



ROME

CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Revised Budget Hearing 2026-2027

Date: June 2, 2026

By Dr. Georgia Gonzalez

Assistant Superintendent of Business & Operations

Why a Revised Budget:

1. Original Budget was not approved by Voters
2. The BOE had 3 options:
 - a. Go back out to vote with exact same budget
 - b. Go back out with a revised budget
 - c. Go directly to a contingent budget
3. The BOE reviewed community feedback regarding affordability and school needs
4. District chose option b, revised budget, lowered tax levy while maintaining student programs



WHAT THIS BUDGET PRESERVES



INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORT:
Services to meet the needs
of all learners.



STABLE STAFFING:
Continued stability across
schools and grade levels.



CLASS SIZES:
Continued efforts to reduce
class sizes where possible.



SCHOOL SAFETY:
Maintaining vital safety personnel
and related equipment.



EXTRACURRICULARS:
Preserving field trips, activities,
and enrichment opportunities.



ACADEMIC PROGRAMS:
Sustaining existing academic
and student support structures.

Revised Budget:

**2026-2027
PROPOSED BUDGET**

\$165,388,086

**BUDGET-TO-BUDGET
CHANGE**

+\$4,854,628

**TAX RATE
CHANGE**

2.5%

RESPONSIVE REDUCTION: As a direct result of community feedback, the proposed tax levy increase was successfully reduced from the original 2.89% down to 2.5%, and the overall budget was reduced by \$173,000.



WHERE WE CUT: PRUNING ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS

Reductions were made entirely within the Administrative Component to limit the impact on student programming and school-based services.



\$157,000

Director of Career Development & Fine Arts (Planned new administrative role including salary and benefits).

\$16,000

Human Resources Initiatives.

\$173,000 in total **administrative reductions** from the original proposal.

3 Part Budget:

	Original Budget	Revised Budget	\$ Change	% of Revised Budget
Administration	\$12,459,308	\$12,286,308	-\$173,000	7.43%
Capital	\$19,566,627	\$19,566,627	\$0	11.83%
Program	\$133,535,151	\$133,535,151	\$0	80.74%
Total:	\$165,561,086	\$165,388,086	-\$173,000	100.00%



What is a Contingency Budget:

- Requires a **0% increase in the tax levy** from the prior year.
- Requires reductions in staffing, programs, services, or supplies to maintain a balanced budget.
- Challenges districts to absorb rising costs (salaries, benefits, pensions, insurance, utilities) without additional tax levy revenue in future years.

Impact: Reduced financial flexibility and potential reductions to educational programs and services.



THE ALTERNATIVE: A CONTINGENCY BUDGET

If voters do not approve the revised budget on June 16, New York State law mandates the adoption of a contingency budget.

\$843,185

A contingency budget requires an additional cut of \$843,185 in reductions beyond the cuts already made by the Board.



THE IMPACT ON CLASSROOMS & STAFFING

REVISED BUDGET (2.5% TAX RATE)

CONTINGENCY BUDGET (MANDATED CUTS)

Planned AIS Math Teacher

~~AIS Math Teacher Eliminated~~

Planned Biology Teacher

~~Biology Teacher Eliminated~~

Planned Teacher Assistant

~~Teacher Assistant Eliminated~~

These represent planned new positions for 2026-2027 essential for student support that would be entirely cut.

THE IMPACT ON SAFETY & INFRASTRUCTURE

Revised Budget

Contingency Budget

Security Personnel

~~Planned Security Personnel Eliminated~~

Security Equipment Purchases

~~Security Equipment Upgrades Cancelled~~

Roadway Repair (Rome Free Academy)

~~RFA Roadway Repairs Deferred~~

Rome Catholic School Lease
(Local Share)

~~Local Share of Catholic School Lease~~
~~Unfunded~~

THE RIPPLE EFFECT: BEYOND A SINGLE SCHOOL YEAR

2026-2027

**\$843K
IMMEDIATE CUT**

Forced reductions in staffing,
safety, and infrastructure.

2027-2028

**SIGNIFICANT PROJECTED
BUDGET GAP**

The structural deficit carries
forward, worsening the financial
baseline.

FUTURE YEARS

COMPOUNDING IMPACTS

Forces additional staffing reductions,
severe program adjustments, and
compounding deferred maintenance
that ultimately costs more to fix later.

YOUR VOICE MATTERS

VOTE ON TUESDAY, JUNE 16



**Polls are open
11:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.**

Voters will be asked to consider one proposition:
BUDGET PROPOSITION \$165,388,086.



Scan to visit the budget
newsletter webpage for
full details.

POLLING LOCATIONS & ELIGIBILITY

Wards 1 & 2: Clough ECP

Ward 3: District Office

Ward 4: Gansevoort Elementary

Ward 5: Strough Middle School

Ward 6: St. Paul's Church

Ward 7: Copper City Community Connection

Wards 8 & 9: Stokes Elementary

Ward 10: Westernville Library

Must be 18+ years of age, a U.S. Citizen, and a resident of the Rome City School District for at least 30 days prior to the vote. (Note: You do not need to own property to vote).

Public Questions or Comments

If you have questions or concerns regarding the budget revote,
please contact:

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