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VOTE

May 20, 2025
12:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Walter B. Howard
Elementary School Gymnasium

2025–2026 BUDGET SUMMARY

Proposed Budget:
\$15,967,594

Tax Levy Increase: 15%

School Board Election

Voters will be asked to select four candidates for the Board of Education. Three three-year seats are open, and one one-year seat. John Kalisz and Robert Long are running for reelection. Racheal Chubb has submitted her candidacy. You can also vote for write-in candidates. They are non-paid terms.

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Check out the budget section on our website:
<https://www.newlebanoncsd.org/>



2025-2026 SCHOOL BUDGET:

Our District Urges the Community to Get Out and Vote

Serving the New Lebanon Central School District as superintendent has been an honor in such a special place with special people. Throughout the year, I have been continually impressed by the energy, talent, and spirit of our students and staff. Our music department has had incredible performances during their concerts. We have enjoyed meeting community members at the dinners hosted by our Just Food Club and celebrated our outstanding students during Tiger Jams. I had the privilege of seeing off the Travel Club as they departed for their exciting trip to Italy and much more.

The Board of Education and the district have worked very hard on the financial plan for the upcoming school year. We aimed to develop a budget driven by our Five-Year Plan that addresses all our students' needs. The school budget is the community's biggest investment with its tax dollars. District leaders and Board of Education members worked tirelessly to make the most effective use of resources to benefit our students and manage the budget responsibly and transparently. Our budgeting process focuses on the needs of students and how to sustain those programs over time financially.

Several factors have contributed to the proposed budget increase. Health insurance rates are expected to rise by 11%. Property and casualty insurance premiums are projected to increase by 18%. The district is also seeing a significant increase in special education needs, with a 36% rise in the special education budget to cover additional outside placements, an additional self-contained classroom, and two new teachers. After holding taxes flat from 2012–2020, the district is now thoughtfully planning to recover lost revenue over time to ensure long-term stability and continued support for student programs and services.

We have worked through a detailed budget process for the past several months. We updated and reviewed our long-range financial plans with the district's financial planners in November and December. In January and February, the Board of Education meetings reviewed proposed budgets for facilities, food service, instructional programs, transportation, and special education. In March and April, we discussed the governor's proposed budget, reviewed our tax levy limit calculation, examined our five-year budget forecast, and evaluated major expenses such as health insurance and BOCES services. In May, the Board of Education adopted the final budget, documents were made available for public review, a voter registration day was held, and we hosted our annual public budget hearing.

The budget vote and Board of Education election will be held on **Tuesday, May 20, 2025**. Polling hours are from 12:00 PM to 8:00 PM at the Walter B. Howard Elementary School Gymnasium.

If the proposed budget is not approved, the district will be forced to consider reductions, including cuts to non-mandated instructional positions, sports, after-school clubs, and district-wide field trips. These cuts would take away opportunities that our students count on.

Together, we will continue to provide the best opportunities for our students. On behalf of the Board of Education, our students, faculty, and staff, thank you for supporting the New Lebanon Central School District as we strive to move our district forward.

Sincerely,
Christopher M. Harper
Interim Superintendent

2025–26 New Lebanon CSD Budget

BUDGET SUMMARY

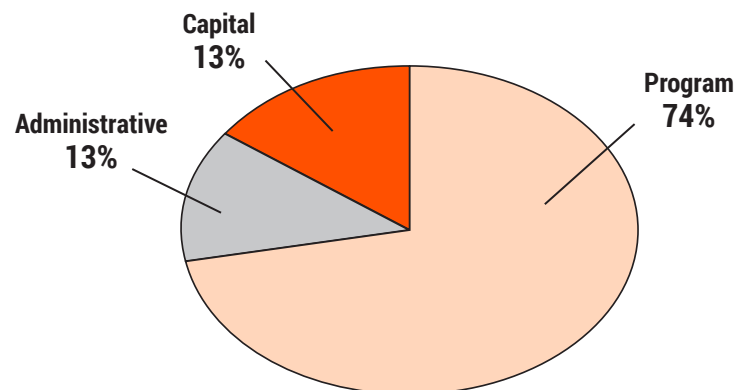
Category	2024-25	Proposed Budget 2025-26	Change from 2024-25
Special Education	\$1,384,321	\$1,886,218	\$501,897
Instruction	\$4,901,426	\$5,095,454	\$194,028
Retiree & Employee Benefits	\$4,329,882	\$4,712,337	\$382,455
Information Technology	\$195,581	\$187,979	-\$7,602
General Support	\$884,877	\$943,069	\$58,192
Operations and Maintenance	\$926,943	\$990,077	\$63,134
Co-Curricular and Athletics	\$155,400	\$155,400	\$0
Transportation	\$761,629	\$841,574	\$79,945
Debt Service	\$1,127,015	\$1,125,486	-\$1,529
Interfund Transfers	\$40,000	\$30,000	-\$10,000
Total Expenditures	\$14,707,074	\$15,967,594	\$1,260,520

