

Superintendent's Proposed 2026-2027 Budget

Presented to the Board of Education
for Adoption

March 12, 2026

Dr. Jeremy Luft, Superintendent of Schools

Dr. Grace Chan, Assistant Superintendent of Business Administration

Executive Summary of the Proposed 2026-2027 Budget

**Proposed
Budget**

\$65,254,332

**Proposed
Budget-to-Budget
Increase**

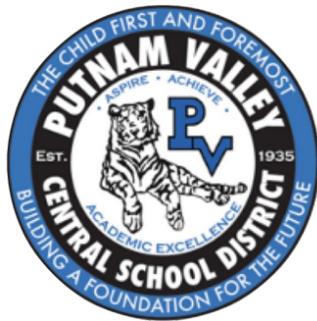
3.04%

**Proposed
Tax Levy
Increase**

1.98%

**Safely
within the
NYS Tax Cap.
Inter**

- Maintains strong academic programs and vital student services.
- Continues a proven track record of responsible fiscal planning and proactive cost management.



NYS Formula for Determining Property Tax Cap

Base Formula

$$\left(\left[\left(\begin{array}{l} \text{Total taxes levied for} \\ \text{prior fiscal year} \end{array} + \begin{array}{l} \text{Prior year reserve} \\ \text{offset} \end{array} - \begin{array}{l} \text{Reserve amount} \\ \text{(including interest} \\ \text{earned)} \end{array} \right) \times \begin{array}{l} \text{Tax base} \\ \text{growth} \\ \text{factor}^1 \end{array} \right] + \begin{array}{l} \text{PILOTs} \\ \text{receivable in the} \\ \text{prior fiscal year} \end{array} - \begin{array}{l} \text{Capital tax levy} \\ \text{exclusion, prior} \\ \text{fiscal year} \end{array} - \begin{array}{l} \text{Tort exclusion,} \\ \text{prior fiscal} \\ \text{year} \end{array} \right)$$

$$\times \begin{array}{l} \text{Allowable levy} \\ \text{growth factor} \\ \text{(1.00 to 1.02)}^2 \end{array} - \begin{array}{l} \text{PILOTs} \\ \text{receivable in} \\ \text{coming fiscal} \\ \text{year} \end{array} + \begin{array}{l} \text{Available} \\ \text{carryover, if} \\ \text{any} \end{array} = \text{Tax Levy Limit}$$

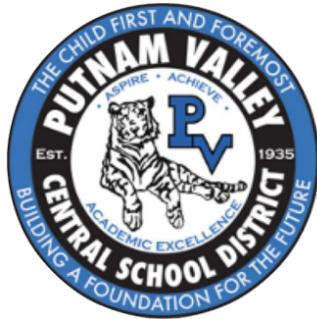
+ Exclusions

$$\text{Tax Levy Limit} + \begin{array}{l} \text{Tax levy necessary for} \\ \text{expenditures resulting} \\ \text{from court} \\ \text{orders/judgments} \\ \text{arising out of tort} \\ \text{actions for any amount} \\ \text{in excess of 5\% of the} \\ \text{total taxes levied in} \\ \text{the prior fiscal year} \end{array} + \text{Capital tax levy} + \begin{array}{l} \text{Tax levy necessary to pay} \\ \text{for increases to the system} \\ \text{average actuarial} \\ \text{contribution rate (ERS) or} \\ \text{normal contribution rate} \\ \text{(TRS) of pension funds over} \\ \text{2 percentage points} \end{array} = \text{Tax Levy Limit, with Exclusions (if applicable)}^3$$

¹ Tax base growth factor: Based on Tax and Finance determination of "quantity change," such as new construction, newly taxable status of existing property, or measurable improvements to taxable property within the boundaries of the local government or school district.

² Allowable levy growth factor: Lesser of 1.02 or inflation factor (percent change in CPI for the 12 month period ending 6 months before the start of the coming fiscal year over the prior 12-month period), but never lower than 1.00.

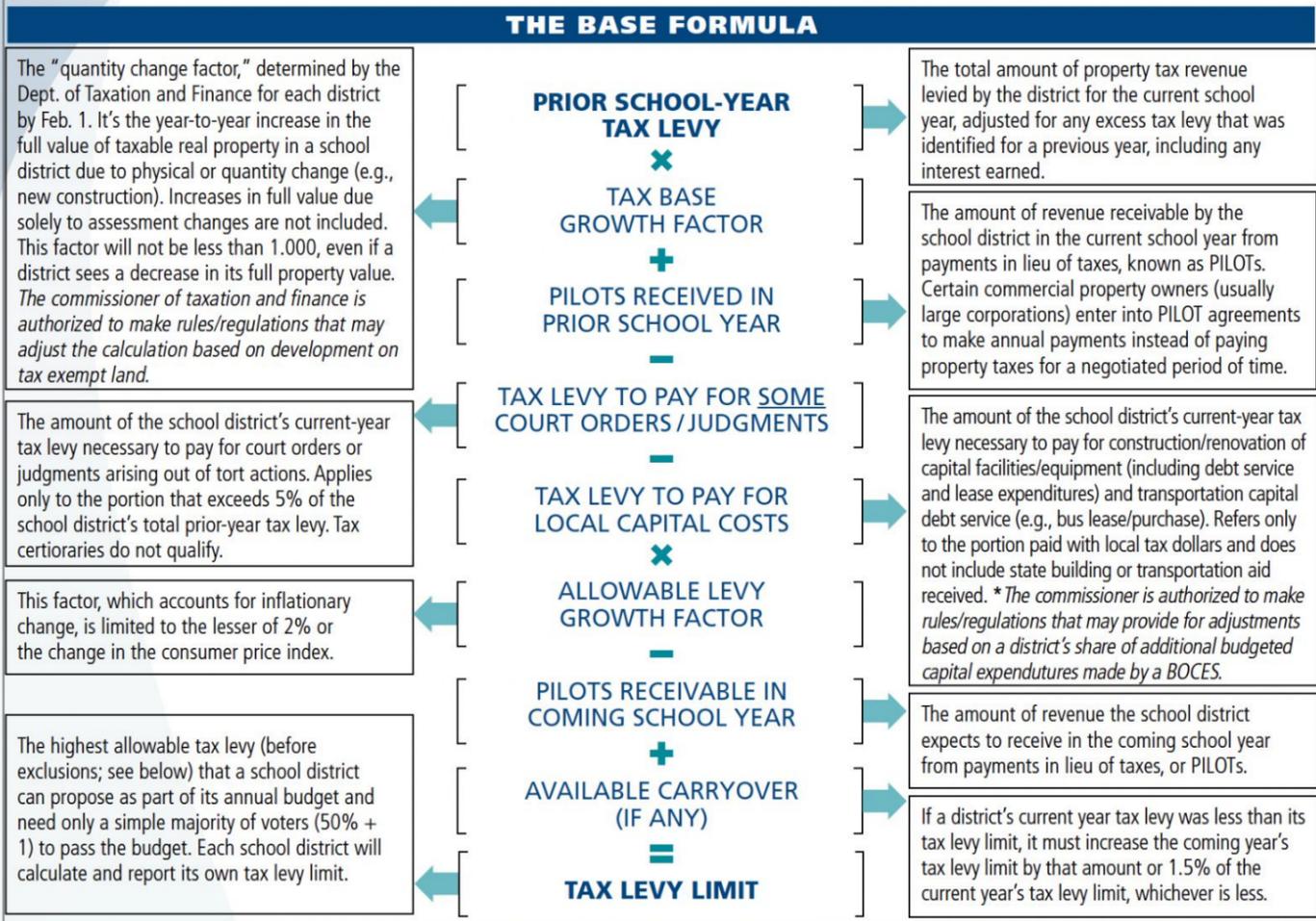
³ If school districts propose to exceed this, they must get 60% voter approval for an override.



