

2026 - 2027 Budget Presentation

Mrs. Christine Ferrarie – Board President
Mr. James Mulvey – Finance Committee Chair
Dr. Scot Beckerman – Superintendent
Ms. Sue Anne Mather – Business Administrator

5 Areas of Budget Presentation

1. What the budget covers
2. Where the money comes from
3. Where the money is allocated
4. Tax Implications for Allendale and Upper Saddle River
5. Budget cuts/opportunities to grow Budget



What Does This Budget Support ?

- Continuation of all current levels of Programs and Services
- Continuation of all Sports (30 sports with over 51 levels/teams in Fall, Winter & Spring)
- Continuation of 60+ Clubs/Activities (DECA, Model UN, Marching Band, etc.)
- Continuation of College Dual Enrollment Programs (FDU, Rutgers, BCC, Syracuse, Ramapo)
- Continuation of CAP Program (Option II) opportunities: Internships, Independent Studies, Community Service, Online Courses, Seated College Courses, **Associates Degrees, CTE, Travel Abroad**
- Continuation Wellness Program (Supervisor of Wellness, Wellness Room & 2 School Student Assistance Coordinators). Addition of parent and summer opportunities.
- Staffing based on student needs
- **Summer Academy**

FY 2026 - 2027 Budget Overview

- The proposed budget, including Federal Grants and Debt Service, totals $41,856,450
- The combined local levy and debt levy reflect an increase of 2.00% over last year, plus an adjustment for healthcare, for a total increase of 5.55%
- The proposed budget supports the education of approximately 1,315 students: in-district (1,243 registered in-district students presently scheduled for 26-27), as well as special needs students out-of-district, and those at Bergen Academies
- The proposed budget supports 177.85 FTE staff
- The proposed budget is $1,186,044 above the current year's revised budget, including capital projects
- The proposed budget reflects $1,473,491 in State Aid, which is a decrease of $45,572 compared to FY 2026
- On the expense side, the major driver is contractual increases in health benefits and salaries. In addition, there is a withdrawal of $2,746,900 from Capital Reserve for Capital Projects

Budget Shortfall 2026/2027 Causes

- 2% state CAP on budgets
- Send-Receive Contracts
- Cost of Benefits
- Contractual Obligations
  - Staffing
- Non Staffing Contractual Obligations
  - Transportation
  - Technology
  - Heat/Electricity, etc.
- Taxpayer relief obligations
- Reduction of State Funding



Budget Shortfall 2026-2027
Efforts to Reduce Shortages - Previous years

- ESIP (Solar, Heat)
- Energy (Reverse Auction)
- Transportation routes
- Accepting tuition students
- Revenue opportunities – Charging stations, renting campus
- Program efforts to reduce out-of-district students (General and Special Education)
- Benefits – Moving from a state plan to a public company
- Budget Efficiencies- Copy Machines, Computers, etc.
- Increase Program Offerings (retain students)



Budget Shortfall 2026/2027
Efforts to Reduce Shortages

- Breakage
- Savings
  - Transportation Routes
  - Facilities Efficiencies
  - Cleaning Services
  - Building Services - Printers, Copy Machines
  - Technology
  - Energy Curtailment Agreement
  - Funding Sources
    - Tuition (non- send-receive districts)

2026/2027 Reductions

- Support Services:
  - 2 PT Instructional Coaches (Reduced)
  - 1 Testing Coordinator (Eliminated- moved to guidance)
  - 1 Wellness Counselor (Eliminated- 2 remain)
  - Secretarial/Administrative Assistant staff (Reduced- 1.5)
- RIF (Reductions in Force)/Reducing Staff Count
  - Leaving vacant positions of those resigning/retiring

Future Opportunities for Consideration – How to Increase Funding

- Add Another Send-Receive District
- Increase Tuition Students and/or Tuition Cost
- Special Question on Budget
- Move election to April (allows districts to go over 2%)

