



Pittsford Schools

2026 – 2027

Budget Work Session #1

February 3, 2026



Agenda:

- Budget Guidelines
- School Budget Timeline & Process
- Major Components of Revenue
 - Tax Cap/Tax Levy/State Aid
- Executive Budget Highlights
- State Aid – Executive Budget Overview
- Revenue Forecast
- Future Work & Meetings

Financial information prepared for this presentation is preliminary and contains estimates and projections that are subject to change throughout the budget process



Budget Guidelines

Develop a student-based budget focused on:

- Implementation of rigorous, engaging, equitable, and authentic curriculum, instruction, assessments, and resources.
- Maintaining excellence while supporting responsive and relevant course offerings.
- Providing experiences, both curricular and extracurricular, that support the varied interests and abilities of the whole child.
- Supporting the diverse academic, social-emotional, and mental health needs of all students.



Budget Guidelines

Provide high quality professional development centered on:

- Tiered supports, addressing the range of learners in the classroom.
- Curriculum, assessment, grading and instructional practices.
- Technology that promotes efficiency, digital citizenship, and academic achievement.
- Culturally responsive and inclusive practices aligned with District goals.
- Social emotional, wellness, and mental health topics.
- Continuous improvement for instructional and non-instructional staff members.



Budget Guidelines

Balance the investment in education with sensitivity to limited community resources by:

- Balancing community expectations for services and programs, with the need to be cognizant of changes in property values, income levels, new state/federal tax laws, and a fluctuating economic landscape.
- Engaging in thoughtful short- and long- range financial planning.
- Sustaining transportation reserve for transition to electric buses/vehicles.
- Engaging legislators to increase NYS Foundation Aid.
- Recruiting, hiring, and retaining diverse employees of the highest caliber.
- Seeking cost efficiencies to further mitigate the financial impact of underfunded and unfunded mandates.



Budget Guidelines

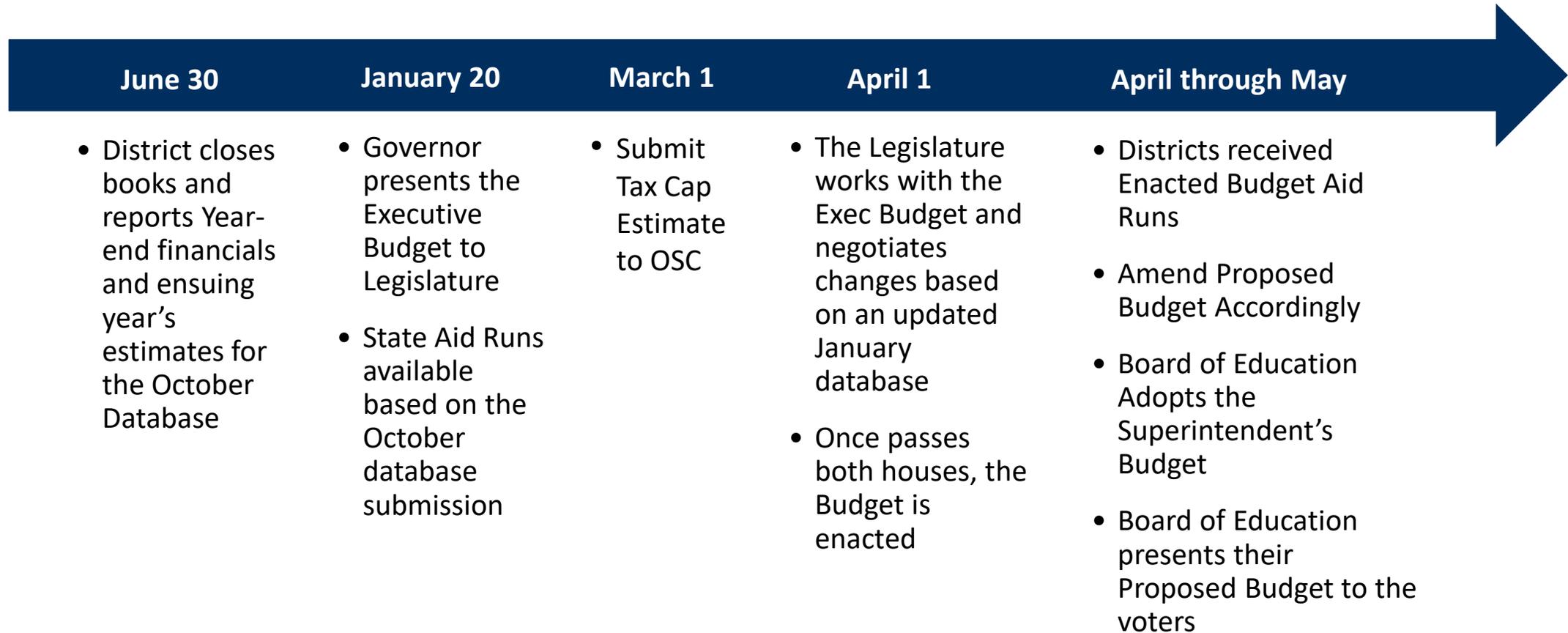
Maintain fiscal stability now and into the future through:

- Financially prudent and sustainable reserve accounts.
- Reviewing and adjusting staffing to align with revenue sources.
- Collaborating with local partners/districts to share services.
- Protecting and maintaining our Aa1 bond rating.
- Protecting the community's investment in facilities and infrastructure by continuing to enhance air cooling systems and the quality of air.
- Advocacy with legislators relative to appropriate levels of funding.
- Implementing research-based sustainability practices.