NYS Formula for Determining Property Tax Cap

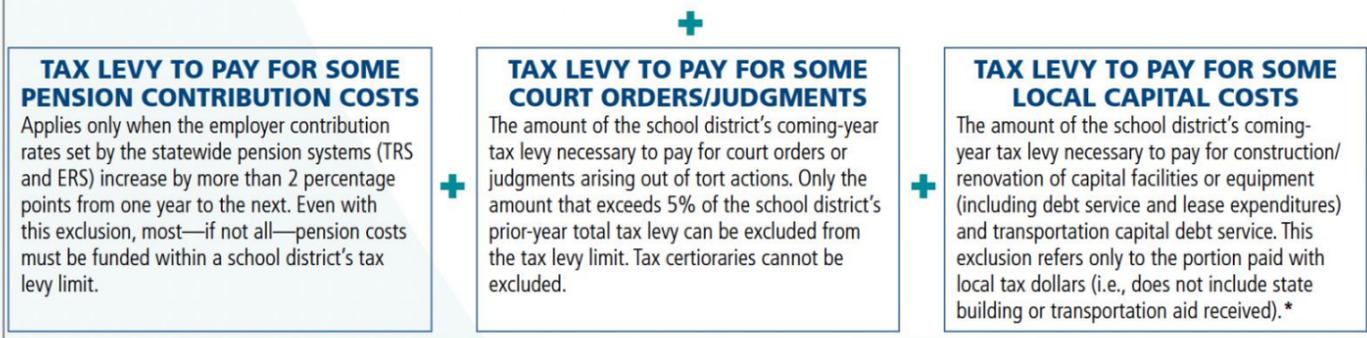
New York's Tax Levy "Cap" Formula: How does it add up?

Although often referred to as a "2 percent tax cap," New York's tax levy "cap" law does not restrict any proposed tax levy increase to 2 percent. Pursuant to the law, each school district must follow an 8-step calculation, outlined below, to calculate its individual "tax levy limit." That limit then determines what level of voter support is required for budget approval.

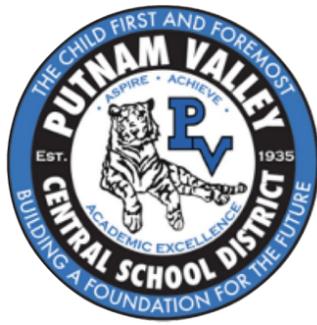


EXCLUSIONS TO BE ADDED

The law excludes certain portions of a school district's tax levy from the calculation above. A district can add these exclusions (described below) to its tax levy limit, increasing the amount of taxes the district is allowed to levy while still needing only a simple majority of voters for budget approval.

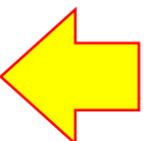


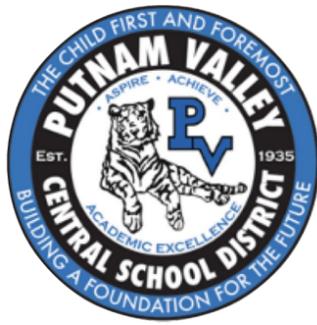
MAXIMUM ALLOWABLE TAX LEVY
= The tax levy limit plus exclusions. This is the highest total tax levy that a school district can propose as part of its annual budget for which only the approval of a simple majority of voters (50% + 1) is required.



Property Tax Levy Limit Calculation

Prior Year Tax Levy		42,568,295
(times)	Tax Base Growth Factor (specific to Putnam Valley)	x 1.000
Subtotal		42,568,295
(subtract)	Prior Year Capital Exclusions	- 2,195,647
Adjusted Prior Year Tax Levy		40,372,648
(times)	Allowable Levy Growth Factor (lessor of CPI or 2%)	x 2 %
Tax Levy Limit before Exclusions		41,180,101
(add)	Current Year Capital Exclusions	+ 2,232,557
Maximum Allowable /Proposed Tax Levy Limit		43,412,658
Maximum Percent Change in Tax Levy		1.98%
Gross Levy Change in Dollars		844,363

