



Estimated Appropriations

Total Program Services	Approved 2024-2025	Proposed 2025-2026	\$ Change	% Change
Elementary, Middle and High School Programs	\$64,192,525	\$64,435,288	\$242,763	0.38%
Special Education and Non-Public Programs	\$11,597,097	\$11,898,106	\$301,009	2.60%
Technology, Professional Development & other Instructional Services	\$6,369,114	\$6,015,000	(\$354,114)	(5.56%)
Transportation, Maintenance, Utilities, and other Support Services	\$20,090,335	\$20,399,636	\$309,301	1.54%
Central Administration and Board of Education	\$1,596,118	\$1,555,840	(\$40,278)	(2.52%)
Debt Service, Insurance and Fringe Benefits	\$57,952,598	\$63,914,232	\$5,961,634	10.29%
Total Revenue	\$161,797,787	\$168,218,102	\$6,420,315	3.97%

Estimated Revenues

Description	2024-2025 Revenues	Estimated 2025-2026	\$ Increase (Decrease)	% Increase (Decrease)	Total % of Budget
Local Property Tax Levy	\$114,967,504	\$117,659,555	\$2,692,051	2.34%	69.95%
Foundation Aid	\$21,092,291	\$21,649,228	\$556,937	2.64%	12.87%
Categorical Aid & Building Aid	\$13,946,193	\$15,331,486	\$1,385,293	9.93%	9.11%
Sales Tax	\$7,100,000	\$7,400,000	\$300,000	4.23%	4.40%
Interest	\$800,000	\$1,500,000	\$700,000	87.50%	0.89%
Misc. Revenues (incl. county payments in lieu of tax)	\$1,654,807	\$1,680,841	\$26,034	1.57%	1.00%
Fund Balance, Reserves and Transfers	\$2,236,992	\$2,996,992	\$760,000	33.97%	1.78%
Total Revenue	\$161,797,787	\$168,218,102	\$6,420,315	3.97%	100.0%

Contingent Budget

Per NYS law, school boards can submit a budget to the voters a maximum of **two times**, then a “Contingent Budget” must be implemented. If the proposed budget is defeated once, the Board may conduct a revote or go straight to a Contingent Budget. NYS law requires that a Contingent Budget not include certain non-ordinary contingent expenses AND that the new budget must

have a Tax Levy that is not greater than the previous year’s Tax Levy. The Board of Education is charged with determining a Contingent Budget. **A Contingent Budget would result in a reduction of over \$2.7 million in budget support, resulting in a potential reduction in programs and services.**

Understanding the School District Budget

Ninety-two percent of Pittsford Schools’ revenue derives from the tax cap levy and state aid with the levy supporting 70% of the budget. PCSD's revenue sources are often referred to as being “capped” and “frozen.” The tax cap levy is capped given that the tax cap formula does not account for inflation beyond two percent, nor does it take into consideration increasing costs of energy, health care, minimum wage, or other costly factors. Foundation aid (money from the state) has been frozen for many years, with the exception of a couple, yielding an additional \$10,000 last year. The result of both the current state of the tax cap and foundation aid, coupled with increased costs, have led to advocacy efforts for increased foundation aid while also requiring PCSD to make \$1.5 million in reductions and utilize reserves to balance the budget.

The Good News

For the 2025-2026 budget year, PCSD should receive a minimum increase of about \$558,000 in Foundation Aid, which is a 2.64% increase over the current year levels. This is in part thanks to the many letters residents and staff sent to legislators, and meetings that administrators and Board of Education members held in Albany in February. The District thanks local legislators, Senator Brouk, Assemblymember Lunsford and Senator Helming for their leadership in ensuring that PCSD receives its fair share of funding.

Thornell Road Elementary School will receive various heating and ventilation work as part of a \$100,000 capital outlay project. This mini-renovation project takes advantage of capital project aid from the state. This project is expected to bring approximately \$72,000 in state aid the following year.

PCSD also has a longstanding history of both healthy reserves and transparency on how reserves are used. This year, the District will utilize more reserves, in conjunction with other reductions to balance the budget.

Other Reductions

At the District Office, over \$300K in reductions have been made by consolidating and eliminating positions. Significant savings were also made through attrition across the District, and PCSD is currently finalizing other reductions, all of which are far removed from students.

What This Means for Residents

PCSD will again be proposing a budget that is under the tax cap at 2.34%. There will be no significant adjustments to student programs (additions or eliminations). The District has worked diligently on its long-term financial plan and has made the necessary adjustments for this year as part of this plan.

If you would like to learn more about the 2025-2026 budget planning, please visit www.pittsfordschools.org/budget.