Debt Service

Existing Debt Service and date of expiration

Project	Project Cost	Year Bond Paid Off
2022 Referendum	$8,827,053	2037

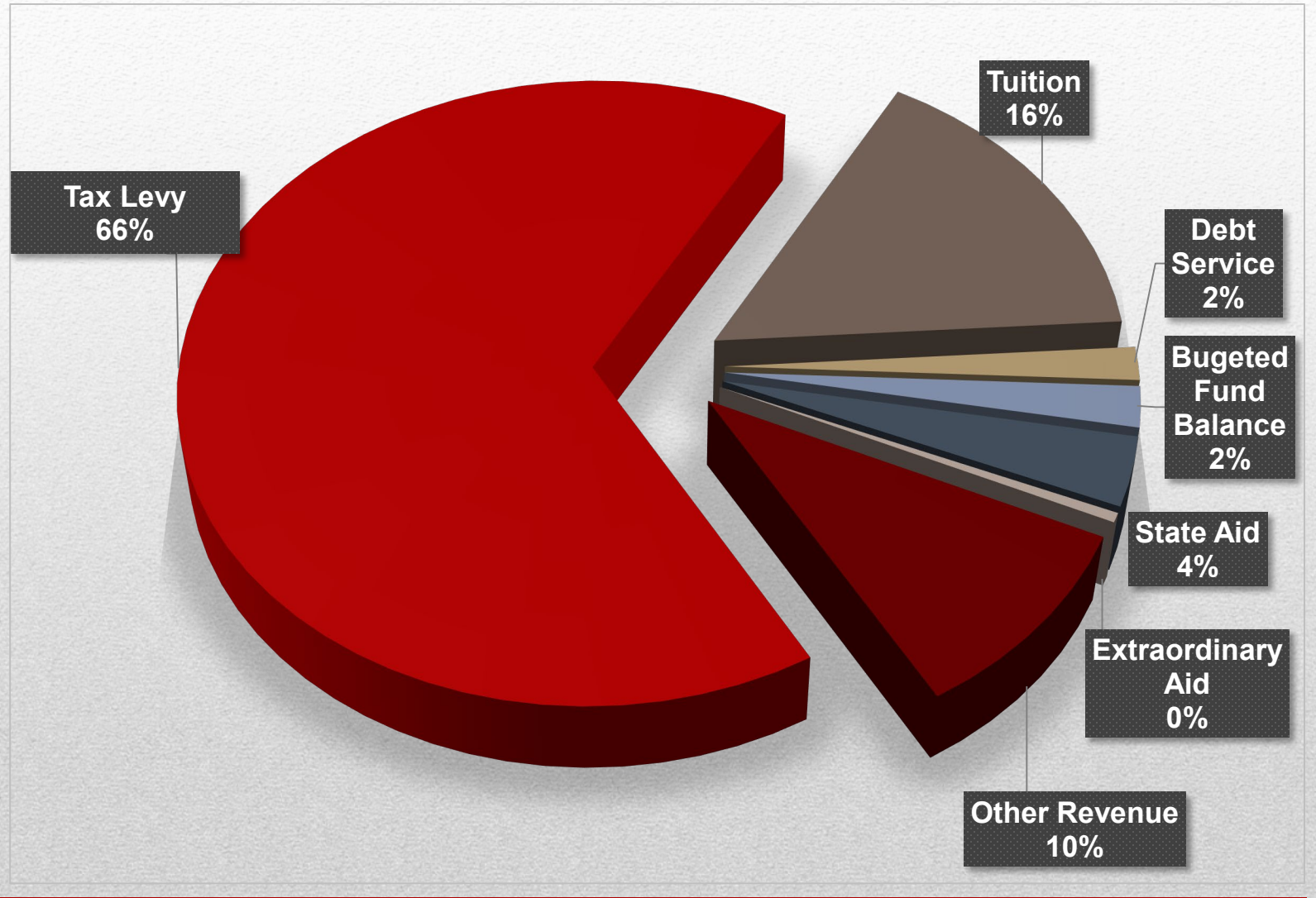
Referendum Projects Include:

Field Drainage/Synthetic Turf Upgrade
Multi-Purpose Field House Development
Classroom Conversion (CAP Offices/Classroom & High Tech Room)
TVP Room Upgrade
Art Room Upgrade
Planetarium Upgrade
Media Center Upgrade