Meet legal mandates and contractual obligations.



School Budget Timeline & Process



School Budget Revenues

Major Sources of Revenue for School Districts:

1. Tax Levy (amount of money collected in taxes)
2. State Aid (provided by New York State)
3. Other Sources (PILOT, county sales tax, interest earnings, gifts, sale of equipment, etc.)



Tax Levy

- The tax levy accounts for 69% of the District's Revenue budget
- Now "capped" by the Property Tax Cap Legislation

"The State Legislature and the Governor enacted legislation that establishes a property tax cap which limits growth in the property tax levy to 2% or the rate of inflation, whichever is less, with some exclusions."

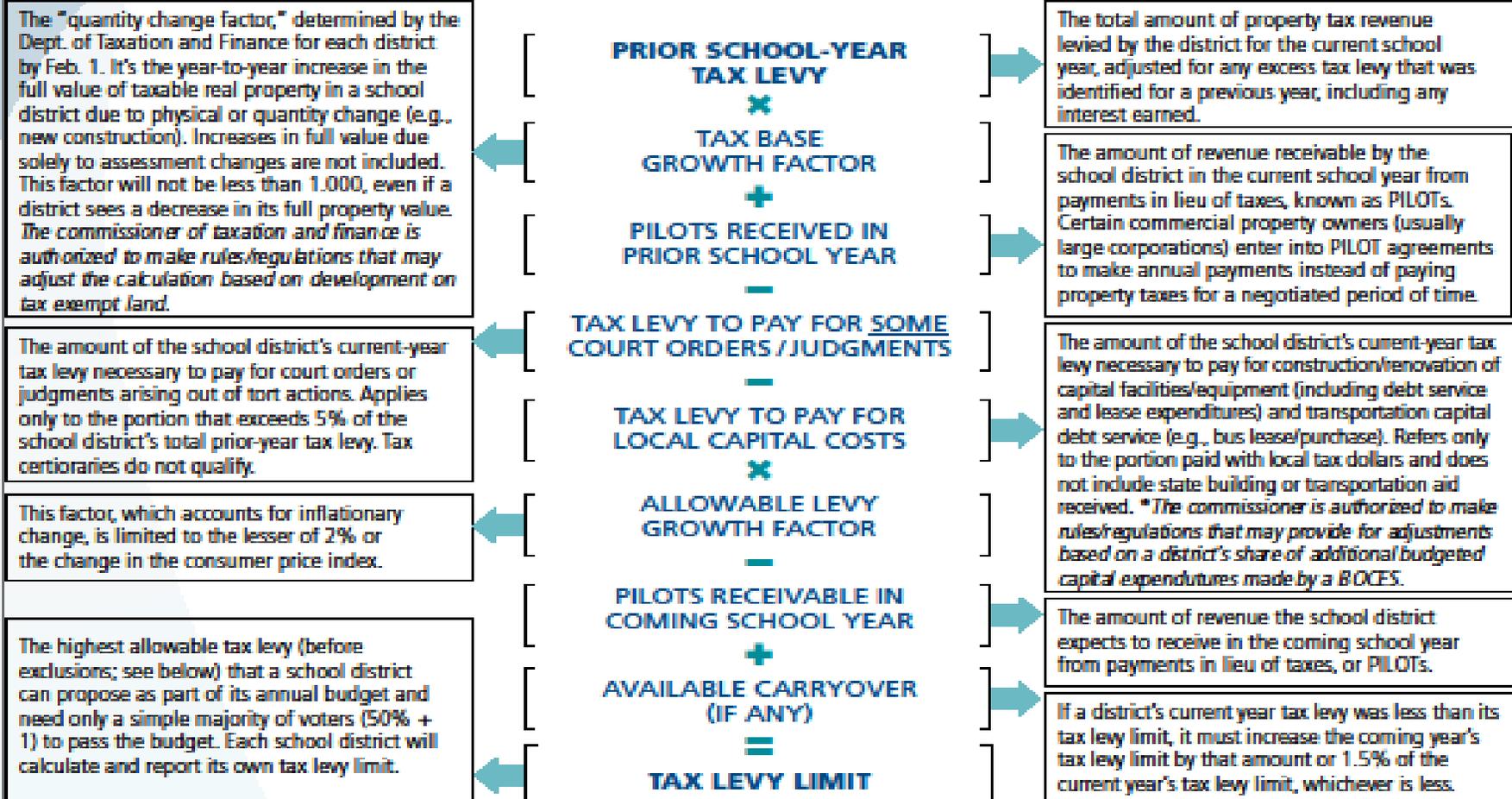


Calculation of the Property Tax Cap

New York's Tax Levy "Cap" Formula: How does it add up?

