#### **BOARD of EDUCATION**

Mike Zagorski - President Michael Tibbetts - Vice President Katy Briber- Board Member Christine Pemberton - Board Membe Margaret Qatani - Board Member Edward Spence - Board Member Carl Tomik - Board Member izbet Angel-Ojeda - Student Member

SUPERINTENDENT of SCHOOLS Dr. Pedro Roman

> DISTRICT CLERK Joanne "Jay" Mikula

HYDE PARK CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT Administrative Offices P O Box 2033 Hyde Park NY 12538 www.hpcsd.org • 845-229-4000 Fax (845)229-4056

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## **VOTING INFORMATION**

The annual Board Member election and budget vote will be held at **Haviland Middle Schoo**l, in the gymnasium, on Tues, May 20, 2025. Polls will be open from 6am until **8pm**. Hyde Park CSD's Annual meeting to accept the vote results will occur after the polls close at approximately 9:00 pm.

## Voting by Absentee/Early **Mail Ballot**

Applications are available to vote by Absentee Ballot or Early Mail Vote on the district's website **hpcsd.org** or can be picked up at the District Office.

### **Public Budget Hearing**

A public hearing to provide information on the 25-26 proposed budget will be held on Thurs, May 8th, at 6pm, at the District Office.

## **Voter Registration**

The district will hold voter registration for qualified voters on Thurs. May 8th from 4pm-8pm, at the District Office.

If you have questions or need assistance, please contact the District Clerk at 845-229-4000.



# **FDR Sports Highlights**

Our FDR student-athletes have been excelling on the field, and below is a list of just some of the many accomplishments they achieved both individually and as part of

#### Wrestling

Five years after bringing back the wrestling program our varsity team picked up its first Section IX team tournament win against Pine Bush earlier this year, scoring 39-24. In late February, junior and team captain Luke Dakin qualified for the New York State Public High School Athletic Association's (NYSPHSAA) Boys Wrestling Individual Championships, while sophomore Natalia Quinteros Tejada earned her second Section IX Title and represented FDR at NYSPHSAA's Girls Wrestling Individual Championships.

#### **Girls Lacrosse**

The team kicked off the 2025 season with two consecutive victories, marking its best start since 2019. In the season opener on March 25th, FDR secured a 14-6 win over Washingtonville, and two days later, it defeated Newburgh Free Academy with a 15-3 victory.

### **Winter Track**

Casey D'Alassandro, Kendall Moser, Laila Reuben, and Marina Scott ended the season by breaking FDR's school track record and took home medals after competing at the Nike Indoor Nationals 4x4. Earlier in the season, Scott won two Section IX Championships, the 300m and the 600m, which are some of the more challenging sections in New York.

#### **Awards and Honors**

Senior Moses Sekatawa was named Poughkeepsie Journal Defensive Player of the Year and appointed to the All-State Football Team by the New York State Sportswriters Association, the latter being the highest recognition for any player in the state. His achievements mark the first time an FDR student won the Poughkeepsie Journal honor and the fifth time FDR has had an All-State player.

Nine of FDR's varsity teams and 15 individual athletes were named Scholar-Athletes for the Fall 2024 season by the New York State Public High School Athletic Association.





May 20, 2025 6 am - 8 pm **Voting Location: Haviland Middle School** 

**HYDE PARK CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT** 



# 2025-2026 Budget Focuses on the needs of all students

Hyde Park residents will vote on May 20, 2025, on a proposed \$125,988,823 budget for the 2025-26 school year. The proposed 2025-2026 budget preserves current programs and services with a strategic focus on the needs of all students to ensure their readiness for current and future success.

## Highlights:

- 4.13% Budget-to-Budget Increase
- 2.00% Tax Levy Increase

The tax levy increase is below the allowable tax cap for 2025-2026.

Have your say on this year's budget by visiting the district website and completing our ThoughtExchange survey and be sure to check out the first video of our three-part budget video series on the district's YouTube channel "HPCSD Publicity."

"This year's budget will continue to allow us to invest in preparing our Hyde Park students for future careers throughout innovative technology, real world learning and individualized support. Our dedicated staff works through the year to manage our finances and plan responsibility for the future. This year is no different as we preserve programs and services for students, improve efficiency and effectiveness, ensure financial sustainability and remain mindful of the impact on taxpayers."

