



Chester Union Free School District

2026-27 Proposed Budget

Facilities
Transportation
Athletics

March 25, 2026

Board of Education Meeting



2026-2027 Budget Priorities

Investing in Excellence

CUFSD VISION

The Chester School District develops global leaders by providing students with learning opportunities that foster critical thinking, creativity, collaboration, and communication. Students engage in authentic applications that support inquiry and innovation through partnerships with their community, local businesses, and higher education.

CUFSD MISSION





2026-2027 Budget Priorities

Investing in Excellence

CHESTER GRADUATES ARE



Effective Communicators



Dynamic Collaborators



Innovative Problem Solvers



Digital Strategists



Ethical Citizens



Empowered Learners



2026-2027 Budget Priorities

Investing in Excellence

Strengthening Academic Excellence through Programs & Staffing

Data-driven instructional priorities, professional development, and strategic staffing to maximize student learning and achievement.

Advancing College & Career Pathways, Partnerships & Communication

Future-focused education through business & community partnerships and integrated communication platforms.

Optimizing Infrastructure for Safety, Security & Sustainability

Facility security, energy-efficient improvements, and technology upgrades that safeguard and modernize student learning environments.



2026-2027 Budget *Investing in Excellence*

The 2026–2027 budget reflects a disciplined approach to aligning resources with operational priorities and student needs. Targeted investments in **facilities**, **transportation**, and **athletics** are united by a commitment to **safety**, strengthening high-quality environments that support student performance and engagement.

This budget prioritizes safety, **operational effectiveness**, and long-term sustainability across facilities, transportation, and athletics, ensuring every system is aligned to support student success.



Facilities



Transportation



Athletics

SAFETY & SECURITY



2026-2027 Budget *Investing in Excellence*

Facilities

Transportation

Athletics

Investments in facilities ensure safe, modern, and well-maintained learning environments that support student performance and well-being. Priorities include targeted upgrades, proactive maintenance, and long-term planning to extend the life of our buildings and infrastructure. Safety remains central to all facility improvements, ensuring spaces that protect and support students, staff, and the broader school community.



2026-2027 Budget *Investing in Excellence*

Facilities

Transportation

Athletics

Transportation services ensure safe and efficient access to school, programs, and activities for all students, including those attending out-of-district placements. As one of the district's areas with notable cost increases, the budget reflects careful management of contracted services while addressing increased expenses and planning for continued growth driven by ongoing residential development. This future-focused approach ensures we remain responsive to evolving transportation needs while maintaining efficiency and safety for all students.



2026-2027 Budget *Investing in Excellence*

Facilities

Transportation

Athletics

Athletics programming is supported through investments in high-quality equipment, well-maintained facilities, and dedicated coaching staff, strengthening a competitive and rewarding experience for our students. Continued investment in assistant coaches enhances supervision and supports skill development. In addition, improved communication strengthens program clarity, expectations, and the overall student experience.

Safety remains a central focus, with ongoing investments in well-maintained fields, equipment, and protocols that protect student-athletes in both practice and competition.



Facilities: Buildings and Grounds

Buildings and Grounds represents about 7% of the total budget, yet supports the cleaning, maintenance, and repair of a significant district footprint, including:

- ❑ 200,000+ square feet of building space
- ❑ 40 acres of outdoor grounds
- ❑ 100,000 square feet of pavement

This department plays a critical role in maintaining safe, clean, and well-maintained facilities that directly support student experience and safety, while also supporting teaching and learning, extracurricular programs, athletics, and community use of our schools.



Facilities: Buildings and Grounds

The 2026–2027 budget advances safe, efficient, and high-quality learning environments through targeted improvements that address aging infrastructure and ensure reliable daily operations. Key highlights include:

- ❑ **CA Domestic Hot Water Boiler Replacement** – A key component of the district’s predictive maintenance program, ensuring reliable operation, system efficiency, and continuous equipment uptime.
- ❑ **CA Roof Repairs (In-House)** – Ongoing repairs to maintain structural integrity, prevent water intrusion, and extend the life of roofing systems.
- ❑ **District Asphalt Repairs** – Addressing damaged walkways and pavement surfaces to improve safety, accessibility, and overall campus conditions.
- ❑ **CES Hallway Flooring Replacement** – Replacing worn flooring to enhance safety, durability, and the overall learning environment.
- ❑ **CA Water Fountain/Bottle Filler Replacement** – Upgrading units to improve functionality and provide safe, modern access to drinking water.



