

**MAY 2025  
SPECIAL BUDGET  
EDITION**

**Don't forget  
to *Vote!*  
Annual Budget Vote  
& Board Election  
TUESDAY, MAY 20  
Polls open from 2:30-9 p.m.  
Voorheesville Middle  
School Foyer  
MORE INFO AT  
VOORHEESVILLE.ORG**



**Budget at a Glance...**

**BUDGET TOTAL:**

• **\$34,525,250**

**SPENDING INCREASE:**

• **\$42,884 / 0.12%**

**TAX LEVY INCREASE:**

• **\$22,253,153 / 5.97%**

**ALSO ON THE BALLOT:**

- Proposition to purchase two school buses.
- Creation of a reserve fund dedicated to future purchase of school buses, vehicles and transportation-related equipment.
- Election of two Board of Education members.

# Voorheesville

CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

## Voters to consider \$34,525,250 budget proposal

Voorheesville Central School District residents will head to the polls on Tuesday, May 20, to vote on a proposed \$34,525,250 budget for the 2025-26 school year. The proposed budget would preserve all current academic programs, staffing and funds for needed maintenance projects throughout our schools.

This budget represents an increase in spending of \$42,884 or 0.12% over the current year and carries a tax levy increase of 5.97%, which does not exceed the state-calculated limit. As a result, a simple majority vote (50% plus one vote) is needed for approval.

The VCSD Board of Education and administration have worked together to formulate a spending plan that continues our focus on improving academic growth and achievement, while being respectful of community residents in these challenging economic times. To this end, the budget proposal includes the use of \$1.8M in reserve funds/dedicated savings to minimize the impact on taxpayers.

An amount of \$1,020,787 is included in the budget proposal to cover debt repayment related to the 2022 capital improvement project. Absent this one-time event, the tax levy increase would be 3.47%.

The VCSD Board of Education approved the proposed budget on April 7, 2025.

The school budget vote will be held on May 20, from 2:30-9 p.m. in the Middle School Foyer. At that time, district residents will also vote to fill two open seats on the school board.

### Maintaining programs, supporting safe and secure schools

The budget proposal would allow VCSD to maintain class sizes and continue all current programs and services, including, but not limited to:

- College and career-ready coursework, such as distance learning, advanced placement and BOCES Career & Technical Education.
- Special education.
- Social emotional initiatives.
- Extracurriculars, clubs and activities.

Along with funding for our educational program and to ensure the safety and security of our campus, the proposal includes the addition of a part-time social worker to address increased student needs.



The VCSD partnership with BOCES Career & Technical Education is one of many opportunities we offer our high schoolers to develop their unique interests, skills and talents. This year, 18 of our students are acquiring skills for careers in construction, criminal justice, healthcare and more.

### Educating the whole learner

Ensuring each of our students have the skills and habits for success—now and once they leave our schools—remains a priority at VCSD. We know a well-prepared learner is a well-rounded individual.

To that end, we continue to emphasize learning that lays both a solid foundation of essential skills *and* helps expand students' interests and aspirations. Examples from our schools include:

**Building readers and writers.** The Wonders program at Voorheesville Elementary School is helping our students become proficient at reading and writing—essential ways we take in information and express ourselves and our ideas. This program, which emphasizes literacy basics such as phonics and authentic reading practice, aligns with the state's emphasis on literacy learning for all. In just its second year, we are already seeing an overall increase in our students' proficiency as reflected by their state ELA assessments.

**Exploring their futures.** From our career cafes, which bring students into conversation with area business and organizations, and college fairs to hands-on learning such as job shadowing and BOCES Career & Technical Education, we help our high schoolers imagine their futures with opportunities to dig into their unique interests and learn about jobs and careers they may want to pursue.

**Civic-minded scholars.** Many students join service clubs and pursue the NYS Seal of Civic Readiness, and all graduating seniors perform 15-hours of community service. Each activity helps students grow as leaders and form community connections.



voorheesville.org



instagram.com/voorheesvillecsd



facebook.com/VoorheesvilleCentralSchools



## Voorheesville Expense and Revenue Budget Breakdown

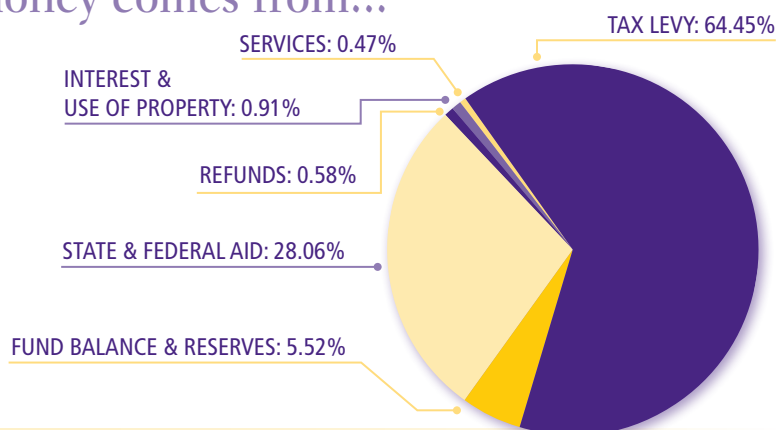
### What happens if the budget is defeated?

