Mercer - Hopewell Valley Regional

Notice is hereby given to the legal voters of the Hopewell Valley Regional School District, in the County of Mercer, of the State of New Jersey, that a Public Hearing will be held in the Community Room of Central High School, 259 Pennington-Titusville Road, on April 27, 2026 at 6:30 pm, for the purpose of conducting a public hearing on the following budget for the 2026-2027 school year.

Advertised Enrollments

Enrollment Categories	October 15, 2024 Actual	October 15, 2025 Actual	October 15, 2026 Estimated
Pupils On Roll Regular Full-Time	2,773	2,864	2,913
Pupils On Roll Regular Shared-Time	14	13	14
Pupils On Roll - Special Full-Time	627	644	639
Pupils On Roll - Special Shared-Time	10	7	9
Subtotal - Pupils On Roll	3,424	3,528	3,575
Private School Placements	39	39	41
Pupils Sent to Other Districts - Reg Prog	0	1	6
Pupils Sent to Other Dists - Spec Ed Prog	11	11	19
Pupils Received	19	13	15

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Mercer - Hopewell Valley Regional
Advertised Revenues

Budget Category	Account	2024-25 Actual	2025-26 Revised	2026-27 Proposed
Operating Budget:				
Revenues from Local Sources:				
Local Tax Levy-Base Budget	10-1210	85,784,421	89,504,447	94,695,705
Total Tax Levy	10-121x	85,784,421	89,504,447	94,695,705
Total Tuition	10-1300	709,780	606,691	609,897
Transportation Fees from Individuals	10-1410	184,307	110,000	110,000
Rents and Royalties	10-1910	149,534	110,000	110,000
Unrestricted Miscellaneous Revenues	10-1XXX	1,217,311	825,000	825,000
Interest Earned on Maintenance Reserve	10-1XXX	4,000	2,100	2,100
Interest Earned on Capital Reserve Funds	10-1XXX	287,437	25,000	25,000
Total Revenues from Local Sources		88,336,790	91,183,238	96,377,702
Revenues from State Sources:				
School Choice Aid	10-3116	300,257	328,569	330,884
Categorical Transportation Aid	10-3121	1,865,797	1,535,836	1,710,413
Extraordinary Aid	10-3131	747,455	0	0
Categorical Special Education Aid	10-3132	3,919,016	4,520,116	4,711,694
Categorical Security Aid	10-3177	332,027	427,898	450,774
Other State Aids	10-3XXX	125,156	125,000	0
State Reimbursement for Menstrual Products	10-3301	465	1,000	500
Total Revenues from State Sources		7,290,173	6,938,419	7,204,265
Revenues from Federal Sources:				
Medicaid Reimbursement	10-4200	30,123	7,008	24,977
Total Revenues from Federal Sources		30,123	7,008	24,977
Budgeted Fund Balance-Operating Budget	10-303	0	2,726,312	2,736,812
Withdrawal from Capital Reserve for Local Share	10-307	0	74,720	0
Transfers from Other Funds	10-5200	56,787	0	0
Adjustment for Prior Year Encumbrances		0	735,744	0
Actual Revenues (Over)/Under Expenditures		484,845	0	0
Total Operating Budget		96,198,718	101,665,441	106,343,756
Grants and Entitlements:				
Student Activity Fund Revenue	20-1760	665,801	0	0
Scholarship Fund Revenue	20-1770	7,861	0	0
Other Revenue from Local Sources	20-1XXX	109,423	328,753	0
Total Revenues from Local Sources	20-1XXX	783,085	328,753	0
Revenues from State Sources:				
Nonpublic Teacher Stem Grant	20-3212	16,583	17,840	0
Other Restricted Entitlements	20-32XX	260,090	275,992	0
Climate Awareness Education Grant	20-3291	0	30,500	0
Total Revenues from State Sources		276,673	324,332	0
Revenues from Federal Sources:				
Title I	20-4411-4416	117,173	81,468	56,071
Title II	20-4451-4455	44,704	45,074	33,806
Title III	20-4491-4494	7,912	7,338	6,397
Title IV	20-4471-4474	10,642	10,000	7,500
IDEA Part B (Handicapped)	20-4420-4429	928,764	939,742	789,645
Total Revenues from Federal Sources		1,109,195	1,083,622	893,419
Actual Revenues (Over)/Under Expenditures-Student Activity Fund		14,698	0	0
Actual Revenues (Over)/Under Expenditures-Scholarship Fund		4,739	0	0
Total Grants and Entitlements		2,188,390	1,736,707	893,419
Repayment of Debt:				
Transfers from Other Funds	40-5200	145,390	0	2,703,771
Revenues from Local Sources:				
Local Tax Levy	40-1210	3,130,854	3,083,758	2,746,028
Total Revenues from Local Sources		3,130,854	3,083,758	2,746,028
Revenues from State Sources:				
Debt Service Aid Type II	40-3160	1,031,191	1,026,851	966,880
Budgeted Fund Balance	40-303	0	39,366	245,392
Total Local Repayment of Debt		4,307,435	4,149,975	6,662,071
Actual Revenues (Over)/Under Expenditures		-139,924	0	0
Total Repayment of Debt		4,167,511	4,149,975	6,662,071

