



Menands

UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT

Grades PreK - 8

Menands Union Free School District

2025-2026 Budget Hearing

May 7, 2025



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Annual Budget Hearing

- New York State Education Department requires that it be held not earlier than 14 days and not later than 7 days before the annual budget vote
- Provides district residents with an overview of the proposed spending plan in the required 3 part (Administrative, Program and Capital) format
- The 2025-2026 Tax Levy calculation and limit
- Informs residents of what they will be voting on
- The District's opportunity to keep taxpayers informed of changes that impact the school budget



Expenditure Comparison

	2025-2026	2024-2025	Difference	Percentage
	Proposed Budget	Adopted Budget		
Expenditures	\$ 12,976,198	\$ 12,454,645	\$ 521,553	4.19%

Included in the Spending Plan:

- District operated Pre-K program
- Updated science kits and math curriculum
- Meets all contractual obligations
- Maintains all student offerings both instructionally and extracurricular



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3 Part Budget

Administrative - Program - Capital

	2025-2026	2024-2025	Difference	Percent
Program	\$ 1,345,786	\$ 1,271,996	\$ 73,790	5.80%
Administrative	\$ 9,798,510	\$ 9,587,410	\$ 211,100	2.20%
Capital	\$ 1,831,902	\$ 1,595,239	\$ 236,663	14.84%
	\$ 12,976,198	\$ 12,454,645	\$ 521,553	4.19%



The Administrative Component of the budget provides funding for the overall general support and management activities of the district including the Business Office. This includes the salaries and benefits of all professional and support personnel who spends their time performing or supporting administrative, supervision, curriculum or other assigned duties. Other expenditures covered in the administrative component are legal services, auditing services and public information expenses.

The Increase in This Component is Due to:

- Some of the line areas of expenditures are up; this is due to that reallocation of some expenditure codes, that where being charged to the incorrect component.
- Business Office increase allows for contractual increases and allowance for additional support if necessary

The Administrative Component is the only component that is limited in the event of a contingent budget. It cannot be more than it was in the previous year.



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Administrative Component

	2025-2026	2024-2025	Difference	Percent
Board Of Education	\$ 6,800	\$ 6,800	\$ -	0.00%
District Clerk and Meeting	\$ 11,900	\$ 11,900	\$ -	0.00%
Office of the Superintendent	\$ 238,091	\$ 232,250	\$ 5,841	2.51%
Business Office	\$ 314,302	\$ 324,649	\$ (10,347)	-3.19%
Legal and Auditing	\$ 70,250	\$ 70,250	\$ -	0.00%
Printing and Records Management	\$ 12,000	\$ 9,500	\$ 2,500	26.32%
BOCES Central Data Processing	\$ 91,500	\$ 36,289	\$ 55,211	152.14%
Insurance and Dues	\$ 59,600	\$ 55,100	\$ 4,500	8.17%
BOCES Administrative Costs	\$ 61,302	\$ 59,192	\$ 2,110	3.56%
Inservice and Planning	\$ 42,200	\$ 32,400	\$ 9,800	30.25%
Curriculum Development	\$ 11,500	\$ 11,500	\$ -	0.00%
Supervision	\$ 163,876	\$ 159,400	\$ 4,476	2.81%
Benefits	\$ 262,465	\$ 262,765	\$ (300)	-0.11%
	\$ 1,345,786	\$ 1,271,995	\$ 73,791	5.80%



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Program Overview

The Program Component of the budget provides funding for all expenditures that directly relate to the students of the Menands School District. Expenditures cover salary and benefits for all teachers and other professionals that provide direct and indirect instruction and support to students. Tuition for any instructional program is covered here along with all transportation expenses for students both in and out of district. Interscholastic and extracurricular programs are included here as well.

The Increase in This Component is Due to:

- Contractual obligations.
- The District will now assume expenditures for the Pre-K program. While the Universal Pre-K grant will help to offset the program, it will not cover all costs.
- Assumptions for contractual obligations for transportation and health insurance are included.
- Continued implementation of the 2024-25 ELA curriculum, new curriculum for math and upgrades to the Science Kits.



Program Component

	2025-2026	2024-2025	Difference	Percent
Teaching Regular Schools	\$ 4,256,221	\$ 4,150,906	\$ 105,315	2.54%
Programs for Students with Disabilities	\$ 2,033,814	\$ 2,160,238	\$ (126,424)	-5.85%
English language Learners	\$ 72,610	\$ 68,490	\$ 4,120	6.02%
School Library-Automation-Stem	\$ 85,040	\$ 78,012	\$ 7,028	9.01%
Computer assisted Instruction	\$ 217,326	\$ 222,617	\$ (5,291)	-2.38%
Health Services	\$ 142,202	\$ 145,211	\$ (3,009)	-2.07%
School Psychologist	\$ 32,916	\$ 28,067	\$ 4,849	17.28%
Guidance Counseling	\$ 99,924	\$ 90,302	\$ 9,622	10.66%
Extra-Curricular Activities	\$ 61,640	\$ 50,000	\$ 11,640	23.28%
Inter scholastic Activities	\$ 20,744	\$ 20,200	\$ 544	2.69%
Pupil Transportation	\$ 1,123,261	\$ 1,023,261	\$ 100,000	9.77%
Employee Benefits	\$ 1,592,812	\$ 1,495,106	\$ 97,706	6.54%
Transfer Café and Special Aid	\$ 60,000	\$ 55,000	\$ 5,000	9.09%
	\$ 9,798,510	\$ 9,587,410	\$ 211,100	2.20%



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Capital Overview

The Capital Component of the budget covers all expenditures that relate to the upkeep and maintenance of our building and grounds including the salary and benefits of all the maintenance and custodial staff. Expenditures for debt service and any applicable interfund transfer are included here as well.