Facilities: Buildings and Grounds

Staffing for the 2026-2027 Budget

- ❑ **1.0 Director of Facilities** – Responsible for the oversight and management of all district facilities, including daily operations, long-term maintenance planning, safety, security and staff coordination. Serves as the primary facilities liaison with NYSED, architects, engineers, and county and state safety officials. Also serves as the district's Licensed Asbestos Coordinator.
- ❑ **1.0 Maintenance Mechanic** – Performs skilled repairs and systems maintenance across all facilities.
- ❑ **3.0 Assistant Maintenance Mechanics** – Support general building upkeep, custodial assistance, and routine repairs.
- ❑ **1.0 Grounds Staff** – Maintains outdoor fields, landscaping, and paved areas.

In addition to district-employed staff, the 2026-27 budget continues our contract with BOCES for cleaning and maintenance support, recognizing the ongoing value these services provide in maintaining safe and well-kept facilities.



Facilities: Buildings and Grounds

Staffing for the 2026-2027 Budget

Emergency Planning & Safety Support (BOCES Aidable Service)

- ❑ **Emergency Planning Technician (BOCES Support)** — Provides on-site, professional safety leadership one day per week through an aidable BOCES service.
- ❑ **Collaborative Safety Planning** — Works in partnership with OU BOCES Health & Safety, local law enforcement, Atlas Security, district administration, and Building-Level Emergency Response Teams (BERT) to strengthen coordinated planning efforts.
- ❑ **Preparedness & Compliance** — Supports district alignment with NYSED regulations, emergency planning requirements, and school safety best practices.
- ❑ **Prevention & Response Capabilities** — Enhances prevention strategies, emergency preparedness, and incident response coordination across the district.
- ❑ **Strategic & Operational Support** — Serves as a strategic advisor and operational facilitator, ensuring district safety efforts remain proactive, coordinated, and sustainable.



Transportation

The District's primary transportation routes were carefully analyzed using district staff and routing software to ensure efficiency and student safety.

The 2026-27 budget includes a significant increase in transportation costs, driven primarily by anticipated growth from the continued development of the Greens of Chester, as well as the need to support all current and emerging transportation needs across the district.

This increase reflects proactive planning for future non-public transportation route needs, ensuring we remain responsive to the evolving demands of our community while maintaining safe and reliable student transportation.



Athletics

The 2026–27 budget continues to support a comprehensive range of athletic opportunities for students. Programs and team levels will reflect student interest, ensuring competitive opportunities and leadership development.

- ❑ **Athletic Participation Opportunities** — The district currently supports 35 athletic teams across three seasons, providing 465 student-athlete participations.
- ❑ **Multiple Opportunities for Student Involvement** — This total reflects individual team participation, with students counted for each sport in which they actively participate, highlighting opportunities for multi-sport involvement.
- ❑ **Strong Student Engagement** — The majority of students in grades 7–12 participate in at least one sport, demonstrating the significant role athletics play in student engagement, school pride, and overall well-being.





Athletics

Assistant Coach Compensation

The 2026–27 budget continues to support stipends for assistant coaches strengthening student supervision, safety, and skill development across athletic programs.

- ❑ **Enhanced Student Safety & Supervision** — Additional coaching support helps ensure appropriate supervision and safe participation during practices and competitions.
- ❑ **Skill Development & Mentorship** — Assistant coaches provide individualized instruction, mentorship, and leadership development opportunities for student-athletes.
- ❑ **Program Sustainability & Growth** — Expanded support strengthens program stability, encourages student participation, and helps maintain competitive opportunities.
- ❑ **Attracting & Retaining Qualified Coaches** — Competitive stipends help recruit and retain qualified coaching staff to support a comprehensive athletic program.



