



Pine Plains

CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

2025-2026 Budget Newsletter

Greetings Pine Plains CSD Community,

At Pine Plains Central School District, we strive to ensure all that we do aligns with the mission, vision, core values, and three priority areas of our Strategic Plan.

The three priority areas of our Strategic Plan include: **Academic Excellence • Student Experience • Community Connection.**

The carefully-crafted proposed budget you will find in this newsletter allows PPCSD to continue providing exceptional opportunities for our students in each of these areas. We are proud to once again share with you a collage of photos highlighting the amazing successes and achievements of our students in our three priority areas.

I would like to take this opportunity to extend my sincere gratitude to the entire school district community for your continued support of our schools. Your support and collaboration truly empower our students to thrive and achieve greatness!

Dr. Brian Timm
Superintendent of Schools

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE



Stissing Mountain Middle School students used their STEAM knowledge and skills to build and test their own race cars.



Stissing Mountain High School students from the FCCLA Club received gold at the FCCLA State Conference in March! These exceptional students qualified to attend and compete, at the NATIONAL CONFERENCE in Orlando, FL this July against students from all over the country! (Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) is a national Career and Technical Student Organization for students in family and consumer sciences education)



While classroom work includes topics such as coding and circuitry work, the Seymour Smith ILC enrichment students find time every Friday (weather permitting) for "Fieldwork Fridays" where they conduct fun experiments and unearth thought-provoking discoveries out in the fresh air.

2025-2026 Proposed
Budget Increase
2.71%

2025-2026 Proposed
Tax Levy Increase*
3.2%
*Below the 2025-26 Tax Cap

- BUDGET VOTE
- ESTABLISHMENT OF CAPITAL RESERVE FUND
- BUS PURCHASES
- ELECT TWO (2) BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS

VOTE
May 20, 2025
7:00 am - 9:00 pm
ONE Voting Location: Stissing Mt Jr/Sr HS

VOTE • MAY 20, 2025 • 7:00 AM - 9:00 PM • VOTE

Notice is hereby given that the Annual Meeting, Election and Vote on Propositions of the Pine Plains Central School District will be held on Tuesday, May 20, 2025 at the following location and time, when the polls will be open for the purpose of voting by voting machine:

All district residents vote at the Stissing Mountain Junior/Senior High School, 2829 Church Street, Pine Plains, New York from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

THE VOTERS SHALL VOTE ON THE FOLLOWING:**Proposition No. 1 – The Budget:**

SHALL the Budget for the 2025-2026 school year be approved? RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Pine Plains Central School District be authorized to expend the sum of \$38,712,336 for School District Purposes for the 2025-2026 school year and to levy the necessary tax therefor?

Proposition No. 2 – Establishment of Capital Reserve Fund:

SHALL the Board of Education of the Pine Plains Central School District, Dutchess and Columbia Counties, New York, be authorized to establish a capital reserve fund pursuant to Section 3651 of the Education Law, to be known as the "Buildings and Facilities Improvements Reserve Fund 2025," which shall be for the purpose of paying all or a portion of the costs of renovation, construction, reconstruction and improvements to the District's buildings and facilities, including athletic facilities and fields, including original furnishings, equipment, machinery, apparatus, planning costs, site improvements, and incidental improvements and expenses in connection therewith; the maximum amount of such fund shall be \$15,000,000 (plus accrued interest and investment earnings thereon), with a maximum term of 10 years; the source of the funding to be (1) funds to be transferred from the previously established capital reserve funds, in the amount of \$2,300,000 from the 2019 capital reserve and \$3,365,209.75 from the 2021 capital reserve (plus any additional interest in said funds on the date of transfer), and such transfers are hereby authorized; (2) unexpended unassigned fund balance in the general fund at the end of each fiscal year; (3) funds transferred from other existing reserves; and/or (4) legally available funds available to the District?

Proposition No. 3 – Bus Purchases:

SHALL the Board of Education of the Pine Plains Central School District, Dutchess and Columbia Counties, New York be authorized to purchase two (2) 71-passenger school buses, at a maximum estimated cost of \$164,163 each, for an aggregate maximum estimated cost of \$328,326, and (1) 8-passenger Chevy Suburban, at a maximum estimated cost of \$68,043; and that the sum of \$396,369, or so much thereof as may be necessary, plus an additional sum of up to \$118,911 for additional costs as a result of tariffs, if necessary, are authorized to be expended from the District's "Bus Purchase Reserve Fund" approved by the voters on May 17, 2022, to pay for the cost of the bus purchases?

BOARD OF EDUCATION ELECTION

To elect two (2) members of the Board of Education for three-year terms commencing July 1, 2025 and ending on June 30, 2028. The combination of votes and/or write-ins must be no more than two votes.

CANDIDATES

Fred "Chip" Couse, Jr.

Amie Fredericks

STUDENT EXPERIENCE

5th graders at Seymour Smith ILC enjoyed their annual trip to The Ashokan Center. They experienced first-hand what life was like in the mid-19th century, the role and responsibility of a child during that time, as well as the rich history of the Ashokan landscape.



Students taking the Military History class spent 24 hours immersed in the 18th Century at Fort Ticonderoga. Students had the opportunity to dress in period uniforms, sleep overnight in the barracks, and live the life of a soldier during the American Revolution.



