

**BOARD of EDUCATION**  
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 Katherine Briber- Board Member  
 Christine Pemberton - Board Member  
 Edward Spence - Board Member  
 Michael Tibbetts - Board Member  
 Carl Tomik - Board Member  
 Lauren Barrett - Student Member

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**SUPERINTENDENT of SCHOOLS**  
 Dr. Pedro Roman

**DISTRICT CLERK**  
 Joanne "Jay" Mikula

**HYDE PARK CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
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**HYDE PARK CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**

# BUDGET Newsletter

2026-2027

## Supporting Students. Respecting Taxpayers. Planning for the Future.

At Hyde Park Central School District, literacy and student attendance remain our Wildly Important Goals, guiding the work that matters most for student success. By strengthening reading and writing instruction and promoting consistent school attendance, we are focusing on the foundational skills and engagement students need to thrive. Continued investments in student supports are making a meaningful difference, and this year's budget reflects our ongoing commitment to these priorities.



"While this year's budget process has been especially challenging, I am grateful for the thoughtful partnership between the Board of Education and district leadership throughout it all. Every decision was made with great care and a shared commitment to our students, our staff, and the strong educational experience our community values so deeply."

*-Michael Zagorski, BOE President*

"Guided by our mission to empower all learners, this year's budget reflects a careful balance of fiscally responsible planning and academic necessity. We have preserved the essential programs that drive student growth, and the data is clear: our students are attending more regularly and achieving at higher levels. We remain focused on providing an innovative learning environment for all, while being responsible stewards of our community's resources."

*-Dr. Pedro Roman, Superintendent*

### The tax levy increase is below the allowable tap cap for 2026-2027

Highlights:

- 4.10% Budget-to-Budget Increase
- 2.92% Tax Levy Increase

# VOTE

**May 19, 2026**  
**6:00 am - 8:00 pm**  
**Haviland MS Gym**

## FDR Sports Highlights

### Scholar Athlete Teams

All fall and spring teams at FDR have earned scholar-athlete distinction, with at least 75% of each team's roster maintaining a grade-point average of 90 or higher during their respective seasons.

If all spring teams go on to receive the New York State Public High School Athletic Association Scholar-Athlete Award, FDR will qualify for the School of Distinction honor, which is awarded when 100% of a school's teams achieve scholar-athlete status.

FDR has earned the School of Excellence award for the past three years, a recognition given when at least 75% of a school's athletic teams are named scholar-athlete teams.

### Unified Bowling

FDR recently completed the first successful season of its unified bowling program, an initiative focused on creating a more inclusive environment for students.

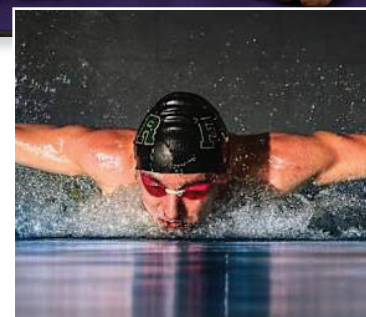
The program brings together students of all abilities, promoting teamwork, mutual respect and a sense of belonging in a fun, low-pressure setting. Participants had opportunities to build confidence, develop social connections and engage in physical activity while working toward shared goals.

### Teams That Made Sectionals

- Varsity Girls Soccer
- Varsity Boys Soccer
- Varsity Girls Volleyball
- Gameday Cheer -
- Sectional Champions - State Qualifiers
- Varsity Girls Basketball

### State Qualifiers

- Troy Speare - Swim - 2nd Place 100m Fly
- Luke Dakin - Wrestling
- Liam Dakin - Wrestling
- Cashmere Curtis - Wrestling
- Natalia Quinteros - Tejada - Girls Wrestling - 6th Place
- Imran Kalemba - Winter Track and Field - Triple Jump
- Rashad Amaro - Winter Track and Field - Long Jump
- Mackenzie Angot - Gymnastics - Vault and Uneven Bars



## VOTING INFORMATION

The annual Board Member election and budget vote will be held at **Haviland Middle School**, in the gymnasium, on **Tuesday, May 19, 2026**. Polls will be open from **6am until 8pm**. Hyde Park CSD's Annual meeting to accept the vote results will occur after the polls close.

