

# Middleburgh

CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT



## Budget NEWSLETTER

2026-2027

### Voters to consider \$25,616,095 budget proposal

On Tuesday, May 19, Middleburgh Central School District residents will be asked to consider a \$25,616,095 budget for the 2026-27 school year. This proposed budget increases spending by 2.06%, or \$516,095, from the current year and includes a tax levy increase of 1.50%, or \$158,486. The district has stayed below the maximum allowable tax levy for the past six years.

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 2.99%, 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 increase of \$86,779 in aid for the 2026-27 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.



**Tuesday, May 19, 2026**

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 19.



### A Message from the Superintendent

Dear MCS Community,

Middleburgh is a special place to live, work, and learn because of the strength of our school community. We are proud to share that this year Middleburgh Central School District has once again earned the highest rating in the New York State Education Department's Accountability System—"In Good Standing."

That success is the result of the opportunities we provide for students. Over the past four years, we expanded classroom learning under the theme The World Beyond Middleburgh. This year, students participated in more than 100 field trips, including to Boston's Freedom Trail and the Erie Canal.

We are also thoughtfully preparing students for artificial intelligence in The World Beyond Middleburgh. This year, teachers engaged in professional learning that introduced a K-12 framework focused on academic integrity and digital citizenship, placing MCS at the forefront of educational use of this technology.

At the same time, we are building our athletics pipeline. Through a revitalized Little Knights program, younger students can build early skills and develop confidence.

Important facilities enhancements will be completed this fall. Through a previously approved capital project, the elementary school will have a new playground, safer bleachers, and an updated school-based health center. At the high school, improvements include a new lighting system in the auditorium and new bathrooms near the cafeteria.

These investments reflect our community's commitment to providing for students while maintaining long-term financial stability. The proposed 2026-27 MCS budget reflects a 2.06% increase in expenditures, with a 1.50% tax levy increase—the lowest in the region for the third consecutive year.

Please make your voice heard and vote on May 19.

#### Mark Place

Superintendent of Schools



Learning about the world at the A.J. Reed Science Center

PROPOSED BUDGET 2026-27

**\$25,616,095**

PROPOSED TAX LEVY INCREASE

**1.50%**

PROPOSED SPENDING INCREASE

**\$516,095 or 2.06%**

BOARD OF EDUCATION VOTE

One seat is available for a three-year term expiring June 30, 2029.

Candidate appearing on the ballot:  
Bonnie Snyder

Additional information is available on the district website.

### What's inside

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Expenditures/Revenues;  
Propositions; Summer  
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Overall Proposal; Voter  
Information

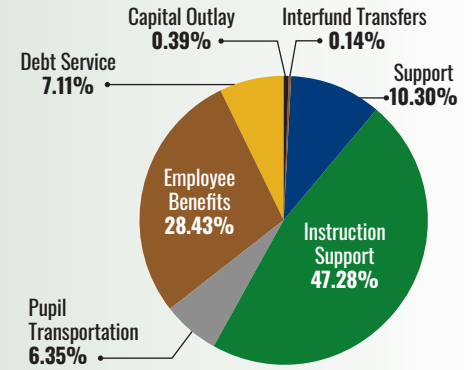
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Jump Start on College and Careers



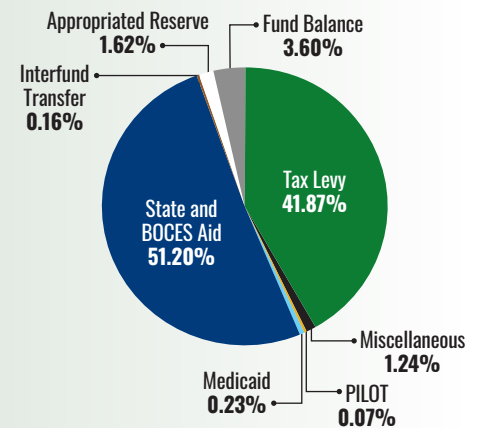
For more information: [middleburghcsd.org](http://middleburghcsd.org)

Expenditures Summary	2025-26	2026-27	\$ Change	% Change
Support	\$2,597,098	\$2,638,456	\$41,358	1.59%
Instruction Support	\$11,843,283	\$12,110,597	\$267,314	2.26%
Pupil Transportation	\$1,473,821	\$1,627,666	\$153,845	10.44%
Employee Benefits	\$7,257,420	\$7,283,851	\$26,431	0.36%
Debt Service	\$1,793,378	\$1,820,525	\$27,147	1.51%
Capital Outlay	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$0	0.00%
Interfund Transfers	\$35,000	\$35,000	\$0	0.00%
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$25,100,000</b>	<b>\$25,616,095</b>	<b>\$516,095</b>	<b>2.06%</b>



Percent of total budget.