The Change in the Capital Component is Due to:

- The increase in debt service for another short-term borrowing allowing the district to refinance once the Paving Grant is final – borrow only what is needed.
- Funds are included to repair some of the concrete walkways to create a safer campus by mitigating trip hazards.



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Capital Component

	2025-2026	2024-2025	Difference	Percent
Salaries	\$ 223,675	\$ 223,600	\$ 75	0.03%
Equipment	\$ 17,500	\$ 17,500	\$ -	0.00%
Contractual	\$ 261,814	\$ 207,124	\$ 54,690	26.40%
Materials and Supplies	\$ 45,500	\$ 45,000	\$ 500	1.11%
Electric and Gas	\$ 112,000	\$ 92,080	\$ 19,920	21.63%
Debt Service	\$ 1,073,100	\$ 912,000	\$ 161,100	17.66%
Benefits	\$ 98,323	\$ 97,935	\$ 388	0.40%
	\$ 1,831,912	\$ 1,595,239	\$ 236,673	14.84%



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Revenues

2025-2026 Revenues				
	Proposed	2024-2025	Difference	% Change
Real Property Tax	\$ 7,965,735	\$ 7,649,284	\$ 316,451	4.14%
Other Payments in Lieu of Taxes (PILOTS)	\$ 270,303	\$ 238,655	\$ 31,648	13.26%
Interest and earnings	\$ 76,217	\$ 55,000	\$ 21,217	38.58%
Commissions	\$ 500	\$ 500	\$ -	0.00%
Refund Prior Year	\$ 68,000	\$ 68,000	\$ -	0.00%
Tuition Other Schools	\$ 700,000	\$ 650,000	\$ 50,000	7.69%
Misc- Gifts & Donations-Erate	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000	\$ -	0.00%
State and BOCES Aid	\$ 2,841,971	\$ 2,734,734	\$ 107,237	3.92%
Medicaid	\$ 25,000	\$ 30,000	\$ (5,000)	-16.67%
Debt Service Transfer	\$ 125,472	\$ 125,472	\$ -	0.00%
Fund Balance and Reserves	\$ 900,000	\$ 900,000	\$ -	0.00%
	\$ 12,976,198	\$ 12,454,645	\$ 521,553	4.19%



Tax Cap Calculation

Tax Cap Calculation		2025-2026	2024-2025	2023-2024
		0	0	0
Prior Year Levy		7,649,284	7,631,281	7,469,448
Reserve Amount	-	0	0	0
Prior Year Adjusted Levy		7,649,284	7,631,281	7,469,448
Tax Base Growth Factor	X	1.0224	1.0080	1.0019
		7,820,628	7,692,331	7,483,640
Prior year Pilot	+	238,655	33,800	31,296
		8,059,283	7,726,131	7,514,936
Prior Year Capital Tax Levy Ex - Torts And Judgements	-	344,268.00	330,375.00	324,048.00
		0	0	0
Adjusted Prior Year Tax Levy		7,715,015	7,395,756	7,190,888
Allowable Growth Factor (less x	x	1.02	1.02	1.02
		7,869,315	7,543,671	7,334,706
Pilots for Coming year	-	270,303	238,655	33,800.10
		7,599,012	7,305,016	7,300,906
Carryover	+	0	0	0
Tax Levy Limit		7,599,012	7,305,016	7,300,906
Coming School Year Exemptions:				
Capital Exclusion for Coming \	+	366,723	344,268	330,375
Maximum Allowable Levy		7,965,735	7,649,284	7,631,281
Proposed Levy Amount		316,452	18,003	7,631,281
Difference Between Tax Levy Lin		0	0	0
		4.14%	0.24%	2.17%



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Tax Impact On A Home Valued At \$250,000

A home based on an assessment of 250,000

		Value of Home	Tax Rate	Tax Bill	Difference	Per Month
School	2024-2025	\$ 250,000	30.712449	\$ 7,678.11		
School	2025-2026	\$ 250,000	31.983024	\$ 7,995.76	\$ 317.64	\$ 26.47
Library	2024-2025	\$ 250,000	1.049235	\$ 262.31		
Library	2025-2026	\$ 250,000	1.206622	\$ 301.66	\$ 39.35	\$ 3.28

If assessments go up the rate will decrease and if assessments go down the rate will increase.



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What Are You Voting On?

- The School Budget of \$12,976,198
 - The budget requires a simple majority to pass, 50% + 1 yes votes, within the tax levy limit of 4.14%
- Two open Board of Education seats
 - Patrick Semexant and Jason Hoffman have submitted petitions
- A \$6.67 million Capital Project
- Library Budget of \$306,423
- Transfer ownership of the Library to the Library Trustees
- One open Library Trustee seat
 - Diana Praus has submitted a petition



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If the Vote is Not Successful

- The district could put the same or amended expenditure budget up for a re-vote.
- The district could go directly to a contingency budget, not requiring a re-vote.
- After two unsuccessful budget votes, the district has to go to a contingency budget in which case the tax levy can not be greater than the previous year, or a 0% tax increase
- That would require expenditure reduction of \$316,451



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What Do We Do Now?

- Encourage family and friends to vote, Tuesday, May 20th
12:00 pm-8:00 pm
- Absentee or Mail-in ballots can be obtained from the District Clerk.
- Absentee ballots must be received in the district office by 5:00pm.
- If you have questions about absentee ballots, reach out to Trish O'Connell, the District Clerk, at toconnell@menands.org or 518-465-4561 ext 101





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Questions or Comments

Budget Vote & Board Elections

Capital Project

Library Vote and Board Elections

In-Person

Tuesday May 20, 2025

12:00 pm – 8:00 PM

Menands School

District Office Entrance