Annual Budget Guide

2026-2027

Budget Vote & School Board Election

Tuesday, May 19, 2026
6:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.
Pioneer High School

Proposition 1: 2026-27 General Fund Budget

RESOLVED, that the budget for the Yorkshire-Pioneer Central School District for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2026, and ending June 30, 2027, as presented by the Board of Education, is hereby approved and adopted and the required funds in the amount of $71,280,571, therefore are hereby appropriated and the necessary real property taxes required shall be raised by a tax on the taxable property in the District to be levied and collected as required by law.

Proposition 2:Capital Improvements Reserve Fund

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education is authorized to establish a capital improvements reserve fund, pursuant to State Education Department Law, for the purpose of financing, in whole or in part, the acquisition, construction, reconstruction, expansion, renovation, alteration, and improvement of buildings, facilities, sites, and real property. The fund shall not be greater than $25,000,000, and the probable term of the fund not more than 15 years. Permissable sources of the fund are any from which the Board of Education is



authorized to appropriate, including budgetary appropriations, unassigned fund balance, state aid reimbursements related to capital improvements, proceeds from the sale of unneeded real or personal property owned by the District, reserve funds owned by the District, and/or other sources as the board or the voters of the District may direct from time to time, all as may be permitted by law.

Proposition 3: School Board Election
(more information on Pages 6-7)

Choose two:

- Kate Uhteg (incumbent)
- Carol McCarville
- Shannon King

Voter Eligibility Requirements

Voting in the Pioneer Annual Election will be conducted among qualified voters. You must show proof of residence at the polls.

1) You must be at least 18 years of age.
2) You must be a U.S. citizen.
3) You must have lived in the Pioneer School District for a period of not less than 30 days prior to the day of the vote.

Pioneer School District
2026-27 Budgeted General Fund Revenues

DESCRIPTION		BUDGET 2025-26	BUDGET 2026-27	CHANGE ($)	CHANGE (%)
PROPERTY TAX LEVY		$14,850,000	$15,300,000	$450,000	3.03%
OTHER PAYMENTS IN LIEU OF		60,000	60,000	0	0.00%
INTEREST & PENALTIES ON		5,000	5,000	0	0.00%
	Total Property Tax Items:	**$14,915,000**	**$15,365,000**	**$450,000**	**3.02%**
MISCELLANEOUS		817,500	817,500	0	0.00%
DEBT SERVICE RESERVE		500,000	500,000	0	0.00%
EMPLOYEE BENEFIT ACCRUED LIABILITY RESERVE		70,000	70,000	0	0.00%
ASSIGNED FUND BALANCE		3,000,000	3,000,000	0	0.00%
	Total Other Local Share:	**$4,387,500**	**$4,387,500**	**$0**	**0.00%**
STATE AID					
FOUNDATION AID		$33,398,869	$34,200,201	$801,332	2.40%
COMMUNITY SCHOOLS AID		$210,306	$210,306	$0	-
BOCES AID		3,930,135	4,222,308	292,173	7.43%
EXCESS COST AID (PUBLIC & PRIVATE)		685,000	685,000	0	0.00%
HARDWARE & TECHNOLOGY AID		39,000	38,000	-1,000	-2.56%
SOFTWARE, LIBRARY, TEXT-BOOK AID		173,000	167,000	-6,000	-3.47%
TRANSPORTATION AID		3,330,000	3,360,000	30,000	0.90%
	Total State Aid Net of Building Aid:	**$41,766,310**	**$42,882,815**	**$1,116,505**	**2.67%**
BUILDING AID		8,645,256	8,645,256	0	0.00%
	Total State Aid:	**$50,411,566**	**$51,528,071**	**$1,116,505**	**2.21%**
TOTAL BUDGETED REVENUE		**$69,714,066**	**$71,280,571**	**$1,566,505**	**2.25%**

Estimated Taxpayer Impact

The table below displays 2026-2027 Pioneer tax rates for property owners with the Basic STAR exemption (left) and Enhanced STAR exemption. $100,000 full value home. Tax rate is listed for $0, $10 million & $20 million in additional district assessments. The current tax rate is $9.66.