Revenues Summary	2025-26	2026-27	\$ Change	% Change
State and BOCES Aid	\$12,723,495	\$13,116,441	\$392,946	3.09%
Medicaid	\$60,000	\$60,000	\$0	0.00%
Tax Levy	\$10,565,742	\$10,724,228	\$158,486	1.50%
PILOT	\$16,653	\$18,701	\$2,048	12.30%
Miscellaneous Revenue	\$306,500	\$316,500	\$10,000	3.26%
Fund Balance	\$921,815	\$921,815	\$0	0.00%
Appropriated Reserve	\$405,795	\$416,144	\$10,349	2.55%
Interfund Transfer from Debt Service Fund	\$100,000	\$42,266	-\$57,734	57.73%
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$25,100,000</b>	<b>\$25,616,095</b>	<b>\$516,095</b>	<b>2.06%</b>



Percent of total budget. Percentages do not add up to 100% due to rounding.

## VOTERS WILL ALSO CONSIDER

When Middleburgh residents go to the polls on May 19, they will vote on one proposition in addition to the 2026-27 budget proposal.



As part of the district's long-range bus replacement plan to keep the bus fleet in safe, working order, the district replaces older buses based on mileage, age, repair history, and condition. The proposition would authorize the purchase of two, 48-passenger diesel buses with luggage compartments, one 24-passenger bus with air conditioning, and one seven-passenger mini van, with a total not to exceed \$523,000. State aid would fund \$381,790 (73%) of the total purchase cost. A withdrawal, not to exceed \$35,324, from the Capital (Bus) Reserve would offset part of the local share for bus purchases.

## Summer Construction Planned; Program Location Changes

Construction will take place in each building this summer on work approved as part of the 2026 Capital Project. As a result, the Joshua Project's free Monday-Friday lunch program will move to the elementary cafeteria.



Visit [middleburghcsd.org](http://middleburghcsd.org) for additional construction updates this summer.

# School District Budget Notice



Tuesday, May 19, 2026

## 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 12**. 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 18**. All ballots must be received by **5 p.m. on May 19**.

Military ballots were delivered to military voters prior to the deadline of **April 24**.

### 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 2025-26 School Year	Budget Proposed for the 2026-27 School Year	Contingency Budget for the 2026-27 School Year*
Total Budgeted Amount, Not Including Separate Propositions	\$25,100,000	\$25,616,095	\$25,457,609
Increase/Decrease for the 2026-27 School Year		\$516,095	\$357,609
Percentage Increase/Decrease in Proposed Budget		2.06%	1.42%
Change in the Consumer Price Index		2.63%	
A. Proposed Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount	\$10,565,742	\$10,724,228	
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)	\$10,565,742	\$10,724,228	\$10,565,742
F. Total Permissible Exclusions	\$329,161	\$380,142	
G. School Tax Levy Limit, Excluding Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$10,319,216	\$10,501,100	
H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, Excluding Levy to Support Library Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions (E - B - F + D)	\$10,236,581	\$10,344,086	
I. Difference: G - H (Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval - See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions) **	\$82,635	\$157,014	
Administrative Component	\$2,227,094	\$2,385,127	\$2,365,827
Program Component	\$18,781,439	\$19,012,200	\$18,928,014
Capital Component	\$4,091,467	\$4,218,768	\$4,163,768

\*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 \$158,486. 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).

\*\* 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 three school buses and one minivan for pupil transportation, not to exceed \$523,000; \$35,324 withdrawn from the Capital Bus Reserve to offset local share of purchases.	\$523,000

### Under the Budget Proposed for the 2026-27 School Year

Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings <sup>1</sup>	\$448
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The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2026-27 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 19, 2026, 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.

## 2026-27 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	2025-26	2026-27
Amount	\$18,781,439	\$19,012,200
74.22% 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	2025-26	2026-27
Amount	\$2,227,094	\$2,385,127
9.31% 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	2025-26	2026-27
Amount	\$4,091,467	\$4,218,768
16.47% 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.*

# Middleburgh



CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

P.O. Box 606  
291 Main Street  
Middleburgh, NY 12122

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MIDDLEBURGH, NY

## BOARD OF EDUCATION

Pamela Standhart, *President*  
Becky Binder, *Vice President*  
Vicki Hoerz  
Bonnie Snyder  
Wesley Andrew

## DISTRICT OFFICIALS

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

## SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS

Elementary School: Mark Place, Interim  
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.*

POSTAL PATRON

For more information: [middleburghcsd.org](http://middleburghcsd.org)

# BUDGET VOTE

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PROPOSED BUDGET 2026-27

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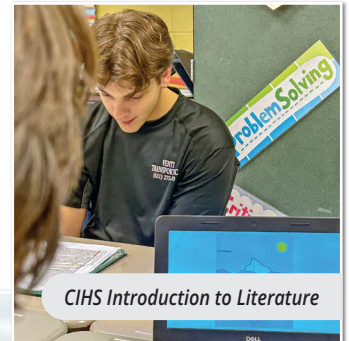
**1.50%**

PROPOSED SPENDING INCREASE

**\$516,095 or 2.06%**

## Jump Start on College and Careers

Students in the Class of 2026 are gaining real-world skills and college-level experience. More than half will complete a BOCES Career and Technical Education (CTE) program and many will earn industry certifications. Additionally, the majority of seniors are taking Advanced Placement (AP) or College in the High School (CIHS) classes, which typically leads to college credit or advanced placement.



CIHS Introduction to Literature



CTE Diesel Technology Program



CTE Cosmetology Program



AP Environmental Science