SCHOOL BUDGET NEWSLETTER 2026–27

Katonah Lewisboro School District

Este boletín está disponible en español en klschools.org/budgetvote

2026–27 BUDGET VOTE
WHAT'S ON THE BALLOT?

PROPOSITION 1
School Budget

Adoption of the school district budget for the 2026–2027 school year

Supports:
classroom instruction • student programs • new literacy curriculum • district operations
remains within tax levy cap

PROPOSITION 2
Capital Reserve Access

Authorization to access funds set aside for infrastructure improvements

Athletic fields • track • JJHS interior doors & ADA compliance upgrades

PROPOSITION 3
Proposition 3 KLSD Pre-K and Community Center

see insert

TRUSTEE ELECTION

EMPOWERING ALL:
LIGHTING THE PATH TO SUCCESS

Dear KLSD Community,

Thank you for your continued partnership and commitment to our schools and students.

This newsletter shares the proposed KLSD budget for the 2026–2027 school year. We encourage all community members to vote on May 19 at your local elementary school.

The proposed budget reflects a careful balance between maintaining the quality of our educational program and responding to financial pressures. The budget preserves all academic and extracurricular programs, prioritizes favorable class sizes, and invests in a new literacy curriculum, while staying within the tax levy cap.

While foundation aid is projected to increase by about $70,000, the state has reduced other aid to KLSD by $1.77 million over the past two years. At the same time, employee benefit costs, largely out of our control, continue to rise. More than 80% of the budget supports the dedicated staff who serve our students each day.

As you can see on the left, Proposition 2 allows us to access funds set aside for infrastructure improvements. Proposition 3 creates a KLSD Pre-K and Community Center, preparing for the expected state mandate.

We are grateful for your continued support of KLSD.
Learn more at www.klschools.org.

Sincerely,

The Board of Education

2026-27 PROPOSED BUDGET SUMMARY

Proposed Budget	**$131,816,402**
Proposed Budget-to-Budget Increase	**3.46%**
Proposed 2026–27 Tax Levy Change	**3.72%**

2026–27 PROPOSED EXPENSES

ITEM	BUDGET 2025-26	PROPOSED BUDGET 2026-27	DOLLAR DIFFERENCE	% DIFFERENCE	% OF TOTAL BUDGET
Board of Education	$93,313	$24,250	-$69,063	-74.01%	0.02%
District Clerk and Voting	$193,782	$182,333	-$11,449	-5.91%	0.14%
Central Administration	$360,550	$391,095	$30,545	8.47%	0.30%
Finance	$1,264,903	$1,433,098	$168,195	13.30%	1.09%
Personnel Services	$539,509	$552,338	$12,829	2.38%	0.42%
Legal Services/Attorney Fees for General Counsel, Labor Counsel and CSE Litigation	$586,346	$669,381	$83,035	14.16%	0.51%
Public Information	$206,477	$206,800	$323	0.16%	0.16%
Operations and Maintenance/Buildings and Grounds	$8,181,761	$8,361,619	$179,858	2.20%	6.34%
Printing, Mailing, Data Processing, Records Management, Warehouse	$985,549	$1,514,960	$529,411	53.72%	1.15%
Insurance	$219,635	$150,398	-$69,237	-31.52%	0.11%
Tax Certioraris/Judgements and Claims	$50,000	$50,000	$0	0.00%	0.04%
Special Items/BOCES Administration/Capital Unclassified	$809,813	$839,273	$29,460	3.64%	0.66%
TOTAL	**$13,491,638**	**$14,375,545**	**$883,907**	**6.55%**	**10.91%**
Curriculum Development	$1,157,265	$1,023,658	-$133,607	-11.55%	0.78%
Buildings and Department Supervision	$5,434,902	$5,005,778	-$429,124	-7.90%	3.80%
Innovation Grants and Staff Development	$715,594	$631,390	-$84,204	-11.77%	0.48%
Teaching Regular School	$33,104,350	$32,967,293	-$137,057	-0.41%	25.01%
Special Education Program	$13,240,531	$14,244,659	$1,004,128	7.58%	10.81%
Adult Education/Driver's Education	$0	$0	$0	0.00%	0.00%
School Library/Audio-Visual/Education Technology	$990,687	$1,009,853	$19,166	1.93%	0.77%
Instructional Computer Software/Hardware	$2,895,481	$2,638,143	-$257,338	-8.89%	2.00%
Co-Curricular Activities	$575,200	$614,393	$39,193	6.81%	0.47%
Interscholastic Sports	$1,380,741	$1,495,951	$115,210	8.34%	1.13%
Other Pupil Services	$5,029,128	$4,771,774	-$257,354	-5.12%	3.62%
TOTAL	**$64,523,879**	**$64,402,892**	**-$120,987**	**-0.19%**	**48.86%**
Pupil Transportation/Recreation	$4,897,479	$5,017,579	$120,100	2.45%	3.80%
TOTAL	**$4,897,479**	**$5,017,579**	**$120,100**	**2.45%**	**3.80%**
Employee Benefits	$39,279,709	$41,940,279	$2,660,570	6.77%	31.82%
Debt Service	$3,412,764	$4,755,107	$1,342,343	39.33%	3.61%
Interfund Transfer	$1,805,000	$1,325,000	-$480,000	-26.59%	1.00%
TOTAL	**$44,497,473**	**$48,020,386**	**$3,522,913**	**7.92%**	**36.43%**
GRAND TOTAL ALL BUDGET CATEGORIES	**$127,410,469**	**$131,816,402**	**$4,405,933**	**3.46%**	**100.00%**

