

Board of Education 2025-2026

Budget Hearing Presentation

May 12, 2025

Kenneth R. Bossert, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools

John J. O'Keefe, Deputy Superintendent

Brian C. Ernst, School Business Administrator



GREAT NECK PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Where Discovery Leads to Greatness

Budget Vote & Trustee Election

➤ May 20, 2025 – Annual Election and Budget Vote

- 6:00 AM – 9:00 PM at EM Baker, Lakeville, Saddle Rock, or South High
- In order to vote, you must be 18 years of age or older, a citizen of the U.S., and have lived in the District for at least 30 days
- Register to vote at the Phipps Administration Building on school days from 8:00 am to 3:00 pm, or at the Nassau County Board of Elections
- You must be registered to vote by May 15th to vote May 20th
- Qualified voters can obtain applications for absentee ballots by contacting the District Clerk's Office (516) 441-4007, or by emailing districtclerk@greatneck.k12.ny.us

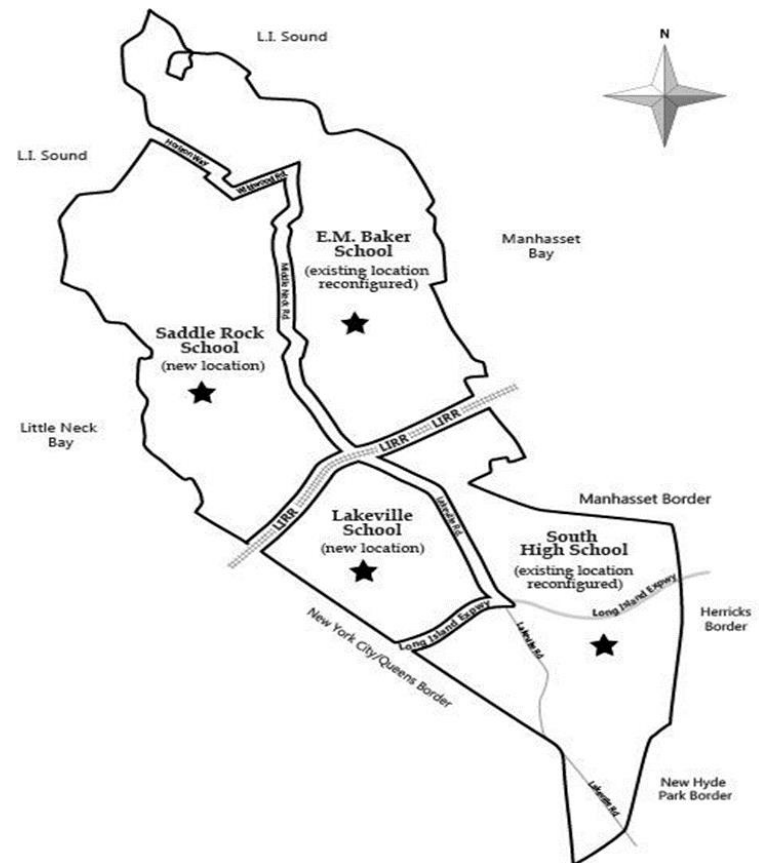
Residents who are unsure of their polling location
can use the online Poll Place Finder tool on the
District website (www.greatneck.k12.ny.us/voting)
or call the

District Clerk on school days

from 8:00AM – 3:00 PM (516-441-4007)

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2025-26 Budgetary Highlights

The Race for Excellence has no Finish Line !

- ✓ Fiscally prudent budgeting within the Tax Levy Cap limits
- ✓ Sustains all existing programs and course offerings
- ✓ Maintains support for Universal Pre-Kindergarten Programs at Parkville and John F. Kennedy
- ✓ Upholds funding for Fine and Performing Arts, Intramurals, Co-Curricular Activities, Extra-Curricular Clubs, and Inter-Scholastic Athletics
- ✓ Continued investments in security upgrades throughout the District
 - ❑ Continued enhancements to district-wide surveillance and various other facets of our security systems, as well as the ongoing commitment to secure retired law enforcement personnel for guard positions whenever possible
- ✓ Continued funding for new and replacement equipment throughout the District
 - ❑ Classroom, Instructional Technology, TV Studio, Library, Security, Facilities, Transportation, Athletics
- ✓ Continued funding for Capital Expenditures – Investment of **\$10.88M**
 - ❑ **South High** – Extensive renovation of the auditorium, exhaust and dust collection system for the Robotics Lab, new hot water storage system for SMS/SHS;
 - ❑ **J.F. Kennedy** - Replace public announcement system and pedestrian footbridge;
 - ❑ **Lakeville**– Replace 1998 section of roofing;
 - ❑ **Village School** – Full renovation of two bathrooms in south building;
 - ❑ **Cumberland** - Replace one heating system boiler;
 - ❑ **Transportation Department** - three new school buses; one 30-passenger bus and two wheelchair accessible buses w/lifts

