



AKRON

Central School District

Budget Issue 2026

ANNUAL BUDGET VOTE

Tuesday, May 19, 2026

NOON - 9:00PM

GYM 3

Adjacent to the Upper HS Parking Lot

Budget Public Hearing

Tuesday, May 12, 2026

7:00PM

High School Cafeteria

Voter Qualifications: You are eligible to vote if you are a U.S. citizen who is 18 years of age or older and a resident within the Akron Central School District for a period of 30 days prior to the vote. **Please bring identification.**

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Our students were all smiles on the first day of school in September.



The annual Spirit Week Cardboard Boat Race for Akron Middle School in September was a blast with thrills and spills!



Our Indigenous students performed several Native American social dances for elementary students in November, and students, teachers and principals were given a chance to join the fun.



Our Akron Tiger Class of 2026 Seniors met up with the Class of 2038 Kindergarten Cubs for a meet and greet on the football field in September.

Budget Vote • Tuesday, May 19, 2026

www.akronschools.org

#OneAKRON

Akron Central 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	\$39,044,762	\$40,857,103	\$40,513,540								
Increase/Decrease for the 2026-27 School Year		\$1,812,342	\$1,468,779								
Percentage Increase/Decrease in Proposed Budget		4.6%	3.8%								
Change in the Consumer Price Index		2.63%									
A. Proposed Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount	\$10,684,980	\$10,952,104									
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)	\$10,684,980	\$10,952,104	\$10,684,980								
F. Total Permissible Exclusions	\$416,329	\$505,368									
G. School Tax Levy Limit, Excluding Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$10,355,017	\$10,532,216									
H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, Excluding Levy to Support Library Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions (E – B – F + D)	\$10,268,651	\$10,446,736									
I. Difference: G – H (Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval – See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions) **	\$86,366	\$85,895									
Administrative Component	\$4,574,942	\$4,485,680	\$4,485,680								
Program Component	\$26,895,902	\$27,762,448	\$27,654,085								
Capital Component	\$7,573,918	\$8,608,975	\$8,373,775								
The Capital Component of this budget includes \$100,000 to fund a Capital Outlay Project.											
A CONTINGENT BUDGET FOR 2026-27 IS ANTICIPATED TO RESULT IN A DECREASE OF \$243,563 IN CONTINGENT EQUIPMENT EXPENDITURES. OTHER NON-CONTINGENT EXPENDITURE LINES THAT TOTAL \$100,000 WILL ALSO BE REDUCED IF NECESSARY. FINAL CONTINGENT BUDGET DECISIONS WILL BE MADE BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION IN LATE JUNE IF REQUIRED.											
<table><tr><th>Description</th><th>Amount</th></tr><tr><td>Purchase and Financing of School Buses</td><td>\$572,000</td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td></tr></table>				Description	Amount	Purchase and Financing of School Buses	\$572,000				
Description	Amount										
Purchase and Financing of School Buses	\$572,000										

	Under the Budget Proposed for the 2026-27 School Year
Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings ¹	\$275

The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2026-27 by the qualified voters of the AKRON CENTRAL school district, ERIE County, New York, will be held at the High School in said district on Tuesday, May 19, 2026, between the hours of 12:00PM and 9:00PM, prevailing time at which time the polls will be opened to vote by voting ballot or machine.

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



Our elementary students showed off their talents during the Homegrown Assembly in February.



Our varsity field hockey team enjoyed a congratulatory and best-of-luck send-off prior to taking part in the NYSPHSAA Field Hockey State Championship.



Students in our middle and high school orchestras were hard at work preparing for the Music and Munchies concert in February.



Akron's student team raised \$12,663 for Special Olympics New York, sixth across schools in western New York, as they participated in the Cool School Polar Plunge in December at Woodlawn Beach State Park.

