

City School District Lackawanna



245 South Shore Boulevard • Lackawanna, New York 14218 • www.lackawannaschools.org

Annual Budget Vote Tuesday, May 19, 2026 • Noon to 9 p.m.

Student Progress: Moving in the Right Direction

Dear Lackawanna School District Community,

Our **district priorities** remain clear: **student experience, staff experience and community connection**. This year, we are seeing meaningful progress across our schools, not by chance, but by design.

These outcomes reflect a deliberate and focused effort to strengthen each of these priorities so that every student, every staff member, and every family feels seen, supported and challenged to grow.

Improving Attendance - Chronic absenteeism continues to decline. The percentage of students missing more than 10% of the school year has dropped from **58% in 2023–2024**, to **52% in 2024–2025**, and now to **41% as of March 26, 2026**. More students are showing up, and that matters.

Strong Graduation Outcomes - Our graduation rate increased from **77% in 2022–2023** to **84% in 2024–2025**. More of our students are staying on track and reaching this important milestone.

Expanding Opportunities in Middle School - We are increasing access to advanced coursework earlier for our students. In **2023–2024**, we introduced Algebra I in middle school, with **19 eighth-grade students** earning credit and passing the Regents exam. This year, **61 eighth-grade students** are enrolled in Algebra I, and 25 students are taking **Earth and Space Science**, a new Regents-level course at the middle school.

Expanding Opportunities in High School - We currently offer four Advanced Placement classes: AP English Language and Composition, AP World History, AP U.S. History and AP U.S. Government. We also offer 15 concurrent-enrollment courses through SUNY Erie (ECC). This growth reflects our belief that our students are capable and deserving of rigorous opportunities.

Student Voice, Talent, and Pride in Action - Beyond the data, what makes me most proud are the moments that reflect who we are becoming as a district.

Our **Middle School Wellness Team** stood in front of administrators and teachers and shared how amplifying student voice led them to advocate for change. Their work, alongside their teacher, helped influence a budget proposal approved by the Board of Education.

Our **music and art students and staff** brought learning to life through this year's production of Newsies, showcasing not only talent, but confidence, collaboration and pride.

Our **Student Board of Education representatives** made a compelling case for why investing in transportation matters, ensuring equitable access for all students. They spoke with clarity, purpose and a deep understanding of what their peers need.

Across the district, our educators **continue to grow as learners**, strengthening their practice through scientifically based reading instruction, while maintaining the care and advocacy our students need to thrive.

Our **school leaders** have remained grounded in our strategic priorities: by creating opportunities for families to come into our schools, feel welcomed and learn alongside their children.

This is what progress looks like in Lackawanna. **Not just in numbers, but in belief opportunity and the way our students are beginning to see themselves and what is possible.** I am proud of where we are. But I am even more excited about where we are going.

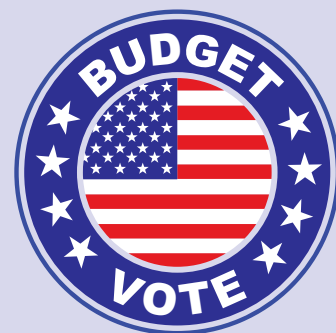
Why Not Lackawanna? Because when we invest in our students, we amplify their voices and hold high expectations; as a result, there is no limit to what they can achieve.

Educationally yours,

Nadia A. Nashir, NBCT
Superintendent of Schools
716.821.5610
nnashir@lackawannaschools.org



Nadia A. Nashir



ON THE BALLOT

PROPOSITION 1

Proposed budget: \$85,540,245
Tax cap compliant twelve years in a row.

PROPOSITION 2

Transportation Policy Change

TWO (2) BOARD OF EDUCATION SEATS

TWO (2) Board members for a THREE (3) year term beginning on July 1, 2026 until June 30, 2029.

WHEN AND HOW DO I VOTE?

- Date: Tuesday, May 19, 2026
- Time: 12 p.m. to 9 p.m.
- Location: See Page 4 for your polling site.

