

Middleburgh

Budget NEWSLETTER

CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

2025-2026



Voters to consider \$25.1 million budget proposal and capital project

On Tuesday, May 20, Middleburgh Central School District residents will be asked to consider a \$25,100,000 budget for the 2025-26 school year. This proposed budget increases spending by 0.80%, or \$200,000, from the current year and includes a tax levy increase of 1.50% or \$156,144. Since the tax levy increase (the total amount of money to be raised through property taxes) is less than the district's maximum allowable levy limit of 2.29%, the proposed budget needs a simple majority vote to be approved.

State Aid

New York State Foundation Aid is the primary source of funding for the district's general fund budget. As part of the state budget, there is an expected decrease of \$107,212 in aid for the 2025-26 school year.

Fund Balance Use

Middleburgh is proposing to use \$921,815 of fund balance to balance the budget. The fund balance utilizes end-of-year surplus from the general fund.



Capital Project

In addition to voting on the general budget, district residents will also vote on an \$8.1 million dollar capital project that would utilize state grants and \$2 million dollars from our Capital Reserve Fund to pay for over a dozen repairs and improvements to our facilities. **If passed, the capital project would have no additional impact on our tax levy.** See newsletter insert for additional information.



Tuesday, May 20, 2025

12-9 p.m.

Jr./Sr. High School Gym Lobby

NOTE: All absentee and early mail ballots must be received by the district by 5 p.m. on May 20.



PROPOSED BUDGET 2025-26
\$25,100,000

PROPOSED TAX LEVY INCREASE
1.50%

PROPOSED SPENDING INCREASE
\$200,000 or 0.80%

BOARD OF EDUCATION VOTE

Two seats are available for three-year terms expiring June 30, 2028.

Candidates appearing on the ballot:

Vicki Hoerz

Basil Wesley Andrew

More information about the candidates is available on the district website.

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Experiences for Students**

A Message from the Superintendent

Dear MCS Community,

Middleburgh is a great place to live, work, and learn. We are proud to share that in the 2024-2025 school year, MCS has once again earned the highest rating in the NY State Education Department's Accountability System—"In Good Standing."

Our academic foundation has been strengthened with field-based learning. Over 50% of our juniors and seniors are enrolled in Career and Technical Education programs through BOCES. This year, we provided Pre-K-12 students with over 100 field trip experiences, helping them explore "The World Beyond Middleburgh." A highlight was a trip to Washington, D.C., where students witnessed the presidential inauguration, deepening their understanding of civics and national history.

Our students and teams have earned scholar-athlete recognition by the New York State Public High School Athletic Association. Three athletes earned recognition at the state level in wrestling and bowling.

We are grateful for the community's support, which makes these opportunities possible. This year, we also expanded our regional collaboration with neighboring districts and strengthened partnerships with community groups to provide cost-effective ways to enhance learning opportunities.

The 2025-26 proposed MCS budget reflects a 0.80% increase in expenditures with a modest 1.50% proposed tax levy increase. This year, we will also ask voters to consider our Capital Project 2026, detailed in the newsletter insert. In addition, we are seeking approval to transfer funds to our Repair Reserve Fund, as part of our responsible fiscal strategy to minimize future impacts to the tax levy.

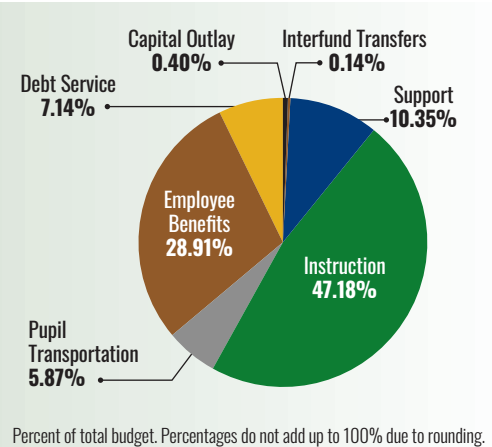
Thanks to the unwavering support of our community, MCS continues to thrive and grow. Please make your voice heard and vote on May 20.

