

WATERLOO CSD

BUDGET FAQ

2026-27



Q1.WHAT IS THE INCREASE TO THE OVERALL BUDGET AND WHY DID IT GO UP?

The budget increased 4.8% this year. This year, we paid approximately \$2.9 million for a past capital project payment, while next year's payment is projected to be about \$4.5 million. If we were to adjust for that and compare on an "apples-to-apples" basis—using the \$2.9 million figure instead of \$4.5 million—the overall budget increase would drop from 4.8% to approximately 1.59%.

Waterloo CSD does receive state aid on our capital project purchase from the state so it helps take away that expense. However, it artificially inflates or deflates our budget increase or decrease, depending on what the payment is for that year.



Q2. WHAT IS THE IMPACT OF THIS BUDGET ON THE TAXPAYER?

It is estimated that the average increase in school taxes for a \$100,000 home will be \$18.90 or \$1.58 per month. The formula we used to determine this increase is as follows:

2025-26:

$\$100,000 - 30,000 \text{ (STAR)} \times \$18.12 \text{ AVERAGE PER THOUSAND} = \$1,268.40$

2026-27:

$\$100,000 - 30,000 \text{ (STAR)} \times \$18.39 \text{ AVERAGE PER THOUSAND} = \$1,287.30$



Q3. WILL THE COMMUNITY BE ABLE TO UTILIZE DISTRICT FACILITIES AT NO COST?

If the budget passes, yes. If the budget does not pass, outside groups would have to pay to use district facilities.

Q4. WHAT CHANGES ARE BEING MADE TO ADMINISTRATION?

The establishment of an assistant principal position at Skoi-Yase Primary School and Lafayette Intermediate School will allow building leadership to further balance their administrative responsibilities with time to forge deeper bonds with students and staff and focus on school safety and instructional leadership.

This, when combined with the reduction of the secondary executive principal position, two dean of student positions and four instructional positions that will not be filled, will result in cost savings for the overall budget of \$78,394.

This plan allows us to meet the current needs in the buildings in a fiscally responsible way that also saves the district money and won't impact anyone's employment.



Q5. WILL THIS BUDGET IMPACT OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS?

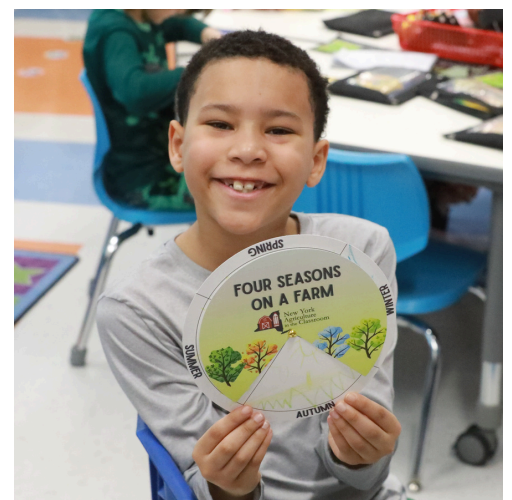
There will be no negative impact to student opportunities in this budget. We are proud that this budget safeguards all of the extracurriculars and opportunities for our students.

In fact, this budget adds several higher level courses and authentic experiences for students through community partnerships and grant funds. We currently offer many great opportunities to our students, and plan to add more.



We are planning for several fully online course options from Finger Lakes Community College in the arts and digital media, and are pursuing more course options. These will include independent study opportunities, which will be overseen by a Waterloo CSD teacher.

The district also just secured a \$50,000 grant for elementary summer school which will allow us to continue and enhance that opportunity for students. We are also currently planning out the feasibility of offering an afterschool program funded and operated by the district.



Q6. WHAT TYPE OF BUS IS THE DISTRICT PURCHASING?

We will be purchasing diesel buses.



Q7. WHAT WAS OUR GRADUATION RATE LAST YEAR?

We are proud to share that 90% of Waterloo CSD students graduated last year. This number includes June and August graduates.



Q8. WHEN AND WHERE IS THE BUDGET VOTE?

The budget vote will take place from noon - 8 p.m., Tuesday, May 19 at the Waterloo Central School District Office, 109 Washington Street, Waterloo, NY.



Q9. WHERE CAN I LEARN MORE ABOUT THIS YEAR'S BUDGET VOTE?

You can check out our budget newsletter using the QR code below, which contains the budget notice, information about candidates running in the school board election, and more.



Additionally, you can check out our school budget webpage, which features videos with current budget information.