Although often referred to as a "2 percent tax cap," New York's tax levy "cap" law does not restrict any proposed tax levy increase to 2 percent. Pursuant to the law, each school district must follow an 8-step calculation, outlined below, to calculate its individual "tax levy limit." That limit then determines what level of voter support is required for budget approval.

THE BASE FORMULA



Calculation of the Property Tax Cap

EXCLUSIONS TO BE ADDED

The law excludes certain portions of a school district's tax levy from the calculation above. A district can add these exclusions (described below) to its tax levy limit, increasing the amount of taxes the district is allowed to levy while still needing only a simple majority of voters for budget approval.



TAX LEVY TO PAY FOR SOME PENSION CONTRIBUTION COSTS

Applies only when the employer contribution rates set by the statewide pension systems (TRS and ERS) increase by more than 2 percentage points from one year to the next. Even with this exclusion, most—if not all—pension costs must be funded within a school district's tax levy limit.



TAX LEVY TO PAY FOR SOME COURT ORDERS/JUDGMENTS

The amount of the school district's coming-year tax levy necessary to pay for court orders or judgments arising out of tort actions. Only the amount that exceeds 5% of the school district's prior-year total tax levy can be excluded from the tax levy limit. Tax certioraries cannot be excluded.



TAX LEVY TO PAY FOR SOME LOCAL CAPITAL COSTS

The amount of the school district's coming-year tax levy necessary to pay for construction/renovation of capital facilities or equipment (including debt service and lease expenditures) and transportation capital debt service. This exclusion refers only to the portion paid with local tax dollars (i.e., does not include state building or transportation aid received).*



MAXIMUM ALLOWABLE TAX LEVY

The tax levy limit plus exclusions. This is the highest total tax levy that a school district can propose as part of its annual budget for which only the approval of a simple majority of voters (50% +1) is required.



Tax Levy Limit Calculation Estimate

Subject to change prior to March 1st

	2025-26 Actual	2026-27 Estimated
Prior Year Tax Levy	114,967,504	117,659,555
Tax Base Growth Factor	x 1.0050	x 1.0048
	115,542,341	118,224,321
Prior Year PILOT	+ 103,996	+ 130,000
	115,646,337	118,354,321
Prior Year Exemptions	-2,863,266	-2,750,853
Adjusted Prior Year Levy	112,783,071	115,603,468
Allowable Levy Growth Factor (lesser of CPI or 2%)	x 1.02	x 1.02
Sub-total (Tax Levy Limit)	115,038,733	117,915,537