Mark Place
Superintendent of Schools

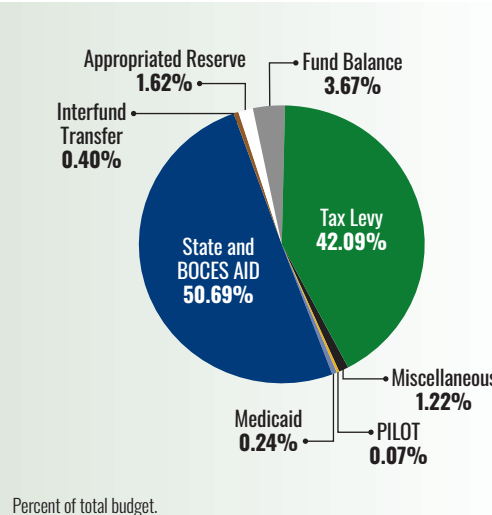


For more information: middleburghcsd.org

Expenditures Summary	2024-25	2025-26	\$ Change	% Change
Support	\$2,476,258	\$2,597,098	\$120,840	4.88%
Instruction Support	\$11,712,865	\$11,843,283	\$130,418	1.11%
Pupil Transportation	\$1,445,758	\$1,473,821	\$28,063	1.94%
Employee Benefits	\$7,092,472	\$7,257,420	\$164,948	2.33%
Debt Service	\$2,037,647	\$1,793,378	-\$244,269	-11.99%
Capital Outlay	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$0	0.00%
Interfund Transfers	\$35,000	\$35,000	\$0	0.00%
Total	\$24,900,000	\$25,100,000	\$200,000	0.80%



Revenues Summary	2024-25	2025-26	\$ Change	% Change
State and BOCES Aid	\$12,830,707	\$12,723,495	-\$107,212	-0.84%
Medicaid	\$60,000	\$60,000	\$0	0.00%
Tax Levy	\$10,409,598	\$10,565,742	\$156,144	1.50%
PILOT	\$20,066	\$16,653	-\$3,413	-17.01%
Miscellaneous Revenue	\$330,000	\$306,500	-\$23,500	-7.12%
Fund Balance	\$921,815	\$921,815	\$0	0.00%
Appropriated Reserve	\$227,814	\$405,795	\$177,981	78.13%
Interfund Transfer from Debt Service Fund	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$0	0.00%
Revenue in Budget	\$24,900,000	\$25,100,000	\$200,000	0.80%



OTHER PROPOSITIONS VOTERS WILL CONSIDER

When Middleburgh residents go to the polls on May 20, they will vote on three propositions in addition to the 2025-26 proposed budget.

One proposition will be for the purchase of two, 65-passenger diesel buses with luggage compartments and one 30-passenger wheelchair-accessible bus, with a total not to exceed \$484,000. New buses replace old buses based on the bus's mileage, age, repair history, and condition and coincide with the district's long-range bus replacement plan to keep the bus fleet in safe, working order. State aid would fund \$368,324 (76.1%) of the total purchase cost.

A second proposition will ask voters to consider a transfer, not to exceed \$600,000, to the Repair Reserve Fund to cover any one-time unanticipated repair expenditures for the upcoming year.

Residents will also vote on an \$8.1 million dollar capital project that would utilize state grants and \$2 million dollars from our Capital Reserve Fund to pay for over a dozen repairs and improvements to our facilities. **If passed, the capital project would have no additional impact on our tax levy.** See newsletter insert for additional information.

Read more about the May 20 propositions at MiddleburghCSD.org.



School District Budget Notice



Tuesday, May 20, 2025

VOTER INFORMATION

Voter Eligibility

By law, all voters must be U.S. citizens, at least 18 years old and residents of the Middleburgh Central School District for at least 30 days prior to the vote. Voters must have a valid I.D.

Absentee & Early Ballots

You must complete an application to receive an absentee or early ballot.

Absentee and early ballot applications are available on the district website or by contacting District Clerk Kim Lawyer: **518-827-3625.**

If a voter requests to receive a ballot by mail, the application must be received by the district clerk by **5 p.m. on May 13**. If the voter is going to pick up the ballot in person in the district office, it must be picked up by **5 p.m. on May 19**. All ballots must be received by **5 p.m. on May 20**.

Military ballots were delivered to military voters prior to the deadline of **April 25**.

Questions?

