Budget Development Objectives & Priorities	February 8, 2025
Budget Study Session #2: Preliminary Budget / Estimated Revenues & Updates / Staffing Recommendations	March 18, 2025
Budget Study Session #3: Budget Update Discussion / NYS Budget Completion & Final State Aid runs	April 8, 2025
Budget Hearing / BOE 2025-26 Budget Adoption	April 22, 2025
Annual Budget Vote & School Board Election	May 20, 2025



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2025-26 Budget Next Steps / District Work

- **Work through and solidify NY44 Trust Health Insurance Numbers**
- **Continue to work through salary lines**
- **Finalize SCIS Class Rates with NYSED**
- **Monitor NYS Budgetary Progress & Potential Impacts on State Aid**
- **NYS Budget Due on April 1**
- **Adjust budget and report back to BOE at April 8 Study Session**



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Update: Revenues

★ Four Major Areas that impact revenue side of budget:

- State Aid - **NO MOVEMENT / WAITING ON NYS BUDGET APPROVAL / UPDATE ON BOCES AID, HIGH EXCESS COST AIDS**
- Real Property Taxes (Tax Cap) / PILOTs - **FINAL TAX CAP FILED TO NYS - 0.4% INCREASE**
- Sales Tax - **3rd QUARTER PAYMENT - \$1,423,574 PAID TO DISTRICT ON 3/31**
 - **Trending toward \$5.5-5.6M in Sales Tax Revenue for 24-25**
 - **Budgeted \$5,450,000 for 25-26**
- Use of reserves to close potential budget gaps / lower tax levy - **MAINTAINED RESERVE USAGE CONSISTENT WITH LAST YEAR ~ \$350,000**

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A Closer Look: Sales Tax Revenue

Sales Tax by Quarter	2023-24	2024-25
Quarter 1 (September)	\$975,710	\$1,019,438
Quarter 2 (December)	\$1,372,317	\$1,477,871
Quarter 3 (March)	\$1,406,518	\$1,423,574
Quarter 4 (June)	\$1,669,594	??
TOTAL	\$5,424,139	??

**Currently estimating sales tax receipts for 2025-26 at \$5,450,000*

**Budgeted \$5,100,000 for current school year*

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A Closer Look: Revenue Update

Revenue	Increase Since Budget #2	Decrease Since Budget #2
BOCES Rent		-\$32,000
BOCES Aid & OTHER Aid (SCIS UPK Grant)		-\$55,000
Private & Public EXCESS COST Aid	\$150,000	
TOTAL INCREASE / DECREASE	\$63,000	