Tax Levy Limit Calculation Estimate

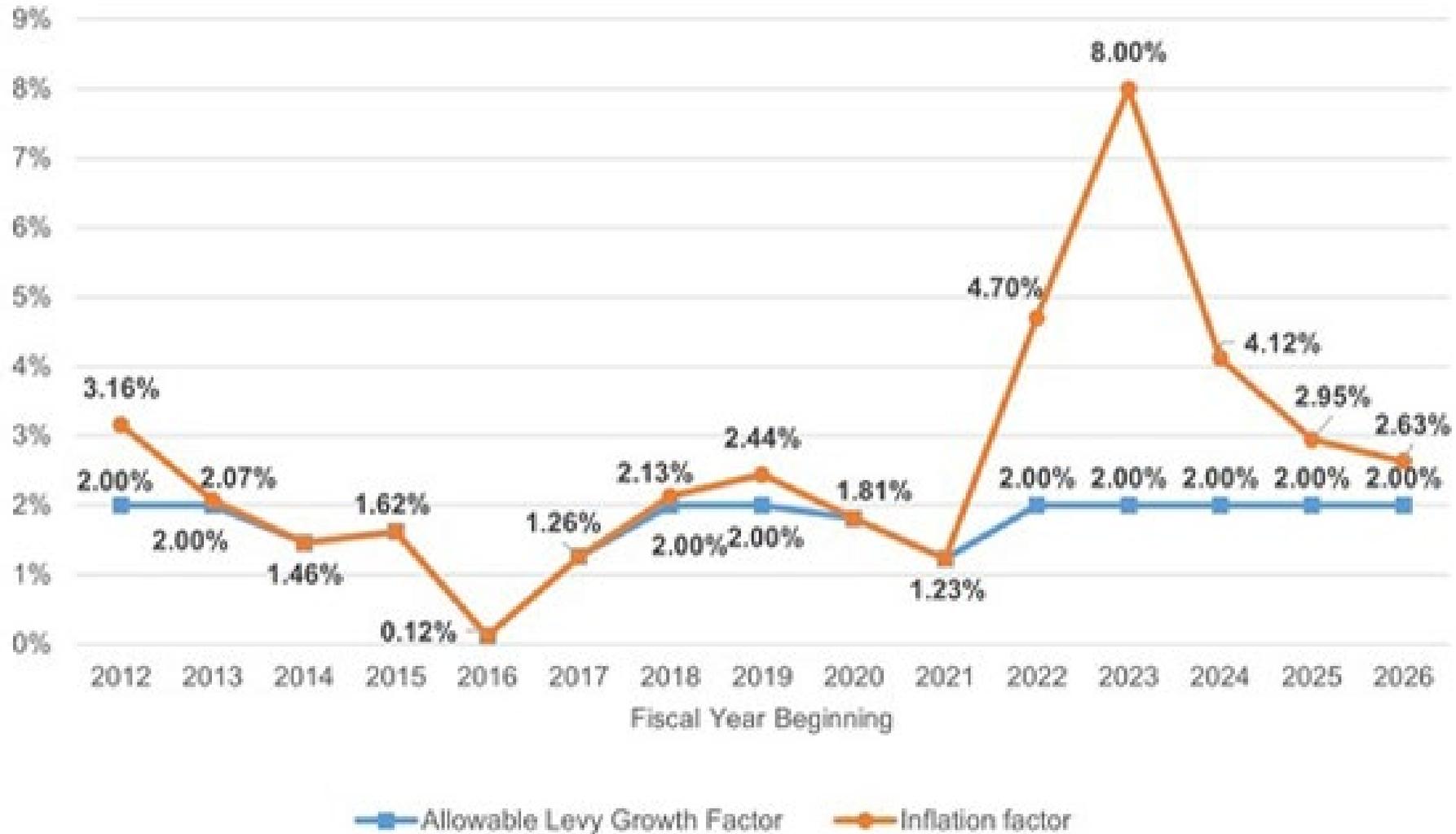
Subject to change prior to March 1st

	2025-26 Actual	2026-27 Estimated
Tax Levy Limit (from previous slide)	115,038,733	117,915,537
PILOTs for coming year	-130,000	-85,938
Tax Levy Limit (with no carryover)	114,908,702	117,829,599
Coming School Year Exemptions:		
Plus: Debt Service/Capital Transfer/BOCES Capital	+8,330,236	+11,135,931
Less: Building Aid/BOCES Aid/Debt Service Fund	-5,579,383	-8,145,250
“Capital Levy Exclusion”	2,750,853	2,990,681
Plus: Pension Exclusions	+0	+0
Maximum Allowable Levy (ESTIMATE)	117,659,555	120,820,280
Maximum Increase in Tax Levy	2,692,051	3,160,725
Tax Cap %	2.34%	2.69%