-Dr. Pedro Roman, Superintendent

# **Budget At A Glance**

PROPOSITION 1 - Total Budget:	\$125,988,823
Budget to Budget Increase:	4,994,338
Percentage Increase:	4.13%
Tax Levy Increase:	2.00%
Tax Levy Cap:	2.43%
Proposed Tax Levy:	\$72,258,441

#### **BUS PURCHASE RESOLUTIONS**

#### PROPOSITION 2

- (1) 7 Passenger Minivan (gas)
- (1) 30 Passenger van (gas)
- (1) Wheelchair accessible van (gas)
- (4) 66 Passenger Buses (diesel)

#### **PROPOSITION 3**

(9) 66 - Passenger Buses (electric) includes a level 3 charger for each bus

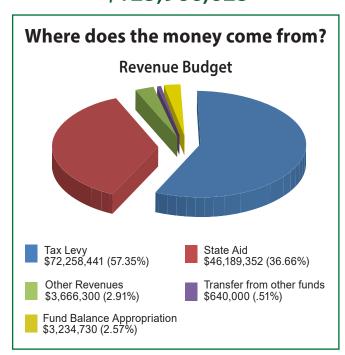
#### **SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION**

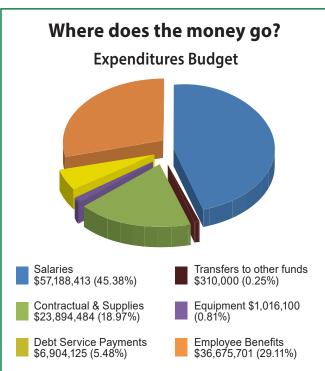
Three seats on the Board of Education are up for election. Two seats carry a three-year term. One seat carries an 18-month term. See page 7 for candidate information.

Together, Keeping Students First

Together, Keeping Students First

# Proposition 1: 2025-2026 General Fund Budget \$125,988,823





Email your budget questions to: Budget@hpcsd.org

The Budget in Brief	2024-2025 Approved Budget	2025-2026 Proposed Budget	
ADMINISTRATIVE			
Board of Education	\$ 175,055	\$173,435	
Central Administration	317,945	334,236	
Finance	1,081,547	1,350,008	
Central Services	3,429,041	3,440,672	
Instructional Administration	4,329,109	4,219,304	
Employee Benefits	2,738,145	3,014,226	
Total Administrative	\$12,070,842	\$12,531,881	
PROGRAM			
Central Services	\$216,140	\$234,509	
In-Service Training	761,007	922,935	
Teaching – Regular School	25,822,962	27,320,591	
Special Education	16,652,718	16,847,546	
Programs for English Language Learners	863,103	1,109,698	
Occupational Education	3,023,364	3,333,566	
Instructional Media	3,368,068	3,442,880	
Pupil Services	5,469,740	5,603,990	
Pupil Transportation	7,463,579	7,400,412	
Employee Benefits	29,802,255	29,669,354	
Interfund Transfers	240,000	210,000	
Total Program	\$93,682,936	\$96,095,481	
CAPITAL			
Operations & Maintenance	\$6,557,491	\$6,342,659	
Special Items	266,750	22,556	
Employee Benefits	2,353,925	3,992,121	
Interfund Transfers	100,000	100,000	
Debt Service	5,962,541	6,904,125	
Total Capital	\$15,240,707	\$17,361,461	
TOTAL BUDGET	\$120,994,485	\$125,988,823	

## Ralph R. Smith student honors his hero



During Women's History
Month, Ralph R. Smith first
graders were asked to highlight
remarkable women throughout
history. Theo Gano decided to
honor his favorite teaching
assistant Mary Johnson because she does a great job
helping him when he needs it.

## **BOARD CANDIDATES**



## Katherine "Katy" Briber - Board of Education Candidate

I am a retired teacher with 32 years of experience teaching various grades including middle school and elementary school. After retirement I relocated to the district to be closer to my family. I began substitute teaching in the district and was able to teach at each school, giving me insight into each building, our students, administration and staff.

On August 5, 2024, I was appointed by the board members to fill a vacancy. During my time on the board, I have acclimated myself into the board by attending board meetings, touring our schools,

meeting with district employees, attending Community Chats and serving on the Technology Committee, District Leadership Team, and Wellness Committee. As a board member, I have reported on items that benefit our district and gained many insights into the unique needs of our community and the students in our school district.

