BUDGET DEVELOPMENT: 2026-2027 SCHOOL YEAR

NOVEMBER 12, 2025

Board of Education Session #1

Tonight's Agenda

- 2026-2027 Budget Development Timeline
- Fund Balance
- Schedule of Reserves
- Fund Balance Management
- Retirement Contributions (ERS / TRS)
- Health Insurance Rates
- Budget & Tax Levy Percentages
- Tax Cap History
- Capital Projects for the 2026-2027 Budget
- Other Budget Considerations

2026-27 Budget Development Timeline

Date	Meeting	Time	Location
11/12/2025	BOE Budget Session	6:30 PM	WEC Auditorium
12/10/2025	BOE Budget Session	6:30 PM	WEC Auditorium
1/14/2026	BOE Budget Session	6:30 PM	WEC Auditorium
2/11/2026	BOE Budget Session	6:30 PM	WEC Auditorium
3/11/2026	BOE Budget Session	6:30 PM	WEC Auditorium
3/19/2026	BOE Budget Session	6:30 PM	WEC Auditorium
3/24/2026	Public Budget Forum	6:30 PM	WEC Auditorium
4/1/2026	BOE Adopts Proposed Budget	6:45 PM	WEC Auditorium
TBD	Annual Budget Hearing	6:45 PM	WEC Auditorium
5/19/2026	Budget Vote	7:00 AM - 10:00 PM	WEC Auditorium

Fund Balance

Fund Balance is comprised of revenues received in excess of amounts estimated and expenditures that are less than the total amount of appropriations.

Excess Fund Balance can:

- Fund unbudgeted expenses and revenue shortfalls
- Reduce borrowing costs and provide cash flow
- Improve credit rating
- Be used as a funding source for the budget

Fund Balance as of June 30, 2025

- Unappropriated Fund Balance is limited by §1318 of the Real Property Tax Law to an amount equal to 4% of the 2025-2026 budget = **$5,723,306**

- Remaining Fund Balance at June 30, 2025 used to fund Reserve Accounts

Schedule of Reserves

Reserve Accounts	2023-24 Balance	2024-25 Interest	2024-25 Transfer/Use	2024-25 Fund Balance Allocation	2024-25 Balance
Workers Comp	$ 4,349,209	$ 380	$ 500,000		$ 3,849,589
Unemployment	$ 4,187,751	$ 353			$ 4,188,104
ERS	$ 23,951,239	$ 2,092	$ 592,957		$ 23,360,374
TRS	$ 5,083,157	$ 444			$ 5,083,601
Property Loss	$ 4,442,766	$ 388			$ 4,443,154
Liability Insurance	$ 5,402,565	$ 459	$ 505,989		$ 4,897,035
EBALR	$ 1,445,630	$ 126	$ 680,000	$ 412,908	$ 1,178,664
Repair - Athletic	$ 3,491,488	$ 305	$ 3,005,348	$ 500,000	$ 986,445
Repair - Non-Athletic	$ 5,301,824	$ 463			$ 5,302,287
HW Long Range Capital #1	$ 3,579,968	$ 43,590			$ 3,623,558
HW Long Range Capital #2	$ 10,000,000	$ -		$ 4,500,000	$ 14,500,000
	$ 71,235,597	**$ 48,600**	**$ 5,284,294**	**$ 5,412,908**	**$ 71,412,811**

Fund Balance Management

- **Close Long Range Capital Reserve #1**
  - Reserve reached its voter-approved maximum balance
  - Required by NYS law to formally close once limit is reached
  - All remaining reserve funds are allocated for approved capital purposes

- **Using Reserves Responsibly – Planning for 2026–2027**
  - ERS Reserve may be used to offset rising employee retirement costs
  - Long Range Capital Reserve #2 may be used to fund capital projects

    (Using funds from the Long Range Capital Reserve #2 requires voter authorization through a separate Proposition)

Retirement Contributions: Employees' Retirement System (ERS)

- Employer contribution rates for the 2026-2027 school year were announced on September 4, 2025.
- The employer contribution rate will increase from **16.5%** to **17.6%.**

Employees' Retirement System	
SCHOOL YEAR	EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTION RATE
2026-27	17.60%
2025-26	16.50%
2024-25	15.20%
2023-24	13.10%
2022-23	11.60%
2021-22	9.80%
2020-21	9.53%

Retirement Contributions: Teachers' Retirement System (TRS)

As of October 31, 2025, employer contribution rates for the 2026-2027 school year are estimated between **8.25%** and **8.75%**.

