GWLUFSD 26-27 Budget Reconsideration

Presentation #1
5/21/26

Goals for Tonight’s Meeting

1. Review budget vote results & initial response steps
2. Review timeline & 3 options in front of the Board
3. Allow community input on the 3 options reviewed
4. Board discussion & direction
5. Review additional considerations

Budget Vote 5/19/26

185 Yes 42%

252 No 58%

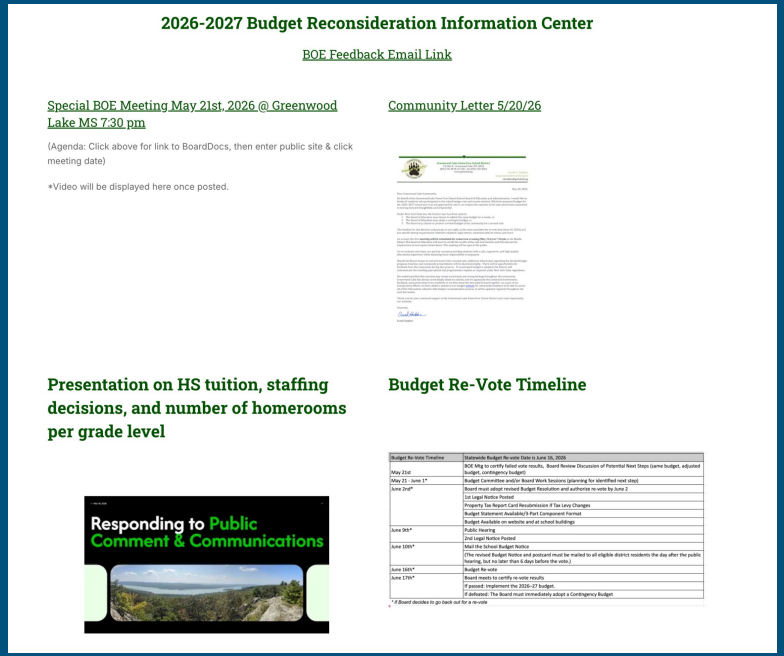
(437 votes)

4655 Eligible Voters



May 20th & 21st District Response

- Contacted Legal Counsel: Next Steps, Options, Timeline
    - Built Timeline for Board & Public
- Communicated w/ BOCES: Requested Assistance w/ Business Official Transition
- Created Section on Budget Website: Budget Reconsideration Information Center
- Sent Letter to the Staff and to the Community Regarding Budget Failure & Next Steps
- Developed Initial Budget Documents for All Three Options
- Scheduled Special Board Meeting to Garner Community Feedback & Receive Board Direction



2026-2027 Budget Reconsideration Information Center

BOE Feedback Email Link

Special BOE Meeting May 21st, 2026 @ Greenwood Lake MS 7:30 pm

(Agenda: Click above for link to BoardDocs, then enter public site & click meeting date)

*Video will be displayed here once posted.

Community Letter 5/20/26

Presentation on HS tuition, staffing decisions, and number of homerooms per grade level

Budget Re-Vote Timeline

Budget Re-Vote Timeline	Statewide Budget Re-vote Date is June 16, 2026
May 21st	BOE Mtg to certify failed vote results, Board Review Discussion of Potential Next Steps (same budget, adjusted budget, contingency budget)
May 21 - June 1*	Budget Committee and/or Board Work Sessions (planning for identified next step)
June 2nd*	Board must adopt revised Budget Resolution and authorize re-vote by June 2
	1st Legal Notice Posted
	Property Tax Report Card Recalculation if Tax Levy Changes
	Budget Statement Available/3-Part Component Format
	Budget Available on website and at school buildings
June 9th*	Public Hearing
	2nd Legal Notice Posted
June 10th*	Mail the School Budget Notice (The revised Budget Notice and postcard must be mailed to all eligible district residents the day after the public hearing, but no later than 6 days before the vote.)
June 16th*	Budget Re-vote
June 17th*	Board meets to certify re-vote results If passed: Implement the 2026-27 budget. If defeated: The Board must immediately adopt a Contingency Budget

* *If Board decides to go back out for a re-vote*

3 Options to Move Forward

Resubmit for Revote

Adjust & Revise the Budget → Vote

Adopt a Contingent Budget

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** if Board decides to go back out for a re-vote*

Option #1 - Resubmit Same Budget for Re-Vote

The board can opt to put the identical budget back on the ballot for a revote.