Capital Projects for 2026-2027

- Replace Senior Café Roof - Roof Is 20+ Years Old & Out Of Warranty
- Replace Senior Café Rooftop HV Unit w/ New Rooftop HV Unit
- Replace Main Café HV w/ New HVAC, including Kitchen Area if possible (Wire Unit to BMS, By Others). New Ductwork Is Required
- Replace Faculty Café HV w/ New HVAC & Wire to BMS
- Replace TV Studio HVAC w/ New & Wire to BMS
- Control Wiring & Equipment For 4 New HVAC Units to BMS
- Install Emergency Egress Lighting at Each Building Exit (Per Fire Code)
- Renovate CAD Labs (134 & 136) Built-ins, Furniture, Lighting, Ceilings, Etc.
- Replace Science Wing Hot Water Heater
- Mill, Pave, Paint Senior Lot & Back Gym Lot, Install 2 New Speed Bumps, Re-Build Inlets, Mill, Pave, Paint Additional Worn Areas
- Install LVT & Cove Base in 7 Rooms - 227A w/Office, 227B w/closet, 228, 134, 136, 2 Dressing Rooms w/closets.
- New Furniture For Rooms 227A, 227B, 228, and 2 Dressing Rooms (chairs & countertops), Installation & Estimated Freight
- Replace 2 Loops On The Fire Alarm System To Replace Old Circuits & Eliminate All Of The Existing Troubles
- Replace Pitted / Rusted Exterior Metal Fascia Panels Around Locker Rooms / Gyms / CAC
- Convert 2 Locker Room Shower Areas To Storage
- Renovate Male Coaches' Office
- Install LAX Wall
- Alta Camera Server (Technology)