Teachers' Retirement System

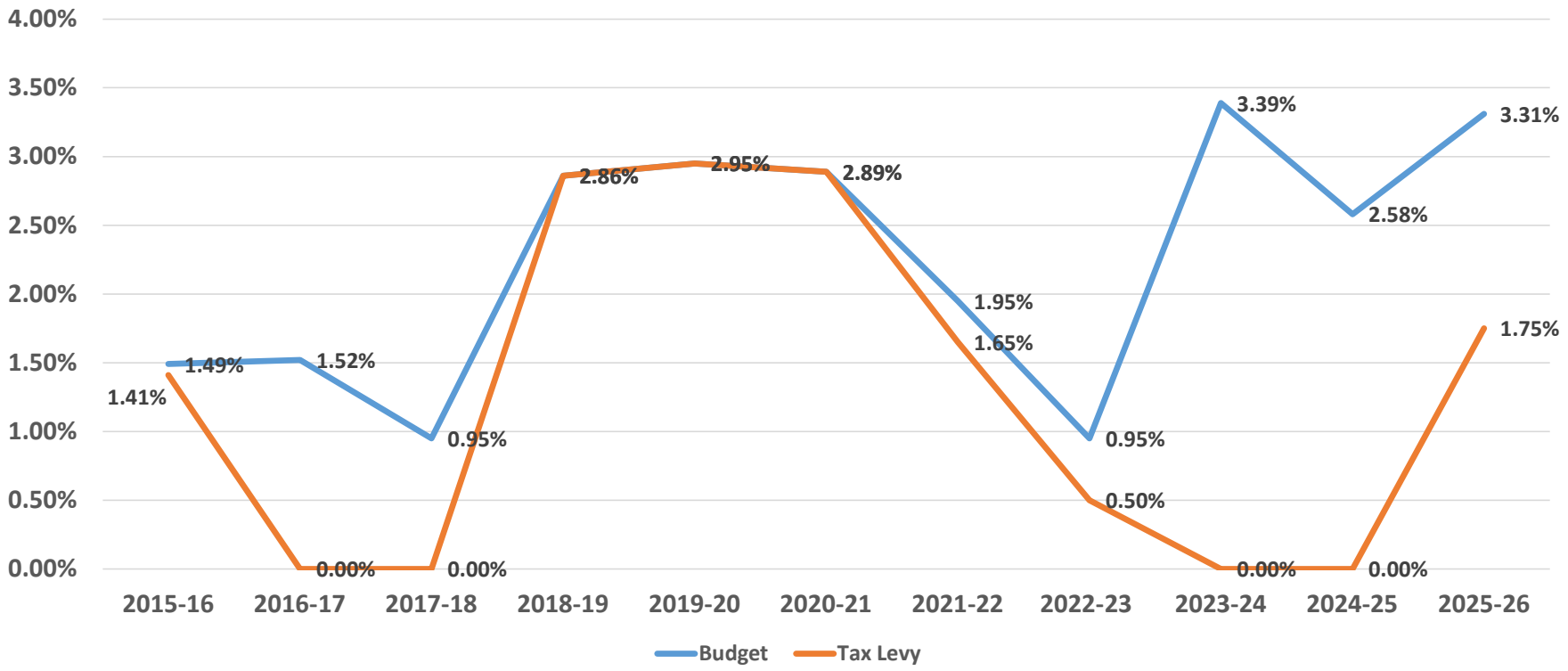
SCHOOL YEAR	EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTION RATE
2026-27	8.25% - 8.75%*
2025-26	9.59%
2024-25	10.11%
2023-24	9.76%
2022-23	10.29%
2021-22	9.80%
2020-21	9.53%

*estimated

NYSHIP Health Insurance Premiums

Yearly Premiums		
Year	Family Plan	Individual Plan
2026	Not announced yet	
2025	$40,414	$17,754
2024	$40,405	$17,348
2023	$37,590	$15,920
2022	$33,164	$14,353
2021	$29,426	$12,898
2020	$28,650	$12,381
2019	$28,953	$12,514
2018	$28,177	$12,179
2017	$25,927	$11,332

