



HEMPSTEAD SCHOOL DISTRICT PRIDE

2026 BUDGET NEWSLETTER
ENSURING STUDENT GROWTH AND ACADEMIC SUCCESS



BUDGET VOTE

Tuesday, May 19, 2026
7:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.
ABGS Middle School
Media Center

PUBLIC BUDGET HEARING

May 12, 2026 – 6:00 p.m.
ABGS Middle School Bandbox
70 Greenwich Street
Hempstead, NY 11550

BUDGET HEARING

A Public Budget Hearing will be held on Tuesday, May 12, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. in the ABGS Middle School Band Box located at 70 Greenwich Street, Hempstead, New York 11550.

IN THIS ISSUE

- Budget Summary
- Proposed Budget: Revenue & Expenditures
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The proposed budget provides funding for:

- High-quality instruction aligned to New York State standards
- Expansion of music, arts, Career and Technical Education and athletics programs
- Expansion of Career and Technical Education with pathways including Culinary Arts, Criminal Law, and Construction
- Advanced Placement and elective course offerings
- Seal of Biliteracy and Seal of Civic Readiness programs
- Social Emotional Learning
- Multi Tiered Support Systems
- Enhanced Professional development
- Transfer to Capital funds to address districtwide HVAC, electrical, plumbing, facilities upgrades, bathroom renovations, parking lot expansions/repairs, HS pool repairs, sidewalk repairs, new HS gym divider & scoreboard, bleacher repairs. The budgeted amount is **\$1,000,000**
- Continued support for athletics, clubs, and extracurricular activities

BUDGET SUMMARY

The 2026-2027 proposed budget of \$378,202,077 is supported by a \$11,195,464 increase in New York State Aid. The District will also appropriate over \$16.5 million in Fund Balance, which are unspent funds from prior years. The Applied Fund Balance will eliminate the allowable \$1,569,766 tax levy increases which offsets the financial burden on taxpayers, contractual salary increases, growth in charter school tuition, rises in special education cost, and other planned expenditures.

Additionally, this budget supports the full complement of instructional programs and extra-curricular activities, including our athletic teams and K-12 clubs, as well as programs that continue to support our students' social-emotional needs.

Did You Know?

Hempstead has not increased the property tax levy in over 9 years, providing more than \$18.85 million in relief to taxpayers.

Revenue	Budget 2025-2026	Proposed Budget 2026-2027	Percent Change
Property Tax Levy	\$75,934,370	\$75,934,370	0%
PILOT	\$5,000,000	\$4,500,000	(10.00)%
State Aid	\$264,027,951	\$275,223,415	4.24%
Total Applied Fund Balance & Reserves	\$10,420,584	\$16,544,292	58.77%
Other Revenues	\$3,450,000	\$6,000,000	73.91%
TOTAL REVENUE	\$358,832,905	\$378,202,077	5.40%



HERE'S WHAT YOU WILL BE VOTING FOR

PROPOSITION #1:

2026-2027 SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET

PROPOSITION #2:

The election of one (1) member of the Board of Education, for a three-year term commencing July 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2029.

PROPOSITION #3:

Establish the Hempstead Union Free School District 2026 Capital Reserve Fund

WHY ARE WE ESTABLISHING A NEW CAPITAL RESERVE FUND (PROPOSITION #3) AND WHAT WILL IT BE USED FOR?

For the district to continue funding capital improvements to its facilities, including districtwide roof reconstruction or replacement; interior and exterior renovations; upgrades to athletic facilities and related structures; site work; safety, security, and technology enhancements; and mechanical, electrical, plumbing, and HVAC improvements. **There is NO cost to Hempstead residents or the tax levy.**

WHERE WILL THE FUNDS COME FROM?

\$19,645,502 from the 2019 Capital Reserve Fund (approved by the voters May 21, 2019), funded through budget appropriations, surplus and reserve funds, available general fund balances in current and future years, and accrued interest, up to a maximum of \$30,000,000. **There is NO cost to Hempstead residents or the tax levy.**

