



VIRTUAL TOWN HALL BUDGET MEETING FY25

Thursday, May 16, 2024



SUPERINTENDENT'S BUDGET PRIORITIES FY25

- Literacy of all scholars
- Supports for our English Language Learners
- Exceptional Learners



EQUITY IN OUR BUDGET

- Building allocations are an amount per student based on building enrollment
- Reviewing resources available for ELL students, in district programs for special education
- Data driven staffing – specifically in areas of additional support such as AIS staff
- Established staffing for faculty, support staff and administration



Tax Levy Increase – Simple Majority – 3.8% or \$4,225,269

Municipality	FY24 Tax Bill for a House Assessed at \$300k	FY24 Tax Bill for a House Assessed at \$500K	Estimated FY25 Tax Bill for a House Assessed at \$300k	Estimated Tax Bill for a House Assessed at \$500K	Estimated Difference for a House Assessed at \$300K	Estimated Difference for a House Assessed at \$500K
City of Newburgh	\$ 4,439.95	\$ 7,399.92	\$ 4,608.00	\$ 7,680.00	\$ 168.05	\$ 280.08
Town of Newburgh	\$ 4,439.93	\$ 7,399.89	\$ 4,607.51	\$ 7,679.18	\$ 167.58	\$ 279.29
Town of New Windsor	\$ 4,440.00	\$ 7,399.99	\$ 4,609.03	\$ 7,681.72	\$ 169.04	\$ 281.73
Town of Cornwall	\$ 4,440.01	\$ 7,400.02	\$ 4,608.96	\$ 7,681.61	\$ 168.95	\$ 281.58

This equates to approximately \$14/month for a home assessed at \$300K

This equates to approximately \$23/month for a home assessed at \$500K

- Calculation uses 2023-24 Assessed values for each municipality – finalized end of June/July
- Calculation uses 2023-24 Equalization Rates which are set annual by the Office of Real Property Services (NYS)





BIGGEST EXPENSE DRIVERS

- Compensation - Faculty, Staff and Administrator salaries; substitute expense; additional time – This includes ALL positions (teachers, guidance, social workers, psychologists, custodial, support staff, administrators, etc.)
- Employee benefits including retirement system contributions, health insurance, payroll taxes, etc.
- Student Transportation (all elementary students, secondary who are more than 0.5 miles from school, and out of district up to 18 miles)
- Out of district tuition – foster, exceptional learners, charter schools
- Debt service – completed construction and construction work now underway



REVENUE ADJUSTMENTS FOR FY25

- Increase in Foundation Aid of \$3.49M
- State Categorical Aid increases of approximately \$8.5M
- Proposed use of one-time funds (appropriated fund balance and restricted reserves at \$11.37M
- Increase in Interest Earnings of \$2.1M
- Increase in Medicaid Reimbursement of \$250K



Revenue Categories Explained

Local Revenue	Tax Levy, PILOTs, Utility Taxes, Use Fees, Interest Earnings, etc.
State Revenue	State aid including foundation aid, excess cost aid, categorical aids, transportation and building aid, high tax aid, etc.
Federal Revenue	Medicaid reimbursement, other
Appropriated One Time	Appropriated Fund Balance, Restricted Reserves