REVENUE SUMMARY

Category	2024-25	Proposed Budget 2025-26	Change from 2024-25
Non Tax Revenue	\$258,000	\$309,000	\$51,000
State Aid	\$3,880,675	\$3,897,515	\$16,840
Tax Levy	\$9,846,484	\$11,323,454	\$1,476,970
Fund Balance	\$404,915	\$350,000	-\$54,915
ERS Reserve	\$157,000	\$37,625	-\$119,375
Debt Service Fund	\$160,000	\$50,000	-\$110,000
Total Revenues	\$14,707,074	\$15,967,594	\$1,260,520

3 PART BUDGET

Component	Amount	Percentage
Program	\$11,862,577	74%
Administrative	\$1,997,954	13%
Capital	\$2,107,063	13%
Total	\$15,967,594	100%



NEW LEBANON CSD BUDGET NOTICE

Overall Budget Proposal	Budget Adopted for the 2024-25 School Year	Budget Proposed for the 2025-26 School Year	Contingency Budget for the 2025-26 School Year *
Total Budgeted Amount, Not Including Separate Propositions	\$ 14,707,074	\$15,967,594	\$14,590,624
Increase/Decrease for the 2025-26 School Year		\$1,260,520	-\$116,450
Percentage Increase/Decrease in Proposed Budget		8.57 %	-.79%
Change in the Consumer Price Index		2.95%	
A. Proposed Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount	\$9,846,483	\$11,323,454	
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)	\$9,846,483	\$11,323,454	\$9,846,483
F. Total Permissible Exclusions	\$268,811	\$504,434	
G. School Tax Levy Limit, <u>Excluding</u> Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$8,761,913	\$9,843,250	
H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, <u>Excluding</u> Levy to Support Library Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions (E – B – F + D)	\$9,577,672	\$10,819,020	
I. Difference: G – H (Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval – See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions) **	-\$815,759	-\$975,770	
Administrative Component	\$1,915,308	\$1,997,954	\$1,361,344
Program Component	\$10,746,308	\$11,862,577	\$11,134,217
Capital Component	\$2,045,458	\$2,107,063	\$2,095,063
<p>x Provide a statement of assumptions made in projecting a contingency budget for the 2025-26 school year, should the proposed budget be defeated pursuant to Section 2023 of the Education Law.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> x Public use of building by outside groups and organizations regardless of affiliation must be charged a fee to cover ALL expenses related to usage. This includes the pool, playing fields, and other usage of building space. x Non-essential maintenance cannot be performed inside or outside of the facilities, as well as on the grounds. x Equipment purchases cannot be made, including athletic equipment/uniforms, buildings & grounds purchases, and classroom related equipment. x Field trips not part of the instructional program cannot be provided unless self-funded. x Student supplies cannot be purchased. x Teachers that use the facilities for programs of entertainment or for a social nature cannot be permitted unless self-funded. 			
	Under the Budget Proposed for the 2025-26 School Year		
Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings	\$		
Town of Canaan	\$373		
Town of Chatham	\$377		
Town of Nassau	\$306		
Town of New Lebanon	\$373		
Town of Stephentown	\$313		

The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2025-26 by the qualified voters of the New Lebanon Central school district, Columbia County, New York, will be held at Walter B Howard school in said district on Tuesday, May 20, 2025 between the hours of 12:00 pm and 8:00pm, prevailing time in the Elementary school, 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.



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William Buckenroth
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John Kalisz, *Vice President*
Robert Long
Sharon Powers
Sharon Putnam

*The Board of Education meets once a month at
7:00 p.m. Please visit our website for specific dates.*
www.newlebanoncsd.org/district/boe

INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT
Christopher Harper

Produced by Questar III Communications Service

POSTAL PATRON

BUDGET VOTE & BOARD ELECTION

May 20, 2025
12:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Walter B. Howard Elementary
School Gymnasium

Estimated Tax Payer Impact with Proposed 15% Increase (2025-2026)

Home Value	<u>SENIOR/STAR</u> \$81,400 Equalized Value Exemption <u>Income Restrictions*</u>		<u>WITH STAR</u> \$30,000 Equalized Value Exemption <u>Primary Residence</u>		<u>NO STAR</u> <u>Non-Primary Residence</u>	
	Annual	Monthly	Annual	Monthly	Annual	Monthly
\$220,000	\$ 193	\$ 16.08	\$ 264	\$ 22.00	\$ 306	\$ 25.50
270,000	262	21.83	334	27.83	375	31.25
320,000	332	27.67	403	33.58	445	37.08
370,000	401	33.42	473	39.42	515	42.92
420,000	471	39.25	542	45.17	584	48.67

Bus Purchase Proposition

A proposition to bond new school buses is on the ballot. Bonding lets the district spread costs over time and get state aid to lower the impact on local taxpayers.

Voting Information

Voter Eligibility: You are eligible to vote if you are a U.S. citizen, 18 years of age or older and a resident of the school district for at least 30 days prior to the vote.