Proposed Budget Fast Facts

Proposed budget is balanced and fiscally prudent; developed within the challenges of various inflationary factors

➤ Proposed 2025-2026 Budget - **\$289,998,600**

- ❑ This is a \$8,003,100 increase over current budget
 - Represents a **2.84%** Budget-to-Budget increase
 - ❖ Great Neck's 14-year* average Budget increase is 2.94%

➤ Proposed 2025-2026 Tax Levy - **\$244,222,078**

- ❑ This represents a **3.05%** increase
 - This is **Within the NYS Tax Cap** limits and therefore only requires a Simple Majority Vote
 - ❖ Great Neck's 14-year* average Tax Levy increase is 2.25%

** Since the Inception of the Tax Cap in the 2012-2013 School Year*



GREAT NECK PUBLIC SCHOOLS
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Proposed 3-Part Expenditure Budget

	2024-2025 Budget	2025-2026 Proposed Budget
ADMINISTRATION		
Board Operations	215,710	219,292
Central Administration	490,834	514,444
Business Administration/Finance	2,090,241	2,163,343
Personnel/Communications/Legal	1,576,635	1,648,812
Data Processing/Network Support	1,720,882	1,691,003
District Insurance/BOCES Admin/Copiers	2,578,885	2,982,095
Curriculum And Instruction	8,844,759	8,672,758
Benefits	2,456,566	2,513,835
Sub-Total Administration	\$ 19,974,512	\$ 20,405,582
PROGRAM		
Curriculum and Instruction	79,338,831	80,975,841
Special Education	35,812,431	36,963,220
Curriculum and Professional Development	240,889	240,063
Occupational Education	360,000	266,500
Special Programs - Summer Ed / Adult Ed / Community Ed / Recreation	2,467,949	2,776,777
Library Media / Television Studio Program	2,213,441	2,283,112
Instructional Technology	2,960,500	3,028,850
Pupil Services - Nursing / Social Workers / Psychologists / Guidance / Registrar	10,238,960	11,031,690
Interscholastic Athletics and Co-Curricular Activities	3,337,904	3,481,374
District Transportation	17,482,512	18,134,453
Benefits	65,706,076	66,116,795
Interfund Transfers	2,180,968	2,270,927
Sub-Total Program	\$ 222,340,461	\$ 227,569,602
CAPITAL		
Facility Operations	23,154,735	23,168,715
Purchase of Buses	180,000	340,000
Benefits	3,217,968	3,273,675
Debt - Principal & Interest	5,654,824	4,701,026
Capital Projects	7,473,000	10,540,000
Sub-Total Capital	\$ 39,680,527	\$ 42,023,416
TOTAL BUDGET	\$ 281,995,500	\$ 289,998,600

2025-2026 Finalized State Aid

STATE AID CATEGORY	2024-25 ADOPTED STATE BUDGET	2025-26 ADOPTED STATE BUDGET	CHANGE FROM PRIOR YEAR ADOPTED
FOUNDATION AID	\$ 9,046,163	\$ 9,258,102	\$ 211,939 2.34%
UNIVERSAL PRE-KINDERGARTEN *	\$ 1,334,724	\$ 1,334,724	\$ - 0.00%
BOCES	\$ 1,327,351	\$ 1,518,906	\$ 191,555 14.43%
HIGH COST EXCESS COST	\$ 289,601	\$ 512,910	\$ 223,309 77.11%
PRIVATE EXCESS COST	\$ 654,174	\$ 705,177	\$ 51,003 7.80%
SOFTWARE, LIBRARY, TEXTBOOK	\$ 685,858	\$ 690,448	\$ 4,590 0.67%
TRANSPORTATION INCL SUMMER	\$ 786,105	\$ 832,406	\$ 46,301 5.89%
BUILDING AID	\$ 711,750	\$ 624,928	\$ (86,822) -12.20%
HIGH TAX AID	\$ 452,843	\$ 452,843	\$ - 0.00%
SUPPLEMENTAL PUBLIC EXCESS COST	\$ 33,711	\$ 33,711	\$ - 0.00%
TOTAL AID	\$ 15,322,280	\$ 15,964,155	\$ 641,875 4.19%