(Continued)

Mercer - Hopewell Valley Regional

Advertised Revenues

Budget Category	Account	2024-25 Actual	2025-26 Revised	2026-27 Proposed
Total Revenues/Sources		102,554,619	107,552,123	113,899,246
Total Revenues/Sources Net of Transfers		102,554,619	107,552,123	113,899,246

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Mercer - Hopewell Valley Regional
Advertised Appropriations

Budget Category	Account	2024-25 Actual	2025-26 Revised	2026-27 Proposed
General Current Expense:				
Instruction:				
Regular Programs-Instruction	11-1XX-100-XXX	27,325,709	27,688,996	28,460,641
Special Education-Instruction	11-2XX-100-XXX	9,529,264	10,184,750	10,414,223
Basic Skills/Remedial-Instruction	11-230-100-XXX	1,756,953	1,707,190	1,564,523
Bilingual Education-Instruction	11-240-100-XXX	299,780	307,252	317,985
School-Sponsored Cocurricular or Extracurricular Activities-Instruction	11-401-100-XXX	436,478	581,436	503,106
School-Sponsored Athletics-Instruction	11-402-100-XXX	1,214,096	1,350,890	1,352,412
Support Services:				
Undistributed Expenditures-Instruction (Tuition)	11-000-100-XXX	4,224,892	4,595,678	4,986,538
Undistributed Expenditures-Attendance and Social Work	11-000-211-XXX	0	2,255	2,255
Undistributed Expenditures-Health Services	11-000-213-XXX	918,694	892,888	914,194
Undistributed Expenditures-Speech, OT, PT and Related Services	11-000-216-XXX	1,437,306	1,597,153	1,537,632
Undistributed Expenditures-Other Support Services, Students>Extraordinary Services	11-000-217-XXX	1,374,945	1,664,436	1,475,988
Undistributed Expenditures-Guidance	11-000-218-XXX	1,503,230	1,421,941	1,456,228
Undistributed Expenditures-Child Study Teams	11-000-219-XXX	2,204,140	2,344,165	2,422,811
Undistributed Expenditures-Improvement of Instruction Services	11-000-221-XXX	2,181,322	2,189,415	2,193,550
Undistributed Expenditures-Education Media Services/Library	11-000-222-XXX	1,683,255	1,747,665	1,668,669
Undistributed Expenditures-Instructional Staff Training Services	11-000-223-XXX	82,925	112,161	126,226
Undistributed Expenditures-Support Services-General Administration	11-000-230-XXX	1,158,228	1,582,306	1,345,841
Undistributed Expenditures-Support Services-School Administration	11-000-240-XXX	2,582,877	2,966,791	2,756,934
Undistributed Expenditures-Central Services	11-000-251-XXX	1,159,199	1,403,258	1,262,388
Undistributed Expenditures-Administrative InformationTechnology	11-000-252-XXX	259,101	270,805	279,741
Undistributed Expenditures-Operation and Maintenance of Plant Services	11-000-26X-XXX	7,461,355	7,782,080	8,103,507
Undistributed Expenditures-Student Transportation Services	11-000-270-XXX	5,887,211	6,921,376	7,263,475
