

SWEET HOME CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

2026-27 Budget Study

Session #2



Tuesday, March 10, 2026
Sweet Home Board of Education

EVERY STUDENT, ONE COMMUNITY, READY FOR THE FUTURE.

Timeline

Budget Process & School Board Elections Important Dates

Detail	Deadline
Final Tax Cap Calculations Due to the State	March 1, 2026
School Board Candidate Nominating Petitions Due*	April 20, 2026
Last Day for BOE Adoption of Proposed Budget	April 24, 2026
Property Tax Report Cards Due	April 27, 2026
Required Public Hearing on Proposed Budget	May 5 - 12, 2026
Annual Budget Vote & School Board Election	May 19, 2026

**Term of Peter Bellanti expires on June 30, 2026*



Budget Development

2026-27 Budget Development Process Sweet Home Dates

Detail	Deadline
Budget Development: Update State Aid & Property Tax Cap Calculation, Meet with Administrators & Department Heads to review Budgetary Needs, Initial BOCES participation meeting, Meet with Financial Advisor to review aid projections & debt service	January / February 2026
Budget Study Session #1: Program Maintenance Budget based on Executive Proposal / Budget Development Objectives & Priorities	February 7, 2026
Budget Study Session #2: Preliminary Budget / Estimated Revenues & Updates / Staffing Recommendations	March 10, 2026
Budget Study Session #3: Budget Update Discussion / NYS Budget Completion & Final State Aid runs	April 14, 2026
Budget Hearing / BOE 2026-27 Budget Adoption	April 21, 2026
Annual Budget Vote & School Board Election	May 19, 2026



2026-27 Budget Process

- ***Completed Work:***

- **Determine where BOE is at with Tax Cap, bus purchase & use of reserves**
- **Finalize BOCES participation numbers to realize any savings**
- **Work through budget line-by-line to realize any operational expenses**

- ***On-going work:***

- **Work through retirements / impact on staffing & budget**
- **Prioritize any additional needs from admin team including staffing**
- **Examine / solidify salaries**
- **Monitor any updates on State Aid, Sales tax and interest income projections**
- **Review use of all federal funds and any potential impact on the budget**
- **Information on NY 44 Trust Health contribution increase, if any**



A Closer Look: State Aid

Aid Category	2024-25	2025-26	Increase	2026-27 Projection*	Increase
Basic Foundation Aid	\$23,530,000	\$26,787,000	\$3,257,000	\$27,200,000	\$413,000
Excess Costs / Transportation	\$5,700,000	\$6,300,000	\$600,000	\$6,550,000	\$250,000
Building Aid	\$3,400,000	\$3,600,000	\$200,000	\$3,600,000	\$0
BOCES Aid	\$1,650,000	\$1,725,000	\$75,000	\$1,800,000*	\$75,000*
Textbook Aid	\$222,000	\$225,000	\$3,000	\$227,000	\$2,000
Computer Hardware Aid	\$53,000	\$54,000	\$1,000	\$52,000	-\$2,000
Computer Software Aid	\$62,000	\$65,000	\$3,000	\$67,000	\$2,000
Library Aid	\$25,000	\$28,000	\$3,000	\$30,000	\$2,000
TOTAL AID IN BUDGET	\$34,692,000	\$38,247,000	\$4,142,000	\$39,526,000	\$742,000

Year to Year Increase in Total Aid: \$742,000
 Year to Year Increase in Foundation Aid: \$413,000
 BOCES Aid Projection - \$1,800,000

****2026-27 Executive Proposal includes and additional \$690,000 in UPK Aid. UPK Aid with flow through special fund and is not recognized here. Potential savings would come on expense side of the budget.***

Year to Year Increase in Total Aid with UPK additional funding: \$1,432,000



A Closer Look: Tax Cap

Increase from 25-26:

→ \$1,796,943 // 3.30%

Key Factors / Notes:

→ Growth factor 1.0025 for this year / 1.0000 last year

→ Includes:

- 4 large passenger electric buses @ \$164,965 each
- 3 larger passenger diesel buses @ \$183,796 each
- 2 small passenger diesel wheelchair buses @ \$161,957 each
- 1 small passenger diesel bus @ \$133,218