Represents an \$641,875 increase over current year, but \$4,550 less than the budget adopted by the District on April 22nd

*** REMEMBER: State Aid for the Universal Pre-Kindergarten (UPK) program is accounted for in the Special Aid Fund, and therefore NOT available as a funding source for the General Fund Budget**



GREAT NECK PUBLIC SCHOOLS
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2025-26 Proposed Revenue Budget

Revenue Source	2024-25 Voter Approved Budget	2025-26 Proposed Budget	Change	
Property Tax Levy	\$ 236,985,206	\$ 244,222,078	\$ 7,236,872	3.05%
State Aid (Less Pre-K Aid)	\$ 14,086,532	\$ 14,633,981	\$ 547,449	3.89%
Miscellaneous	\$ 17,925,555	\$ 18,152,541	\$ 226,986	1.27%
Appropriated Reserves *	\$ 8,898,788	\$ 9,077,887	\$ 179,099	2.01%
Appropriated Fund Balance	\$ 4,099,419	\$ 3,912,113	\$ (187,306)	-4.57%
Grand Totals:	\$ 281,995,500	\$ 289,998,600	\$ 8,003,100	2.84%

* Recommended Reserve Utilization as Follows:

• Workers' Compensation Reserve	\$1,400,000
• Employee Retirement System Reserve	4,167,887
• Teacher Retirement System Reserve	2,300,000
• Employee Benefit Accrued Liability Reserve	1,150,000
• <u>Unemployment Reserve</u>	60,000
	<u>\$9,077,887</u>



GREAT NECK PUBLIC SCHOOLS
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Budget Vote & Trustee Election

