

VOTE

Tuesday

May 20, 2025

12:00-9:00 p.m.

DISTRICT OFFICE BOARD OF
EDUCATION ROOM



Schuylerville
CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

News and Information

2025-26 BUDGET VOTE

Voters to decide on \$40 million budget proposal and no additional tax impact capital project proposal

Qualified voters of the Schuylerville Central School District will vote on a \$40 million proposed budget for the 2025-26 school year on May 20 from 12:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. in the District Office Board of Education room. The \$40 million proposed budget calls for a 1.71% spending increase and an estimated tax levy increase of 1.99%, which is below the district's allowable tax cap. Tax rates for individual properties will be determined over the summer once equalization rates and assessments are available for the district's seven towns.

Year to year, the budget always includes previously-agreed upon salary increases from all current contracts, as well as increases or decreases to other expenses depending on the needs of the district.

State aid is historically a large portion of Schuylerville's revenue each year, equating to about half the district's budget. This year, in Governor Hochul's executive budget proposal, Schuylerville received a 2% increase in foundation aid, but will lose building aid, which corresponds to a bond that's expiring. This results in a projected decrease in overall revenue from the 2024-25 budget. The district intends to use \$1.7 million of fund balance to cover the gap of lost revenue and expenditure increases. Over the next two years, the district plans to reduce the use of fund balance to a more manageable figure of \$1 million.

Capital Project Proposal

Also on the ballot will be a capital project proposal, which underscores the district's ongoing commitment to

maintaining and improving school facilities, ensuring they meet the evolving needs of students, staff, and the broader community.

"The proposed project is designed to tackle items that were left out of previous initiatives and address new priorities that have emerged. Since the district's last major project concluded in 2019, several areas have been identified as needing attention."

-Dr. Ryan Sherman, Schuylerville Central School District Superintendent

The estimated cost of the capital project proposal is \$10,795,000, which will align with the expiration of current bonds. As a result, there will be no additional tax impact to fund the capital project. If the project is approved by voters, the district will work to finalize the details of the design and construction and submit plans to the NYS Education Department. Construction would span from summer 2027 to the summer of 2028.

"We believe both proposals are a smart investment in our schools and our community. The budget keeps our programs strong and supports students and staff, while the capital project allows the district to make important upgrades with no additional tax impact."

-Bernie Buff, Schuylerville Central School District Board of Education President



BUDGET At a Glance

PROPOSED BUDGET

\$40,043,396

BUDGET INCREASE

1.71%

TAX LEVY INCREASE

1.99%

ALSO ON THE BALLOT

- { Capital Project Proposal
- { District Board of Education election
- { Schuylerville Public Library budget and Board of Trustees election

Proposed Expenditures

BUDGET CATEGORY	2024-25 Budget	2025-26 Proposed	Difference
General Support	\$4,139,903	\$4,240,730	\$100,827
Instruction	\$17,838,224	\$18,283,933	\$445,709
Transportation	\$2,119,706	\$2,159,014	\$39,308
Employee Benefits	\$11,679,671	\$12,489,307	\$809,636
Debt Service/Transfers	\$3,591,038	\$2,870,412	-\$720,626
Total Expenses	\$39,368,542	\$40,043,396	\$674,854

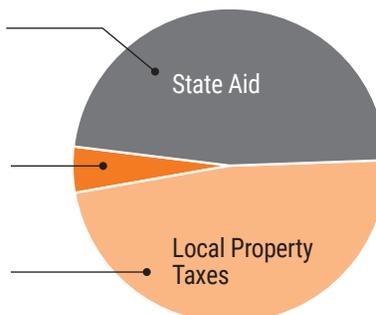
DEBT SERVICE TRANSFERS	7%
INSTRUCTION	46%
GENERAL SUPPORT	11%
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	31%
TRANSPORTATION	5%



Proposed Revenues

INCOME SOURCES	2024-25 Budget	2025-26 Proposed	Difference
Local Property Taxes	\$19,270,629	\$19,655,324	\$384,695
State Aid	\$18,569,113	\$17,728,868	-\$840,245
Interest Earnings, Tax Penalties, Medicaid Reimbursements	\$156,000	\$562,500	\$406,500
Misc. Charges for Services	\$372,800	\$361,500	-\$11,300
Appropriated Reserves	\$1,000,000	\$1,735,204	\$735,204
Total Revenues	\$39,368,542	\$40,043,396	\$674,854

STATE AID:	44.27%
FUND BALANCE & OTHER LOCAL REVENUE:	6.64%
Interest, After School Programs, Athletic Events, Refunds, Fund Balance and Reserves	
LOCAL PROPERTY TAXES:	49.09%



Three-Part Budget

Under NYS law, school budgets are broken down into three categories:

Administrative: 10.04%

- Covers expenses related to the management of the district. This includes: salaries and benefits of administrators, supervisors, and administrative clerical staff; public information and printing; insurance costs; legal expenses, and Board of Education expenses.

Capital: 16.87%

- Covers costs of operating the facility of the district. This includes: debt service on buildings; bus purchases; tax certiorari and court-ordered costs; operation and maintenance costs, including salaries and benefits of custodial staff; supplies; utilities; repairs, and renovations.

