

White Plains City School District

2026-27 to 2030-31 - Strategic Long-Range /Budget Planning Community Input Forum - October 26, 2026 – 6:00 PM

Zoom Link

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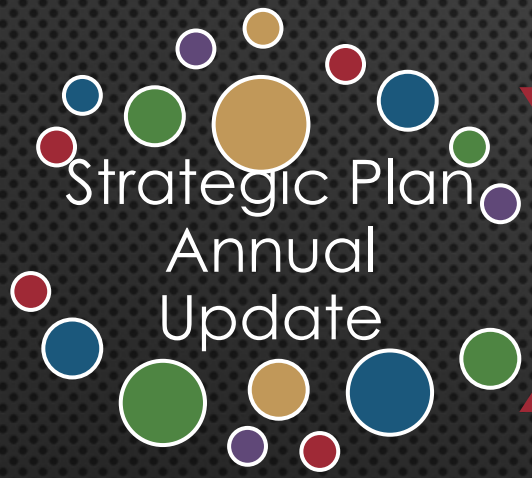
Agenda

- Cycle of Planning & Importance
- District's Strategic Plan
- Economic Status & Outlook
- Fiscal Status – Use of Annual Savings & Reserves
- Program Evaluation & Reallocation of Resources
- Guiding Principles: Development of Plans
- Feedback & Next Steps



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CYCLE OF PLANNING



2026-2027

Annual Goals & Objectives 2026-27

- Superintendent & Board Goals
- Building/Department Goals

Long-Range Planning Vision 2026-27 to 2030-31

- Financial Forecast developed using conservative assumptions to guide future decision making
- Forecasted budgetary shortfalls addressed using various strategies without impacting program services

Propose d Budget 2027-28

- Instructional Budget
- Non-Instructional Budget
- Preliminary Budget



WHY IS PLANNING IMPORTANT?

- Political Climate
- Turbulent Economy
- Tax Levy Cap
- State & Federal Aid
- Tax Certiorari Claims
- Aging Facilities
- Enrollment
- Increasing Student Needs
- Federal & State Policy Changes
- Federal Tax Code
- Negotiations
- Inflation
- Global Conflicts
- Climate Change

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WHAT PLANNING DOES…..

Encourages districts to be effective & efficient in the management of school resources

Encourages the reallocation of resources to maximize student outcomes

Critical to maintaining sound fiscal health, while maintaining programs for students

Links to multi-year budgets to show decisions necessary to maintain programs and fiscal stability over the long-term

Assists administrators & school boards in understanding the long-term impact of decisions made today



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WHAT THE PLAN INCLUDES.....





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White Plains Public Schools

Strategic Plan 2026–2028

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Vision

We aspire to unlock the infinite and unique potential of each student, every day.

Mission

Educate and inspire all students, while nurturing their dreams, so they learn continually, think critically, pursue their aspirations, and contribute to a diverse and dynamic world.

Priorities and Objectives

Educate

Ensure engaging and innovative learning experiences

- Design and provide rigorous, engaging, culturally relevant and enriched curriculum and instruction that meets the needs of each student and incorporates future-focused, research-based practices.
- Continue to support the District and Building Equity Committees' efforts and recommendations to increase access and reduce barriers.
- Recruit, hire and retain a highly qualified staff that is diverse, effective and ethnically representative of our school community.

Support

Provide necessary structures and resources

- Expand support for positive social and emotional learning environments and continue to identify opportunities for growth.
- Analyze, assess root causes of chronic absenteeism, course passing rates, and suspension rates to increase student achievement.
- Continue district-wide facilities master plan implementation.

Partner

Collaborate with students, families, and community

- Welcome, engage and nurture relationships with our families and community.
- Increase cultural awareness, responsiveness, and respect to promote inclusivity.
- Publicly celebrate and highlight student and district successes.
- Grow and sustain critical partnerships to increase opportunities available for all students.
- Ensure equitable access to district and school-related information.

Core Beliefs

We believe that…

All people have intrinsic value.
Celebrating and embracing diversity enrich life.
All people can learn, grow and contribute.
Every choice matters, and that people are responsible for their choices.
Respect, honesty and trust empower.
When people serve the community, both the individuals and the community benefit.
High expectations promote high achievement.