Applications for Early Mail and Absentee Ballots

Applications for early mail and absentee ballots may be obtained from the school district clerk’s office, 75 Barker Road, Pittsford, NY 14534. A list of early mail and absentee voters will be available for public inspection in the Office of the District Clerk before the election, as required by law. Military voters as defined by Commissioner’s regulation Part 122 who are qualified voters of the district, may apply for a military ballot during school business hours at the office of the district clerk, 75 Barker Road, Pittsford, New York, 14534, in person or by mail. A military voter may designate a preference to receive an application by mail, facsimile transmission or electronic mail. Completed applications for military ballots must be received by the District Clerk no later than 5 p.m. on April 21, 2025. All early mail, absentee ballots, and military ballots must be received in the Office of the District Clerk no later than 5 p.m. local time on May 20, 2025.

Please remember to vote on Tuesday, May 20, 2025, at **Calkins Road Middle School** (NEW LOCATION) in the gymnasium from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.



Pittsford Schools

Pittsford Central School District
www.pittsfordschools.org

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BUDGET VOTE | New Location

Tuesday, May 20, 7 am - 9 pm
Calkins Road Middle School
1899 Calkins Road, Pittsford, NY 14534



Superintendent of Schools
Michael Pero

Board of Education
Robin Scott, *President*
Jeffrey Casey, *President Elect*
Sarah Pelusio, *Vice President*
Dave Berk
Kim Huels
Emily Kay
René Sanchez-Kazacos

Editor
Nancy Chaput Wayman, APR

***Note - Qualified voters must be:** U.S. citizens, residents of the District for at least 30 days prior to the election, and 18 years of age or older. Proof of residency may include the following valid and current documents: New York State driver’s license; New York State non-driver identification card; utility bill; or, voter registration card. Voters shall also be required to provide their signature and printed name.

Pittsford Schools

BUDGET VOTE

May 20, 2025
7 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Calkins Road Middle School Gymnasium
1899 Calkins Road, Pittsford, NY.

☑ Voting will be in person ☑ Voter identification required

For absentee ballots, visit pittsfordschools.org/absenteeballot



Voting on Proposed Budget of \$168,218,102

The proposed budget is **within the NYS Tax Cap** and **preserves current programming.**

Propositions

1: Capital Reserve Fund - Purchase of Buses

Authorization to withdraw from the “Capital Reserve Fund – Purchase of Buses” (savings account) a sum of money not to exceed Two Million Four Hundred Nineteen Thousand One Hundred Sixty Two Dollars (\$2,419,162) to be used for the purchase of six (6) replacement 36-passenger buses and eight (8) full size 66-passenger buses and communications equipment used in the operation of such buses. State Aid generated on these purchases will be returned to the Capital Reserve Fund – Purchase of Buses.

2: Capital Reserve Fund - Instructional Technology Reserve

Authorization to withdraw the “Capital Instructional Technology Reserve” (savings account) a sum of money not to exceed \$500,000 to be used for the purchase of laptops to support the 1:1 device program.

Propositions will NOT result in additional taxes or issuance of debt

Budget Increase **3.97%**
Tax Levy Increase **2.34%**

PROPOSED BUDGET IS WITHIN THE TAX CAP

Para español, visite www.pittsfordschools.org/PresupuestoEspanol

Maintaining Excellence

Composite College Entrance Scores

PCSD SAT	1,264	PCSD ACT	27.1
New York State	1,035	New York State	25.4
National	1,024	National	19.4

Academic Excellence



463 Advanced Placement Scholars



The Pittsford Central School District and its individual schools consistently provide a **nationally ranked academic program** and are recognized to be among the **highest achieving** in New York State and Monroe County.

Notable Achievements and Activities

- Both high schools: ranked in top 3% of public high schools and named the best public high schools in Rochester with MHS ranked #1 and SHS ranked #2 by *U.S. News and World Report*.
- Both middle schools named: *New York State's Essential Elements: Schools-to-Watch*.
- Best Community for Music Education** designation by the NAMM Foundation for demonstrating a commitment to music education.
- Athletic achievements include 17 team **Sectional Championships**, 24 individual **Section V Champions**, and 2 **NYS Champion Athletes**.
- 100% of varsity athletic teams received the **NYSPHSAA Scholar Athlete Team Award**.
- 43 students received regional **Scholastic Art & Writing Awards**; 1 student earned a **national gold medal**.
- Students at all grade levels—K through 12—participate in many **community services and service learning programs**.
- Students participate in **enrichment opportunities** including; internships, clubs, intramurals, music, fine arts, performing arts, and interscholastic sports



Data based on 2023-2024 statistics.

