



2026-2027 Preliminary Budget Presentation
March 18, 2026

Board Members & Administration

Ms. Christina Hoggan – President

Mr. James Ivins – Vice President

Mr. Andrew Rochester

Mrs. Coby Sikorski

Mrs. Alicia Stevens

Mr. Scott Heino, Superintendent

Dr. Scott Hogan, Business Administrator

The Process

**September-
December - The
budget is developed
by department.**

**December- BA builds
rough draft of
budget based on
department budgets.**

**January/February -
Administration
meets with the BOE
in subcommittee to
discuss the details of
each departmental
budget.**

**February/March -
Superintendent and
BA meet with BOE
Finance Committee
to discuss the details
of the entire budget.**

**March - Preliminary
Budget is presented
to full board and
public at monthly
BOE meeting.**

Budget Calendar

Wednesday, March 18, 2026 – Preliminary budget presentation, discussion, and approval for submission to the Burlington County Department of Education (BCDOE).

Friday, March 27, 2026 – Deadline to submit board approved preliminary budget to Burlington County Office of Education.

Monday, April 20, 2026 – Deadline for county DOE to approve the preliminary budget.

Wednesday, April 29, 2026 - Public hearing of the 2026-2027 School Year Budget.

Budget Highlights



Continued support for the implementation of our MTSS



Ongoing 5-Year Curriculum Review Process



Funding to Support Our Summer Camp & ESY Programs



Expanding our preschool to 7 classrooms



Maintained all student programs and activities



Increase in health benefit rates (16.56%) is still lower than the State average (32%)

Budget Challenges

Decrease in
State Aid

Loss of Title
Funding

Increased
Costs

Annual
Increases in
Salaries and
Benefits

Health Benefits

\$485,965

Salaries

\$376,949

Utilities

\$94,794

Overall Budget Reduction

In addition to the personnel reductions, the Administrative Team was able to reduce departmental budgets by more than 10% for a savings of \$416,194.

Reduction of Positions - Attrition

- CST Member (Social Worker)
- Interventionist
- Grade Level Teacher (5th Grade)
- Grade Level Teacher (6th Grade)
 - Departmentalization
- Special Education Teacher

Possible Reduction of Positions - Financial

Grade Level Teacher - Kindergarten

Grade Level Teacher - 1st Grade

Special Education Teacher

HPE Teacher

Secretary

Custodian

Administrator

Superintendent's Recommendation

- Option C includes the addition of a new position called *Dean of Students*.
- Although Option C includes ALL staff reductions identified on Slide 8, the addition of the *Dean of Students* aligns with our work to revise and implement a new Code of Conduct.

Student Enrollment

(Projected 9/1/2026 based on 3/18/26 enrollment)

| GRADE LEVEL | NUMBER OF STUDENTS | NUMBER OF SECTIONS | AVERAGE CLASS SIZE |
|-------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| K | 65 (estimate) | 3 | 22 |
| 1 | 68 | 3 | 23 |
| 2 | 81 | 4 | 21 |
| 3 | 91 | 4 | 23 |
| 4 | 81 | 4 | 21 |
| 5 | 84 | 4 | 21 |
| 6 | 95 | 4 | 24 |

The History of Our State Aid

| School Year | \$ Amount | \$ Increase/ (Decrease) | % Increase/ (Decrease) |
|-------------|-------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| 2026-2027 | \$3,145,808 | \$(97,243)* | (3%)* |
| 2025-2026 | \$3,243,101 | \$(100,302)* | (3%)* |
| 2024-2025 | \$3,343,403 | \$(173,857) | (4.9%) |
| 2023-2024 | \$3,517,260 | \$(94,632) | (2.62%) |
| 2022-2023 | \$3,611,892 | \$313,109 | 9.49% |
| 2021-2022 | \$3,298,783 | \$541,038 | 19.62% |
| 2020-2021 | \$2,757,745 | \$100,450 | 3.78% |

*= Limited to a 3% reduction due to NJDOE imposed temporary limitation on reductions to state aid.

26-27 Revenue Options Summary

| Category | 2025-26 (current year) | 2026-27 Option A | 2026-27 Option B | 2026-27 Option C |
|--|---------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Local Tax Levy | \$10,213,696 | \$10,621,115 | \$10,507,952 | \$10,675,724 |
| State Aid | \$3,243,101 | \$3,145,808 | \$3,145,808 | \$3,145,808 |
| Tuition | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| Miscellaneous (Bank Interest, Solar Panels & Building Rentals) | \$232,900 | \$205,008 | \$205,008 | \$205,008 |
| Fund Balance | \$422,365 | \$469,453 | \$469,453 | \$469,453 |
| Withdrawal from Capital Reserve | \$90,000 | \$291,000 | \$291,000 | \$291,000 |
| Withdrawal from Maintenance Reserve | \$26,300 | \$124,750 | \$124,750 | \$124,750 |
| Total | \$14,228,362 | \$14,857,134 | \$14,743,970 | \$14,911,743 |