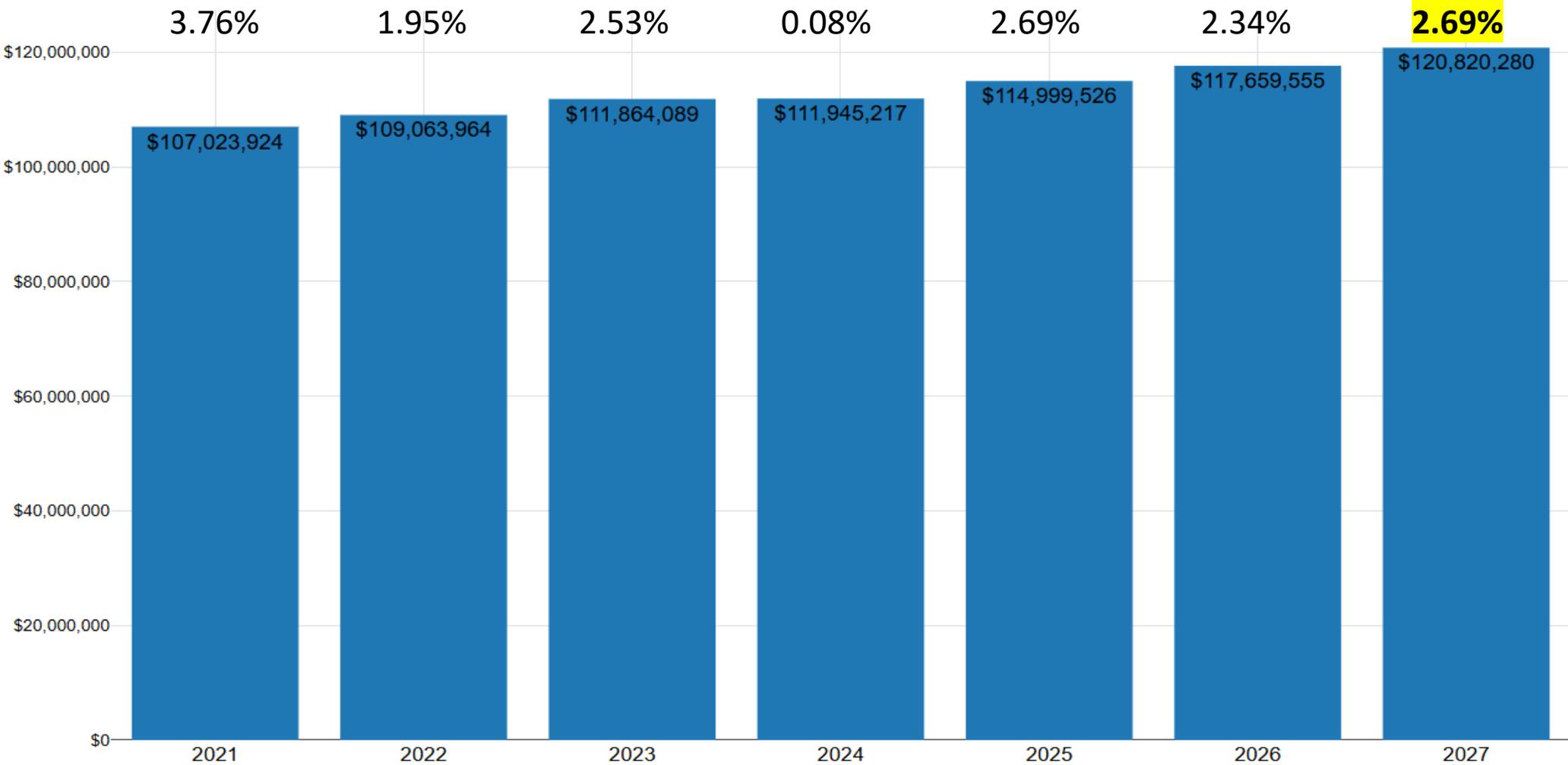
Tax Cap Inflation Factors

Year	Allowable Growth Factors	CPI-U
2014-15	1.0146 = 1.46%	1.46%
2015-16	1.0162 = 1.62%	1.62%
2016-17	1.0012 = 0.12%	0.12%
2017-18	1.0126 = 1.26%	1.26%
2018-19	1.02 = 2.00%	2.13%
2019-20	1.02 = 2.00%	2.44%
2020-21	1.0181 = 1.81%	1.81%
2021-22	1.0123 = 1.23%	1.23%
2022-23	1.02 = 2.00%	4.70%
2023-24	1.02 = 2.00%	8.00%
2024-25	1.02 = 2.00%	4.12%
2025-26	1.02 = 2.00%	2.95%
2026-27	1.02 = 2.00%	2.63%

Tax Cap Inflation Factors



Tax Levy History



Tax Cap Forecast

	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31
Calculated Property Tax Levy Cap	\$120,820,280	\$123,637,255	\$126,379,033	\$129,482,812	\$132,691,350
Max Levy for Simple Majority Vote	2.69%	2.33%	2.22%	2.46%	2.48%
Increase	\$3,160,725	\$2,816,975	\$2,741,777	\$3,103,779	\$3,208,538

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Property Tax Cap 2026-2027 Notes

- CPI continues to diminish the revenue power of school districts
- The Capital Exclusion is calculated by adding principal and interest payments for the debt service together and then subtracting the associated building aid that is received
 - Debt service and building aid will increase in 2026-27 based on the timing of construction completion and the filing of NYS final cost reports and the approval of an early aid start application
 - The March Capital Project Vote will not impact the budget and will keep debt service level into the future stabilizing the tax cap
- The calculation of the tax cap will be finalized by the required March 1st reporting deadline



Highlights of Executive Budget Recommendations

State Budget - increase to \$260 billion in all funds from \$252 billion

- Projected budget gaps projected of \$6 and \$9 billion (reduced from \$10 and \$12.5 billion)

Summary of School Aid for 2026-27:

- Traditional School Aid increased by \$1.3 billion or 3.6%
- When adding in non-traditional funds, the total is \$1.6 billion or 4.3%

Foundation Aid Changes:

- Total increase of \$779 million – \$26.3 million to \$27.1 million or 2.96%

Universal Prekindergarten

- Increase of \$431 million – \$1.068 million to \$1.499 million – **which is a 40.32% increase**

Lunch/Breakfast program – total of \$395 million (increase of \$55 million)

