

# PUTNAM VALLEY

## Budget Newsletter 2025-2026



### Dear Putnam Valley Community:

The District has been hard at work providing the community with the information they will need to make an informed decision when we ask all registered voters within the Putnam Valley School District to cast a ballot on May 20. There will be three propositions on the ballot, including the School Budget for 2025-2026, the revised Capital Project referendum, the Putnam Valley Public Library Budget, as well as the election of two School Board Trustees. Please visit [www.pvcsd.org](http://www.pvcsd.org) for detailed budget presentations and corresponding videos.

We are excited to propose a budget that prioritizes the preservation of our District's instructional program, while also introducing staff additions to help support our English as a New Language (ENL) and Special Education programs. Our proposed budget remains below the tax levy limit, ensuring the District's fiscal stability as we move forward. With a tax levy increase of 2.99%, well below the allowable tax levy limit, we strike a balance between meeting the fiscal needs of our community and sustaining a rigorous and well-rounded academic program. Additionally, the proposed budget includes vital student support structures and extracurricular activities to strengthen the educational experience.

Following the defeated Capital Project in January, the District reconvened a Facilities Planning Committee, inviting in new members from across our community. With over a hundred members in attendance, we were able to prioritize the aspects of the proposed project that meant the most to our community. Several meetings were held throughout the spring, culminating in a revised project that removed over a million dollars of work from the original project. The new project includes additional escalation costs to offset the delayed start of the work. With voter approval, the District will receive an estimated 66% of the total project cost back from New York State, reducing the financial burden on taxpayers.

Thanks to funding from New York State and in partnership with the YMCA of Central and Northern Westchester, we are excited to announce that Universal Pre-K will be coming to the Putnam Valley Central School District this fall. Free Pre-K will be available for a limited number of students selected through a lottery. Students must be 4 years of age on or before December 1, 2025, and reside within the boundaries of the Putnam Valley School District.

We encourage all community members to take advantage of the information available and vote on May 20 at Putnam Valley Elementary School. Thank you for your continued support and partnership.

Dr. Jeremy Luft  
Superintendent of Schools

Barbara Parmly  
Board of Education President

SPRING 2025

### Budget Fast Facts

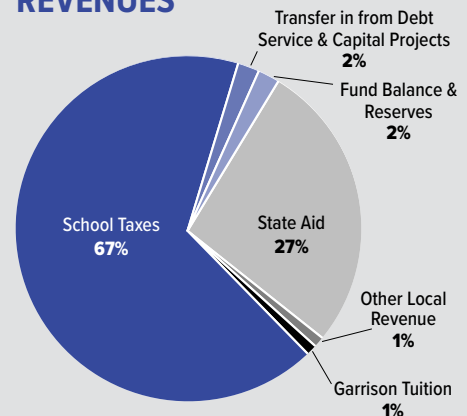
Budget ..... \$63,331,741

Tax Levy Increase ..... 2.99%

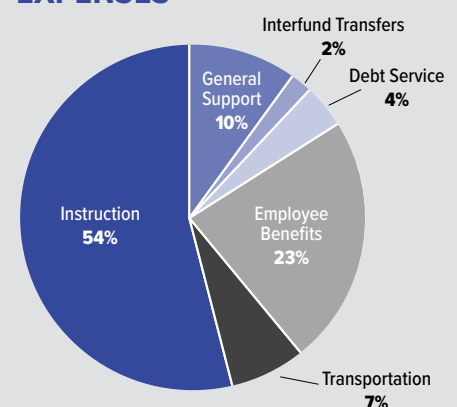
Budget to Budget Increase .... 2.58%\*  
\*(excluding transfer to capital)

**For the 14th year in a row, the tax levy remains under the state cap. This year, we went even further, setting it well below the allowable limit of 4.54%.**

