

Board of Education

2026-2027

Budget Development

Presentation #4

Final Review and Adoption

April 21, 2026

Kenneth R. Bossert, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools

John J. O'Keefe, Deputy Superintendent

Brian C. Ernst, School Business Administrator



GREAT NECK PUBLIC SCHOOLS
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Budget Timeline

➤ May 5, 2026 – Official Budget Hearing

✦ 7:00 PM at E.M. Baker Elementary School *

* REVISED start time for this meeting

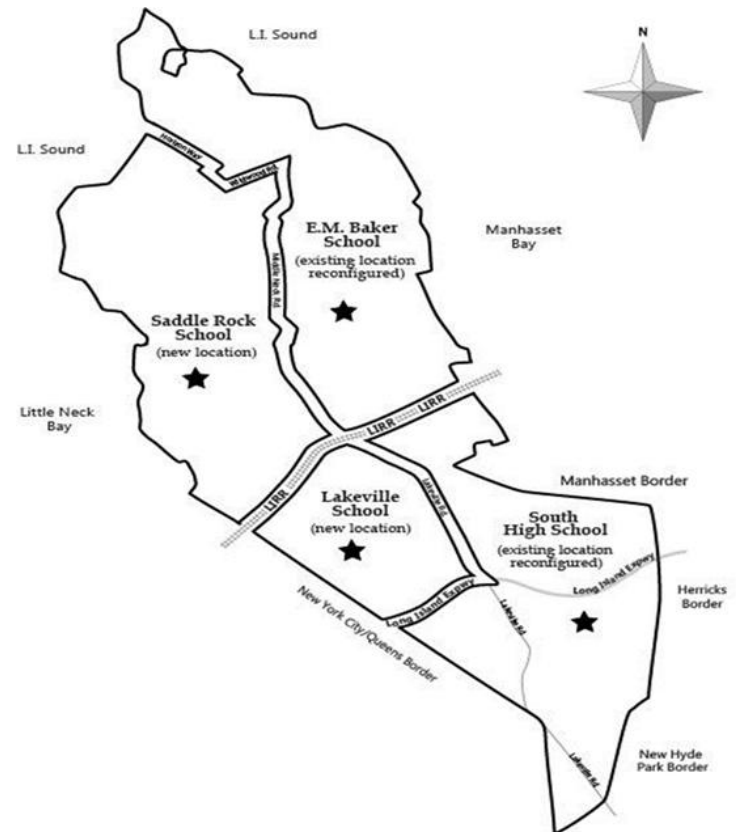
➤ May 19, 2026 – Annual Election and Budget Vote

✦ 6:00 AM – 9:00 PM at E.M. Baker, Lakeville, Saddle Rock, or South High School

Residents who are unsure of their polling location can use the online Poll Place Finder tool on the District website (www.greatneck.k12.ny.us/voting)

or call the

District Clerk on school days
from 8:00AM – 3:00 PM (516-441-4007)



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Other Resources to Explore

Please feel free to visit the
“2026-27 Budget Information”

