# THE HERALD

## Special Budget Issue From Your Board of Education







**SCHOOL BUDGET VOTE & TRUSTEE ELECTION**

**May 19, 2026**
**7:00 a.m.**
**to**
**10:00 p.m.**
**High School East Gymnasium**

## A MESSAGE FROM YOUR BOARD OF EDUCATION

Dear Community Members, May 2026

As we prepare for the 2026-2027 school year, the Half Hollow Hills Central School District Board of Education and Central Administration team have worked very carefully to present a budget that maintains support for our students and high-quality academic, athletic and arts programs, invests in facilities improvements, and is fiscally responsible to you, our community members.

The 2026-2027 budget reflects a 3.35% increase from the current year's expenditure plan which includes a property tax levy increase of 3.31%, consistent with what the State-mandated property tax levy formula allows.

This year's budget also includes two propositions for voter consideration: (1) roof reconstruction at High School East (to access funds previously saved in the Roof Replacement Capital Reserve Fund established by voters in 2022) and (2) energy conservation improvements at District facilities (project is already underway; approval will simply provide the District with additional State Aid).

Please take time to review this special budget issue of The Herald, and the vast information found on our website at www.hhh.k12.ny.us/budget, so that you will be able to make an informed decision when voting on Tuesday, May 19. Physical copies of the proposed budget will be available for public inspection at all schools and the public library beginning two weeks prior to the vote, as well as at the Budget Hearing and the annual Budget Vote and Trustee Election.

Sincerely,

The Half Hollow Hills Board of Education

Mrs. Diana Acampora, President
Ms. Stephanie Gurin, Vice President
Mrs. Nadia Bilal
Dr. John Mathew
Dr. Leonard Patella
Mr. Michael Prywes
Mrs. Donna Smawley



In compliance with Section 203 of the Voting Rights Act, election information is offered in English and Spanish.


Half Hollow Hills
Central School District
525 Half Hollow Road
Dix Hills, NY 11746

Board of Education
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Mrs. Donna Smawley

Superintendent of Schools
Mr. John O'Farrell

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# HALF HOLLOW HILLS 2026-2027 BUDGET

## Continuing the District's tradition of investing in and improving its facilities without the need for large-scale borrowing, $4.5 million in capital projects is proposed and would include the following:

- Otsego Elementary - replace asphalt playground area and the tile floors in one or two classrooms.
- Paumanok Elementary - renovate one set of girls' and one set of boys' student/public use bathrooms.
- Sunquam Elementary - replace playground equipment and protective ground cover, and tile floors in one or two classrooms.
- Signal Hill Elementary and West Hollow Middle School - replace underground oil tanks and tile floors in one or two classrooms at each building.
- High School East - renovate one set of girls' and one set of boys' student/public use bathrooms, and install lights at the synthetic turf field.





## TOTAL EXPENDITURES

| | 2025-2026 | 2026-2027 |
|---|---|---|
| Total Budget | $307,664,521 | $317,967,592 |
| Dollar Increase from Prior Year | | $10,303,071 |
| Percent Increase from Prior Year | | 3.35% |

## Propositions on the May 19, 2026 Ballot

On May 19, 2026, residents will have the opportunity to vote on two additional propositions.

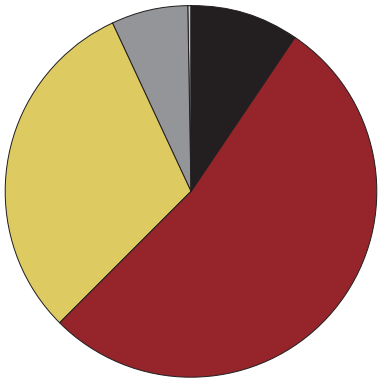
**Use of Roof Replacement Capital Reserve Fund Proposition** – Reserve funds are separate savings accounts utilized to pay for capital projects without borrowing money. This particular account was approved by voters in 2022. This proposition authorizes expenditures from the Roof Replacement Capital Reserve Fund to finance roof reconstruction at High School East in the approximate amount of $13,500,000, including all work, preliminary costs, and incidental expenses. **Voting YES means the District is allowed to access the funds in the account to complete the roof project. Voting NO means the money stays in the account unable to be used and the roof project doesn't get done.**

**Additional State Aid to support an Energy Conservation Project Proposition** – The District has entered into a not-to-exceed $32 million Energy Performance Contract to undertake energy conservation measures throughout the District. All project costs are fully off-set by the energy savings generated from the project. **Voting YES means the District receives an enhanced level (i.e. additional amount) of State Aid (i.e. financial support) on the project. Voting NO means the community does not want the State's additional money in support of the project.**

To learn more about these propositions, please visit our Budget webpage by scanning this QR code or by visiting www.hhh.k12.ny.us/budget.

## PROJECTED 2026-2027 EXPENDITURES

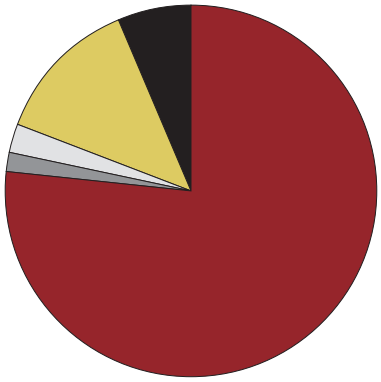
- Instruction $168,875,667
- Undistributed $96,958,500
- General Support $30,508,232
- Transportation * $21,448,793
- Community Service $176,400



*First year of a five-year contract, the total estimated cost of which is $81,646,458. For gasoline and diesel buses, the year one cost is estimated at $14,236,602; the year two estimated cost is $15,375,625; the year three estimated cost is $16,298,438; the year four estimated cost is $17,276,512; the year five estimated cost is $18,658,754.

## PROJECTED 2026-2027 REVENUES

- Tax Levy ** $244,435,820
- State Aid $40,929,869
- Reserves & Fund Balance $19,700,000
- PILOTs $4,850,000
- Miscellaneous $8,051,903



** The District is proposing a tax levy increase of 3.31%, which is consistent with what the property tax levy formula allows.

For more information on the 2026-2027 budget, please visit: www.hhh.k12.ny.us/budget