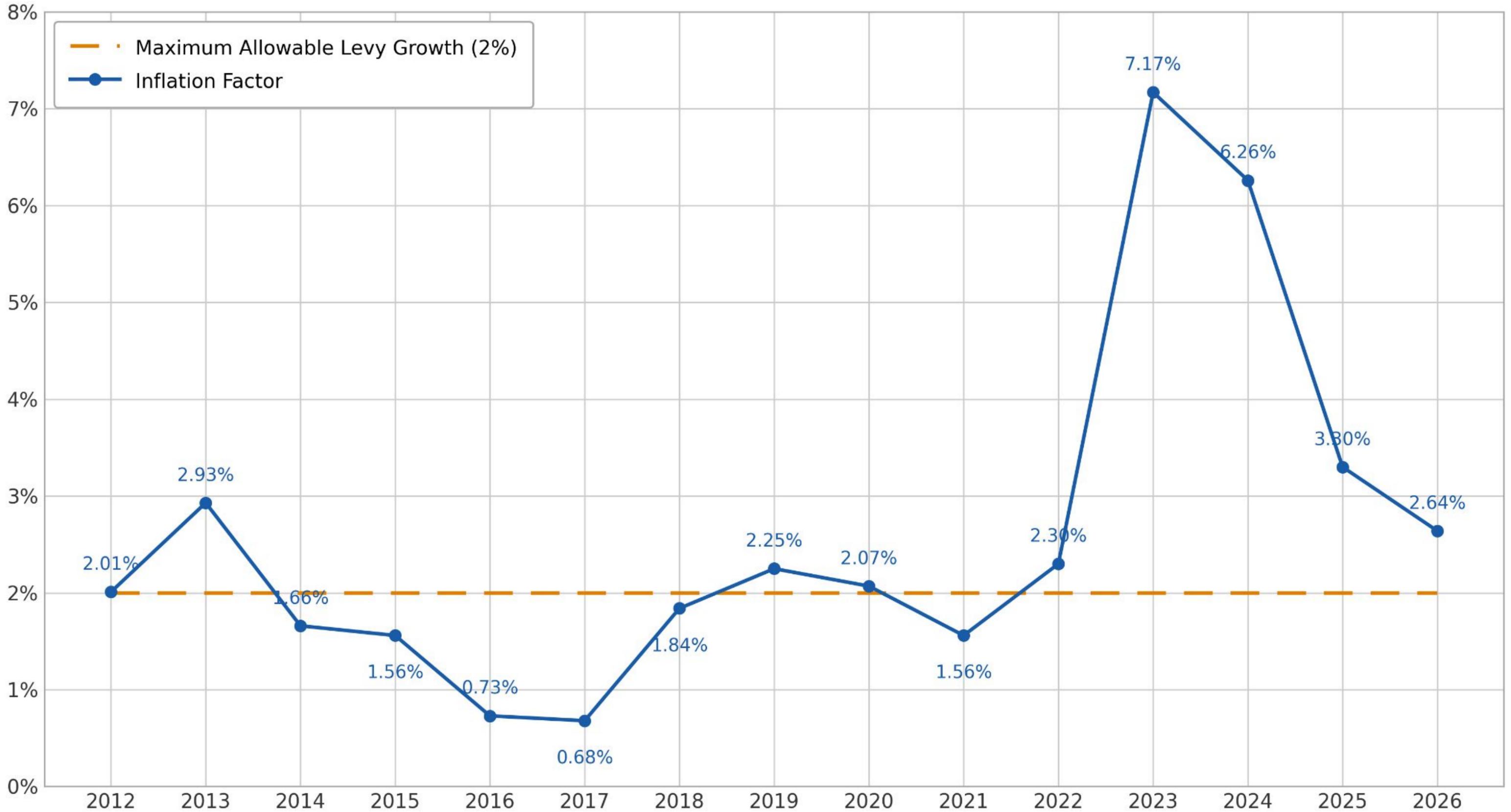




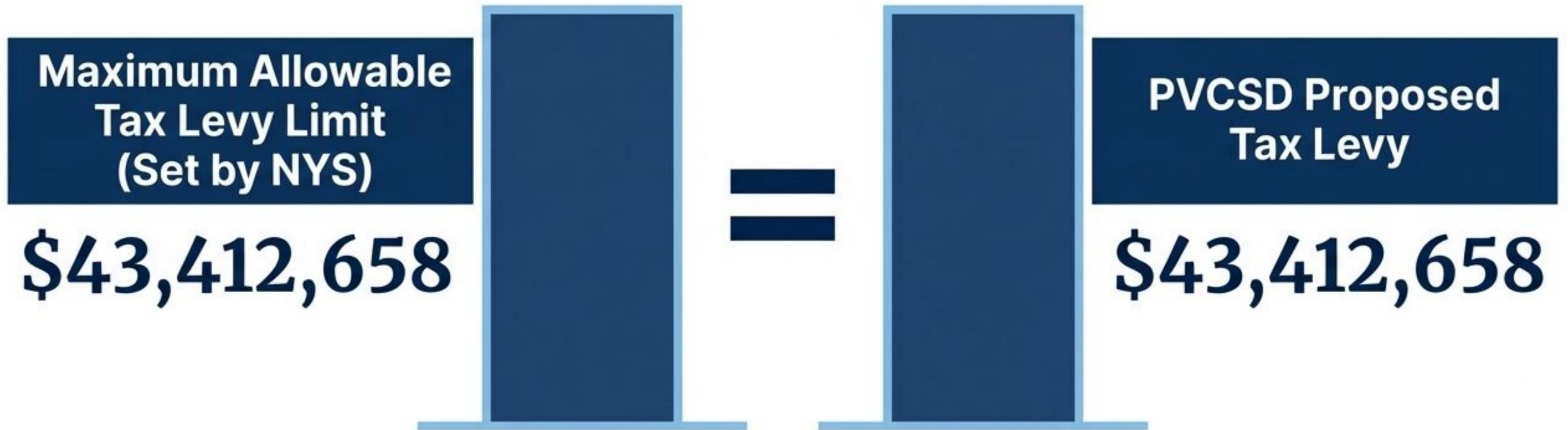
Historical Tax Cap Inflation Factors

Fiscal Year	Maximum Allowable Growth Factors	CPI-U
2014-15	1.46%	1.46%
2015-16	1.62%	1.62%
2016-17	0.12%	0.12%
2017-18	1.26%	1.26%
2018-19	2.00%	2.13%
2019-20	2.00%	2.44%
2020-21	1.81%	1.81%
2021-22	1.23%	1.23%
2022-23	2.00%	4.70%
2023-24	2.00%	8.00%
2024-25	2.00%	4.12%
2025-26	2.00%	2.95%
2026-27	2.00%	2.64%

Tax Cap Inflation Factors for Calendar Fiscal Year Local Governments



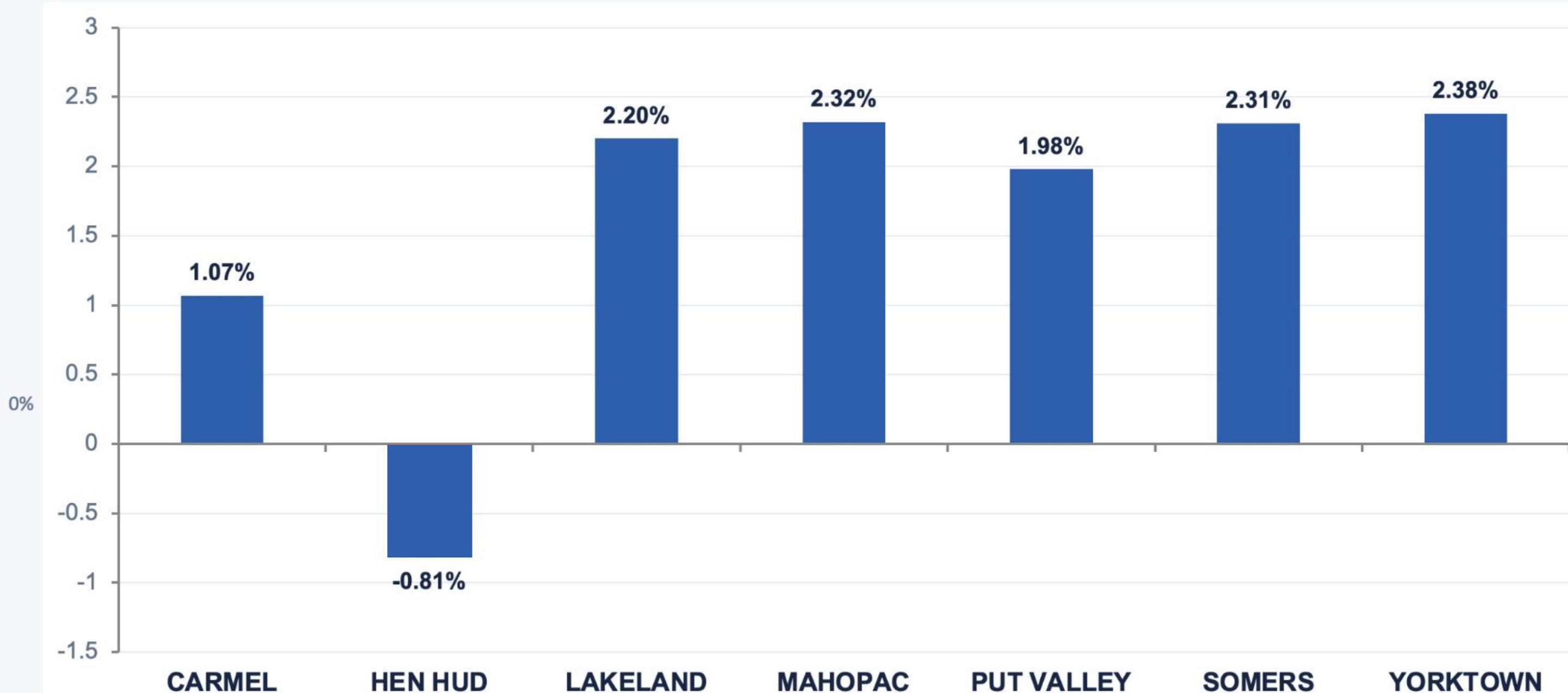
Remaining Responsibly Under the NYS Tax Cap