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Update: Total Revenue

2025-26 Revenue: \$105,576,012 / Increase: \$5,165,590 / 5.1%

ACCOUNT CODE	ACCOUNT NAME	2021-22 BUDGET	2022-23 BUDGET	AMOUNT CHANGE	PERCENT CHANGE	2023-24 BUDGET	AMOUNT CHANGE	PERCENT CHANGE	2024-25 BUDGET	AMOUNT CHANGE	PERCENT CHANGE	2025-26 BUDGET	AMOUNT CHANGE	PERCENT CHANGE
1001.0	REAL PROPERTY TAXES	\$51,105,559	\$53,321,588	\$2,216,029	4.3%	\$53,321,588	\$0	0.0%	\$54,268,072	\$946,484	1.8%	\$54,486,662	\$218,590	0.4%
1040.0	APPROPRIATED FUND BALANCE	\$2,420,000	\$2,420,000	\$0	0.0%	\$2,420,000	\$0	0.0%	\$2,420,000	\$0	0.0%	\$2,420,000	\$0	0.0%
1040.1	USE OF RETIREMENT CONTRIBUTION RESERVE	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$0	0.0%	\$50,000	\$0	0.0%	\$50,000	\$0	0.0%	\$50,000	\$0	0.0%
1040.2	USE OF UNEMPLOYMENT RESERVE	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0%	\$0	\$0	0.0%	\$0	\$0	0.0%	\$0	\$0	0.0%
1040.3	USE OF EMPLOYEE BENEFITS LIAB. RESERVE	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0%	\$1,100,000	\$1,100,000	0.0%	\$220,350	(\$879,650)	0.0%	\$220,350	\$0	0.0%
1040.4	USE OF WORKERS COMP. RESERVE	\$75,000	\$75,000	\$0	0.0%	\$75,000	\$0	0.0%	\$75,000	\$0	0.0%	\$75,000	\$0	0.0%
1040.5	USE OF TAX CERTIORARI RESERVE	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0%	\$0	\$0	0.0%	\$0	\$0	0.0%	\$0	\$0	0.0%
1040.6	USE OF DEBT SERVICE RESERVE	\$490,000	\$705,000	\$215,000	43.9%	\$800,000	\$95,000	13.5%	\$515,000	(\$285,000)	-35.6%	\$300,000	(\$215,000)	-41.7%
1081.0	PAYMENT IN LIEU OF TAXES	\$589,000	\$558,000	(\$31,000)	-5.3%	\$558,000	\$0	0.0%	\$505,000	(\$53,000)	-9.5%	\$557,000	\$52,000	10.3%
1120.0	NON-PROP TAXES-SALES TAX	\$3,620,000	\$3,900,000	\$280,000	7.7%	\$4,500,000	\$600,000	15.4%	\$5,100,000	\$600,000	13.3%	\$5,450,000	\$350,000	6.9%
1315.0	COMM ED TUITON & FEES	\$115,000	\$115,000	\$0	0.0%	\$95,000	(\$20,000)	-17.4%	\$95,000	\$0	0.0%	\$75,000	(\$20,000)	-21.1%
2230.0	TUITON-OTH DIST-FOSTER	\$75,000	\$75,000	\$0	0.0%	\$100,000	\$25,000	33.3%	\$100,000	\$0	0.0%	\$50,000	(\$50,000)	-50.0%
2230.2	TUITON-OTHER DISTRICTS	\$575,000	\$575,000	\$0	0.0%	\$300,000	(\$275,000)	-47.8%	\$300,000	\$0	0.0%	\$300,000	\$0	0.0%
2401.0	INTEREST	\$220,000	\$150,000	(\$70,000)	-31.8%	\$140,000	(\$10,000)	-6.7%	\$165,000	\$25,000	17.9%	\$505,000	\$340,000	206.1%
2413.0	RENT REAL PROPERTY-BOCES	\$430,000	\$440,000	\$10,000	2.3%	\$455,000	\$15,000	3.4%	\$490,000	\$35,000	7.7%	\$520,000	\$30,000	6.1%
3101.0	STATE AID-BASIC FORMULA	\$15,966,000	\$17,500,000	\$1,534,000	9.6%	\$21,675,000	\$4,175,000	23.9%	\$23,530,000	\$1,855,000	8.6%	\$26,250,000	\$2,720,000	11.6%
3101.0	STATE AID-BUILDING AID	\$2,973,000	\$2,050,000	(\$923,000)	-31.0%	\$3,300,000	\$1,250,000	61.0%	\$3,400,000	\$100,000	3.0%	\$3,600,000	\$200,000	5.9%
3101.1	ST AID-EXCESS COST	\$4,500,000	\$4,555,000	\$55,000	1.2%	\$5,150,000	\$595,000	13.1%	\$5,700,000	\$550,000	10.7%	\$6,450,000	\$750,000	13.2%
3103.0	BOCES AID	\$1,450,000	\$1,600,000	\$150,000	10.3%	\$1,600,000	\$0	0.0%	\$1,650,000	\$50,000	3.1%	\$1,720,000	\$70,000	4.2%
3104.0	STATE AID-CHAPTER STUDENTS	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$0	0.0%	\$50,000	\$0	0.0%	\$50,000	\$0	0.0%	\$50,000	\$0	0.0%
3260.0	TEXTBOOK AID	\$205,000	\$210,000	\$5,000	2.4%	\$219,000	\$9,000	4.3%	\$222,000	\$3,000	1.4%	\$225,000	\$3,000	1.4%
3261.0	COMPUTER HARDWARE AID	\$45,000	\$49,000	\$4,000	8.9%	\$51,000	\$2,000	3.9%	\$53,000	\$2,000	3.8%	\$54,000	\$1,000	1.9%
3262.0	COMPUTER SOFTWARE AID	\$55,000	\$57,500	\$2,500	4.5%	\$59,000	\$1,500	2.6%	\$62,000	\$3,000	5.1%	\$65,000	\$3,000	4.8%
3263.0	LIBRARY AID	\$20,000	\$20,500	\$500	2.5%	\$22,000	\$1,500	7.3%	\$25,000	\$3,000	13.6%	\$28,000	\$3,000	12.0%
3289.0	STATE AID-OTHER	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0%	\$0	\$0	0.0%	\$540,000	\$540,000	0.0%	\$1,200,000	\$660,000	0.0%
Other Receipts		\$895,000	\$875,000	(\$20,000)	-2.2%	\$846,000	(\$29,000)	-3.3%	\$875,000	\$29,000	3.4%	\$925,000	\$50,000	5.7%
DISTRICT TOTALS		\$85,923,559	\$89,351,588	\$3,428,029	3.99%	\$96,886,588	\$7,535,000	8.4%	\$100,410,422	\$3,523,834	3.6%	\$105,576,012	\$5,165,590	5.1%

