



HILTON CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

HILTON INSIGHT

Welcoming & Affirming. Curious, Not Judgemental.

BUDGET VOTE

& BOARD OF EDUCATION ELECTION
Tuesday, May 19, 2026 | 6 a.m. - 9 p.m.

VOTING LOCATION FOR ALL RESIDENTS
Parma Town Hall | 1300 Hilton Parma Corners Rd., Hilton

2026-2027 Budget

	Total	% Change	\$ Change
Overall Budget	\$108,997,429	3.58%	\$3,769,535
Tax Levy	\$45,643,395	2.65%	\$1,176,783
Maximum allowable tax levy limit: 2.65%			
Projected Tax Rate			
Clarkson	\$12.74/1,000	-20.67%	-\$3.32/\$1,000
Greece	\$22.36/1,000	1.08%	\$0.24/\$1,000
Hamlin	\$13.70/1,000	1.56%	\$0.21/\$1,000
Parma	\$14.16/1,000	2.83%	\$0.39/\$1,000

Budget Factors

- **Tax Levy**
 - Proposed levy increase is \$1,176,783 or 2.65%
- **Appropriated Fund Balance and Reserves**
 - Proposed at \$1,570,671, an increase of \$1,218,750 from 2025-26
 - Goal is zero, savings are used to balance the budget during difficult budget years.
- **Funding of Initiatives**
 - Initiatives to support the District's Strategic Plan and the Cadet Intentional Values (Integrity, Welcoming and Affirming, People First, and Lifelong Learning) funded through reallocation of resources or through grants.
 - Prioritizes proposed initiatives based on keeping our students and staff safe, expected improvements in student achievement, improvements in operating efficiency, and maintenance of physical plant.



Also on the Ballot

- **Bus Purchase Proposition** in the amount of \$2,570,549 for fourteen (14) gas/diesel school buses.
- **Electric Bus Proposition** in the amount of \$475,000 less grants, credits, or bus trade-in value. The district would be able to purchase the bus at no cost to taxpayers, after receiving a NYSERDA grant of \$220,500 and transportation aid of \$254,500.
- **Board of Education Election** – three candidates running for two seats (in ballot order):
 - ▶ Samantha Fowler
 - ▶ Lynda Donovan
 - ▶ Kristine Price



To learn more about this year's budget, please scan this QR code.



Dear Hilton Community,

As we began preparing the budget for the 2026–2027 school year, we anticipated that this would be a challenging process. Several factors contributed to this, including declining enrollment, rising operational costs—particularly in health care—and uncertainty surrounding both state and national funding streams. Together, these issues raised important questions about how we could create a balanced budget without placing an undue burden on our district residents.

We are confident that the resulting budget meets these challenges effectively. It preserves the programs and opportunities that are vital to our students’ success, remains fiscally responsible, and continues to reflect our Cadet Intentional Values.

Once again, this year’s ballot includes a proposition to approve the purchase of one electric bus at no cost to taxpayers. This purchase is made possible through a NYSERDA grant of \$220,500 and transportation aid totaling \$254,500. Acquiring this electric bus marks an important first step in meeting the state mandate requiring all school districts to transition to a fully zero-emission fleet by 2035. This mandate also means that this will be the final year we are permitted to purchase new gas or diesel buses. In addition, voters will see a proposition to purchase 14 of those buses to ensure our current fleet continues to operate safely and efficiently.

We hope this edition of Insight provides the information you need to understand this year’s budget. If you would like to explore the details further, we encourage you to visit our website at Hilton.k12.ny.us/budget.

Thank you, sincerely, for your ongoing support of the Hilton Central School District and we encourage you to vote on May 19.

Sincerely,

Nancy Pickering
 Nancy Pickering
 Board of Education President

C. Kosiorek
 Casey Kosiorek, Ed. D.
 Superintendent of Schools



CADET INTENTIONAL VALUES

- People First
- Lifelong Learning
- Integrity
- Welcoming & Affirming

Three-Part Budget Summary

New York State requires school districts to present their budgets divided into three expenditure categories – administrative, program, and capital.

Total Budget: \$108,997,429

Administrative	2025-26	2026-27
Amount:	\$11,533,306	\$11,874,988
Percentage of Budget:	10.96%	10.89%

Provides overall general support and management activities including: employee benefits for administrative and clerical support staff, costs for administration and supervision of each of the district’s five schools, staff development, Business Office operations, and Central Administration.

