



2026-27 Revenue Budget Fund Balance & Reserves Property Tax Cap

FEBRUARY 10, 2026

MOLLY MOORE, SUPERINTENDENT

ANNETTE RHEBERGEN, SCHOOL BUSINESS OFFICIAL

Southwestern Central School District

Home of the Trojans



Who We Are

At Southwestern, our shared core purpose, aspirations and expectations are clear:

Our Mission

Learning for All: Engaging and Preparing for Future Success

Our Vision

Southwestern: A community providing a comprehensive and relevant education that enables every student to achieve.

Our Core Values

To accomplish our mission and achieve our vision, we will:

- provide a physically, socially, emotionally safe and inclusive learning environment
- demonstrate passion for our work and a commitment to our students
- always act with integrity, empathy, and acceptance
- hold each other and ourselves accountable for excellence in everything we do
- build mutually beneficial relationships with caregivers and community partners
- honor achievement and promote pride in ourselves, in our school, in our community, and in our region
- build and maintain rich traditions
- promote Trojan kindness for all

Our Priority Areas 2023-2024

The Student Experience	Community Connections	The Staff Experience	Safe and Welcoming Environment
<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Behavioral expectations•Advanced coursework/academic rigor•Supervision•Alternative pathways•Learning for all•Mental health•Co-curricular opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Parent involvement•Communication•Connections with staff•Capital improvement planning•Partnerships w/ business and community organizations	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Community building•Professional learning communities•Effective instructional practices•Retaining and recruiting highly effective staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Positive Culture and Climate•Safety & Security•Facility Enhancements•Technology

INTEGRITY, KINDNESS, CONNECTIONS, EXCELLENCE



Revenue Highlights

- State aid based on Finance & Legislation Projections
- Other Revenues based on District Projections
- Appropriated Fund Balance at \$675,000
- Reserves Adjusted to Correspond with Expense modifications



Revenue Budget History

Description	2023-24 Budget	2024-25 Budget	2025-26 Budget	2026-27 Projected	Net Change
Property Tax Levy	\$14,134,592	\$14,352,265	\$14,711,072	\$15,078,849	\$367,777
Payment in Lieu of Taxes	\$161,461	\$314,143	\$248,587	\$170,405	-\$78,182
Penalties on Taxes	\$29,000	\$29,000	\$31,000	\$35,000	\$4,000
State Aid	\$17,673,636	\$19,142,458	\$18,907,424	\$19,094,895	\$187,471*
Miscellaneous	\$349,774	\$874,876	\$959,014	\$1,320,588	\$361,574
Medicaid	\$180,000	\$180,000	\$200,000	\$175,000	-\$25,000
Interfund Transfer-Athletic Field	\$25,100	0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Interfund Transfer-Debt Svc.	\$0	\$192,965	\$323,751	\$256,165	-\$67,586
Assigned Fund Balance	\$450,000	\$550,000	\$628,447	\$675,000	\$46,553
Unemployment Reserve	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$0
Reserve for ERS Retirement	\$75,000	\$75,000	\$175,000	\$200,000	\$25,000
Reserve for TRS Retirement	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$50,000	\$75,000	\$25,000
TOTAL	\$33,113,563	\$35,745,707	\$36,244,295	\$37,090,902	\$846,607

*notable differences include Building Aid decrease - \$96,425; BOCES increase- \$243,848



Unemployment Reserve

- Purpose: To cover unemployment costs reimbursed to the State of New York
- Established with Board of Education approval
- Balance as of June 30, 2025: \$77,314.28
- Budget 2025-26: \$10,000
- Budget 2026-27: \$10,000

Employee Benefit Accrued Liability Reserve (EBALR)



- Purpose: To pay for accrued employee benefits upon termination of service.
- Establishment: Created by resolution of the Board of Education
- Sources of Revenue: Budgetary Appropriation, certain other reserves as deemed allowable.
- Balance June 30, 2025: \$969,114.53

Reserve for Retirement-ERS

- To finance retirement contributions payable to the NYS Employees' Retirement System (ERS)
- Established and expended without voter approval
- Created in March 2010
- Balance as of June 30, 2025: \$1,024,247.06
- Budget 2025-26: \$175,000
- Budget 2026-27: \$200,000



Reserve for Retirement-TRS

- To finance retirement contributions payable to the NYS Teachers' Retirement System (TRS)
- Established and expended without voter approval as a sub-fund of the Reserve for Retirement
- Created in May 2019
- Balance as of June 30, 2025: \$442,589.10
- Budget 2025-26: \$50,000
- Budget 2026-27: \$75,000



Debt Service Fund

- Interest earnings and unspent dollars from capital Projects
- Used to offset Debt Service Costs in the General Fund
- Budgeted as a Revenue
- Balance as of June 30, 2025: \$776,345.73
- Budget 2025-26: \$323,751
- Budget 2026-27: \$256,165