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A Closer Look: Expenses Update

Expense	Increase Since Budget #2	Decrease Since Budget #2
Utilities (Electricity)	\$7,181	
Buildings & Grounds Materials & Supplies	\$15,000	
Salaries - Elementary & Secondary Teachers	\$100,000	
Reimbursement In Lieu of Health Insurance	\$23,000	
Special Education - Tuition Other Schools	\$25,000	
Technology - Student iPads & Teacher Laptops	\$43,000	
Transportation Salaries	\$30,440	
Transportation - Materials & Supplies	\$5,000	
Employee Benefits ERS / TRS		-\$15,000
Employee Benefits - Employee Health Insurance		-\$150,000
TOTAL INCREASE / DECREASE	\$83,621	

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Overall Budget 2025-26 Snapshot

Revenue Summary	2024-25	2025-26	2025-26 Percent Increase
Budgeted Revenues	\$100,410,422	\$105,576,012	5.1%
Local Tax Levy	\$54,268,072	\$54,486,662	0.4%

Expenditure Summary	2024-25	2025-26	2025-26 Percent Increase
Budgeted Expenditures	\$100,410,422	\$105,576,012	5.1%

Balanced Budget

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A Closer Look: Major Budget Increases

Revenue	Total Increase from 24-25
Tax Levy	\$218,590
PILOTs	\$52,000
Sales Tax	\$350,000
Interest	\$340,000
BOCES Rent	\$30,000
State Aid (Foundation/Expense)	\$3,750,000
SUB TOTAL	\$4,740,590
State Aid - OTHER (UPK SCIS Grant)	\$660,000
TOTAL	\$5,400,590

Expense	Total Increase from 24-25
Salaries (Admin, Service, Teachers)	\$1,400,000
Utilities	\$100,000
BOCES Services	\$502,000
Liability Insurance Premium	\$75,000
Charter School Tuition	\$200,000
Special Education	\$1,435,000
Bus Purchases	\$147,000
Contracted Transportation	\$500,000
Employee Benefits	\$1,000,000
TOTAL	\$5,359,000

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Program Maintenance Budget 2025-26 Snapshot / Tax Rates / \$150,000 Assessment

Assumptions:

- **Assessed Values remain at 2024 levels**
- Amherst Equalization Rate reduced from 62% to 100%
- Tonawanda Equalization Rate reduced from 24% to 23%
- Rates based on going to the tax cap limit of \$54,486,662

School Tax on an Average Assessed Value Home				
	Amherst		Tonawanda	
	2024-25	2025-26	2024-25	2024-25
Equalization Rate	100.0%	100.0%	23.0%	23.0%
Assessed Value	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$34,500	\$34,500
Tax Rate	\$9.67	\$9.70	\$42.22	\$42.39
Calculated Tax Bill	\$1,451	\$1,455	\$1,457	\$1,463
Estimated Increase		\$4		\$6



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Program Maintenance Budget 2025-26 Snapshot / Tax Rates / \$250,000 Assessment

Assumptions:

- **Assessed Values remain at 2024 levels**
- Amherst Equalization Rate reduced from 62% to 100%
- Tonawanda Equalization Rate reduced from 24% to 23%
- Rates based on going to the tax cap limit of \$54,486,662

School Tax on an Average Assessed Value Home				
	Amherst		Tonawanda	
	2024-25	2025-26	2024-25	2024-25
Equalization Rate	100.0%	100.0%	23.0%	23.0%
Assessed Value	\$250,000	\$250,000	\$57,500	\$57,500
Tax Rate	\$9.67	\$9.70	\$42.22	\$42.39
Calculated Tax Bill	\$2,418	\$2,425	\$2,428	\$2,437
Estimated Increase		\$7		\$9



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Program Maintenance Budget 2025-26 Snapshot / Tax Rates / \$350,000 Assessment

Assumptions:

- **Assessed Values remain at 2024 levels**
- Amherst Equalization Rate reduced from 62% to 100%
- Tonawanda Equalization Rate reduced from 24% to 23%
- Rates based on going to the tax cap limit of \$54,486,662

School Tax on an Average Assessed Value Home				
	Amherst		Tonawanda	
	2024-25	2025-26	2024-25	2024-25
Equalization Rate	100.0%	100.0%	23.0%	23.0%
Assessed Value	\$350,000	\$350,000	\$80,500	\$80,500
Tax Rate	\$9.67	\$9.70	\$42.22	\$42.39
Calculated Tax Bill	\$3,385	\$3,395	\$3,399	\$3,412
Estimated Increase		\$10		\$13



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2025-26 Budget Final Steps & Considerations

- **NYS Budget still has not passed / April 1 deadline**
 - **Potential Impact on State Aid, if any**
- **Tariffs as related to School Bus purchases**
- **Vote to adopt budget on Tuesday, April 22, 2025**



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Questions from the Board



ANY QUESTIONS?