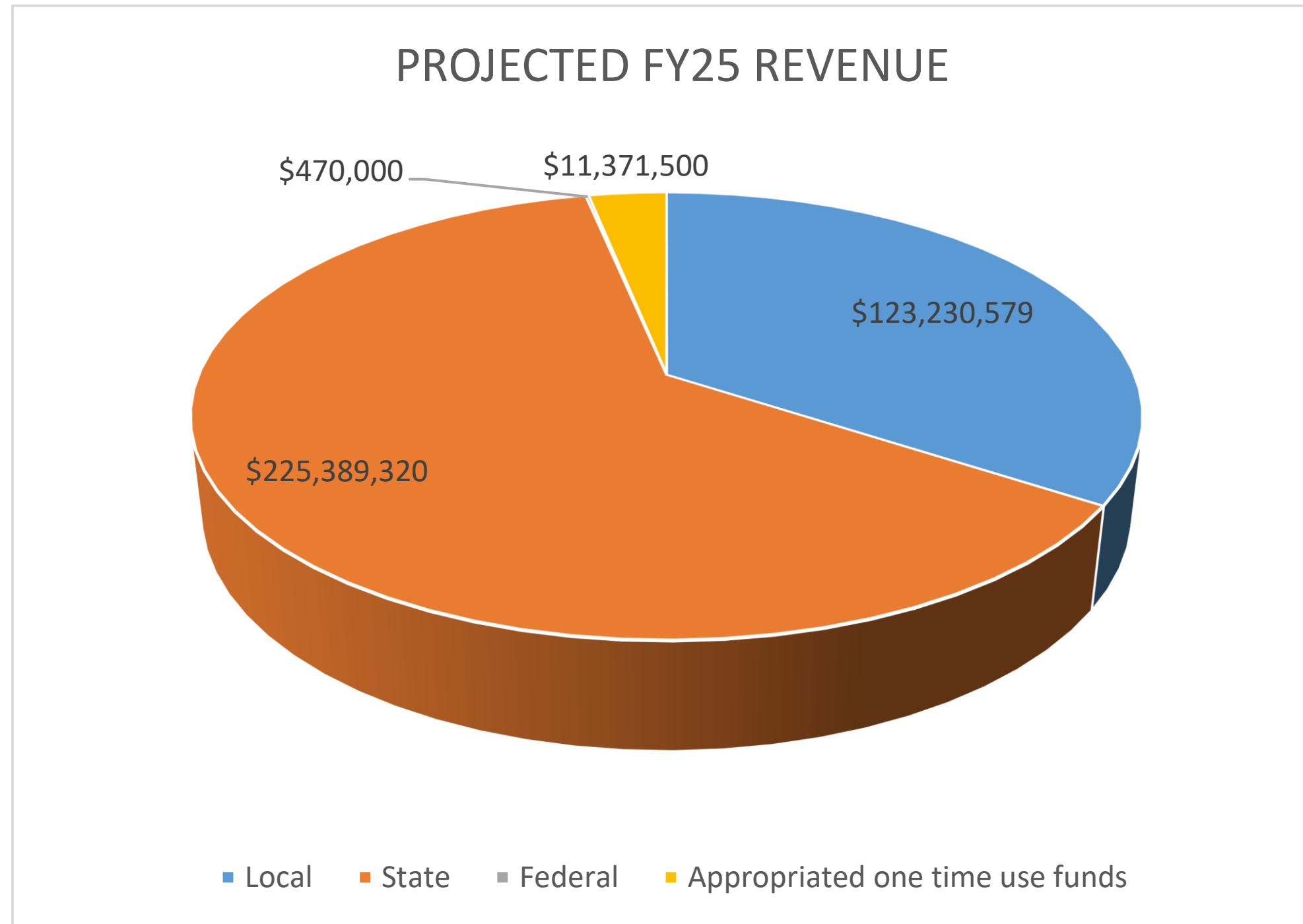


RESTRICTED RESERVES and FUND BALANCE PLANNED USE

		Planned Use	Planned Use	Planned Use	3 Yr Planned Use	Remaining	
Restricted Reserve/Unassigned Fund Balance	Amount	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	TOTAL	Balance	NOTES
Workers' Compensation Reserve	\$ 9,601,637	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 500,000	\$ 500,000	\$ 2,000,000	\$ 7,601,637	The district has a \$1.1M deductible for each case, so a reserve needs to be maintained to cover these expenses.
Unemployment Insurance Reserve	\$ 1,022,087	\$ 500,000	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000	\$ 700,000	\$ 322,087	Can only be used to cover actual expenses
Reserve for Employees Retirement Contribution	\$ 2,686,514	\$ 600,000	\$ 500,000	\$ 500,000	\$ 1,600,000	\$ 1,086,514	Use could be increased to balance budget
Reserve for Teachers Retirement Contribution	\$ 4,427,851	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 3,000,000	\$ 1,427,851	Use could be increased to balance budget
Reserve for Employee Post Employment Benefits	\$ 2,746,369	\$ 400,000	\$ 400,000	\$ 400,000	\$ 1,200,000	\$ 1,546,369	Can only be used to cover actual expenses
Unassigned Fund Balance	\$ 13,417,753	\$ 7,871,500	\$ 3,000,000	\$ 2,000,000	\$ 12,871,500	\$ 546,253	
TOTAL	\$ 33,902,211	\$ 11,371,500	\$ 5,500,000	\$ 4,500,000	\$ 21,371,500	\$ 12,530,711	



PROPOSED REVENUE FY25 - \$360.4M



In 2016, NYS changed the STAR exemption program from a credit on a taxpayers individual bill to a payment directly from NYS to the home owner; this results in a continuing decrease in the district's STAR revenue as new home owners are placed into direct payment





PROPOSED REVENUE FOR FY25 – by Code

Description	Revenue 2023-24	Proposed Revenue 2024-25	Change
Real Property Taxes	\$ 101,987,520	\$ 108,182,520	\$ 6,195,000
