

# SACHEM

CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT



# BUDGET INFORMATION 2025-2026

REMEMBER TO VOTE

**MAY 20, 2025** 

6 A.M.-9 P.M.

VOTING AT ALL 10 OPERATING DISTRICT ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS



- Maintains all current programs and co-curricular offerings.
- Sustains our championshipwinning sports offerings.
- Continues to provide for a robust and award-winning fine and performance arts program K-12.
- Upholds commitment to student-focused instructional programs and opportunities for all students.
- Supports districtwide health and safety efforts.

### **BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS**

- Proposed budget is within the district's allowable tax levy cap and represents a budget-to-budget increase of 1.77%.
- Maintains all current programs and services, including the nine-period day at the secondary level.
- Upholds commitment to student-focused instructional programs and opportunities for all students.
- Supports educational learning opportunities in music and theater, which bolster student learning about all aspects of production, including course offerings and extra curricular programs.
- Provides for college and career readiness programs.
- Offers a robust athletic program.
- Supports mental health resources for students, including the district's continued partnership with Northwell Health.









# CAPITAL SPENDING HIGHLIGHTS

The following is a list of possible capital projects for the 2025–26 budget cycle that have been identified as priority items. As a reminder, we budget \$9 million as part of the transfer to capital and there is approximately \$1.6 million remaining in the capital reserve.

- East pool reconstruction HVAC work
- North pool ceiling and lighting
- North first-floor piping and valve replacement
- Electric new main service at Tecumseh
- Roof replacements districtwide
- Exterior hose bib replacements
- Potential other renovations districtwide (boilers, unit vents, floors, restrooms, etc.)
- Two new large buses

### WHAT'S ON THE BALLOT?

#### Proposition No. 1: 2025-2026 Proposed Budget

RESOLVED, that the annual budget for the SACHEM CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT for the fiscal year 2025–2026 in the total amount of \$380,985,606 as proposed by the Board of Education in accordance with Section 1716 of the Education Law shall be approved, and the necessary tax be levied thereof upon the taxable property of the School District.



#### **Proposition No. 2: Transportation**

In addition to the proposed budget, on May 20 voters will cast their ballots on a special proposition to change the district's transportation limits. If approved, this proposition would modify school transportation eligibility requirements for students in grades K-8 from more than a half mile to more than one mile; and for grades 9-12 from more than a half mile and less than 25 miles to more than one mile and a half mile and less than 15 miles.



### **ELECTION OF SCHOOL BOARD TRUSTEES**

In addition to the budget, voters will elect three Board members. Three seats are open for three-year terms beginning July 1, 2025. The three-year terms of Alex Piccirillo, Meredith Volpe and Laura Slattery are expiring on June 30, 2025.





# 2025-2026 PROPOSED BUDGET EXPENDITURES

	2024-2025	2025-2026		
	Budget	Proposed Budget	\$ Change	% Change
ADMINISTRATION	•		•	•
Board of Education	\$159,785	\$165,176	\$5,391	3.37%
Central Administration	490,869	492,996	2,127	0.43%
Business Administration/Finance	2,202,597	2,185,152	(17,445)	-0.79%
Personnel/Communications	1,806,437	1,870,211	63,774	3.53%
Security/Safety/Data Processing	5,187,793	5,340,832	153,039	2.95%
Districtwide Insurance/BOCES	4,230,258	4,036,334	(193,924)	-4.58%
Curriculum and Instruction	10,316,213	10,713,983	397,770	3.86%
Benefits	6,322,432	6,619,256	296,824	4.69%
Total	\$30,716,384	\$31,423,940	\$707,556	2.30%
PROGRAM				
Personnel/Communications	\$70,200	\$213,000	\$142,800	203.42%
Curriculum and Instruction	89,472,182	89,131,631	(340,551)	-0.38%
Special Education	58,107,349	63,064,326	4,956,977	8.53%
Servicing Pupils with Special Needs	6,658,923	7,055,204	396,281	5.95%
Occupational Education	3,057,500	3,478,450	420,950	13.77%
Special Programs	230,215	233,013	2,798	1.22%
Instructional Media	8,899,425	8,818,975	(80,450)	-0.90%
Pupil Services	15,245,726	15,448,860	203,134	1.33%
District Transportation	26,866,745	27,027,425	160,680	0.60%
Benefits	84,063,691	83,872,292	(191,399)	-0.23%
Interfund Transfers	858,000	858,000	0	0.00%
Total	\$293,529,956	\$299,201,176	\$5,671,220	1.93%
CAPITAL				
Buildings and Grounds	\$17,489,608	\$17,858,835	\$369,227	2.11%
Purchase of Buses	-	280,000	280,000	100%
Benefits	7,064,973	7,238,959	173,986	2.46%
Bonded Indebtedness	16,573,265	16,262,696	(310,569)	-1.87%
Capital Projects	9,000,000	8,720,000	(280,000)	-3.11%
Total	\$50,127,846	\$50,360,490	\$232,644	0.46%

