



LANSINGBURGH

— CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT —

BUDGET EDITION • MAY 2025

District Budget Vote: Tuesday, May 20

On Tuesday, May 20, 2025, Lansingburgh Central School District residents will vote on the proposed budget adopted by the Board of Education on April 22, 2025. The proposed budget of \$66,606,450 reflects a spending increase of \$1,864,896, or a 2.88% increase over the current school year. The estimated tax levy increase is 0.50%, which is one of the lowest tax levy increases across the three-county region. The school tax

bill change for the homeowner will vary, depending on equalization and STAR. The increase on a home with the full market value of \$100,000 would be an estimated \$11.51. This budget's state aid revenues are based upon the New York State Budget estimates published on January 21, 2025, updated to reflect the change in Consumer Price Index (CPI) and student enrollment.

2025-26 PROPOSED SCHOOL YEAR BUDGET

This year, we are presenting voters with a proposed 2025-26 School Year Budget that is fiscally responsible and focused on sustaining the high-quality educational experience our school community expects. During the 2025-26 Budget planning process, the district was initially facing a budget deficit since it is receiving less New York State aid than in previous years and employee contractual expenses have grown. To close this deficit gap, we took several steps to ensure we remain fiscally responsible to taxpayers while continuing to prioritize student success and opportunities.

First, we are using saved reserve funds set aside to ensure full contributions to the Employees Retirement System (ERS) and Teachers Retirement System (TRS), as well as making debt payments. Using these reserve funds will help offset pension costs and bond obligations

without placing an additional burden on taxpayers. Additionally, we are also increasing the use of existing general fund balances to support operating needs.

Second, we are carefully reducing some of our programming expenses. While we will be adjusting the number of elementary after-school clubs offered to better align with our staffing resources, we will continue offering multiple after-school opportunities for our elementary students. We are also pausing the district's purchasing of all K-12 required student school supplies and our elementary Summer Academy program, though we hope to bring both back in future school years. The district will continue to offer its High School Summer School and the special education Extended School Year programs.

PUBLIC HEARING

MEET THE CANDIDATES: There will be a "Meet the Candidates" forum giving residents an opportunity to meet the candidates running for the three (3) Board of Education positions to be filled effective July 1, 2025. Meet the Candidates and a public hearing on the budget will take place on May 6, 2025, at Turnpike Elementary School.

SUMMARY OF IMPORTANT DATES:

May 6, 2025:

- Voter Registration – 12:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

May 6, 2025:

- Meet the Candidates & Budget Public Hearing – 6:00 p.m.

May 20, 2025:

- Budget Vote & Board Election – 11:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.

VOTER REGISTRATION

Voter registration will be held on Tuesday, May 6, from noon to 6:00 p.m. at the District Office (55 New Turnpike Road, Troy)

If you are not registered to vote, you must register for the school budget vote and board election. When registering, bring a valid driver's license. If you do not have one, bring other proof of date of birth and residence.

ABSENTEE BALLOTS & EARLY VOTING

Applications for absentee ballots and early mail ballots are obtainable from the District Clerk at the District Office (55 New Turnpike Road, Troy) between 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. on weekdays. Any qualified voter may request an early mail ballot. See the back page for more about absentee ballots and early voting.

VOTING LOCATIONS

Voting will take place at the following locations from 11:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.

- Lansingburgh High School – 320 7th Avenue, Troy, NY 12182
- Turnpike Elementary School – 55 New Turnpike Road, Troy, NY 12182



BUDGET VOTE

**TUESDAY
MAY 20, 2025**

**Absentee Ballots
Due by 5 p.m.**

School Budget Ballot 2025-2026:

✓ **YES or NO**

Budget
Proposed

RECOMMENDATION: Be it resolved, that the detailed Proposed Budget in the amount of \$66,606,450 be adopted with an anticipated income exclusive of taxes in the amount of \$49,702,432; and the amount to be raised by taxes of \$ \$16,904,018; and that this budget will be referred to as the **Basic Budget**.