VOTER QUALIFICATIONS

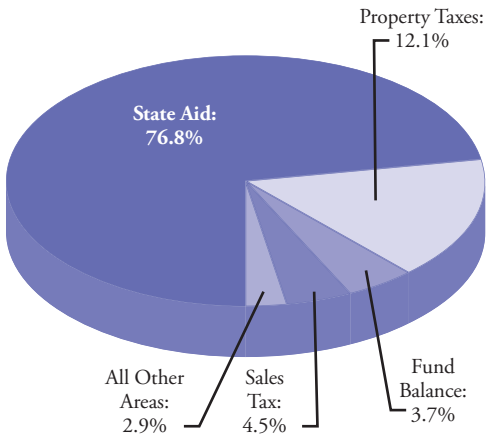
- Citizen of the United States
- 18 years of age or older
- Resident of the school district for a period of 30 days prior to the vote

Scan the QR code for translations



Balancing the Budget

PROJECTED REVENUES



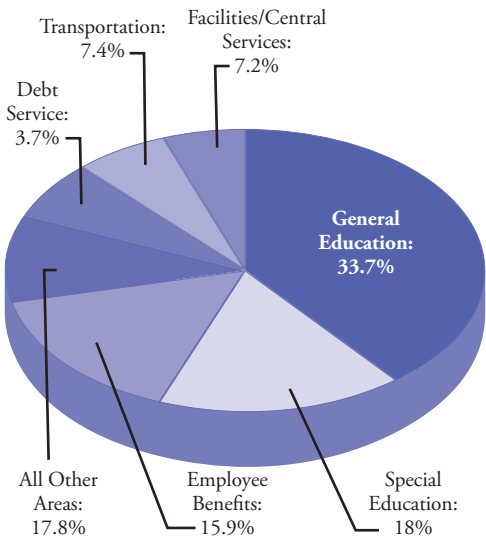
Revenues at a Glance

Revenues	Proposed 2026-27	Budgeted 2025-26	Year-To-Year Change	Percent of Change	Percent of Total
State Aid	\$65,730,816	\$61,562,168	\$4,168,648	6.8%	76.8%
Real Property Taxes	\$10,319,525	\$10,127,110	\$192,415	1.9%	12.1%
Erie County Sales Tax	\$3,875,000	\$3,700,000	\$175,000	4.7%	4.5%
NYS Tax on Consumer Utility Bills	\$825,000	\$675,000	\$150,000	22.2%	1.0%
Medicaid Reimbursements	\$475,000	\$470,000	\$5,000	1.1%	0.6%
Other Payments in Lieu of Taxes	\$347,419	\$316,128	\$31,291	9.9%	0.4%
Other Revenues	\$785,000	\$765,000	\$20,000	2.6%	0.9%
Appropriated Fund Balance	\$3,182,485	\$3,155,625	\$26,860	1.0%	3.7%
Revenues & Fund Balance	\$85,540,245	\$80,771,031	\$4,769,214	5.9%	100.0%

“Our district priorities remain clear: student experience, staff experience and community connection.”

- Nadia A. Nashir

PROJECTED EXPENDITURES



Expenses at a Glance

Expenditures	Proposed 2026-27	Budgeted 2025-26	Year-To-Year Change	Percent of Change	Percent of Budget
Board of Education	\$97,900	\$93,000	\$4,900	5.3%	0.1%
Office of the Superintendent	\$405,225	\$360,422	\$44,803	12.4%	0.5%
Business Office/Finance	\$633,680	\$621,776	\$11,904	1.9%	0.7%
Legal/Personnel/Public Relations	\$1,041,925	\$977,125	\$64,800	6.6%	1.2%
Facilities/Central Services	\$6,160,107	\$6,012,059	\$148,048	2.5%	7.2%
District Other/BOCES Capital	\$756,193	\$679,456	\$76,737	11.3%	0.9%
Admin. & Staff Development	\$3,426,900	\$2,941,857	\$485,043	16.5%	4.0%
General Education	\$28,840,700	\$28,522,775	\$317,925	1.1%	33.7%
Special Education	\$15,437,000	\$13,902,833	\$1,534,167	11.0%	18.0%
Occupational Ed.	\$607,392	\$515,124	\$92,268	17.9%	0.7%
Instructional Media Resources	\$1,479,460	\$1,820,506	-\$341,046	-18.7%	1.7%
Pupil Services	\$3,352,900	\$2,723,853	\$629,047	23.1%	3.9%
Transportation	\$6,349,375	\$5,651,285	\$698,090	12.4%	7.4%
Employee Benefits	\$13,608,900	\$12,612,843	\$996,057	7.9%	15.9%
Debt Service	\$3,169,088	\$3,186,117	-\$17,029	-0.5%	3.7%
Interfund Transfers	\$173,500	\$150,000	\$23,500	15.7%	0.2%
Total Appropriations	\$85,540,245	\$80,771,031	\$4,769,214	5.9%	100.0%

“We are improving and this budget sustains that progress.”