Ag Day is a long standing tradition for PPCSD. Students in every grade participate in a variety of events, including: crazy creatures, the artwork displays and showing the animals in the Ag barn. For students in grades 6-12, the day is filled with fun, team-building games, races, the parade of colors (each grade has an assigned color) and so much more!

Pine Plains CSD 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	37,689,744	38,712,336	38,207,920
Increase/Decrease for the 2025-26 School Year		1,022,592	518,176
Percentage Increase/Decrease in Proposed Budget		2.71 %	1.37%
Change in the Consumer Price Index		2.95 %	
A. Proposed Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount	27,021,126	27,885,802	
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)	27,021,126	27,885,802	27,021,126
F. Total Permissible Exclusions	4,194	0	
G. School Tax Levy Limit, Excluding Levy for Permissible Exclusions	27,016,932	27,885,802	
H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, Excluding Levy to Support Library Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions (E - B - F + D)	27,016,932	27,885,802	
I. Difference: G - H (Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval - See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions) **	0	0	
Administrative Component	3,561,662	3,607,155	3,607,155
Program Component	30,449,339	31,284,490	30,873,074
Capital Component	3,678,743	3,820,690	3,727,690

*** Statement of assumptions made in projecting a contingency budget for the 2025-2026 school year, should the proposed budget be defeated:**

Over \$800,000 in additional reductions. Elimination of all equipment purchases except for those necessary for health and safety, with board approval. Elimination of free public use of school buildings. Elimination of annual transfer to capital for state-aidable projects. Possible cutbacks / program elimination of interscholastic athletics. Possible elimination of field trips and extra-curricular activities. Potential personnel reductions in regular and special subject elementary teachers, teacher aides; junior/senior high school science, social studies, family and consumer sciences, guidance; high school electives in science, art, foreign language, social studies, agriculture, mathematics and/or health.

**** 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
Bus Purchases	515,280

	Under the Budget Proposed for the 2025-26 School Year
Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings ¹	\$397

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

Three-Part Budget Summary

BUDGET SUMMARY	PROPOSED BUDGET	PROPOSED BUDGET		
ADMINISTRATION	2024-2025	2025-2026	Increase/Decrease	Percent of Total
AMOUNT	\$3,561,662	\$3,607,155	1.28%	9.32%
INCLUDES: General Support, Building Administration and Employee Benefits				
PROGRAM	2024-2025	2025-2026	Increase/Decrease	Percent of Total
AMOUNT	\$30,449,339	\$31,284,490	2.74%	80.81%
INCLUDES: Teaching, Regular School, Academic Intervention, Special Education, Occupational Education, Summer School, School Library, A/V, Computer Assisted Instruction, Pupil Services, Interscholastic Athletics and Co-curricular Activities, Pupil Transportation, Interfund Transfers, and Employee Benefits				
CAPITAL	2024-2025	2025-2026	Increase/Decrease	Percent of Total
AMOUNT	\$3,678,743	\$3,820,690	3.86%	9.87%
INCLUDES: Operations and Maintenance, Judgments/Claims, Assessments, Tax Refunds, Interfund Transfers, Employee Benefits, and Debt Service				
TOTAL BUDGET	2024-2025	2025-2026	Increase/Decrease	
AMOUNT	\$37,689,744	\$38,712,336	2.71%	

2025-2026 Budget Highlights



Tax Cap Limit = 3.5%
*Proposed Tax Levy = 3.2%



Consumer Price Index = 2.95%
*Proposed Budget Increase = 2.71%



PINE PLAINS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

2829 Church Street
Pine Plains, NY 12567

*** ECRWSSEDDM ***

Local Postal Patron



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The QR code to the right will bring you to the Budget page for the Pine Plains Central School District. You will find the budget presentations from the Board of Education Budget Workshop meetings. Also, under Budget FAQs, there are descriptions of the propositions and the rationale behind presenting them to the voters of the district. Please scan the QR Code or call (518) 398-7181 ext. 1402 for information and questions you may have regarding the 2025-2026 budget.

WWW.PPCSD.ORG/DISTRICT1/BUDGET



FOR BUDGET FAQs

COMMUNITY CONNECTION



The Class of 2025 hosted the annual Senior to Senior Breakfast on March 21st. All senior citizens in the PPCSD community were welcomed to join the senior class for a delicious breakfast feast and scintillating conversation.



You may have noticed members of the National Honor Society along Route 199 collecting trash every fall and spring. Our NHS students are dedicated to ensuring that a stretch of 199 that runs just outside of town remains beautified and free of litter.



The Stanford Library hosted the 2nd annual Art Show for our 1st grade students this March. Students did an extraordinary job creating their own self-portraits and were so proud to see them on display!

BOARD of EDUCATION

Amie Fredericks, President
Joseph Kiernan, Vice President
Claire Copley-Eisenberg
Fred "Chip" Couse, Jr.
James Griffin
Heidi Johnson
Jean Stapf

SUPERINTENDENT of SCHOOLS

Dr. Brian Timm, x1401

BUSINESS OFFICIAL

Laura Rafferty, x1402

DISTRICT CLERK

Julia W. Tomaine, x1408