Economic Status & Outlook

Prior Year Long-Range Financial Forecast – Reflects Annual Budget Shortfalls due to:

- Contractual costs (salaries, benefits, utilities, transportation, property insurance) outpacing revenues
- Tax Levy:
  - Consumer Price Index projected to be greater than the allowable limit of 2%
  - Property assessments are not growing due to increasing agreements for PILOTS (West. Cty. & CWP)

State Aid – Restrictive State Budget Planning Environment

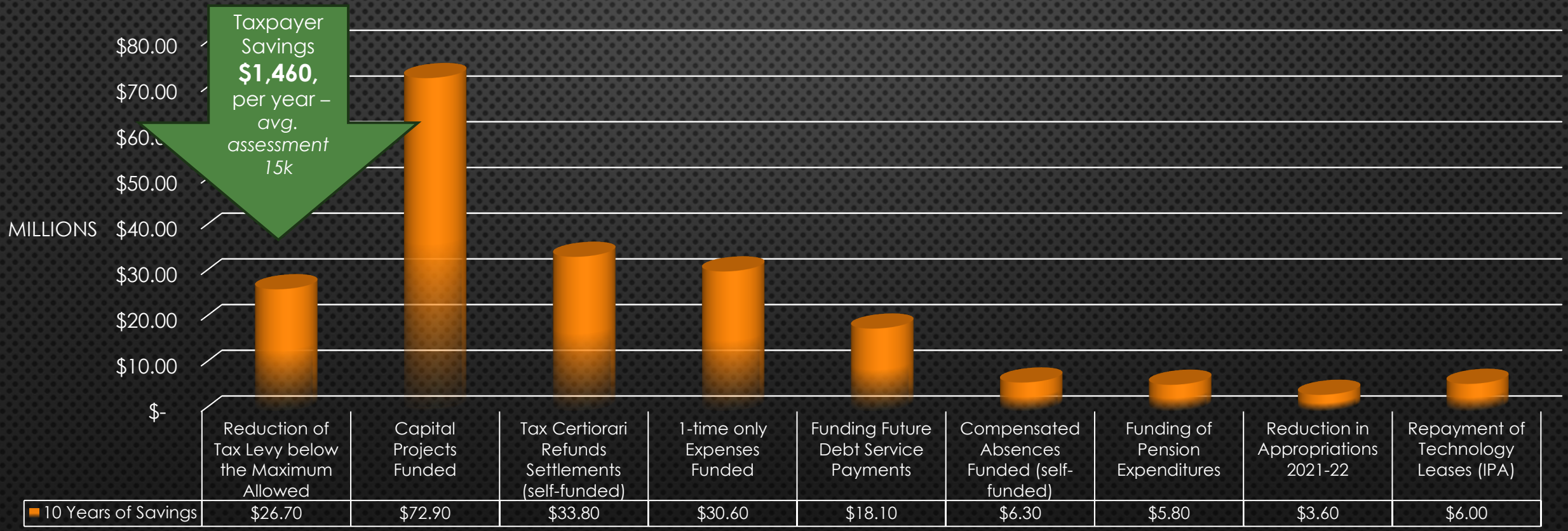
- NYS Budget Director told state agencies:
  - Submit a flat budget
  - Monitor hiring and contractual spending to control expenditure growth
  - Evaluate effectiveness of all programs, functions and services
  - Examine expenditures and eliminate unnecessary duplication
- State projects a $6.4 Billion General Fund Gap in 2027-28, with larger gaps in subsequent years
- Federal Funding changes in SNAP, Medicaid, and health care obligations add to the uncertainty

Federal Entitlement Grants - Potential reductions or elimination?

