CLINTON PUBLIC SCHOOL

Budget Hearing

2026-2027



Presented April 29, 2026

Mission

The Clinton-Glen Gardner School District, a community who values traditions, nurtures and cultivates each child to be a compassionate, curious, and creative thinker entrusted and empowered to build and lead the future.

Goals

- **Teachers will focus on building a positive school culture by modeling and teaching respect, acceptance, and character at the elementary level, and promoting the ABCs of Middle School — Accountability, Belonging, and Character — in grades 5–8.**
- **Strengthen literacy instruction to align with NJ literacy law requirements.Incorporate evidence-based literacy strategies in daily instruction.**
- **Implement the district's new Math in Focus program with fidelity in daily instruction. Leverage program resources, including manipulatives and other supports, to maximize learning opportunities and meet the needs of diverse learners.**

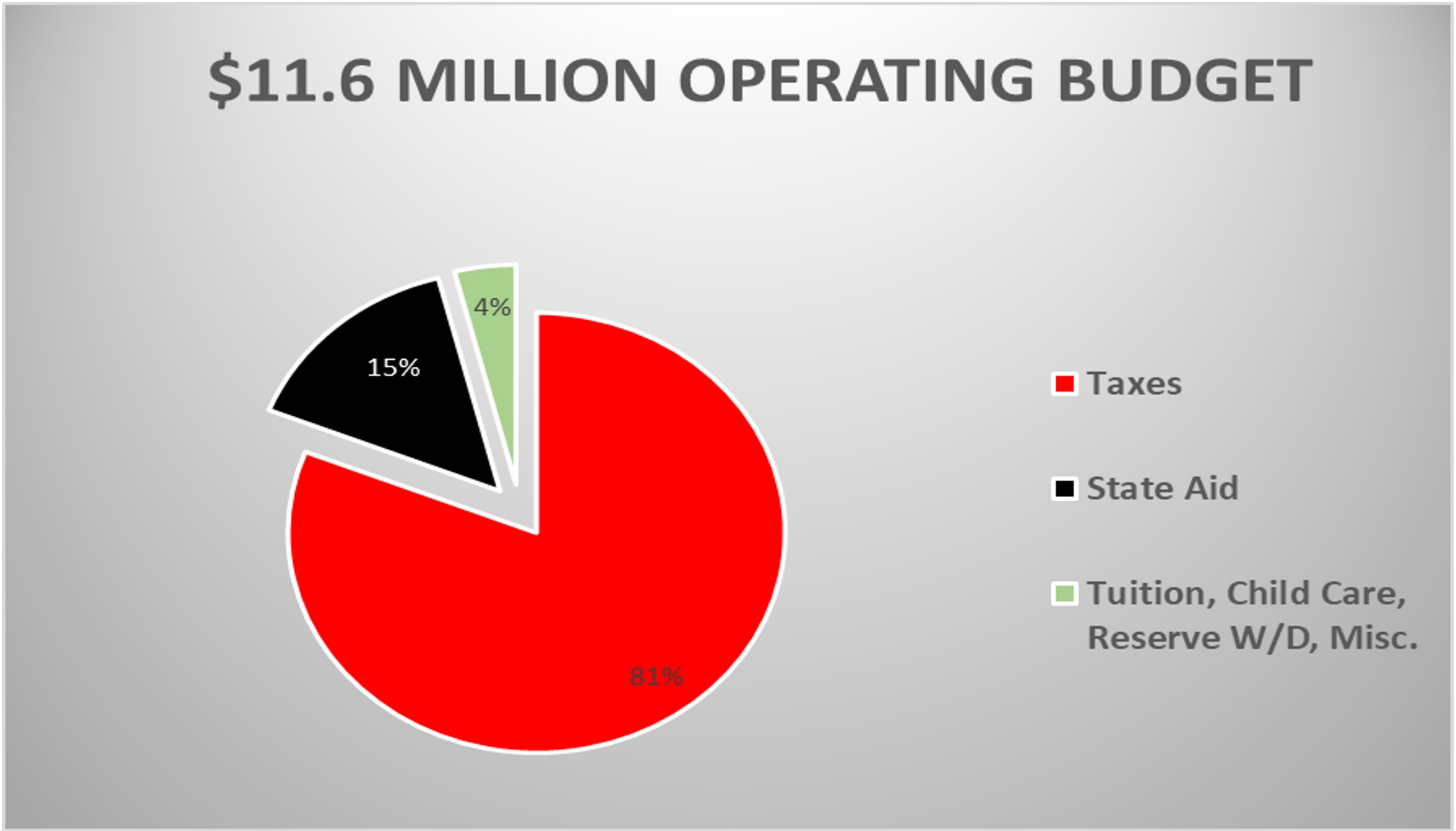
We are supporting key Educational Programs