A list of frequently asked questions is on the district website or call District Clerk Kim Lawyer: **518-827-3625.**

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	\$24,900,000	\$25,100,000	\$24,943,856
Increase/Decrease for the 2025-26 School Year		\$200,000	\$43,856
Percentage Increase/Decrease in Proposed Budget		0.80%	0.18%
Change in the Consumer Price Index		2.95%	
A. Proposed Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount	\$10,409,598	\$10,565,742	
B. Levy to Support Library Debt, if Applicable	\$0	\$0	
C. Levy for Non-Excludable Propositions, if Applicable **	\$0	\$0	
D. Total Tax Cap Reserve Amount Used to Reduce Current Year Levy	\$0	\$0	
E. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy (A + B + C - D)	\$10,409,598	\$10,565,742	\$10,409,598
F. Total Permissible Exclusions	\$379,658	\$329,161	
G. School Tax Levy Limit, <u>Excluding</u> Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$10,082,206	\$10,319,216	
H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, Excluding Levy to Support Library Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions (E - B - F + D)	\$10,029,940	\$10,236,581	
I. Difference: G - H (Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval - See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions) **	\$ 52,266	\$82,635	
Administrative Component	\$2,216,513	\$2,227,094	\$2,207,094
Program Component	\$18,489,168	\$18,781,439	\$18,691,939
Capital Component	\$4,194,319	\$4,091,467	\$4,044,823

*Under NYS law, a school may submit a budget to voters a maximum of two times. If the budget is defeated, the Board of Education may adopt a contingent budget or put a budget before the voters a second time. If the budget is defeated twice, the Board of Education must adopt a contingent budget and cannot increase the current year tax levy amount. As a result, the Board would be required to reduce the proposed budget by \$156,144. In this event, the district would be subject to restrictions and limitations in areas where money can be spent. For example, the purchase of new equipment would not be permitted, and there would be mandated charges for the use of school facilities by outside organizations (Section 2023 Education Law).

** 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)

Description	Amount
Purchase of 3 school buses (not to exceed)	\$484,000
Transfer to Repair Reserve from available fund balance (not to exceed)	\$600,000
Capital Project Proposition with \$2M withdrawal from the Capital Reserve	\$8,100,000

Under the Budget Proposed for the 2025-26 School Year

Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings¹	\$551
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The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2025-26 by the qualified voters of the Middleburgh Central School District, Schoharie County, New York, will be held at the Middleburgh Junior/Senior High School in said district on Tuesday, May 20, 2025, between the hours of 12:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m., prevailing time in the Middleburgh Junior/Senior High School 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.

2025-26 SCHOOL YEAR BUDGET SUMMARY

New York state law requires school districts to present their budgets divided into three expenditure categories—program, administrative and capital—and compare them to the previous year's costs. Middleburgh's three-part budget breaks down as follows:

Program	2024-25	2025-26
Amount	\$18,489,168	\$18,781,439
74.83% of Proposed Budget		

Includes salaries and benefits of all teachers and staff who deliver pupil services (guidance, health, library/media etc.), textbooks, equipment, co-curricular activities, athletics and transportation costs.

Administration	2024-25	2025-26
Amount	\$2,216,513	\$2,227,094
8.87% of Proposed Budget		

Includes the salaries and benefits of administrators, supervisors and administrative clerical staff, public information, printing, curriculum and staff development, school board costs, general insurance and professional fees.

Capital	2024-25	2025-26
Amount	\$4,194,319	\$4,091,467
16.30% of Proposed Budget		

Includes salaries and benefits of maintenance and custodial staff, debt service on buildings and school bus purchases, utilities, tax certiorari and court-ordered costs.

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Debra A. Bechtold, *President*
Pamela Standhart, *Vice President*
Becky Binder
Vicki Hoerz
Bonnie Snyder

DISTRICT OFFICIALS

Superintendent of Schools: Mark Place
School Business Administrator: Robyn Bhend

SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS

Elementary School: Amy Irwin
Jr. / Sr. High School: Matthew Sloane
Pupil Services: Stella Ritter

CONTACT

Phone: (518) 827-3600 x3625

*Newsletter produced by the
Middleburgh Central School District,
in cooperation with Capital Region BOCES
Engagement & Development Services.*



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For more information: middleburghcsd.org



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Expanding Real-World Experiences for Students

Students from pre-kindergarten through high school benefit from hands-on learning through engaging classroom activities, field trips, and after-school clubs and athletics. These experiences spark curiosity and deepen their understanding of "The World Beyond Middleburgh." By offering these opportunities, MCS prepares students for the future—wherever their journey may take them.



History students in the U.S. Capitol.



MCS offers over 35 clubs and 15 athletics programs.



Fifty students attend Career & Technical Education programs through BOCES.



Hands-on learning in the classroom.