A Message from our Board President & Superintendent

Dear Akron Community,

At Akron Central School District, we believe our budget should reflect the values, priorities, and shared vision of our community. This year's budget development process has been shaped by the voices of our students, families, staff, and community members. Through surveys, conversations, and ongoing engagement, your feedback has directly informed our collective goals and decisions.

We are incredibly proud of the strong academic outcomes our students continue to achieve. Their success reflects a dedicated staff, supportive families, and a community that deeply values education. Most importantly, it reflects the hard work and perseverance of our students. We remain focused on ensuring that every graduate leaves Akron well prepared for college or career, and beyond. This strong foundation allows us to thoughtfully expand opportunities while maintaining the high standards our community expects and deserves.

A key focus of this year's budget is expanding meaningful opportunities for students. In response to community feedback, we are excited to reintroduce Family and Consumer Science at the Middle School, launch a personal finance curriculum, and offer a new agriculture elective. At the High School level, we continue to strengthen partnerships with local businesses to provide valuable work-based learning experiences. We are also proud to formally support a new Elementary drama club and a High School debate club. Creating diverse opportunities that align with the interests and aspirations of our students remains at the heart of this work.

We are equally excited about our continued investment in facilities and programs that serve both our students and the broader community. This includes completing our 2023 Capital Improvement Project and the upcoming opening of our turf sports complex. This investment will benefit student-athletes, youth programs, and the Akron community for years to come. We continue our music instrument replacement cycle and maintain our commitment to updating equipment throughout our school and community fitness center.

This year's budget also includes a capital outlay project to replace our pool timing system and scoreboard. By utilizing district reserves and leveraging approximately 82.5 percent state reimbursement, we are able to responsibly maintain our facilities while minimizing impact on taxpayers.

While we are excited about these enhancements, we remain grounded in our commitment to responsible, long-term financial planning. Our approach prioritizes strong instructional programs, appropriate staffing, and well-maintained facilities, with a focus on economically sustainable continuity.

This budget reflects a thoughtful balance between expanding opportunities and maintaining fiscal responsibility guided by community input and a shared commitment to student success. It is through this collective effort that we continue to move forward together as OneAkron.

We thank you for your continued partnership, trust, and support of the Akron Central School District.

Sincerely,

Erik Polkowski
Board of Education President

Andrea Kersten Taylor
Superintendent of Schools



Erik Polkowski
President, Board
of Education



Andrea Kersten Taylor
Superintendent
of Schools

Photo highlights of another fantastic school year at

The 2025-26 school year at Akron Schools was filled with student success and enriching opportunities, a glimpse of which is captured by dedicated faculty and staff at akronschools.org or on our Facebook page [@AkronCentralSchoolDistrict](https://www.facebook.com/AkronCentralSchoolDistrict).



It was Apple Exploration Day for first-grade students in October, featuring science and art activities for students to enjoy.



Students in second grade had fun with their classmates out in the snow!



Our students explored culture and history during the Lunar New Year celebration at the LMC.



Our fifth graders became entrepreneurs for Small Business Day, creating products and experiences to be sold to classmates, creating lessons about setting prices, calculating profits and seeing supply and demand.



Students James Fink and senior Shelby Ceratt perform as the Big Bad Wolf and Little Red Riding Hood in a performance of "Into the Woods."



Congratulations to the newest members of the Akron chapter of the National Honor Society!

in these photos. Discover more stories and photo galleries highlighting the achievements of our students and the commitment of our



Celebrating 100 Years of Akron High School

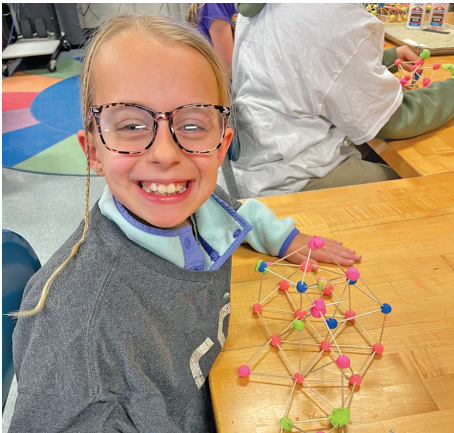
This year marked 100 years of learning and building community at Akron High School, a milestone that was celebrated by students across the district. We want to thank our school community for generations of support, and we cannot wait for the opportunities that lie ahead.