- 1:1 Chromebooks for every K-8th grade student
- Continuation of Fundations K-3
- Wit and Wisdom for K-3 ELA & Geodes
- Curriculum updates
- Literacy Support through RTI dedicated staff, Reading Specialist and Math Coach
- 5 full sections of High Quality Preschool
- Continued two full counselors, additional nursing services
- Average PK-4 Class Size of 17 (low 15 high 22)
- Since 2018 (including 26-27) average tex levy increase of 3.4%

Budget Summary

- Total Operating budget increase of **8.0% (net of Debt)** or $686,888.00
- Lebanon Borough send/received tuition of **$373,434**
- Contracted Salary second year of five year contract. **CEA 2026-27 results in a 3.6% increase**
- Health Benefit premium increase of **23.5%**
- Estimated Dental Benefit premium increase of **7.0% for 26-27** for 2 years of the negotiated contract with Horizon.

Where do we get our funding?



State Aid

- State Aid for 26-27 resulted in increase of **$27,240** for the district. Increased Equalizaiton Aid helped offset the decrease in Transportation Aid, Special Education Categorical Aid and Security Aid resulted in a slight net gain.
- Second year the revised State Funding formula is implemented
- **Pressure shifted to the Local Fair Share** based on wealth of the community
- State calculates **separately** for each municipality

Options to add to our Budget

- **Lebanon Borough send/received arrangement** for the next 5 years
- Clinton Public will also be **welcoming incoming 6th graders from Lebanon Borough**
- In-House **Before and After Care Program** supporting our programs
- **Special Education Program** attracting student(s) from other school districts

Budget CAP

- **$686,888** or **8.00%** - authority to increase taxes above 2% Budget cap
- **Expanded by:**

  Use of $611,848 from the allowable health care allowance

Future Challenges within a 2% CAP limitation

Continued challenges of managing the sharp health insurance increase

Challenges remain with Ch. 44 impact on Healthcare cost affecting staff premium contribution based on salary level rather than cost of Healthcare policy