Personal Services-Employee Benefits	11-XXX-XXX-2XX	20,734,579	21,168,424	25,021,118
Total Undistributed Expenditures		54,853,259	58,662,797	62,817,095
Interest Earned on Maintenance Reserve	10-606	0	2,100	2,100
Total General Current Expense		95,415,539	100,485,411	105,432,085
Capital Expenditures:				
Equipment	12-XXX-XXX-730	294,971	387,381	426,267
Facilities Acquisition and Construction Services	12-000-400-XXX	221,714	442,562	101,068
Interest Deposit to Capital Reserve	10-604	0	25,000	25,000
Total Capital Outlay		516,685	854,943	552,335
Special Schools:				
Summer School:				
Summer School-Instruction	13-422-100-XXX	247,383	306,901	341,000
Total Summer School	13-422-X00-XXX	247,383	306,901	341,000
Total Special Schools	13-XXX-XXX-XXX	247,383	306,901	341,000
Transfer of Funds to Charter Schools	10-000-100-56X	19,111	18,186	18,336
General Fund Grand Total		96,198,718	101,665,441	106,343,756
Special Grants and Entitlements:				
Local Projects	20-XXX-XXX-XXX	109,423	328,753	0
Student Activity Fund	20-475-XXX-XXX	680,499	0	0
Scholarship Fund	20-476-XXX-XXX	12,600	0	0
Other State Projects:				
Nonpublic Textbooks	20-XXX-XXX-XXX	6,382	22,804	0
Nonpublic Auxiliary Services	20-XXX-XXX-XXX	0	648	0
Nonpublic Handicapped Services	20-XXX-XXX-XXX	10,989	11,183	0
Nonpublic Nursing Services	20-XXX-XXX-XXX	90,485	93,475	0
Nonpublic Technology Initiative	20-XXX-XXX-XXX	19,559	16,272	0
Nonpublic Security Aid	20-XXX-XXX-XXX	132,675	131,610	0
Climate Awareness Education Grant Program	20-471-xxx-xxx	0	30,500	0
Nonpublic Teacher Stem Grant	20-481-XXX-XXX	16,583	17,840	0
Total Other State Projects		276,673	324,332	0
Total State Projects	20-XXX-XXX-XXX	276,673	324,332	0
Federal Projects:				
Title I	20-XXX-XXX-XXX	117,173	81,468	56,071
Title II	20-XXX-XXX-XXX	44,704	45,074	33,806
Title III	20-XXX-XXX-XXX	7,912	7,338	6,397
Title IV	20-XXX-XXX-XXX	10,642	10,000	7,500
IDEA Part B (Handicapped)	20-XXX-XXX-XXX	928,764	939,742	789,645
Total Federal Projects	20-XXX-XXX-XXX	1,109,195	1,083,622	893,419
Total Special Revenue Funds		2,188,390	1,736,707	893,419

(Continued)

Mercer - Hopewell Valley Regional
Advertised Appropriations

Budget Category	Account	2024-25 Actual	2025-26 Revised	2026-27 Proposed
Repayment of Debt:				
Total Regular Debt Service	40-701-510-XXX	4,167,511	4,149,975	6,662,071
Total Debt Service Funds		4,167,511	4,149,975	6,662,071
Total Expenditures/Appropriations		102,554,619	107,552,123	113,899,246
Total Expenditures Net of Transfers		102,554,619	107,552,123	113,899,246

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Mercer - Hopewell Valley Regional
Advertised Recapitulation of Balances