District is committed to closing potential budget gaps without impacting program

Cost Savings

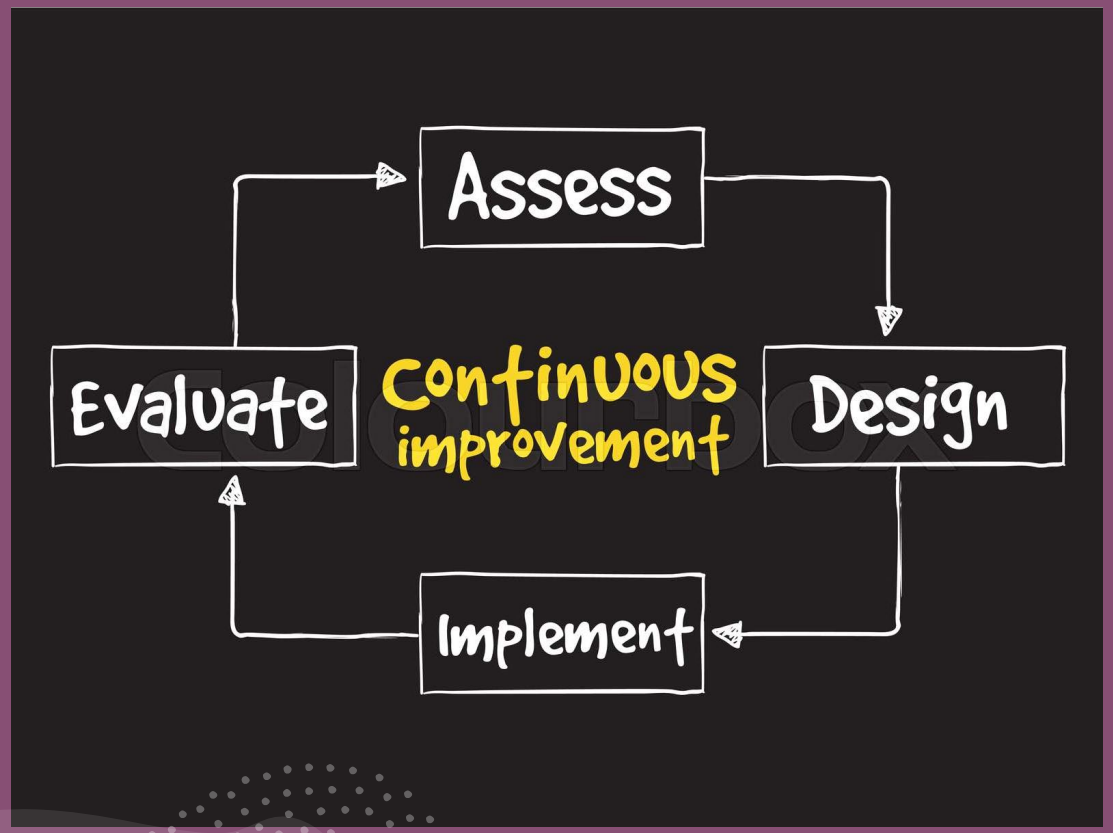
How the District used Annual Savings & Reserves
$204 million since 2017-18 – Reducing Taxpayer Burden



	Reduction of Tax Levy below the Maximum Allowed	Capital Projects Funded	Tax Certiorari Refunds Settlements (self-funded)	1-time only Expenses Funded	Funding Future Debt Service Payments	Compensated Absences Funded (self-funded)	Funding of Pension Expenditures	Reduction in Appropriations 2021-22	Repayment of Technology Leases (IPA)
10 Years of Savings	$26.70	$72.90	$33.80	$30.60	$18.10	$6.30	$5.80	$3.60	$6.00

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What is working?
What needs modifications?
What should be strategically abandoned?



- Ongoing curricular and programmatic review
- Academic achievement
- Extra-curricular/athletic participation
- Additional programming: after-school/summer
- Universal approaches to educational experience
- Staffing and services
- Resource deployment
- Future planning



GUIDING PRINCIPLES: DEVELOPMENT OF PLANS

Protect	Evaluate	Preserve	Find	Minimize	Reduce/ Restructure
Protect Instructional Core	Evaluate Needs vs. Wants	Preserve Investments & Prevent Costs	Find Efficiencies & Share Services	Minimize Program Impact	Reduce/Restructure, Do not eliminate

KEY DATES - 2027-28 BUDGET DEVELOPMENT:

October 26, 2026 – Community Input Forum

January 5, 2027 – Strategic Long-Range Plan to Finance Committee

January 11, 2027 – Strategic Long-Range Plan to Board of Education

February 8, 2027 – Instructional budget to Board of Education

February 22, 2027 – Non-Instructional Budget to Board of Education

March 1, 2027 – Superintendent's Preliminary Budget to Finance Committee

March 8, 2027 – Superintendent's Preliminary Budget to Board of Education

April 12, 2027 – Adoption of 2027-28 Budget & Property Tax Report Card

May 10, 2027 – Budget Hearing

May 18, 2027 – Annual School Budget Vote, Propositions & Board Elections



THANK YOU!

QUESTIONS?

BUDGET@WPCSD.US

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