As a graduate of Yale with a master's degree from Holy Names college in guidance and over 30 years of teaching experience serving students from all backgrounds, I have the skills necessary to serve our community. My education experience gives me a deep understanding of school districts and education. I will support capital improvements, financial operations, and district policies that are in the best interest of the families in Hyde Park. My goal is to always ensure we do what is best for students and the community. With your support, I look forward to continuing my work with the Hyde Park Board of Education.



## **Edward Spence – Board of Education Candidate**

Ed has been elected twice by the community and has lived with his wife Doreen in Hyde Park for nearly 30 years. They have had seven children graduate from FDR to date with two more children and several grandchildren currently enrolled. He earned college degrees in Business Administration/Accounting, Computer Programming and Teaching. Ed was employed by IBM Corporation for over 13 years prior to working as an educator for over 30+ years. While a teacher he was selected twice by Google for an annual Innovative Teacher Award. He was taught every grade level from 5th-12th grade. He has also

worked as an adjunct at three local colleges for over 25 years. As a school administrator in 2012 he created the first 1-to-1 Chromebook plan from any district in the Hudson Valley winning a 2013 NYSSBA Innovative Schools Award. He was also elected to serve for over ten years as a Board Member for the Mid-Hudson Teacher Center. He currently works as a NYS-certified school administrator. He has volunteered for Big Brothers-Big Sisters, Kiwanis, United Way and is an active member of the Hyde Park Knights of Columbus. He and his wife are members of Planet Fitness and Regina Coeli Parish. The Spences are certified therapeutic foster/adoptive parents and members of the Dutchess County / Astor Services Foster & Adoptive Parents Council. His wife Doreen is a retired Science teacher. The Spences are strong advocates for students acquiring real-work vocational skills. His major goals continue to be: promoting 21st Century Learning along with supporting special needs children. Ed truly believes that hard-work and dedication, this is still the winning formula for student success. Ed is thankful for the opportunity to continue to serve and looks forward to continuing to represent all residents of Hyde Park. He feels it is our moral duty to provide students with an excellent education doing so in a financially appropriate manner for local taxpayers and pushing back, when necessary, on unfunded mandates from Albany. He would be honored to again serve on the Hyde Park Board of Education. Go Presidents!



# Michael Zagorski – Board of Education Candidate - Experience Matters

I have been a resident of Hyde Park for 25 years along with my wife Michele and three children who have all attended our schools. I find that I really enjoy giving back to the community, helping out in any way I can.

For most of my adult life, I have been actively involved as a volunteer in many types of organizations. I am active in the Roosevelt Fire District, coached for Dutchess Debs 16U Softball Team and previously served as the President and Vice President of the FDR Softball Booster Club and past Vice President of

Softball for the Hyde Park Little League.

As a current board member who has served three terms (9 years), and elected by my peers to be the Board President for the last 2 years. I feel fortunate to be able to actively participate on a very stable and respectful board. I am able to draw from my experiences to make educated and equitable decisions to help guide our district as we continue to face challenges and improve and grow our district. With our community's support, I look forward to continuing this work. I've always thought we lived in a "good" school district. My goal as a Board member is to help make it a "great" district.

Together, Keeping Students First

# Meet This Year's Valedictorian & Salutatorian!

F.D. Roosevelt High School is pleased to announce that Julian Pritchard was named the 2025 Valedictorian and Jason Yang the Salutatorian. Both will speak at the Class of 2025 Graduation on June 27. The district congratulates these two scholars on their achievements!



Julian Pritchard

Pritchard, an AP scholar and Scholar-Athlete, has a weighted average of 102.84 and will earn 32 high school credits (New York State requires 22 for graduation). He will graduate with 21 dual-enrollment college credits from Dutchess Community College and Marist University, and college credits earned from his stellar AP exam

scores in numerous subjects. He will study chemical engineering in college.

During his time at FDR, Pritchard was inducted into the National Honor Society and was a proficient student-athlete, where he competed on the cross country, swim, and winter and spring track teams. Additionally, he played trombone in numerous school bands and was a peer leader in the Sources of Strength program, which strives to prevent bullying and violence.

When asked about his most memorable FDR experiences, Pritchard enjoyed playing at the "Music in the Park" event at Six Flags Great Adventure and winning "Mr. President," FDR's annual senior-run talent show and comedy routine hybrid.

