

Plainview-Old Bethpage CSD 2026-2027 Budget Workshop Series



Workshop #1 *Superintendent's* *Proposed Budget*

**Board of Education
Meeting
February 9, 2026**



Strategic Plan Priority Area # 5 Finance and Facilities

We will provide sound, responsible financial stewardship through the management and maintenance of efficient financial practices.

Strategies	
Maintain Triple-A bond rating.	Continue to strengthen ties with community organizations and businesses.
Fiscal conservancy to address possible state and federal aid plateaus scheduled for the 2024-25 fiscal year.	Create innovative operational procedures and systems responsive to the needs of our students, staff and stakeholders.
End each fiscal year with a 4% fund balance.	Implement strategic recommendations found in the most recent Building Condition Survey, with a cycle of preventative maintenance.
Maintain cumulative reserve levels at a minimum of 20% of annual budget general fund expenditures.	Prioritize facilities needs in order of priority of health and safety, property preservation and facilities upgrades. Develop a multi-year budgetary plan to support the work.
Maintain a current ratio above 2 to 1 as measured by current assets over current liabilities on the general fund balance sheet.	Partner with an Energy Service Company (ESCO) to develop a plan to improve the energy profiles and sustainability of all eight facilities at no cost to taxpayers.
Align growth of total payroll and associated benefit costs to the growth of permanent revenue sources (i.e., tax revenue, property lease revenue, etc.)	Improve energy efficiency, climate resiliency and sustainability of all facilities.
Use the POB Strategic Plan to guide annual budget development, program review and new program adoption cycles.	Provide equitable learning environments through the effective and efficient facilities planning, management and resource allocation.
Ensure that resources (i.e., people, time and money) are allocated equitably by instituting needs-based, results-focused budgeting; matching hiring and staff placement with relative school level and student needs.	Maintain all facilities at high levels of cleanliness, dependability, safety and aesthetic appeal.

2026-2027 Budget: Key Considerations

Positive Factors:

- Maintains all existing academic, extra-curricular, and co-curricular programs, while keeping class sizes within Board of Education guidelines.
- Includes a \$2.5 million transfer to capital for ongoing facilities improvements
- 2026-2027 Foundation Aid estimates see a slight increase (\$1.3 million) for Plainview-Old Bethpage, however, far less than last year's increase of \$2.9 million total in 2025-2026.

Challenging Factors:

- Inflation has led to increased prices for classroom supplies, food service and building materials.
- The 2025 Building Condition Survey found roughly \$60 million in facility needs across the District, including repairs, renovations, and updates to meet current building codes, which increases maintenance and operating costs.
- Rising costs of special education programs which include additional staff, services and specialized resources
- Increases in the cost of technology, including memory, devices, and essential hardware replacements
- Continued enrollment growth at JFK High School means that space capacity remains an ongoing challenge.



2026-2027 Budget Development:

How Decisions Are Made

- Guided by the District's Strategic Plan and long-term educational priorities, ensuring resources support student learning, well-being, and achievement.
- Informed by ongoing review of the Building Condition Survey, addressing space needs, facility upkeep, health and safety improvements, and long-range capital planning.
- Shaped through collaboration with key stakeholders: including PTAs, Booster Clubs, administrators, staff and building teams, to align resources with student needs and District priorities.
- Developed with careful planning for rising fixed and mandated costs, including retirement contributions, health insurance, special education services, transportation, utilities, inflation, and contractual salary obligations.
- Focused on preserving core instructional programs and class sizes while responding to growing and changing student needs.
- Aligned with future ready goals, including expanding career pathways and college readiness programs connected to the new NYS Graduation Measures.
- Committed to maintaining safe and healthy learning environments through enhanced health and safety measures across all buildings.



2026-2027 Proposed Budget Summary

2026-27 Proposed Budget	2025-26 Actual Budget	Budget to Budget \$ Difference	Budget to Budget % Difference
\$205,796,480	\$197,404,327	\$8,392,153	4.25%
2026-27 total budget reflecting our commitment to comprehensive educational programming	2025-26 actual budget baseline for comparison	Additional resources needed to maintain programs and address rising costs	Year-over-year growth rate reflecting inflation and program needs

This proposed budget ensures continuity of all programs while addressing facility needs, technology requirements, and contractual obligations. The 4.25% increase reflects the real costs of maintaining educational excellence in an inflationary environment while staying within the allowable tax levy cap.



