

Opening New Doors to Success

Superintendent's Recommended Budget
Tuesday, April 7, 2026



Moving forward our vision through investment



Make Ardsley Schools centers of innovative and rigorous learning, where every student is prepared to succeed in college, career, and life.



Relevant & Engaging Learning

Ensure learning is relevant and engaging, so that Ardsley's students build capacities for analytical rigor, imaginative thought, and nuanced skepticism.



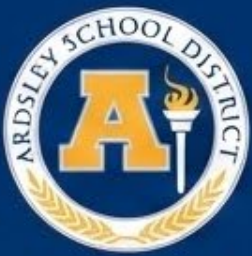
Character & Community

Incorporate experiences that emphasize the importance of acting against intolerance and injustice by serving as conduits for the development of interconnected communities.



Balanced Lives

Prepare our students to lead balanced lives characterized by learning and understanding, positive connections, and the joy of discovering and creating.



HIGHLIGHTS OF THE 2026-2027 SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDED BUDGET



CRS

Special Educator:
To accommodate
growing population of
classified students, and
address specialized
behavioral challenges.



AMS

- Continued support of transition programming and MTSS Support.
- Commitment to current staffing levels despite decrease in student population.



AHS

New course offerings in
a number of areas
including business,
music, and advanced
placement courses.

New teachers to support
the addition of one class
for every student as well
as the significant
increase in student
population.



District

Transportation
investments to allow
sensible bussing at the
high school while not
impacting the starting
or ending times of any
school, or changing
the weekly schedules
at AMS or CRS.

Additional Athletic
supports.



BUDGET CHALLENGES - NAVIGATING THE "PERFECT STORM"

THE MAIN STORM FORCES

The forces representing the central "storm" of our proposed budget increases are listed on this graphic. These factors make up more than 80% of expense increases.

New expenses for staffing and equipment to support programmatic improvements for students, represent about 1.25% of the total budget and less than 21% of the proposed increase. It demonstrates our very limited discretionary spending.



Opening New Doors To Success

(Superintendent's Recommendations)





Staffing / Program Changes

OVERVIEW



Concord Road Elementary

1.00 FTE
\$115,000



Ardsley High School

5.00 FTE
\$575,000



Athletics

0 FTE
\$17,747

TOTAL

6.00 FTE

\$707,747

FTE	Position/Items	CONCORD ROAD ELEMENTARY	Estimated Cost
1	Teacher	Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA)	\$115,000
Total Concord Road Elementary			\$115,000

FTE	Position/Items	ARDSLEY HIGH SCHOOL	Estimated Cost
1	Teacher	Business	\$115,000
1	Teacher	Computer Science	\$115,000
1	Teacher	ELA	\$115,000
1	Teacher	French/Italian	\$115,000
1	Teacher	PE/Health	\$115,000
Total Ardsley High School			\$575,000

FTE	Position/Items	ATHLETICS	Estimated Cost
N/A	Stipends	Athletic Site Supervisor - Fall	\$4,056
		Athletic Site Supervisor - Winter	\$4,636
		Athletic Site Supervisor - Spring	\$3,477
		Flag Football Assistant Coach	\$5,578
Total Athletics			\$17,747



Superintendent's Recommended Budget - Expenditures

As of April 7, 2026

INCLUDES ALL STAFFING CHANGES

	<i>(26/27 Budget to 25/26 budget)</i>						
	Adopted 2024-25	Actual 2024-2025	Adopted 2025-26	Projected 2025-26	Proposed 2026-27	Dollar Difference	Percent Change
Salaries	44,494,386	44,254,221	46,147,746	45,697,574	48,027,254	1,879,508	4.07%
Benefits	18,630,663	17,652,672	19,342,788	18,642,782	19,945,098	602,310	3.11%
Special Education	3,749,951	2,735,653	3,418,977	2,840,620	3,467,529	48,552	1.42%
Debt Service*	4,981,780	4,982,153	4,010,098	4,005,081	5,888,562	1,878,464	46.84%
Transportation	1,860,357	1,668,261	1,912,145	1,883,120	2,339,084	426,940	22.33%
Building & Grounds	3,808,159	3,955,125	3,990,565	4,183,857	4,407,128	416,563	10.44%
Technology	1,868,050	1,608,430	1,825,092	1,978,199	1,932,936	107,844	5.91%
BOCES w/o Spec Ed & Tech	1,821,385	1,912,188	1,913,686	1,815,933	2,062,692	149,006	7.79%
Athletics w/Transportation	391,750	379,713	395,750	409,755	435,180	39,430	9.96%
Supplies & Equipment	701,268	639,555	671,002	836,592	639,852	-31,150	-4.64%
Other	1,982,400	2,215,967	2,005,980	1,914,969	1,928,401	-77,579	-3.87%
Transfer to Capital	0	0	0	119,754	0	0	0.00%
Total Expenditures	84,290,149	82,003,938	85,633,828	84,328,235	91,073,716	5,439,888	6.35%