Program: 73.09%

- Covers costs directly related to student instruction. This is the majority of the overall budget, which includes: salaries and benefits of teachers, school counselors, aides, nurses, social workers, psychologists, and speech therapists; teaching supplies; equipment and textbooks; library and instructional computer funds; athletics, and transportation (except bus purchases.)



Voters to elect two Board of Education members

In addition to considering the proposed 2025-26 school budget, residents will vote in the district's Board of Education election. During the May 20 annual budget vote, voters will elect two members to the Schuylerville CSD Board of Education to fill the following positions:

- One five-year term beginning July 1, 2025. The seat is currently held by Bernie Buff.
- One term that will commence immediately after the May 20th election (or as close thereto) to succeed Michael Bodnar, who resigned effective Aug. 31, 2024. The term expires June 30, 2027. The seat is currently held by Shaun Cumm, who was appointed by the Board of Education to fill the vacancy for the 2024-25 school year.



Shaun Cumm has worked for more than 20 years as a Cardiology Physician Assistant at Adirondack Cardiology and Glens Falls Hospital, where he provides inpatient and outpatient care and performs cardiac stress testing. Cumm is a graduate of South Glens Falls Central School and holds a Biology degree from SUNY Cortland and a Physician Assistant certificate from Le Moyne College. He has served two, one-year terms on the Board, beginning in May 2023. Cumm also previously contributed to the district's Code of Conduct committee and regularly volunteers with the varsity football and basketball programs. Over the past 12 years, Cumm has coached numerous youth and club teams in football, basketball, soccer, and lacrosse. He is also a long-time volunteer and core committee member of the South High Marathon Dance. Cumm and his wife have three Schuylerville students: Landen (grade 12), Blake (grade 10), and Avery (grade 9).



Bernie Buff has lived in the Schuylerville community since 2009. A Senior Construction Engineer for Verizon Wireless, Buff oversees wireless facility projects throughout upstate New York. He holds a Bachelor of Landscape Architecture from SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry and an Associate of Arts degree from Hudson Valley Community College. Buff served as an interim Board member from November 2019 to May 2020, and was elected to a five-year term in May 2020. Buff currently serves as Board President. He has also served on the Audit Committee, as a delegate to the Saratoga County School Board Association, and as a member of the CSEA Negotiating Committee. Buff and his wife Cathleen have two daughters who attended Schuylerville schools for grades K-12: Maeve (Class of 2022) and Anika (Class of 2024).

Schuylerville Public Library proposition and election also part of May 20 vote

As part of the May 20 vote, residents will vote on a proposition for the Schuylerville Public Library. By law, the district must offer the library proposition. However, the library expenditures are not part of the district's operating budget. Residents will also vote in the Board of Trustees election for the Schuylerville Public Library.

Schuylerville Public Library Board of Trustees election

The Schuylerville Public Library is holding elections for two seats on its Board of Trustees this year. The two candidates who receive the highest total number of votes cast in their favor shall each fill a three-year term ending

in 2028, created by the expiration of the current terms of Trustees Laura Dooley and BriAnne Mulligan. For more details on the library elections, please visit the library's website (schuylervillelibrary.sals.edu) or call 518-695-6641.

Please note: the election for the library's Board of Trustees is separate and distinct from the school district's budget and Board of Education election.

Proposition: Schuylerville Public Library budget appropriation

Voters will determine if the Schuylerville Public Library can increase its budget appropriation by \$32,000, for a total of \$409,000 annually. According to

library officials, the increase will allow the library to maintain its resources with rising costs, and add to library materials and public programming budgets.

This cost is not part of the school district's budget, and the district does not participate in the development of the public library budget. If approved, taxes raised would be spread among all taxable properties in the district.

Capital project proposal's scope of work includes improvements to the main parking lot, elementary school, and high school

The proposed project will span from the summer of 2027 to the summer of 2028 and include the following components:

Main Parking Lot:

- Reconstruct the existing parking lot with asphalt and stone subbase.
- Study circulation patterns for safety and efficiency.
- Separate bus and car traffic for improved safety.
- Shift student parking spaces to the north parking lot.
- Widen the access road to the rear of the middle school.



Elementary School:

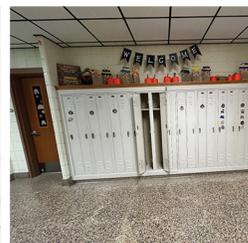
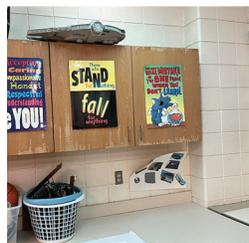
- Replace classroom cabinet doors and countertops.
- Construct a concrete walkway from the building to the playscape.
- Paint and enhance the main lobby entrance.
- Add dimmable, LED lighting in classrooms.
- Replace lockers for grades 4 & 5.
- Update the gym with new wall pads, basketball backboards, and paint.