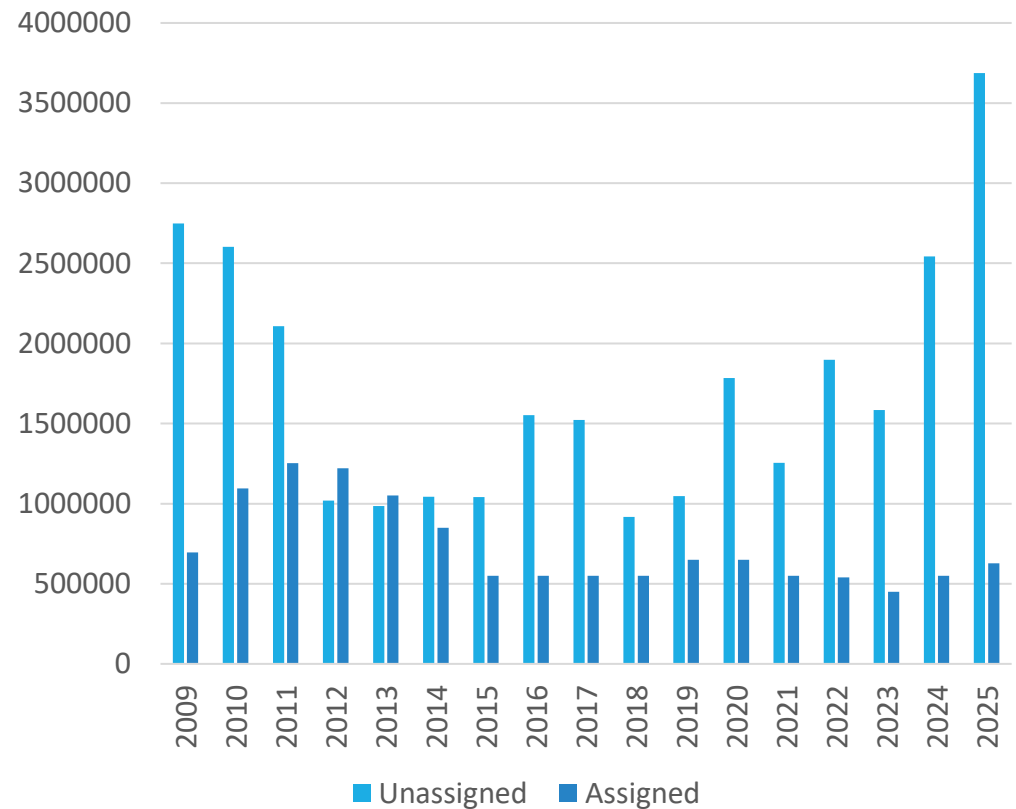


Assigned & Unassigned Fund Balance

- Assigned Fund Balance is the portion used to reduce the tax levy
- Unassigned Fund Balance is limited to 4% of subsequent years budget

Fiscal Year	Unassigned	Assigned	Unassigned %
6/30/2009	\$ 2,748,219	\$ 695,048	11.0%
6/30/2010	\$ 2,603,109	\$ 1,095,048	10.2%
6/30/2011	\$ 2,107,663	\$ 1,252,974	8.2%
6/30/2012	\$ 1,019,567	\$ 1,221,654	4.0%
6/30/2013	\$ 984,424	\$ 1,050,000	3.8%
6/30/2014	\$ 1,042,637	\$ 850,000	4.0%
6/30/2015	\$ 1,041,125	\$ 550,000	3.9%
6/30/2016	\$ 1,552,299	\$ 550,000	5.8%
6/30/2017	\$ 1,521,547	\$ 550,000	5.6%
6/30/2018	\$ 916,436	\$ 550,000	3.2%
6/30/2019	\$ 1,047,301	\$ 650,000	3.6%
6/30/2020	\$ 1,783,559	\$ 650,000	6.1%
6/30/2021	\$ 1,254,544	\$ 550,000	4.0%
6/30/2022	\$ 1,897,480	\$ 539,803	6.0%
6/30/2023	\$ 1,584,799	\$ 450,000	5.1%
6/30/2024	\$ 2,542,257	\$ 550,000	7.7%
6/30/2025	\$ 3,687,317	\$ 628,447	11.1%

History of Fund Balance





Property Tax Cap

2025-26	\$ 14,711,072	
x Tax Base Growth Factor	1.0178	Provided by NYS Real Property Service
	<u>\$ 14,972,929</u>	
Plus: 2025-26 PILOT receivable	\$ 248,590	
Less: 2025-26 Capital Tax Levy	<u>\$ (369,997)</u>	
	\$ 14,851,522	
x Allowable levy growth factor	1.0200	Less than 2.0% due to lower inflation
	<u>\$ 15,148,553</u>	
Less: 2025-26 PILOT receivable	<u>\$ (170,405)</u>	
Tax Levy Limit before exclusions	<u>\$ 14,978,148</u>	
Plus: Pension Exclusions	\$ -	
Plus: Capital Tax Levy	<u>\$ 621,847</u>	
2025-26 Tax Levy Limit with exclusions	\$ 15,599,995	
Dollar Increase	\$ 888,923	
Percentage Increase	6.04%	



Wealth Information

Description	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
Income Wealth	\$273,040,353	\$310,982,409	\$315,670,933	\$319,709,313
Property Wealth	\$689,160,765	\$702,239,084	\$789,198,074	\$953,593,410
Combined Wealth Ratio	.578	.599	.660	.697
State Sharing Ratio	.660	.634	.578	.571
BOCES Aid Ratio	.759	.741	.725	.687
Transportation Aid Ratio	.833	.800	.762	.728
Building Aid Ratio	.859	.841	.825	.785
FRPL	.3868	.3881	.4283	.4291
Min. Local Contribution	\$3,970.64	\$4,267.36	\$5,009.35	\$7,261.62
Aid/Pupil	\$7,309.60	\$7,474.07	\$7,804.33	\$7,242.74
Hold Harmless		219,606	\$701,639	

Tax Rate History

Description	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	Projected 2026-27**
True Value Rate	\$14.822320	\$14.621755	\$12.274521	\$12.581384
Busti	\$22.123078	\$22.495225	\$12.274521	\$12.581448
Ellicott	\$17.438145	\$17.83152	\$17.789286	\$18.234018
Harmony	\$20.730517	\$21.502580	\$20.457535	\$20.968974

**The 2026-27 rates are only projected based on 2025-26 final assessments and equalization rates. 2026-27 assessments and equalization rates are not yet available and are subject to change.



Questions?