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2025-26 Proposed School Calendar

**Sweet Home Board of Education
Tuesday, April 8, 2025**

2023-2024

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District Calendar Committee

Parents: Deepa Saini (WR), Jamie Mancine (GL), Julie-Anne Jemiolo (MM),
Melissa Liska (HS), Jessica Kenney (WR), Katie Mikos (HH), Linda Huang (WR),
Sara Juico (WR)

SHEA: Lisa Feyes (HS), Paul Szymendera (SHEA), Denea Czapla (MS), Jacob
Hammond (Elem)

SHASA: James Ryan

SHSEA: Frank Martinelli

District: Don Feldmann & Dr. Finune O. Shaibi

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Calendar Considerations

- ★NYSED Regulations (Days & Hours)
- ★NYS Assessments & Regents Exams
- ★Legal Holidays
- ★Contractual Language
- ★Regional BOCES Calendar
- ★Potential for Emergency Closures
- ★Stakeholder Feedback



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Legal Holidays

★ Districts may not schedule on legal holidays:

- Labor Day
- Columbus Day/Indigenous Peoples' Day
- Veterans Day
- Thanksgiving Day
- Christmas Day
- New Year's Day
- Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- Chinese Lunar New Year
- Presidents Day
- Memorial Day
- Juneteenth
- Independence Day

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Proposed 2025-26 Dates

★ August 28

Staff Development / Opening Day

★ September 2

First Student Day

★ November 4

Election Day / Staff Development Day

★ November 26 - 28

Thanksgiving Recess

★ December 5

Elementary ½ Day / Report Card Day

★ December 12

Elementary Parent-Teacher Conferences

★ December 22 - January 2

Winter Recess

★ February 16 - 20

Mid-Winter Recess (Lunar New Year February 17)

★ March 6

Elementary ½ Day / Report Card Day

★ March 13

Staff Development Day

★ April 3 - April 10

Spring Recess

★ June 24-25

Elementary Half Days

★ June 26

Rating Day

★ June 29

Teacher Last Day



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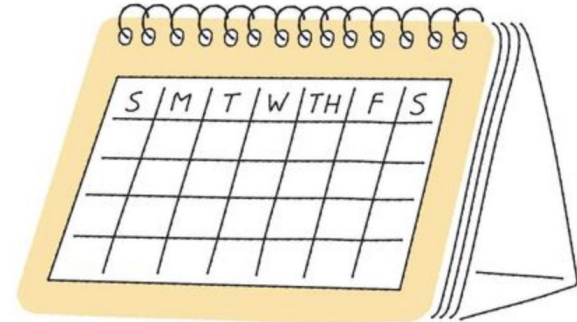


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2025-26 Calendar Summary

- ★ **Teacher work days: 187**
- ★ **Student Attendance Days as per SED:**
 - **Secondary: 186**
 - **Elementary: 185**
- ★ **Superintendent Conference / Staff Development Days:**
 - **August 28**
 - **November 4**
 - **March 13**
 - **June 29**



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Erie 1 BOCES School Calendar 2025-2026

JULY 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

AUGUST 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

SEPTEMBER 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

OCTOBER 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

NOVEMBER 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

DECEMBER 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

August
26-27 Staff Development Days

September
1 Labor Day Observance
2 First Day for Students

October
13 Columbus Day /
Indigenous Peoples' Day

November
4 Staff Development
11 Veteran's Day
27-28 Thanksgiving Recess

December
22-31 Winter Recess

January
1-2 New Year's Holiday
19 M. L. King Jr. Day

February
16-20 Mid-Winter Recess

March
13 Staff Development Day

April
3-10 Spring Recess

May
22/25 Memorial Day

June
19 Juneteenth
26 Rating/Closing Day
(LAST TEACHER DAY)

CALENDAR DAYS			
T	S	T	S
July	0	Jan	19
Aug	2	Feb	15
Sept	21	March	22
Oct	22	April	16
Nov	17	May	19
Dec	15	June	19
TOTAL TEACHER DAYS = 187			
TOTAL STUDENT DAYS = 183			

JANUARY 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

FEBRUARY 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

MARCH 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

APRIL 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

MAY 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

JUNE 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

JULY 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

AUGUST 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
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10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

SEPTEMBER 2025						
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14	15	16	17	18	19	20
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OCTOBER 2025						
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NOVEMBER 2025						
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DECEMBER 2025						
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24	25	26	27	28	29	30