Revenue Breakdown Option A

| Category | 2025-26 | 2026-27 Option A | \$ Diff. | % Diff |
|--|--------------|---------------------|------------|----------|
| Local Tax Levy | \$10,213,696 | \$10,621,115 | \$407,419 | 3.98% |
| State Aid | \$3,243,101 | \$3,145,808 | \$(97,243) | (3%) |
| Tuition | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | 0% |
| Miscellaneous (Bank Interest, Solar Panels & Building Rentals) | \$232,900 | \$205,008 | \$(27,892) | (11.97%) |
| Fund Balance | \$422,365 | \$469,453 | \$47,088 | 11.14% |
| Withdrawal from Capital Reserve | \$90,000 | \$291,000 | \$201,000 | N/A |
| Withdrawal from Maintenance Reserve | \$26,300 | \$124,750 | \$98,450 | N/A |
| Total | \$14,228,362 | \$14,857,134 | \$628,772 | 4.42% |

Expenditures- Option A

| Category | 2026-2027 | % of Budget |
|--|---------------------|----------------|
| <i>Salaries</i> | \$8,207,231 | 56.14% |
| <i>Benefits</i> | \$2,716,906 | 19.24% |
| <i>Utilities (Gas, Water, Electric, etc.)</i> | \$267,500 | 1.8% |
| <i>Student Services</i> | \$1,212,969 | 8.16% |
| <i>Transportation</i> | \$541,441 | 3.64% |
| <i>Operational/Facilities/etc</i> | \$1,221,658 | 8.22% |
| <i>Capital/Maint. Reserve</i> | \$415,750 | 2.8% |
| Total | \$14,857,134 | 100.00% |

Revenue Breakdown Option B

| Category | 2025-26 | 2026-27 Option B | \$ Diff. | % Diff |
|--|--------------|---------------------|------------|----------|
| Local Tax Levy | \$10,213,696 | \$10,507,952 | \$294,256 | 2.88% |
| State Aid | \$3,243,101 | \$3,145,808 | \$(97,243) | (3%) |
| Tuition | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | 0% |
| Miscellaneous (Bank Interest, Solar Panels & Building Rentals) | \$232,900 | \$205,008 | \$(27,892) | (11.97%) |
| Fund Balance | \$422,365 | \$469,453 | \$47,088 | 11.14% |
| Withdrawal from Capital Reserve | \$90,000 | \$291,000 | \$201,000 | N/A |
| Withdrawal from Maintenance Reserve | \$26,300 | \$124,750 | \$98,450 | N/A |
| Total | \$14,228,362 | \$14,743,970 | \$515,608 | 3.62% |

Expenditures- Option B

| Category | 2026-2027 | % of Budget |
|--|---------------------|----------------|
| <i>Salaries</i> | \$8,150,649 | 55.28% |
| <i>Benefits</i> | \$2,660,324 | 18.04% |
| <i>Utilities (Gas, Water, Electric, etc.)</i> | \$267,500 | 1.81% |
| <i>Student Services</i> | \$1,486,648 | 10.08% |
| <i>Transportation</i> | \$541,441 | 3.67% |
| <i>Operational/Facilities/etc</i> | \$1,221,658 | 8.28% |
| <i>Capital/Maint. Reserve</i> | \$415,750 | 2.82% |
| Total | \$14,743,970 | 100.00% |

Revenue Breakdown Option C

| Category | 2025-26 | 2026-27 Option C | \$ Diff. | % Diff |
|--|--------------|---------------------|------------|----------|
| Local Tax Levy | \$10,213,696 | \$10,675,724 | \$462,028 | 4.52% |
| State Aid | \$3,243,101 | \$3,145,808 | \$(97,243) | (3%) |
| Tuition | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | 0% |
| Miscellaneous (Bank Interest, Solar Panels & Building Rentals) | \$232,900 | \$205,008 | \$(27,892) | (11.97%) |
| Fund Balance | \$422,365 | \$469,453 | \$47,088 | 11.14% |
| Withdrawal from Capital Reserve | \$90,000 | \$291,000 | \$201,000 | N/A |
| Withdrawal from Maintenance Reserve | \$26,300 | \$124,750 | \$98,450 | N/A |
| Total | \$14,228,362 | \$14,911,743 | \$683,381 | 4.8% |

Expenditures- Option C

| Category | 2026-2027 | % of Budget |
|---|---------------------|----------------|
| <i>Salaries</i> | \$8,315,387 | 55.76% |
| <i>Benefits</i> | \$2,663,359 | 17.86% |
| <i>Utilities (Gas, Water, Electric, & Sewer)</i> | \$267,500 | 1.79% |
| <i>Student Services</i> | \$1,486,648 | 9.97% |
| <i>Transportation</i> | \$541,441 | 3.63% |
| <i>Operational/Facilities/etc</i> | \$1,221,658 | 8.19% |
| <i>Capital/Maint. Reserve</i> | \$415,750 | 2.8% |
| Total | \$14,911,743 | 100.00% |