Debt service includes the lease purchase of four (4) replacement vans (three single and one dual wheel). Includes estimated new debt related to capital project.

Projection is as of 3/31/26, as we continue through the school year this will continue to change.



Superintendent's Recommended Budget - Revenues

As of April 7, 2026

INCLUDES ALL STAFFING CHANGES

	Adopted 2024-25	Actual 2024-2025	Adopted 2025-2026	Projected 2025-2026	Proposed 2026-2027	<i>(26/27 Budget to 25/26 budget)</i>	
						Dollar Difference	Percent Difference
Interest on Investments	475,000	1,581,259	550,000	1,169,288	550,000	0	0.00%
Rentals/Facility Use	854,480	1,133,265	870,885	1,110,500	1,061,514	190,629	21.89%
Tuition	1,350,000	998,870	830,000	830,448	601,680	-228,320	-27.51%
Transportation	534,665	1,218,253	621,751	967,452	932,845	311,094	50.04%
Unclassified Revenues	1,146,545	1,717,257	1,206,649	1,756,843	1,308,654	102,005	8.45%
State Aid	11,812,022	11,350,279	11,865,870	12,182,254	12,713,909	848,039	7.15%
State Aid (Math/ELA Set Aside)	383,958	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
Building Aid	1,036,745	1,734,310	1,121,324	1,650,299	1,973,016	851,692	75.95%
BOCES Aid	732,150	923,731	754,260	0	877,660	123,400	16.36%
Total Non-Tax Revenue	18,325,565	20,657,225	17,820,739	19,667,084	20,019,278	2,198,539	12.34%
Fund Balance	1,980,000	0	1,980,000	0	1,980,000	0	0.00%
Use of Reserves	734,584	0	1,033,089	0	2,074,438	1,041,349	0.00%
Tax Levy*	63,250,000	63,250,000	64,800,000	64,800,000	67,000,000	2,200,000	3.40%
Total Revenue	84,290,149	83,907,225	85,633,828	84,467,084	91,073,716	5,439,888	6.35%

State aid is based on executive budget (except BOCES aid projection), which will change when enacted in April.

**Using \$1,980,000 of fund balance and \$2,074,438 of reserves we would be below the maximum tax levy of \$68,078,986 (5.06%)*

Projection is as of 3/31/26, as we continue through the school year this will continue to change.



Estimated Tax Rate Comparison

Budget Presentation	Budget	Budget to Budget	Tax Levy	Tax Levy Increase	Assessed Value as of March 1, 2026	Projected Tax Rate* Per \$1,000	Change From 2025/2026 Tax Rate (19.8388)
March 17th With all Staffing/Program Changes	91,073,716	6.35%	68,078,986	5.06%	3,508,379,732	19.405	-2.19%
Superintendent's Recommended	91,073,716	6.35%	67,000,000	3.40%	3,508,379,732	19.097	-3.74%

*The formula to calculate estimated taxes =
Assessed Value of Your Property x .0190971 (tax rate/1,000)*

At 9/15/2025 the calculated single family average assessed value for Ardsley Union Free School District was \$938,696

2026/2027 Budget	Projected Tax Rate* Per \$1,000	Average Assessed Value	Estimated Taxes
With Staffing/Program Changes	19.0971	938,696	17,926