### Voting by Absentee/Early Mail Ballot

Applications are available to vote by Absentee Ballot or Early Mail Vote on the district's website **hpcsd.org** or can be picked up at the District Office.

### Public Budget Hearing

A public hearing to provide information on the 2026-2027 proposed budget will be held on Thurs, May 7th, at 6:30pm, at the District Office.

### Voter Registration

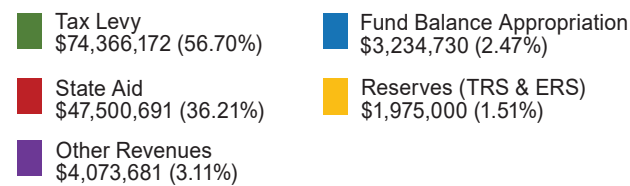
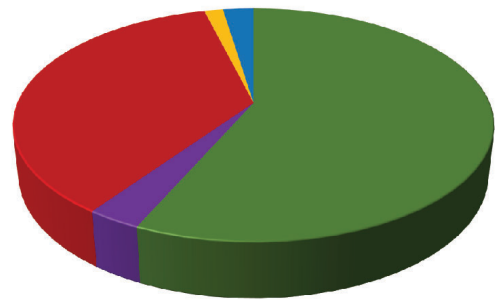
The district will hold voter registration for qualified voters on Thursday, May 7th from 4pm-8pm, at the District Office. If you have questions or need assistance, please contact the District Clerk at 845-229-4000.

**VOTE**  
**May 19, 2026**  
**6:00 am - 8:00 pm**  
**Haviland MS Gym**

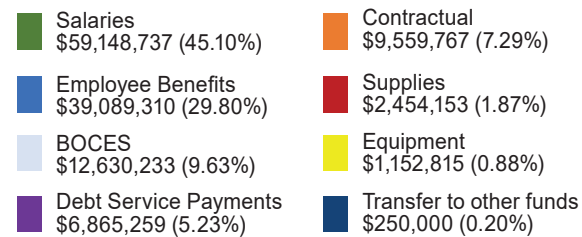
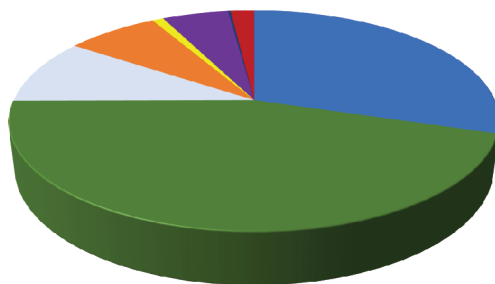
Budget At A Glance	
PROPOSITION 1 - 2026-2027 Budget:	<b>\$131,150,274</b>
Budget to Budget Increase:	\$5,161,451
Percentage Increase:	4.10%
Tax Levy Increase:	2.92%
Tax Levy Cap:	3.34%
Proposed Tax Levy:	\$74,366,172
PROPOSITION 2 - Bus Replacement Plan	<b>\$1,090,913</b>
(3) 30 - Passenger van (gas)	\$334,095
(4) 66 - Passenger Buses (diesel)	\$756,818
Less: State Aid @ 59.4%	(\$648,002)
Net Cost	\$442,911