INSTRUCTIONS Mark the oval to the left of the name of your choice. 	To vote for a candidate whose name is not printed on the ballot, mark the oval to the left of the "write-in" and print the name clearly, staying within the box. Any mark or writing outside the spaces provided for voting may void the entire ballot. The number of choices is listed for each contest. Do not mark the ballot for more candidates than allowed. If you do, your vote in that contest will not count. If you make a mistake, or want to change your vote, ask a poll worker for a new ballot. To vote on a question or proposition, mark the oval to the left of your choice. If you make a mistake, or want to change your vote, ask a poll worker for a new ballot.	INSTRUCCIONES Marque el óvalo a la izquierda del nombre de su elección. 	Para votar por un candidato cuyo nombre no está impreso en la papeleta, marque el óvalo a la izquierda del "write-in" y escriba el nombre claramente en la casilla. Cualquier otra marca o escritura fuera de los espacios proporcionados para votar, puede anular toda la papeleta. El número de opciones está listado para cada elección. No marque la papeleta para más candidatos de los permitidos, si lo hace, su voto en esa elección no será contado. Si comete un error o quiere cambiar su voto, pídale a un trabajador electoral una nueva papeleta. Para votar sobre una pregunta o sobre una propuesta, marque el óvalo a la izquierda de su preferencia. Si comete un error o quiere cambiar su voto, pide una nueva papeleta al trabajador electoral.	Great Neck Public Schools May 20, 2025 Official Ballot Great Neck Public Schools 20 de mayo de 2025 Boleta Oficial							
Proposition No. 1: 2025-2026 School District Budget RESOLVED, that the annual budget for the GREAT NECK PUBLIC SCHOOLS for the fiscal year 2025-2026 in the total amount of \$289,998,600 as proposed by the Board of Education shall be approved, and the necessary tax be levied thereof upon the taxable property of the School District. Proposición No. 1 Presupuesto del Distrito Escolar 2025-2026 SE RESUELVE que se apruebe el presupuesto anual para las ESCUELAS PÚBLICAS DE GREAT NECK para el año fiscal 2025-2026 por un monto total de \$289,998,600 según lo propuesto por la Junta de Educación, y se aplique el impuesto necesario sobre la propiedad imponible del Distrito Escolar. ☐ Yes /Si ☐ No/No	Proposition No. 2: Expense from the Capital Reserve Fund - 2024 This proposition is to utilize funds from our Capital Neck Reserve which has no financial impact on the voter. Shall the Board of Education of the Great Neck Union Free School District be authorized to expend a sum not to exceed \$8,868,019 from the Capital Reserve Fund 2024 as established on May 21, 2024 for the purpose of performing the following capital improvements: athletic field renovations, reconstruction and upgrades including installation of a synthetic playing field surface with drainage and site improvements including resurfacing of the running track, installation of new track and field events, installation of a new "home" grandstand with press box, renovation of restrooms with connection to sewer system, construction of storage building with concession stand, addition of new pedestrian walkways, installation of dark sky compliant playing field lighting system; classroom renovation and conversion to multi-purpose meeting room including flooring, ceiling and lighting replacements and upgrades, installation of new unit ventilator system, installation of exterior door and hardware, furnishings, instructional technology upgrades and audio visual equipment at the North Middle School including all labor, materials, equipment, apparatus and incidental cost related thereto? Since the funds to be expended hereunder are from the Capital Reserve Fund, approval of this Proposition will not require a tax levy upon the real property of the School District. Proposición No. 2: Gastos del Fondo de Reserva de Capital - 2024 Esta propuesta es para utilizar fondos de nuestra Reserva de Capital, lo que no tiene impacto financiero en el votante. ¿Se deberá autorizar a la Junta de Educación del Distrito Escolar Libre de Great Neck Union a gastar una suma que no exceda los \$8,868,019 del Fondo de Reserva de Capital 2024 establecido el 21 de mayo de 2024 con el propósito de realizar las siguientes mejoras de capital: renovaciones, reconstrucciones y actualizaciones del campo de atletismo, incluida la instalación de una superficie de campo de juego sintético con drenaje y mejoras del sitio, incluida la repavimentación de la pista de carreras, la instalación de nuevos eventos de atletismo, la instalación de una nueva tribuna "local" con palco de prensa, la renovación de los baños con conexión al sistema de alcantarillado, la construcción de un edificio de almacenamiento con puesto de concesión, la adición de nuevas pasarelas peatonales, la instalación de un sistema de iluminación de campo de juego que cumpla con las normas de cielo oscuro; ¿Renovación y conversión de aulas en salas de reuniones multiusos, incluyendo reemplazo y actualización de pisos, techos e iluminación, instalación de un nuevo sistema de ventilación de la unidad, instalación de puertas exteriores y herrajes, mobiliario, actualizaciones de tecnología instructiva y equipo audiovisual en la escuela secundaria North, incluidos todos los costos de mano de obra, materiales, equipos, aparatos y costos incidentales relacionados con ello? Dado que los fondos que se gastarán en virtud del presente provienen del Fondo de Reserva de Capital, la aprobación de esta Proposición no requerirá una imposición de impuestos sobre la propiedad inmobiliaria del Distrito Escolar. ☐ Yes /Si ☐ No/No	Proposition No. 3: 2025-2026 Great Neck Library Budget SHALL the annual budget for the GREAT NECK LIBRARY be approved for the fiscal year 2025-2026 in the total amount of eleven million and twenty-seven thousand and forty-one dollars (\$11,027,041) and the necessary tax in the amount of ten million and four hundred seventy-five thousand and four hundred thirty-three dollars (\$10,475,433) be levied thereof upon the taxable property of the Library District? Proposición No. 3 Presupuesto de la Biblioteca Great Neck 2025-2026 ¿DEBERÁ aprobarse el presupuesto anual para la BIBLIOTECA GREAT NECK para el año fiscal 2025-2026 por un monto total de once millones veintisiete mil cuarenta y un dólares (\$11,027,041) y se aplicará el impuesto necesario por un monto de diez millones cuatrocientos setenta y cinco mil cuatrocientos treinta y tres dólares (\$10,475,433) sobre la propiedad imponible del Distrito de la Biblioteca? ☐ Yes /Si ☐ No/No <table border="1"> <tr> <td data-bbox="1108 732 1190 1206">Office</td> <td data-bbox="1190 732 1485 1206"> Board of Education Trustee Seat of Donna Peirez Vote for one Three Year Term 7/1/25 - 6/30/28 Consejo de Educación - Asiento de Donna Peirez Vote por uno Término de Tres años 7/1/25 - 6/30/28 </td> <td data-bbox="1485 732 1783 1206"></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="1108 946 1190 1075"></td> <td data-bbox="1190 946 1485 1075"> ☐ Peirez Donna </td> <td data-bbox="1485 946 1783 1075"></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="1108 1075 1190 1206">Write-in</td> <td data-bbox="1190 1075 1485 1206"></td> <td data-bbox="1485 1075 1783 1206"> ☐ </td> </tr> </table>	Office	Board of Education Trustee Seat of Donna Peirez Vote for one Three Year Term 7/1/25 - 6/30/28 Consejo de Educación - Asiento de Donna Peirez Vote por uno Término de Tres años 7/1/25 - 6/30/28			☐ Peirez Donna		Write-in		☐
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	☐ Peirez Donna										
Write-in		☐									