Budget CAP

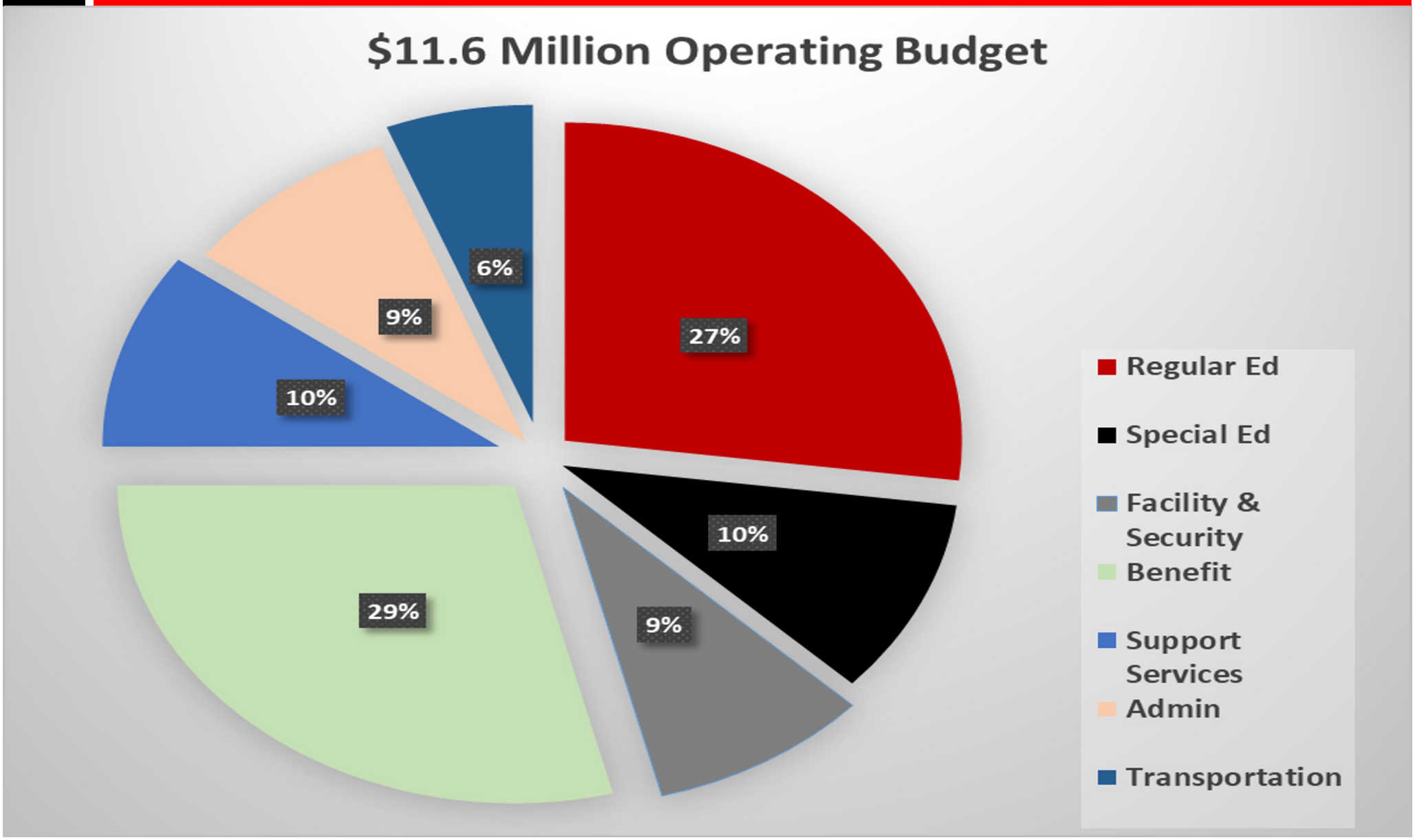
- **Continued increase of Private Provider healthcare cost**- Most likely to be continuing the double digits increase.
- **Expecting 25% increase of Utilities cost**
- **Transportation Cost** - challenge of managing cost for out of district placement and PreK program at private provider location
- No exception in CAP for **capital improvements** absence of a public referendum (unique to school districts)
- Overall increase of expenses that will be consistently above the allowable 2% Budget Cap

PEA

2027

- **One class located at CPS**
- **Four classes with private provider at the local YMCA**
- **State funding at $1,228,425 for regular students**
- **CPS funding at $162,285 for inclusive students**
- **Private provider cost at $852,500**
- **We have 75 seats total of five classrooms for preschool in 26-27 school year**
- **0 students on waitlist**

How do we allocate our spending?



Shared Services & Efficiencies

- **Banking services** provided by a county-wide consortium of schools yielding additional services for payroll and remote depositing
- **Hunterdon, County of Union & ESC NJ** – Internet Bandwidth, Paraprofessionals, Electricity, Educational & Custodial Materials, Facility Maintenance & Services
- **Educational Grants** for expanding programs
- **ACES** consortium of schools for Natural Gas
- **Town of Clinton** Snow Removal, Field Use, and many other areas of working together to share resources
- **Borough of Glen Gardner** for Snow Removal & ongoing cooperation through 2009 State merger transitions
- Shared **professional development** with in-county schools
- Developing additional **special education programs** in C.P.S
- Shared Services with Lebanon Borough School

Long Range Facility Plan

2022 Referendum Project Completions $985,000 will be paid off in 2026

- Playground/Outdoor Space Renovation Project

Capital Reserve Account - $1,964,852

- **25-26 Garage to Small Instructional Space Project along with Construction of Freestanding Garage on property**
- **HVAC upgrade and Roof resurfacing are on the 26-27 list for projects**
- Future projects at 100% from Reserve unless project is funded by a Bond Referendum, and then the state pays 40% in state aid

Maintenance Reserve Account –$395,860

Emergency Reserve Account - $0

Allocation Percentage of General Fund Taxes

District	2025-26 % of Taxes	2025-26Tax in millions	2026-27 % of Taxes	2026-27Tax in millions
Clinton	70.37%	$6.043	67.73%	$6.360
Glen Gardner	29.63%	$2.543	32.27%	$3.031
Total Taxes	*100%*	*$8.585*	*100%*	*$9.391*