### REVENUES



### EXPENSES



BUDGET & TRUSTEE VOTE  
**Tuesday, May 20, 2025**

6 AM - 9 PM ★ Putnam Valley Elementary School ★ 171 Oscawana Lake Road

# School District 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	\$60,557,653	\$63,331,741	\$62,094,208
Increase/Decrease for the 2025-26 School Year		\$2,774,088	\$1,536,555
Percentage Increase/Decrease in Proposed Budget		4.58%	2.54%
Change in the Consumer Price Index		2.95%	
A. Proposed Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount	\$41,330,762	\$42,568,295	
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)	\$41,330,762	\$42,568,295	\$41,330,762
F. Total Permissible Exclusions	\$1,210,498	\$2,195,647	
G. School Tax Levy Limit, <u>Excluding</u> Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$40,133,414	\$41,012,647	
H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, <u>Excluding</u> Levy to Support Library Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions (E – B – F + D)	\$40,120,264	\$40,372,648	
I. Difference: G – H (Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval – See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions) **	\$13,150	\$639,999	
Administrative Component	\$6,570,871	\$6,510,602	\$6,510,602
Program Component	\$45,389,773	\$48,666,695	\$48,738,162
Capital Component	\$8,597,009	\$8,154,444	\$6,845,444

\* Pursuant to Section 2023 of the Education Law, in the case of a contingency budget, districts are constrained in three ways: determination of ordinary contingency budget appropriations, the administrative cap, and the restriction on the tax levy. Ordinary contingency expenses are defined as the expenditures absolutely necessary to operate and maintain schools.

\*\* 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
PROPOSITION 2 – Capital Project	No Budget or Tax Levy Increase
PROPOSITION 3 – Putnam Valley Free Library	\$483,000

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

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

	Under the Budget Proposed for the 2025-26 School Year
Carmel	\$960
Cortlandt	\$1,869
Putnam Valley	\$996

The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2025-26 by the qualified voters of the Putnam Valley School District, Putnam County, New York, will be held at the PV Elementary School in said district on Tuesday, May 20, 2025, between the hours of 6:00am and 9:00pm, prevailing time in the Putnam Valley School District, at which time the polls will be opened to vote by voting ballot or machine.

## WHERE THE MONEY COMES FROM

<b>REVENUES</b> .....	<b>\$63,331,741</b>
<b>Real Property Tax Levy 67%</b> .....	<b>\$42,568,295</b>
Derived from the assessed value of your property and the equalization rate.	
<b>State Aid 27%</b> .....	<b>\$17,005,314</b>
Anticipated State Aid.	
<b>Fund Balance &amp; Reserves 2%</b> .....	<b>\$1,248,000</b>
Restricted and Unrestricted Reserves.	
<b>Transfer in from Debt Service &amp; Capital Projects 2%</b> ..	<b>\$1,251,128</b>
Transfer in from Debt service fund to reduce annual debt and allow for funding of the fencing, turf field, and track.	
<b>Other Local Revenue 1%</b> .....	<b>\$838,891</b>
Revenues from sources such as charges from outside groups, out-of-district tuition, sales tax, and interest on investments.	
<b>Garrison Tuition 1%</b> .....	<b>\$420,113</b>
Student Tuition received from Garrison Union Free School District.	

## WHERE THE MONEY GOES

<b>EXPENDITURES</b> .....	<b>\$63,331,741</b>
<b>Instruction 54%</b> .....	<b>\$34,235,086</b>
Includes teacher salaries, instructional materials and supplies, library and media, computer assisted instruction, Special Education services, Pupil Personnel, BOCES Services, Athletics, and health services.	
<b>Employee Benefits 23%</b> .....	<b>\$14,744,780</b>
Includes mandated costs for Social Security, Medicare, retirement, health and other related insurance costs.	
<b>General Support 10%</b> .....	<b>\$5,967,410</b>
Covers the cost of central administration, finance and treasurer, personnel, public relations, and legal expenses.	
<b>Transportation 7%</b> .....	<b>\$4,463,059</b>
Reflects in-district and out-of-district school transportation, salaries, materials, and fuel.	
<b>Debt Service 4%</b> .....	<b>\$2,592,406</b>
Used to pay principal and interest on capital projects.	
<b>Interfund Transfers 2%</b> .....	<b>\$1,329,000</b>
Transfer to Capital Fund: \$1,209,000 used to pay fencing, turf field, and track that will be replaced at the HS in the summer of 2025. Transfer to Special Aid Fund: \$120,000 used to pay non-aidable portion of the Extended School Year Program.	