If the budget is defeated, the school board has three options: present the same budget for another vote; submit a revised budget for a vote; or adopt a contingent budget.

If the budget is defeated a second time, the board must, by law, adopt a contingent budget.

Under the tax levy cap law, if a district adopts a contingent budget, it cannot increase its tax levy from that of the prior year by any amount, which would trigger a zero percent tax levy increase. That would mean the district would be required to cut approximately \$658,936 from the proposed budget, be subject to various limits and controls on how the money within the contingent budget would be spent and be required to charge fees for public use of school buildings and grounds.

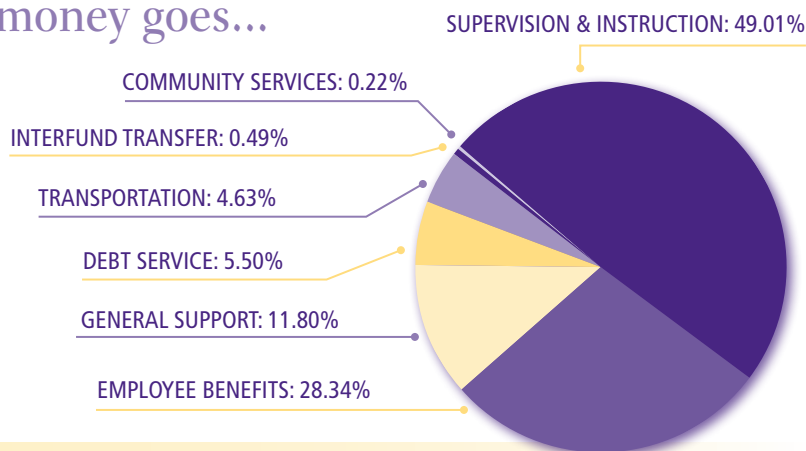
### Where the money comes from...



### Estimated Revenues \*Percentages may not add up to 100% due to rounding.

	2024-25 BUDGET	PROPOSED 2025-26	% OF TOTAL
Tax Levy	\$21,000,114	\$22,253,153	64.45%
Services	\$126,000	\$162,400	0.47%
Interest & Use of Property	\$268,500	\$314,085	0.91%
Refunds	\$170,000	\$200,000	0.58%
State & Federal Aid	\$9,055,693	\$9,688,156	28.06%
Fund Balance & Reserves	\$3,862,059	\$1,907,456	5.52%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$34,482,366</b>	<b>\$34,525,250</b>	

### Where the money goes...



### Proposed Expenses \*Percentages may not add up to 100% due to rounding.

	2024-25 BUDGET	PROPOSED 2025-26	% OF TOTAL
General Support	\$3,723,714	\$4,072,677	11.80%
Supervision & Instruction	\$16,353,735	\$16,921,370	49.01%
Transportation	\$1,385,901	\$1,599,736	4.63%
Community Services	\$77,349	\$77,349	0.22%
Employee Benefits	\$8,893,407	\$9,785,071	28.34%
Debt Service	\$878,260	\$1,899,047	5.50%
Interfund Transfer	\$3,170,000	\$170,000	0.49%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$34,482,366</b>	<b>\$34,525,250</b>	



### Social and emotional growth

At each building, students are regularly engaged in activities to strengthen their social and emotional awareness and health. The district's BIRDS motto (Be Inclusive, Responsible, Determined, Strong) helps to reinforce a positive learning environment where all can grow and succeed. Scan QR code to learn more about BIRDS. →





## Voorheesville Central School District Budget Notice

### BUS PROPOSAL

Voters will also consider a proposition to purchase two 72-passenger diesel school buses as part of its regular replacement of its transportation fleet at a cost of \$371,000. State aid would fund approximately \$201,528 or 64.8% and \$169,472 or 35.2% would come from the local share, which would be paid over a five-year period.

### BUS PURCHASE RESERVE FUND

Voters will also consider a proposition to create a reserve fund dedicated to the future purchase of school buses, vehicles and transportation-related equipment.

### BOARD OF EDUCATION VOTE

Additionally, voters will elect two candidates, each for a four-year term that begins July 1.

### Candidates appearing on the ballot:

- Robert Samson
- Barbara Owens

See [voorheesville.org](http://voorheesville.org) for information about our Board of Education and additional candidate information.

