



MAY 2026

Trunkline

SOMERS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWS



Budget Overview

The mission of the Somers Central School District is to *ignite a passion in each student by engaging all learners at a personal level to ensure success in a global society*. The residents of Somers are committed to the students of the District and the proposed budget for the 2026-2027 school year reflects this dedication.

The proposed 2026-2027 school budget is \$116,007,313, a 2.23% year-to-year increase. This represents a 2.31% increase in the tax levy, which is the portion of the budget raised by property taxes. The budget would remain within the state-set tax cap for the 15th consecutive year. The District is committed to responsible financial planning, fiscal stewardship and allocation of resources to ensure a safe learning environment, where all students achieve success.

The District funds all of its programs in the most efficient way possible. The majority of funding – approximately 72% – supports the salaries and benefits of teachers, administrators and support staff to maintain a dedicated, caring and highly skilled staff to nurture the District’s students.

The vision for the SCSD encompasses three fundamental areas, each of which is an important component of the Whole Child: Academic Knowledge & Skills, Social, Emotional, & Physical Wellness and Global Citizenship. The proposed budget utilizes the aforementioned funds in a way that sets SCSD students up for success, particularly in these three areas.

Within its disciplined spending, the District continues to strengthen alignment with the New York State Portrait of a Graduate competencies. This year, the District strengthened data-informed systems by refining its Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS) structure for students. It also advanced high-quality instruction by expanding best practices and professional learning in the use of AI among faculty and inclusive strategies for all students. The District’s emphasis on Whole Child development is supported by this ongoing work, as well as the expansion of executive functioning supports and digital citizenship skills.

Dr. Adam Bronstein
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS
SOMERS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT



Ballot Breakdown

PROPOSITION 1:

General Fund Budget
\$116,007,313

- Retain current extracurricular activities and clubs
- Maintain favorable student-teacher ratios
- Sustain a full continuum of academic supports, including AIS and enrichment

BUDGET & TRUSTEE VOTE

Tuesday, May 19, 2026

7 a.m. – 9 p.m.
Middle School Gym
Use lower parking lot

Somers PTA Council News



The Somers PTA Council works with PTA units in each school and the district-wide Special Education PTA (SEPTA) to support teachers and enrich students' learning experiences. This year, the Primrose PTA supported our youngest learners through science programs like BubbleMania and cultural assemblies emphasizing growth and grit. The Somers Intermediate School PTA sponsored author visits, threw another successful Birthday Party, and celebrated budding 5th grade scientists.

The Somers Middle School PTA hosted fall and spring socials for all grades, and launched their Cruisin' Into Spring Fundraiser for our community. The Somers High School PTA celebrated our seniors and hosted a powerful Hang Up and Drive presentation for juniors and sophomores.

SEPTA welcomed wonderful speakers and organized community events, including the popular magic show in May, and continues to support Recess Refresh in the primary schools. The PTA Council, while supporting all our units, proudly presented the first coffee and conversation with our Board of Education members, co-sponsored the district's Tusker Cafe guest speaker, and once again held a successful e-Waste Recycling Day and Bus Driver Appreciation Breakfast.



We are grateful for the support of Dr. Bronstein, the administration, and the entire Somers community, and we invite parents to join the conversation by joining the PTA. Look for our PTA umbrellas on all school websites!



Dear Somers Community,

We are pleased to present the proposed budget for the 2026-2027 academic year. As we reach the conclusion of the Somers Central School District's annual budget development process, we would like to share our appreciation for the collaboration and engagement that have guided this work.



Throughout this budget cycle, the Board of Education has worked closely with district leadership, staff and community to thoughtfully assess priorities and align resources with student needs. We have also been intentional in broadening the voices informing our decisions. With the addition of our ex officio student board members, student perspectives have become an integral part of our discussions, helping ensure that this budget reflects the experiences and needs of those it is designed to serve.



We are pleased to report that the proposed budget remains under the New York State tax cap for another year. This reflects our continued commitment to fiscal responsibility while still

making strategic investments in our schools.

Our goal remains unchanged: to maintain rigorous academic standards while supporting multiple pathways that allow every student to thrive. From academics and the arts to athletics and career-focused opportunities, this budget is designed to sustain a well-rounded educational experience for all learners.

Transparency and community engagement remain central to our work. Board meetings and budget presentations are open to the public and available on the district website, making it easy for community members to stay informed.



Thank you for your continued trust, support, and partnership in the education of Somers students. We encourage everyone to review the budget materials, ask questions and participate in the upcoming vote on May 19th.

Sincerely,

Amanda Kandel
PRESIDENT, BOARD OF EDUCATION

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	\$ 113,477,113	\$ 116,007,313	\$ 113,894,210
Increase/Decrease for the 2026-27 School Year		\$ 2,530,200	\$ 417,097
Percentage Increase/Decrease in Proposed Budget		2.23 %	0.37 %
Change in the Consumer Price Index		2.63 %	
A. Proposed Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount	\$ 91,447,907	\$ 93,561,010	
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)	\$ 91,447,907	\$ 93,561,010	\$ 91,447,907
F. Total Permissible Exclusions	\$ 5,604,092	\$ 5,740,309	
G. School Tax Levy Limit, <u>Excluding</u> Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$ 85,843,815	\$ 87,820,701	
H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, <u>Excluding</u> Levy to Support Library Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions (E – B – F + D)	\$ 85,843,815	\$ 87,820,701	
I. Difference: G – H (Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval – See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions) **	\$ 0	\$ 0	
Administrative Component	\$ 10,811,687	\$ 11,313,873	\$ 10,850,000
Program Component	\$ 86,731,884	\$ 88,517,511	\$ 87,180,181
Capital Component	\$ 15,933,542	\$ 16,175,929	\$ 15,864,029

* 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. A reduction of \$2,113,103 is needed to comply with this requirement. Reductions would include additional instructional FTE reductions, athletic coaching position reductions, no new equipment orders, any planned renovation projects by B&G staff outside of projects involving safety, and extremely limited use of our school buildings by community groups. Community groups would need to pay for any custodial overtime associated with the use of school buildings.

