

# BCSD Bulletin

A PUBLICATION OF THE BEDFORD CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT



## BUDGET VOTE

TUESDAY, MAY 20, 2025 | 7 AM - 9 PM

AT THE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IN YOUR ATTENDANCE AREA

### Budget Facts:

Total Proposed 2025-2026 Budget	\$160,905,500
Budget-to-Budget Increase	3.26%
Tax Levy % Increase	2.99%

### Budget Priorities:

- **Sustain & build** continuity and program capacity
- **Meet** compliance requirements and maintain appropriate staffing ratios
- **Respond** to data when making decisions
- **Advance** Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS) and take action on results from the Special Education review
- **Strengthen** safety & security — both physical and emotional

### Did You Know?

- BCSD is a multi-year National Association of Music Merchants Best Communities for Music Education recipient.
- 44 Fox Lane High School students received the NYS Seal of Biliteracy in 2024.
- For the last 8 years, at least 200 students in each senior class have gotten real-world experience through the ASPIRE (A Senior Program for Internships, Research, and Enrichment) program.
- Nearly 600 pieces of art were created by students, staff and community members for the Monster Art Project.
- We have 1350+ student athletes from the middle and high schools on 73 different teams. Four teams went to States and we had one State Champion this year.

## BRIGHT FUTURE — SOLID FOUNDATION



Dear BCSD Community,

After much thoughtful planning and deliberation, it is my pleasure to present for your consideration the Board of Education's proposed 2025-26 school budget as approved on April 23, 2025. Following our district's right-sizing plan over the last two years, we are now on a solid foundation of budget stability that, with careful forward management, puts us on a pathway to a bright future.

The proposed 2025-26 budget of \$160,905,500 utilizes about \$400,000 in Fund Balance and makes some modest but important investments in program and infrastructure, while at the same time providing a measure of relief to taxpayers by levying a 2.99% tax increase that is .45% below the allowable tax cap of 3.44%. Here are some key items included in this proposed budget:

- Continued growth of safety and security programs: addition of a District-wide Safety Coordinator as well as a safety monitor at Mount Kisco Elementary
- Reinstatement of a middle school dean
- Participation in a School Mental Health Clinic Partnership with Northwell Health (NWH)
- Capital improvement funds to refurbish playgrounds, update identified building infrastructure needs and address safety systems
- Funds to begin action steps identified in the recently completed Special Education Study and Dual Language Bilingual Education Review to be conducted in the fall

*As one BCSD community, my goal throughout the budget development process has been to provide the programs and resources necessary to help each student and each school to do their very best work in pursuit of our district's mission. I wholeheartedly believe this budget serves the children and families of our community well, while supporting fiscal responsibility in both the short and longer term.*

Special thanks to the members of our administrative team who helped craft our initial Superintendent's Budget proposal, along with our dedicated Board of Education members who deliberated extensively in public with engaged community members throughout this thorough process to refine the budget you are now being asked to consider. I sincerely and respectfully ask for your participation in the democratic process by taking time to visit your polling place on May 20, 2025.

Sincerely,

**Dr. Robert Glass, Superintendent**



**Learn more about the budget**



**Aprenda más y lea este boletín en español**

**Learn more about our**



**Success Plan**

# 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	\$155,825,000	\$160,905,500	\$156,682,758
Increase/Decrease for the 2025-26 School Year		\$5,080,500	\$857,758
Percentage Increase/Decrease in Proposed Budget		3.26%	.55%
Change in the Consumer Price Index		2.95%	
A. Proposed Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount	\$141,436,467	\$145,659,209	
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)	\$141,436,467	\$145,659,209	\$141,436,467
F. Total Permissible Exclusions	\$8,699,928	\$9,281,464	
G. School Tax Levy Limit, <u>Excluding</u> Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$132,736,539	\$137,027,245	
H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, Excluding Levy to Support Library Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions (E – B – F + D)	\$132,736,539	\$136,377,745	
I. Difference: G – H (Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval – See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions) **	\$0	\$649,500	
Administrative Component	\$14,796,030	\$14,931,546	\$14,691,546
Program Component	\$120,677,529	\$125,039,616	\$121,636,874
Capital Component	\$20,351,441	\$20,934,338	\$20,354,338

\*In the event of a contingent budget, The District is required to maintain the 2024-2025 tax levy. The expense budget would require a decrease of \$4,222,742. This would necessitate the elimination of certified and classified staff positions, professional development, curriculum enhancements, and contingent expenses such as instructional and operating equipment.