page on the GNPS website for some helpful guides

www.greatneck.k12.ny.us/budget26-27

Here you will also find all budget materials and public presentations



| GLOSSARY OF TERMS | |
|--|---|
| TERM | DEFINITION |
| ACADEMIC INTERVENTION SERVICES (AIS) | Services provided to students who are at risk of not achieving the state learning standards in English language arts, mathematics, social studies, and/or science. |
| ACCOUNTING | the process of recording financial transactions during a specific period, which usually spans 12 months. |
| ADULT BASIC EDUCATION | Education to achieve citizenship, a high school diploma, or job training to become more marketable to prospective employers. |
| AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN (ARP) | A federal grant the learning loss experienced on account of the Covid-19 Pandemic. |
| APPROPRIATED FUND BALANCE | The amount of fund balance and/or reserves used as a revenue source to fund the following years budget and/or outstanding purchase orders at year end. |
| APPROPRIATION | another term for an estimated expenditure. |
| ASSESSED VALUE | The fraction of market value real property is valued at and appears on the assessment roll by an assessing authority, such as the Nassau County Assessor. |
| ASSESSMENT ROLL | All of the taxable real property in an assessment jurisdiction. |
| ASSOCIATION OF SUPERVISORS AND ADMINISTRATORS OF THE GREAT NECK EDUCATIONAL STAFF, INC. (SAGES) | The bargaining unit that represents the Great Neck Public Schools' principals, assistant principals, directors and supervisors. |
| AUDIT OPINIONS | The opinion an independent auditor arrives at after an examination of a district's financial records. The types of audit opinions include: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Unmodified – the district's records are fairly stated in all material respects or that the district's financial figures and records can be relied upon to be correct.• Qualified – the district's records, except for the effect of any adjustment that might have been necessary to accurately perform auditing procedures, present fairly in all material respects the figures listed in the financial statements/reports.• Adverse – the district's records have some material issues.• Disclaimer – the district's records are not complete and/or accurate enough for an auditor to be able to form an opinion, therefore no opinion is given. |



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Look for the link on the top right side of the
District's homepage:

2026-27 BUDGET INFORMATION

Budgetary Fundamentals & Highlights

The Race for Excellence has no Finish Line !

Budgeting within the Tax Levy Cap limits

- Proposed at **3.04%**, which is **well below** the five-year average annual inflation rate of **4.48%**

Maintains all existing programs and course offerings

Sustains Universal Pre-Kindergarten programs at Parkville and JFK Elementary School

Reviews and aligns curriculum and instructional practices with our new **Portrait of a Graduate** framework

Media Literacy Task Force working to develop and implements a grades 6–12 media literacy curriculum

Complete review of **PreK-5 Writing Program** and implement targeted practices and materials to address needs while maintaining high-quality, responsive instruction

Expands **PreK–8 Literacy Training** in research-based practices, expand literacy instruction across content areas, and refine walkthrough tools to ensure consistent practices.

Advances districtwide **Multi-Tiered Systems of Support - Integrated (MTSS-I) Task Force** planning to ensure equitable support across elementary schools

Continues the **Northwell School Mental Health** partnership, providing student support, staff professional development, and community resources

Offers in-district **Crisis Management** certification training for PPS staff led by certified peers

Continued reinvestment in our facilities for necessary maintenance, repairs, and improvements to ensure the health and safety of our students and staff *

- ✓ South High School - Athletic complex, lobby toilet rooms, and various site improvements
- ✓ EM Baker - Replace VAT flooring in up to 16 classrooms and adjoining corridors, replace various ceilings and lighting in south wing on second floor
- ✓ Grace Avenue / Senior Center – Phase II window replacement
- ✓ North Middle School – Basement corridor ceiling abatement/replacement, lighting upgrades, remove gym partition wall and install athletic curtain, renovate fieldhouse toilet rooms and provide exterior access
- ✓ North High School – Replacement of student hallway lockers
- ✓ Lakeville – Renovate two cafeteria toilet rooms, replace two HVAC units in 1998 wing
- ✓ Districtwide – Remove obsolete oil tanks from SHS, NMS, Lakeville, and Parkville



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* These proposed capital improvement expenditures total **\$11,903,000**, and are fully supported by a budget that is Tax Cap compliant

2026-27 Proposed Expenditure Budget

Finalized totals as we prepare to adopt:

- March 11th Presentation \$148,317,982
- March 24th Presentation 151,168,054
- Adjustments since the two presentations (2,110,086)*

Total Proposed Expenditure Budget \$ 297,375,950

* *These adjustments were made without any impact to existing programs and were realized by refining overall salary estimates after accounting for various retirements and attrition, the corresponding benefits related costs, and revising projections on several contractual costs. Additionally, a variety of supplies and materials, as well as some IT equipment is being purchased this year with savings we have realized in the current year's budget.*