GREAT NECK PUBLIC SCHOOLS
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Section 203 of the federal Voting Rights Act requires school districts in Nassau County to provide election information in English and Spanish. In accordance with this Act, print materials pertaining to the 2025-26 School District Election and Budget Vote will be distributed in both languages.

Budget Vote & Trustee Election

PROPOSITION NO. 1 - 2025-2026 SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET

☐ Yes / Si

☐ No / No

RESOLVED, that the annual budget for the GREAT NECK PUBLIC SCHOOLS for the fiscal year 2025-2026 in the total amount of \$289,998,600 as proposed by the Board of Education shall be approved and the necessary tax be levied thereof upon the taxable property of the School District.

PROPOSITION NO. 2 – Expense from CAPITAL RESERVE FUND

☐ Yes / Si

☐ No / No

Shall the Board of Education of the Great Neck Union Free School District be authorized to expend a sum not to exceed \$8,868,019 from the Capital Reserve Fund 2024 as established on May 21, 2024 for the purpose of performing the following capital improvements: ... (continued)

(Abbreviated Summary - Please see the next slide for complete proposition language)

PROPOSITION NO. 3 - 2025-2026 LIBRARY BUDGET

☐ Yes / Si

☐ No / No

SHALL, the annual budget for the GREAT NECK LIBRARY be approved for the fiscal year 2025-2026 in the total amount of eleven million, and twenty-seven thousand, and forty-one dollars (\$11,027,041) and the necessary tax in the amount of ten million, and four hundred seventy-five thousand, and four hundred thirty-three dollars (\$10,475,433) be levied thereof upon the taxable property of the Library District.

PROPOSITION NO. 4 – TRUSTEE ELECTION

Board of Education Trustee Seat of Donna Peirez

Vote for one

Three Year Term

Term Starts 7/1/25

Board of Education Trustee Seat of Donna Peirez

Vote for One (1)

Three (3) Year Term

7/1/25 to 6/30/28

☐ Donna Peirez



GREAT NECK PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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Proposition #2 – Expense from the Capital Reserve Fund - 2024

For the Community's Consideration:

This proposition will appear on the May 20th ballot to expend from the **Capital Reserve Fund**.

"This proposition is to utilize funds from our Capital Reserve which has no financial impact on the voter.

Shall the Board of Education of the Great Neck Union Free School District be authorized to expend a sum not to exceed \$8,868,019 from the Capital Reserve Fund 2024 as established on May 21, 2024 for the purpose of performing the following capital improvements: athletic field renovations, reconstruction and upgrades including installation of a synthetic playing field surface with drainage and site improvements including resurfacing of the running track, installation of new track and field events, installation of a new "home" grandstand with press box, renovation of restrooms with connection to sewer system, construction of storage building with concession stand, addition of new pedestrian walkways, installation of dark sky compliant playing field lighting system; classroom renovation and conversion to multi-purpose meeting room including flooring, ceiling and lighting replacements and upgrades, installation of new unit ventilator system, installation of exterior door and hardware, furnishings, instructional technology upgrades and audio visual equipment at the North Middle School including all labor, materials, equipment, apparatus and incidental cost related thereto?

Since the funds to be expended hereunder are from the Capital Reserve Fund, approval of this Proposition will not require a tax levy upon the real property of the School District."

☐ Yes / Si

☐ No / No

... Simply stated, it is a proposition asking the voters for permission to withdraw funds from the existing Capital Reserve Fund for the purposes of athletic field improvements and the creation of a multi-purpose classroom at North Middle School.

This comes at no increase to the tax levy, nor new cost to the community, as these monies are already in our reserves earmarked for capital improvements.



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REMEMBER: There is no cost impact to the taxpayers if Proposition #2 to utilize the Capital Reserve is approved by the community.