BOARD OF EDUCATION UPDATE

Four (4) individuals are running for the three (3) seats opening on the Lansingburgh Board of Education. The two (2) candidates with the highest number of votes will be elected for 5-year terms commencing July 1, 2025, and expiring on June 30, 2030. The candidate with the third-highest number of votes will be elected for a 2-year term commencing July 1, 2025, and expiring on June 30, 2027, which is the time remaining in the term of a currently vacant seat on the Board.

The names of the board candidates shall appear on the ballot as follows:

1. Michael Drinkwine
2. Michael Cusack
3. Daniella Richards
4. Jessica Sloan

More information about this year's candidates is available on www.lansingburgh.org

Copies of the Budget... are available in the district office, 55 New Turnpike Road, and in the main office at each of the four schools, at the Lansingburgh Branch of the Troy Public Library and on the district website, www.lansingburgh.org

Copies will also be available at the public budget hearing on May 6.

SUMMARY OF EXPENDITURES

	BUDGET 2024-2025	PROPOSED 2025-2026
General Support	\$ 6,862,083	\$ 7,067,664
Instruction	34,293,252	35,123,433
Transportation	5,208,389	5,254,503
Community Service	900	0
Employee Benefits	13,374,320	15,313,180
Transfer to Other Funds/Debt Services	5,021,969	3,847,670
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 64,741,554	\$ 66,606,450

SUMMARY OF REVENUE

	BUDGET 2024-2025	PROPOSED 2025-2026
Appropriated Fund Balance	\$ 435,000	\$ 575,000
ERS and TRS Reserves	0	161,650
State Aid	46,812,831	47,961,157
Charges for Services	14,897	18,000
Use of Money & Property	36,000	101,000
Refund Of Prior Years Expenditures	295,000	315,000
Federal Affected Areas	0	0
Interfund Revenues	150,000	390,000
Payment in Lieu Of Tax/Penalties	177,908	180,625
Property Tax	16,819,918	16,904,018
TOTAL REVENUES	\$ 64,741,554	\$ 66,606,450

ESTIMATED ASSESSED VALUE TAX PER THOUSAND

	LANSINGBURGH	BRUNSWICK	SCHAGHTICOKE	PITTSTOWN
2024-2025	\$21.36	\$77.16	\$91.38	\$13.90
2025-2026	\$21.47	\$77.54	\$92.47	\$13.65



Message from the Superintendent

To the Lansingburgh School Community:

As we approach the end of the 2024–25 School Year and look ahead to the future, I want to take a moment to sincerely thank you for your continued support of our schools. This year has been one of meaningful growth and achievement, reaffirming our place as a leading educational institution in the Capital Region. Our students continue to shine both in and out of the classroom, and their successes are a direct reflection of the strong partnership between our families, staff, and community.

Recently, we completed our Building Condition Survey, and we are now in the early stages of planning our next Capital Project. A key focus of this upcoming initiative will be enhanced safety and security measures, ensuring that our schools remain safe, welcoming environments where students can thrive.

Looking toward the 2025–26 School Year, the Board of Education has adopted a proposed budget of \$66,606,450 — an increase of \$1,864,896, or 2.88% over the current year. This budget reflects our commitment to preserving and enhancing the high-quality educational experience our students deserve, while also being mindful of our responsibility to taxpayers.

The proposed budget includes a modest tax levy increase of \$89,362, or 0.50%, significantly below this year’s maximum allowable increase of 1.35%. **In fact, this is one of the lowest tax levy increases across the three-county region.** Throughout the budgeting process, we have

remained focused on aligning our resources with our mission: “To provide a safe and nurturing educational environment for all students where high expectations, rigor, life-long learning, and civic responsibility are developed and encouraged.”

We take great pride in continuing to offer exceptional educational opportunities while maintaining long-term fiscal stability. There are no sharp or unexpected changes in the tax levy — just steady, strategic progress that benefits our students and community alike.

If you have any questions about the proposed budget or any other district matters, I encourage you to reach out. You can email me at aabitabile@lansingburgh.org or call my office at **518-233-6850** — I’d be happy to speak with you.

Thank you for being a vital part of our school community. Together, we can continue building a brighter future for Lansingburgh’s students.