	Age less than 65			Age 65+		
	$0m	$10m	$20m	$0m	$10m	$20m
Tax Rate:	$9.95	$9.57	9.20	$9.95	9.57	$9.20
Change in Tax Rate:	3.03%	-0.90%	-4.73	3.03%	-0.90%	-4.73%
Change in Tax Bill:	$20	-$6	-$32	$3	-$1	-$5

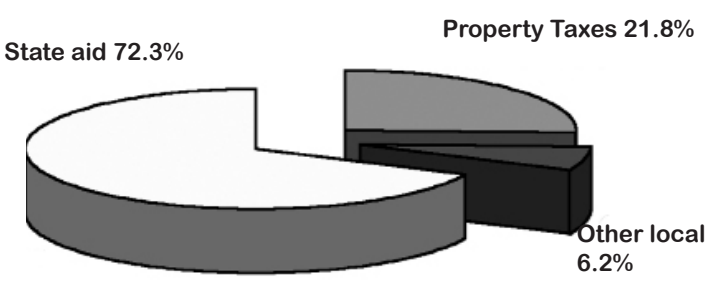
Pioneer School District 2026-27 Three-Part Budget

ADMINISTRATIVE COMPONENT	**2025-2026**		**2026-2027**	
Board of Education	$27,000		$27,000	
District Clerk	2,500		6,000	
District Meetings	2,500		2,500	
Chief School Administrator	288,790		298,801	
Business Administration	577,907		590,138	
Auditing	47,000		47,000	
Treasurer	48,927		45,776	
Tax Collection	43,300		47,300	
Legal Services	45,000		45,000	
Personnel	316,129		185,402	
Public Information	201,921		205,024	
Central Duplicating	8,500		8,500	
Central Data Processing	1,048,609		1,031,065	
Curriculum Development	393,020		502,087	
Day School Supervision	1,187,462		1,211,696	
Special School Supervision	115,948		124,105	
Instructional Support/Training	962,161		1,007,308	
Employee Benefits	972,489		999,841	
Administrative Component Total:	**$6,289,163**	**9.02%**	**$6,384,543**	**8.96%**
PROGRAM COMPONENT				
Legal Services	$23,300		$24,800	
Teaching - Regular Day School	15,729,854		15,845,648	
Special Education	10,024,929		10,083,194	
Occupational Education	2,011,442		2,165,665	
Summer School	798,000		818,000	
School Library & Audio Visual	694,345		697,782	
Instructional Technology	1,723,547		2,086,025	
Attendance	40,000		40,000	
Guidance & Counseling	934,522		971,413	
Health Services	416,445		429,183	
Psychological Services	344,387		351,781	
Social Work	308,832		320,978	
Co-Curricular Activities	151,100		156,600	
Interscholastic Athletics	763,454		776,005	
Transportation - District	314,297		314,981	
Transportation - Contract	3,910,750		4,067,650	
Community Recreation	18,500		18,500	
Employee Benefits	10,780,940		11,079,191	
Interfund Transfers	90,000		90,000	
Program Component Total:	**$49,078,643**	**70.40%**	**$50,337,395**	**70.62%**
CAPITAL COMPONENT				
Operations	$2,885,802		$3,036,308	
Maintenance	699,918		719,378	
Special Items	949,884		956,269	
Employee Benefits	1,266,656		1,302,678	
Serial Bonds	8,419,000		8,419,000	
Revenue Anticipation Notes	25,000		25,000	
Interfund Transfers	100,000		100,000	
Capital Component Total:	**$14,346,260**	**20.58%**	**$14,558,633**	**20.42%**
GENERAL FUND TOTAL:	**$69,714,066**		**$71,280,571**	

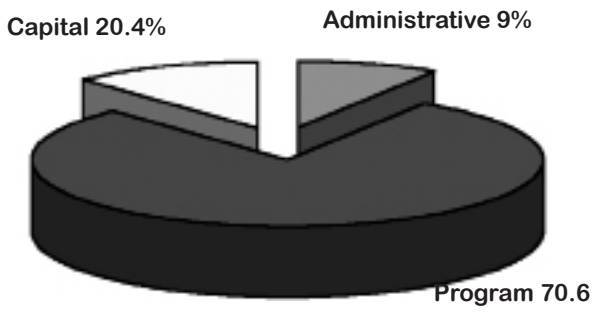
Pioneer Central School District
Departmental Budget Comparison