2026-2027 General Fund Appropriations



Students in the Rotary International Interact Club worked hard and had fun during their 2026 Just Build It service trip to the Elizabeth Seton Nutrition Center in Bani, Dominican Republic.



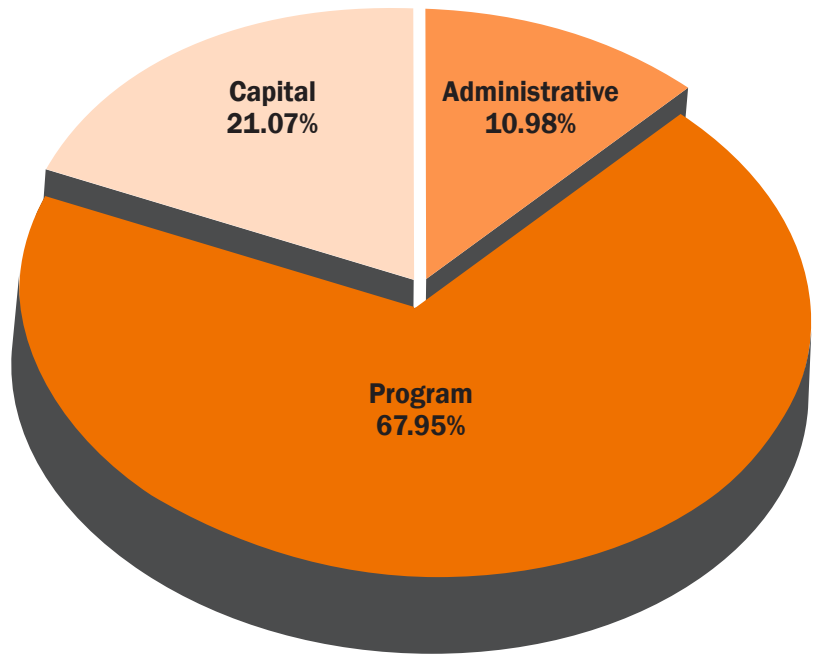
Students in Miss Wazny's art class created toothpick sculptures using Model Magic, toothpicks, and glue.



Fifth graders put their archery skills to the test during PE class in December. The top students had the chance to compete against their teachers.

Tripartite Budget

Total: \$40,857,103



	Adopted 2025-26	Proposed 2026-27	\$ Change
Administrative Component			
Board of Education/District Clerk	\$ 46,670	\$ 59,350	\$ 12,680
Central Office/District Services	\$ 1,645,697	\$ 1,731,971	\$ 86,274
Legal & Personnel	\$ 235,000	\$ 238,500	\$ 3,500
Instructional Administration	\$ 1,621,199	\$ 1,498,996	\$ (122,203)
Allocated Employee Benefits	\$ 1,026,376	\$ 956,863	\$ (69,513)
	\$ 4,574,942	\$ 4,485,680	\$ (89,262)
Program Component			
Instruction	\$ 11,850,810	\$ 12,423,841	\$ 573,031
Exceptional Education	\$ 6,158,828	\$ 6,355,791	\$ 196,963
Co-Curricular & Athletics	\$ 931,896	\$ 1,027,486	\$ 95,590
Transportation	\$ 1,920,348	\$ 2,033,187	\$ 112,839
Allocated Employee Benefits	\$ 6,034,020	\$ 5,922,143	\$ (111,877)
	\$ 26,895,902	\$ 27,762,448	\$ 866,546
Capital Component			
Operations & Maintenance	\$ 2,459,571	\$ 2,489,953	\$ 30,382
Transfer to Debt Service Fund	\$ 1,746,541	\$ 3,997,642	\$ 2,251,101
Transfer to Capital Fund	\$ 1,668,618	\$ 284,957	\$ (1,383,661)
Allocated Employee Benefits	\$ 1,699,188	\$ 1,836,423	\$ 137,235
	\$ 7,573,918	\$ 8,608,975	\$ 1,035,057
Total Expenditures	\$ 39,044,762	\$ 40,857,103	\$ 1,812,341