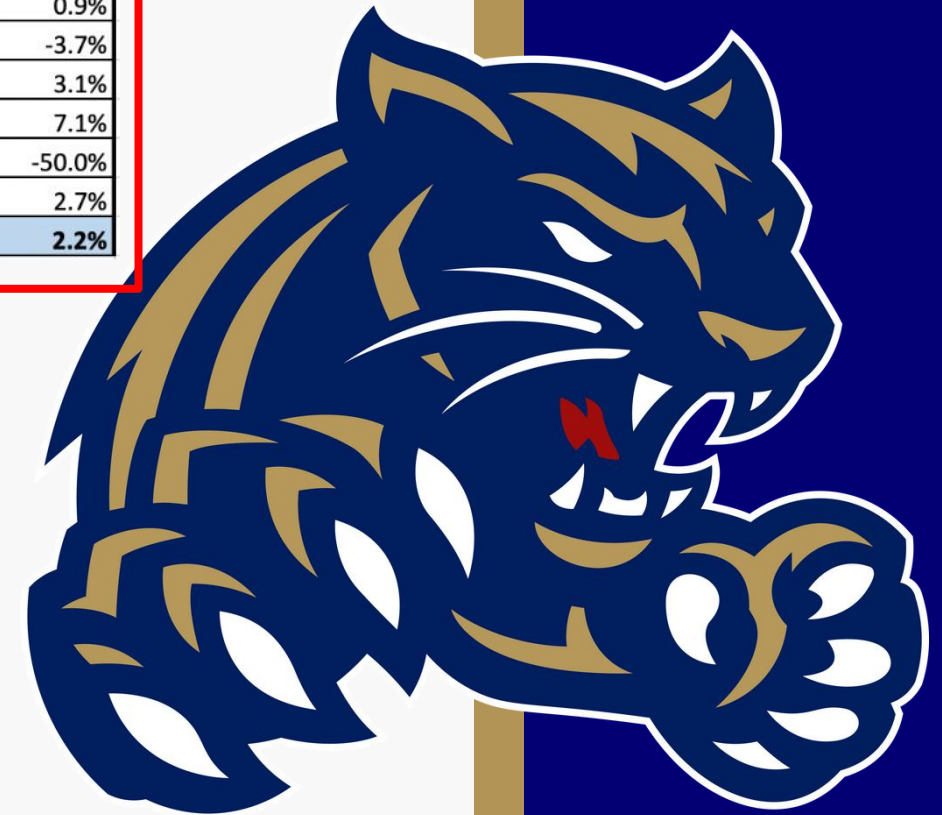
Tax Levy Threshold Calculation-Draft #2		
3/1/2026		
A.	Total Real Property Tax Levy for Base Year	\$54,486,662
B.	Tax Base Growth Factor (minimum of 1.0)	1.0025
C.	Product of A * B	\$54,622,879
D.	Base Year PILOTS	\$490,000
E.	Sum of C + D	\$55,112,879
F.	Base Year Capital Tax Levy	\$4,432,736
G.	Difference of E - F	\$50,680,143
H.	Allowable Levy Growth Factor based on CPI	1.0200
I.	Product of G * H	\$51,693,746
J.	Budget Year PILOTS	\$500,000
K.	Difference of I - J	\$51,193,746
L.	Equals Tax Levy Limit	\$51,193,746
M.	Budget Year Torts and Judgements above 5% of Levy	\$0
N.	Budget Year Capital Tax Levy	\$5,089,859
O.	Budget Year Pension Expense above 2% increase in rate	\$0
	Eligible Prior Year Carryover	\$0
P.	Tax Levy Limit Adjusted for Transfers + Exclusions (Sum L-O)	\$56,283,605
W.	Total Tax Levy Percentage Increase	3.30%