**Using assessed value as of March 1, 2026 final assessed value may change.*



Estimated Tax Rate - History

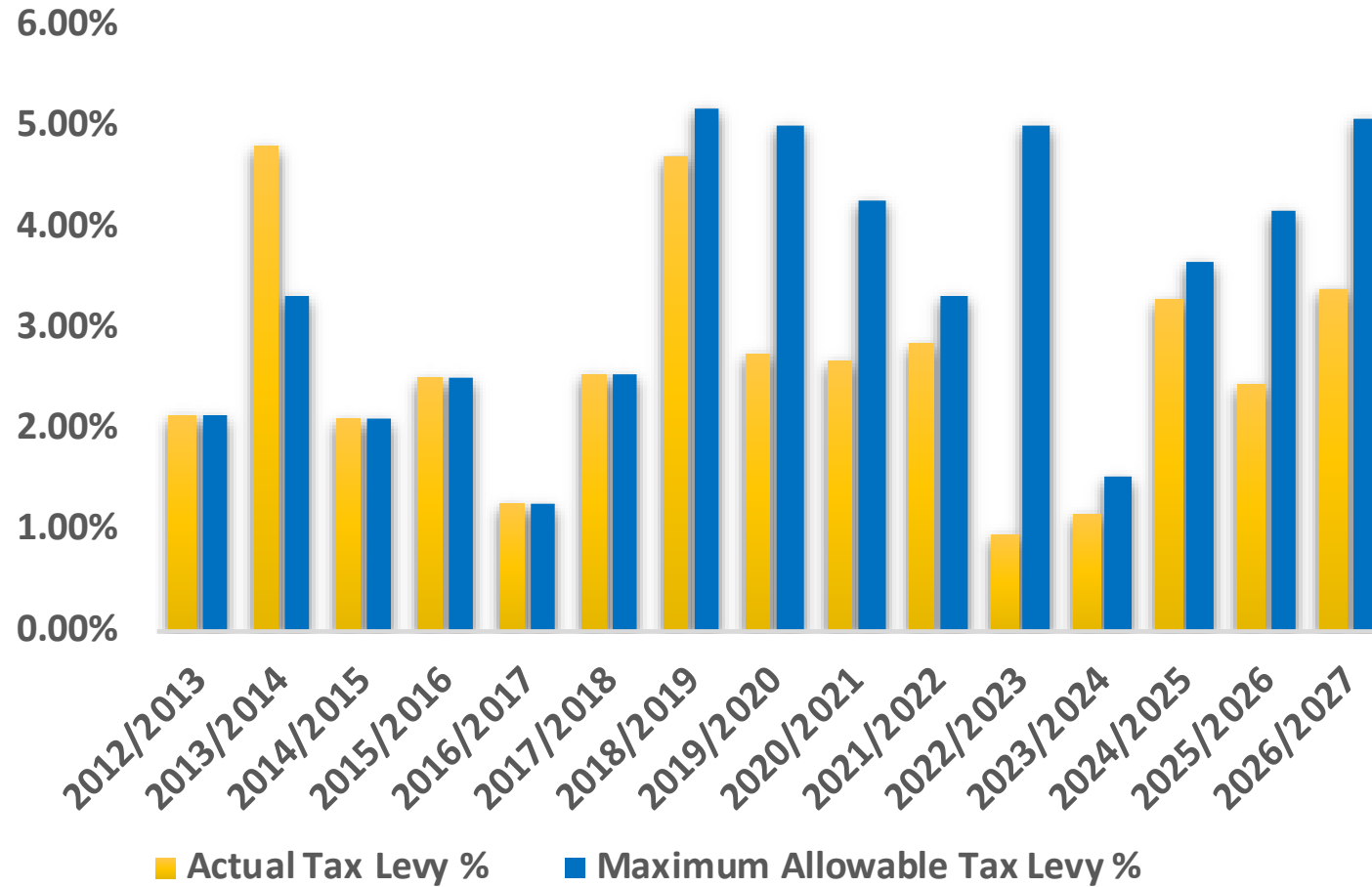
Year	Ardley UFSD Taxable Assessed Value	Change AV compare to prior year	Tax Levy	Tax Rate Per \$1,000 AV	Difference (\$) per AV	Difference (%) per AV
2012-13	69,032,752	5,608,407	46,413,489	\$672.34	\$10.33	1.56%
2013-14	67,817,751	(1,215,001)	48,639,054	\$716.95	\$44.61	6.63%
2014-15	67,510,668	(307,083)	49,656,247	\$735.29	\$18.35	2.56%
2015-16	67,725,876	215,208	50,893,133	\$750.77	\$15.48	2.11%
2016-17	67,688,867	(37,009)	51,533,827	\$760.81	\$10.03	1.34%
2017-18	2,342,209,969	N/A*	52,832,610	\$22.54	N/A*	N/A*
2018-19	2,465,088,603	122,878,634	55,315,743	\$22.44	(\$0.11)	-0.48%
2019-20	2,573,411,655	108,323,052	56,836,923	\$22.07	(\$0.37)	-1.63%
2020-21	2,625,599,225	52,187,570	58,350,000	\$22.21	\$0.14	0.64%
2021-22	2,641,605,585	16,006,360	60,000,000	\$22.71	\$0.50	2.23%
2022-23	2,756,414,475	114,808,890	60,560,166	\$21.96	(\$0.75)	-3.29%
2023-24	2,988,200,920	231,786,445	61,250,000	\$20.48	(\$1.48)	-6.73%
2024-25	3,094,472,872	106,271,952	63,250,000	\$20.44	(\$0.04)	-0.21%
2025-26	3,265,736,450	171,263,578	64,800,000	\$19.84	(\$0.60)	-2.93%
2026-27**	3,508,379,732	242,643,282	67,000,000	\$19.10	(\$0.74)	-3.74%