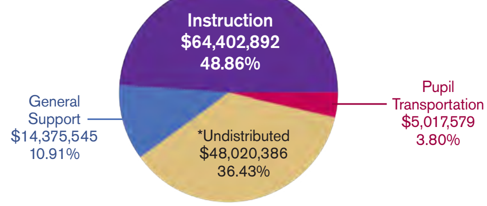
TAX RATE PROJECTION SUMMARY

	Budget 2025-2026	Proposed Budget 2026-2027	Dollar Difference	% Change from Previous Year
Total Expenditures	$127,410,469	$131,816,402	$4,405,933	3.46%
Total Revenue Other Than Property Taxes	$17,920,046	$18,258,101	$338,055	1.89%
Amount to Be Raised by Taxes	$109,490,423	$113,558,301	$4,067,878	3.72%

Tax Rates	2025-26 Rate/$1,000 of Assessed Value	2026-27 Rate/$1,000 of Assessed Value	% Change from Previous Year
Bedford	$191.4397	$202.6369	5.85%
Lewisboro	$242.1899	$247.2377	2.08%
North Salem	$15.5485	$16.7586	7.78%
Pound Ridge	$120.9060	$123.4214	2.08%

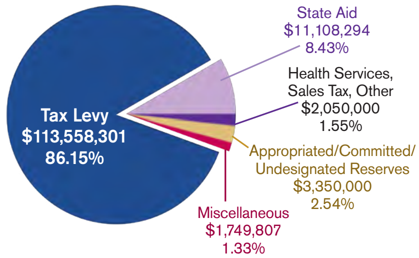
Please note - The rates shown above are estimates based upon preliminary assessment values available at the time the budget was adopted by the Board of Education. Once assessments are finalized, tax rates will be adjusted.

Proposed Expenditure Budget



*"Undistributed" includes: Debt Service, Inter-fund Tranfers and Benefits.

Proposed Revenue Budget



KATONAH-LEWISBORO 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 the 2026-27 School Year*
Total Budgeted Amount, not Including Separate Propositions	$127,410,469	$131,816,402	$127,748,524
Increase/Decrease for the 2026-27 School Year		$4,405,933	$4,067,878
Percentage Increase/Decrease in Proposed Budget		3.46%	-3.09%
Change in the Consumer Price Index		2.63%	
A. Proposed Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount	$109,490,423	$113,558,301	
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)	$109,490,423	$113,558,301	$109,490,423
F. Total Permissible Exclusions	$2,838,661	$4,136,927	
G. School Tax Levy Limit, Excluding Levy for Permissible Exclusions	$106,651,762	$109,421,374	
H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, Excluding Levy to Support Library Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions (E – B – F + D)	$106,651,762	$109,421,374	
I. Difference: G – H (Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval – See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions) **	$0	$0	
Administrative Component	$16,941,321	$17,338,377	$16,863,389
Program Component	$94,246,231	$96,923,487	$94,265,887
Capital Component	$16,222,917	$17,554,538	$16,619,248

Statement of assumptions made in projecting a contingency budget for the 2026-27 school year, should the proposed budget be defeated pursuant to Section 2023 of the Education Law:

* The Board of Education will review the proposed expenditure budget and determine which items may be included in accordance with Education Law Section 2023. The tax levy increase would be $0. Adoption of a contingent budget would require reductions totaling $4,067,878 in the general fund budget, and non-contingent items, such as community use of facilities, equipment purchases, program expenses, and capital transfers, would be eliminated in compliance with New York State law.