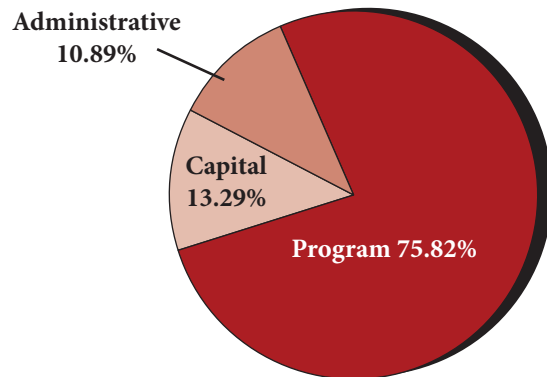
Program	2025-26	2026-27
Amount:	\$80,729,240	\$82,638,883
Percentage of Budget:	76.72%	75.82%

Provides funding for the instruction of and educational support services for the District’s current 3,923 students who attend our schools and the 298 students who live in the district but attend various schools outside of the District (ex. St. Paul’s, Northstar Christian Academy, BOCES 2, and Aquinas Institute). The program component also includes funds for transporting 3,856 students daily, salary expenditures for all instructional staff, programs for special education services, benefits for instructional employees and retirees, worker’s compensation, and unemployment insurance.

Capital	2025-26	2026-27
Amount:	\$12,965,348	\$14,483,558
Percentage of Budget:	12.32%	13.29%

Provides funds for maintaining five schools and surrounding property, utility services, debt service payments, and benefits for maintenance and custodial staff.

Proposed 2026-27 Three-Part Budget



Projected Expense Summary

CATEGORY	2025-26	2026-27	\$ Change	% Change
Central Services	\$8,998,193	\$9,703,863	\$705,670	7.84%
Instruction	\$53,180,094	\$53,731,773	\$551,679	1.04%
Transportation	\$5,005,476	\$5,297,577	\$292,101	5.84%
Benefits – Statutory	\$10,539,939	\$9,676,167	\$(863,772)	-8.20%
Benefits – Contractual	\$21,307,608	\$23,523,467	\$2,215,859	10.40%
Debt Service	\$6,096,584	\$6,964,582	\$867,998	14.24%
Capital Fund Transfer	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$ -	0.00%
Total Expenditure Budget	\$105,227,894	\$108,997,429	\$3,769,535	3.58%

Projected Revenue Summary

SOURCE	2025-26	2026-27	\$ Change	% Change
Sales Tax	\$4,818,750	\$5,100,000	\$281,250	5.84%
Investments	\$459,251	\$459,251	\$ -	0.00%
Rental/Refund	\$475,000	\$475,000	\$ -	0.00%
Charges for Services	\$257,500	\$257,500	\$ -	0.00%
Medicaid & Other	\$198,887	\$208,607	\$9,720	4.89%
State Aid	\$53,799,973	\$54,883,005	\$1,083,032	2.01%
Property Taxes	\$44,466,612	\$45,643,395	\$1,176,783	2.65%
Appropriated Fund Balance	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%
Transfer from Retirement Reserve	\$351,921	\$351,921	\$ -	0.00%
Transfer from Unemployment Reserve	\$ -	\$1,218,750	\$1,218,750	100%
Transfer from Debt Service	\$400,000	\$400,000	\$ -	0.00%
Total Revenue Budget	\$105,227,894	\$108,997,429	\$3,769,535	3.58%

State Funding Continues to Provide Free School Meals

The Hilton Central School District continues to offer breakfast and lunch to all students at no cost regardless of their family income level. This program is completely funded by New York State’s Universal Free Meals Program and the Federal Government’s National School Lunch Program through the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP).

Because of these programs, and the fact that the food service department is a self-sufficient operation means that no money from the district’s general fund is used to provide student meals.



Capital Outlay Project

New York State allows districts to receive building aid for one capital outlay project per year on expenses up to \$100,000. Hilton CSD will replace carpet and flooring in classrooms in the High School.

This project is pending the approval of the 2026-27 Budget. For more information, contact Director of Buildings and Grounds, Mark Edwards at medwards@hilton.k12.ny.us or 392-1000, ext. 7066.



