

Eastern Suffolk BOCES

ADMINISTRATIVE BUDGET



2026-2027



Message from Lisa Israel

President, Eastern Suffolk BOCES Board

As we prepared the 2026-2027 Eastern Suffolk BOCES Budget, our top priority was to continue providing high-quality programs at the lowest possible cost. This budget was thoughtfully prepared with careful attention and understanding of the financial constraints that local school districts manage every day.

The tax levy cap, limited state aid, inflation, and ongoing economic uncertainty continue to present unprecedented fiscal challenges for local school districts. We understand the pressure school districts are under to contain costs and have worked closely with both internal and external stakeholders to craft

administrative and program budgets that allow us to continue to provide the highest quality services in the most cost-effective manner.

On April 21, our component school boards will meet to vote on our Administrative Budget, which reflects an **overall increase of 2.75%** in the administrative charge to school districts.

The costs in the Administrative Budget support all of the programs and services provided by the Agency, including regional leadership and advocacy. In addition, the capital component has facility rent expenses, predominantly paid to our school districts, as well as capital construction funds. We continue to control costs through the strategic use of reserves, reduced borrowing, and staff savings through attrition. Furthermore, we have aggressively pursued specially-aided funding opportunities bringing over \$39 million to the region.

The detailed 2026-2027 budget is available on our website and a paper copy of the budget book was also distributed to each component district. A short video on the budget is also available on the website. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us at 631-687-3001 or budgetquestions@esboces.org.

We are proud of our agency, our staff members, and the services we provide to school districts across the region. We are grateful for your continued support.



Every decision we make is guided by our vision to provide "Educational Services That Transform Lives."

[View our budget video](#)



Questions & Answers

Q. What is the Administrative Charge?

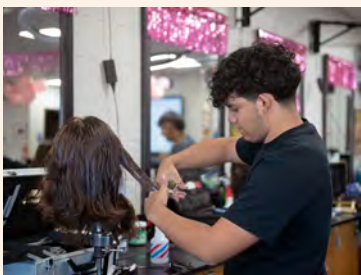
A. *The Administrative Charge is the share each component district pays to fund the Administrative Budget.*

Q. What expenses are supported by the Administrative Charge?

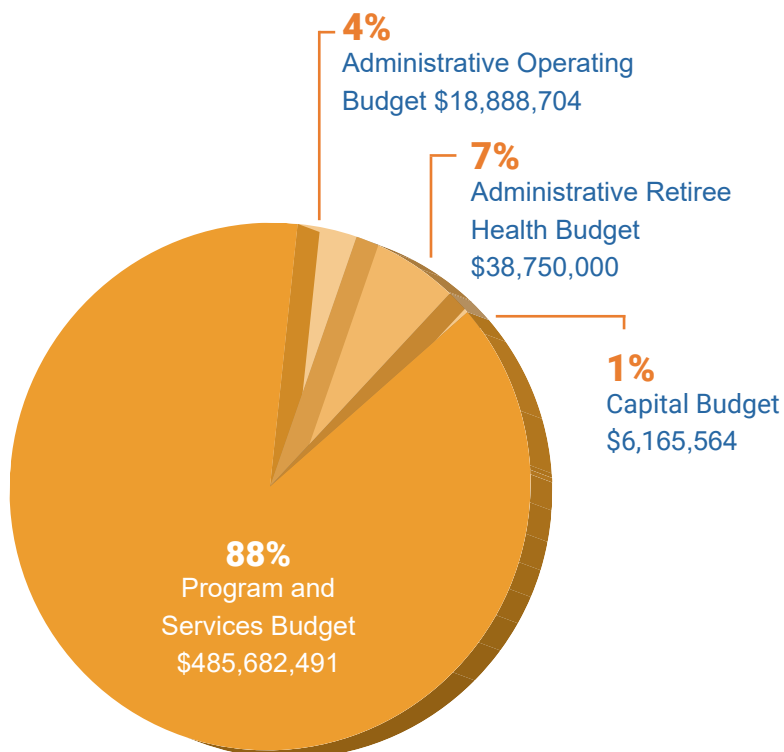
A. *The expenses supported by the Administrative Charge are those within the Administrative and Capital Budgets. Expenses in the Administrative Budget include the cost of central administrative offices, such as the District Superintendent, and a significant share of business and human resources. These expenses are not included in program tuition. The state requires all retiree health benefits to also be a part of this budget, but this cost is funded by program budgets. Expenses in the Capital Budget include the cost of facility rentals and capital projects. Approximately 96% of the rents are paid directly to component school districts, thereby reducing districts' operating costs.*

Q. What is the proposed change in the Administrative Charge?

A. *The proposed increase in the 2026-2027 Administrative Charge is 2.75%.*



2026-27 Budget



Budget Endorsed by Planning Team

The proposed 2026-2027 Administrative Budget was developed in consultation with the Eastern Suffolk BOCES Administration Budget Planning Team.

The planning team is chaired by a component superintendent and is composed of component school board members, superintendents, school business officials, and staff.