The proposed 1.98% tax levy increase is fully compliant with NYS law, remaining exactly at the allowable limit.

Because it is within the cap, the budget requires only a simple majority vote (50% + 1) to pass.

2026-27 Tax Cap — Neighboring School Districts



* Carmel CSD: 1.07% | Source: Open Book NY | Note: Hendrick Hudson CSD tax cap is negative (-0.81%)

Key Drivers Shaping the 2026-2027 Budget



Contractual salary obligations (agreements with teaching and support staff).



Employee health insurance and state-mandated benefits increases.



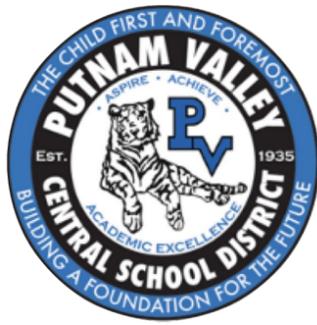
Transportation and operational overhead costs.



Essential instructional program needs and updates.



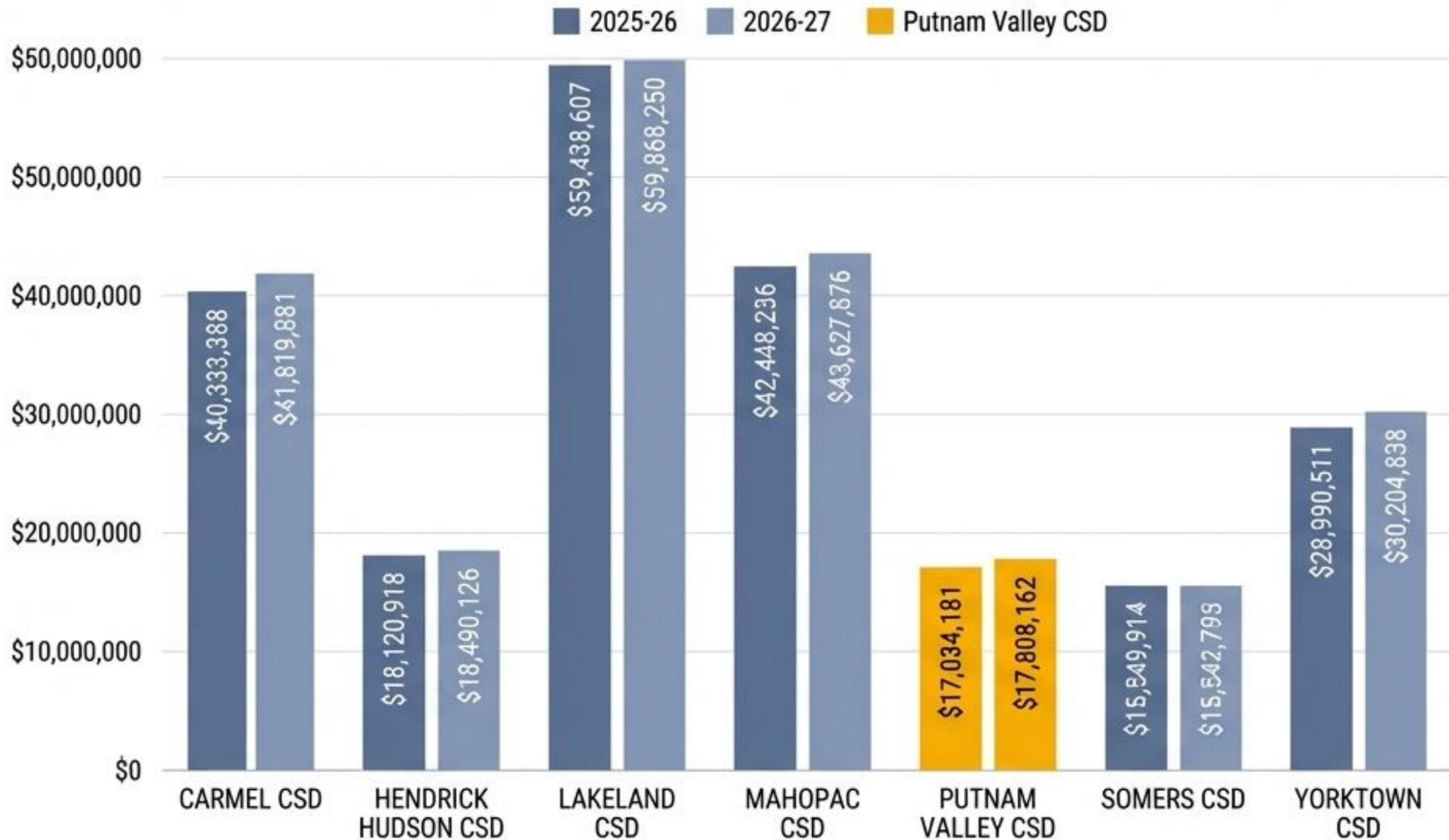
Continued investment in comprehensive student services.