Other Pmts in Lieu of Tax	\$ 2,333,115	\$ 2,394,914	\$ 61,799
STAR Reimbursement	\$ 8,876,876	\$ 6,907,145	\$ (1,969,731)
Int. & Penal. on Real Pro	\$ 170,000	\$ 150,000	\$ (20,000)
Consumer Utility Tax	\$ 2,150,000	\$ 1,900,000	\$ (250,000)
Other Day School Tuition	\$ 10,000	\$ 6,000	\$ (4,000)
Admissions Fees	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ -
Other Charges-Services	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000	\$ -
Health Srvcs from Oth Dist	\$ 10,000	\$ -	\$ (10,000)
Interest and Earnings	\$ 400,000	\$ 2,500,000	\$ 2,100,000
Rental of Real Property	\$ 27,000	\$ 15,000	\$ (12,000)
Insurance Recoveries	\$ 180,000	\$ 140,000	\$ (40,000)
Refund PY Exp-BOCES Aided	\$ 760,000	\$ 10,000	\$ (750,000)
E-Rate Reimbursement	\$ 300,000	\$ 400,000	\$ 100,000
Other Unclassified Rev.(Spec)	\$ 200,000	\$ 200,000	\$ -
Interfund Revenues	\$ 400,000	\$ 400,000	\$ -
Basic Formula Aid-Gen Aid	\$ 159,165,189	\$ 162,664,901	\$ 3,499,712
Contract for Excellence	\$ 13,569,384	\$ 13,569,384	\$ -
Community Schools Set Aside	\$ 837,244	\$ 837,244	\$ -
Excess Cost Aid	\$ 3,256,792	\$ 4,696,624	\$ 1,439,832
Private Excess Cost Aid	\$ 4,456,811	\$ 4,678,323	\$ 221,512
BOCES Special Svcs Aid	\$ 7,134,621	\$ 11,141,513	\$ 4,006,892
Transportation Aid	\$ 13,267,072	\$ 15,729,578	\$ 2,462,506
Building Aid	\$ 6,922,708	\$ 7,372,393	\$ 449,685
High Tax Aid	\$ 3,600,531	\$ 3,600,531	\$ -
Textbook Aid	\$ 657,643	\$ 656,245	\$ (1,398)
Computer Software Aid	\$ 168,180	\$ 168,151	\$ (29)
Hardware Aid	\$ 208,389	\$ 204,277	\$ (4,112)
Library A/V Loan Program	\$ 70,169	\$ 70,156	\$ (13)
Other Federal Aid	\$ 40,000	\$ 20,000	\$ (20,000)
Medicaid Asst School Age	\$ 200,000	\$ 450,000	\$ 250,000
Appropriated Reserves	\$ 1,300,000	\$ 3,500,000	\$ 2,200,000
Appropriated Fund Balance	\$ 2,759,572	\$ 7,871,500	\$ 5,111,928
TOTAL	\$ 335,443,816	\$ 360,461,399	\$ 25,017,583