Reserve Funds

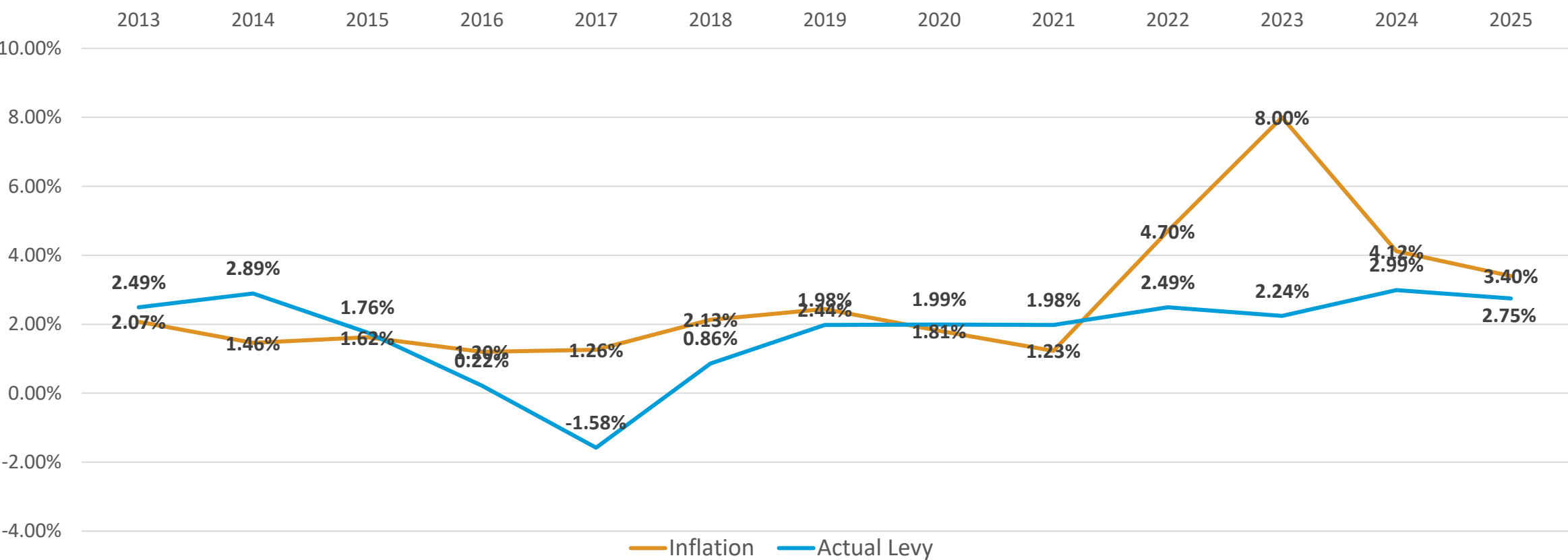
- Reserve balances are reviewed annually as part of the budget development process to ensure transparency, compliance, and fiscal stability.
- Adequate reserves help districts avoid fiscal stress, sudden program reductions, or unexpected tax increases.
- Reserves support long-term financial planning by addressing known future obligations, such as capital needs, retirement costs, and insurance volatility.
- Maintaining responsible reserve levels is a key factor in preserving the District’s strong bond rating, which lowers borrowing costs and protects taxpayers.
- NYS law and regulation define the purpose, funding parameters, and conditions for use of each reserve, ensuring amounts are aligned to identified needs and subject to oversight.

Strategic Plan Priority Area # 5. Finance and Facilities		
Maintain cumulative reserve levels at a minimum of 20% of annual budget general fund expenditures		
2025-2026 Operating Budget	Total Reserves	% of 2025-2026 Budget
\$194,404,327	\$48,894,436	24.12%
TOTAL FUND BALANCE & RESERVES BALANCE JUNE 30, 2025		
RESERVE FUND		BALANCE
RETIREMENT CONTRIBUTION RESERVE (ERS)		\$10,510,753
RETIREMENT CONTRIBUTION RESERVE (TRS) (SUB-FUND)		\$7,282,649
EMPLOYEE BENEFIT ACCRUED LIABILITY RESERVE		\$9,128,784
UNEMPLOYMENT RESERVE		\$856,526
CAPITAL 2022 RESERVE		\$15,471,290
TAX REDUCTION RESERVE		\$3,644,434
TOTAL RESERVES		46,894,436
ENCUMBRANCES		\$3,746,368*
APPROPRIATED FUND BALANCE		\$0
UNASSIGNED FUND BALANCE		\$8,119,441
TOTAL RESERVE & FUND BALANCES		\$58,760,245