State Aid Comparison of Neighboring Schools 2025-26 vs. 2026-27

	2025-26 Total	2026-27 Total	State Aid Change
CARMEL CSD	40,333,388	41,819,881	1,486,493
HENDRICK HUDSON CSD	18,120,918	18,490,126	369,208
LAKELAND CSD	59,438,607	59,868,250	429,643
MAHOPAC CSD	42,448,236	43,627,876	1,179,640
PUTNAM VALLEY CSD	17,034,181	17,808,162	773,981
SOMERS CSD	15,549,914	15,542,795	(7,119)
YORKTOWN CSD	28,990,511	30,204,838	1,214,327

State Aid Comparison of Neighboring Schools 2025-26 vs. 2026-27





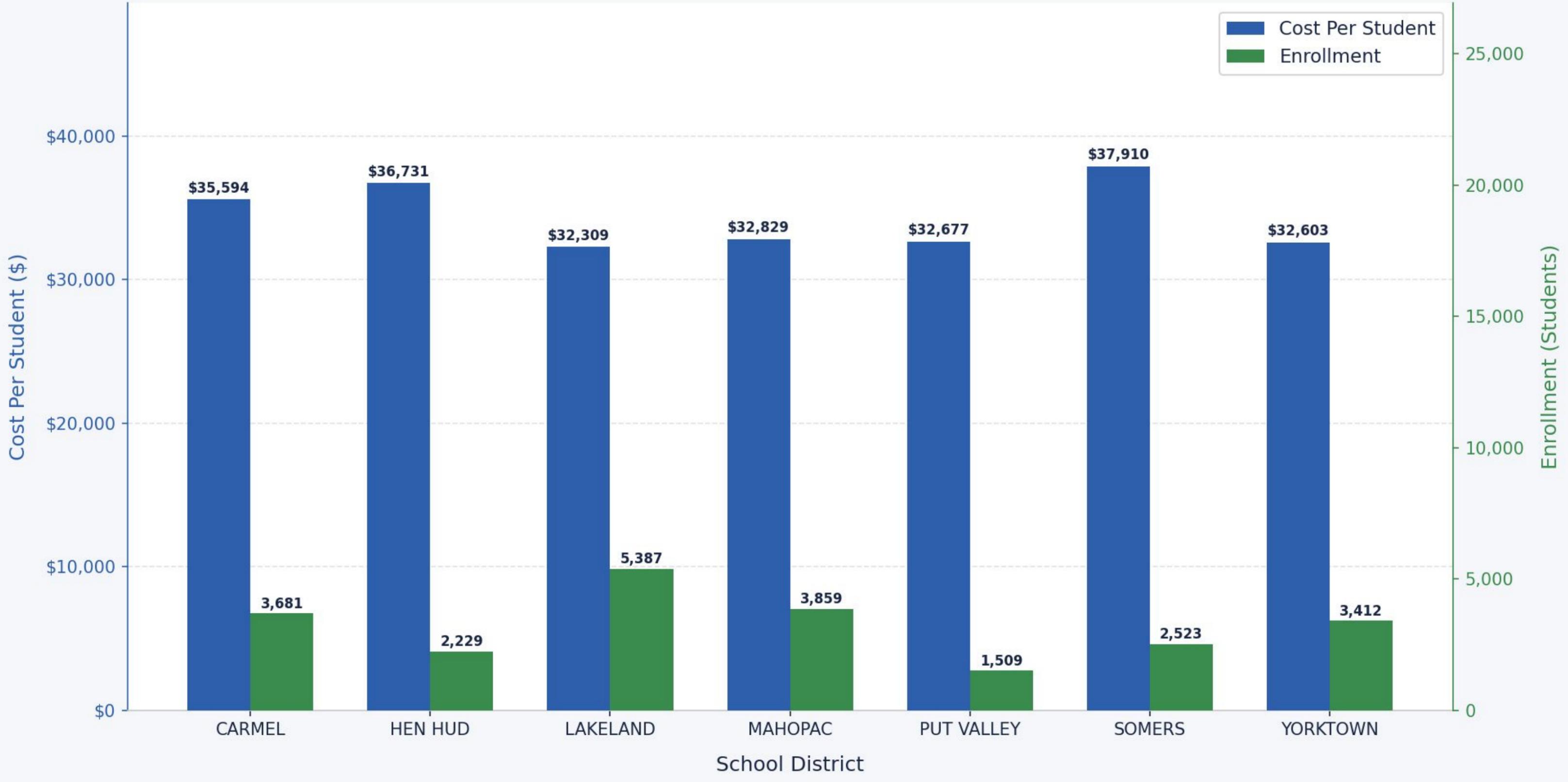
Investing in Our Student Community

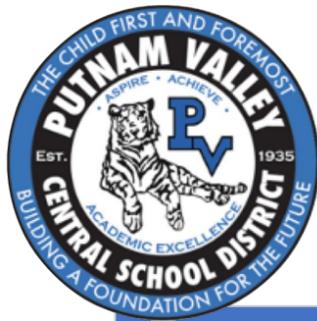
2025-26 Projected Enrollment

High School	520 Students
Middle School	479 Students
Elementary School	532 Students
District Total	1,531 Students

Stable enrollment trends allow for precise, efficient long-term planning.

Cost Per Student vs. Enrollment by District (2024)