- Tax Levy increase for FY25 of 3.8%
- Increase in Foundation Aid of \$3.49M
- Increase in BOCES Special Services and Transportation Aid
- Increase use of restricted reserves and appropriated fund balance (one-time funds)





BUDGET Adjustments – Non Personnel

BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS	AMOUNT
Software Licenses Discontinued	\$ (90,000)
BOCES	\$ (210,000)
Erate local share	\$ (50,000)
Supplies/Travel/Contract Services	\$ (446,500)
TOTAL	\$ (796,500)



BUDGET Adjustments – Staffing by Bargaining Unit

Bargaining Unit	# FTE Currently	# FTE Reduced	% of Total Unit FTE	Notes
CSEA	416	-14.5	-3.49%	GENERAL FUND ONLY - does not include School Lunch, Special Aid or Library Funds
MC	19	-1	-5.26%	GENERAL FUND ONLY - does not include Library or School Lunch Fund; NET Reduction
NSAA	69	-4	-5.80%	*2 AP were grant funded (2 retirements); 2 Directors (1 interim); 1 Supervisor (vacant); <i>added Director of World Languages</i>
NTA	1108.5	-62	-5.59%	
NTA TA	189	-16	-8.47%	Reduced 16 first grade (12 retirements), <i>added 4 SPED for new classes</i>
TOTAL	1801.5	-97.5		

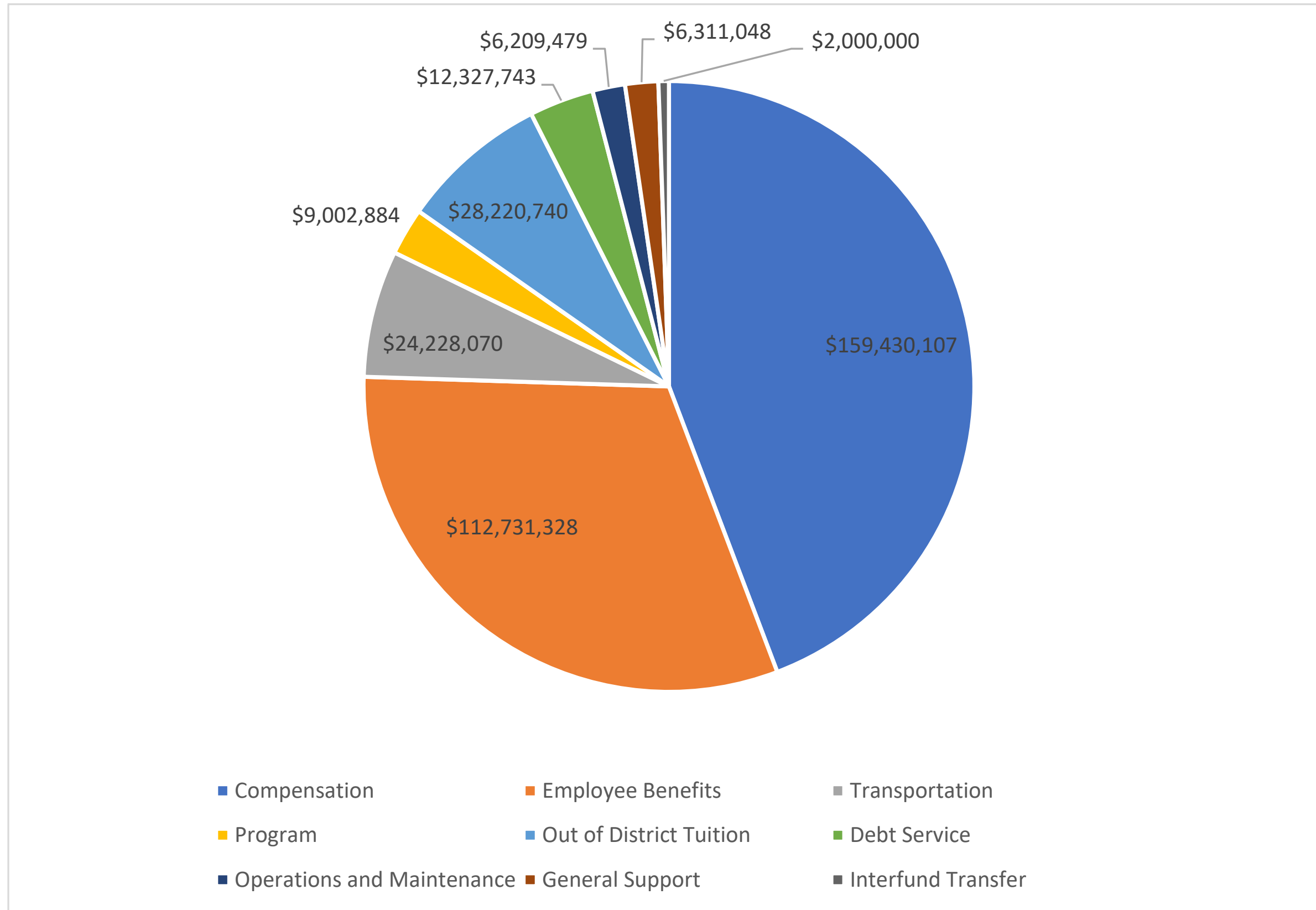
Includes:

- reduction of 97.5 positions mostly via retirement/attrition and vacancies
- Restored Director of Elementary, 2 Music and 1 Art Teachers
- CABINET has 2 retirements and 1 resignation for FY25; net reduction of 1 including the consolidation of C&I into one Associate Superintendent position





PROPOSED BUDGET FY25 – by Category





PROPOSED BUDGET FY25 – by Category

Expense Category	FY25 Budget Amount	NOTES
Compensation	\$ 159,430,107	Base salary, additional time, stipends, etc.
Employee Benefits	\$ 112,731,328	Health Insurance, Retirement System Contributions, Unemployment, Workers Comp, etc.
Transportation	\$ 24,228,070	Contract Transportation, Field Trips, etc.; Reduce Non-Public mileage limit to 15 miles per regulation
Program	\$ 9,002,884	Instructional Materials and Contract Services, Security and SEL supplies, etc.
Out of District Tuition	\$ 28,220,740	BOCES, Private Placement, Charter and Foster
Debt Service	\$ 12,327,743	Bonds and BANS (short term borrowing for construction in progress)
Operations and Maintenance	\$ 6,209,479	Equipment, Supplies, Contract Services, Utilities
General Support	\$ 6,311,048	Legal, Judgments, Board of Ed, Superintendent, Human Resources, Finance, Audit, Insurance, Data Team, Communications, Print Shop and Mailing
Interfund Transfer	\$ 2,000,000	District's share of special aid expenses
TOTAL	\$ 360,461,399	



NEXT STEPS

- Annual Vote is May 21, 2024, Polls open Noon to 9pm



QUESTIONS

EVERY
GOLDBACK
every day



Virtual Town Hall – Questions Submitted in Advance

- Throughout the budget development process, we have provided specific information around the district's finances, use of reserves, state aid, programs offered, expense reductions
- The district provided an opportunity for the community to submit questions in advance of today's Town Hall on the Proposed FY25 budget
- We received questions for community members, students, and faculty/staff
- Responses to questions related to FY25 budget are incorporated into this presentation