# Proposition 1: 2026-2027 General Fund Budget \$131,150,274

## Where does the money come from? Revenue Budget



## Where does the money go? Expenditures Budget



## The Budget in Brief

	2025-2026 Adopted Budget	2026-2027 Proposed Budget
<b>ADMINISTRATIVE</b>		
Board of Education	\$173,435	\$181,146
Central Administration	334,236	361,755
Finance	1,350,008	1,340,942
Central Services	3,440,672	3,375,294
Instructional Administration	4,219,304	4,284,230
Employee Benefits	3,014,226	3,282,275
<b>Total Administrative</b>	<b>\$12,531,881</b>	<b>\$12,825,642</b>
<b>PROGRAM</b>		
Central Services	\$234,509	\$234,249
In-Service Training	922,935	975,721
Teaching- Regular School	27,320,591	27,433,506
Special Education	16,847,546	17,473,256
Programs for English Language Learners	1,109,698	952,227
Occupational Education	3,333,566	3,311,527
Instructional Media	3,442,880	3,246,233
Pupil Services	5,603,990	6,280,424
Pupil Transportation	7,400,412	8,260,487
Employee Benefits	29,669,354	31,218,112
Interfund Transfers	210,000	240,589
<b>Total Program</b>	<b>\$96,095,481</b>	<b>\$99,626,331</b>
<b>CAPITAL</b>		
Operations & Maintenance	\$6,342,659	\$7,155,411
Special Items	22,556	26,605
Employee Benefits	3,992,121	4,588,923
Interfund Transfers	100,000	0
Debt Service	6,904,125	6,927,362
<b>Total Capital</b>	<b>\$17,361,461</b>	<b>\$18,698,301</b>
<b>TOTAL BUDGET</b>	<b>\$125,988,823</b>	<b>\$131,150,274</b>

## Beth Fletcher earns national certification in athletic administration



The National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association has recognized HPCSD Athletic Director Beth Fletcher as a Certified Athletic Administrator. Fletcher joins an elite group of athletic administrators nationwide who have earned the certification.

The certification is awarded to interscholastic athletic administrators who demonstrate a high level of knowledge and professional expertise in the field. To achieve the designation, candidates must complete a voluntary process that includes a comprehensive review of their educational background, professional experience and contributions to the field, along with a rigorous written examination.

## Questions for our BOARD CANDIDATES



Cheryl Frazier-Woods



Edward Spence



Michael Tibbets

### Q1: How long have you resided in the district & your information (clubs, volunteer work, family)?

**Cheryl Frazier-Woods:** I have been a resident in the district for 37 years. I am the parent of two alumni and have been involved in the PTA (as President, Vice President and Secretary) and served as a Girl Scout and Cub Scout leader.

**Edward Spence:** I am very proud to have been elected to the BOE three consecutive times and have lived with my wife Doreen and children in Hyde Park for nearly 30 years. I have volunteered for several organizations including: Big Brothers-Big Sisters, Kiwanis, United Way and I am an active member of the Hyde Park Knights of Columbus. My wife Doreen (retired Science teacher) and I are certified therapeutic foster/adoptive parents and members of the Dutchess County/Astor Services Foster & Adoptive Parents Council. We are also members of Planet Fitness and Regina Coeli Parish. We have had nine students attend Hyde Park Schools.

**Michael Tibbets:** I have resided in the district for 26 years. I have 3 children, one attended 5th -12th grades in HPCSD. I volunteer as a current board member and actively participate in several Board Committees and district events.

### Q2: Why are you interested in becoming a Board of Education member?

**Cheryl Frazier-Woods:** To continue the legacy of excellence created by Margaret Greenly, Kevin Sheehan and Jeff Daniels.

**Edward Spence:** My major goals continue to be: supporting our faculty/staff, promoting 21st Century Learning along with advocating for special needs children/parents. I am also a strong proponent of students acquiring real-work vocational / career skills. I am thankful for the opportunity to continue to serve and look forward to continuing to represent all residents of Hyde Park. I feel it is our moral duty to provide students with an excellent education while doing so in a financially appropriate manner for local taxpayers.

**Michael Tibbets:** I have been on the board for two terms (6 years). Being part of a team that is committed to the equitable distribution of a quality public education is one of the most rewarding experiences I have had. I would be honored to continue to serve on the board.

### Q3: What is your connection to the school district?

**Cheryl Frazier-Woods:** My connection is as a parent and tax payer and currently an employee. My position is being excised as of June 30, 2026 which allows me to be available to run for the BOE term starting July 1, 2026.

**Edward Spence:** As stated above, my family and I have lived in Hyde Park for nearly thirty years. I have been elected to the HPBOE three consecutive terms. I have also been elected the past two years as the President of the Dutchess County School Board Association (DCSBA). This June 2026 our family will have our ninth child graduate from Hyde Park Schools to date. We also have several grandchildren currently enrolled. I have proudly served on several HPCSD committees such as: Policy, District Leadership Team (DLT), Government Liaison, Special Education and DCSBA. I would be honored to continue to represent our community.

**Michael Tibbets:** I am a resident and tax payer; have a child who attended HPCSD schools and I have served two terms on the Board of Education.