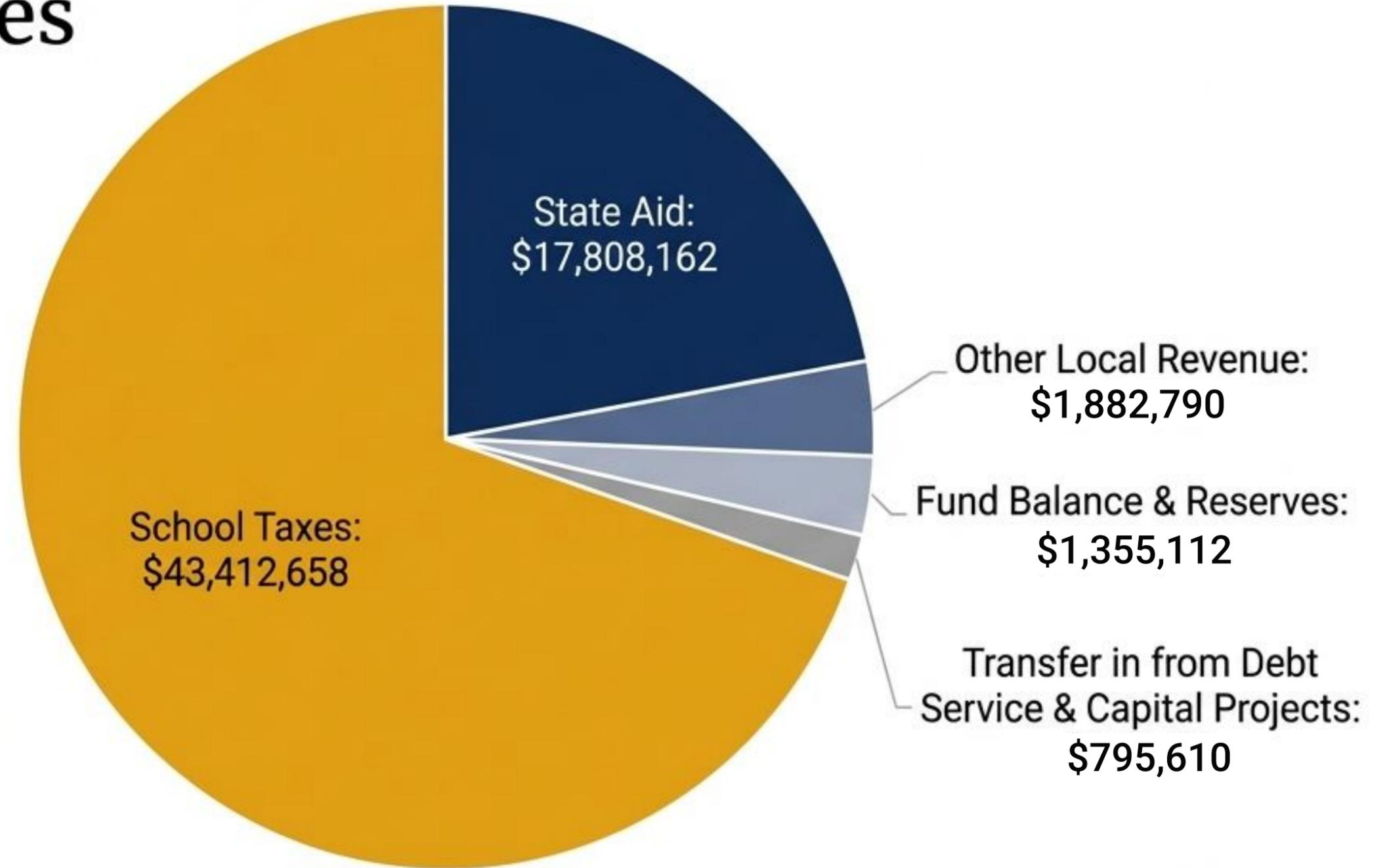




Proposed 2026-27 Revenues Sources

Revenue Source	Adopted 2025-26	Proposed 2026-27	% Change
State Aid	17,005,314	17,808,162	4.72%
School Taxes	42,568,295	43,412,658	1.98%
Other Local Revenue	1,259,004	1,882,790	49.55%
Transfer in from Debt Service & Capital Projects	1,251,128	795,610	-36.41%
Fund Balance & Reserves	1,248,000	1,355,112	8.58%
Total:	63,331,741	65,254,332	3.04%

Proposed 2026-27 Revenues Sources

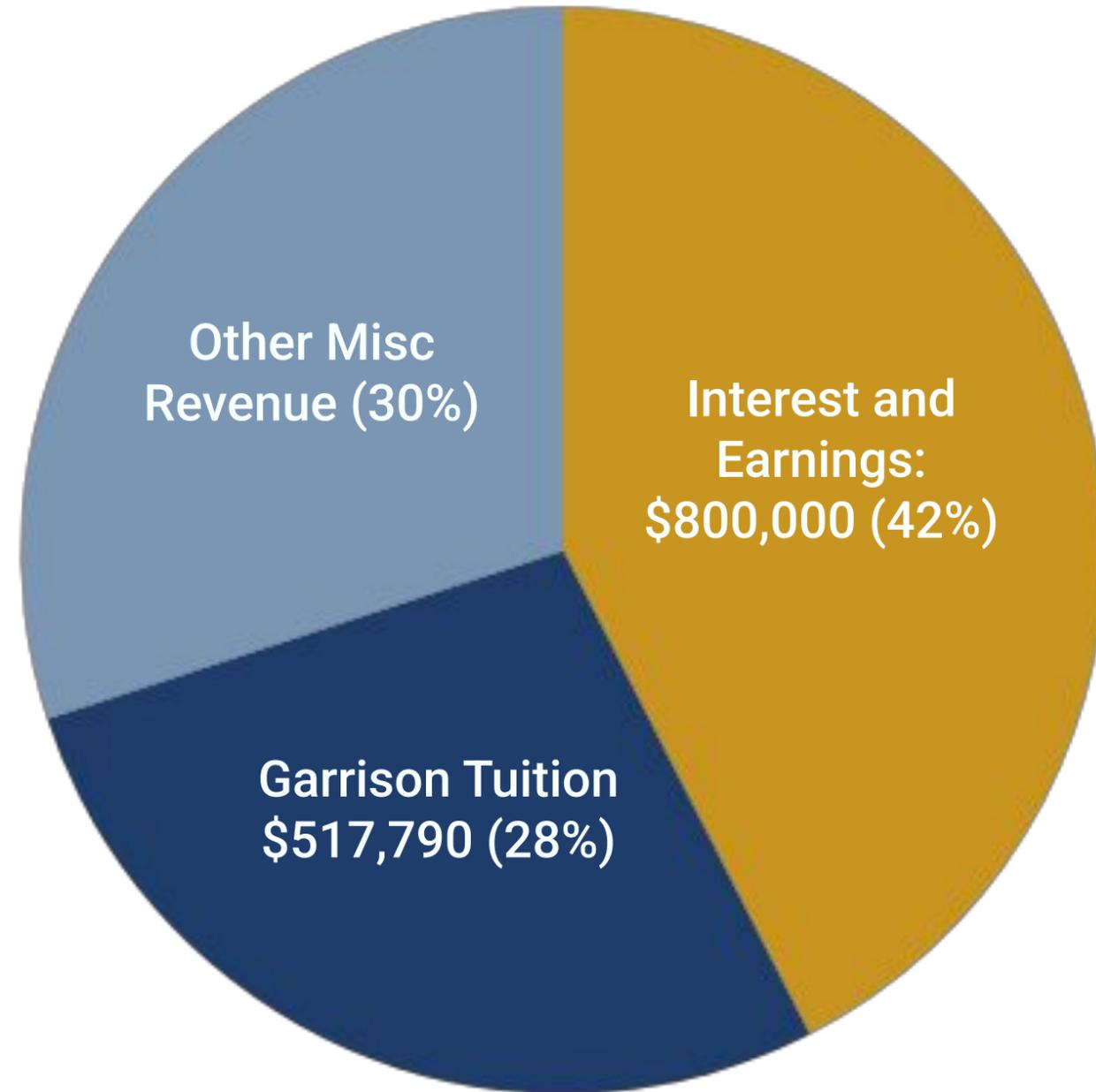


School Taxes make up the vast majority of our proposed revenue, **successfully funding over two-thirds of the district's total \$65M budget.**

Proposed 2026-27 Local Revenues (excluding School Taxes, State Aid, Reserves, Debt Service, Fund Balance)

