



The proposed budget is a 54% reduction in the taxpayer impact from the May proposal.

## Revised budget up for vote on June 16; tax impact reduced

On Tuesday, May 26, the Board of Education adopted a revised budget proposal of \$27.6 million for the 2026-27 school year.

Cambridge CSD residents will vote on the proposal on Tuesday, June 16 from 12-8 p.m. in the HS Gym. In addition to the budget, residents will also vote on propositions related to vehicle purchasing and the transportation capital reserve fund allocation.

The school tax levy, or total amount of money collected from local property owners, would increase by 5.5%. This increase exceeds the tax cap and requires a supermajority (60%) approval.

Tax rates for individual properties will be determined over the summer after equalization rates and assessments are available for the district's eight towns. Based on what we know from last year, our

best estimate of the proposed tax increase can be found below.

Assessed Value	Estimated Monthly Increase
\$150,000	\$8.57
\$200,000	\$11.43
\$250,000	\$14.29
\$300,000	\$17.15
\$350,000	\$20.00
\$400,000	\$22.86

### Proposal includes cuts and restructuring

The revised proposal includes a number of cuts to positions, including:

- K-12 Social Worker
- Educational Aides (2)
- Teaching Assistants (2)
- Cafeteria Worker (.5)
- Teaching Positions (5)

These positions will be cut through attrition and staff layoffs.

The district is restructuring two administrative positions using existing staff to achieve cost reductions. The Elementary Dean of Students position will be filled by a current teacher or teaching assistant. Additionally, the High School Associate Principal position will be replaced with a part-time High School Dean of Students, which will be filled by a current teacher or teaching assistant who will take on a reduced teaching load.

In addition, the number of Professional Support Providers will be reduced from 10 to 5 and the elementary Academic Intervention Service (AIS) structure will be reconfigured.

### Voters to decide on vehicle purchase proposition

Voters will also consider a proposition regarding school bus and van purchases.

The district is proposing to purchase four 70-passenger diesel buses (three new, one used) and one gasoline van. The proposition reflects a total cost of \$635,684, utilizing \$117,000 of the transportation capital reserve fund to offset the cost. On average, 80% of the cost would be reimbursed through transportation aid.

These proposed purchases are essential to maintaining a full, reliable diesel fleet. With three

leased buses scheduled for return at the end of this school year, failing to replace them would force the district to consolidate bus routes. This could result in the elimination of transportation for students living within one mile of the school. Furthermore, it would leave the district with just a single spare bus, severely restricting our ability to accommodate simultaneous field trips and athletic events.

In the event the vehicle proposition passes but the budget proposition is defeated, the district would not be able to move forward with these purchases.

### Voters to consider increasing the transportation capital reserve fund

Voters will also consider a proposition to increase the district's transportation capital reserve fund allocation. By increasing the allocation, the district can place any unspent money in this reserve to save for future bus purchases. This fund operates as a savings account for transportation vehicles and can

help offset the cost of purchases in future years.

The district plans to continue purchasing diesel school buses. The NYS EV bus mandate has been pushed back five years. In 2032, districts must start to purchase EV buses with a full fleet by 2040.

### BUDGET AT-A-GLANCE

Proposed Budget: \$27,624,277

Budget Increase: \$744,368

Tax Levy Increase: 5.5%

### Also on the ballot:

- ➔ Vehicle Purchase Proposition
- ➔ Transportation Capital Reserve Fund Allocation

For more information, visit <https://bit.ly/2627budget> or scan the QR code.



# 2026-27 SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET NOTICE

OVERALL BUDGET PROPOSAL	Budget Adopted for the 2025-26 School Year	Budget Proposed for the 2026-27 School Year	Contingency Budget for the 2026-27 School Year *
Total Budgeted Amount, Not Including Separate Propositions	\$26,879,909	\$27,624,277	\$26,897,955
Increase/Decrease for the 2026-27 School Year		\$744,368	\$726,322
Percentage Increase/Decrease in Proposed Budget		2.77%	2.74%
Change in the Consumer Price Index		2.63%	
A. Proposed Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount	\$10,140,860	\$10,698,607	
B. Levy to Support Library Debt, if Applicable	\$	\$	
C. Levy for Non-Excludable Propositions, if Applicable **	\$	\$	
D. Total Tax Cap Reserve Amount Used to Reduce Current Year Levy	\$	\$	
E. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy (A + B + C - D)	\$10,140,860	\$10,698,607	\$10,140,860
F. Total Permissible Exclusions	\$731,905	\$579,380	
G. School Tax Levy Limit, <u>Excluding</u> Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$9,408,955	\$9,659,151	
H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, <u>Excluding</u> Levy to Support Library Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions (E - B - F + D)	\$9,408,955	\$10,119,227	
I. Difference: G - H (Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval - See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions)**	\$0	\$(460,076)	
Administrative Component	\$2,903,685	\$2,714,673	\$2,643,190
Program Component	\$18,245,112	\$18,576,004	\$18,072,604
Capital Component	\$5,731,112	\$6,333,600	\$6,182,161

Under a contingency budget, the tax levy may not exceed the allowable tax levy limit and certain expenditures are restricted, including the purchase of most equipment unless necessary for health and safety or legal compliance. The administrative component of the budget may not increase from the prior year. The district would be required to reduce planned expenditures to align with the lower allowable levy, which may impact equipment purchases, supplies, contractual services, and potentially staffing through attrition. Costs associated with contractual obligations, debt service, special education mandates, and health and safety requirements would be maintained.

** 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 four diesel buses	\$518,684
	Increase Transportation Capital Reserve Fund allocation	\$250,000

Under the Budget Proposed for the 2026-27 School Year	
Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings <sup>1</sup>	\$403

The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2026-27 by the qualified voters of the Cambridge Central School District, Washington County, New York, will be held at Cambridge Central School in said district on Tuesday, June 16, 2026 between the hours of 12:00pm and 8:00pm, prevailing time in the Cambridge Central School District, at which time the polls will be opened to vote by voting ballot or machine.

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

# VOTE

**Tuesday, June 16, 2026**  
**12-8 p.m. - High School Gym**

## QUALIFICATIONS TO VOTE

- Citizen of the United States, at least 18 years of age.
- Resident of the district for at least 30 days prior to the vote.
- No person shall have the right to register for or vote at any school meeting or election who has been convicted of a felony per Section 5-106 of the election law.

## Absentee Ballots/Early Voting

Applications for absentee ballots are obtainable between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday through Friday, except holidays, from the district clerk's office at 58 South Park Street. Completed applications must be received by the district clerk at least seven (7) days before the election if the ballot is to be mailed to the voter, or the day before the election if the ballot is to be delivered personally to the voter. Absentee ballots must be received by the district clerk no later than 5 p.m., prevailing time, on Tuesday, June 16.

The New York Early Mail Voter Act allows registered voters to request a mail-in ballot. You can request an early voter ballot in person up to the day of the election.



**All individuals must provide proof of residency at the vote.**

**C Cambridge**  
**CENTRAL SCHOOL**

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