The budget-to-budget change would be .55%. This statement of assumptions is projecting a contingency budget for the 2025-2026 school year should the proposed budget be defeated pursuant to section 2023 of the Education Law.

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

## Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings<sup>1</sup>

## Under the Budget Proposed for the 2025-26 School Year

The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2025-26 by the qualified voters of the Bedford Central School District, Westchester County, New York, will be held at Bedford Hills, Bedford Village, Mt. Kisco, Pound Ridge & West Patent Elementary school(s) in said district on Tuesday, May 20, 2025 between the hours of 7:00am and 9:00pm, prevailing time, at which time the polls will be opened to vote by voting ballot or machine

\$1,219 Town Bedford
\$1,151 Town Mt. Kisco
\$1,212 Town New Castle
\$1,225 Town North Castle
\$1,175 Town Pound Ridge

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

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# Aviso del Presupuesto del Distrito Escolar

Propuesta de presupuesto general	Presupuesto aprobado para el año escolar 2024-25	Presupuesto propuesto para el año escolar 25-26	Presupuesto de contingencia para el año escolar 2025-26*
Monto total presupuestado, sin incluir propuestas separadas	\$155,825,000	\$160,905,500	\$156,682,758
Aumento/Disminucion para el año escolar 2024-25		\$5,080,500	\$857,758
Porcentaje de aumento/disminucion del Presupuesto Propuesto		3.26%	.55%
Variacion del indice de precios al consumidor		2.95%	
A. Gravamen propuesto para apoyar el monto total presupuestado	\$141,436,467	\$145,659,209	
B. Gravamen para apoyar la deuda de la biblioteca, si corresponde			
C. Gravamen por proposiciones no exclubles, si procede**			
D. Monto total de la reserva del tope impositivo utilizado para reducir la tasa impositiva actual			
E. Total propuesto de gravamen fiscal para el año escolar (A + B + C - D)	\$141,436,467	\$145,659,209	\$141,436,467
F. Total de exclusiones permitidas	\$8,699,928	\$9,281,464	
G. Limite de gravamen de impuestos escolares, excluyendo el gravamen para exclusiones permisibles.	\$132,736,539	\$137,027,245	
H. Total propuesto gravamen tributario para el año escolar excluyendo el gravamen para apoyar la deuda de la biblioteca y/o exclusiones permisibles (E-B-F+D) Library Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions (E – B – F + D)	\$132,736,539	\$136,377,745	
I. Diferencia: G-H (El valor negativo requiere 60.0% de aprobacion del votante – vea la nota a continuacion con respecto a las proposiciones separadas)**	\$ 0	\$649,500	
Componente administrativo	\$14,796,030	\$14,931,546	\$14,691,546
Componente del programa	\$120,677,529	\$125,039,616	\$121,636,874
Componente de capital	\$20,351,441	\$20,934,338	\$20,354,338

\*En caso de un presupuesto contingente, se requiere que el distrito mantenga la recaudación de impuestos del 2024-25. El presupuesto de gastos requeriría una reducción de \$4,222,742. Esto requerirá la eliminación de personal certificado y clasificado, desarrollo profesional, mejoras curriculares, y gastos contingentes tales como equipos de instrucción y operación.

Los aumentos de presupuesto a presupuesto serian de .55% . Esta declaración de suposiciones proyecta un presupuesto de contingencia para el año escolar del 2025-26, en caso de que el presupuesto propuesto no sea aprobado de conformidad con la sección 2023 de la ley de educación.