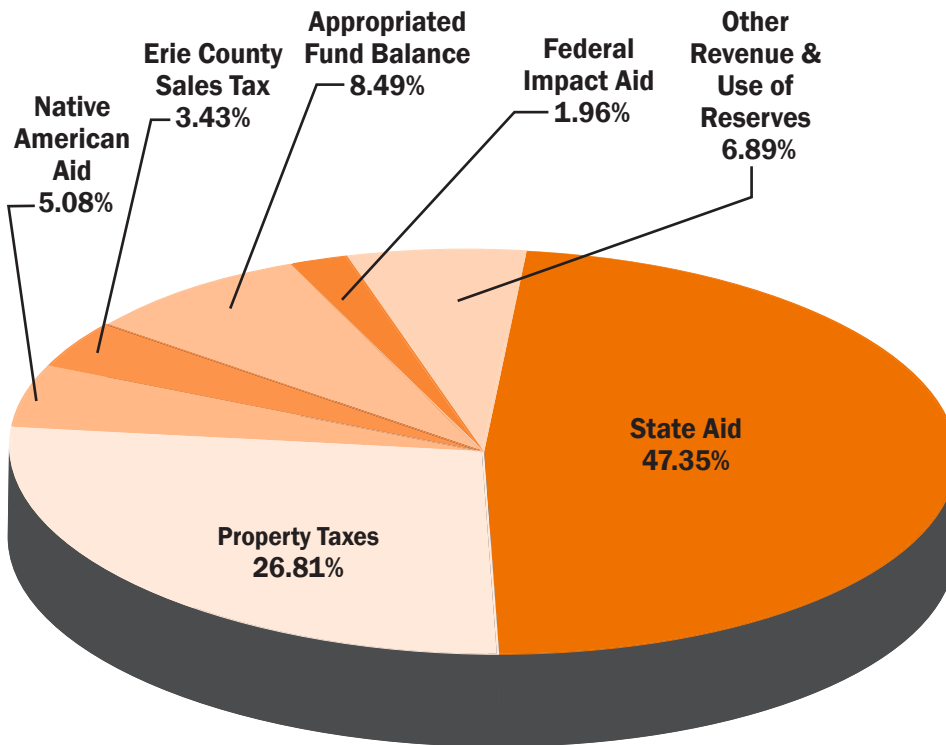
ANNUAL BUDGET VOTE

Tuesday, May 19, 2026 • NOON - 9:00PM

High School Gymnasium #3 (Orange Gym)



2026-2027 Proposed General Fund Revenues



Contingent Budget Spending

Contingency budget estimates are based on Section 2023 of the Education Law. A contingent budget for Akron CSD for 2026-27 is anticipated to result in a decrease of approximately \$343,563 from the original budget of \$40,857,103.

Under a contingency budget, state law allows a school district to operate the regular instructional program, preserve the health and safety of students and staff, and protect the district's property. Districts are prohibited from spending money on items such as new equipment or nonessential maintenance projects. In addition, a district would be required to charge for public use of their facilities, except when there is no cost to the district.

