

THE CARDINAL CONNECTION

Linking School and Community

Fort Ann Central School District

2026-27 Budget News



BUDGET HEARING

Wednesday, May 6, 2026, 6 pm

MEET THE CANDIDATES NIGHT

Tuesday, May 12, 2026, 6 pm

VOTING DAY

TUESDAY, MAY 19, 2026

NOON - 8 PM

- Proposed School Budget
- Bus Proposition
- Two School Board Positions

VOTER QUALIFICATIONS

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

ABSENTEE BALLOTS

District residents may apply for absentee ballots at the Office of the Clerk at the District Offices located at One Catherine Street, Fort Ann, NY. The District Clerk must receive the completed application for review at least seven (7) days before the election if the ballot is to be mailed to the voter; OR prior to 3 pm on the day before the election if the ballot is to be personally delivered to the District Clerk. A list of all persons to whom absentee ballots have been issued is available to the public up to the day of the election during regular office hours in the district office.

VOTE TUESDAY, MAY 19, 2026

On Tuesday, May 19, 2026, the annual vote on the 2026-27 school budget and election of Board of Education members will be held in the gym from noon until 8 pm.

The Fort Ann Board of Education has adopted a fiscally responsible budget that preserves the quality of education, maintains successful programs, and supports ongoing improvements to our school buildings.

The Board of Education is asking voters to consider a budget of \$16,370,000 for the 2026–27 school year. Under this proposal, spending would increase by \$792,227 over the current 2025–26 budget.

The proposed budget results in a tax levy increase of \$298,707 or an estimated \$44.70 per \$100,000 assessed value. This is equal to the allowable tax levy limit of 5% for the Fort Ann Central School District.

In addition to the proposed budget, residents will vote to fill two Board of Education seats, each carrying three-year terms, and will be asked to consider the purchase of two new buses and a seven passenger Suburban.

We encourage you to vote on **Tuesday, May 19, 2026, between the hours of noon and 8 pm in the gym.** As a reminder, all absentee ballots must be returned to the district by 5 pm on Tuesday, May 19, 2026.



Board Candidates

There are two vacancies on the Fort Ann Central School District Board of Education. Each vacancy is for a three (3) year term commencing on July 1, 2026 and expiring on June 30, 2029. The seats are currently held by Timothy Webb II and Paul Greene.

Board Candidates

Timothy Webb II is running for re-election to the school board. He is a 1996 graduate of Fort Ann and his son is a senior this year.

Deborah Rathbun has been a lifelong resident of Fort Ann and graduated from Fort Ann in 1974. She has three children who graduated from Fort Ann and has three grandchildren attending now.

Paul Greene is running for re-election to the school board. He has lived in Fort Ann for 42 years, and has two children who graduated from Fort Ann Central School.

Read more about the Board candidates on the district webpage.

Write-in Candidates

Education Law requires schools to provide residents with an opportunity to write an individual's name for each vacancy on the Board. You may vote for a candidate on the ballot, or you may write-in a person's name. Please note that if you wish to vote for a write-in candidate, you can only vote for that person once. You may ask the poll clerks for assistance if you have any questions.



EXPENDITURE SUMMARY

	Budget 2025-26	Proposed 2026-27	\$ Change
ADMINISTRATIVE			
Board of Education	\$5,250	\$2,900	(\$2,350)
Central Administration	\$221,500	\$231,810	\$10,310
Finance	\$270,800	\$263,250	(\$7,550)
Legal	\$94,000	\$84,000	(\$10,000)
Public Information	\$40,000	\$50,000	\$10,000
Maintenance of Plant	\$60,000	\$77,000	\$17,000
Central Services	\$81,500	\$99,000	\$17,500
Special Items	\$184,000	\$201,000	\$17,000
Instruction	\$403,000	\$444,800	\$41,800
Employee Benefits	\$573,390	\$528,830	(\$44,560)
Subtotal	\$1,933,440	\$1,982,590	\$49,150
PROGRAM			
Curriculum & Development	\$39,000	\$23,250	(\$15,750)
Teaching	\$5,541,800	\$6,322,414	\$780,614
Instructional Media	\$515,000	\$467,328	(\$47,672)
Pupil Services	\$693,000	\$689,490	(\$3,510)
Pupil Transportation	\$990,500	\$1,011,900	\$21,400
Community Service	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$0
Employee Benefits	\$3,398,790	\$3,134,658	(\$264,132)
Interfund Transfers	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subtotal	\$11,180,590	\$11,651,540	\$470,950
CAPITAL			
Plant Operations	\$787,040	\$980,000	\$192,960
Plant Maintenance	\$162,750	\$165,500	\$2,750
Employee Benefits	\$182,820	\$168,612	(\$14,208)
Debt Service	\$931,133	\$1,421,758	\$490,625
Transfer to Other Funds	\$400,000	\$0	(\$400,000)
Subtotal	\$2,463,743	\$2,735,870	\$272,127
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$15,577,773	\$16,370,000	\$792,227



REVENUE SUMMARY

ESTIMATED REVENUES	Budget 2025-26	Proposed 2026-27	\$ Change
Real Property Taxes	\$5,950,000	\$6,248,707	\$298,707
Payments in Lieu of Taxes	\$37,000	\$0	(\$37,000)
Miscellaneous Revenues	\$524,077	\$603,298	\$79,221
State Aid	\$6,866,696	\$7,729,232	\$862,536
Federal–Medicaid	\$35,000	\$35,000	\$0
Interfund	\$215,000	\$350,000	\$135,000
Appropriated Fund Balance	\$1,950,000	\$1,403,763	(\$546,237)
TOTAL REVENUES	\$15,577,773	\$16,370,000	\$792,227

SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET NOTICE

Overall Budget Proposal	Budget Adopted for 2025-26 School Year	Budget Proposed for 2026-27 School Year	Contingency Budget 2026-27 School Year*
Total Budgeted Amount, Not Including Separate Propositions	\$15,577,773	\$16,370,000	\$16,314,000
Increase for the 2024-25 School Year		\$792,227	\$736,227
Percentage Increase in Proposed Budget		5%	4.7%
Change in the Consumer Price Index (CPI)		2.63%	
A. Proposed Tax Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount	\$5,950,000	\$6,248,707	
B. Levy to Support Library Debt, if Applicable	\$0	\$0	
C. Levy for Non-Excludable Propositions, if Applicable**	\$0	\$0	
D. Total Tax Cap Reserve Amount Used to Reduce Current Year Levy	\$0	\$0	
E. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy (A + B + C – D)	\$5,950,000	\$6,248,707	\$6,192,707
F. Total Permissible Exclusions	\$442,139	\$546,924	
G. School Tax Levy Limit, <u>Excluding</u> Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$5,507,861	\$5,701,783	
H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, <u>Excluding</u> Levy for Library to Support Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions (E – B – F + D)	\$5,507,861	\$5,701,783	
I. Difference: (G – H); (Negative Value Requires 60% Voter Approval)	\$0	\$0	
Administrative component	\$1,933,440	\$1,982,590	\$1,982,590
Program component	\$11,180,590	\$11,651,540	\$11,605,540
Capital component	\$2,463,743	\$2,735,870	\$2,725,870

* Pursuant to Section 2023 of the Education Law, should the proposed budget be defeated, certain equipment in the capital and program components and certain contractual and supplies in the administrative component would be reduced.

BASIC STAR EXEMPTION IMPACT

The Estimated Basic STAR exemption savings is based on a hypothetical home within the school district with a full value of one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000). The basic school tax relief (STAR) exemption is authorized by section 425 of the Real Property Tax Law.	Budget Proposed for 2026-27 School Year
Basic STAR tax savings	\$297.95

Propositions

Proposition 1:

2026-2027 School Year Budget
SHALL the Board of Education of the Fort Ann Central School District, Washington County, New York, be authorized to expend the sums set forth in the budget in the total amount of \$16,370,000 and to levy the necessary tax therefore?

Proposition 2:

2026-2027 Bus Proposition
SHALL the Board of Education of the Fort Ann Central School District be authorized to purchase two (2) 35-passenger school buses and a one seven (7) passenger Suburban at a total cost not to exceed \$315,000 and that the sum of \$315,000 or so much thereof as may be necessary shall be raised by the levy of a tax upon the taxable property of said School District and collected in annual installments as provided by the Education Law and Local Finance Law and in anticipation of such tax, obligations of said School District shall be issued - Yes or No



FORT ANN CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

One Catherine Street
Fort Ann, NY 12827
www.fortannschoo.org

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Tyler Whitney, Vice President
James Allen
Kaylie Cagnina
Paul Greene
Timothy Webb II
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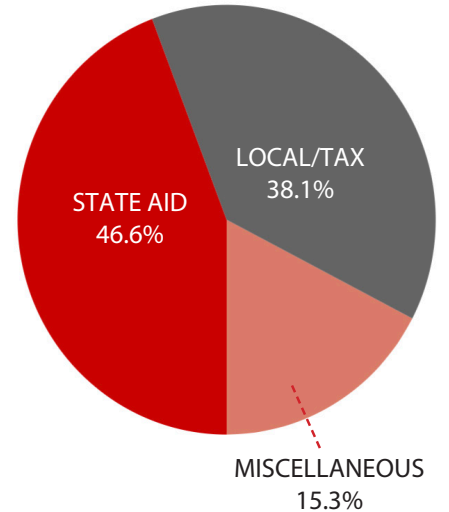


PROPERTY TAX REPORT CARD

	2025-26 Budget	2026-27 Budget	Percent Change
Total Budgeted Amount, not including Separate Propositions	\$15,577,773	\$16,370,000	5.1%
A. Proposed Tax Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount	\$5,950,000	\$6,248,707	
B. Tax Levy to Support Library Debt, if Applicable	\$0	\$0	
C. Tax Levy for Non-Excludable Propositions, if Applicable	\$0	\$0	
D. Total Tax Cap Reserve Amount Used to Reduce Current Year Levy, if Applicable	\$0	\$0	
E. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy (A+B+C-D)	\$5,950,000	\$6,248,707	5%
F. Permissible Exclusions to the School Tax Levy Limit	\$442,139	\$546,924	
G. School Tax Levy Limit, <u>Excluding</u> Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$5,507,861	\$5,701,783	
H. Total Proposed Tax Levy for School Purposes, <u>Excluding</u> Permissible Exclusions and Levy for Library Debt, Plus Prior Year Tax Cap Reserve (E-B-F+D)	\$5,507,861	\$5,701,783	
I. Difference (G-H); (negative value requires 60% voter approval)	\$0	\$0	
Public School Enrollment	458	450	-1.74%
Consumer Price Index			2.63%
	2025-26 Actual	2026-27 Estimated	
Adjusted Restricted Fund Balance	\$2,240,269	\$1,403,764	
Assigned Appropriated Fund Balance	\$1,950,000	\$1,403,764	
Adjusted Unrestricted Fund Balance	\$290,269	\$0	
Adjusted Unrestricted Fund Balance as a Percent of the Total Budget	1.8%	0%	

*Please note that this Property Tax Report Card presentation is in accordance with NYS Education Law sections 1608, 1716(7) and 2601-a(3)

REVENUE



EXPENDITURE