** Enumera las Proposiciones Separadas que no están incluidos en el Monto Total Presupuestado: (El Impuesto Tributario asociado con las propuestas de servicios educativos o de transporte no son elegibles para la exclusión y pueden afectar los requisitos de aprobación de los votantes)	Description	Amount

Ahorros estimados en la exencion basica de star <sup>1</sup>		Bajo el presupuesto propues to para el año escolar 2025-26
La votación del presupuesto anual para el año fiscal 2025-26 por parte votantes calificados del Distrito Central Escolar de Bedford, Condado de Westchester, NY, se llevara a cabo en las escuelas elementales de Bedford Hills, Mount Kisco, Pound Ridge, West Patent, el martes, 20 de mayo del 2025, entre las 7 am y las 9 pm, momento en que se abrirán las urnas para votar mediante papeleta o máquina de votación		\$1,219 Town Bedford
		\$1,151 Town Mt. Kisco
		\$1,212 Town New Castle
		\$1,225 Town North Castle
		\$1,175 Town Pound Ridge

1. La exencion de la desgravacion fiscal escolar basica (STAR) esta autorizada por la seccion 425 de la Ley del Impuesto a la Propiedad Inmobiliaria.



# Summary Appropriation Budget

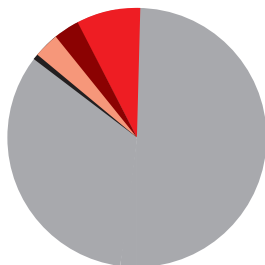
APPROPRIATIONS	Budget 2024-25	Proposed Budget 2025-26
Board of Education	\$74,990	\$76,145
Central Administration	\$400,300	\$404,625
Finance	\$1,208,190	\$1,159,950
Human Resources	\$1,185,230	\$1,266,210
Operations & Maintenance	\$8,970,955	\$8,591,145
Central Services	\$861,160	\$937,205
Special Items	\$1,816,310	\$1,853,940
<b>TOTAL GENERAL SUPPORT</b>	<b>\$14,517,135</b>	<b>\$14,289,220</b>
Curriculum & Development	\$5,375,360	\$5,584,335
Teaching Regular School	\$42,481,195	\$43,382,620
Special Apportionment	\$18,837,190	\$20,318,190
ESL Programs	\$3,288,005	\$3,234,685
Instructional Media	\$3,616,515	\$3,703,680
Guidance	\$1,855,045	\$1,918,810
Health Services/PPS	\$1,406,445	\$1,420,105
Pupil Services (Psych/Soc. Work)	\$2,424,050	\$2,503,600
Co-Curricular/Athletics	\$1,247,125	\$1,262,125
<b>TOTAL INSTRUCTION</b>	<b>\$80,530,930</b>	<b>\$83,328,150</b>
Total - Transportation	\$9,552,150	\$9,904,765
Total - Employee Benefits	\$41,480,985	\$42,954,720
Total - Debt Service	\$9,023,800	\$9,628,645
Total - Interfund Transfers	\$720,000	\$800,000
<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS 2.15%</b>	<b>\$155,825,000</b>	<b>\$160,905,500</b>

## What happens if the budget doesn't pass?

Should the proposed budget be defeated, \$4,222,742 in non-contingent expenditures would need to be removed in a contingent budget. These may include equipment purchases and repairs, unreimbursed community use of facilities, extra-curricular clubs, athletics, electives and advanced placement courses, certain student supplies and staffing reductions, which may lead to increased class sizes.

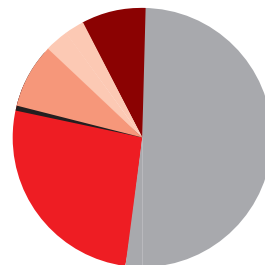


## Where will the money come from?



- 90.52% Tax Levy \$145,659,209
- 5.33% State Aid \$8,581,643
- 2.03% Non-Tax Sources \$3,260,630
- 1.86% Sales Tax \$3,000,000
- 0.25% Fund Balance \$404,018

## Where will the money be spent?



- 51.79% Instruction \$88,328,150
- 26.7% Employee Benefits \$42,954,720
- 8.88% General Support \$14,289,220
- 6.16% Transportation \$9,904,765
- 5.98% Debt Service \$9,628,645
- 0.50% Interfund Transfer \$800,000