**Re-assessment change to full valuation*

***Assessed value as of March 1, 2026 final assessed value may change.*



Tax Levy Review





Fund Balance/Reserves

Reserve funds are established to cover the cost of specific expenditures, such as unemployment, tax certioraris, and to cover unexpected expenditures, such as costs incurred for unanticipated special education placements or emergency building repairs.



Restricted Fund Balance

consists of funds that are mandated for a specific purpose.



Assigned Fund Balance

consists of funds that are set aside with the intent to be used for a specific purpose.



Unassigned Fund Balance consists of excess funds that have not been classified and are considered spendable resources.

This amount is restricted up to 4% of the subsequent year's budget.



Fund Balance/Reserves – cont'd



MEASURE OF FISCAL HEALTH & MANAGING CASH FLOW



July 1st



October



Tax Revenue

Reserves cover cash flow until tax revenue is received.

Eliminates need for Tax Anticipation Note (TAN) borrowing & associated interest costs.



BOND RATING & BENEFITS



Moody's upgraded to Aa1 from Aa2

Maintenance of ample reserves and liquidity contributed to upgrade.



Enables debt issuance for facility improvements at lower taxpayer cost.



OFFSETTING UNEXPECTED COSTS

Can offset economic downturns, revenue shortfalls, or unexpected expenditures.



NOT A SUSTAINABLE REVENUE SOURCE

Fund balance is **not a recurring source of revenue.**



Fund Balance/Reserve cont'd

Revenues
Taxes
State Aid
Other



Fund Balance
Reserves



Total
Revenues to
Balance
Budget



Total Budget
(Expenditures)

- Balance Resources/Priorities
- Manage the unexpected
- Fund Balance is not recurring revenue



Fund Balance/Reserves as of June 30, 2025

Restricted:

	<u>Balance as of June 30, 2025</u>
Capital Reserve	4,438,792
Reserve for Employee Benefits and Accrued Liabilities	1,488,917
Unemployment Insurance Reserve	268,920
Insurance Reserve	104,000
Reserve for Tax Certiorari	5,964,280
Retirement Contributions Reserve (ERS)	3,536,310
Retirement Contributions Reserve (TRS)	3,418,868
Reserve for Non-Spendable (Prepaid)	15,279
Total Restricted	19,235,366

*Designated for a
specific purpose*

Assigned:

Appropriated Fund Balance	3,013,089
Reserve for Encumbrances	772,541
Total Assigned	3,785,630

Total Unassigned **3,420,996**

Total Fund Balance **26,441,992**



Fund Balance Projection as of March 31, 2026

	Estimated Adjustments Based on		
	Before Adjustments	Reserve Plan/Vote on Propositions	After Adjustments
Ending Fund Balance at June 30, 2025	26,441,992		26,441,992
Plus: Projected Year End Revenues	84,467,084		84,467,084
Minus: Projected Year End Expenditures	(83,828,235)	(5,000,000)	(88,828,235)
Projected Operating Surplus/(Deficit)	638,849	(5,000,000)	(4,361,151)
Projected Ending Fund Balance 6/30/2026	27,080,840	(5,000,000)	22,080,840