- Shortfall of \$43 million in current year budget



2026-27 Executive Budget Estimates of General Support for Public Schools for the

State of New York

	2025-26	2026-27	Change	%
Foundation Aid	\$26,357,608,136	\$27,137,095,669	\$779,487,533	2.96%
Expense-based Aids				
Building Aid	\$3,520,629,732	\$3,473,343,508	(\$47,286,224)	-1.34%
Transportation Aid*	\$2,734,146,823	\$2,890,751,954	\$156,605,131	5.73%
BOCES Aid	\$1,372,792,035	\$1,472,852,098	\$100,060,063	7.29%
Public High Cost Excess Cost Aid	\$710,493,552	\$588,215,505	(\$122,278,047)	-17.21%
Private Excess Cost Aid	\$508,747,399	\$527,874,399	\$19,127,000	3.76%
Special Services Aid	\$307,702,494	\$312,110,010	\$4,407,516	1.43%
Instructional Materials Aids				
Software Aid	\$41,829,168	\$41,910,799	\$81,631	0.20%
Hardware & Technology Aid	\$34,081,625	\$34,781,494	\$699,869	2.05%
Textbook Aid	\$162,089,772	\$162,307,352	\$217,580	0.13%
Library Materials Aid	\$17,033,323	\$17,486,226	\$452,903	2.66%
Other Operating Aids				
Academic Enhancement Aid	\$28,271,832	\$28,271,832	\$0	0.00%
Charter School Transitional Aid	\$77,425,652	\$77,108,250	(\$317,402)	-0.41%
High Tax Aid	\$223,298,324	\$223,298,324	\$0	0.00%
Supplemental Public Excess Cost Aid	\$4,313,167	\$4,313,167	\$0	0.00%
Aid for Recent Consolidations				
Operating Reorganization Incentive Aid	\$4,941,429	\$4,284,352	(\$657,077)	-13.30%
Building Reorganization Incentive Aid	\$7,625,511	\$5,573,806	(\$2,051,705)	-26.91%
Subtotal	\$36,113,029,974	\$37,001,578,745	\$888,548,771	2.46%
Aid for Early Childhood Education				
Full Day Kindergarten Conversion Aid	\$0	\$3,131,412	\$3,131,412	N/A
Universal Prekindergarten Aid**	\$1,068,948,242	\$1,499,978,640	\$431,030,398	40.32%
Total School Aid	\$37,181,978,216	\$38,504,688,797	\$1,322,710,581	3.56%

*Includes Summer Transportation

**The Executive Budget shows the amount of funding districts will receive if they serve the same number of students in 2026-27, but actual payments will be based on the number of students served (without limit).



Highlights of Executive Budget Recommendations

- All 4-year-olds would be eligible for prekindergarten through a requirement that by 2028-29 districts provide a full-day slot to any 4-year-old child whose parents have requested it. This requirement can be met through either district- or CBO-operated programs.
- Increase in building aid for renewable energy projects – will our solar project qualify?
- Summer Food Program – \$3.05 million for summer food programs.
- STAR program School tax relief reduced to \$1.294 million as it becomes a tax credit instead of a direct reimbursement.
- State Aid Database Freeze – aid restricted to Executive proposal (typically rejected).
- Prior Year Claims – would prohibit Commissioner of Education from making payments on aid claims other than those in the prior year.



Executive Budget Foundation Aid Proposal

2026-27 Executive Budget Foundation Aid Estimates for the Pittsford Central School District

A. Foundation Aid Estimates (as of Jan 2026)

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2025-26 Foundation Aid **\$21,523,585**

Save Harmless Information (if applicable)

2026-27 Foundation Aid Estimate **\$21,738,820**

Calculated Total Foundation Aid \$21,660,280

2026-27 Foundation Aid \$21,738,820

Change \$215,235

Amount of 'Save Harmless' \$78,540

% Change 1.0%

Note: These are estimates from the Governor's Executive Budget proposal, and are not guaranteed to be the final Enacted Budget amount.

B. Relevant Component Calculations

	Foundation Amount (Same for all districts)	Pupil Needs Index (PNI)	Local Share Option 1	Local Share Option 2	
			Income Wealth Index (IWI)	Foundation Aid Combined Wealth Ratio (FACWR)	State Sharing Ratio for Foundation Aid
2025-26 (as of 2025-26 Enacted Budget)	\$8,273	1.050	N/A	1.188	0.337
2026-27 Estimate (as of Jan 2026)	\$8,505	1.050	N/A	1.211	0.328
<i>Change</i>	232	0.000	N/A	0.023	(0.009)
<i>% Change</i>	2.8%	0.0%	N/A	1.9%	-2.7%

Note: Your district uses either the IWI or the State Sharing Ratio to determine the Expected Minimum Local Contribution. "N/A" in either of these columns means your district is not using that component. A small subset of districts use different measures in each year, so they will see numbers and "N/A"s in both.

Executive State Aid Proposal

2026-27 Executive Budget Estimates of General Support for Public Schools for the Pittsford Central School District

	2025-26	2026-27	Change	%
Foundation Aid	\$21,523,585	\$21,738,820	\$215,235	1.00%
Expense-based Aids				
Building Aid	\$4,021,539	\$4,103,635	\$82,096	2.04%
Transportation Aid*	\$5,057,833	\$5,580,320	\$522,487	10.33%
BOCES Aid	\$4,949,286	\$3,373,314	(\$1,575,972)	-31.84%
Public High Cost Excess Cost Aid	\$468,137	\$517,871	\$49,734	10.62%
Private Excess Cost Aid	\$470,923	\$466,308	(\$4,615)	-0.98%
Special Services Aid	\$0	\$0	\$0	N/A
Instructional Materials Aids				
Software Aid	\$91,169	\$91,438	\$269	0.30%
Hardware & Technology Aid	\$92,199	\$89,368	(\$2,831)	-3.07%
Textbook Aid	\$345,656	\$345,306	(\$350)	-0.10%
Library Materials Aid	\$38,037	\$38,150	\$113	0.30%
Other Operating Aids				
Academic Enhancement Aid	\$0	\$0	\$0	N/A
Charter School Transitional Aid	\$0	\$0	\$0	N/A
High Tax Aid	\$0	\$0	\$0	N/A
Supplemental Public Excess Cost Aid	\$0	\$0	\$0	N/A
Aid for Recent Consolidations				
Operating Reorganization Incentive Aid	\$0	\$0	\$0	N/A
Building Reorganization Incentive Aid	\$0	\$0	\$0	N/A
Subtotal	\$37,058,364	\$36,344,530	(\$713,834)	-1.93%