A Closer Look: Total Revenue

ACCOUNT CODE	ACCOUNT NAME	2022-23 BUDGET	2023-24 BUDGET	AMOUNT CHANGE	PERCENT CHANGE	2024-25 BUDGET	AMOUNT CHANGE	PERCENT CHANGE	2025-26 BUDGET	2026-27 BUDGET	AMOUNT CHANGE	PERCENT CHANGE
1001.0	REAL PROPERTY TAXES	\$53,321,588	\$53,321,588	\$0	0.0%	\$54,268,072	\$946,484	1.8%	\$54,486,662	\$56,283,605	\$1,796,943	3.3%
1040.0	APPROPRIATED FUND BALANCE	\$2,420,000	\$2,420,000	\$0	0.0%	\$2,420,000	\$0	0.0%	\$2,420,000	\$2,420,000	\$0	0.0%
1040.1	USE OF RETIREMENT CONTRIBUTION RESERVE	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$0	0.0%	\$50,000	\$0	0.0%	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$0	0.0%
1040.2	USE OF UNEMPLOYMENT RESERVE	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0%	\$0	\$0	0.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0%
1040.3	USE OF EMPLOYEE BENEFITS LIAB. RESERVE	\$0	\$1,100,000	\$1,100,000	0.0%	\$220,350	(\$879,650)	0.0%	\$220,350	\$0	(\$220,350)	-100.0%
1040.4	USE OF WORKERS COMP. RESERVE	\$75,000	\$75,000	\$0	0.0%	\$75,000	\$0	0.0%	\$75,000	\$75,000	\$0	0.0%
1040.5	USE OF TAX CERTIORARI RESERVE	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0%	\$0	\$0	0.0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0%
1040.6	USE OF DEBT SERVICE RESERVE	\$705,000	\$800,000	\$95,000	13.5%	\$515,000	(\$285,000)	-35.6%	\$300,000	\$0	(\$300,000)	-100.0%
1081.0	PAYMENT IN LIEU OF TAXES	\$558,000	\$558,000	\$0	0.0%	\$505,000	(\$53,000)	-9.5%	\$557,000	\$750,000	\$193,000	34.6%
1120.0	NON-PROP TAXES-SALES TAX	\$3,900,000	\$4,500,000	\$600,000	15.4%	\$5,100,000	\$600,000	13.3%	\$5,450,000	\$5,700,000	\$250,000	4.6%
1315.0	COMM ED TUITION & FEES	\$115,000	\$95,000	(\$20,000)	-17.4%	\$95,000	\$0	0.0%	\$75,000	\$75,000	\$0	0.0%
2230.0	TUITION-OTH DIST-FOSTER	\$75,000	\$100,000	\$25,000	33.3%	\$100,000	\$0	0.0%	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$0	0.0%
2230.2	TUITION-OTHER DISTRICTS	\$575,000	\$300,000	(\$275,000)	-47.8%	\$300,000	\$0	0.0%	\$300,000	\$200,000	(\$100,000)	-33.3%
2401.0	INTEREST	\$150,000	\$140,000	(\$10,000)	-6.7%	\$165,000	\$25,000	17.9%	\$505,000	\$650,000	\$145,000	28.7%
2413.0	RENT REAL PROPERTY-BOCES	\$440,000	\$455,000	\$15,000	3.4%	\$490,000	\$35,000	7.7%	\$520,000	\$530,000	\$10,000	1.9%
3101.0	STATE AID-BASIC FORMULA	\$17,500,000	\$21,675,000	\$4,175,000	23.9%	\$23,530,000	\$1,855,000	8.6%	\$26,250,000	\$27,200,000	\$950,000	3.6%
3101.0	STATE AID-BUILDING AID	\$2,050,000	\$3,300,000	\$1,250,000	61.0%	\$3,400,000	\$100,000	3.0%	\$3,600,000	\$3,600,000	\$0	0.0%
3101.1	ST AID-EXCESS COST	\$4,555,000	\$5,150,000	\$595,000	13.1%	\$5,700,000	\$550,000	10.7%	\$6,450,000	\$6,550,000	\$100,000	1.6%
3103.0	BOCES AID	\$1,600,000	\$1,600,000	\$0	0.0%	\$1,650,000	\$50,000	3.1%	\$1,720,000	\$1,800,000	\$80,000	4.7%
3104.0	STATE AID-CHAPTER STUDENTS	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$0	0.0%	\$50,000	\$0	0.0%	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$0	0.0%
3260.0	TEXTBOOK AID	\$210,000	\$219,000	\$9,000	4.3%	\$222,000	\$3,000	1.4%	\$225,000	\$227,000	\$2,000	0.9%
3261.0	COMPUTER HARDWARE AID	\$49,000	\$51,000	\$2,000	4.1%	\$53,000	\$2,000	3.8%	\$54,000	\$52,000	(\$2,000)	-3.7%
3262.0	COMPUTER SOFTWARE AID	\$57,500	\$59,000	\$1,500	2.6%	\$62,000	\$3,000	5.1%	\$65,000	\$67,000	\$2,000	3.1%
3263.0	LIBRARY AID	\$20,500	\$22,000	\$1,500	7.3%	\$25,000	\$3,000	13.6%	\$28,000	\$30,000	\$2,000	7.1%
3289.0	STATE AID-OTHER	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0%	\$540,000	\$540,000	0.0%	\$1,200,000	\$600,000	(\$600,000)	-50.0%
-----	Other Receipts	\$875,000	\$846,000	(\$29,000)	-3.3%	\$875,000	\$29,000	3.4%	\$925,000	\$950,000	\$25,000	2.7%
	DISTRICT TOTALS	\$89,351,588	\$96,886,588	\$7,535,000	8.43%	\$100,410,422	\$3,523,834	3.6%	\$105,576,012	\$107,909,605	\$2,333,593	2.2%