	2025-26 Budget		2026-27 Budget		Change ($)	Change (%)
Salaries & Benefits	$43,696,741	62.7%	$44,751,908	62.8%	$1,055,167	2.41%
Board of Education	29,500	0.0%	29,500	0.0%	-	0.00%
Central Operations	822,000	1.2%	860,000	1.2%	38,000	4.62%
High School	302,000	0.4%	304,000	0.4%	2,000	0.66%
Middle School	193,000	0.3%	195,000	0.3%	2,000	1.04%
Elementary at Arcade	95,000	0.1%	96,000	0.1%	1,000	1.05%
Elementary at Delevan	88,000	0.1%	89,000	0.1%	1,000	1.14%
Curriculum	50,825	0.1%	50,825	0.1%	-	0.00%
Special Education	775,000	1.1%	775,000	1.1%	-	0.00%
Technology	205,000	0.3%	205,000	0.3%	-	0.00%
Athletics	292,000	0.4%	301,000	0.4%	9,000	3.08%
Buildings & Grounds	1,357,000	1.9%	1,430,000	2.0%	73,000	5.38%
BOCES	9,234,000	13.2%	9,466,338	13.3%	232,338	2.52%
Transportation	3,940,000	5.7%	4,093,000	5.7%	153,000	3.88%
Debt Service	$8,634,000	12.4%	$8,634,000	12.1%	$0	0.00%
General Fund Budget	**$69,714,066**	**100.0%**	**$71,280,571**	**100.0%**	**$1,566,505**	**2.25%**

Proposed Revenues 2026-2027



Proposed Expenditures 2026-2027



Board of Education Candidate Profiles

Note: This year there are three candidates running for two seats on the Pioneer Board of Education. The top two candidates will receive five-year terms. Candidates were asked for a photo and brief bio, and could also supply a statement. The views and opinions expressed by the candidates are their own.

Kate Uhteg (incumbent) is a 20-year resident of the Pioneer School District.

FAMILY: My son Jack (12) attends Pioneer Middle School, and my son Ben (10) and daughter Olive (7) both attend Arcade Elementary school.



OCCUPATION: I'm proud to be approaching my 15-year anniversary with SASI, a nonprofit dedicated to supporting people with disabilities. As Director of Community Services, I lead initiatives that strengthen community-based supports and improve the quality of life for people and families we serve.

What strengths will you bring to the Board of Education?

My experience in human services has allowed me to support people with various disabilities, while making informed decisions in high-stakes situations. This includes assisting people experiencing homelessness and those seeking services after aging out of high school. I hold a Bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice and Psychology from SUNY Fredonia; however, I believe my most valuable qualifications come from my lived and professional experience. For example, I enjoy working directly with people across the community to support them in living enriched, meaningful lives, while also serving as an effective leader and advocate for those I supervise within my organization.

Effective leadership is not defined by being the most experienced educator or the most informed voice in the room. Rather, it is rooted in staying grounded, approachable, and genuinely committed to serving as a thoughtful sounding board for students, families, educators, and the broader community. It is important for me to stand firm in my values and to lead with integrity and discernment. While some may disagree with decisions I have made, I remain committed to these principles and to what I believe is in the best interest of those we serve, while continuing to give every situation the careful consideration it deserves.

Strong governance is rooted in humility, active listening, and ensuring those decisions are informed by the lived experiences and voices of those most directly impacted. I strive to lead in this way consistently, and I believe this is my greatest strength on this board.

What features of Pioneer schools would you want to preserve or to change?

There are many strengths worth preserving, including the continued dedication of our teachers and staff and a commitment to providing ongoing professional development opportunities for our educators. At the same time, there are clear opportunities for growth. While Pioneer appropriately prioritizes student literacy and college readiness, I believe it is equally important to broaden our focus to include additional areas that shape the whole student experience, extending beyond academics alone.

I recognize that many students in our community come from working-class households, where parents and caregivers may be working multiple jobs or nontraditional hours. As a result, many families rely heavily on after-school programs, school-based supports, and volunteers to help ensure their children can fully participate in extracurricular activities and enrichment opportunities. It's our responsibility to recognize these realities and ensure students continue to be afforded the same access and support as everyone else, as well as safeguarding against unequal opportunities or advantages based on family background, connections, or community influence.

Overall, my goal is to preserve what is working well while thoughtfully addressing areas for improvement through collaboration, active listening, and a continued focus on what is best for all students.

What are some ways you have served the community?

I volunteer as a youth soccer coach, where I work directly with children to build teamwork, confidence, and resilience. I also routinely support and participate in local fundraisers that strengthen community programs and events, including the Special Olympics. In addition, I have spent the past several years serving as a board member for the Pioneer School District, where I've contributed to thoughtful decision making and governance.

Anything else voters should know about you?

I am guided by clear values and a commitment to fairness. I believe schools must remain safe, supportive environments where every student has the opportunity to succeed. My background has consistently centered on lifting others up, and as a parent, I have a personal investment in the quality and consistency of our schools. That includes protecting fair and equal athletic opportunities for biological females. Girls should not have to compromise those opportunities, and I would support policies that uphold fairness and integrity in girls' sports while ensuring all students are treated with respect.

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Board of Education Candidate Profiles

Carol McCarville of Arcade has resided in the Pioneer School District since 1995.