Ever Upwards,

Dr. Antonio W. Abitabile, Ed. D.
LCSD Superintendent

School District Budget Notice

Overall Budget Proposal	Budget Adopted for the 2024-25 School Year	Budget Proposed for the 2025-26 School Year	Contingency Budget for the 2025-26 School Year *
Total Budgeted Amount, Not Including Separate Propositions	\$ 64,741,554	\$66,606,450	\$66,106,125
Increase/Decrease for the 2025-26 School Year		\$1,864,896	\$1,364,571
Percentage Increase/Decrease in Proposed Budget		2.88 %	2.11%
Change in the Consumer Price Index		2.95%	
A. Proposed Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount	\$16,819,918	\$16,904,018	
B. Levy to Support Library Debt, if Applicable	\$0	\$0	
C. Levy for Non-Excludable Propositions, if Applicable **	\$0	\$0	
D. Total Tax Cap Reserve Amount Used to Reduce Current Year Levy	\$0	\$0	
E. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy (A + B + C - D)	\$16,819,918	\$16,904,018	\$16,819,918
F. Total Permissible Exclusions	\$424,407	\$ 89,362	
G. School Tax Levy Limit, <u>Excluding</u> Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$16,427,936	\$16,819,745	
H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, <u>Excluding</u> Levy to Support Library Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions (E – B – F + D)	\$16,395,511	\$16,814,656	
I. Difference: G – H (Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval – See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions) **	\$34,425	\$ 5,089	
Administrative Component	\$6,252,300	\$6,491,574	\$6,271,246
Program Component	\$49,025,226	\$51,436,221	\$51,364,258
Capital Component	\$9,464,027	\$8,478,655	\$8,470,621

* Provide a statement of assumptions made in projecting a contingency budget for the 2025-26 school year, should the proposed budget be defeated pursuant to Section 2023 of the Education Law.

Description	Amount
	\$
	\$
	\$
	\$

** List Separate Propositions that are not included in the Total Budgeted Amount: (Tax Levy associated with educational or transportation services propositions are not eligible for exclusion and may affect voter approval requirements)

Under the Budget Proposed for the 2025-26 School Year
\$ 449

Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings¹

The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2025-26 by the qualified voters of the Lansingburgh Central school district, Rensselaer County, New York, will be held at Lansingburgh High School and Turnpike Elementary School school(s) in said district on Tuesday, May 20, 2025 between the hours of 11:00 am and 8:00 pm, prevailing time in the locations listed above, at which time the polls will be opened to vote by voting ballot or machine.

1. The basic school tax relief (STAR) exemption is authorized by section 425 of the Real Property Tax Law.



BUDGET Q & A

Q: What happens if the budget fails?

A: If the budget is not approved, then the Board of Education has the option to; 1. Put up the same budget for a revote 2. Put up a new budget for revote 3. Adopt a Contingent Budget.

Q: What if the second vote fails?

A: If the budget were to fail a second time, the Board of Education must adopt a contingent budget.

Q: What is a contingent budget?

A: A contingent budget is one where the Tax Levy cannot exceed that of the previous year. In addition, the administrative portion of the budget must be equal to or less than the percent from the previous year's budget, and all non-contingent items cannot be included in the budget.

Q: What are contingent items?

A: Legal Expenses: Debt Service, Principal, and Interest Judgements
Other Legal Obligations: Social Security and other payroll taxes and assessments, Preexisting contractual obligations. Expenditures specifically authorized by statute: Transportation, Textbooks, Supplies for Loan to Pupils, Membership in NYS School Board Association, Convention and Conference Expenses, District's Share of Services Provided by BOCES, Health Services, Student Accident Insurance, In-Service Training for Teachers, Child Nutrition Programs, and other items necessary to maintain Lansingburgh educational programs.

Q: What are Non-Contingent Items?

- Rental of office equipment
- Use of school buildings by outside organizations except where there is no identifiable extra cost to the district, or such cost is fully paid by a donation before the activity occurs
- Capital expenditures (except in an emergency)
- Transportation and maintenance of interscholastic athletic teams
- Equipment purchases
- Pupil uniforms whether for athletic activities or otherwise.