The High School hosted the 47th Hilton Model U.N. Conference; 29 schools and more than 700 delegates attended.

Projected 2026-27 Tax Rates

The tax rates, shown below per \$1,000 of assessed value in all four towns within the Hilton School District's boundaries, are estimates only. The Board of Education adopts the tax levy in August based on property assessments established by each town and equalization rates set by the state.

Town	2025-26 Actual	2026-27 Projected	\$ Change in Rate	% Change in Rate
Clarkson ¹	\$16.06	\$12.74	\$(3.32)	-20.67%
Greece ²	\$22.12	\$22.36	\$0.24	1.08%
Hamlin ³	\$13.49	\$13.70	\$0.21	1.56%
Parma ⁴	\$13.77	\$14.16	\$0.39	2.83%

Why is there so much change in Equalization Rates among towns?

School Districts do not establish equalization rates. These rates are determined by NYS and the local town assessors. Equalization rates are used to ensure that homes with the same market value pay the same amount of taxes within a given school district. Please reach out to your town assessor if you have questions regarding your equalization rate.

- (1) Equalization rate projected to increase from 84% to 100%
- (2) Equalization rate projected to decrease from 61% to 57%
- (3) Equalization rate projected to decrease from 100% to 93%
- (4) Equalization rate projected to decrease from 98% to 90%



High School teachers Mike Johnson and Kristen Shaw and Merton Williams teacher Jennifer Maloney were named New York State Master Teachers.



Home valued at \$100,000 in Clarkson

2026-27 Equalization Rate 100%
Assessed Value = \$100,000
Projected tax rate of \$12.74 x 100 = \$1,274 projected tax bill*



Home valued at \$100,000 in Greece

2026-27 Equalization Rate 57%
Assessed Value = \$57,000
Projected tax rate of \$22.36 x 57 = \$1,274 projected tax bill*



Home valued at \$100,000 in Hamlin

2026-27 Equalization Rate 93%
Assessed Value = \$93,000
Projected tax rate of \$13.70 x 93 = \$1,274 projected tax bill*



Home valued at \$100,000 in Parma

2026-27 Equalization Rate 90%
Assessed Value = \$90,000
Projected tax rate of \$14.16 x 90 = \$1,274 projected tax bill*

► Five high school students performed at the **New York All-State Festival** for band, chorus, and orchestra.

► The **Marching Band** won its first state title ever.



2026-27 Projected Tax Bill (Average Home Cost by Town)

Town	Home Value	2026-27 Equalization Rate	Assessed Value	2026-27 Projected Tax Rate	2026-27 Projected Tax Bill*
Clarkson	\$303,116	100%	\$303,116	\$12.74	\$3,862
Greece	\$344,132	57%	\$196,155	\$22.36	\$4,386
Hamlin	\$251,163	93%	\$233,582	\$13.70	\$3,156
Parma	\$279,421	90%	\$251,479	\$12.74	\$3,862

*Assessed Value/\$1,000 *Projected Tax Rate = Projected Tax Bill. Based on information provided by each town assessor as of March 2026 and will be finalized in August of 2026.



*Two annual art shows, **Empty Bowls** and **5 Buy Five** raised more than \$1,700 to help battle food insecurity in our community.*



► High School students created a memorial to commemorate the 9/11 attacks by planting flags for each person who lost their life that day, and separated them by location, the twin towers, the pentagon and Pennsylvania.

On the Ballot

Proposition #1 Authorization to expend the budget and levy taxes

Be it resolved, that the board of education of Hilton Central School District, county of Monroe, New York, is hereby authorized to expend the 2026-2027 budget as set forth and to levy the necessary taxes thereof.

Proposition #2 Bus Purchase

Shall the following resolution be adopted to wit:

Resolved that the Board of Education of the Hilton Central School District is hereby authorized to undertake the acquisition of diesel and gasoline school buses, including, without limitation, ten (10) large 66-passenger diesel school buses at an estimated maximum cost of \$194,019 each, three (3) small 30-passenger gasoline school buses at an estimated maximum cost of \$125,864 each, one (1) small wheelchair accessible 24-passenger gasoline school bus at an estimated maximum cost of \$142,767 and two (2) Ford Explorer-type vehicles at an estimated maximum cost of \$55,000 each, all at an estimated maximum aggregate cost of \$2,570,549, less trade-in value, if any, and that such cost, or so much thereof as may be necessary, shall be raised by the levy of a tax to be collected in annual installments, with such tax to be offset by state aid available therefor; and, in anticipation of such tax, debt obligations of the school district as may be necessary not to exceed \$2,570,549 shall be issued, or the School District may enter into an installment purchase contract if the Board of Education determines that it is in the best interest of the School District to finance the purchase in that method.