	Adopted 2025-26	Proposed 2026-27	\$ Change
State Aid:			
Foundation Aid/General Aid	\$ 11,749,722	\$ 11,867,219	\$ 117,497
Excess Cost Aid	\$ 754,972	\$ 970,412	\$ 215,440
BOCES	\$ 1,360,814	\$ 1,452,796	\$ 91,982
Hardware and Technology	\$ 19,561	\$ 17,863	\$ (1,698)
Textbook, Software, Library	\$ 100,016	\$ 96,153	\$ (3,863)
Transportation	\$ 1,819,281	\$ 1,862,724	\$ 43,443
Building	\$ 1,254,633	\$ 2,893,449	\$ 1,638,816
Native American Building Aid	\$ 1,568,618	\$ 184,957	\$(1,383,661)
	\$ 18,627,617	\$ 19,345,573	\$ 717,956
Other Revenue:			
Native American Aid	\$ 2,074,000	\$ 2,074,000	\$ -
Erie County Sales Tax	\$ 1,400,000	\$ 1,400,000	\$ -
Federal Impact Aid	\$ 800,000	\$ 800,000	\$ -
Other Revenues	\$ 1,072,165	\$ 1,415,548	\$ 343,823
Appropriated Fund Balance	\$ 2,940,000	\$ 3,469,878	\$ 529,878
Use of Reserves/Transfers In	\$ 1,446,000	\$ 1,400,000	\$ (46,000)
	\$ 9,732,165	\$ 10,559,426	\$ 827,261
Real Property Tax Levy:	\$ 10,684,980	\$ 10,952,104	\$ 267,124
Total Revenues:	\$ 39,044,762	\$ 40,857,103	\$ 1,812,341



Board President Erik Polkowski, Superintendent Andrea Kersten Taylor, and our Student Ex-Officio Board Members Audrey G. and Alex P. attended Lobby Day in February in Albany to advocate on behalf of our students and community.

STAR Program Information

The New York State School Tax Relief Program (STAR) provides New York homeowners with partial exemptions from school property taxes. For information on how the relief program works or how calculations are made, please contact the Town of Newstead Assessor's Office, 5 Clarence Center Road, P.O. Box 227, Akron, NY 14001 or call (716) 542-5473 Option 4 or visit www.tax.ny.gov/star.

Akron Central School

47 Bloomingdale Avenue
Akron, NY 14001

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SAMPLE BALLOT



PROPOSITION NO. 1: 2026-2027 Budget

Shall the following resolution be adopted?

RESOLVED, that the budget for the Akron Central School District (the "District") for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2027, as presented by the Board of Education, is hereby approved and adopted, and the required funds therefore are hereby appropriated, and the necessary real property taxes required shall be raised by a tax on the taxable property in the District to be levied and collected as required by law.

☐ YES ☐ NO

Board of Education Members

Two (2) Seats Vacant

The election of members of the Board of Education shall be held to fill two (2) at-large vacancies. All seats are for three (3) year terms, 7/1/2026 - 6/30/2029.

VOTE FOR ANY TWO

Stephanie Coffta
Joseph Cena

PROPOSITION NO. 2: Acquisition of School Buses and Similar Vehicles (and Related Equipment)

Shall the following resolutions be adopted?

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Akron Central School District, Erie, Genesee and Niagara Counties, New York (the "District"), is hereby authorized to purchase school buses and similar vehicles (and related equipment) for use in the transportation program of the District, including two (2) sixty-six (66) passenger buses, at an estimated maximum cost of \$176,000 each and two (2) van-type buses, at an estimated maximum cost of \$110,000 each, (with such estimated maximum cost reflecting the value of any trade-ins), and to expend therefore an aggregate sum not to exceed \$572,000.

☐ YES ☐ NO

→ Capital Outlay Exception Project

NYS Law provides that a district may receive building aid in the following aid year for one project each year in the district not exceeding \$100,000. Voter authorization for these projects is obtained by inclusion of funding in the budget presented to and approved by the voters, such must be paid by budget appropriation. Districts may not use borrowed money for these projects. Project components planned for this year's proposed budget includes Pool Scoreboard and Timing System Replacement at the Main Building.

Tuesday, May 19, 2026 • 12:00 Noon - 9:00PM

High School Gymnasium #3 (Orange Gym)