Revenue 2026-2027

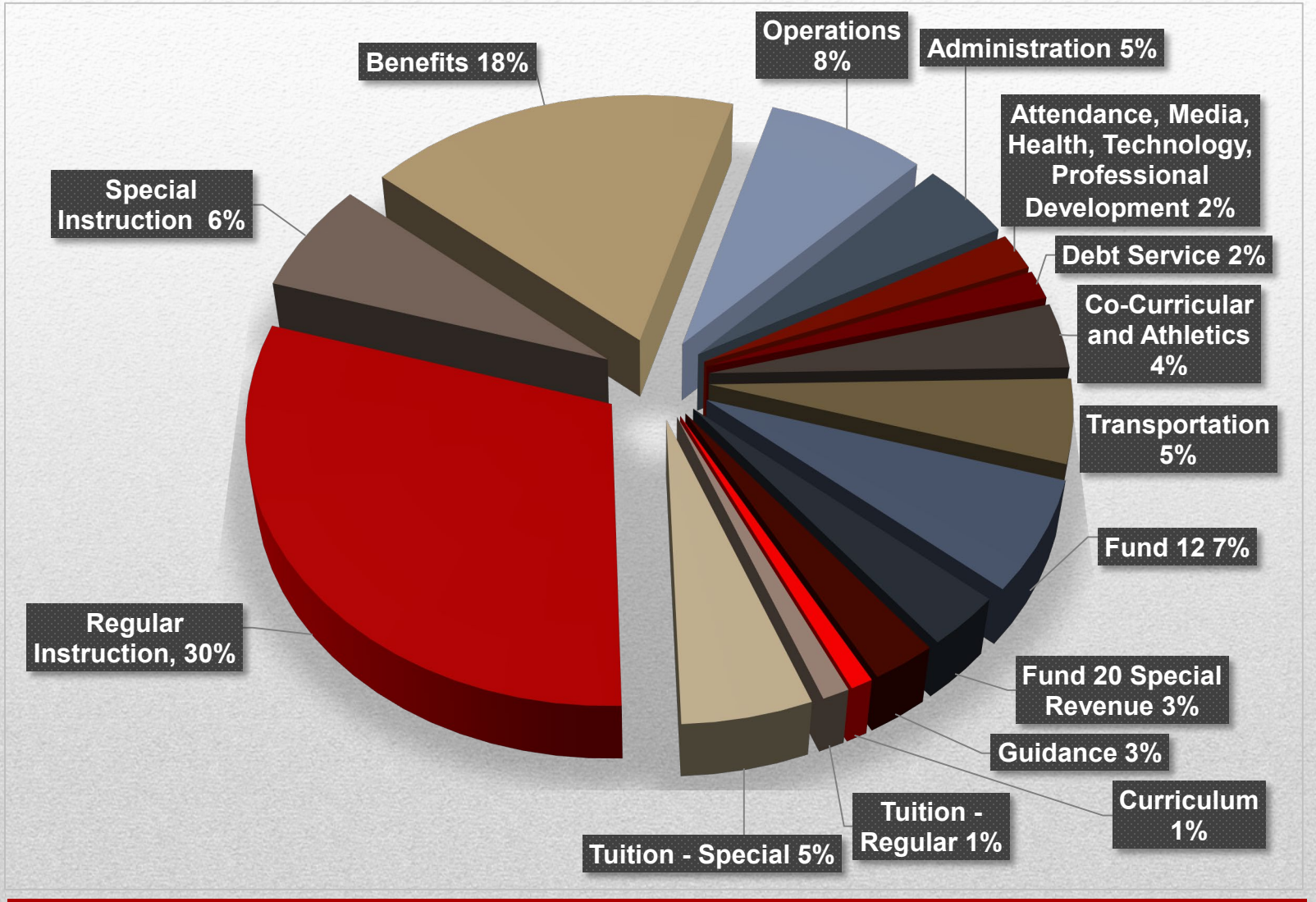


Where the Money Comes From

REVENUE DETAIL 2025-26 vs. 2026-27

	REVISED 2025-26	BUDGETED 2026-27	$ +/-	% +/-
Tax Levy	$ 26,175,200	$ 27,626,762	$1,451,562	5.5 %
Tuition	6,694,682	6,589,129	(105,553)	(1.58%)
Debt Service	709,138	709,287	149	.02%
Budgeted Fund Balance	1,374,862	874,021	(473,841)	(35.16%)
State Aid	1,519,063	1,473,491	(45,572)	(3%)
Extraordinary Aid	175,000	200,000	25,000	15%
Federal Programs	292,200	219,400	(72,800)	(25%)
Misc. Revenue	22,000	25,000	3,000	14%
Interest Income	352,460	292,460	(60,000)	(17%)
Withdrawal: Capital Reserve	1,958,770	2,746,900	788,130	40%
Reserve - Prior Year Encumbrance	282,147	-	(282,147)	(100%)
Student Activity & Athletic Fund Revenue	1,100,000	1,100,000	-	-
Scholarship Fund Revenue	31,884	-	(31,884)	(100%)
Other Restricted Entitlements	10,000	-	(10,000)	(100%)
TOTAL	**$ 40,670,406**	**$ 41,856,450**	**$ 1,186,044**	**2.9%**

Allocations 2026-2027



How the Funds Are Allocated

EXPENSE DETAIL 2025-26 vs. 2026-27

	REVISED 2025-26	BUDGETED 2026-27	$ +/-	% +/-
Instruction - Regular	$ 12,659,890	$ 12,625,95	$ (33,934)	(0.27%)
Instruction - Special	2,889,700	2,725,738	(163,962)	(5.67%)
Tuition – Regular	496,206	465,840	(30,366)	(6.12%)
Tuition - Special	1,641,380	2,238,417	597,037	36.37%
Benefits	6,273,259	7,625,299	1,352,040	21.55%
Operation of Plant	3,386,791	3,271,622	(115,169)	(3.40%)
Administration	2,168,006	1,929,370	(238,636)	(11.01%)
Attendance, Health, Media & Tech.	923,237	908,399	(14,838)	(1.61%)
Debt Service	709,138	709,287	149	0.02%
Co-Curricular and Athletics	1,519,582	1,601,140	81,558	5.37%
Guidance	1,063,036	1,099,171	36,135	3.40%
Curriculum	382,389	385,195	2,806	0.73%
Transportation	2,032,039	2,067,296	35,257	1.70%
Fund 12 Equipment & Capital Outlay	3,020,571	2,772,720	(247,851)	(8.21%)
Fund 20 Special Revenue	1,434,084	1,319,400	(114,684)	(8.00%)
Food Service	15,000	15,000	0	0
Staff Training	56,097	44,200	(11,897)	(21.21%)
Interest		52,400	52,400	100%
TOTAL	40,670,405	41,856,450	1,186,045	