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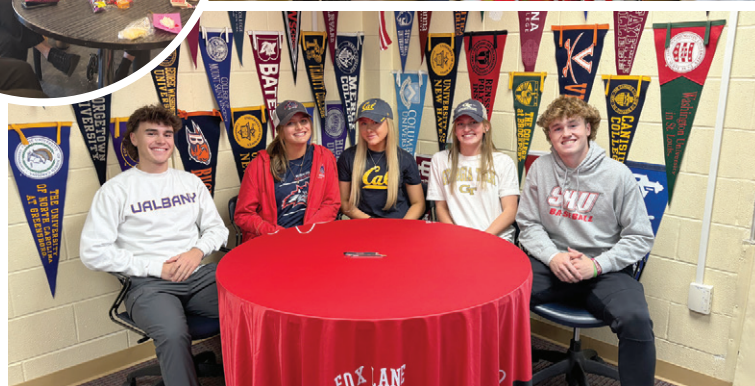
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## Points of Pride for the BCSD Community

- In 2024, BCSD performed higher than the state and the region in both ELA and Math in grades three through eight
- Grades nine through twelve Regents scores continue to outperform the state
- 88% of students taking AP exams in 2024 scored 3 or higher
- Fox Lane offers 23 different AP courses and 13 dual-enrollment opportunities
- Fox Lane had two National Merit Scholarship Finalists and nine National Merit Scholarship Commended Students this year
- Fox Lane's Science Olympiad Team placed eighth at the Lower Hudson Valley Regional Tournament. Five Fox Lane teams had top-five finishes
- Fox Lane Middle School choral students participated in All-County music festivals for the first time in more than seven years
- Our five elementary schools implemented new K-5 literacy curricula this year
- Seven BCSD student artists were featured in the Katonah Museum of Art's Young Artists 2025 exhibition





## Points of Pride for the BCSD Community

- Five Fox Lane athletes committed to Division I schools on National Signing Day
- Many of our student-athletes have won awards this year, including 76 All-League and two All-State. We also had a League Player of the Year, NFHCA Regional All-American, Most Outstanding Linebacker in the League, and League MVP
- This year, our staff have presented at local, state and national conferences, including The New York State Association for Computers and Technologies in Education, Future of Education Technology Conference and the Move United Conference, speaking about topics ranging from the Science of Reading to accessibility and neurodiversity
- Our Science Research program continues to impress, with students presenting their research on topics ranging from finding better systems for ambulance routing to analyzing long-eclipsing binary star systems at universities, regional competitions and even the American Astronomical Society's Annual Conference



## SEVEN SCHOOLS, ONE COMMUNITY

**Our students are pretty incredible. Want proof?  
Scan the QR code to see some of the amazing  
things they've been up to.**



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## BCSD BULLETIN

A publication of the  
Bedford Central School District

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## BUDGET VOTE

TUESDAY, MAY 20, 2025 | 7 AM - 9 PM  
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### Voter Registration

To vote in school elections, you must be a registered voter for either school elections or general elections. To be eligible to register, you must be a U.S. citizen, 18 years of age by the election date and a resident of the district for at least 30 days before the election. The last day for registration with the district is May 15, 2025.

### Absentee/Early Mail Ballots

An application must be submitted before an absentee ballot can be provided to a voter. Applications for absentee ballots must be completed and received by the District Clerk at least seven 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 picked up by the voter.

Absentee ballot applications are available from Sandra Speyer, District Clerk, at the Administration Building on the Fox Lane Campus during regular business hours (8:30 am – 3:30 pm) or by downloading the application:  
<https://www.bcsdny.org/board-of-ed/2025-budget-vote-and-trustee-election>.



### School Board Candidates

There are four (4) open seats for trustees. The candidates for those seats are: Leo Sposato, Gilian Klein, Prasad Krishnan, Blakeley Lowry, Amal Shady, Robert Mazurek and Eric Florio.

The three candidates receiving the highest number of votes will be elected to three-year terms. The candidate with the fourth-highest number of votes will serve a one-year-plus term, due to a Board member's resignation.