DRAFT: 04/2/2025

Sweet Home CSD School Calendar Student/ Teacher Calendar DRAFT > 2025-2026 < DRAFT

August
28 Opening Day/ Staff Development Day

September
1 Labor Day Observance
2 First Day for Students

October
13 Columbus/Indigenous Peoples' Day

November
4 Staff Development
11 Veteran's Day
26-28 Thanksgiving Recess

December
5 Elem Half Day/ Report Card Day
12 Elem Parent/Teacher Conference
22-31 Winter Recess

January
1-2 New Year's Holiday
19 M. L. King Jr. Day

February
16-20 Mid-Winter Recess

March
19 Elem Half Day/ Report Card Day
13 Staff Dev Day

April
3-10 Spring Recess

May
25 Memorial Day Observance

June
19 Juneteenth
24/25 Elem Half Days
26 Rating Day
29 Staff Dev Day

MONTHS											
A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J
T	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
S	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
E	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31		
Teacher (T): 187; Secondary (S): 186; Elem (E): 185											

JANUARY 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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25	26	27	28	29	30	31

FEBRUARY 2026						
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22	23	24	25	26	27	28

MARCH 2026						
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22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

APRIL 2026						
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MAY 2026						
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24	25	26	27	28	29	30

JUNE 2026						
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						1
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10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30



**SWEET HOME CENTRAL
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SmartPhone Task Force Update

**Sweet Home Board of Education
Tuesday, April 8, 2025**

2023-2024

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We Are Sweet Home

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Cell Phone Task Force - Kick Off, April 3!

Future Meetings - May 1st & June 4th

Town Halls for Students and Sweet Home Community
June 4th & June 12th.

Finalize the plan after a public comment
period. To be presented to BOE in July.

Will be added to the District Code of
Conduct.

8 SHEA (Teachers, Counselors, TOSA)	50%
3 Parents	19%
4 Administrators	25%
1 BOE Member	6%
16 Committee Members	100%

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Transportation Update

**Sweet Home Board of Education
Tuesday, April 8, 2025**

2023-2024

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Areas of Note:

- Began discussing publicly last year once SHEA contract was ratified, especially the 15 minutes of additional instruction time.
- Discussed at PTO/PTA/PTSA Meetings at all Buildings this fall and winter.
- Wrote about a potential change in the Amherst Bee and SH Source.
- Sent two rounds of email notices to families, one on January 15 and one on January 17 for a total of 10,048 emails sent.
- 68 email responses from parents for a response rate of .01 percent.

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Building Use Committee Update



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Transportation Situation

- 15 Minutes More of Instruction
- Driver Shortage continues at Crisis Levels
- Recommending a change in the structure of runs.

Proposal Includes:

- High School and MS to have similar bell schedules
- Grades 6-12 ride the bus together to and from school, on the same run, fill buses
- Runs in this order:
 - High School, Middle School, All Four Elementary Schools on the Same Schedule
- Recommended Walking Radius of .25 Miles for Elementary Buildings



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Proposed Start/End times for 2025/2026

24/25 Times

High School

7:25 - 1:54

Middle School

9:15 - 3:45

Elementary 1

8:30 - 2:15

Elementary 2

9:00 - 2:45

25/26 Proposal

High School

7:19 - 2:05

Middle School

7:40 - 2:24

Elementary

8:55 - 3:10 (depart bldg. 3:15)

Notes:

- Periods in HS go from 40 to 42 minutes. Same at MS.
- Elementary enhanced ELA, Math and S/E instruction
- HS/MS teacher contact time for students goes from 6:29 mins to 6:44 mins.
- Elementary teacher contact time for students goes from 6:15 mins to 6:30 mins.
- Teacher LOD is 7:15 mins at all schools.

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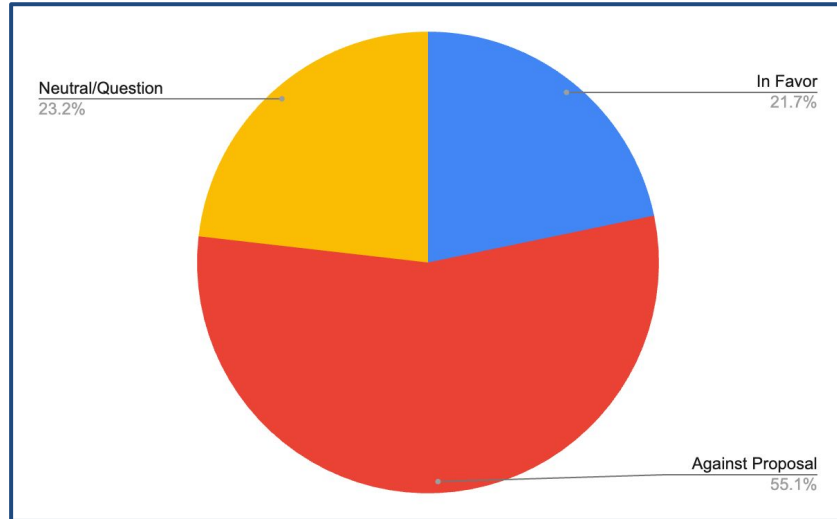
Comment Period up to February Meeting:

Total Email Respondents = 68

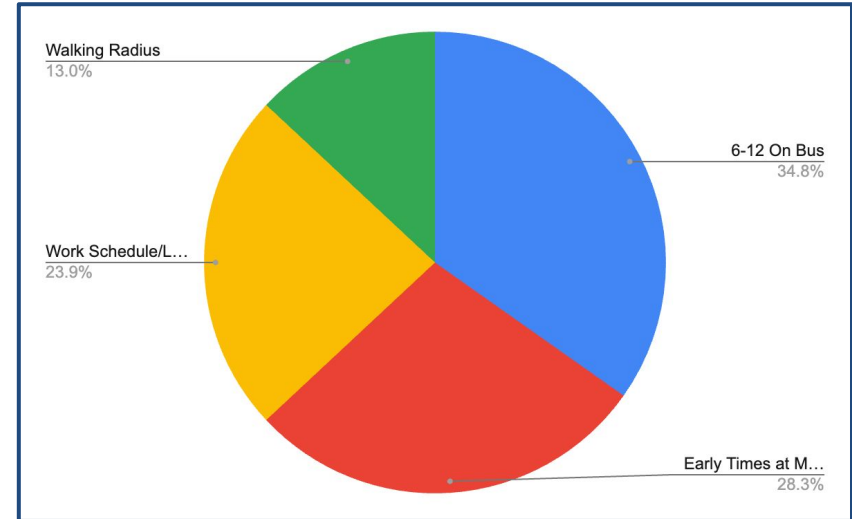
Favor: 15

Against = 38

Neutral = 16



Main Concerns for those Not in Favor of Proposal



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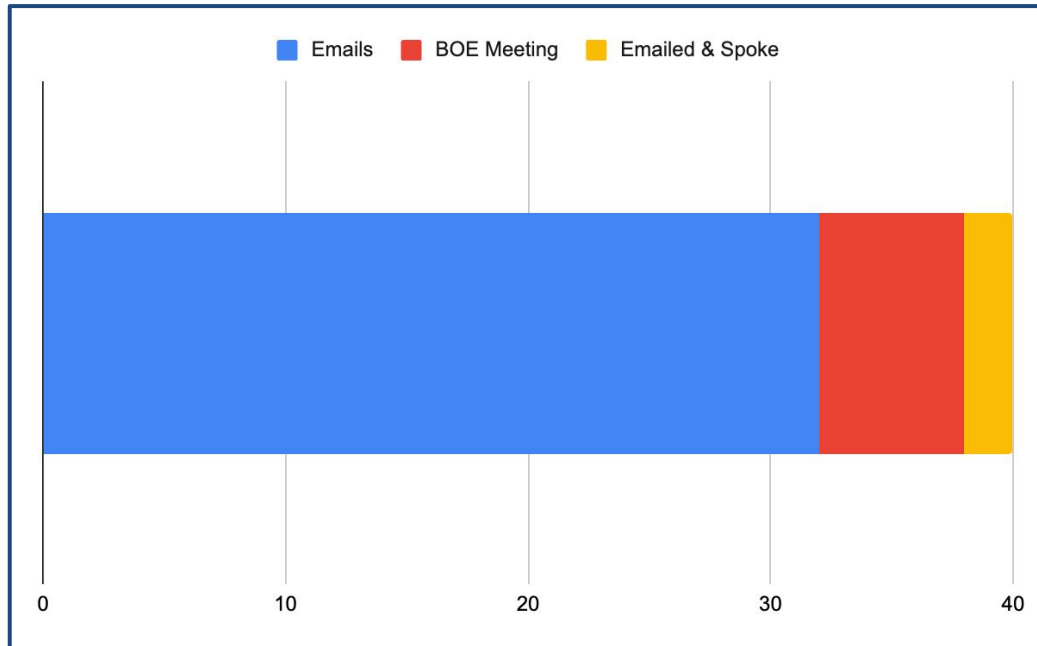
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Comments Since the March Board Meetings:

40 community members have reached out since the March meetings



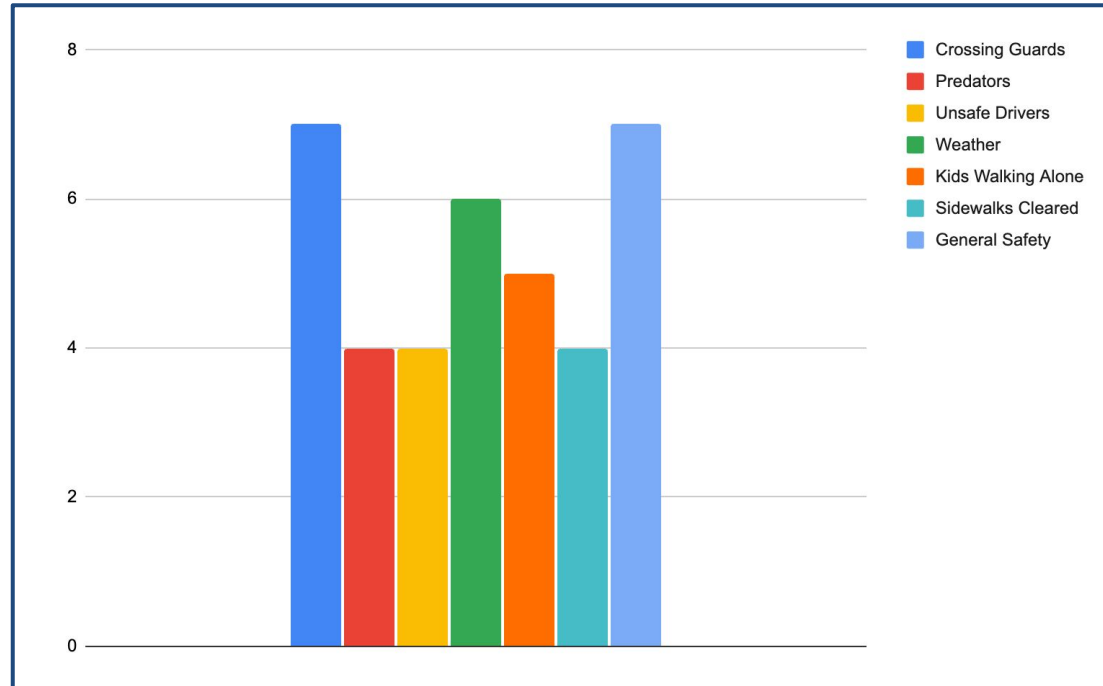


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Most Concerns Surround the Walking Radius:



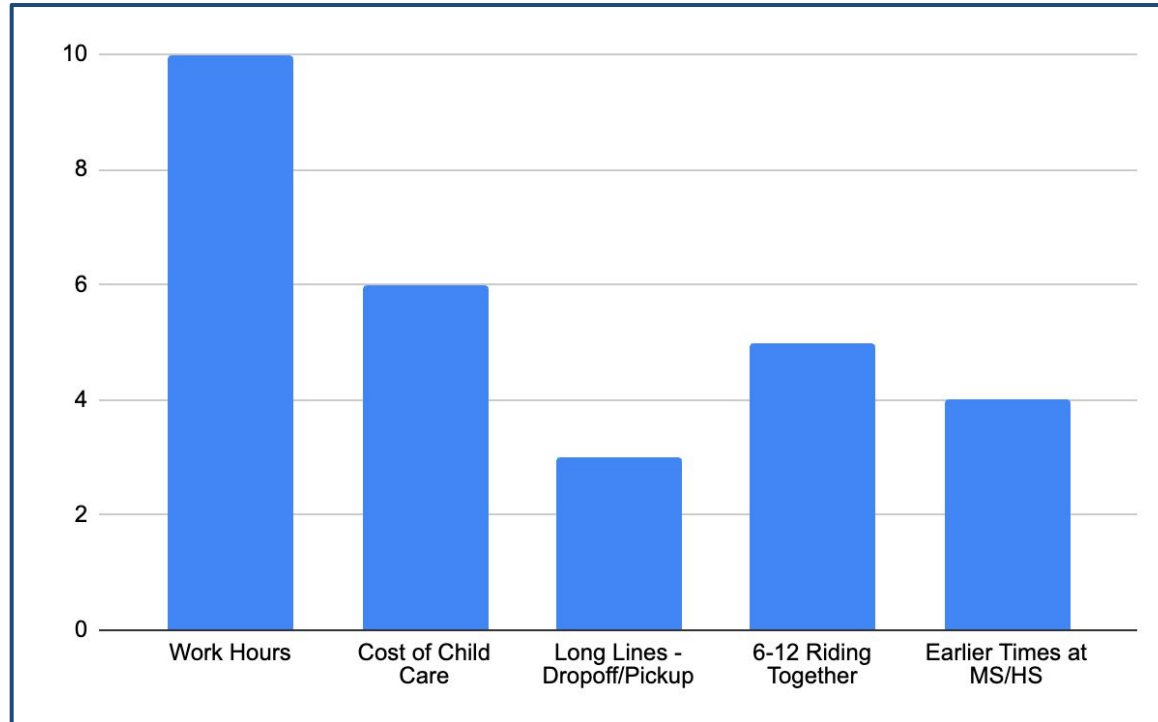


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Other Concerns Expressed:





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Addressing Concerns:

Walking Radius

- Safety is our Number 1 Priority
- Since the March meeting, constant discussion at DO. Met with APD, Contracted Transportation Services, SH Transportation and Administrators
- Our neighborhoods and communities around our elementary buildings are safe. However, the concern is always there, even with our riders.
- We are recommending we do NOT rebid for contracted transportation next year. We keep the same 41 daily run schedule (discounted rate) and utilize all 41 runs (currently utilize 30 and counting). Pull SH drivers back from contracted and MV runs.
- **RECOMMENDATION:** Eliminate the .25 Walking Radius from the New Transportation Plans. Help ease concerns about longer dropoff and pickup lines.



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Addressing Concerns:

Childcare in Morning and Work Schedules

- Understand any change in start/end times is a disruption.
- MM/WR start time is 5 minutes earlier. Glendale and HH is 25 mins later than current time.
- Met with Just for Kids. They are fully aware of the change and have received calls from our parents about options for next year.
- Working in conjunction with JFK, we will issue a survey to our elementary community to determine demand for services. JFK is willing to open additional centers if SH demand is there. Otherwise, District will provide transportation from center to community elementary school.
- Drop off is at 7 a.m.
- Income based pricing structure, including free options for family of 4 making less than \$108,000. That threshold will rise this summer as the new rate is set by DSS.

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Addressing Concerns:

6-12 Ridership

- Averages:
 - AM @ HS is 17 AM @ MS is 19
 - PM @ HS is 16 PM @ MS is 21
- By keeping all contracted runs (41) next year, chance for more buses on road if needed.
- Each bus will have a Bus Aide to monitor student behavior.
- Put a call for additional Bus Aides. The District has already received 41 applications.
- Bus aides will receive training on how to spot issues and behavioral management techniques to mitigate issues.
- Bus aides will receive additional training on reporting structures and lines of communications to report issues to building administration.

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Addressing Concerns:

Earlier Start Times at HS and MS

- 15 more minutes of additional instruction would have pushed the MS end time to approximately 4:30 p.m.
- 15 minutes of additional instruction time meant start/end times were changing anyway.
- Elementary run as the last run of the day and all on one schedule will help eliminate delays.
- Middle School students would have more time in the afternoon to participate in extracurricular activities.
- MS students could also be at home in the afternoon to care for their younger siblings.
- More MS teachers could host after-school activities.
- Closer to goal of re-establishing after-school runs to pre-covid levels.
- Eliminate the staggered elementary schedule. Improve after-school music activities for band and chorus now that they are all on same schedule.
- Work with Athletic Office, PE/Health and administrators for additional programming on cell phone usage, social media habits, and the benefits of sleep for students.

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In Conclusion

- 1. Feedback from community has been gathered and analyzed.**
- 2. Recommendations made based on community feedback.**
- 3. Recommendations include:**
 - a. Elimination of .25 walking radius at elementary schools.**
 - b. Survey in conjunction with JFK to determine morning childcare needs for elementary parents/guardians.**
 - c. Staff each bus with a bus aide/monitor. Provide additional behavioral management training.**
 - d. Work to provide additional wellness programming for students in 6-12.**

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The “Official” Sweet Home Panther

- Concepts are in development now with the help of 26 Shirts.
- Display finalists at May 6 study session.



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Request for Certification from USDOE

- Asking local school districts to sign off that they do not have a DEI policy or practice. The request is due to USDOE's interpretation of Title VI.
- NYSED has deemed it unnecessary to sign attestation from USDOE.
- NYSED believes all school districts are in compliance with Title VI and no administration can change interpretations of past precedent and laws.
- In April 4 letter to USDOE, NYSED states that no action needs to be taken by state or local districts in terms of the attestation.

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Potential Change in This Year's Calendar for Memorial Day Weekend

- New provision allows for extending the Memorial Day Holiday if three or more emergency days remain on April 30.
- Three emergency days currently remain. Unless we use another emergency day between now and April 30, the District will be closed on Friday, May 23 as well as Monday, May 26.



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Questions from the Board?

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