All coaches must meet New York State requirements, including First Aid, CPR/AED, concussion management, and DASA training, ensuring student safety and program compliance.



Athletics

The athletic budget for the 2026–27 school year supports a wide range of needs essential to maintaining a safe, equitable, and competitive program for students, including:

- ❑ **Coaching stipends (*head and assistant coaches*):** Support leadership, student supervision, and skill development to provide safe, structured, and competitive athletic opportunities.
- ❑ **Training and certifications:** Required NYS safety and coaching credentials.
- ❑ **Uniforms and equipment:** To appropriately outfit our teams, and to avoid large expenditures in any one year, a rotating schedule of uniform replacement is utilized for all levels.



This year's budget continues to allocate stipends for assistant coaches, supporting student supervision, safety, and skill development.



Athletics

The athletic budget also includes critical support services that ensure the safety, organization, and compliance of the overall program:

- ❑ **Medical coverage:** Ambulance services/EMS are budgeted for identified high-risk athletic events to ensure immediate medical response and student safety.
- ❑ **First aid supplies:** Critical, accessible resources that ensure timely and effective medical response during athletic events.
- ❑ **Chaperones and security:** Budgeted for select events to ensure appropriate supervision, maintain order, and support a safe environment for students and spectators.
- ❑ **Clerical support:** Assists with scheduling, documentation, athletic compliance, and coordination of logistics, helping the program run efficiently.





Athletics

The athletic budget for the 2026–27 school year supports a wide range of needs essential to maintaining a safe, equitable, and competitive program for students, including:

- ❑ **Officials and Referees**

Ensure fair play and enforce rules during competitions.

- ❑ **League and Sectional Fees**

Support student participation in interscholastic athletics and postseason play.

- ❑ **Insurance and Administrative Costs**

Provide necessary coverage, risk management, and operational oversight for athletic programs.





Athletics

ADDITIONAL SUPPORTS

(Funded Outside the Athletic Budget)

While the athletic budget directly supports coaching, equipment, and event operations, several key services that make athletics possible are funded through other departments:

- ❑ **Transportation to and from competitions** – Funded through the transportation budget.
- ❑ **Facility maintenance and field preparation** – Supported by the facilities budget.





Athletics

Staffing – Athletics Program

❑ **Athletic Director**

Plays a vital role in overseeing the entire athletic program, including compliance, scheduling, communication with leagues and officials, and coordination of coaches and events. Responsibilities are shared with teaching duties; not currently a stand-alone position.

❑ **Athletics Secretary**

Provides critical clerical support for scheduling, compliance, and coordination of events.

❑ **Coaches / Assistant Coaches**

Responsible for team leadership, supervision, safety, and skill development.





Athletics

Staffing – Athletics Program

❑ Chaperones

Support student supervision and safety during home games and large events.

❑ Game Support Staff

Ensure smooth operation of home competitions and meet league requirements (*scorekeepers, shot clock operators*).

❑ Security Personnel

Provide crowd control and safety during high-attendance or higher-risk events.





Athletics

BOCES Athletic Services

- ❑ **League & Section Memberships** — Includes OCIAA, Section IX, and NYSPHSAA dues, providing students access to organized interscholastic athletic competition.
- ❑ **Game Officials** — Covers payment for certified officials for all home contests, ensuring fair, regulated, and compliant athletic competitions.
- ❑ **Athletic Software (HUDL)** — Supports performance analysis, game film review, and coaching tools that enhance instruction, player development, and competitive preparation.



These services ensure compliance with interscholastic athletic requirements while supporting competitive, well-organized athletic programs for students.



