NOV. 2, 2026 — The Palmyra-Macedon Board of Education approved a proactive, comprehensive long-term strategic plan Monday night designed to protect student opportunities and secure the District's educational and financial future.

The resolution formally adopts the recommendations outlined in the *Transition to the Future* sustainability plan. The plan responds proactively to escalating economic pressures instead of relying on reactive budget cuts by establishing a deliberate roadmap to adapt the District to historic demographic shifts while keeping tax levies within the New York State tax cap.

The plan confronts a long-term structural budget deficit caused by rising fixed operating costs, state aid increases that have averaged only 1.3% annually, and student enrollment that has fallen to early-1950s levels.

By acting now while the District remains educationally and organizationally strong, Pal-Mac positions itself from a place of strength instead of cutting student programs, electives, athletics, or drastically piercing the tax cap.

"Our focus has always been on making the best decisions for students who walked through our doors this fall and every class that will follow them," said Board President Laura Arrington. "This plan honors our history by accepting the responsibility to leave Pal-Mac stronger, more innovative, and better prepared for tomorrow. We have established our path, and now our school community can work together to turn this vision into reality."

Central components of the approved proactive plan include:

- **Transition to a Three-Building Instructional Model (Effective July 1, 2027):** Organizes regular instruction into three buildings to optimize resources, enhance teacher collaboration, and expand access to modern spaces.

The configuration is as follows:
    - **Primary School** (120 Canandaigua Street): Grades PK–2
    - **Intermediate School** (163 Hyde Parkway): Grades 3–6
    - **High School** (151 Hyde Parkway): Grades 7–12

- **Transition Advisory Committee:** Appointing an advisory committee composed of parents, teachers, building principals, and students to help guide logistics throughout the implementation phase.

- **Exploring Community Partnerships for 4 West Street:** Proactively forming a study committee to work with the Town of Macedon to explore shared municipal, recreational, and educational uses for the property. The resolution explicitly affirms this action does not close, sell, or dispose of the building.

- **Academic and Policy Alignment:** Conducting a comprehensive review of special education and related support services, continuing established program evaluations, and referring a limited, nonresident tuition policy to the Board Policy Committee to explore new revenue opportunities where capacity exists.

- **Regional Optimization Leadership:** Maintaining an active role in the Wayne-Finger Lakes regional study to explore shared educational courses and services across district boundaries.

“The Board’s decision is a critical step forward for our schools, our staff, and especially our kids,” said Superintendent Dr. Bob Ike. “Instead of waiting and choosing between raising taxes or cutting back on the programs that make kids love coming to school, our Board approved a creative path that protects what matters most. This plan opens up incredible possibilities: we are aligning our programs so students can unleash their passions, we’re bringing teachers and resources closer together, we’re expanding hands-on career and regional opportunities, and we’re setting up a strong foundation that will serve our learners all the way through the Class of 2040 and beyond. It puts Pal-Mac in control of its own future.”

Phase 2 of the plan involves implementation planning, which begins immediately. Staff members will spend the remainder of the school year working through daily schedules, classroom configurations, transportation routes, and student transition activities ahead of the 2027–2028 school year.