Executive State Aid Proposal

2025-26 Estimated State Aid compared to the 2026-27 Executive Proposal

AID CATEGORY	Estimated State Aid 2025-26	Proposed State Aid 2026-27	Difference	% Change
Foundation aid	21,523,585	21,738,820	215,235	1.00%
Universal Pre-K	-	-	-	N/A
BOCES	4,949,286	3,373,314	(1,575,972)	-31.84%
High Cost Excess Cost	468,137	517,871	49,734	10.62%
Private Excess Cost	470,923	466,308	(4,615)	-0.98%
Hardware & Technology	92,199	89,368	(2,831)	-3.07%
Software, Library, Textbook	474,862	474,894	32	0.01%
Transportation	5,057,833	5,580,320	522,487	10.33%
Building Aid	4,021,539	4,103,635	82,096	2.04%
TOTAL	37,058,364	36,344,530	(713,834)	-1.93%
<i>(Matches State aid information in media)</i>				

Budgeted State Aid Compared to Executive State Aid Proposal

AID CATEGORY	Budgeted State Aid 2025-26	Estimated State Aid 2025-26	Difference	% Change
Foundation aid	21,649,228	21,523,585	(125,643)	-0.58%
Universal Pre-K	-	-	-	N/A
BOCES	3,800,000	4,949,286	1,149,286	30.24%
High Cost Excess Cost	400,000	468,137	68,137	17.03%
Private Excess Cost	375,000	470,923	95,923	25.58%
Hardware & Technology	92,547	92,199	(348)	-0.38%
Software, Library, Textbook	476,680	474,862	(1,818)	-0.38%
Transportation	4,782,608	5,057,833	275,225	5.75%
Building Aid	4,249,579	4,021,539	(228,040)	-5.37%
TOTAL	35,825,642	37,058,364	1,232,722	3.44%
(Matches State aid information in media)				

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Foundation Aid History

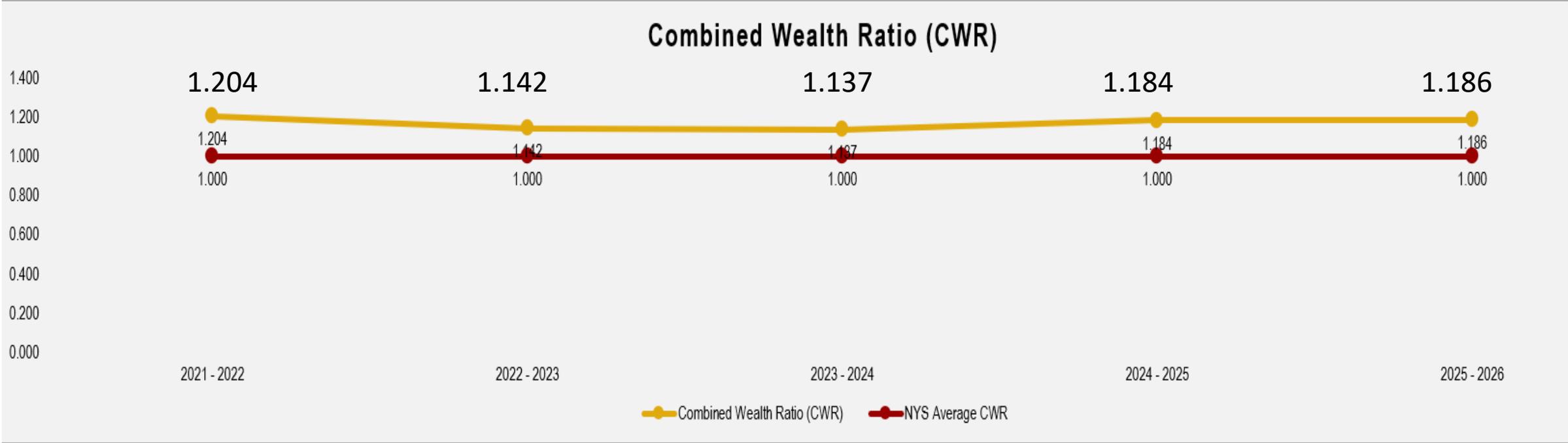
- Governor Hochul announced a renewed commitment to fully fund foundation aid in 2021-22
- Foundation aid was created in 2007:
 - Consolidated about 30 aid categories into one formula;
 - Provided a more equitable approach to distributing State aid; and called for more than \$5 billion in new operating aid to be phased in over a four-year period, which would have resulted in full funding by 2011-12. (Financial challenges delayed the full phase-in plan)
- Pittsford received full foundation aid in 2023-24 (waiting since 2012)
 - Estimated \$100 million in lost revenue over the last 10 years
- Pittsford set to receive an increase of **\$215,235 or 1%** in budgeted foundation aid for 2026-27