Proposed Budget Expenditures | 2025-2026

Proposed **BUDGET**
\$168,218,102

State-required three-part budget



The **Program Component** provides funding for the instruction of and educational support services for the District's students. Funds are also included for:

- Transporting approximately 6,500 students
- Salary expenditures for instructional staff
- Related support personnel in K-12 programs
- Programs for Special Education services
- Benefits for approximately 1,100 instructional employees, including over 600 retirees in group health insurance
- Social security, teacher and non-teaching retirement
- Workers' compensation, group insurance (life, health, dental, disability), employee assistance program and unemployment insurance



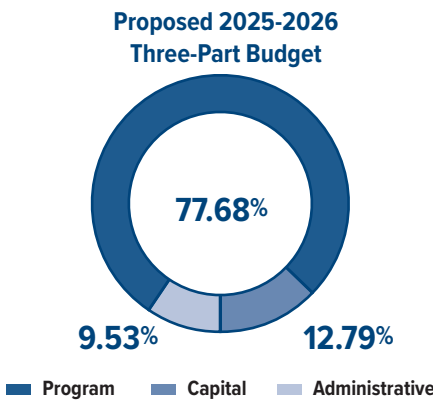
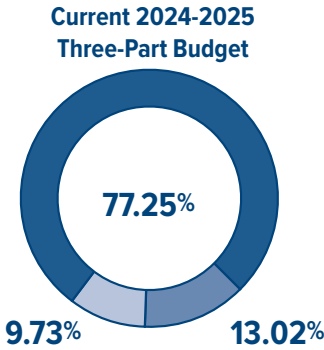
The **Capital Component** provides funds for:

- Maintaining nine schools and two additional buildings
- Upkeep of over 70 acres of property
- Electricity, gas heat, water and sewer, and telephone services
- "Mortgage" or debt service payments on capital projects (principal and interest payments)
- Refund of taxes for claims against property assessments
- Benefits for maintenance and custodial staff including group health insurance, social security, non-teaching retirement, workers' compensation, life, dental, disability and an employee assistance program



The **Administrative Component** provides for overall general support and management activities including:

- District Clerk and Superintendent's office
- Business office operations
- Personnel, legal, liability and property insurance
- Auditing services
- Costs for the administration and supervision of each of the District's nine schools
- Employee benefits for all administrative and clerical support staff including social security, workers' compensation, pensions, health insurance and unemployment



Board Candidates: Three Candidates Running for Two Seats

Board Proposed Budget

The Pittsford Board of Education presents the proposed 2025-2026 budget. We invite PCSD residents to call with questions and vote on May 20, 2025.

Robin Scott
President
385-4343

Jeffrey Casey
President-Elect
317-3188

Sarah Pelusio
Vice President
727-3648

Dave Berk
490-4422

Kim Huels
203-7328

Emily Kay
313-6323

René Sanchez-Kazacos
732-4382



Emily Kay
6 Glenmore Circle
Pittsford, NY 14534
kay.emily.a@gmail.com
Seeking second term.

Emily Kay was elected to the Pittsford Central School District Board of Education in 2022. She currently serves as the Board of Education liaison to the Pittsford Teacher Center Policy Board and as a member of the BOE subcommittee on Policy Review. Additionally, Kay serves on the Monroe County School Board Association (MCSBA) Legislative, District Operations, Information Exchange committees.

Kay holds a B.A. in English and Spanish from Wake Forest University, is married and has three children: two at Mendon Center Elementary School and one at Calkins Road Middle School.



Dave Berk
25 Parker Drive
Pittsford, NY 14534
ddberk@gmail.com
Seeking second term.

Dave Berk was elected to the Pittsford Central School District Board of Education in 2022. He currently serves on the Communications and Messaging sub-committee.

He is CEO of Beacon Talent, former Vice President of Marketing at Porch Group (NASDAQ: PRCH), and former Senior Director of Operations at Hired (OTCMKTS: AHXY).

Berk holds a B.A. in Economics and a B.A. in Political Science from the University of Vermont and is a Sutherland High School graduate. He is married and has two children, ages four and six.



Laura Schulitz
19 Locke Drive
Pittsford, NY 14534
laura.schulitz@yahoo.com
Seeking first term.

Laura Schulitz is seeking her first term on the Pittsford Central School District Board of Education. She is the Vice President of Operations at Trinine Associates, LLC, and has volunteer leadership experiences with the Girl Scouts of WNY, Junior League of Rochester, and the PTSA. She is also the recipient of the PTSA's Honorary Life Membership Award.

Schulitz holds a B.A. in Political Science from the University of Rochester and an M.B.A. in Marketing from Fordham University. She is married with three children, two of whom graduated from Mendon High School and one who is currently attending Mendon.

For complete biographies of Board of Education candidates, please visit www.pittsfordschools.org.