Capital & Maintenance Projects

| Title of Project | Budgeted Cost | Funding Source |
|--|--------------------|------------------|
| <i>Starting Capital Reserve Balance</i> | \$5,523,101 | Starting balance |
| Fire Pump Controls (Replacement) | \$40,000 | Capital Reserve |
| Preschool Playground (Construct) | \$236,000 | Capital Reserve |
| Hydraulic Lift (Facilities repairs) | \$15,000 | Capital Reserve |
| <i>Ending Capital Reserve Balance:</i> | \$5,232,101 | Ending balance |
| | | |
| <i>Starting Maintenance Reserve Balance</i> | \$668,520 | Starting balance |
| Stage Curtain (Repair) | \$11,500 | Maint. Reserve |
| Cleaning & Repairs (Interior & Exterior) | \$22,000 | Maint. Reserve |
| HVAC Maintenance Contract (Annual) | \$28,000 | Maint. Reserve |
| Parking Lot & Basketball Court (Repair & Reseal) | \$31,000 | Maint. Reserve |
| Security Repairs & Updates (Courtyard, Keys, & Communication) | \$32,250 | Maint. Reserve |
| <i>Ending Maintenance Reserve Balance:</i> | \$543,770 | Ending balance |

Debt Services Rev/Exp

| <u>Revenue</u> | <u>2025-2026</u> | <u>2026-2027</u> | <u>\$ Diff.</u> | <u>% Diff.</u> |
|----------------------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| <u>Revenue</u> | | | | |
| Local Tax Levy | \$1,791,065 | \$2,012,569 | \$32,587 | 12.37% |
| State Aid | \$339,061 | \$345,329 | \$6,268 | 1.84% |
| Withdrawal from Reserve | \$184,974 | \$0 | \$(184,974) | (100%) |
| Budgeted Fund Balance | \$2 | \$2 | 0 | N/A |
| Sub Total | \$2,315,100 | \$2,357,900 | \$42,800 | 1.84% |
| <u>Expenditures</u> | | | | |
| Bond Principal | \$1,475,000 | \$1,575,000 | \$100,000 | 6.78% |
| Bond Interest | \$840,100 | \$782,900 | \$(57,200) | (6.80%) |
| Sub Total | \$2,315,100 | \$2,357,900 | \$42,800 | 1.84% |

Bonds will be paid off by 6/30/2038

Debt Service Tax Levy

| School Year | \$ Amount | % Inc. |
|-------------|-------------|---------|
| 2026-2027 | \$2,012,569 | 12.36% |
| 2025-2026 | \$1,791,065 | 1.85% |
| 2024-2025 | \$1,758,278 | (10.7%) |
| 2023-2024 | \$1,969,675 | 0.03% |
| 2022-2023 | \$1,969,116 | 0.51% |
| 2021-2022 | \$1,959,158 | (.45%) |
| 2020-2021 | \$1,968,039 | .41% |

Tax Rate History

| Year | Net Taxable Valuation | Average Assess Home Value | School District's Tax Rate | Average Home Est. \$ Amount | \$Diff |
|------|-----------------------|---------------------------|--|---|--|
| 2026 | \$845,001,016 | \$394,734 | 1.495 (A) 1.482 (B) 1.502 (C) | \$5,813.50 (A) \$5,755.50 (B) \$5,841.50 (C) | \$208 (A) \$150 (B) \$236 (C) |
| 2025 | \$845,438,797 | \$395,149 | 1.42 | \$5,605.5 | \$104 |
| 2024 | \$842,664,916 | \$393,696 | 1.3974 | \$5,501.50 | \$(1.03) |
| 2023 | \$842,816,453 | \$393,319 | 1.399 | \$5,502.53 | \$(5.23) |
| 2022 | \$840,143,142 | \$392,604 | 1.403 | \$5,507.76 | \$(24.86) |
| 2021 | \$834,651,267 | \$392,031 | 1.411 | \$5,532.62 | \$(69.61) |
| 2020 | \$821,807,556 | \$390,612 | 1.434 | \$5,601.38 | \$(52.11) |
| 2019 | \$802,619,356 | \$391,516 | 1.444 | \$5,653.49 | \$(12.61) |
| 2018 | \$785,185,266 | \$390,496 | 1.451 | \$5,666.10 | \$(16.10) |

Net total tax increase per household from 2018-2026 is \$158.45 if using Option C.

IMPACT TO TAX PAYER: 2026 GENERAL FUND LEVY OPTIONS

PACKAGE A

Total General Fund
Levy: \$10,621,115

% Increase from
2025 Base: 3.99%

Annual Impact per
Avg. Household:
\$207.43

Monthly Impact per
Avg. Household:
\$17.29

PACKAGE B

Total General Fund
Levy: \$10,507,951

% Increase from
2025 Base: 2.88%

Annual Impact per
Avg. Household:
\$149.81

Monthly Impact per
Avg. Household:
\$12.48

PACKAGE C

Total General Fund
Levy: \$10,675,724

% Increase from
2025 Base: 4.52%

Annual Impact per
Avg. Household:
\$235.23

Monthly Impact per
Avg. Household:
\$19.60

All options include the mandatory 2% base increase (\$204,274) plus varying levels of the state-allowable Healthcare Enrollment Adjustment.



ANY QUESTIONS?

Thank you!