

Shelter Island UFSD 2026-2027 Proposed Budget



*“Protecting Today’s Programs and Early Learning
While Building Financial Stability for the Future”*

Board of Education Meeting of March 2, 2026

Budget Options

Presentation #3

ACCOMPLISHMENTS



National Recognition & AP Success

- *Ongoing Substantial Progress: 2025 US News & World Best High School (Top 18%) & 2025 Niche.com Best College Prep (Top 15%).*
- *Sole Suffolk County district with 2025 AP Platinum designation.*



Sustained Academic Growth & Performance

- *Sustained Continuous Improvement: Outperforming Suffolk County Averages in ELA & Mathematics State Exams.*
- *Continuous Exceptional Performance on Regents Exams & AP Exams.*



Forward-Looking Education

- *Ongoing Expansion of Offerings: College Level Courses.*
- *Implementing Innovative ELA, Math, and Science Curriculum (Year 4).*

Cuts/Cost Savings Already Implemented Since 2020

- Eliminated the Business Official position, reducing administrative staff from four positions to three.
- Reduced ENL staffing from 2.0 FTE to 1.5 FTE.
- Reduced Physical Education staffing from 2.0 FTE to 1.5 FTE.
- Gradually reduced the Social Worker position from 1.0 FTE to 0.6, then 0.4, and ultimately eliminated the position.
- Eliminated the Technology Assistant position (1.0 FTE).
- In total, these changes represent a reduction of four full-time positions over six years.
- Transitioned from a private transportation company to a partnership with the East Hampton School District results in an annual savings of approximately \$150,000.

Average % School Tax of Property Tax Bill

Location School	Tax (% of Total Property Tax Bill)
Sag Harbor	76%
East Hampton	75%
Southampton	72%
Southold	63%
Wading River	60%
Mattituck	58%
Riverhead	52%
Montauk	50%
Shelter Island	42%

Cost Per Pupil



- Shelter Island is 9th out of 21 for school districts cost per pupil.*
- *Shelter Island, despite having additional costs of living on an island, is \$10,201,647 (77%) less than the district that almost mimics the student size and district makeup (K-12).*

District	Total spending (2025-26)	Enrollment (2025-26)	Per-pupil spending				
Amagansett	\$14,048,403	144	97,558	Oysterponds	\$5,841,258	105	55,631
Bridgehampton	\$23,499,778	201	116,914	Quogue	\$10,949,552	93	117,737
East Hampton	\$88,140,847	1,643	53,646	Remsenburg-Speonk	\$16,794,247	269	62,432
East Quogue	\$32,321,141	365	88,551	Riverhead*	\$192,437,458	5,439	35,381
Fire Island	\$6,098,125	41	148,735	Sag Harbor	\$52,360,463	903	57,985
Fishers Island	\$4,376,221	60	72,937	Shelter Island	\$13,298,131	190	69,990
Greenport	\$26,999,058	678	39,763	Southampton	\$82,236,400	1,150	71,510
Hampton Bays	\$67,495,698	2,070	32,607	Southold	\$35,629,000	630	56,554
Mattituck-Cutchoque	\$46,765,442	965	48,462	Springs	\$38,411,791	661	58,112
Montauk	\$24,564,115	329	74,663	Tuckahoe	\$25,678,063	375	68,475
				Westhampton Beach	\$66,756,249	1,568	42,574

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Shelter Island, despite having additional costs of living on an island, is \$10,201,647 (77%) less than the district that almost mimics the student size and district makeup (K-12).

Changes Since Last Meeting

- Savings of \$107,000 by restructuring salary and benefit programs for select staff
- Savings of \$25,000 by renewing intermunicipal agreement with East Hampton UFSD for most transportation needs

Budget In Summary, To Date...

	2025-2026 Adopted Budget	2026-2027 Proposed Budget	Percent Change
Board of Education	\$133,451	\$141,013	5.67%
Central & Business Administration	\$744,635	\$780,708	4.84%
Facilities	\$938,742	\$958,995	2.16%
Property Insurance and BOCES Administration	\$224,020	\$241,579	7.84%
Academic Administration and General Instruction	\$3,671,396	\$3,746,960	2.06%
Special Education and Other Instruction	\$2,236,577	\$2,313,503	3.44%
Clubs and Athletics	\$297,923	\$307,365	3.17%
Transportation	\$516,425	\$520,221	0.73%
Benefits	\$3,936,899	\$4,277,265	8.65%
Debt Service	\$428,783	\$442,394	3.17%
Transfer to Other Funds	\$169,290	\$184,290	8.86%
Total	\$13,298,141	\$13,914,292	4.63%

All figures are subject to adjustment.



To Summarize...

	Dollar Value	Percent Change From Prior Year
Allowable Levy Under Cap Formula	\$12,000,754	2.20%
Levy Increasing 7%	\$12,564,188	7.00%
Expenditure Budget with the 7% Levy Increase	\$13,623,188	2.44%
Expenditure Budget at Present (see prior slide)	\$13,914,292	4.63%
Levy Increase for Expenditure Budget at Present	\$12,855,291	9.48%
Additional Cuts Needed to Meet 7% Levy Increase	\$291,103	

All figures are subject to adjustment.



Budget Outlook: Tax Cap Pierce

- A budget that preserves all programs and restores Pre-K 3 would require a tax levy increase of more than 10%.
 - Such an increase is irresponsible to the taxpayers of the Island.
- The Administration is designing a budget that carries a 7% tax levy increase.
 - This figure was selected because it allows the District to preserve as much of its existing program as possible while still being mindful of its responsibility to taxpayers.



Other Potential Cost Savings Ideas On The Horizon

- The Governor's budget proposes State Aid of \$10,000 per UPK student.
 - Despite offering a locally funded Pre-K program, the District is not yet a participant in the State's UPK grant program.
 - If the District is admitted to the program, and if the Legislature enacts the Governor's proposal, the District would save **\$100,000** in local tax levy funds next year.
- Additional staff restructuring could result in an additional **\$60,000** in savings.
- Efforts to expand collaboration with the East Hampton School District are ongoing.
- The district is still investigating further collaborations to save money.

Budget - Next Steps

- The District will continue to monitor developments in educational needs for next year between now and when the budget must be finalized.
- The District will also continue to monitor any changes in the proposed state aid. The Legislature is *expected* to adopt a budget on or before April 1, 2026.
- The budget presentations will continue, following the schedule on the next slide.

Next Time...

- March 16, 2026 - Budget Overview - 5:30 pm, Conference Room
- March 30, 2026 - Budget Meeting *IF NEEDED*, 5:30 pm, Conference Room
- April 20, 2026 - Board Adopts Budget - 5:30 pm, Conference Room
- May 11, 2026 - Public Budget Hearing - 5:30 pm, Conference Room
- May 19, 2026 - Budget Vote & Board Member Elections, 10:00 am - 8:00 pm, Gymnasium (NEW HOURS)

