HOLLAND CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

2026-2027 BUDGET NEWSLETTER



DISTRICT BUDGET VOTE

May 19, 2026

7 a.m. - 8 p.m.

Holland Community Center

Vote on the School Budget, Vehicle Proposition, Capital Reserve Proposition, and Board of Education Positions



FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

Dear Holland Community:

How quickly a year passes. My hope is that a renewed sense of trust and confidence has helped restore calm across our community. While challenges remain, we are steadfast in our commitment to providing an excellent education for all of our students.

As a community, we rely on your continued support. School districts everywhere are facing significant financial pressures. These include a 2% tax cap that does not keep pace with inflation, rising healthcare costs, state mandates that impact local budgets, demographic shifts, and increasing expectations for student services.

There are no easy solutions. Budget planning often requires us to find new ways to do more with less. An increasing number of school districts are experiencing financial strain, and ours is no exception. That said, we have developed a fiscally responsible budget for the 2026-2027 school year.

We have strategically filled several positions necessary to meet student and staffing needs. Among those are a School Resource Officer (SRO), a speech teacher, an elementary teacher, increased nursing hours, a classroom aide, and a head bus driver.

"It takes a village." With that in mind, I would like to sincerely thank our staff for their dedication to ensuring that students' needs are met each and every day. Their creativity, collaboration, and commitment are helping us build a sustainable future.

Together with your support, we will continue to foster a nurturing, inclusive organization focused on excellence. I am deeply grateful for the meaningful impact you have on the Holland Central School District.

With sincere thanks,

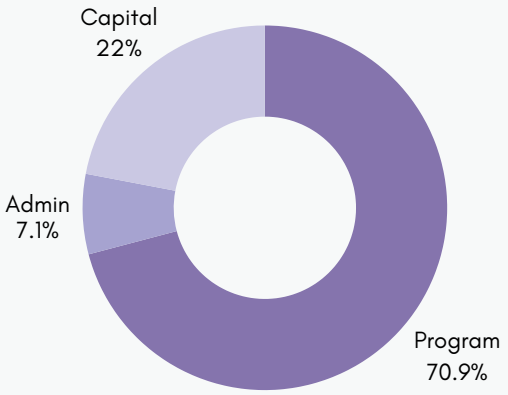
Cathy Fabiatos
Superintendent of Schools



2026-2027 PROPOSED EXPENDITURES

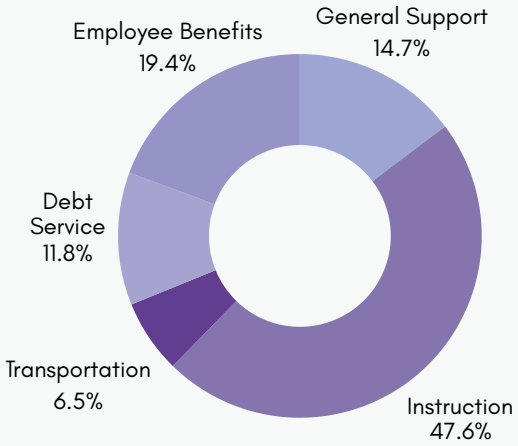
TRIPARTITE BUDGET

	2025-2026	2026-2027	Change	% Change
Program	$17,049,770	$17,126,737	$76,967	0.45%
Capital	$4,483,100	$5,318,340	$835,240	18.63%
Administration	$1,532,469	$1,715,728	$183,259	11.96%
Total	**$23,065,339**	**$24,160,805**	**$1,095,466**	**4.75%**



COMPONENT BUDGET

	2025-2026	2026-2027	Change	% Change
General Support	$2,973,347	$3,557,518	$584,171	19.65%
Instruction	$11,493,375	$11,498,513	$5,138	0.04%
Transportation	$1,160,903	$1,577,848	$416,945	35.92%
Employee Benefits	$4,983,293	$4,675,300	($307,993)	-6.18%
Debt Service	$2,454,421	$2,851,626	$397,205	16.18%
Total	**$23,065,339**	**$24,160,805**	**$1,095,466**	**4.75%**



2026-2027 PROPOSED REVENUES

	2025-2026	2026-2027	Change	% Change
Interfund Transfers & Appropriated Fund Balance	$1,157,761	$1,294,556	$136,795	11.82%
Misc. Revenues	$586,830	$624,200	$37,370	6.37%
Property Tax Levy	$9,021,461	$9,348,309	$326,848	3.62%
Sales Tax	$1,020,000	$1,110,000	$90,000	8.82%
State Aid	$11,279,287	$11,783,740	$504,453	4.47%
Total	**$23,065,339**	**$24,160,805**	**$1,095,466**	**4.75%**



ESTIMATED TAX IMPACT

	Rate in 2025-2026	*Rate in 2026-2027	Increase Per $100,000
Aurora	$44.90	$46.55	$168.52
Colden	$35.90	$37.22	$136.97
Concord	$34.52	$35.79	$131.71
Holland	$18.70	$19.39	$71.35
Sardinia	$27.20	$28.20	$103.78
Wales	$34.52	$35.79	$131.71
Java	$11.84	$12.28	$45.17
Sheldon	$10.06	$10.43	$38.38

*Rates are **estimates** based on assessment values, equalization rates, and exemptions from 2025-2026.