Rate of Inflation Compared to District Tax Levy History

Plainview-Old Bethpage Tax Levy History vs. Inflation



2026-2027 NY State Aid Estimates

Plainview-Old Bethpage Central School District

	2025-26	2026-27	Change	%
Foundation Aid	\$30,185,016	\$31,548,425	\$1,363,409	4.52%
Expense-based Aids				
Building Aid	\$2,984,190	\$3,355,765	\$371,575	12.45%
Transportation Aid*	\$2,438,406	\$2,897,431	\$459,025	18.82%
BOCES Aid	\$3,386,453	\$4,061,298	\$674,845	19.93%
Public High Cost Excess Cost Aid	\$435,752	\$494,167	\$58,415	13.41%
Private Excess Cost Aid	\$391,686	\$417,534	\$25,848	6.60%
Special Services Aid	\$0	\$0	\$0	N/A
Instructional Materials Aids				
Software Aid	\$83,394	\$82,195	(\$1,199)	-1.44%
Hardware & Technology Aid	\$53,620	\$59,886	\$6,266	11.69%
Textbook Aid	\$331,851	\$326,666	(\$5,185)	-1.56%
Library Materials Aid	\$34,793	\$34,294	(\$499)	-1.43%
Other Operating Aids				
Academic Enhancement Aid	\$0	\$0	\$0	N/A
Charter School Transitional Aid	\$0	\$0	\$0	N/A
High Tax Aid	\$1,623,853	\$1,623,853	\$0	0.00%
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	\$41,949,014	\$44,901,514	\$2,952,500	7.04%
Aid for Early Childhood Education				
Full Day Kindergarten Conversion Aid	\$0	\$0	\$0	N/A
Universal Prekindergarten Aid**	\$1,818,000	\$2,260,000	\$442,000	24.31%
Total School Aid	\$43,767,014	\$47,161,514	\$3,394,500	7.76%

The estimated Foundation Aid of \$31,548,425, accounts for only 15.3% of the District's total revenue budget

Universal Prekindergarten Aid goes directly to Community Based Organizations who operate under the UPK Grant Program



Plainview-Old Bethpage 2026-2027 Allowable Tax Levy Limit

The Property Tax Cap enacted in 2012 limits the annual school tax levy increase to the lesser of 2% or inflation, in accordance with New York State's School Tax Levy Limit Law and permitted exclusions.

Prior Year Tax Levy 2025-2026	\$147,171,558
x Tax Base Growth Factor	1.0078
+ Prior Year PILOTS	\$5,040,508
- Prior Year Exemptions (Capital Levy)	\$3,412,951
x Allowable Levy Growth Factor	1.0200
- Projected PILOTS for 2026-27	\$5,024,170
+ Available Carryover	\$0
Tax Levy Limit Before Exclusions	\$147,921,824
+ Exemptions for 2026-27 (Capital Levy Share)	\$5,143,913
Tax Levy Limit for 2026-27	\$153,065,737