Projected Analysis of Fund Balance:

Restricted

Reserve for Tax Certiorari	5,195,257	(2,195,257)	3,000,000
NYS Employees' Retirement Reserve	2,536,310	(536,310)	2,000,000
NYS Teachers' Retirement Reserve	2,359,430	(359,430)	2,000,000
Unemployment Insurance Reserve	253,920	(153,920)	100,000
Insurance Reserve	104,000	250,000	354,000
Reserve Empl Benefits/Accr Liab	1,488,917	161,083	1,650,000
Capital Reserve - 2017	5,000,000	(5,000,000)	0
<i>Projected Capital Reserve - 2026</i>		4,761,175	4,761,175
Total Restricted	16,937,834	(3,072,660)	13,865,175

Assigned Fund Balance

Reserve for Encumbrances (estimated)	503,000		503,000
Reserve for Non-Spendable (Prepaid/Estimated)	15,279		15,279
Designated for 2026-2027 Proposed Budget	4,054,438		4,054,438
Total Assigned	4,572,717		4,572,717

Projected Unassigned (4%) **3,642,949** **3,642,949**

Total Projected Fund Balance 6/30/2026 **25,153,500** **(3,072,660)** **22,080,840**

Excess Unassigned **1,927,340** **0**

Note: Projected with information known as of March 31, 2026, subject to change.



Ardsley Union Free School District

Challenging Minds. Building Character. Inspiring Excellence.

Superintendent's Recommended

2026-2027 Budget: At A Glance

3.40%*

Tax Levy Increase

6.35%

Budget-to-Budget Increase

\$91,073,716

Total Proposed Budget

**Below the Maximum Allowable Tax Levy of \$68,078,986*

*** Includes \$4,054,438 fund balance and reserve use*

\$5 Million Capital Project Funded by Existing Capital Reserve



Funds allocated based on project priority order, with boilers as most pressing



Estimates subject to change based on bid timing



Project list exceeds funding; we will get as much done within the \$5 million allocation



No cost to taxpayers using existing capital reserve



Replace 30-50 Year Old Boilers

- AMS
- CRS
- AHS



HVAC and Building Systems

- AMS Music Room
- HS Fitness Center
- Pool Dehumidifier
- Enhanced Building Management Systems



Additional Improvements

- Flooring Replacements
- New Scoreboard AHS

Establish Capital Reserve - 2026

What is a Capital Reserve Fund?



Used to pay the cost of any object or purpose for which bonds may be issued. Proposition(s) put before voters must specify purpose(s), ultimate dollar amount(s) to be deposited into reserve(s), probable term(s) or life/lives, and source(s) of funds.



Allows the District to set aside money for future construction projects, major purchases, or allocation to debt payments.



Cannot be established or spent without voter authorization.

Why establish a Capital Reserve Fund?



Enables saving for potential future capital projects without an increase in taxes.



Potentially borrow less in a future capital project by allocating the reserve to lower debt payments.



Protects the local taxpayer from unanticipated capital costs.



- Funding from excess funds at the end of the fiscal year or transfers from certain other reserves.
- Voter approval authorizes a maximum contribution of \$10M over a 10 year period. The District is not required to reserve any dollar amount at any time.
- No increase in taxes is associated with the reserve.



2026-2027 Budget Development: Next Steps

April 21st

**Board Budget
Adoption**

**BOCES Budget
Vote**

May 5th

**Annual
School District
Budget
Hearing**



2026-2027 Budget Development: Next Steps

BUDGET VOTE AND BOARD OF EDUCATION ELECTIONS

TUESDAY, MAY 19, 2026

**POLLS OPEN AT ARDSLEY HIGH SCHOOL
6:00AM-10:00AM AND 2:00PM-9:00PM**



Questions



For **further information** regarding the 2026-2027 Budget,
please visit the District webpage at:

www.ardsleyschools.org 

or email **budget@ardsleyschools.org** 