Administrative Revenues

	2025/2026 Adopted Budget	2026/2027 Proposed Budget	Variance	Percent
Charge To Components	\$22,624,981	\$23,247,168	\$622,187	2.75%
Interest	\$1,550,000	\$1,550,000	-	0.00%
Miscellaneous	\$286,873	\$257,100	(\$29,773)	-10.38%
Program Transfer - Retiree Benefits	\$39,000,000	\$38,750,000	(\$250,000)	-0.64%
Total Administrative & Capital Revenue	\$63,461,854	\$63,804,268	\$342,414	0.54%

Administrative Expenses

	2025/2026 Adopted Budget	2026/2027 Proposed Budget	Variance	Percent
Certified Salaries	\$1,492,704	\$1,469,039	(\$23,665)	-1.59%
Non Certified Salaries	\$5,423,720	\$6,033,612	\$609,892	11.24%
Fringe Benefits	\$4,946,948	\$4,635,711	(\$311,237)	-6.29%
Supplies & Equipment	\$168,250	\$186,500	\$18,250	10.85%
Contractual Costs	\$1,476,691	\$1,567,169	\$90,478	6.13%
Interest Expense	\$75,000	\$75,000	-	0.00%
Transfer Charges	\$4,705,028	\$4,921,673	\$216,645	4.60%
Total Operating Costs	\$18,288,341	\$18,888,704	\$600,363	3.28%
Retiree Health Benefits	\$39,000,000	\$38,750,000	(\$250,000)	-0.64%
Total Administrative Expense	\$57,288,341	\$57,638,704	\$350,363	0.61%
Total Capital Expense	\$6,173,513	\$6,165,564	(\$7,949)	-0.13%
Total Administrative & Capital Expense	\$63,461,854	\$63,804,268	\$342,414	0.54%



Questions & Answers (cont.)

Q. Does a BOCES receive state aid?

A. *No, a BOCES does not receive state aid to fund its budget, but our component districts receive BOCES Aid on approved services including the Administrative Charge, subject to the state formula, and district-specific aid ratio.*

Q. Do districts receive State aid on the BOCES Administrative Budget?

A. *Yes! Districts receive from 17% to 55% of the Administrative Charge from the state as BOCES aid. The level of aid depends upon the aid ratio of the individual district.*

Q. Why do districts vote only on the Administrative Budget?

A. *Chapter 295 of the Laws of 1993 requires a vote on the Administrative Budget. Program budgets are revenue based, and therefore, will vary based on participation levels. There is no requirement for districts to participate in any of the programs funded through these budgets.*

Q. What happens if the Administrative Budget is defeated?

A. *In the event the Administrative Budget is not approved by a majority of the component districts voting, a contingent Administrative Budget that does not exceed the amount of the current fiscal year's Administrative Budget must be adopted. Expenses for health insurance benefits for retirees are exempt.*



Annual Meeting

Tuesday, April 14, 2026 | 6:00 p.m.
Instructional Support Center
@ Sequoya High School
Holtsville, NY

Budget Vote

Tuesday, April 21, 2026
In local districts

Vote on the proposed 2026-2027
Administrative Budget and election of
five (5) Board Members

Copies of the complete Eastern Suffolk
BOCES 2026-2027 Annual Budget have
been provided to the administrative offices
of each component school district, and is
also available on our website.

Please contact your local superintendent's
office, or call Eastern Suffolk BOCES at
631-289-2200, ext. 3212, for a copy of the
Eastern Suffolk BOCES 2026-2027 Annual
Budget.

Eastern Suffolk BOCES Board

Lisa Israel, **President**
Robert P. Sweeney, **Vice President**

Members

Arlene Barresi
Angelo Cassarino
Linda S. Goldsmith
William Hsiang
Kelli Anne Jennings
Susan Lipman
Joseph LoSchiavo

Anne Mackesey
James F. McKenna
Brian O. Mealy
Victoria Molloy
Catherine M. Romano
John Wyche

Student Ex-Officio Members

Dixon Busching
Jayden Iglesias
Jasmin Montenegro Polanco

Jasmin Varela, Ed.D., **District Superintendent**
David Wicks, **Chief Operating Officer**

Eastern Suffolk BOCES does not discriminate against any employee, student, applicant for employment, or candidate for enrollment on the basis of sex, gender, race, color, religion or creed, age, weight, national origin, marital status, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, transgender status, military or veteran status, domestic violence victim status, genetic predisposition or carrier status, or any other classification protected by Federal, State, or local law. This policy of nondiscrimination includes: access by students to educational programs, student activities, recruitment, appointment and promotion of employees, salaries, pay, and other benefits. ESBoces also provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. ESBoces fully complies with all applicable rules and regulations pertaining to civil rights for students and employees (e.g., Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, §504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Dignity for All Students Act, §303 of Age Discrimination Act of 1975, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, and the Boy Scouts of American Equal Access Act of 2001). Inquiries regarding the implementation of the above laws should be directed to either of the ESBoces Civil Rights Compliance Officers at ComplianceOfficers@esboces.org; the Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources, 631-687-3029, or the Associate Superintendent for Educational Services, 631-687-3056, 201 Sunrise Highway, Patchogue, NY 11772. Inquiries may also be addressed to the Office for Civil Rights at the US Department of Education, 32 Old Slip, 26th Floor, New York, NY 10005, 646-428-3800, OCR.NewYork@ed.gov.