** 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)

Proposition #2 - Authorization to use capital reserve funds already set aside for improvements	$2,500,000
Proposition #3 - Authorization to complete renovations at Lewisboro Elementary School to create a Pre-K Center	$24,500,000

	Under the Budget Proposed for the 2026-27 School Year
Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings[1]	$1,497

The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2026-27 by the qualified voters of the Katonah-Lewisboro School District, Westchester County, New York, will be held at Katonah Elementary School, Increase Miller Elementary School and Meadow Pond Elementary School in said district on Tuesday, May 19, 2026 between the hours of 6:00 am and 9:00 pm, prevailing time, at which time the polls will be opened to vote by voting ballot or machine.

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

PROPOSITION 3
KLSD PRE-K AND COMMUNITY CENTER

This proposal would renovate Lewisboro Elementary School (LES) into a shared community resource: a districtwide Pre-K program and a community center, in anticipation of a state-funded mandate for Universal Pre-K and continued need for community gathering space.

LES is currently the only district-owned facility with the space to accommodate Pre-K without building additions and displacing existing K–5 classrooms. Planning now helps the district prepare for anticipated state requirements and avoid more disruptive or costly changes later.

Estimated Tax Impact

$24.5M bond paid over 15 years	
Market Value	**Cost per month**
$1 million home	$18.00
$500,000 home	$9.00

What This Provides

- Expands free Pre-K access to all KLSD 4-year-olds
- Special Education Pre-K
- $10,000 per student in state funding returned to the community
- Estimated savings of $12,000 – $16,000 per year for Pre-K families
- 10,000 sq. ft. available community space with separate entrance. Can be used for:
  - Senior programming
  - Community and civic groups
  - Parks & Recreation office/programs
  - Activities (e.g., pickleball, youth sports)

Scope of work

- Demolish half of building, regrade, landscape
- New roof, HVAC, electrical, safety, and building management systems, lighting, flooring, doors/windows; two new entrances
- New driveway loop, walkways, driveway repairs
- Renovations and plumbing for 10 classrooms and 10K sq ft community space
- Pre-K playground and re-do gym floor

This proposal does not reduce or replace existing K–12 programs.

PROPOSITION 3
KLSD PRE-K AND COMMUNITY CENTER

Key Facts

Current KLSD Pre-K demand exceeds capacity

- ~120 applicants annually for 44 lottery-based spots
- Current state funding: $5,400 per student

Program delivery model remains the same

- Pre-K would continue to be operated by experienced local provider(s) and certified early childhood educators

Elementary schools are at capacity and cannot accommodate Pre-K in current configurations

- State requirements: 900 sq. ft. classrooms with in-class bathrooms
- Adding Pre-K to existing schools would require:
  - Grade-level reconfiguration (e.g., moving 5th grade to middle school)
  - Significant additions and renovations across affected schools

