

BUDGET Q&A

Q: Who creates the school budget?

A: School administrators develop a budget in coordination with the Budget Review and Advisory Committee, the Board of Education and members of the community.

Q: Is the property tax cap really 2 percent?

A: No. Each school district is required to calculate their unique property tax cap using an 8-step formula provided by New York State. Some school districts will have a tax cap higher than two percent and others will have a tax cap lower than two percent dependent upon the values of all 8 factors in their school calculation. The only factor in the entire calculation relating to 2 percent is the inflationary factor, which is the lesser of 2 percent or the Consumer Price Index. The tax cap for the East Greenbush CSD in 2025-26 is 3.19%.

Q: What happens if the budget is defeated?

A: If the proposed budget is defeated on May 20, 2025, the Board of Education will have three choices:

1. Submit the same budget to the voters on June 17, 2025
2. Submit a revised budget to the voters on June 17, 2025
3. Adopt a contingent budget for 2025-26 in accordance with State regulations

Based on the proposed budget as of April 22, 2025, a contingent budget would result in a reduction of approximately \$2,831,488 in appropriations. These reductions could include additional cuts to teaching staff, support staff, academic programs such as pre-k, student services, equipment, contractual expenses and supplies.

BUDGET VOTE INFORMATION

TUESDAY, MAY 20, 2025

7 a.m. - 9 p.m.

POLLING PLACES:

- Donald P. Sutherland Elementary School
- Green Meadow Elementary School
- Howard L. Goff Middle School
- Bell Top Elementary School



Scan QR Code
for polling place

WHAT'S ON THE BALLOT?

- **Proposition 1:** School Budget of \$115,153,000
- **Proposition 2:** Replace 8 Buses from Bus Purchase Reserve Fund (Gas/Diesel)
- **Proposition 3:** Replace 2 Buses from Bus Purchase Reserve Fund (EV)
- **Proposition 4:** Re-Establish Bus Purchase Reserve Fund
- **Election of Four Board of Education Members** (*listed in ballot order*)
 - Emily Steinbach
 - Rob Panasci
 - Robert Shane
 - Rob Marchiony
 - Cyndi Herron

BUDGET VOTE & BOARD ELECTION INFORMATION

EAST GREENBUSH CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT



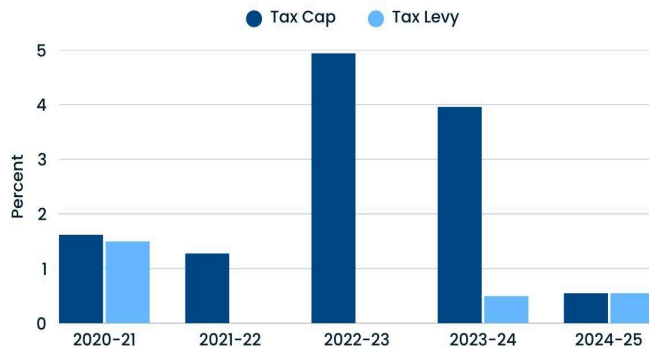
School and Community Working Together

www.egcsd.org/budget

SCHOOL BUDGET

The East Greenbush Central School District has proposed a school budget for 2025-26 that closes a \$6.5 million budget gap and maintains all current regular school year programs.

The proposed budget, totaling \$115,153,000, preserves academic and extracurricular programs for students but also includes staffing reductions, use of fund reserves, and a tax levy increase of 4.8% to close the projected budget gap. The proposed tax levy increase is 1.61% above the tax cap, thus requiring approval of 60% of the voters. The district has averaged a 0.51% tax levy increase over the past five years, which is one of the lowest among school districts in the Capital Region.



“We need to preserve the excellence we have provided our students and our community during the last several years,” said Superintendent Jeff Simons. “Our expenses in areas such as employee benefits have increased beyond available revenues. Thus, we are asking the community to consider the low tax levy increases we have been able to offer taxpayers in recent years and to provide us with additional support next year so that we can preserve programs and services for our students.”

SCHOOL BUS PROPOSITIONS

Proposition 2: Bus Purchase from Reserve Fund (Gas/Diesel)

Voters will decide on the replacement of eight school buses, which will be fully paid for by the Bus Purchase Reserve Fund with no impact to taxpayers. If approved, the buses purchased from Proposition 2 would be gas/diesel powered buses. The district would be reimbursed for 66.8% of the total purchase.

Proposition 3: Bus Purchase from Reserve Fund (EV)

Voters will decide on the replacement of two school buses, which will be fully paid for by the Bus Purchase Reserve Fund with no impact to taxpayers. If approved, the buses purchased from Proposition 3 would be electric powered buses. The district would be reimbursed for 90-100% of the total purchase.

Proposition 4: Re-Establish Bus Purchase Reserve Fund

The new bus purchase reserve fund would replace the current fund, which was authorized by voters in 2018, but needs to be replaced because it has reached its deposit limit of \$5 million. The existing reserve's remaining balance will be transferred to the new reserve, which will have a 15-year term and a deposit limit of \$10 million. It would be created at no cost and allows the district to save money for the sole purpose of purchasing buses. The benefits of having a bus purchase reserve fund can be seen above, where up to 10 school buses could be purchased with no impact to taxpayers.

BOARD OF EDUCATION CANDIDATES

There are four open seats for the Board of Education. The following candidates filed nominations:



Emily Steinbach



Rob Panasci



Robert Shane



Rob Marchiony



Cyndi Herron

Residents are invited to a Meet the Candidates Night on Wednesday, May 14 at 7:00 p.m. in the Goff Middle School cafeteria.

Each of the five candidates will discuss their qualifications and answer questions. The event will be hosted by the League of Women Voters.

Learn more about the board candidates at www.egcsd.org/2025boardcandidates