### Q4: What skills and/or attributes would you bring to the Board?

**Cheryl Frazier-Woods:** I have a Master's degree in Human Resources Management and 20 years of Human Resources experience.

**Edward Spence:** I was employed by IBM Corporation for over 13 years prior to working as an educator for over 30+ years. While a teacher I was selected twice by Google for an annual Innovative Teacher Award. I have taught every grade level from 5th-12th grade. I have also worked as an adjunct at three local colleges for over 25 years. As a school administrator in 2012 I created the first of its kind K-12 1-to-1 student/teacher Chromebook plan anywhere in the Hudson Valley winning a 2013 NYSSBA Innovative Schools Award. I was also elected to serve for over ten years as a Board Member for the Mid-Hudson Teacher Center. I retired as a school administrator in June 2024, but missed schools and "unretired" soon thereafter. I currently work as a full-time school administrator. I bring my 30+ years of experience and community feedback to Board of Education meetings.

**Michael Tibbets:** I have been a local college teacher for 32 years. As an educator, I am able to maintain a calm and constructive approach to decision making where I value using data and evidence to make informed decisions that support district improvements.

### Q5: What do you consider the most important issue(s) facing our school district?

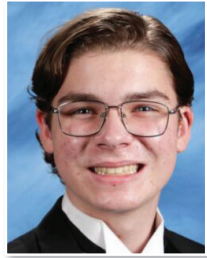
**Cheryl Frazier-Woods:** I feel the most important issues facing our district are mental health and financial transparency.

**Edward Spence:** I would say we have several important issues facing our district. We must continue to support of faculty/staff at a time when budgets are becoming tight across New York State. We need to continue to listen to our community's feedback as many residents are getting priced out of New York State. We must listen to each other and respect each other's viewpoints. Most of all we need to ensure that our students are prepared to make personal/career decisions in an increasingly complex society. Go Presidents!

**Michael Tibbets:** My priority for the district is to continue to support the work of narrowing the achievement gap among different student groups and doing so in a fiscally responsible way.

# Meet This Year's Valedictorian & Salutatorian!

F.D. Roosevelt High School is pleased to announce that Roman Pemberton was named the 2026 valedictorian and Hudson Stehle the salutatorian. Both will speak at the Class of 2026 Graduation on June 26. The district congratulates these two scholars on their achievements!



Roman Pemberton

Roman Pemberton has a weighted average of 102.694. He resides in Hyde Park, New York. He attended North Park Elementary School and Haviland Middle School before entering F.D. Roosevelt High School. Upon graduation, Roman is expected to have earned 31.5 high school credits (New York State requires 22 for graduation). Included in his course

load are classes awarding Advanced Placement (AP) college credits, Marist University credits, and Dutchess Community College credits. He will graduate from FDR having already earned 18 dual-enrollment college credits in addition to the college credits earned from his stellar AP exam scores in biology, psychology, American history, physics, chemistry, and Spanish. He also earned college credits through summer classes at Hudson Valley Community College and through Project Lead the Way coursework. In addition to successfully completing these college courses, Roman also obtained a perfect score of 1520 on the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMQT) and is a finalist for the National Merit Scholarship.

Pemberton is a talented musician and skilled in computer sciences. In addition to being in many musical ensembles, Pemberton frequents district committee meetings. His favorite memory of FDR is playing keyboard in the pit for the musicals as it is a challenge! He thanks his parents for their unwavering support throughout his academic career.

Hudson Stehle has a weighted average of 100.083. Residing in the Town of Poughkeepsie, Hudson attended Violet Avenue School and Haviland Middle School prior to F.D. Roosevelt High School. Upon graduating, he is expected to have earned 29 high school credits (New York State requires 22 for graduation).



Hudson Stehle

His course load includes classes awarding Advanced Placement (AP) college credits, Marist University credits, Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT) credits, and Dutchess Community College credits. He will graduate from FDR having already earned up to 30 college credits from dual-enrollment courses, as well as additional credits from AP courses in physics 1, physics 2, and American history.

In recognition of his academic accomplishments, Hudson has received a math and science award from Rochester Institute of Technology and has been inducted into the National Honor Society (NHS).