- State of New Jersey determines allocation each year

Allocation Percentage of Merged Districts Elementary

2025-26 SFRA ALLOCATION OF EQUALIZED VALUATION 2/27/25
ELEMENTARY

COUNTY=19-HUNTERDON DISTRICT=0910-CLINTON TOWN-GLEN GARDNER

DIST NUM	MUNICIPALITY	ELEMENTARY EQUALIZED VALUATION	2025-26 ELEMENTARY PERCENT
0910	CLINTON TOWN	371,721,019	70.3708253
1740	GLEN GARDNER	156,510,698	29.6291747
	CLINTON TOWN-GLEN GARDNER	528,231,717	100.0000000

2026-27 SFRA ALLOCATION OF EQUALIZED VALUATION 3/12/26
ELEMENTARY

COUNTY=19-HUNTERDON DISTRICT=0910-CLINTON TOWN-GLEN GARDNER

DIST NUM	MUNICIPALITY	ELEMENTARY EQUALIZED VALUATION	2026-27 ELEMENTARY PERCENT
0910	CLINTON TOWN	394,577,771	67.7264877
1740	GLEN GARDNER	188,027,033	32.2735123
	CLINTON TOWN-GLEN GARDNER	582,604,804	100.0000000

Annual Tax Allocation

The State releases an annual tax allocation table for districts that are combined or merged. This table determines each municipality's share of the total tax levy, based primarily on student enrollment and equalized property valuations.

For our district, the allocation is shared between Clinton and Glen Gardner.

Additionally, for elementary districts that send students to a regional high school, the allocation is further influenced by overall high school enrollment. As student counts shift, so does each municipality's proportional share.

Because these calculations are percentage-based, even small changes in enrollment or valuation can significantly impact the allocation. As a result, the larger municipality typically experiences more moderate increases or decreases, while the smaller municipality may see more pronounced year-to-year fluctuations—both positive and negative.

Allocation Level at Regional High School 25-26

2025-26 SFRA ALLOCATION OF EQUALIZED VALUATION 2/27/25

COUNTY=19-HUNTERDON DISTRICT=3660-N HUNT/VOORHEES REGIONAL

DIST NUM	MUNICIPALITY	EQUAL. VAL. OF MUNICIPALITY	ELEMENTARY ENROLLMENT 10-15-24	REGIONAL ENROLLMENT 10-15-24	ELEMENTARY PERCENT	ELEMENTARY EQUALIZED VALUATION	REGIONAL EQUALIZED VALUATION	2025-26 PERCENT SHARE
0370	BETHLEHEM TWP	771,491,914	346.00	159.00	68.51	528,549,110	242,942,804	7.4005569
0670	CALIFON	199,646,545	77.00	39.00	66.38	132,525,377	67,121,168	2.0446542
0910	CLINTON TOWN	524,955,541	313.00	129.00	70.81	371,721,019	153,234,522	4.6678509
0920	CLINTON TWP	2,669,497,831	1,171.00	530.50	68.82	1,837,148,407	832,349,424	25.3551418
1600	FRANKLIN TWP	617,699,944	264.00	138.00	65.67	405,643,553	212,056,391	6.4596907
1740	GLEN GARDNER	235,993,212	129.00	65.50	66.32	156,510,698	79,482,514	2.4212072
1970	HAMPTON	141,000,692	130.00	52.50	71.23	100,434,793	40,565,899	1.2357240
2140	HIGH BRIDGE	517,179,425	302.00	143.50	67.79	350,595,932	166,583,493	5.0744891
2590	LEBANON BORO	335,352,597	106.00	44.50	70.43	236,188,834	99,163,763	3.0207401
2600	LEBANON TWP	1,256,439,423	452.00	245.50	64.80	814,172,746	442,266,677	13.4723879
5180	TEWKSBURY TWP	2,015,313,241	439.00	181.50	70.75	1,425,834,118	589,479,123	17.9567935
5270	UNION TWP	1,159,267,367	463.00	206.50	69.16	801,749,311	357,518,056	10.8907637
	N HUNT/VOORHEES REGIONAL	10,443,837,732	4,192.00	1,935.00		7,161,073,898	3,282,763,834	100.0000000