Facilities: Buildings and Grounds

ACCOUNT	DESCRIPTION	2026-27 PROPOSED	2025-26 ADOPTED	2024-25 ADOPTED
OPERATIONS				
A 1620.160-00-00	DIST. CUST. SALARIES	70,263	66,902	64,300
A 1620.160-03-00	CA NONINSTRUCTIONAL SALARIES			77,400
A 1620.168-01-00	CUST. SAL.-OT-CES			12,500
A 1620.168-03-00	CUST. SAL.-OT-CA	10,000	10,000	12,500
A 1620.170-01-00	CUST. SAL.-SUBS/SUMMER CES	10,000	11,000	30,500
A 1620.170-02-00	CUST. SAL. SUBS/SUMMER CA	19,500	24,000	30,500
A 1620.400-16-01	STAFF DEVELOPMENT CES	2,250	2,250	3,500
A 1620.400-16-02	STAFF DEVELOPMENT CA	2,250	2,250	3,500
A 1620.404-01-00	ELECTRIC/HEAT - CES	155,000	160,000	146,300
A 1620.404-03-00	ELECTRIC - CA	275,000	275,000	272,600
A 1620.406-01-00	GAS - CES	110,000	106,000	106,400
A 1620.406-03-00	GAS - CA	165,000	165,000	163,500
A 1620.439-01-00	TELEPHONE - CES	5,000	5,000	4,700
A 1620.439-03-00	TELEPHONE - CA	15,000	14,000	13,000
A 1620.450-01-00	MATERIALS & SUPPLIES - CES	15,000	15,000	25,900
A 1620.450-03-00	SUPPLIES & MATERIALS - CA	25,000	25,000	25,900
TOTAL OPERATIONS:		879,263	881,402	993,000



Facilities: Buildings and Grounds

		2026-27	2025-26	2024-25
ACCOUNT	DESCRIPTION	PROPOSED	ADOPTED	ADOPTED
MAINTENANCE				
A 1621.160-00-00	DIST. MAINT. SALARIES	354,500	339,875	206,800
A 1621.160-01-00	MAINT. SAL. - CES			72,800
A 1621.160-03-00	MAINT. SAL. - CA			49,100
A 1621.200-01-01	GROUNDS EQUIPMENT		40,000	15,000
A 1621.200-03-01	BUILDING EQUIPMENT	49,000	135,000	
A 1621.400-01-00	OTHER CONTRACT EXPENSES - CES	46,000	20,000	21,528
A 1621.400-03-00	OTHER CONTRACT EXPENSE - CA	80,000	50,000	21,528
A 1621.403-01-00	SERVICE CONTRACTS - CES	100,000	70,000	83,800
A 1621.403-02-00	SERVICE CONTRACTS - MA			4,000
A 1621.403-03-00	SERVICE CONTRACTS - CA	100,000	80,000	83,800
A 1621.409-01-00	WATER/SEWER - CES	40,000	30,000	22,000
A 1621.409-03-00	WATER/SEWER - CA	50,000	40,000	22,000
A 1621.450-01-00	GROUNDS SUPPLIES	35,000	35,000	35,000
A 1621.451-01-00	MAINTENANCE SUPPLIES	75,000	75,000	75,000
A 1621.490-00-00	BOCES SERVICES	1,082,137	1,041,027	780,200
	TOTAL MAINTENANCE:	2,011,637	1,955,903	1,492,556



Transportation

ACCOUNT	DESCRIPTION	2026-27 PROPOSED	2025-26 ADOPTED	2024-25 ADOPTED
DISTRICT TRANSPORTATION SERVICES				
A 5510.160-00-00	NONINSTRUCT. SALARY-BUS DRIVERS	43,807	40,888	47,700
A 5510.168-00-00	NONISTRUCT. SALARY-BUS DRIVER OT		500	3,500
A 5510.400-00-00	OTHER CONTRACT EXPENSE		500	1,500
A 5510.403-00-00	REPAIRS/MAINTENANCE	2,000	750	2,500
A 5510.405-00-00	TRANSPORTATION INSURANCE		11,000	10,500
A 5510.450-00-00	OTHER MATERIALS & SUPPLIES		1,000	40,000
	TOTAL DISTRICT TRANSPORTATION SERVICES:	45,807	54,638	105,700
CONTRACT TRANSPORTATION SERVICES				
A 5540.400-00	TRANSPORTATION RESIDENT	1,000,980	981,352	922,500
A 5540.400-01	TRANSPORTATION HANDICAP	830,787	814,497	798,526
A 5540.400-02	TRANSPORTATION NON PUBLIC	1,727,750	1,074,571	341,071
A 5540.400-03	TRANSPORTATION INTERSCHOLASTIC	122,500	120,000	73,472
A 5540.400-04	TRANSPORTATION OTHER	2,000	2,000	50,738
A 5540.400-05	FIELD TRIPS - CES	16,500	16,000	16,000
A 5540.400-06	FIELD TRIPS - HS	16,500	16,000	12,000
A 5540.400-08	TRANSPORTATION SUMMER			
	TOTAL CONTRACT TRANSPORTATION SERVICES:	3,717,017	3,024,420	2,214,307