Current elementary classroom cabinets & lockers



Current elementary school entrance



Rendering: updated elementary school entrance

High School:

- Renovate chemistry and physics classrooms.
- Replace lockers.
- Paint and enhance the main lobby entrance.



Current high school science classroom/lab



Rendering: updated high school entrance

General Work Across Campus:

- Asbestos abatement to ensure a safe learning environment.



Renderings: updated high school physics and chemistry classrooms/labs



2025-26 School District Budget Notice

Overall Budget Proposal	Budget Adopted for the 2024-25 School Year	Budget Proposed for the 2025-26 School Year	Contingency Budget for the 2025-26 School Year *										
Total Budgeted Amount, Not Including Separate Propositions	\$ 39,368,542	\$ 40,043,396	\$ 39,658,701										
Increase/Decrease for the 2025-26 School Year		\$ 674,854	\$ 384,695										
Percentage Increase/Decrease in Proposed Budget		1.71 %	.98%										
Change in the Consumer Price Index		2.95%											
A. Proposed Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount	\$ 19,270,629	\$ 19,655,324											
B. Levy to Support Library Debt, if Applicable	\$	\$											
C. Levy for Non-Excludable Propositions, if Applicable **	\$	\$											
D. Total Tax Cap Reserve Amount Used to Reduce Current Year Levy	\$	\$											
E. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy (A + B + C - D)	\$ 19,270,629	\$ 19,655,324	\$ 19,270,629										
F. Total Permissible Exclusions	\$ 1,378,494	\$ 1,226,199											
G. School Tax Levy Limit, <u>Excluding</u> Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$ 17,892,135	\$ 18,431,090											
H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, <u>Excluding</u> Levy to Support Library Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions (E – B – F + D)	\$ 17,892,135	\$ 18,429,125											
I. Difference: G – H (Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval – See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions) **	\$ 0	\$ 1,965											
Administrative Component	\$ 3,833,270	\$ 4,061,445	\$ 3,924,391										
Program Component	\$ 28,265,850	\$ 29,195,962	\$ 29,019,075										
Capital Component	\$ 7,269,422	\$ 6,785,989	\$ 6,715,235										
<p>* Provide a statement of assumptions made in projecting a contingency budget for the 2025-26 school year, should the proposed budget be defeated pursuant to Section 2023 of the Education Law.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Description</th> <th>Amount</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td>\$</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>\$</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>\$</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>\$</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>** List Separate Propositions that are not included in the Total Budgeted Amount: (Tax Levy associated with educational or transportation services propositions are not eligible for exclusion and may affect voter approval requirements)</p>				Description	Amount		\$		\$		\$		\$
Description	Amount												
	\$												
	\$												
	\$												
	\$												

	Under the Budget Proposed for the 2025-26 School Year
Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings ¹	\$ 459

The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2025-26 by the qualified voters of the Schuylerville school district, Saratoga County, New York, will be held at Schuylerville CSD school(s) in said district on Tuesday, May 20, 2025 between the hours of 12:00pm and 9:00pm, prevailing time in the Schuylerville Board Room school(s), at which time the polls will be opened to vote by voting ballot or machine.

1. The basic school tax relief (STAR) exemption is authorized by section 425 of the Real Property Tax Law.

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Schuylerville

CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

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6 Schuylerville News and Information

CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

2025-26 BUDGET VOTE

VOTE
Tuesday
May 20, 2025
12:00-9:00 p.m.
 DISTRICT OFFICE
 BOARD OF EDUCATION ROOM
 Enter through the
 concession stand entrance

2025-26 Budget Vote Information



Schuylerville Middle School 8th grade female students attended a Women in Trades event at SUNY Adirondack where they were introduced to educational and career pathways in the STEM fields.

Who is eligible to vote?

To be eligible to vote, a person must be 18 years old or older, a resident of the district for at least 30 days prior to the vote, and a U.S. citizen.

When and where is the vote?

Tuesday, May 20, 2025 from 12-9 p.m. in the District Office Board of Education Room, 14 Spring St. (enter through the concession stand entrance).

What will I be voting on?

The proposed budget for the 2025-26 school year, a capital project proposal, the annual Schuylerville CSD Board of Education election, the Schuylerville Public Library's budget, and the Library's Board of Trustees election.

Is the district using fund balance to help balance the budget?

Yes. The district will be using funds from the reserves to offset expenditures.

What if the proposed budget is voted down?

The Board of Education has the option of putting another budget (revised or not) up for a vote in June or immediately adopting a contingent budget. After two unsuccessful votes, a district must adopt a contingent budget, which limits the property tax levy increase to zero percent, with no exclusions.

Can I vote by absentee ballot?

If you would like an application for an absentee ballot, please call the Superintendent's Office at 518-695-3255, extension 3242. Absentee ballots must be returned to the district office by 5 p.m. on Tuesday, May 20.

How can I get more information about the budget proposal?

If you'd like more details, please call the Superintendent's Office at 518-695-3255, extension 3242 or visit the district website (schuylervilleschools.org/budget). Additionally, the district's plain-language budget and the School Report Card are available at the district office located inside Schuylerville High School at 14 Spring Street, Schuylerville.