- Nadia A. Nashir

2026-27 Budget Notice



Annual Budget Vote: Tuesday, May 19, 2026

School District Budget Notice

	Budget Adopted for 2025-26 School Year	Budget Proposed for 2026-27 School Year	Contingency Budget for 2025-26 School Year
Total Budgeted Amount, Not Including Separate Propositions	\$80,771,031	\$85,540,245	\$84,630,695
Increase/Decrease for the 2026-27 School Year		\$4,769,214	\$3,859,664
Percentage Increase/Decrease in Proposed Budget		5.90%	4.78%
Change in the Consumer Price Index		2.63%	
A. Proposed Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount	\$10,127,110	\$10,319,525	
B. Levy to Support Library Debt, if Applicable	-	-	
C. Levy for Non-Excludable Propositions, if Applicable **	-	-	
D. Total Tax Cap Reserve Amount Used to Reduce Current Year Levy	-	-	
E. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy (A + B + C - D)	\$10,127,110	\$10,319,525	\$10,127,110
F. Total Permissible Exclusions	\$0	\$0	
G. School Tax Levy Limit, <u>Excluding</u> Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$10,502,794	\$10,462,226	
H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, <u>Excluding</u> Levy to Support Library Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions (E - B - F + D)	\$10,127,110	\$10,319,525	
I. Difference: G - H (Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval - See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions) **	\$375,684	\$142,701	
Administrative Component	\$8,491,707	\$9,222,193	\$9,222,193
Program Component	\$63,420,603	\$67,299,016	\$66,989,466
Capital Component	\$8,858,721	\$9,019,036	\$8,419,036

Equipment (except related to health and safety), capital outlay construction and other non-contingent items pursuant to Sec. 2023 of NYS Ed. Law, are removed. In addition, a contingency budget is subject to a cap on the administrative portion of the budget, with a zero percent cap on tax levy growth.

** List of Separate Propositions that are not included in the Total Budgeted Amount: (Tax Levy associated with educational or transportation services propositions are not eligible for exclusion and may affect voter approval requirements)	Description	Amount
	None	

	Budget Proposed for the 2026-27 School Year
Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings ¹	\$304

The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2026-2027 by the qualified voters of the Lackawanna City School District, Erie County, New York, will be held at various locations in said district on Tuesday, May 19, 2026 between the hours of noon and 9:00 p.m., prevailing time in the polling places, at which time the polls will be open to vote by voting machine.

¹The basic school tax relief (STAR) exemption is authorized by section 425 of the Real Property Tax Law.

Please remember to come vote on the 2026-2027 budget and to elect Two (2) members to the Board of Education.



Lackawanna

City School District

245 South Shore Boulevard
Lackawanna, New York 14218

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Board of Education

Azaldeen Mohamed, President

Mohamed Munassar, Vice President

Shokey Albaneh

Michael Algawani

Kimberly Bukaty

Zennat Habir

Mohammed Shawish

Nadia A. Nashir - *Superintendent of Schools*

“They underestimated our students. They undervalued our city. They overlooked our community. But every single day, in every classroom, on every stage, and on every field, we rise.”

- Nadia A. Nashir

EXPERIENCE LACKAWANNA CITY SCHOOLS!

The Lackawanna City School District invites students to find their passions, build their confidence and achieve success during and after their school years.

Our district proudly offers:

- A device for every student (laptops or iPads) to support 21st-century learning.
- Monthly **Saturday Academy**, after-school programs and **summer enrichment** opportunities.
- **Student leadership roles** through Student Council, National Junior Honor Society and National Senior Honor Society.
- **Advanced math courses** at the middle school level and **Advanced Placement and college credit-bearing classes** at the high school.
- **STEM instruction** in every school to foster curiosity, critical thinking and innovation.
- World language instruction in **Spanish and Arabic**, preparing students to be global citizens.
- A **diverse student body** where students learn with and from peers of many backgrounds and cultures.
- A full continuum of student support, including a **social worker, guidance counselor, attendance teacher, nurse and family navigator** in every school building.
- Strong partnerships with **YWCA** and **Erie 1 BOCES** to expand opportunities for career exploration, workforce readiness, and student services.
- A full-day **pre-kindergarten program** to build strong foundations for learning.
- Updated **athletic facilities** and over **25 athletic programs** to promote health, teamwork, and school pride.
- Year-round **family engagement opportunities**, from community events to parent workshops and celebrations.

POLLING PLACES

There will be **FOUR** polling sites for the Budget Vote and School Board Election:

• First Ward

1st District	Bocce Court, 175 Madison Ave.
2nd, 3rd, and 4th Districts	Lackawanna Housing Development Corp. Office, 80 Steelawanna Ave.
5th District	Senior Citizens Center 230 Martin Rd.

• Second Ward

1st - 5th Districts	Senior Citizens Center 230 Martin Rd.
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• Third Ward

1st - 5th Districts	McKinley School, 245 South Shore Blvd.
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• Fourth Ward

1st - 5th Districts	Senior Citizens Center, 230 Martin Rd.
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