Stehle enjoys playing football and participating in winter and spring track. He credits his coaches for teaching him to be motivated and driven. Stehle will be pursuing engineering. He says seeing his sister earn salutatorian showed him that if he put his mind to it, he could achieve it too.

## Congratulations! Top 20 Students for the Class of 2026



- |                     |                      |                     |                     |
|---------------------|----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Roman Pemberton  | 6. Nathan Romej      | 11. Keilly Cruz     | 16. Aissata Yacouba |
| 2. Hudson Stehle    | 7. Eshaan Inayet     | 12. Laura Burger    | 17. Teagan Wright   |
| 3. Gabriel Peni     | 8. Maxwell Goldstein | 13. Brianna Labulis | 18. Leigh Costura   |
| 4. Samuel Goldstein | 9. Lauren Barrett    | 14. Colin Buttitta  | 19. Jaskaran Kang   |
| 5. Alexis Duke      | 10. Philip Carino    | 15. Celeste Gorres  | 20. Flavia Anderson |

## Budget Propositions

### Proposition 1

#### General Operating Budget \$131,150,274

Budget to Budget increase: **4.10%**  
Tax Levy increase: **2.92%**

### Proposition 2

#### Bus Replacement Plan (Gas & Diesel) \$1,090,913

#### Purchase of:

(3) 30-Passenger Gas Buses	\$334,095
(4) 66-Passenger Diesel Buses	\$756,818
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,090,913</b>
LESS: StateAid (59.4%)	-\$648,002
<b>NET COST</b>	<b>\$442,911</b>

#### Maximum STAR Exemption for the 2026-2027 School Year by Town:

	Basic	Enhanced
Clinton	\$703	\$1,888
Hyde Park	\$720	\$1,822
Pleasant Valley	\$731	\$1,885
Poughkeepsie	\$729	\$1,913
Rhinebeck	\$730	\$1,913

## Budget Notice

	Budget Adopted for 2025-26	Budget Proposed for 2026-27	Contingency Budget for 2026-27
Total Budgeted Amount, Not Including Separate Propositions	\$125,988,823	\$131,150,274	\$129,876,086
Increase for the 2025-26 School Year		\$5,161,451	\$3,887,264
Percentage Increase in Proposed Budget		4.10%	3.09%
Change in the Consumer Price Index		2.63%	
A. Proposed Tax Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount, net of Reserve	\$72,258,441	\$74,366,172	
B. Levy to Support Library Debt, if Applicable			
C. Levy for Non-Excludable Propositions, if Applicable			
D. Total Tax Cap Reserve Amount Used to Reduce Current Year Levy			
E. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy (A + B + C - D)	\$72,258,441	\$74,366,172	\$72,258,441
F. Total Permissible Exclusions	\$1,896,117	\$1,974,220	
G. School Tax Levy Limit, Excluding Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$70,670,021	\$72,695,952	
H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, Excluding Levy to support Library Debt, and/or Permissible Exclusions (E - B - F + D)	\$70,362,324	\$72,391,952	
I. Difference: (G - H); (Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval)	\$307,697	\$304,000	
<b>Budget Overview</b>			
Administrative Component	\$12,531,881	\$12,825,642	\$12,398,768
Program Component	\$96,095,481	\$99,626,331	\$99,279,737
Capital Component	\$17,361,461	\$18,698,301	\$18,197,581

If the budget does not pass and goes to contingency, "cost of living" increases would not be allowed. The proposed budget would be cut by approximately \$1,274,188. Since other costs have increased, this could mean cuts in programs and activities, which may include: salary increases for non-union staff, student supplies, equipment purchases, capital projects and other capital expenditures, and non-mandated student programs.

\*\*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
Proposition 2-School Bus Replacement (Diesel & Gas)	<b>\$1,090,913</b>

The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2026-27 by the qualified voters of Hyde Park Central School District, Dutchess County, New York will be held at Haviland Middle School in said district on Tuesday, May 19, 2026, between the hours of 6:00 am and 8:00 pm prevailing time at the Haviland Middle School, at which time the polls will be opened to vote by voting ballot or machine.

## FDR Players presented "Into the Woods"

The FDR Players presented their production of "Into the Woods," a musical that intertwines the plots of the beloved Brothers Grimm fairy tales, exploring the journeys and wishes of many different characters.