Budget Category	Audited Balance 06-30-2024	Audited Balance 06-30-2025	Estimated Balance 06-30-2026	Estimated Balance 06-30-2027
Unrestricted:				
(General Operating Budget)	6,537,452	5,522,897	3,784,297	2,018,594
(Repayment of Debt)	144,834	284,758	245,392	0
Restricted for Specific Purposes:				
(General Operating Budget)				
--Capital Reserve	7,373,539	7,636,516	7,586,796	7,611,796
--Adult Education Programs	0	0	0	0
--Maintenance Reserve	96,369	100,369	102,469	104,569
--Legal Reserve	0	971,109	971,109	0
--Unemployment Fund	0	0	0	0
--Tuition Reserve	0	0	0	0
--Current Expense Emergency Reserve	0	0	0	0
--Impact Aid Reserve for General Expenses (Sections 8002 and 8003)	0	0	0	0
--Impact Aid Reserve for Capital Expenses (Sections 8007 and 8008)	0	0	0	0
(Special Revenue Fund)				
--Student Activity Fund	523,819	509,121	509,121	509,121
--Scholarship Fund	34,013	29,274	29,274	29,274
(Repayment of Debt)				
--Restricted for Repayment of Debt	0	0	0	0

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Mercer - Hopewell Valley Regional
Advertised Per Pupil Cost Calculations

Per Pupil Cost Calculations	2023-24 Actual Costs	2024-25 Actual Costs	2025-26 Original Budget	2025-26 Revised Budget	2026-27 Proposed Budget
Total Budgetary Comparative Per Pupil Cost	$23,174	$24,838	$26,049	$25,237	$26,117
Total Classroom Instruction	$14,189	$15,100	$15,695	$14,996	$15,767
Classroom-Salaries and Benefits	$13,142	$14,002	$14,519	$13,943	$14,673
Classroom-General Supplies and Textbooks	$422	$396	$474	$444	$563
Classroom-Purchased Services	$626	$702	$702	$609	$531
Total Support Services	$3,967	$4,421	$4,614	$4,473	$4,526
Support Services-Salaries and Benefits	$3,684	$4,106	$4,204	$4,080	$4,118
Total Administrative Costs	$1,807	$1,870	$2,035	$2,187	$2,046
Administration Salaries and Benefits	$1,559	$1,610	$1,674	$1,819	$1,698
Total Operations and Maintenance of Plant	$2,347	$2,557	$2,668	$2,600	$2,732
Operations and Maintenance-Salaries and Benefits	$1,380	$1,417	$1,531	$1,477	$1,553
Board Contribution to Food Services	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
Total Extracurricular Costs	$621	$611	$708	$683	$677
Total Equipment Costs	$105	$86	$43	$110	$120
Legal Costs	$15	$14	$44	$44	$42
Employee Benefits as a percentage of salaries*	33.96%	36.45%	37.29%	35.52%	41.81%

*Does not include pension and social security paid by the State on-behalf of the district.
** Federal and State funds in the blended resource school-based budgets.

The information presented in columns 1 through 3 as well as the related descriptions of the per pupil cost calculations are contained in the Taxpayers Guide to Education Spending and can be found on the Department of Education website: http://www.nj.gov/education/guide/. This publication is also available in the board office and public libraries. The same calculations were performed using the 2025-26 revised appropriations and the 2026-27 budgeted appropriations presented in this advertised budget. Total Budgetary Comparative Per Pupil Cost is defined as current expense exclusive of tuition expenditures, transportation, residential costs, and judgments against the school district. For all years it also includes the restricted entitlement aids. With the exception of Total Equipment Cost, each of the other per pupil cost calculations presented is a component of the total comparative per pupil cost, although all components are not shown.

The complete budget will be on file and open to examination at the Hopewell Valley Regional School District Administration Building, 425 South Main Street, Pennington, NJ, Mercer County New Jersey between the hours of 8:00 am and 4:00 pm Monday through Friday, excluding holidays.

The school district has proposed programs and services in addition to the New Jersey Student Learning Standards adopted by the State Board of Education.

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