Proposition #3 Electric Bus Purchase

Shall the following resolution be adopted to wit:

Resolved that the Board of Education of the Hilton Central School District is hereby authorized to undertake the acquisition of a zero-emission school bus, including, without limitation, one (1) large 66-passenger zero-emission electric school bus, at an estimated maximum acquisition cost of \$475,000, but with an estimated net maximum cost of \$254,500 after the receipt of grants, credits, or rebates, if any, and that the balance of such cost, or so much thereof as may be necessary, shall be raised by the levy of a tax to be collected in annual installments, with such tax to be offset by state aid available therefor; and, in anticipation of such tax, debt obligations of the school district as may be necessary not to exceed \$475,000 shall be issued, or the School District may enter into an installment purchase contract if the Board of Education determines that it is in the best interest of the School District to finance the purchase in that method.

Board of Education Election

Vote for two (2): See Board candidate profiles on page 7.

Budget Frequently Asked Questions

What if the proposed budget doesn't pass?

If voters do not approve the budget, the District may either adopt a contingent budget or hold a re-vote on June 16, 2026. A contingent budget would require reducing spending by \$1,176,783 and limit expenditures to those essential for instruction, property preservation, and student and staff health and safety. Items such as equipment purchases, annual capital outlay projects, free public use of buildings, and some teaching and non-teaching positions would be eliminated. If a re-vote is held and the budget is defeated a second time, the Board of Education must adopt a contingent budget.

What are some of the factors impacting the 2026-27 budget?

Some of the key factors impacting the Hilton Central School District's 2026-27 budget include:

- Rising health insurance costs for both active employees and retirees, which continue to place significant pressure on the budget.
- Declining student enrollment, resulting in reduced state aid and the need to realign staffing and programs with current enrollment levels.
- Staffing adjustments, including reductions through attrition and the reassignment of certified teachers back to classroom positions to manage costs efficiently while maintaining instructional quality.
- Increases in fuel and utility costs, which affect transportation, building operations, and overall facilities expenses.

Together, these factors require careful planning to balance fiscal responsibility with the District's commitment to educational programs and student services.

Will the Hilton Central School District use savings/reserves to balance the 2026-27 budget?

Yes. During challenging budget years, most school districts rely on savings and reserves to help balance their budgets. For the 2026-27 school year, the District plans to allocate an additional \$1,218,750 in savings/reserves to support the proposed budget.

The Hilton Alumni Hall of Fame Inducted five new members on Homecoming Weekend



► *The Hilton Athletic Hall of Fame welcomed six new members this year.*

Village and QUEST Elementary schools both held their annual walk to school days to help promote healthy lifestyles.

Hilton Central School District Budget Notice

Overall Budget Proposal	Budget Adopted for the 2025-26 School Year	Budget Proposed for the 2026-27 School Year	Contingency Budget for 2026-27 School Year*
Total Budgeted Amount, Not Including Separate Propositions	\$105,227,894	\$108,997,429	\$107,820,646
Increase/Decrease for the 2026-27 School Year		\$3,769,535	\$2,592,752
Percentage Increase/Decrease in Proposed Budget		3.58%	2.46%
Change in the Consumer Price Index		2.63%	
A. Proposed Tax Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount	\$44,466,612	\$45,643,395	
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)	\$44,466,612	\$45,643,395	\$44,466,612
F. Total Permissible Exclusions	\$878,618	\$883,343	
G. School Tax Levy Limit, <u>Excluding</u> Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$43,587,994	\$44,760,052	
H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, <u>Excluding</u> Levy to Support Library Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions (E - B - F + D)	\$43,587,994	\$44,760,052	
I. Difference: (G - H) (Negative Value Requires 60% Voter Approval - See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions) **	-	-	
Administrative Component	\$11,533,306	\$11,874,988	\$11,699,988
Program Component	\$80,729,240	\$82,638,883	\$81,917,914
Capital Component	\$12,965,348	\$14,483,558	\$14,202,744

* The proposed budget reflects the amount allowable under a contingent budget. Should the proposed budget be defeated, and a contingent budget be adopted by the Board of Education, the following items will be eliminated: equipment purchases, capital outlay project, free public use of buildings, and teaching & non-teaching positions, to be identified.