# CAPITAL PROJECT: Proposed District-Wide Renovations & Infrastructure Upgrades

## Capital Project Highlights ★ ★ ★ ★

### ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

#### Playground

- Install additional safe and accessible playground for younger grades (K-2)
- Improve accessibility and outdoor learning areas for all students

#### Geothermal

- Complete integration of geothermal heating and cooling
- Avoid costly replacement of existing boilers
- Reduce energy costs and eliminate dependency on heating oil

#### Nurse's Office

- Expand Nurse's office to accommodate student needs (last renovated 1972)
- Upgrade air filtration and air quality
- Create isolation space for students who need to be separated

### MIDDLE SCHOOL

#### Parking Lot

- New subsurface and pavement
- Improve pedestrian safety

- Install new lighting
- Add dedicated bus lane
- New sidewalks
- Improved drainage and water management

#### HVAC

- Replace and/or upgrade heat pumps

### HIGH SCHOOL

#### Parking Lot

- Replace retaining wall
- New subsurface and pavement
- Improve drainage and water management

#### Accessibility

- Improve access to courtyard and outdoor learning space

#### Solar Power

- Install solar panels on roof of the Wellness Center

#### Roofing

- Replace original flat roofs (installed 2000)

## CAPITAL PROJECT FAST FACTS

- ▶ The project will slightly lower taxes while stabilizing the local taxpayer share.
- ▶ The project is capped at the approved budget, and under no circumstances will it exceed the bond amount.
- ▶ The project will receive approximately \$8.9 million in state aid from the New York State Education Department and reduce the burden on local taxpayers.
- ▶ Addressing infrastructure needs through this project ensures that necessary improvements won't compete with instructional programs
- ▶ The district will only borrow the amount needed for the project (see [pvcasd.org](http://pvcasd.org) for more details)

★ **VOTE** ★

**Tuesday,  
May 20, 2025**

**6 AM - 9 PM**

Putnam Valley Elementary School  
171 Oscawana Lake Road

**MAXIMUM PROJECT COST: \$13,494,000**

**EST. STATE AID (66% OF PROJECT): – \$8,900,000**

**CAPITAL RESERVE: – \$2,500,000**

**NET COST OFFSET BY RETIRING DEBT: – \$2,094,000**

**= NO TAX INCREASE**

**\*SAVINGS OF \$1.62/year FOR AN AVERAGE HOME OF \$415k**



**Scan the QR code for Capital Project  
and Budget Information.**

*Escanee aquí  
para la versión  
en español*







## ASPIRE Art Work

High School senior River DeMarco answered the call to create this year's ASPIRE piece.

ASPIRE stands for Awareness, Safety, Perseverance, Integrity, Respect, and Empathy—core values that Putnam Valley High School strives for. Due to River DeMarco's unwavering commitment to art and her personal embodiment of the ASPIRE attributes, she was invited to create a special piece that will be displayed in the high school for years to come.

This stunning acrylic on canvas painting is titled *The Wonderer and The Prodigy*, which beautifully captures River's artistic journey from childhood to the present.

## 2025 Valedictorian and Salutatorian



**Valedictorian Naomi Gabay:** "It is not only Putnam Valley's academic quality that has allowed me to achieve my goals, but the supportive group of teachers that has made me believe in myself and my future." Naomi will be attending Duke University as a civil engineering major.

**Salutatorian Zachary Fitzmaurice:** "I loved attending PVHS. It's been amazing getting involved in activities and connecting with such passionate, supportive teachers who truly make a difference every day." Zachary will pursue the Astronautics Track in Aerospace Engineering at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University."

## Young Minds - Big Ideas

From curiosity in the classroom to recognition on the regional stage, our science research students are making us proud! PVES 4th graders recently showcased their impressive projects at the Tri-County competition, demonstrating a strong foundation in scientific inquiry. At PVHS, our dedicated science research students have earned multiple awards, standing out among top young scientists in the region. Innovation, perseverance, and discovery are thriving at PVCSD!



*Westchester Engineering and Science Fair (WESEF)*



*Tri-County Science & Technology Fair*

## Pre-K Coming This September - Details and Lottery

Pre-K will be housed in the modular building behind Putnam Valley Elementary School and run five hours a day (9:30 am - 2:30 pm), five days a week. Before and after-care will be offered through the YMCA for a fee for those students who are enrolled in the program. Please scan the QR code at the right if you are interested in signing up for the Pre-K Lottery. Applications will be accepted through May 30. On June 2, the lottery will be live-streamed via the [pvcscd.org](http://pvcscd.org) website.