The allowable tax levy increase for POB's 2026-27 annual school budget is 4.0%

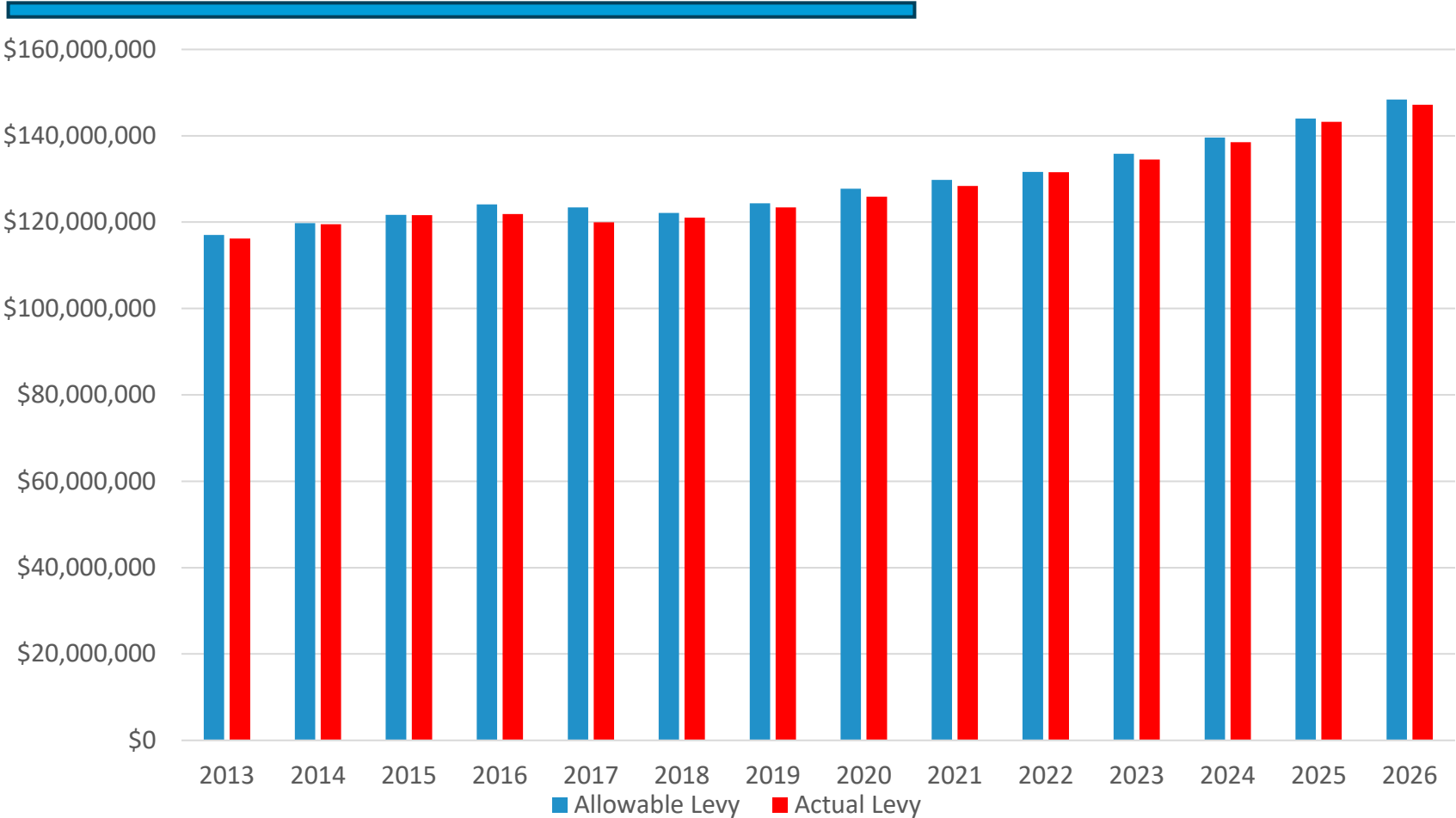


Allowable Tax Levy Threshold

- For the 2026-27 budget, the CPI is 2.9%, resulting in a CPI cap of 2.0% to be used for the tax levy threshold calculation before exclusions.
- For the 2026-27 budget, the tax base growth factor for Plainview-Old Bethpage (provided by the NYS Office of Real Property) reflects **1.0078** which is lower than the 25-26 growth factor of **1.0185**.
- The allowable tax levy increase for POB's 2026-27 annual school budget is 4.0%.
- The goal of the 2026-27 POB School Budget is to maintain the successful instructional and extra-curricular programs, while exercising careful stewardship of taxpayer resources.



Historical Maximum Allowable Tax Levy vs. Actual Tax Levy



Year	Allowable Levy	Actual Levy
2013	3.20%	2.49%
2014	3.08%	2.89%
2015	1.78%	1.76%
2016	2.03%	0.22%
2017	1.23%	-1.58%
2018	1.77%	0.86%
2019	2.75%	1.98%
2020	3.52%	1.99%
2021	3.10%	1.98%
2022	2.53%	2.49%
2023	3.25%	2.24%
2024	3.80%	2.99%
2025	3.92%	3.39%
2026	3.62%	2.75%

Our track record demonstrates consistent fiscal responsibility. Year after year, Plainview-Old Bethpage has chosen to levy below the maximum allowable amount, showing restraint and consideration for taxpayers even when facing rising costs.