Athletics

		2026-27	2025-26	2024-25
ACCOUNT	DESCRIPTION	PROPOSED	ADOPTED	ADOPTED
INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS				
A 2855.150-00-00	SALARIES - ATH DIR, COACHES, ETC	216,759	230,039	201,500
A 2855.160-00-00	NONINSTRUCT. SALARIES	83,505	80,735	27,500
A 2855.200-00-00	EQUIPMENT	3,500		41,500
A 2855.400-02-43	EQUIPMENT RECONDITIONING	4,500	4,000	3,650
A 2855.400-02-44	OTHER-CONTR.	11,500	10,400	
A 2855.402-02-00	CONFS/CLINICS CONTR.	8,000	7,875	7,500
A 2855.414-02-00	ATHLTC DUES-CONTR.	7,000	6,300	4,900
A 2855.450-00-00	GENERAL MATERIALS & SUPPLIES	78,000	74,000	
A 2855.450-02-12	HEALTH SUPPLIES	4,200	3,990	3,800
A 2855.450-02-33	AWARDS,ETC-MATERIALS & SUPPLIES			7,600
A 2855.450-02-34	GENERAL FALL - MATERIALS & SUPPLI			23,153
A 2855.450-02-35	GENERAL SPRING-MATERIALS & SUPPLI			23,153
A 2855.450-02-36	GENERAL WINTER-MATERIALS & SUPPLI			16,538
A 2855.490-00-00	BOCES SERVICES	120,000	115,143	175,000
	TOTAL INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS:	536,964	532,482	535,794



UPCOMING BUDGET PRESENTATIONS



April 8

Undistributed
Expenses,
Central Services
& BOCES Admin
Services



April 21

Final Budget
Overview &
Board Actions



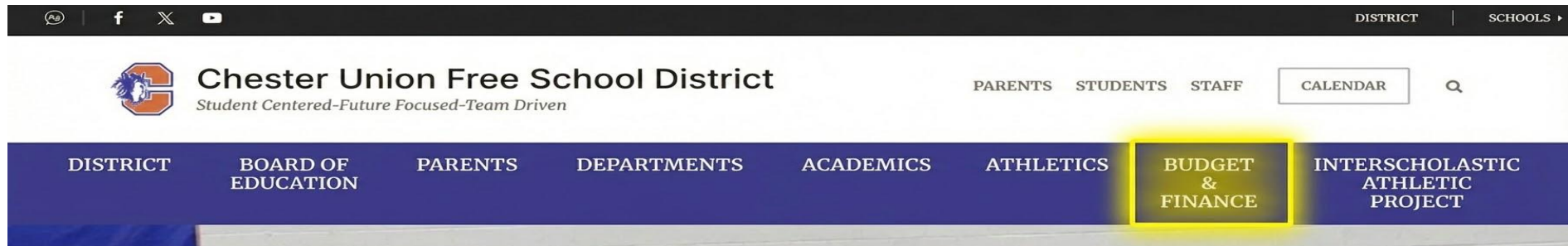
May 6

Public Budget
Hearing

Budget information and updates will be available on the District's website:
www.ChesterUFSD.org



Budget Information



Budget presentations and related information will be available
on the CUFSD website

<https://www.chesterufsd.org>

Tuesday, May 19, 2026



**BUDGET
VOTE**

and

**Vote for One
Board of
Education Seat**