** 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



Under the Budget Proposed for the 2026-27 School Year

Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings¹	\$ 1,586
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¹ The basic school tax relief (STAR) exemption is authorized by section 425 of the Real Property Tax Law.

The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2026-27 by the qualified voters of the Somers Central School District, Westchester County, New York, will be held at Somers Middle School in said district on Tuesday, May 19, 2026 between the hours of 7:00am and 9:00pm, prevailing time in the Somers Middle School, at which time the polls will be opened to vote by voting ballot or machine.

2026-2027 BUDGET: Questions and Answers

Q. How will the budget affect my taxes?

A. Somers 2026-2027 tax rate is estimated at \$196.76 per \$1,000 assessed value. That means the annual tax bill for a home assessed at \$70,000 would increase by \$319.89. For a condominium assessed at \$23,000, the annual cost would increase \$105.11. These are estimates based on the latest assessed value figures from the Somers Assessor's office. The tax rate is not set until August when assessments are finalized by the Town. Tax certioraris settled between now and August could impact the tax rate.



Q. What will happen if the proposed budget is defeated?

A. In the event the voters reject the district's proposed budget, the Board of Education can hold a second vote on June 16, or adopt a contingent budget. If voters reject the budget twice, the Board must adopt a contingent budget. A contingent budget would be \$417,097 more than the current budget, an increase of 0.37%. It would result in an estimated tax rate of \$192.32 per \$1,000 of assessed value or an increase of \$0.13 compared to the 2025-2026 tax rate. For a contingent budget the district would need to reduce its proposed budget by \$2,113,103. This would result in cuts to full time teaching staff, athletic coaches, co-curricular clubs, and access to school buildings by community groups.



Budget Copies Available

Copies of the Somers CSD's budget document for the 2026-2027 school year may be obtained by visiting the district website at www.somersschools.org. Information on the budget can be found under several tabs: Our District, Board of Education, Business Office and Community tabs. You may also pick up a copy of the budget document during the school day from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the principal's office in each school and at the district office, located in Somers Middle School at 250 Route 202, Somers, New York.



P.O. Box 620, Lincolndale, N.Y. 10540

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SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Dr. Adam Bronstein

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RURAL ROUTE, STAR ROUTE OR POST OFFICE BOX HOLDER LOCAL

Budget and Trustee Vote, Tuesday, May 19, 2026
7 a.m. – 9 p.m. ★ Middle School Gym
Use lower parking lot

Somers Education Foundation News

The Somers Education Foundation (SEF) thanks everyone who has continued to support its mission of providing grants and scholarships to support the SCSD and its students. Now in our 32nd year, we have cumulatively awarded over \$2 million dollars across more than 500 grants and scholarships.



Recent grants include a new playground for the Universal Pre-K at Primrose, a "Zen Den" and the annual Author's Day at Somers Intermediate School, a chess club and materials for a puppet-making class at Somers Middle School, and new equipment for the student sports broadcasting club at Somers High School.

We thank all who attended our first-ever Trivia Night in October 2025, and everyone at SIS and Primrose who supported our 2025 "WizFit" fitness and character program with the Harlem Wizards. We are repeating WizFit this spring before the 28th annual SEF-hosted Wizards basketball game vs. the Somers Wiz-Busters (teachers and administrators) at SHS on May 15. Join us for this always amazing night! We will also host our 25th annual Golf Outing at Anglebrook Club in Lincolndale on June 8. Golfer spots and sponsorships are available; contact us at nchakmakian@gmail.com.

We will conclude the school year by awarding \$7,500 in annual scholarships to graduating seniors. We are always looking for new members; reach us at seinfo123@gmail.com. Please check out our newly upgraded website at www.sefny.org. You can also find us on our Facebook and Instagram pages. Thank you!

School Board Candidates

All registered voters may vote for two candidates. The candidates are seeking a three-year term.

- Tessa O'Connell
- Patrick Varbero

2026-2027 School Budget Vote & Trustee Election

- Absentee ballots will be automatically mailed to residents who are on the Westchester County list of permanently sick and disabled persons.
- You may call the district clerk at (914) 277-2403 for voter registration and absentee/early mail ballot information or go to the district website budget page.
- Absentee/early mail ballots can be hand delivered to the district clerk in the district office at Somers Middle School between 8:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.
- If you need an absentee or early mail ballot, an application must first be completed. Applications are available on the district website or by calling the district clerk at (914) 277-2403.

VOTE! Tuesday,
May 19, 2026

7 a.m. – 9 p.m. ★ Middle School Gym ★ Use lower parking lot