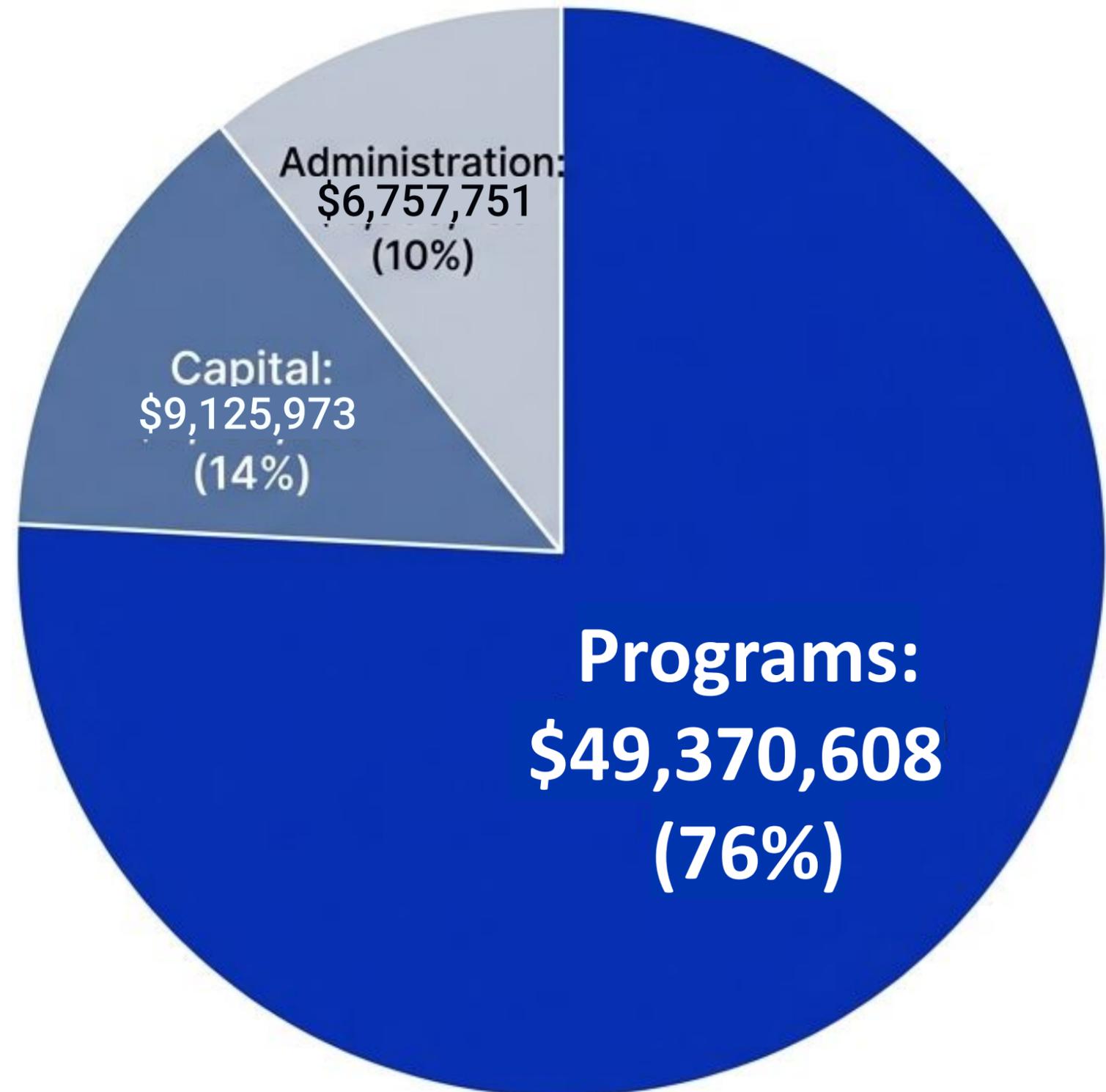
Garrison is 28% of our local revenues.

Other local revenues: \$565,000 (30%)