QUESTIONS – FINANCE

1. In reviewing the budget there is a line item for Uniforms-Custodian for \$30,000..... all custodians I have observed in this district wear “street” clothes.... Consisting mostly of jeans and a plain short sleeve shirt. Where is this \$30,000 going? *The collective bargaining agreement ratified by the membership and approved by the Board of Education in January 2024 requires the district to provide uniforms for all custodial staff in FY25.*



QUESTIONS – Human Resources

1. why are you creating more central office positions? *We are optimizing our resources by streamlining district office positions to enhance efficiency and focus more on direct support for our schools and students. The district reduced five administrative positions for FY25 from school and Central Office.*
2. The Superintendent says that there are many costs in the budget that are mandatory. That is true for some but the board / district negotiates contracts with employees. These costs are needed but also negotiable. What has the district done to decrease the ever rise in employee payroll and benefits? *The district has conducted a comprehensive review of its administrative processes to identify areas where efficiencies can be gained. Once a Union Contract has been ratified by the membership and approved by the BOE those are mandatory expenses per law. Negotiations are led with district legal counsel. Settled contracts must be competitive for the district to recruit and retain highly qualified staff. Proposals are benchmarked against local districts. We recognize the need to contain the annual growth of benefits expense and will be working with our partners.*



QUESTIONS – CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION

1. Each year taxpayers are told the budget increases to maintain services and programs. What evidence is there that after 20 plus years of budget increases that our scholars ELA and math proficiency has increased proportionally? *This is the first proposed taxpayer increase requested in nine years. The district has seen growth year over year for its scholars however, this does not always equate to state measured proficiency. Literacy is the foundation to many academic areas and is a priority for FY25 budget cycle.*
2. The district does have an obligation to provide each scholar with the means to achieve the 21 credits needed to graduate. How much is the district spending to provided elective credits well beyond that 21 credits required? Is the district legally obligated to provide these extra courses? Is each elective well attended with 20+ students enrolled all year? *Graduation requirements are set by NYS. Each student must be provided pathways to obtain 22 credit across various content areas. Electives are a part of the development of pathways for graduation.*
3. It appears that many students taking AP courses are either not completing the course or failing to score a minimum of 3. How does the administration and board justify the cost to taxpayers when other more relevant programs and services are needed to assist more students to achieve minimum proficiency? *The issue you're raising is certainly complex and warrants careful consideration. Our goal is to provide access to all of our academic offerings and supports. We want to ensure that all students have the ability to be successful, be it a Regents class, an CTE class, or an AP course offering. We are continuing to realign resources to best support all of our scholars.*



QUESTIONS – CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION

4. I had submitted this question last week, but it was not answered in Monday's town hall, so I will ask it again with a bit more detail. The law, passed by the state legislature in 2022 for NYC, requires that kindergarten to third grade classrooms have 20 or fewer students, fourth to eighth grade classes have no more than 23 students, and high schools classes have 25 or fewer. As a school district with a similar demographic, we have many first grade classrooms with 26-27 first grade students in them, but the budget is removing Teaching Assistants from all first grade classrooms. Removing this additional staff member will limit the amount of small group instruction possible. Will we see a decrease in class sizes to reflect this change? Will Newburgh be following suit with NYC to reduce class sizes moving forward, especially if Literacy in the primary grades is a main focus for this budget? *The law that was passed is specific to New York City schools. Class sizes will continue to remain in compliance with the NTA negotiated agreement.*
5. How does the cuts in budget affect classroom sizes in Main campus since I saw that 6 teachers are getting let go. Wondering which schools the teachers are coming from and how will this be dealt with so that it doesn't impact student learning? *Class sizes will be consistent with limits established in the teacher's contract. The district is utilizing academic planner and other tools to support a more efficient master scheduling process.*
6. why are we spending on yonder pouches? *The cost of the Yondr pouches is not a general fund expense. We have utilized grant funding to support this initiative.*