Foundation Aid History

	Foundation Aid - Law	Foundation Aid - Actual	% Chg	Foundation Under Funded	Net Aid Underfunded	Annual % Funded	Actual Annual Increase	Percent Change
2022-23	19,122,733	15,199,282	34.4%	(3,923,451)	(3,923,451)	79.5%	3,888,327	34.38%
2023-24	21,111,519	21,111,519	38.9%	0	0	100.0%	5,912,237	38.90%
2024-25	21,101,867	21,101,867	0.0%	0	0	100.0%	(9,652)	-0.05%
2025-26	21,530,672	21,523,585	2.0%	(7,087)	(7,087)	100.0%	421,718	2.00%
2026-27	21,738,820	21,738,820	1.0%	0	0	100.0%	215,235	1.00%

Pittsford CSD Combined Wealth Ratio



Pittsford CSD Building Aid Ratios

	2021 – 22	2022 - 23	2023 - 24	2024 - 25	2025 - 26
Tier 1: Voter Approval < 07/01/1998 (BLD)					
Tier 1 Selected Building Aid Ratio	0.624	0.649	0.649	0.649	0.649
Tier 2: Voter Approval between 07/01/1998 - 06/30/2000 (BLD 10)					
Tier 2 Selected Building Aid Ratio (includes Incentive Decimal)	0.724	0.749	0.749	0.749	0.749
Tier 3: Voter Approval between 07/01/2000 - 06/30/2005 (BLD 3)					
Tier 3 Selected Building Aid Ratio (includes Incentive Decimal)	0.724	0.749	0.749	0.726	0.726
Tier 4: Voter Approval >= 07/01/2005 (BLD 4)					
Tier 4 Selected Building Aid Ratio (includes Incentive Decimal & HNSBAR)	0.724	0.749	0.749	0.726	0.726

Dropping to 0.705 in 2026-27 Budget

Early Revenue Forecast for the 2026-27 Budget

	2025-26	2026-27	\$\$ Change	% Change
Real Property Taxes	117,659,555	120,820,280	3,160,725	2.69%
Other Pmts in Lieu of Tax	130,000	85,938	(44,062)	-33.89%
Sales Tax	7,400,000	7,500,000	100,000	1.35%
Charges for services	490,600	490,600	-	0.00%
Interest and Earnings	1,500,000	2,100,000	600,000	40.00%
Rental/Sale of Scrap	160,241	160,241	-	0.00%
Prior Year Refund/Other	995,000	995,000	-	0.00%
State Sources (Includes Urban-Sub)	36,980,714	40,704,080	3,723,366	10.07%
Medicaid	65,000	65,000	-	0.00%
Sub-Total	165,381,110	172,921,139	7,540,029	4.56%
Appropriated Fund Balance	1,496,992	1,496,992	-	0.00%
Reserves	1,340,000	1,740,000	400,000	29.85%
Total Budget	168,218,102	176,158,131	7,940,029	4.72%

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Early State Aid Forecast for the 2026-27 Budget

AID CATEGORY	Budgeted State Aid 2025-26	Proposed State Aid 2026-27	<i>Budgeted State Aid 2026-27</i>	Budget to Budget Difference	% Change	Proposed to Budget Difference
Foundation aid	21,649,228	21,738,820	21,738,820	89,592	0.41%	-
BOCES	3,800,000	3,373,314	4,100,000	300,000	7.89%	726,686
High Cost Excess Cost	400,000	517,871	400,000	-	0.00%	(117,871)
Private Excess Cost	375,000	466,308	375,000	-	0.00%	(91,308)
Hardware & Technology	92,547	89,368	89,368	(3,179)	-3.44%	-
Software, Library, Textbook	476,680	474,894	475,892	(788)	-0.17%	998
Transportation	4,782,608	5,580,320	5,125,000	342,392	7.16%	(455,320)
Building Aid	4,249,579	4,103,635	7,100,000	2,850,421	67.08%	2,996,365
Urban Suburban Aid	1,155,072	1,300,000	1,300,000	144,928	12.55%	-
TOTAL	36,980,714	37,644,530	40,704,080	3,723,366	10.07%	3,059,550

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Next Steps of the Budget Process

- Work with budget originators and Board of Education as budgets are refined and presented
- Solidify Tax Cap components (debt service schedule increasing)
- Continue to evaluate staffing and retirements
- Make budget adjustments based on replacement plans for technology, transportation, custodial/maintenance
- Evaluate BOCES services
- Adjust State aid based on the Legislative budget
- Monitor State Budget progress and continue advocacy efforts
- Work on plan for EV bus purchase

Upcoming Meetings

February 24 – Board Work Session #2

March 1 – Tax Cap Report to NYS Comptroller

March 10 – Board Work Session #3 (Final)

March 12 – District Planning Team (DPT)

April 14 – Board Adopts Superintendent’s Budget

April 16 – District Planning Team (DPT)

May 12 – Public Budget Hearing

May 19 – Budget Vote and Board Election





Board Discussion