A Continuing Challenge to Public Education:

State Aid – An Eight-Year Trend

CATEGORICAL STATE AID	FY 19-20	FY 20-21	FY 21-22	FY 22-23	FY23-24	FY 24-25	FY 25-26	FY 26-27
TRANSPORTATION	$272,216	$272,216	$272,216	$272,216	$393,242	$471,462	$491,270	492,121
SPECIAL EDUCATION	527,552	572,082	783,459	969,794	990,199	1,011,058	899,684	847.581
SECURITY	77,671	77,671	77,671	77,671	82,560	83,524	128,109	133,789
OTHER	0	20,684	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTALS	877,439	942,653	1,133,346	1,319,681	1,466,001	1,566,044	1,519,063	1,473,491
WHAT THE STATE TAKES BACK: *PERS APPROPRIATION*	(293,828)	(327,609)	(352,026)	(394,295)	(389,289)	(400,620)	(383,971)	Estimated (380,000)
NET STATE AID AVAILABLE BY SCHOOL YEAR	**$583,611**	**$615,044**	**$781,320**	**$925,386**	**$1,076,712**	**$1,165,424**	**$1,135,092**	**1,093,491**

Anticipated Special Education Costs for 2026 - 2027

- Approximately 180 students (approx. 14.2%) between the ages of 14 and 21 receive services; of those, 28 receive services out-of-district
- $5,689,155 or 15.4% of the total annual current expense budget is spent on Special Education
- In-district salaries total $2,305,295 (excludes benefits)
- Out-of-district tuition costs total $2,238,416
- Out-of-district & parent transportation costs total $725,000
- Extraordinary and Related services total $404,035

Transportation

- The proposed FY 2026-27 transportation budget is $2,067,296, an increase of $35,257 from FY 2025-26 revised budget.

The following services are included:

- Special Education out-of-district busing
- Aid In Lieu payments
- Mandatory busing
- Athletic event transport
- Field trip transport
- Parent reimbursement



- The transportation budget assumes a 3.58% CPI-based increase in existing transportation routes.

Resident Enrollment Ratio

	ENROLLMENT - # STUDENTS			EQUAL. VALUE - % SHARE			ENROLLMENT - % STUDENTS		
	Allendale	USR	TOTAL	Allendale	USR	TOTAL	Allendale	USR	TOTAL
2014-15	462.0	586.0	1,048.0	39.33%	60.67%	100%	44.08%	55.92%	100 %
2019-20	463.0	539.5	1,002.5	40.81%	59.19%	100%	46.18%	53.82%	100 %
2020-21	449.0	520.0	969.0	40.83%	59.17%	100%	46.34%	53.66%	100 %
2021-22	413.0	484.0	897.0	41.71%	58.29%	100%	46%	54%	100 %
2022-23	412.0	505.0	917.0	41.67%	58.33%	100%	45%	55%	100%
2023-24	404.0	487.0	891.0	40.60%	59.40%	100%	45%	55%	100%
2024-25	409.0	487.0	896.0	39.65%	60.35%	100%	46%	54%	100%
2025-26	416.0	449.0	865.0	41.95%	58.05%	100%	48%	52%	100%
2026-27*	427.0	454	881	44.45%	55.55%	100%	48%	52%	100%

*Estimated

The State Determines Levy Allocation per State Statute: N.J.S.A. 18A:13-23

2026-27 SFRA Allocation of Equalized Valuation

DIST NUM	MUNICIPALITY	EQUAL. VAL. OF MUNICIPALITY	ELEMENTARY ENROLLMENT 10-15-25	REGIONAL ENROLLMENT 10-15-25	ELEMENTARY PERCENT	ELEMENTARY EQUALIZED VALUATION	REGIONALIZED VALUATION	2026-27 PERCENT SHARE
0040	ALLENDALE	2,731,231,007	827.00	416.00	66.53	1,817,087,989	914,143,018	44.4460717
5330	UPPER SADDLE RIVER	4,058,982,130	1,146.00	449.00	71.85	2,916,378,660	1,142,603,470	55.5539283
3700	NORTHERN HIGHLANDS REG.	6,790,213,137	1,973.00	865.00		4,733,466,649	2,056,746,488	100.0000000