This proposed spending plan represents an increase of \$7,377,350, or **2.54%** over the current year, supported by a proposed tax levy increase of **3.04%**

2026-27 Proposed Expenditure Budget

| Functional Range | Description | 2025-2026 Voter Approved Budget | 2026-2027 Proposed Budget | Change | |
|----------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------|--------------|
| 1000 - 1999 | General Support | \$ 32,427,704 | \$ 33,521,531 | \$ 1,093,827 | 3.37% |
| 2000 - 2999 | Instruction | \$ 148,379,679 | \$ 150,712,354 | \$ 2,332,675 | 1.57% |
| 5000 - 5999 | Transportation | \$ 18,134,453 | \$ 19,035,825 | \$ 901,372 | 4.97% |
| 6000 - 8999 | Recreation | \$ 1,300,506 | \$ 1,604,217 | \$ 303,711 | 23.35% |
| 9000 - 9099 | Employee Benefits | \$ 71,904,305 | \$ 73,739,997 | \$ 1,835,692 | 2.55% |
| 9700 - 9799 | EPC Debt/iPad Lease/TAN | \$ 715,927 | \$ 400,000 | \$ (315,927) | -44.13% |
| 9900 - 9999 | Interfund Transfers * | \$ 17,136,026 | \$ 18,362,026 | \$ 1,226,000 | 7.15% |
| Grand Totals: | | \$ 289,998,600 | \$ 297,375,950 | \$ 7,377,350 | 2.54% |

*** Interfund Transfers include: Bond Debt Principal & Interest, Capital Projects, Bus Purchases, Pre-Kindergarten Funding, and Summer & Specialized Education Programs for Children with Disabilities**

Proposed 2026/27 Tax Levy

| | |
|---|-----------------------------|
| 2025/2026 Tax Levy | \$ 244,222,078 |
| * Tax Base Growth Factor (1.0078) | 1,904,932 |
| * Allowable Levy Growth (2.00%) | 4,740,214 |
| * TRS/ERS Exclusions (NONE) | 0 |
| * Change in PILOTs <small>(PILOTs Estimated to <u>INCREASE</u> in 2026/27 by \$650K. This <u>DECREASES</u> the Levy by \$650K. This variable can change <u>annually</u>.)</small> | (-650,539) |
| * <u>Change in Capital Tax Levy</u> | <u>1,429,247</u> |
| * <u>2026/2027 Proposed Tax Levy</u> | <u>\$251,645,932</u> |

This Represents a \$7,423,854 or a **3.04%** increase to the Tax Levy

and is Within the “**2% Tax Cap**” formula calculation

Only requiring a **Simple Majority Vote**



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2026-27 ESTIMATED State Aid

| STATE AID CATEGORY | 2025-26 | 2026-27 | CHANGE FROM | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------|
| | <u>ADOPTED</u> STATE BUDGET | <u>PROPOSED</u> STATE BUDGET | PRIOR YEAR ADOPTED | |
| FOUNDATION AID | \$ 9,258,102 | \$ 9,350,683 | \$ 92,581 | 1.00% |
| UNIVERSAL PRE-KINDERGARTEN * | \$ 1,334,724 | \$ 1,050,000 | \$ (284,724) | -21.33% |
| BOCES | \$ 1,518,906 | \$ 1,876,478 | \$ 357,572 | 23.54% |
| HIGH COST EXCESS COST | \$ 512,910 | \$ 114,095 | \$ (398,815) | -77.76% |
| PRIVATE EXCESS COST | \$ 705,177 | \$ 908,003 | \$ 202,826 | 28.76% |
| SOFTWARE, LIBRARY, TEXTBOOK | \$ 690,448 | \$ 678,674 | \$ (11,774) | -1.71% |
| TRANSPORTATION INCL SUMMER | \$ 832,406 | \$ 877,067 | \$ 44,661 | 5.37% |
| BUILDING AID | \$ 624,928 | \$ 677,032 | \$ 52,104 | 8.34% |
| HIGH TAX AID | \$ 452,843 | \$ 452,843 | \$ - | 0.00% |
| SUPPLEMENTAL PUBLIC EXCESS COST | \$ 33,711 | \$ 33,711 | \$ - | 0.00% |
| TOTAL AID | \$ 15,964,155 | \$ 16,018,586 | \$ 54,431 | 0.34% |