TAX LEVY HISTORY

2017-2018	0.00%
2018-2019	1.98%
2019-2020	2.73%
2020-2021	3.33%
2021-2022	1.90%
2022-2023	2.99%
2023-2024	3.08%
2024-2025	3.98%
2025-2026	2.99%
2026-2027	3.62%

All within formula allowed tax cap limit.



STEM & ART CLUBS

VOTER & ABSENTEE BALLOT INFORMATION

QUALIFICATION FOR VOTERS

To be eligible to vote, you must be a U.S. citizen, at least 18 years of age, and a resident of the District for at least 30 days prior to the date of the vote.



ABSENTEE/EARLY VOTING APPLICATIONS

You may request an absentee/early mail ballot application by emailing the District Clerk (sradecki@hollandcsd.org) or by calling 716-537-8209. Absentee ballots will be mailed to voters in the District who request one.

IMPORTANT DATES

- May 12, 2026 – Completed early mail and absentee ballot applications due
- May 19, 2026 – Budget vote 7 a.m. – 8 p.m. at the Holland Community Center – Absentee ballots due by 5 p.m. to the District Clerk's Office



MIDDLE SCHOOL MENTORS





2026-2027 SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET NOTICE

Overall Budget Proposal	Budget Adopted for the 2025-26 School Year	Budget Proposed for the 2026-27 School Year	Contingency Budget for the 2026-27 School Year *
Total Budgeted Amount, Not Including Separate Propositions	$ 23,065,339	$24,160,805	$23,531,816
Increase/Decrease for the 2026-27 School Year		$1,095,466	$466,477
Percentage Increase/Decrease in Proposed Budget		4.75 %	2.02%
Change in the Consumer Price Index		2.63%	
A. Proposed Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount	$9,021,461	$9,348,309	
B. Levy to Support Library Debt, if Applicable	$0	$0	
C. Levy for Non-Excludable Propositions, if Applicable **	$0	$0	
D. Total Tax Cap Reserve Amount Used to Reduce Current Year Levy	$0	$0	
E. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy (A + B + C - D)	$9,021,461	$9,348,309	$9,021,461
F. Total Permissible Exclusions	$734,323	$936,886	
G. School Tax Levy Limit, Excluding Levy for Permissible Exclusions	$8,287,138	$8,411,423	
H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, Excluding Levy to Support Library Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions (E – B – F + D)	$8,287,138	$8,411,423	
I. Difference: G – H (Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval – See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions) **	$0	$0	
Administrative Component	$1,532,469	$1,715,728	$1,705,728
Program Component	$17,049,770	$17,126,737	$16,734,398
Capital Component	$4,483,100	$5,318,340	$5,091,690

* Provide a statement of assumptions made in projecting a contingency budget for the 2026-27 school year, should the proposed budget be defeated pursuant to Section 2023 of the Education Law.

It is anticipated that a contingent budget would require $628,989 in reductions including eliminating instructional staff, non-essential operation of plant maintenance, community use of District facilities without being fully reimbursed, and non-essential equipment purchases.

** List Separate Propositions that are not included in the Total Budgeted Amount: (Tax Levy associated with educational or transportation services propositions are not eligible for exclusion and may affect voter approval requirements)

Description	Amount
Reduction of equipment and outside facility use without full reimbursement	$136,650
Reduction of instructional staff and student supplies	$392,339
Removal of Capital Outlay	$100,000
	$628,989

*NOTE TO SCHOOL DISTRICT BUSINESS OFFICIALS: Please submit an electronic version (Word or PDF) of this completed form to: emscmgts@nysed.gov	Under the Budget Proposed for the 2026-27 School Year
Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings[1]	$387

The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2026-27 by the qualified voters of the Holland Central School District, Erie County, New York, will be held at the Holland Community Center, 3 Legion Drive, Holland, NY 14080 on Tuesday, May 19, 2026 between the hours of 7:00am and 8:00pm, prevailing time, at which time the polls will be opened to vote by voting ballot or machine. ***Districts should include information according to Executive Orders and as advised by legal counsel.***

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1. The basic school tax relief (STAR) exemption is authorized by section 425 of the Real Property Tax Law.

SCHOOL BUDGET VOTE AND BOARD MEMBER ELECTION

MAY 19, 2026

7 A.M. - 8 P.M. AT THE HOLLAND COMMUNITY CENTER

PROPOSITION 1: BUDGET

$24,160,805 - Our tax levy increase is 3.62%

PROPOSITION 2: PURCHASE OF FLEET VEHICLES

- Diesel Collins DH516 34 Passenger Bus: $116,197
- Diesel DE516WR Wheelchair Bus: $127,889
- Ford F-450 4x4 Dump Truck with Plow: $100,000

Total Vehicle Proposition: $344,086

PROPOSITION 3: ESTABLISHMENT OF CAPITAL RESERVE

- Authorize BOE to establish new 10-Year Capital Reserve
- Fund up to $2,000,000
- Authorize transfer of remaining funds from 2021 Capital Reserve to new reserve

BOARD OF EDUCATION SEATS

Two open seats for five-year terms to end in 2031.