Additional Information & Details

Please visit the District's website at:

www.greatneck.k12.ny.us/budget25-26

"Quick Link" on District's Home Page

2025-26 BUDGET INFORMATION

Here you will find:

- ✓ All prior presentations
- ✓ Budget Postcard
- ✓ Budget Newsletter
- ✓ Budget Book
- ✓ Property Tax Report Card
- ✓ NYSED School Report Card
- ✓ Other Important Documents

Still have Questions?

Please call (516) 441-4020 or reach out via email:

jokeefe@greatneck.k12.ny.us



GREAT NECK PUBLIC SCHOOLS
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GREAT NECK PUBLIC SCHOOLS
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2025 – 2026 FINAL BUDGET

Adopted: April 22, 2025

BOARD OF EDUCATION Grant Toch, President Donna Peirez, Vice President Joanne Chan, Trustee Steve Chen, Trustee Rebecca Sassouni, Trustee	SUPERINTENDENT Kenneth R. Bossert, Ed.D.
Suzanne Mallozzi, District Clerk Stacey Pedone, District Treasurer	DEPUTY SUPERINTENDENT John J. O'Keefe, Business
	ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENTS Diana Hainroads, Elementary Instruction Joseph G. Hickey, Ed.D., Special Education Daniel Holtzman, Ed.D., Secondary Instruction



Discovery
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VOL. 46-3 • BUDGET EDITION, MAY 2025

PROPOSED 2025-26 SCHOOL BUDGET

Proposed 3.05% Tax Levy Increase is Within the Property Tax Cap Limit

The Great Neck Board of Education has adopted the proposed 2025-26 school budget in the amount of \$289,998,600. This amount is a 2.84% spending increase over last year's budget. The proposed tax levy increase is 3.05%, which is tax cap compliant and within the district's allowable tax levy calculation.

"I thank our Board of Education and our Business Office for presenting a budget that maintains all of our exceptional academic programs and opportunities for students, while staying under the tax cap," explains Superintendent of Schools Dr. Kenneth R. Bossert. "The race for excellence has no finish line—and this budget is another step forward in that ongoing journey."

The proposed budget will continue all instructional and extracurricular programs, preserve optimal class sizes, provide security upgrades, and maintain facilities districtwide.

"These student-centered investments will continue to provide our schools and educators with the tools to support our learners' growth and success in the classroom and beyond," says Board Vice President Donna Peirez.

Budget presentations were delivered during public Board of Education meetings from February through May. Presentation slides and livestream recordings are available on the district website.

"This budget reflects our commitment to providing the best programs and services for our school community while remaining accountable to all taxpayers," says Board President Grant Toch. "Through sound financial planning, we are able to maintain our programs, preserve our facilities, and support all students academically, socially and emotionally while enhancing our financial stability."

PROPOSED EXPENSE FROM THE CAPITAL RESERVE FUND

In addition to the annual operating budget, residents will have the opportunity to vote on a separate proposition for improvement projects at North Middle School. The proposed projects include the installation of a synthetic playing field surface and site improvements at the track/soccer field on Amendele Avenue, as well as the renovation of a former shop classroom into a multi-purpose meeting room in North Middle.

The funding for these projects is currently available in the district's Capital Reserve Fund. By law, monies can only be expended from this fund with voter approval. If approved, these projects would be completed at no cost to taxpayers and without any impact on the tax levy. See page 2 for more details.

BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

The proposed 2025-26 school budget will:

- Maintain all instructional and extracurricular programs across elementary and secondary schools.
- Continue investments in security upgrades, including added security cameras and electronic door access controls, as well as a pledge to secure retired law enforcement personnel for guard positions when possible.
- Allocate nearly \$10.9 million in capital expenditures to support existing infrastructure and improve safety in facilities districtwide.
- Allocate more than \$10.8 million to fund services for private and non-public school students in accordance with State Law, including bus transportation, textbooks, health services, special education services, library materials and technology.

SCHOOL BUDGET VOTE
Tuesday, May 20, 2025 • 6 AM–9 PM
at E.M. Baker • Lakeville • Saddle Rock • South High



Additionally, if you prefer to listen to an overview of the 2025-2026 budget newsletter, an AI-generated podcast is available on our website, on the "Public Information" page.



Budget Vote & Trustee Election

Tuesday, May 20, 2025

6:00 AM – 9:00 PM

EM Baker, Lakeville, Saddle Rock, or South High

Residents who are unsure of their polling location can use the online Poll Place Finder tool on the District website (www.greatneck.k12.ny.us/voting) or call the District Clerk on school days from 8:00AM – 3:00 PM (516-441-4007)

Please Remember to Vote



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