KLSD Pre-K program is state-funded

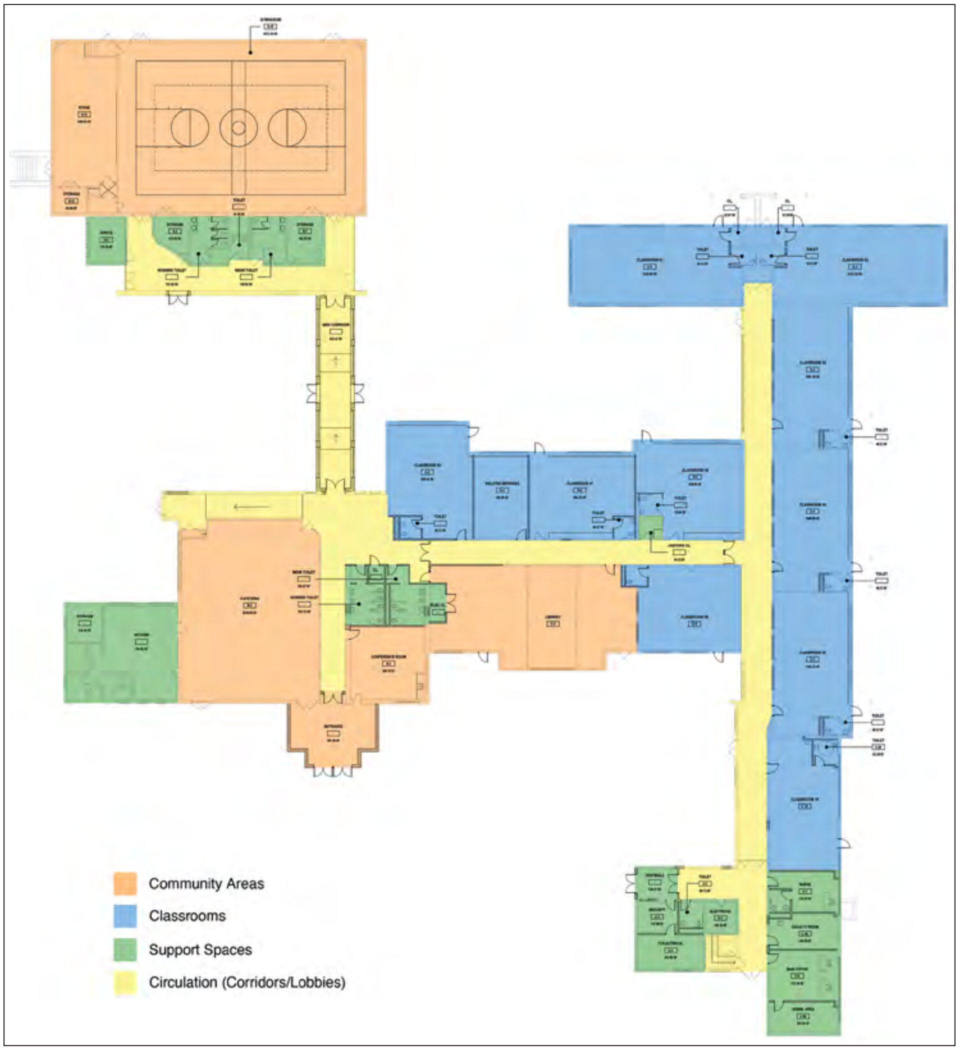
- Does not add staffing costs to the district's operating budget

$7.5M to Maintain LES Without Use

- Structural repairs (building envelope, including new roof)
- Would require a taxpayer-funded bond

This facility is designed to serve both students and the broader community.

Scan for FAQ



Lewisboro Elementary School

2014	2020	2024	2028
Closed	BOE/community members study options, including sale of LES, decide to **retain ownership**	BOE/community members review usage options, recommend **Pre-K Center** as best aligned with district mission and vision.	Expected NY State mandate for districts to provided state-funded Pre-K for all students.

VOTER INFORMATION

Find the complete proposed budget at **klschools.org/budgetvote**

Are you registered?

If you are registered to vote in Westchester County, you are automatically eligible to vote in school district budget and school board elections. If you are not registered, go to any KLSD school or the District Office (school days 9 a.m.–3 p.m.) or Saturday, May 9 | 9 a.m.–3 p.m. (District Office only)

Registration Deadline: May 14, 2026

Who Can Vote?

- U.S. citizen, 18 years+
- District resident for 30 days before vote

Absentee & Early Mail Voting

Early Mail Voting: Available in all school votes and school board elections

Absentee Voting: If you are ill, have a disability, or are out of the county on election day

Request an Absentee & Early Mail Voting Ballot

Get an application for absentee or early mail voting from the District Clerk or at klschools.org/budgetvote

Submit application:

- Received by mail: by May 12
- Received in person: by May 18 at 5 p.m.

District Office:
Attn: District Clerk, 60 North Salem Rd, Cross River, NY 10518

Ballots are mailed after application is received.

Absentee & Early Mail Voting Ballot Return Deadline

Ballots due to District Clerk by May 19, 2026, 5 p.m.

You may apply, complete, and submit your ballot in person the same day.

Questions?

Kimberly Monzon, District Clerk
(914) 763-7020
kmonzon@klschools.org

@klschools

@katlewschools

Katonah Lewisboro School District
60 North Salem Road
Cross River, NY 10518

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10610

VOTE VOTE VOTE VOTE VOTE VOTE

Vote Tuesday, May 19, 2026, 6 a.m. – 9 p.m.

Increase Miller Elementary School • Katonah Elementary School
Meadow Pond Elementary School

- **School District Budget**
- **Capital Reserve Access**
- **KLSD Pre-K and Community Center**
- **Election of three school board trustees** to fill:

(1) the resignation of Jon Poffenberger to serve from May 19, 2026 – June 20, 2028
(2) the expiration of the terms of Lorraine Gallagher and Bill Swertfager to serve from July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2029