Tax Levy Scenarios

School Tax Levy % Increase Option	School Tax Levy Total	Tax Levy % Under Allowable Limit	Tax Levy \$ Under Allowable Limit	Use of Reserves to Balance Budget
2.99%	\$151,571,690	1.01%	\$1,494,047	\$2,413,047
3.15%	\$151,806,463	0.85%	\$1,259,274	\$2,178,274
3.25%	\$151,953,635	0.75%	\$1,112,102	\$2,031,102
3.35%	\$152,100,806	0.65%	\$964,931	\$1,883,931
3.45%	\$152,248,977	0.55%	\$816,760	*\$1,735,760
3.55%	\$152,395,148	0.45%	\$670,589	\$1,589,589
3.65%	\$152,542,319	0.35%	\$523,418	\$1,442,418
3.75%	\$152,689,491	0.25%	\$376,246	\$1,295,246
3.85%	\$152,836,662	0.15%	\$229,075	\$1,148,075
3.95%	\$152,983,833	0.05%	\$81,904	\$1,000,904
4.00%	\$153,065,737	0.00%	\$0	\$919,000

Current
Recommended Tax
Levy

Allowable
Levy-to-Levy
Increase
Under NY
State Tax Levy
Formula

Current Recommended 3.45% Tax Levy Requires an additional \$816,760 in reserve use compared to the full allowable levy, increasing total reserve use from \$919,000 to **\$1,735,760.*

Each 0.10% reduction below the cap requires approximately \$73,600 in additional reserve use.



Why This Budget Is Responsible & Sustainable

- Uses reserves strategically, not permanently: The District is responsibly using fund balance and reserves to offset one-time costs and stabilize the tax levy, while maintaining reserves within New York State guidelines.
- Preserves core programs and while remaining within the class size guidelines: The budget maintains instructional programs, student supports, and class sizes with-in Board Of Education guidelines, with no broad program reductions.
- Absorbs rising mandated costs without cutting services: Rising increases in health insurance, pensions, utilities, transportation, and special education services are built into the budget while still protecting classroom instruction.
- No deficit spending: The budget is structurally balanced, recurring costs are supported by recurring revenues, with reserves used only for one-time needs.
- Student services and special education: Rising tuition, mandated services, and transportation costs are fully funded.
- Facilities and safety: Ongoing building maintenance, health & safety improvements, and infrastructure needed repairs are included tied to building conditions survey reports.
- Technology & instructional resources: Supports classroom learning, cybersecurity, and District operations.



Projected Revenue

Revenue Source	2025-26 Revenue Budget	2026-27 Estimated Revenue	\$ Increase	% Increase
Tax Levy	\$147,171,558	\$152,248,977	\$5,077,419	3.45%
PILOTS	\$5,040,508	\$5,024,170	(\$16,338)	(.32%)
State Aid	\$41,979,247	\$44,901,514	\$2,922,267	6.96%
Interest	\$750,000	\$750,000	\$0	0%
Lease Rentals	\$744,342	\$773,559	\$29,217	3.93%
Other/ Miscellaneous	\$348,800	\$362,500	\$13,700	3.93%
Use of Reserves	\$1,369,872	\$1,735,760	\$365,888	26.71%
TOTAL	\$197,404,327	\$205,796,480	8,392,153	4.25%

The budget increase is primarily driven by contractual obligations and mandated costs, with additional state aid and a modest levy increase offset by responsible reserve use to balance the plan.



2026 – 2027 Budget Development, Next Steps

Public Budget Workshops

February 9, 2026 <i>Budget Workshop #1</i> • Superintendent's Proposed Budget & Tax Levy • Technology • Facilities Budget	April 13, 2026 <i>Budget Adoption</i>
February 23, 2026 <i>Budget Workshop #2</i> • 4th R, Adult Ed, Senior Citizens Budget • Athletics & Health • Transportation • Tax Levy Limit Submission • Capital Reserve Discussion	April 20, 2026 <i>Board of Education Meeting</i>
March 9, 2026 <i>Budget Workshop #3</i> • Curriculum • Elementary, Middle & High Schools • Music & Arts • Pupil Personnel Services	May 11, 2026 <i>Public Budget Hearing</i>
March 25, 2026 <i>Budget Workshop #4</i> • Human Resources & Safety • Staffing & Class Size	May 19, 2026 <i>Annual Budget Vote</i>



Questions & Discussion

Your Vote Matters!



Tuesday, May 19, 2026

- 6:00am-9:00pm
- Jamaica Avenue School
- Mattlin Middle School-
Administration Offices

2026-2027 Budget Website