\$374,374,186

TOTAL EXPENDITURE BUDGET

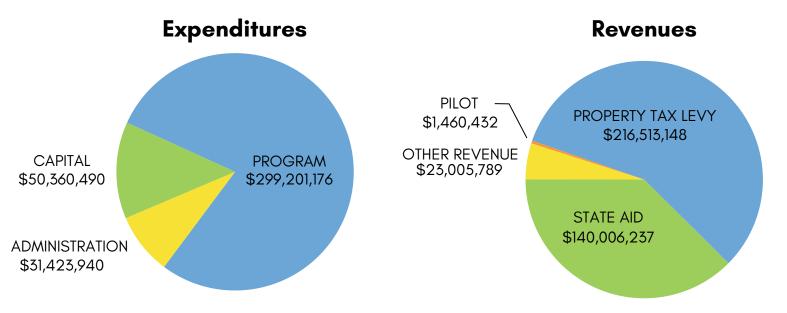
\$380,985,606

\$6,611,420

1.77%

## 2025-2026 PROPOSED BUDGET REVENUES

	2024-2025 Budget	2025-2026 Proposed Budget	\$ Change	% Change
State Aid	\$139,316,158	\$140,006,237	\$690,079	0.50%
Property Tax Levy	211,851,459	216,513,148	4,661,689	2.20%
Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT)	1,511,152	1,460,432	(50,720)	-3.36%
Other:				
Charges for Service	868,000	868,000	-	0.00%
Use of Money and Property	4,738,024	4,801,514	63,490	1.34%
Donations, Unclassified, Recoveries	3,160,000	3,382,240	222,240	7.03%
Medicaid Reimbursement	300,000	300,000	_	0.00%
Fund Balance/Reserves	12,629,393	13,654,035	1,024,642	8.11%
TOTAL REVENUE BUDGET	\$374,374,186	\$380,985,606	\$6,611,420	1.77%



- The budget includes the cost associated with the first-year extension on the previous five-year
  contract for large bus transportation with Towne Bus, the third year of a five-year contract for van
  service with WE Transport and the second year of a four-year contract for van service with Orange
  County Transit for Pupil Transportation Services including home to school transportation, athletic/field
  trips and summer transportation. Approval of the budget by the voters of the school district will
  constitute approval of these multiyear contracts.
- This budget includes the cost associated with the fourth year of a four-year lease agreement for networked copiers. Approval of the budget by the voters of the school district will constitute approval of this multiyear lease agreement.

### QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

### Q. What percentage of voters needs to approve the budget for it to pass?

**A.** Sachem's proposed budget represents a tax levy increase of 2.20%, which is at the district's tax levy cap. A simple majority of voters is needed to approve the plan.

### Q. What happens if voters do not approve the budget?

**A.** If voters defeat the proposed budget, the district has two options: put the same or a revised budget up for a revote or adopt a contingency budget. If a proposed budget is defeated twice, a contingency budget must be adopted. If that were to occur, state law mandates that the tax levy increase over the current year be capped at 0%.

### Q. What is the impact of Proposition 2?

**A.** If approved, Proposition 2 would modify school transportation eligibility requirements for students in grades K-8 from more than a half mile to more than one mile; and for grades 9-12 from more than a half mile and less than 25 miles to more than one mile and a half mile and less than 15 miles. This adjustment would save approximately \$1,750,000.

### Q. How can I better understand what the new school walker zone areas will be if Proposition 2 passes?

**A.** To help the community better understand what would become the new walker zones, the district has created the updated maps by school building. Please visit the district's website to view the updated map for your neighborhood schools.



### Points of Pride

- 78 senior student-athletes from Sachem North and Sachem East signed their national letters of intent to compete in collegiate athletics at the NCAA level.
- Numerous students received All– Academic, All–County, All–League, All– National and All–State athletic recognition.
- Four Sachem High School students were named Commended Students in the 2025 National Merit Scholarship Program.
- Four talented Sachem student musicians were selected by the New York State School Music Association to participate in the prestigious 2024 All-State Music Conference. An additional three students were chosen as alternates.
- Several Sachem High School students were awarded the prestigious AP Capstone Diploma and AP Capstone Certificate.
- Two student musicians were selected to be part of the Macy's Great American Marching Band.
- Several high school students were awarded in the NASA Space Apps Brookhaven Challenge held at Zebra Technologies in Holtsville.
- Sachem High School East senior Ibrahim Suleman was named a Scholar in the coveted 2025 Regeneron Science Talent Search.
- Two student musicians were chosen to perform in the 2025 NAfME All-Eastern Honors Orchestra.
- Sachem East and North students made an impressive showing at the annual Bay Area Friends of the Fine Arts (BAFFA) Show in Sayville, earning multiple top honors.