The talented student cast brought to life the beloved characters of "Little Red Riding Hood," "Jack and the Beanstalk," "Rapunzel," and "Cinderella." The audience was captivated by the performance, which weaved these classic tales together through the story of a childless baker and his wife. Driven by a quest to start a family, the original premise of the Grimm Brothers' "Rapunzel," the couple ventured into the woods to break a witch's curse. Along the way, their paths intersected with various storybook icons, creating a delightful musical experience.



# Building Blocks of the Hyde Park Central School District Budget

## Preserve Programs and Services for Students.

The proposed budget prioritizes preserving the programs and services that directly support student success. By carefully evaluating expenditures and identifying efficiencies in district operations, the District is able to maintain core instructional programs, student supports, and extracurricular opportunities that enrich the educational experience for all students. This investment is reflected in positive trends across the District, including a 5% decrease in chronic absenteeism compared to last year — even amid a challenging flu season. While the District ended last year with a 24% chronic absenteeism rate, all school buildings are now below 20% except FDR, which stands at 22%, still demonstrating meaningful progress given its larger student population. Over the past three years, the District has also seen a 10% increase in proficiency in NYS ELA (grades 3–8) and a 9% increase in Math (grades 3–8), reflecting continued academic growth and the effectiveness of instructional supports.



### Consistent Strategies

These improvements are driven by consistent monitoring and early intervention. When patterns of absence emerge, such as a student missing more than three days, staff quickly connect with families to offer support. Through the Community Schools model, families can access essential resources like medical care and housing assistance, helping to remove barriers to attendance. At the elementary level, schools track attendance daily and celebrate milestones like perfect attendance, reinforcing positive habits early. Simple, consistent strategies, such as daily reminders and proactive communication, are making a measurable difference and strengthening a culture that values showing up every day.

### Academic Coaching

Our Academic Coaching program provides hands-on support for both literacy and math instruction, helps teachers implement new strategies, refine classroom practices and confidently adopt new curriculum. With cycles of professional development, goal-setting tailored to individual teacher needs and real-time classroom feedback, coaches work alongside teachers to enhance instruction and maximize student achievement. This model ensures continuous growth, not just compliance, fostering a culture where teachers and students alike are always learning, improving and thriving. Nearly all K-5 students benefit from this approach, which strengthens teacher expertise, builds collaborative relationships and directly impacts student success.



## Long-Term Financial Sustainability

is a key priority in the District's budget planning. The District uses multi-year projections, careful cost monitoring and responsible reserve management to ensure that resources are used strategically and that future budgets remain stable. This approach helps protect academic programs while maintaining fiscal responsibility for the community.

Efforts include a 25% reduction in office supply spending, and increased use of digital platforms such as Infinite Campus to deliver progress and report cards, resulting in savings on printing and postage.

Additional initiatives include streamlining software subscriptions based on actual usage, reducing travel expenses for professional development and restructuring Human Resources and Community Schools to better align resources with district needs. Together, these actions support a more efficient use of funds while maintaining high-quality programs and services.
















## Operational Efficiencies and Cost Reductions



To improve efficiency and effectiveness, the District continues to identify operational savings while maintaining high-quality services. Initiatives include ongoing energy efficiency upgrades through a districtwide Energy Performance Contract. These improvements include lighting upgrades, HVAC enhancements, and building system modernization designed to reduce long-term utility costs.

The District recognizes the importance of balancing educational needs with the impact on taxpayers. The proposed budget was developed with a focus on cost control, operational efficiencies, and responsible use of district resources in order to maintain strong programs while managing the tax levy responsibly.

 <b>19</b> Advanced Placement Courses	 <b>11</b> Honors Courses	 <b>9</b> College Courses	 <b>19</b> English Courses	 <b>17</b> Social Studies Courses	 <b>14</b> Math Courses	 <b>17</b> Science Courses	 <b>24</b> PLTW & Technical Courses	 <b>3</b> Foreign Languages Taught	 <b>15</b> Art Courses	 <b>11</b> Music Courses	 <b>57</b> Athletic Teams Modified, JV & V	 <b>28</b> Scholar Athlete Teams
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