2025-26 SFRA Allocation of Equalized Valuation

DIST NUM	MUNICIPALITY	EQUAL. VAL. OF MUNICIPALITY	ELEMENTARY ENROLLMENT 10-15-24	REGIONAL ENROLLMENT 10-15-24	ELEMENTARY PERCENT	ELEMENTARY EQUALIZED VALUATION	REGIONALIZED VALUATION	2025-26 PERCENT SHARE
0040	ALLENDALE	2,448,682,994	850.00	409.00	67.51	1,653,105,889	795,577,105	41.9522028
5330	UPPER SADDLE RIVER	3,530,507,509	1,075.00	487.00	68.82	2,429,695,268	1,100,812,241	58.0477972
3700	NORTHERN HIGHLANDS REG.	5,979,190,503	1,925.00	896.00		4,082,801,157	1,896,389,346	100.0000000

Allendale Tax Rate Computation

School Year	2025-26	2026-2027	Difference
Tax Needs – General Fund	$10,981,073	$12,279,010	$1,297,937
Tax Needs- Debt Service	274,586	290,971	16,385
Total Tax Needs	11,255,659	12,569,981	1,314,322
Assessed Taxable Values	2,324,565,600	2,585,471,600	
School Tax Rates	0.4842049%	0.4861775%	0.0019726%
Percent Share of Budget	41.95%	44.45%	2.5%
% Tax Levy	6.45%	11.68%	
Two-Year Average	3.115%	7.40%	

Allendale typical home tax impact

Assessed Home Value	School Tax Paid 2026-27	School Tax Paid 2025-26	Tax Increase
$700,000	3,403.26	3,389.40	13.86
$800,000	3,889.44	3,873.60	15.84
$900,000	4,375.62	4,357.80	17.82
$991,079	**4,818.43**	**4,798.80**	**19.62**
$1,000,000	4,861.80	4,842.00	19.80
$1,100,000	5,347.98	5,326.20	21.78
$1,200,000	5,834.16	5,810.40	23.76

USR Tax Rate Computation

School Year	2025-2026	2026-2027	Difference
Tax Needs – General Fund	$15,194,127	$15,347,752	153,625
Tax Needs- Debt Service	379,936	363,689	(16,247)
Total Tax Needs	15,574,063	15,711,441	137,378
Assessed Taxable Values	2,427,617,402	2,458,492,302	30,874,900
School Tax Rates	0.6415369%	0.6390681%	(0.0024688%)
Percent Share of Budget	58.05%	55.55%	(2.5%)
% Tax Levy	(3.22%)	0.88%	
Two-Year Average	0.39%	(1.17%)	

Upper Saddle River typical home tax impact

Assessed Home Value	School Tax Paid 2026-27	School Tax Paid 2025-26	Tax Decrease
$500,000	$3,195.34	$3,207.70	(12.36)
$600,000	3,834.41	3,849.24	(14.83)
$700,000	4,473.48	4,490.78	(17.30)
$770,185	4,922.01	**4,941.04**	**(19.04)**
$800,000	5,112.55	5,132.32	(19.77)
$900,000	5,751.61	5,773.86	(22.25)
$1,000,000	6,390.68	6,415.40	(24.72)

Student Achievements

All Data is Based on the 2024-2025 School Year

Enrollment: 1,251 Students

- 96% Class of 2025 attending college
- 74% of students obtained Honor Roll status for the 2024-25 school year
  - 531 Honor Roll (Minimum all A's and B's)
  - 398 High Honor Roll (Minimum All A's and 1 B)
- 26% of students are enrolled in elective dual enrollment classes
- 43% of students in grades 9-12 took AP exams in May 2025. (541 students took 1241 exams. 93% scored 3 or higher)
- 108 students named as AP Scholars
- 17 National Merit Scholarship commended scholars
- 1 National Merit Scholarship finalist



THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

TOGETHER, WE MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THE LIVES OF THE NORTHERN HIGHLANDS' STUDENTS.