



WAPPINGERS | Empower
CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT | Challenge
Grow

2025-26 Superintendent's Recommended Budget #2

State Aid Update

Building Our Future Together

April 7, 2025

Wappingers Central School District

Board of Education

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Daren Lolkema, Assistant Superintendent for Administration and Information Systems

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Kristen Dainty, Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Business Development

Richard Zipp, Assistant Superintendent of Student Support Services

Renee Harris, Executive Director of Human Resources

Ronald Broas, Director of Facilities III

Alberta Pedro, District Clerk and Secretary to the Superintendent

2025-26 Budget Presentations

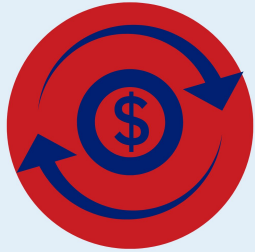


- 11/4/24 Superintendent's Video "Explaining the Budget Process"
- 2/10/25 Preliminary Budget Presentation #1
- 2/24/25 Superintendent's Video "Explaining the Budget Process" (*English & Spanish*)
- 3/10/25 Superintendent's Recommended Budget Presentation #1
Transportation Proposition Presentation
- 4/7/25 Superintendent's Recommended Budget Presentation #2
State Aid Update Presentation
- 4/22/25 Superintendent's Recommended Budget Presentation - Ballot Presentation
Budget Adoption
- 5/5/25 Ballot Presentation to the Community - John Jay HS
- 5/12/25 Community Forum – State Mandated Public Hearing on the Budget - RCK HS

BUDGET VOTE: MAY 20, 2025

Tax Levy & NYS Aid: What We Know

Consumer Price Index (CPI) is 2.95 %



- Since CPI exceeds 2%, the District can utilize 2% in the tax cap formula
- Tax cap calculation = 1.57% maximum allowable tax levy increase
 - Our budget maintains programs and adds support with a tax levy increase of 1.40%: **below the tax cap!**

We are currently using the NYS Governor's Executive Budget Proposal, which includes:

- Continuation of the Foundation Aid formula
- Universal Pre-K funding

2025-26 Budget Tax Levy vs. Total Increase



What does the preliminary budget mean to a WCSD taxpayer?

The tax levy increase is what impacts WCSD taxpayers and is at 1.40%
.17% BELOW the tax cap of 1.57%.

Maximizing Our Resources: Our preliminary budget provides programs, supports, and opportunities for **ALL** students and staff **but it is not the sole responsibility of the taxpayer.** At this time, the District will be utilizing \$12,315,530 of General Fund Balance to offset the tax levy to continue to provide the services and programs to our students.

Mental
Health

Special
Education

Safety &
Support

Instruction
& Career
Technical
Education

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2025-26 WCSD Preliminary Budget

By the Numbers



TAX LEVY

2024-25 Approved	2025-26 Preliminary
\$190,231,957	\$192,904,714

Levy to Levy Change

Amount: \$2,672,757

Percentage: 1.40%

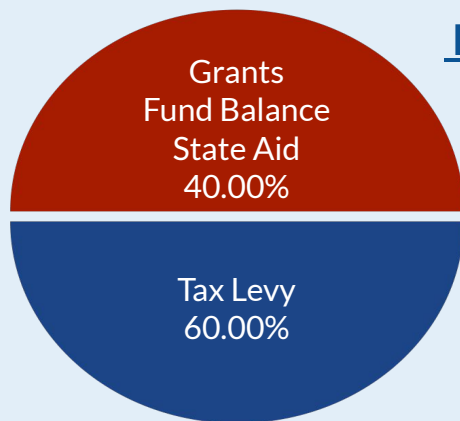
BUDGET

2024-25 Approved	2025-26 Preliminary
\$305,851,033	\$321,433,030

Budget to Budget Change

Amount: \$15,581,997

Percentage: 5.09%



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2025-26 State Aid: What We Know



On April 1, 2025, the NYS legislature was back in session. A budget extender has been approved that expires end of business April 7, 2025 *(per an email from NYSSBA 4/3/2025)*.

What does this mean as of April 7, 2025?

- All information received from NYS will be reviewed immediately upon receipt.
- A revised budget may be provided to the Board at the **April 22, 2025** meeting.
- NYS aid comprises 35.5% of the District's total revenue at this time. We expect to be able to maintain the 1.40% increase in the tax levy. If NYS Aid changes, we anticipate a further reduction in the tax levy increase.
- If a NYS budget has not been approved by the April 22, 2025 meeting, the Board of Education is still scheduled to approve a recommended budget.
- If a NYS budget has not been approved by the April 22, 2025 meeting, the current budget (Superintendent Recommended Budget #2) will be the recommended 2025-26 budget.

2025-26 State Aid



If the NYS Budget is finalized and
more NYS Aid is allocated to WCSD,
I will be recommending to the Board of
Education that
ALL
of the increase be applied to
further reduce the tax levy.

How to Vote in the School Election



- **In person**
 - Tuesday, May 20 from 7:30 am to 9:00 pm at your designated poll site
- **Absentee or Early Mail Ballot**
 - Available to **any registered voter** by completing an application
 - **What's the difference?**
 - You must provide a reason why you can't vote in person on the application for an absentee ballot; no reason is required for an early mail ballot
- **Applications for absentee and early mail ballots** are available online or by contacting the District Clerk at:
 - alberta.pedro@wcsdny.org
 - 845-298-5000 x 40145

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Help WCSD Build the 2025-26 Budget



There are opportunities to share your feedback, ask questions, and gain a further understanding through District-sponsored events:

Superintendent's Video - *Explaining the Budget Process*, presented twice per year

Public Comment at Board of Education Meetings & Budget Public Hearings

E-mail us with questions, concerns & comments: budget@wcsdny.org

Spring 2025 - Community Forums at each High School

Check out our **website**: [2025-2026 Budget](#)

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Thank you...

to the Wappingers CSD Community!

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