(As of this date, the State has yet to adopt the final budget)

*** REMEMBER: State Aid for the Universal Pre-Kindergarten (UPK) program is accounted for in the Special Aid Fund, and therefore NOT available as a funding source for the General Fund Budget**



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2026-27 Proposed Revenue Budget

| Revenue Source | 2025-2026 Voter Approved Budget | 2026-2027 Proposed Budget | Change | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|--------------|
| State Aid (Less Pre-K Aid) | \$ 14,633,981 | \$ 14,968,586 | \$ 334,605 | 2.29% |
| Miscellaneous | \$ 18,152,541 | \$ 18,032,628 | \$ (119,913) | -0.66% |
| Appropriated Fund Balance | \$ 3,912,113 | \$ 3,750,016 | \$ (162,097) | -4.14% |
| Appropriated Reserves * | \$ 9,077,887 | \$ 8,978,788 | \$ (99,099) | -1.09% |
| Real Property Tax | \$ 244,222,078 | \$ 251,645,932 | \$ 7,423,854 | 3.04% |
| Grand Totals: | \$ 289,998,600 | \$ 297,375,950 | \$ 7,377,350 | 2.54% |

* Recommended Reserve Utilization as Follows:

| | |
|--|---------------------------|
| • Workers' Compensation Reserve | \$1,400,000 |
| • Employee Retirement System Reserve | 4,653,788 |
| • Teacher Retirement System Reserve | 1,575,000 |
| • Employee Benefit Accrued Liability Reserve | 1,250,000 |
| • <u>Unemployment Reserve</u> | 100,000 |
| | <u>\$8,978,788</u> |



Proposed Use of Capital Reserve

For the Community's Consideration:

The following will appear as Proposition #2 on the May 19th ballot.

Proposition #2 – Expense from the Capital Reserve Fund - 2024

This proposition is to utilize funds from our Capital Reserve which has no financial impact on the voter.

SHALL the Board of Education of the Great Neck Union Free School District be authorized to expend a sum not to exceed \$4,945,000 from the Capital Reserve Fund 2024 as established on May 21, 2024 for the purpose of performing the following capital improvements: athletic field renovations, reconstruction and upgrades including installation of a synthetic playing field surface with drainage and site improvements including resurfacing of the running track, installation of new track and field events, expansion of grandstand with 500 additional seats, addition of necessary electrical service for athletic field lighting and new building, replace scoreboard and install necessary signage, reconfigure irrigation system, installation of dark sky compliant playing field lighting system at South High School including all labor, materials, equipment, apparatus and incidental cost related thereto?

Since the funds to be expended hereunder are from the Capital Reserve Fund, approval of this Proposition will not require a tax levy upon the real property of the School District.

... Simply stated, it is a proposition asking the voters for permission to withdraw funds from the existing Capital Reserve Fund for the purposes of athletic field improvements at South High School, just as we did last year for North Middle School.

This comes at no increase to the tax levy, nor new cost to the community, as these monies are already in our reserves earmarked for capital improvements.

Continuing the Conversation...

A Final Budget Presentation is Scheduled for:

➤ **May 5, 2026 – Official Budget Hearing**

✦ **7:00 PM at E.M. Baker Elementary School ***

* REVISED start time for this meeting

Budget Vote & Trustee Election – Tuesday, May 19th

6:00 AM – 9:00 PM

E.M. Baker, Lakeville, Saddle Rock, or South High School

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