ACADEMIC HIGHLIGHTS

- A districtwide support system ensures every student receives the right level of academic and behavioral support, with targeted services to address learning gaps
- Expanded social-emotional and mental health supports promote student well-being, resilience, and a positive school climate
- A new Computer Science program in Grades 1–6 builds early skills in coding, problem solving, and digital citizenship
- Safe and guided use of artificial intelligence tools supports student learning in writing, research, and critical thinking
- A single communication platform connects families with schools through calls, texts, emails, and app notifications
- Continued access to 1:1 devices ensures all students can engage in digital learning at school and at home
- Instructional tools and data systems provide real-time insights to help teachers personalize learning and monitor progress
- Ongoing professional development supports staff in effectively using technology and implementing high-quality instruction
- English Language Learners receive targeted support through bilingual and ENL programs, strengthening language development across all areas
- Students are prepared to earn the New York State Seal of Biliteracy, recognizing proficiency in multiple languages
- Community partnerships and multicultural events connect families to school resources and opportunities
- Strengthened literacy instruction and updated curriculum resources support improved reading and writing outcomes
- Increased student voice and leadership opportunities promote engagement and ownership of learning
- Expanded arts, music, and cultural programs provide students with access to performances, exhibits, and creative experiences
- Enhanced physical education and athletics programs support student wellness, participation, and character development
- Expanded access to digital library resources, including eBooks and audiobooks, supports literacy across all grade levels



THE 2026-2027 BUDGET SUPPORTS THE MISSION OF THE DISTRICT

The 2026-2027 budget was developed with input from stakeholders across the District, including the Board of Education, the State Monitor, and District Administrators. Through collaboration, we were able to create a budget for the 2026-2027 school year that is fiscally and academically responsible. To this end, we have developed a budget that continues to support and strengthen the current academic programs offered within the Hempstead Union Free School District, as well as meet the rising cost in the expansion of Charter Schools. This proposed budget is based on, among other things, fiscal responsibility and academic achievement.

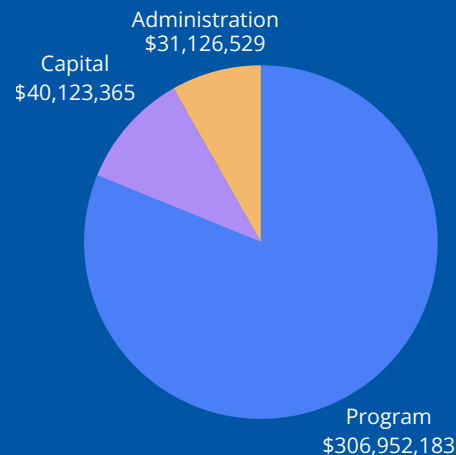
Expense	Budget 2025-2026	Proposed Budget 2026-2027	Percent Change
General Support	\$35,931,070	\$36,620,013	1.92%
Instruction	\$235,640,823	\$256,039,104	8.66%
Transportation	\$12,777,868	\$14,251,850	11.54%
Other Expenditures	\$74,483,144	\$71,291,110	(4.29)%

Note:

Instruction includes \$110,588,604 in Charter School tuition.

Other Expenditures includes employee benefits, debt services, capital transfer, and community service.

THREE-PART BUDGET



BUDGET VOTE & BOARD ELECTION

For more information, please visit the District's website at www.hempsteadschools.org.

For absentee ballots, please call the District Clerk at 516-434-4002.



VOTING REQUIREMENTS

To vote in the school budget election, individuals must:

- Be at least 18 years of age
- Be a United States citizen
- Be a resident of the Hempstead School District for at least 30 days prior to the vote
- Be registered to vote with Nassau County or the school district

WHEN AND WHERE TO VOTE

Date: Tuesday, May 19, 2026

Time: 7:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Location: ABGS Middle School Media Center
70 Greenwich Street, Hempstead, NY 11550

ABSENTEE BALLOTS

Absentee ballots are available for qualified voters who are unable to vote in person due to absence from the district, illness, disability, or other qualifying reasons. Applications for absentee ballots must be completed and submitted within the required timeframe prior to the election. Completed ballots must be received by the district by the day of the vote. For more information or to request an application, please contact the District Clerk's Office or visit the district website.



Hempstead Union Free School District

185 Peninsula Boulevard
Hempstead, NY 11550

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BOARD OF EDUCATION

Mr. Jeffrey Spencer, President

Mr. Victor J. Pratt, Vice President

Mr. LaMont E. Johnson, Trustee

Mrs. Elise Nicholson-Dukes, Trustee

Dr. Joylette Williams, Trustee

Ms. Kimberly Martinez,
Ex-Officio Student Trustee

Ms. April Keys, District Clerk

SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Mr. Gary Rush