CANDIDATES FOR THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

There are two (2) five-year seats open on the Board of Education. All potential candidates were invited to submit photographs and statements for this publication. The District is not responsible for facts or opinions contained in any of this information. There is a space on the ballot for any write-in candidates.

At the time of publication, one community member has submitted a petition, and his biography is below.



RICK HOPE

"My name is Rick Hope, and I am excited to announce that I am running for one of the open seats on the Holland Central School Board. Unlike my wife, who is a second-generation graduate of HCS, I grew up in Buffalo. We have two children, our daughter is in 5th grade and our son is in 4th grade. Prior to them starting school we wanted them to grow up in a close-knit community where everyone looks out for each other. I've heard the stories from my wife and her family over the years 'Where everyone knows your name' in Holland. We decided this was the perfect place for our children to grow up and be the foundation for their future.

I am retiring this year after 25 years as a NYS Corrections officer and I look forward to having more time to participate in school and community events. As a member of the board, I will focus on key priorities: safety of our students, supporting our teachers and staff, ensuring responsible and transparent use of district resources, and keeping students at the center of every decision we make. Our educators work hard every day, and they deserve the tools, respect, and support necessary to help students reach their full potential.

I also believe that parents, teachers, and community members should have a voice in shaping the future of our schools. Open communication, transparency, and collaboration are essential to building trust and making thoughtful decisions that benefit all students.

Our district has many strengths, and I want to help build on them while addressing the challenges ahead. By working together, we can continue to provide a high-quality education that prepares students not only for college and careers, but for life.

I would be honored to serve our community and advocate for the success of every student and keep the traditional values of Holland alive."

STUDENTS PROTECTING OUR DRINKING WATER

By Madison Cain, Carson Kerber, Lydia Peterson, and Nathan Perrigo



DWSP2, also known as the Drinking Water Source Protection Plan, is a New York State-led program that supports and helps towns or cities protect and improve their public drinking water sources and the surrounding environment. Communities that are accepted into the DWSP2 program, such as Holland, work with technical assistance providers to develop and initiate their Drinking Water Source Protection Plan. Holland's DWSP2 goal is to provide everyone with safe and reliable drinking water, increase public awareness, and evaluate and plan for current and future land use. For the past four years, Holland's Environmental Science class has been working with DWSP2 to create and implement this plan.

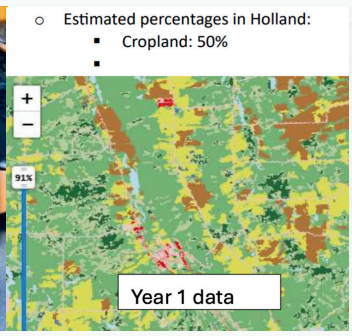
In year 1 of the project, students focused on gathering, compiling, and analyzing water quality data in the area most critical for source water protection. In years 2-3, students updated the maps using ArcGIS software and made story maps consisting of relevant water quality data and the reasoning behind the importance of the data. Students support the community by finding ways to protect public health, becoming and educating citizens to be environmental stewards, and evaluating current use and planning for future land use. At least eight former students have since graduated high school and gone on to pursue environmental internships or careers.

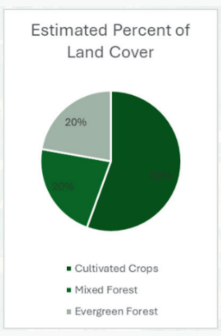
So far this school year, the Buffalo State Environmental Science Class has taken a field trip around the town of Holland's watershed to learn about places like the local wells, agriculture, and salt tents, along with a bus ride down to the sewage treatment plant to get an in-depth tour of the facility. This set the students up with background information about Holland's waterways to push them to work on maps of our town's properties, create an eventual priority list for the rest of their school year, and help future students on their DWSP2 endeavors.

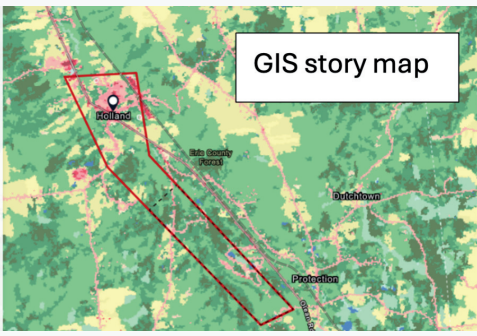
Currently, we are contributing to the DWSP2 project by creating academic materials for a stand at the Holland Tulip Festival to educate people on the Drinking Water Source Protection Plan and what they can do to help support it. The stand will include helpful information and tips as well as grants that people can apply for. Next month, we will be meeting with Buffalo Niagara Waterkeeper to learn how to measure chloride levels/salt runoff in the water. The data we collect will be used to fill in data gaps for Holland's waterways.

This legacy project will be passed on to future students for many years to come.















VOTE

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www.hollandcsd.org

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