None of the items listed above would be allowed under a contingent budget.

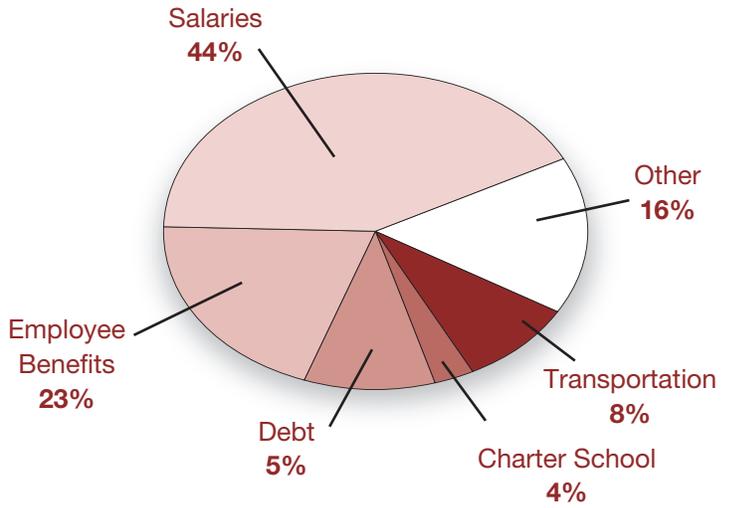
Senior Citizen School Tax Exemption Information

Annual Income	Percentage Assessed Valuation Exempt From Taxation
\$29,000	50 percent
\$30,000	45 percent
\$31,000	40 percent
\$32,000	35 percent
\$32,900	30 percent
\$33,800	25 percent
\$34,700	20 percent
\$35,600	15 percent
\$36,500	10 percent
\$37,400	5 percent

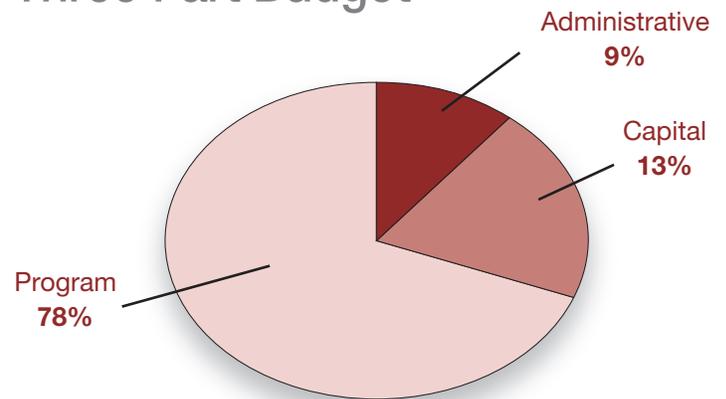
The Lansingburgh School District will allow a percentage school tax exemption on real property owned by persons 65 years of age or over. Taxpayers must meet the statutory qualifications set forth in Section 467 of the Real Property Tax Law of the State of New York. The annual income scale and the tax exemption percentage are listed above.

Note: Applications approved by the city or town tax assessor's office will automatically be applied to your school district taxes.

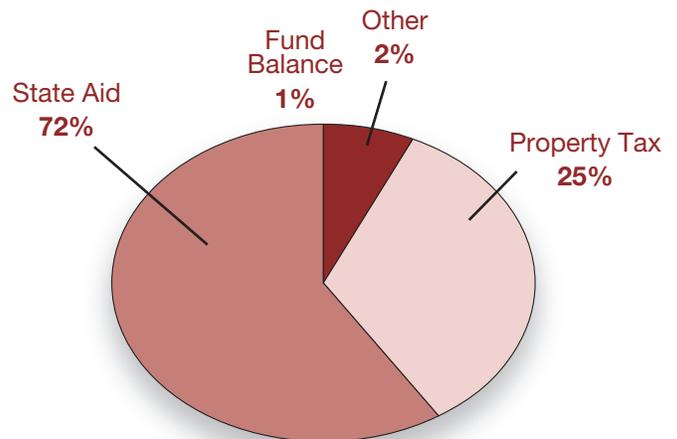
2025 – 2026 Proposed Budget



Three Part Budget



2025 – 2026 Revenue





Multi-Year Capital Improvement Project Completed

Lansingburgh Central School District’s \$16,664,405 Capital Improvement Project, approved by district voters on December 7, 2021, was completed this school year! The scope of this project included necessary maintenance work, renovations, and improvements, primarily at Rensselaer Park Elementary School (grades 3-5) and district athletics facilities.