Yang, an AP scholar and National Honor Society inductee, has a weighted average of 101.76 and will earn 31 high school credits. He will graduate with up to 21 college credits from Dutchess Community College and Marist University and additional credits from AP courses in numerous subjects. He plans to major



Jason Yan

in biochemistry in college and desires to join the Army through the Health Professions Scholarship Program.

At FDR, Yang had a passion for science. He won the 2024 science fair, advanced to the Dutchess County Regional Science Fair, and volunteered at the district's Camp Invention, offering STEAM activities for elementary students. He also played violin in numerous school bands and participated in the Academic World Quest and tennis teams, earning him Scholar-Athlete status.

Yang's favorite FDR experiences were playing in the All-State Symphony Orchestra and performing a chemistry demonstration for elementary students as part of his AP chemistry class final.

# **Top 20 Students for the Class of 2025**



- 1. Julian Pritchard
- 2. Jason Yang
- 3. Thomas Hurley
- 4. Isabella Breen
- 5. Tony Ho
- 6. Colton Palmateer
- 7. Tegan Reigada

- 8. Chase Figueroa
- 9. Hannah Senecal
- 10. Jake Florin
- 11. Jesie Sozzi
- 12. Amir Sahawneh
- 13. Irelynn Fitzgerald
- 14. Ashlynn Wilk

- 15. Tyler Nolen
- 16. Alexander Jikhars
- 17. Alice Chen
- 18. Jayla Nieves
- 19. Elijah Hakobian-Leone
- 20. Maya Malcarne

# **Budget Propositions**

# Proposition 1 General Operating Budget \$125,988,823

Budget to Budget increase: 4.13% Tax Levy increase: 2.00%

# Proposition 2 School Bus Replacement (Gas & Diesel

#### Purchase of:

(1) 7- Passenger Minivan (gas)

\$ 975,075

\$ 442,549.34/van \$42,550

(1) 30- Passenger Van (gas) \$ 105.484.84/van \$105.485

(1) Wheelchair accessible van(gas) \$ 128,018.38/van \$128,018

(4) 66- Passenger Bus (Diesel) \$ 174,755.38/van \$699,022

Total School Bus Purchases \$975,075

LESS:StateAid(58.4%)-(\$569,444)

NETCOST (after State Aid) \$405,631

Proposition 3
Electric Powered Buses \$4,534,637

#### **Purchases of:**

(9) 66- Passenger Buses (electric) includes a level 3 charger for each bus

\$503,848.53/bus \$4,534,637

Less NYSERDA NYSBIP Grant (\$257,250/bus) -(\$2,315,250

Total EV Bus Purchases after NYSERDA NYSBIP Grant: \$2.219.387

Less: State Aid (\$4,534,637 x 58.4% = \$2,648,228) -(\$2,219,387

Net Cost after state aid: \$

# Maximum STAR Exemption for the 2025-2026 School Year by Town:

0.00

	Basic	Enhanced
Clinton	\$703	\$1,888
Hyde Park	\$720	\$1,822
Pleasant Valley	\$731	\$1,885
Poughkeepsie	\$729	\$1,913
Rhinebeck	\$730	\$1,913
<u>'</u>	•	

Budget Notice	Budget Adopted for 2024-25	Budget Proposed for 2025-26	Contingency Budget for 2025-26
Total Budgeted Amount, Not Including Separate Propositions	\$120,994,485	\$125,988,823	\$124,614,740
Increase for the 2025-26 School Year		4,994,338	3,620,255
Percentage Increase in Proposed Budget		4.13%	2.99%
Change in the Consumer Price Index		2.95%	
A. Proposed Tax Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount, net of Reserve	\$70,841,609	\$72,258,441	
B. Levy to Support Library Debt, if Applicable			
C. Levy for Non-Excludable Propositions, if Applicable			
D. Total Tax Cap Reserve Amount Used to Reduce Current Year Levy			
E. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy (A $+$ B $+$ C $-$ D)	\$70,841,609	\$ 72,258,441	\$70,841,609
F. Total Permissible Exclusions	\$2,183,689	\$1,588,420	
G. School Tax Levy Limit, Excluding Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$68,657,920	\$70,670,021	
H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, Excluding Levy to support Library Debt, and/or Permissible Exclusions (E - B - F + D)	\$68,657,920	\$70,670,021	
I. Difference: (G — H); (Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval )	\$0	\$0	
Budget Overview			
Administrative Component	\$12,070,842	\$12,531,881	\$12,253,762
Program Component	\$93,682,936	\$96,095,481	\$95,597,410
Capital Component	\$15,240,707	\$17,361,461	\$ 16,763,568

If the budget does not pass and goes to contingency, "cost of living" increases would not be allowed. The proposed budget would be cut by approximately \$1,374,083. Since other costs have increased, this could mean cuts in programs and activities, which may include: salary increases for non-union staff, student supplies, equipment purchases, capital projects and other capital expenditures, and non-mandated student programs.