**List 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
Bus Proposition	\$2,570,549
Electric Bus Proposition	\$475,000

Under the proposed budget for the 2026-27 budget year.

The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2026-2027 by the qualified voters of the Hilton Central School District, Monroe County, New York, will be held at the Parma Town Hall, 1300 Hilton Parma Corners Road, Hilton, NY 14468 in said district on Tuesday, May 19, 2026 between the hours of 6:00 AM and 9:00 PM, prevailing time in the Parma Town Hall, at which time the polls will be opened to vote by voting ballot or machine.

Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings¹ \$454.00

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



► Staff, students and community members got together for the 17th year to help with projects around town in the annual **Make a Difference Day**.



► The **Northwood Theatre Club** presented its annual **Broadway Revue**. This was the 17th year for the show, which consists of songs from Broadway, Disney, and a few from the radio.

► The **High School Theater Department** presented, "Cinderella, A Dream Come True" in the fall and "Chicago-Teen Addition" this spring.



Northwood students collected money so they could purchase supplies for "**Birthday Boxes**." Each box contained a cake mix, balloons, banners, candles, and other decorations.

Board of Education *Candidates*

Three candidates are running for two seats on the Board of Education. The candidates are listed in the order they will appear on the ballot, which was chosen by a random drawing. Meet the Candidates will be held on May 5 at 6 p.m. in the QUEST Auditorium. There will also be a video of the event available on the District's website.



Samantha Fowler

Occupation: Special Education Teacher, Monroe 2-Orleans BOCES

Education/Degrees: B.S. in Earth Science (SUNY Brockport); Professional Teacher Certificates in Earth Science Education Grades 7-12 with grade 5, 6 Extension and Students with Disabilities Grades 7-12; M.S.Ed in Literacy Education Birth-12 (SUNY Brockport)

Professional Memberships/School and Community Activities: Co-founder and volunteer of the Friends of Hilton Parma Parks and Recreations, Member of BOCES 2 SEPTO (special education parent teacher organization), Chairperson for BOCES 2 Special Education Dinner Dance, Chairperson for BOCES 2 Moving on Ceremony (Graduation)

Family: Husband Andrew (HHS Class of 20210) sons Joseph, and Graham (both attend Village Elementary)

What motivates you to run for the Hilton Board of Education? I'm running for the Hilton School Board because I care deeply about our schools and the opportunities we provide for students. Hilton has a strong tradition of excellent programs, dedicated staff, and a supportive community, and I want to help continue that. I'm motivated by the chance to listen, contribute, and make thoughtful, fiscally responsible decisions that keep our district moving forward.



Lynda Donovan

Occupation: Retired from Hilton Central School District

Education/Degrees: BS in Psychology from Nazareth University

Family: Husband Gary, son Michael and granddaughter Lottie (attends Northwood)

What motivates you to run for the Hilton Board of Education? There are teachers and administrators on the board; I want to give retirees and seniors a voice on the board.



Kristine Price

Occupation: Teacher, Rochester City School District

Education/Degrees: SUNY Oswego BA in English and BA in Spanish, Roberts Wesleyan College MA in Education

Professional Memberships/School and Community Activities: NYSUT and AFT member, elected RTA Senior High Chairperson and building faculty representative, MCSBA Co-Chair of Information Exchange Committee, MCSBA Steering Committee member, member of MCSBA Legislative Committee, current Hilton School Board trustee, member of the District Improvement Team & Audit Committee

Family: Husband Matthew, Daughters Isabelle (HHS Class of '22) and Ashley (HHS Class of '25)