Allocation Level at Regional High School 26-27

2026-27 SFRA ALLOCATION OF EQUALIZED VALUATION 3/12/26

COUNTY=19-HUNTERDON DISTRICT=3660-N HUNT/VOORHEES REGIONAL

DIST NUM	MUNICIPALITY	EQUAL. VAL. OF MUNICIPALITY	ELEMENTARY ENROLLMENT 10-15-25	REGIONAL ENROLLMENT 10-15-25	ELEMENTARY PERCENT	ELEMENTARY EQUALIZED VALUATION	REGIONAL EQUALIZED VALUATION	2026-27 PERCENT SHARE
0370	BETHLEHEM TWP	838,224,939	327.00	150.50	68.48	574,016,438	264,208,501	7.4184022
0670	CALIFON	211,072,157	67.00	39.50	62.91	132,785,494	78,286,663	2.1981199
0910	CLINTON TOWN	572,017,644	308.00	138.50	68.98	394,577,771	177,439,873	4.9821272
0920	CLINTON TWP	3,088,068,966	1,168.00	501.50	69.96	2,160,413,049	927,655,917	26.0465682
1600	FRANKLIN TWP	710,544,516	265.00	132.00	66.75	474,288,464	236,256,052	6.6335580
1740	GLEN GARDNER	251,878,142	134.00	45.50	74.65	188,027,033	63,851,109	1.7928008
1970	HAMPTON	180,903,689	133.00	48.00	73.48	132,928,031	47,975,658	1.3470525
2140	HIGH BRIDGE	532,736,848	288.00	138.50	67.53	359,757,193	172,979,655	4.8568939
2590	LEBANON BORO	393,548,853	95.00	36.50	72.24	284,299,691	109,249,162	3.0674798
2600	LEBANON TWP	1,351,247,139	438.00	238.00	64.79	875,473,021	475,774,118	13.3587064
5180	TEWKSBURY TWP	2,131,480,951	439.00	185.00	70.35	1,499,496,849	631,984,102	17.7447443
5270	UNION TWP	1,284,139,280	458.00	189.50	70.73	908,271,713	375,867,567	10.5535468
	N HUNT/VOORHEES REGIONAL	11,545,863,124	4,120.00	1,843.00		7,984,334,747	3,561,528,377	100.0000000

Tax Rate Data

	Clinton	Glen Gardner
2026/27 Tax Rate	$1.1770	$1.0820
2025/26 Tax Rate	$1.1700	$0.9199
2026/27 Rate Change	**+0.0070**	**+0.1621**
2026/27 Assessed Values	$533,799,600	$274,004,600
2025/26 Assessed Values	$502,517,500	$276,562,200
2026/27 Assessed Value Change	+$31,282,100	**-$2,557,600**

- Tax Rate = [$ requested (Levy) / Assessed Valuations] x $100

2026-27 Estimated Tax Impact

	Clinton	Glen Gardner
2026-27 Tax Bill- per $100,000 Value	$1,177	$1,082
2025-26 Tax Bill- per $100,000 Value	$1,170	$919.9
Estimated taxes increase (decrease)– per $100,000 Value	$7.00	$162.10

- Average Home Price in Clinton Town - **$473,301.00**
- Average Home Price in Glen Gardner Borough - **$362,614.00**

2025-26 Estimated Tax Impact

	Clinton	Glen Gardner
2025-26 Tax Bill- per $100,000 Value	$1,219.1	$919.9
Estimated taxes increase (decrease)– per $100,000 Value	$13.80	$(87.90)

- Average Home Price in Clinton Town - **$439,711.00**
- Average Home Price in Glen Gardner Borough - **$364,736.00**

2026-27 Estimated Tax Impact Regional & Local

	Clinton	Glen Gardner

- Average Home increase for educational purposes which is a combination of regional and local.

  Glen Gardner will experience a decrease in the regional school tax of approximately ($382) and an increase from the local (CPS) of $583 for an estimated combined increase of $201 for the average home in Glen Gardner

  Clinton will experience a decrease in the regional school tax of approximately ($161) and an increase from the local (CPS) of $34 for an estimated combined decrease of $127 for the average home in the Town of Clinton

Debt Impact

District	2022 Bonds 5 year
Clinton	$0
Glen Gardner	$ 0
26-27 Total Taxes	*$0*
25-26 Total Taxes	*$120,027*

- District received a AA or “Stable” Rating by Standard & Poor’s

Budget Landscape

Contextual Budget Information Linked Here

We appreciate your support

- PTO
- Booster Club
- Partners In Education (PIE) Foundation
- Parent Music Association
- Rotarians
- Town of Clinton
- Borough of Glen Gardner

Contact Us

Ask questions - Be informed

Check our website for information

Cpsnj.org