2026-27 Revenue: \$107,909,605 / Increase: \$2,333,593 / 2.2%



A Closer Look: Expenses

2026-27 Cost Savings Measures Realized

Category	Increase/Decrease
Office of Instruction Contractual / Materials & Supplies	\$60,000
Various lines in BOCES Participation	\$240,000
Vendor contractual lines	\$115,000
Business Office Savings	\$40,000
TOTAL	\$455,000



A Closer Look: Cost Savings Measures

2026-27 Cost Savings Measures Added to Program Maintenance Budget

■ **Executive UPK Funding Expansion**

- Additional \$690,000 awarded to District in Executive Budget proposal
- Savings applied to salaries for aides, retirement system contributions and FICA

■ **Addition of 2 exceptional classrooms**

- Estimated net savings of \$450,000 applied to Special Education tuition line

■ **Hiring our own OT/PT staff**

- Estimated net savings of \$227,000 applied to Contracted OT/PT budget line



Program Maintenance: Snapshot

2026-27 Program Maintenance Budget Snapshot

Revenue Summary	2025-26	2026-27	2026-27 Percent Increase
Budgeted Revenues	\$105,576,012	\$107,909,605	2.2%
Local Tax Levy	\$54,486,662	\$56,283,605	3.3%

Expenditure Summary	2025-26	2026-27	2026-27 Percent Increase
Budgeted Expenditures	\$105,576,012	\$108,807,837	3.1%

Deficit: \$898,232



Program Maintenance: Snapshot

2026-27 Program Maintenance Budget Snapshot & Tax Rates w/Diesel Bus purchases

Assumptions:

- **Assessed Values remain at 2025 levels**
- Amherst Equalization Rate remains at 99%
- Tonawanda Equalization Rate remains at 21%
- Rates based on going to the tax cap limit of \$56,283,605 with buses - 3.30% Tax cap

School Tax on an Average Assessed Value Home				
	Amherst		Tonawanda	
	2025-26	2026-27	2025-26	2026-27
Equalization Rate	99.0%	99.0%	21.0%	21.0%
Assessed Value	\$247,500	\$247,500	\$52,500	\$52,500
Tax Rate	\$9.69	\$10.01	\$45.79	\$47.30
Calculated Tax Bill	\$2,398	\$2,477	\$2,404	\$2,483
Estimated Increase		\$79		\$79



2026-27 Budget Next Steps

- **Work through retirements / impact on staffing & budget**
- **Examine / solidify salaries / work through budget line-by-line**
Prioritize any additional needs from admin team including staffing
- **Review use of all federal funds and any potential impact on the budget**

- **Monitor any updates on State Aid, Sales tax and interest income projections**
 - **NYS Budget - April 1; sales tax & interest end of March**
- **Information on NY 44 Trust Health contribution increase, if any**
- **Adjust budget and report back to BOE at April 14 Study Session**



QUESTIONS?