Construction bidding, contract awards and final plan approval from New York State took place in 2022. Site work construction officially began in 2023 and finished in late 2024. Lansingburgh’s Board of Education held a ceremonial ribbon-cutting ceremony outside of Rensselaer Park Elementary in October 2024 to commemorate the completion of the project.

This project was an investment in the success of Lansingburgh’s current and future students and the district thanks the community for its support and patience throughout the multi-year process of completing it!

Highlighted components of this project include, but are not limited to:

Athletics Facilities

- Multisport Synthetic Turf Field & Softball Field
- Middle School/High School Track Resurfaced
- Shot Put/Discus Throwing Areas Relocated

Rensselaer Park Elementary

- New Cafeteria and Kitchen
- New Outdoor Classroom Space
- Parking Lot Renovation/Resurfacing
- New Playground
- Art Classroom Renovation
- Music Classroom Renovation
- Band Practice Room Renovation
- Speech Room Renovation
- New LED Lighting and Dividing Curtain in Gym
- Additional Multiuse Classroom Space



New Rensselaer Park Cafeteria



New Synthetic Turf Field

Preparing for NYS Student Cell Phone Policy

Early in 2025, New York State Governor Kathy Hochul announced a “More Learning, Less Scrolling” initiative, which proposed a policy that would require all NYS K-12 schools to limit student cell phone and personal electronic device use. Governor Hochul has said this policy will go into effect starting in the 2025-26 School Year with the stated goals of reducing distractions during the school day and supporting students’ mental health.

While some of Lansingburgh’s neighboring school districts have

implemented cell phone/device-free plans in recent years, these were put in place voluntarily by those districts. If the Governor’s policy goes into effect next year, then all state school districts, including Lansingburgh CSD, will be required to implement plans for student cell phone and personal electronic device storage during the school day.

In anticipation of the Governor’s policy being passed, Lansingburgh CSD has been planning so it can comply with this NYS requirement beginning in September 2025,

including incorporating plans for student phone and device storage during the school day into the proposed 2025-26 Budget. Lansingburgh families are encouraged to attend board meetings, elementary school PTA meetings and middle school/high school PTSA meetings in the coming weeks and months if they would like to participate in future discussions about this matter. Districts should know more about the next steps in the Governor’s initiative soon and we will keep Lansingburgh school families informed of changes.



LANSINGBURGH
— CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT —

55 New Turnpike Road
Troy, New York 12182

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BUDGET VOTE

BUDGET AND
BOARD OF
EDUCATION
VOTE

TUESDAY
MAY 20, 2025

This newsletter is published by the B.O.E as a community service to inform the public of school news and business. Board of Education, 55 New Turnpike Road, Troy, New York, 12182. Phone: (518) 233-6850.

Lansingburgh Voting Districts

Voting District 1:

Lansingburgh High School Gym (320 7th Ave.)

The voting location for those living north of 101st St to the south of 118th St.

Voting District 2:

Turnpike Elementary School Gym (55 New Turnpike Rd.)

The voting location for those living north of 118th St to the end of Pleasantdale; Northern Drive; Corliss Park; Miami Beach Estates; Highpointe; all of Brunswick 7; and all of Speigletown.

Absentee Ballots

Applications for absentee ballots and early mail ballots are obtainable from the District Clerk at the District Office (55 New Turnpike Road, Troy, NY). Any qualified voter may request an early mail ballot. Completed ballot applications must be received by the District Clerk at least seven (7) days before the election if the ballot is to be mailed to the voter, or the day before the election if the ballot is to be delivered personally to the voter. Absentee ballots and early mail ballots must be received by the District Clerk no later than 5:00 PM, prevailing time, on May 20, 2025.

Board of Education

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Catherine Curtis

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