## THANK YOU First Responders

If you are a first responder and are willing to join us for any of our recognition events, please email [jdenike@pvcscd.org](mailto:jdenike@pvcscd.org). These events provide an opportunity for our community to express our appreciation and we would be honored by your participation.



## Celebrating the Arts across PVCSD!

From the elementary school's delightful *The Jungle Book* to the middle school's high-energy *School of Rock*, our younger performers lit up the stage this year. At the high school level, PVHS TheatreWorks wowed audiences with a fantastic production of *Legally Blonde*. Our District's talent shines in every area—chorus, band, visual arts, and the performing arts. **Save the date** for our next big show: PVHS TheatreWorks' fall comedy, coming the weekend of November 7!



## Champions in the Classroom and Beyond

Congratulations to our student-athletes for excelling both on the field and in the classroom! **90% of all varsity teams** have been recognized as New York State Public High School Athletic Association **Scholar-Athlete Teams!**



PV attends first-ever NYS Girls Wrestling Championship.



Field Hockey - Section 1 Champions!



Boys Basketball - League Champions

James Apostolico, #15, earned the prestigious Con Edison Scholar Athlete Award, recognizing excellence in athletics, academics, and community service.

**Congratulations (Fall and Winter)  
Section Champions...Field Hockey,  
Cheer Team, and wrestler, Julia DiMichele.**

## Community Opportunity Resilience Empowerment



## CAN YOU SHARE SOME OF YOUR TIME?

Reach out to our amazing volunteer organizations:

Education Foundation at [pvefny@gmail.com](mailto:pvefny@gmail.com); Putnam Valley PTA at [putnamvalleypta@gmail.com](mailto:putnamvalleypta@gmail.com); Putnam Valley Booster Club at [putnamvalleyboosterclub@gmail.com](mailto:putnamvalleyboosterclub@gmail.com); Putnam Valley PTSA at [putnamvalleyptsa@gmail.com](mailto:putnamvalleyptsa@gmail.com). **It takes a Valley!**





**PUTNAM VALLEY**  
Central School District  
171 Oscawana Lake Road  
Putnam Valley, NY 10579

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
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BREWSTER, NY

#### BOARD OF EDUCATION

Barbara Parmly, *President*

Janette Yetter, *Vice President*

Sasha Hayes, *Trustee*

Crystal Hernandez, *Trustee*

Sam Oliverio, *Trustee*

#### SUPERINTENDENT

Dr. Jeremy Luft

*Published by Putnam Northern  
Westchester Board of Cooperative  
Educational Services*

[www.pvcsd.org](http://www.pvcsd.org)



## Vote Information

### ABSENTEE BALLOTS AND EARLY VOTING BALLOTS

If needed, ballots are available at the District Office through Monday, May 19, 2025, 8 AM to 4 PM. Absentee/early voting ballots must be received by the District Clerk no later than Tuesday, May 20, 2025, at 5 PM.

### SCHOOL BOARD CANDIDATES

All registered voters may vote for two candidates. Candidates who are seeking a three-year term are Sam Oliverio, Jr. and Janette Yetter.

**Number of registered voters: 7,600 Average voter turnout: 1,000**

### Ballot Information:

**Proposition#1:** Putnam Valley School District Budget

**Proposition#2:** Capital Project

**Proposition#3:** The Town Library is using a provision of state law to put its budget on the ballot. While both appear together, the library and school district remain entirely separate entities, with no shared funding. This year, the library is requesting an additional \$23,000. <https://putnamvalleylibrary.org/>

**Board of Education Trustee seats:** Vote for two

### What happens if the school budget fails?

The Board of Education may be forced to adopt a budget with a tax levy no greater than what was levied the prior year (contingency budget\* see budget notice) or put the same or revised budget before the voters again. A second defeat would require the adoption of the contingency budget resulting in the reduction of \$1,237,533 for the 2025-2026 school year and would compound required reductions for subsequent years.

**BUDGET & TRUSTEE VOTE**

**Tuesday, May 20, 2025**

6 AM - 9 PM ★ Putnam Valley Elementary School  
171 Oscawana Lake Road



**STAY  
CONNECTED  
TO PVCSd**



Visit our website at  
**[pvcsd.org](http://pvcsd.org)**

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- Check out our Monthly Calendar for events
- Sign up for electronic newsletters
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en la oficina principal de  
nuestro distrito así como  
también en las oficinas de  
nuestras escuelas en el distrito.**