\*\*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)

Description	Amount
Proposition 2-School Bus Replacement (Diesel & Gas)	\$975,075
Proposition 3- School Bus Replacement (Electric)	\$4,534,637

The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2025-26 by the qualified voters of <u>Hyde Park Central School District</u>, <u>Dutchess County</u>. New York will be held at <u>Haviland Middle School</u> in said district on Tuesday, May 20, 2025 between the hours of <u>6:00 am</u> and <u>8:00 pm</u> prevailing time at the <u>Haviland Middle School</u>, at which time the polls will be opened to vote by voting ballot or machine.



FDR presented its Spring Musical "Big Fish" March 7-9

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# Building Blocks of the Hyde Park Central School District Budget

# **Preserving** programs and services for students. \_



Despite setting the tax cap below the maximum allowable amount, the district will be able to not only keep all current programs but also enhance them.

Whether it be superb courses in numerous subjects from earth science to cybersecurity or helping students by enhancing positive behavioral interventions and supports and providing career guidance, preserving these programs will continue to yield positive results for students.

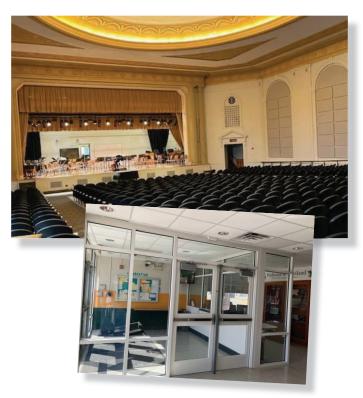
Students from the district are excelling in courses at Dutchess BOCES' Career & Technical Institute, while some are serving as student ambassadors of their respective programs to show future applicants and others developed solutions to issues in the community in the Student Innovation Fellowship.

Keeping up with this theme of innovating, a cohort of soon to be FDR students will participate in the Dutchess County Pathways in Technology Early College High School (or P-TECH) program where they earn an applied associate degree while still in high school.

# Ensuring financial **sustainability.** —

The third and final phrase of the \$35.7 million districtwide capital project is beginning and will be making improvements that will benefit both students, staff and the wider community including HVAC system upgrades and improvements to the auditorium at FDR and security vestibules across the district. Making the improvements now will improve the life of the buildings.

The Facilities and Operations department's Energy Conservation Program encourages everyone to create a culture of conservation awareness and eliminate waste where possible which results in saving money. During the 2023-2024 school year, the program saw costs down \$221,602 from the previous year with a total cost of \$50,503 for the program.



# Improving efficiency and effectiveness.

The district is actively enhancing its literacy instruction by aligning with the Science of Reading framework, which dovetails with New York State's efforts to improve reading proficiency and academic achievement through evidence-based reading practices, including implementing a knowledge-based literacy curriculum in fall 2025 and using phonics-based approaches supporting all students to become proficient readers.

There's been some exciting progress in math with improved instruction yielding outstanding results. The latest New York State Math Assessment data shows a notable increase in student proficiency across third through eighth grades from 2021 to 2024, with grades fourth, sixth and seventh showing remarkable increases due to the positive impact of an update Eureka Math<sup>2,</sup> curriculum and dedicated elementary math coaches.



# Being mindful of the impact on taxpayers. \_



This year's 2% tax levy increase is the second lowest one in the last three years with Superintendent Dr. Pedro Roman noting that the levy increase will be able to come below the tax cap at 2.43%.

Savings of \$202,037 have come from using money from the \$3.5 million Stronger Connections Grant the district was awarded in February 2024.

It has been used for stipends toward Positive Behavior Intervention supports and Multi-Tiered System of Supports and for two full-time licensed practical nurses, all geared toward helping students.

































NŸSPHSAA

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