## 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	\$34,482,366	\$34,525,250	\$33,823,430
Increase/Decrease for the 2025-26 School Year		\$42,884	(\$658,936)
Percentage Increase/Decrease in Proposed Budget		0.12%	(1.9%)
Change in the Consumer Price Index		2.95%	
A. Proposed Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount	\$21,000,114	\$22,253,153	
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	
<b>E. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy (A + B + C - D)</b>	<b>\$21,000,114</b>	<b>\$22,253,153</b>	<b>\$21,000,114</b>
F. Total Permissible Exclusions	\$207,137	\$665,974	
G. School Tax Levy Limit, Excluding Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$20,792,977	\$21,587,179	
H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, Excluding Levy to Support Library Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions (E - B - F + D)	\$20,792,977	\$21,587,179	
I. Difference: G - H (Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval - See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions) **	\$0	\$0	
Administrative Component	\$3,280,935	\$3,770,547	\$3,472,547
Program Component	\$23,990,829	\$25,725,548	\$25,401,728
Capital Component	\$7,210,602	\$5,029,155	\$4,949,155

\*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.  
Should the proposed budget be defeated pursuant to Section 2023 of the Education Law, a contingency budget for 2025-26 requires that the tax levy increase by 0.00%. Therefore, a budget gap of \$780,936 would need to be addressed to reach the contingency level.

\*\* 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)

Description	Amount
Purchase of two (2) school buses	\$371,000

### Under the Budget Proposed for the 2025-26 School Year

Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings<sup>1</sup>

\$475

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

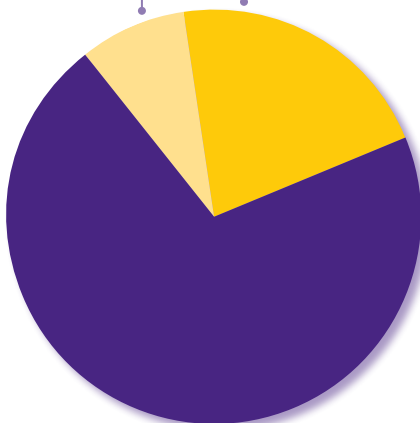
The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2025-26 by the qualified voters of the Voorheesville Central School District, Albany County, New York, will be held at the foyer of the Voorheesville Middle School in said district on Tuesday, May 20, 2025, between the hours of 2:30 p.m. and 9 p.m., prevailing time in the Voorheesville Middle School, at which time the polls will be opened to vote by voting ballot or machine.



## Three-Part Budget Breakdown

ADMINISTRATIVE: 10.92%

CAPITAL: 14.57%



PROGRAM: 74.51%

ADMINISTRATIVE		2024-25	2025-26
Amount		\$3,280,935	\$3,770,547
% of total		9.51%	10.92%
PROGRAM		2024-25	2025-26
Amount		\$23,990,829	\$25,725,548
% of total		69.57%	74.51%
CAPITAL		2024-25	2025-26
Amount		\$7,210,602	\$5,029,155
% of total		20.91%	14.57%
TOTAL		\$34,482,366	\$34,525,250

**Administrative:** includes expenses for board of education, central administration, finance and legal services, personnel, public information, some plant operations, central services, special items, supervision of regular school and some employee benefits.

**Program:** includes expenses for curriculum

development, instructional program supplies, district transportation, athletic programs, community service, most employee benefits and transfers of funds.

**Capital:** includes most expenses for plant operations, all maintenance, debt service principal and interest on all building projects.





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## BOARD OF EDUCATION

Rachel Gilker, President  
Robert J. Samson, Vice President  
Matthew Bergeron, Trustee  
Kathy Fiero, Trustee  
Argi O'Leary, Trustee  
Barbara Owens, Trustee  
Robyn Willoughby, Trustee

## SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Frank Macri

\*\*\*\*ECRWSS\*\*\*\*

POSTAL CUSTOMER

**Don't forget  
to *Vote!***  
**Annual Budget Vote  
& Board Elections**  
**TUESDAY, MAY 20**  
Polls open from 2:30-9 p.m.  
Voorheesville Middle  
School Foyer

Produced in cooperation with the Capital Region BOCES Engagement & Development Services.



## Who can vote on May 20

### Community members who are U.S. citizens may vote in the school elections if they:

- Have been a resident of the district for at least 30 days and;
- Are at least 18 years old.

### ABSENTEE AND EARLY MAIL BALLOTS

Qualified voters can vote by absentee or early mail ballot.  
You must complete an application to receive a ballot.

- Applications for an absentee or early mail voter ballot must be received no later than May 13 at 3 p.m. if the ballot is to be sent to the voter by mail.
- Ballots MUST be returned by May 20, 2025, in order to be counted.
- Ballots and additional information are available at [voorheesville.org](http://voorheesville.org).  
For more information, contact District Clerk Jessica Tabakian at 518-765-3313 ext. 1101 or [jtabakian@voorheesville.org](mailto:jtabakian@voorheesville.org).



## VCSD is looking for great employees!

Teacher assistants, teacher aides, bus drivers, custodial and maintenance workers are essential to our school community. We offer free training and a supportive work environment.

For more information, visit our Employment page at [voorheesville.org](http://voorheesville.org) or contact Interim Business Official Lissa Jilek at 518-765-3313, ext. 1102.



### KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION IS OPEN

Kindergarten registration for the 2025-26 school year is now open for students who will be five years of age on or before Dec. 1, 2025. Registration packets are available at [voorheesville.org](http://voorheesville.org) or by contacting Joanne Murphy at 518-765-2382, ext. 4001 or [jmurphy@voorheesville.org](mailto:jmurphy@voorheesville.org).