Recommended when failed by narrow margin or Board believes community would support the budget if they had additional information.

Pros

Maximizes the chance of passing the original comprehensive educational plan without service or staff cuts.

Cons

If voter turnout is low or the community is firmly against the tax increase, it risks being voted down a second time and a contingency budget enacted.

Option #2 - Adjust and Revise the Budget & Submit for Vote

The board can modify the proposed budget and put a revised, lower spending plan up for revote.

Recommended when the Board wants to pass its own budget, revised on its own terms.

Pros

You can trim items and revise revenue expectations to build a budget that has a higher potential of passing.

Ability to incorporate additional community feedback into the final presented budget

Cons

Requires the District and Board to swiftly make programmatic and staffing decisions, draft new legal notices, and hold a revote on the uniform statewide date.

Option #3 - Go Directly to a Contingent Budget

If the Board concludes that a revote will fail, even if revised budget put forward, it can choose to adopt a contingent budget immediately to prevent prolonged uncertainty.

Pros

Prevents prolonged uncertainty

Cons

The tax levy cannot increase over prior year.

District MUST eliminate all non-ordinary contingent expenses - forces elimination of new equipment purchases, restricts community use of school facilities unless reimbursed for cost, requires scrutiny of non-mandated programs, electives, and extracurriculars

Bottom Line

Option 1 puts the exact same budget back up for community vote. If it fails, a contingency budget must be adopted.

Both Option 2 & Option 3 come with cuts to the budget, including staff reductions beyond what has already been announced, reconsidering funding sources for both short and long term, and may further impact programming and organizational stability.



Community Input on Options

Feedback tonight is on the 3 options only.

(Depending on direction of the Board this evening, there may be a forum next week for feedback on the budget itself.)

Notes from Public Feedback:

- Community Member / Teacher: Contingency, then changed to Option 2
- Community Member: Option 2
- Teacher: Option 2
- Community Member/Teacher: Option 2
- Community Member/Staff Member: Option 2

Board Discussion & Direction

- Timeline: Rollout of option / plan
- Addressing misinformation
- Budget reliance on one-time funds, need to re-think
- Tax levy comfort level of community
- Long Term Planning: Special Education Audit; Enrollment & Demographic Study

Comments & Notes from Board Trustees

- All trustees wanted Option 2
- Reiterated plan for Enrollment & Demographic Study
- District should control where cuts are made, not be restricted by contingency if can help it
- State goal of consolidation is something to keep in mind, if GWL wants to stay a District, need to plan that fiscally
- Try to keep programs for kids
- Make effort to be more transparent - more active, less passive (everything is and has been available online, perhaps more outreach?)

Direction:

Option #2

Option 1:

Budget Committee Meeting

Board Budget Workshop

Community Forum(s) / Opportunities to Ask Questions

Not the Selected Direction



Option 2: Scheduling Next Week



Budget Workshop Tues, May 26th 7:30 pm MS Cafeteria

Community Forum, Thur, May 28th 7:30 pm MS Cafeteria

Budget Workshop/Meeting, Fri, May 29th 9:30 am TBD / Likely ES Gym

Board Meeting to Adopt, Mon Jun 1st 6:00 pm MS Cafeteria

**Public Forum: community & staff participation & feedback will be allowed;*

**Budget Workshops - discussion/ participation will only be for Board members & District Administration. The public may attend and observe.*

Option 3:

Schedule Board Meeting

Not the Selected Direction



Thank you