Budget and Tax Levy Percentages



Tax Cap History

School Year	Allowable Levy $	Allowable Levy %	Actual Tax Levy $	Actual Levy %	Unlevied Taxes
2015-16	$ 101,035,408	2.00%	$ 100,446,816	1.41%	$ 588,592
2016-17	$ 98,005,932	0.48%	$ 97,538,802	0.00%	$ 467,130
2017-18	$ 100,374,432	2.90%	$ 97,538,802	0.00%	$ 2,835,630
2018-19	$ 101,498,780	4.10%	$ 100,328,411	2.86%	$ 1,170,369
2019-20	$ 103,644,927	3.30%	$ 103,288,099	2.95%	$ 356,828
2020-21	$ 107,188,882	3.80%	$ 106,273,125	2.89%	$ 915,757
2021-22	$ 109,068,452	2.63%	$ 108,031,945	1.65%	$ 1,036,507
2022-23	$ 109,131,485	1.02%	$ 108,577,500	0.50%	$ 553,985
2023-24	$ 112,221,946	3.36%	$ 108,577,500	0.00%	$ 3,644,446
2024-25	$ 109,791,103	1.12%	$ 108,577,500	0.00%	$ 1,213,603
2025-26	$ 111,047,087	2.27%	$ 110,477,087	1.75%	$ 570,000
					$ 13,352,847

The 2015-16 tax levy was restated by Nassau County to adjust for the LIPA PILOT. The levy, originally $100,446,816, was adjusted to $97,538,802. This explains the apparent reduction in levy from 2015-16 to 2016-17, as some of the monies previously attributed to the tax levy were funded by the LIPA PILOT.

2026-2027 Capital Projects

Funding Decisions:

- Establish the funding level for the Transfer to Capital Fund

  Recommend utilizing $4 million to $4.5 million

Use of Reserve:

- Identify potential expenditures from Long Range Capital Reserve #2

  Note: Using funds from the Long-Term Capital Reserve #2 requires voter authorization through a separate Proposition.

Potential 2026-2027 Capital Projects

BUILDING	TITLE	COMMENTS	ESTIMATE
FECC	**VENTILATION SYSTEM**	Recommend improving mechanical fresh air ventilation in 4 spaces that were not upgraded as part of 2018 work. Improve ventilation in lower level crawl spaces. Apply spray on insulation to underside of concrete slab at all accessible areas within crawl spaces.	$1,552,880
FECC	**FIRE ALARM SYSTEMS**	Frequent failures. Recommend full replacement of FA system.	$561,680
HES	**SITE FUEL OIL**	Underground FOT has a warranty of 30 years. Tank should be replaced to comply with insurance requirements.	$495,600
HES	**STORM WATER DRAINAGE SYSTEM**	Recommend installation of additional storm water drainage structures to address issues that occur during significant rain events.	???
OGDEN	**HEATING GENERATING SYSTEM**	Replace remaining original HVAC equipment	$1,519,840
OGDEN	**VENTILATION SYSTEM**	Install concrete pads below FAI grills @ +/-18 locations to keep grass away from exterior walls of the building. Improve mechanical fresh air in 4 locations within building.	$284,144
WMS	**PAVEMENT**	Recommend complete replacement of main lot, roadway and bus loop at South end of site.	$1,544,576
WMS	**VENTILATION SYSTEM**	Improve mechanical ventilation in 3 spaces	$191,632
WMS	**PLUMBING FIXTURES**	Recommend replacement of remaining 1961 bathrooms, kitchen and two adult bathrooms adjacent to auditorium.	$290,752
HHS	**ROOF AND SKYLIGHTS**	Cafeteria and kitchen roofs replaced in 2022 along with LC wing and kitchen/cafeteria. Gym roof replaced 2019. Auditorium roof to be replaced summer 2024. remaining roofs to be replaced in next few years.	$1,652,000
HHS	**PLUMBING FIXTURES**	Install 3 compartment sinks in kitchen, location to be determined. Recommend complete renovation to men's and women's bathroom across from 121 and adjacent to faculty room. Men's and women's toilets across from auditorium and toilets in second floor faculty room are also in need of renovation.	$1,156,400
WEC	**SECURITY**	Camera upgrades	$150,000

Wish List items and Board requests

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Questions?