FAMILY: Married to Greg McCarville; together we have four children and eight grandchildren! The four youngest are currently students at Pioneer in grades PK through 10.

OCCUPATION: Currently retired after 40 years in education as a teacher and administrator serving rural schools

What strengths will you bring to the Board of Education?



My strengths are my education, experience and knowledge regarding the New York State Public School System. A graduate of the New York State Superintendent Development Program, I have a deep understanding of the relationship between the BOE and the Superintendent, as well as the role of Board members. In my role as an administrator and Instructional Support Specialist with BOCES I have worked closely with School Boards and Superintendents to develop and implement policy and procedure to ensure schools were in compliance with New York State law and regulation.

What features of Pioneer schools would you want to preserve or to change?

It is hard to say what I would change about Pioneer as I do not have a full understanding of what is working and what isn't. I would continue to support the Board on initiatives currently in place and evaluating actions taken to address them (attendance and graduation rates are an example). I want to ensure that our teachers, administrators and the Board Members themselves are provided with the needed supports and professional development required to support high quality programs and instruction, ensuring our students are ready to compete in a constantly evolving world.

What are some ways you have served the community?

In choosing a career in Education, I believe I made a difference not only in my students but in the community and ultimately, the world. In addition to the curriculum I prioritized effort, honesty and empathy in my roles as a teacher and administrator, focusing on being a good role model. Specific to the Pioneer District, I became involved in youth sports when my sons were young and played in the town leagues. I served on the Arcade Youth Football Board of Directors for several years as secretary and treasurer. A few summers found me running the Arcade Recreation program as well. I am now proud to support the greater good through my volunteer work with 716 PAWS (Promoting Animal Welfare and Safety). I have fostered over 20 dogs and adopted two. I also process applications, complete home visits and serve on the fund-raising committee.

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Shannon King of Freedom is a member of Pioneer High School's Class of 1993. She moved away and returned 14 years ago.

FAMILY: Spouse: Tadd King. Children: Brody (age 17) and Bryson (14).

OCCUPATION: Story hour teacher at Arcade Free Library; Fitness Instructor at Eight28 Fitness; Office Manager at Arcade United Church of Christ, Congregational.

What strengths will you bring to the Board of Education?

• Advocate for clear communication, transparency and accountability.

• Decision-making that will reflect the values of our community.



• Be a voice for families and make sure teachers and students have the resources they need.

What features of the Pioneer School District would you want to preserve or to change?

• Build on the academic foundation our school currently holds to ensure all students leave Pioneer ready for college, the trades or workforce.

What are some ways you have served the community?

• Raising money for individuals/families in need through weekly gentle exercise classes.

• Member of Arcade Winterfest Committee/head of Braving the Elements 5K.

• Volunteer at Hope Lutheran Church's Respite program.

• Pioneer/Arcade Area Ski Club Advisor.

• Volunteer at Arcade UCC free Community Dinners.

Anything else voters should know about you?

I am a graduate of Pioneer, and am proud that both of my children will be as well. I love our community and school district and would be honored to serve them through a position on the School Board.

Pioneer School District
P.O. Box 9
Arcade, NY 14009

NON PROFIT ORGANIZATION

U.S. POSTAGE PAID
Permit No. 280

Arcade, NY 14009

BOARD OF EDUCATION
Shawn Hannon, President
Jim Fleischman, Vice President
Mark Kless
Wendy Burch
Patricia Hoffman
Amanda McKerrow
Brandon Pyc
Kate Uhteg
Cory Higgins

ADMINISTRATION
Nicholas Silvaroli, Superintendent of Schools
Brent Titus, School Business Official
Matthew Langworthy, Director of Curriculum & Instruction
Cheri Minehan, Director of Special Education
Joseph Cappadonia, High School Principal
Jenna Driver, Middle School Principal
Kerry Slocum, Arcade Elementary Principal
Stephanie Sullivan, Delevan Elementary Principal
Heidi Miles, Director of Food Service
Nicholas Titus, Supervisor of Buildings & Grounds
Christopher Edwards, Director of Athletics

ECRWSS
POSTAL PATRON

or Current Resident

Pioneer Budget Summary 2026-27

	2025-26	2026-27	Change ($)	Change (%)
Budget	$69,714,066	$71,280,571	$1,586,505	2.25%
Tax Levy	$14,850,000	$15,300,000	$450,000	3.03%
Tax Rate	$9.66	$9.40 - $10.00		

NOTE: Pioneer's tax levy increase of 3.03 percent is lower than the state's property tax cap of 3.57 percent for our district.

School Board Election (choose two)

Kate Uhteg
Carol McCarville
Shannon King