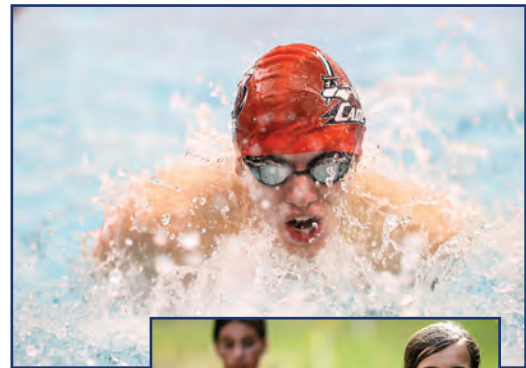
What motivates you to run for the Hilton Board of Education? I am running for a second term as a Hilton School Board member because I value community service and feel that bringing my professional experience as a long-time educator will be valuable in this role. I have long been active in educational politics in NYS and have advocated with local and state legislators to benefit Hilton's school district for the past three years as well. Lastly, I want what is best for our Hilton students, families and community to be at the base of all Board of Education discussions and decisions.

- ▶ *The High School inducted its 68th group of students into the National Honor Society.*
- ▶ *More than 60 students were inducted into the Merton Williams chapter of the National Junior Honor Society, the 20th induction ceremony for the school.*
- ▶ *Eleven High school students were inducted into the National Technical Honor Society.*



Athletic Honors

- *Section V Champion: Kayden Manciocchi won the Section V Title in the 200-meter Individual Medley*
- *The wrestling team had three sectional champions: Jon Testa, Nick Testa, and Chrystian Velez, and for the first time ever a girl's sectional champion, Brooklynn Fitzgerald.*
- *Alexis Gerig, Arlie Sears, Annaleigh Green all won sectional titles in Indoor Track, and Alexis went on to win the state championship in pole vault.*
- *The hockey team won the sectional championship for the first time ever.*
- *The cheerleading team won the first New York State title in program history.*



The Hilton Girls Soccer program hosted its annual Kicking Out Cancer Day. All the teams were in action, and they also held fundraisers to benefit breast cancer research.



Hilton School Board Members are elected to three-year terms and serve without pay. Online Board meeting agendas and minutes: Hilton.k12.ny.us/BoE

**2025-26
Board of Education**

Nancy Pickering
President

Kaylee Bennett
Vice President

Amanda Diedrich

Mark Hilburger

Ed Mascadri

Kristine Price

Stephanie Sloan

District Clerk
Michelle McCue



hilton.k12.ny.us

The Hilton School District does not unlawfully discriminate on the basis of disability, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, age, race, color, religion, political affiliation or national origin.

Superintendent of Schools,
Casey Kosiorek, Ed.D.

Director of Communications,
David Yates

Hilton School District Resident

HILTON INSIGHT

2026-27 Budget Vote & Board of Education Election

Tuesday, MAY 19, 6 a.m. – 9 p.m.
VOTING LOCATION FOR ALL RESIDENTS
Parma Town Hall, 1300 Hilton Parma Corners Rd., Hilton

BUDGET HEARING AND REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

Tuesday, May 12 at 7 p.m. in the QUEST Elementary Auditorium, 225 West Ave., Hilton

VOTER ELIGIBILITY

You are eligible to vote if you are a U.S. citizen, 18 years of age or older, a resident of the school district for at least 30 days before the vote and are registered with the school district or the Monroe County Board of Elections. To register or check your registration, visit monroecounty.gov/elections-registration. For more information, contact District Clerk Michelle McCue at 392-1000, ext. 7043.

ABSENTEE BALLOTS

Visit hilton.k12.ny.us/page/school-budget-2026-27 to download an Absentee Ballot Application or call (585) 392-1000, ext. 7043 if you would like an Absentee Ballot Application mailed to you. Mailed applications must be received by the district clerk no later than seven days before the election. Applications also can be personally delivered to the district clerk no later than the day before the election. If you are qualified for absentee voting and issued an absentee ballot, the ballot itself must be received by the school district clerk by 5 p.m. on May 19, 2026 to be counted.

EARLY MAIL BALLOTS

Applications for early mail ballots for the Hilton CSD Annual Budget Vote and School Board Election are now available to qualified voters. To obtain an application, please contact District Clerk Michelle McCue at 392-1000, ext. 7043. For your ballot to be canvassed, it must be received by the school district clerk by 5 p.m. on the day of the election.

Polls are handicapped accessible.

For more information: hilton.k12.ny.us/page/school-budget-2026-27