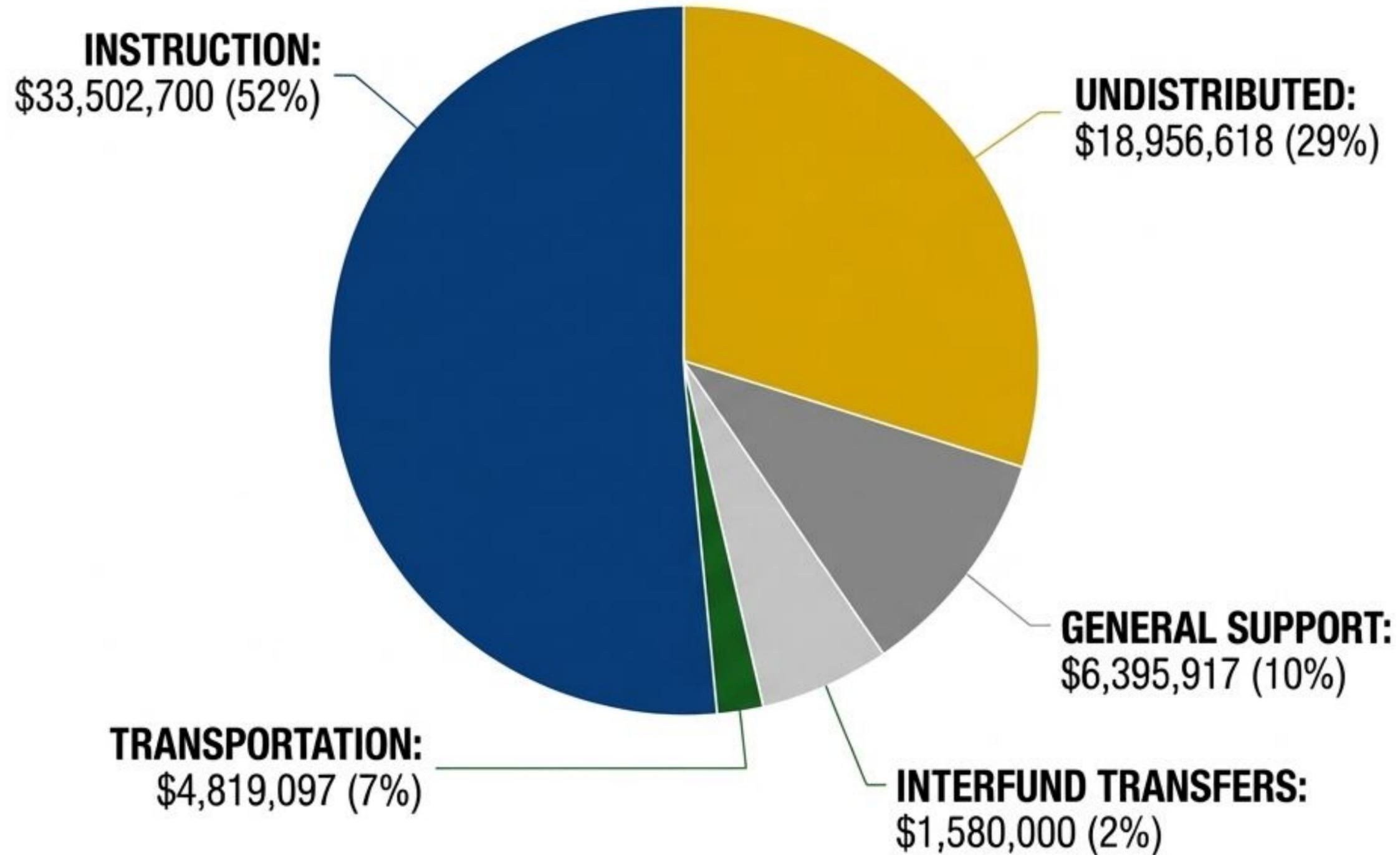


3-Part Budget Comparison

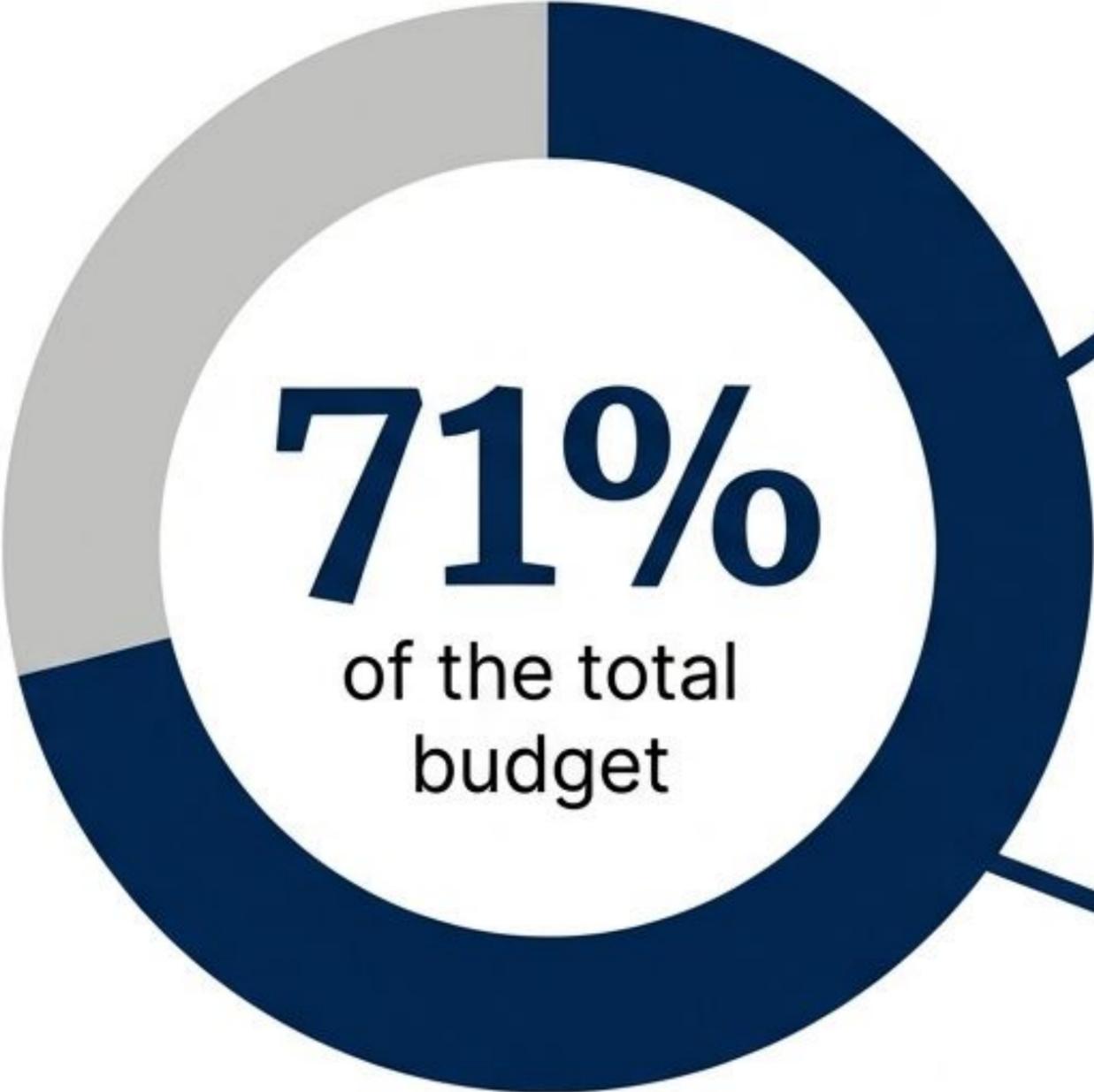
The overwhelming majority of the budget (76%) is allocated directly toward Program expenses, prioritizing resources that reach our students.



Proposed 2026-27 Budget Expenses



Investing in the People Who Educate Our Students



Total Salaries & Benefits:
\$45,992,434

- Salaries: \$29,989,434 (46%)
- Benefits: \$16,003,000 (25%)

The remaining **29%** funds all facility operations, special education programs, debt service, technology, and transportation.



Proposed 2026-27 Budget Building Composition

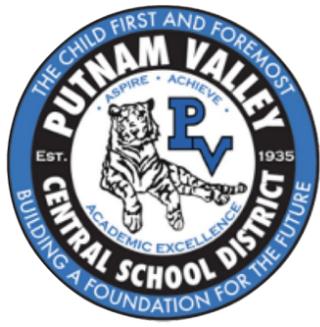
	2025-26 ADOPTED BUDGET	2026-27 PROPOSED BUDGET	CHANGE	% of the BUDGET
Salaries	30,171,652	29,989,434	(182,218)	46%
Benefits	14,744,781	16,003,000	1,258,219	25%
Total Salary & Benefits	44,916,433	45,992,434	1,076,001	71%
Athletics	344,913	362,681	17,768	1%
Business	2,534,252	2,894,917	360,665	4%
Curriculum	101,256	96,876	(4,380)	0%
Debt Service	2,592,406	2,475,718	(116,688)	4%
Buildings	683,200	698,961	15,761	1%
Operations	1,580,291	2,010,400	430,109	3%
Special Education	4,116,687	3,584,534	(532,153)	6%
Technology	1,864,457	2,061,371	196,914	3%
Transportation	3,268,846	3,496,440	227,594	5%
Interfund Transfer	1,329,000	1,580,000	251,000	2%
Total:	63,331,741	65,254,332	1,922,591	100%

Tangible Community Returns Through Capital Transfers

The budget includes strategic transfers to Capital to fund immediate, tangible community improvements without incurring new debt.



Featured Project 1: Installation of **Outdoor Fitness Equipment (Fitness Court)**, accessible to the entire community.

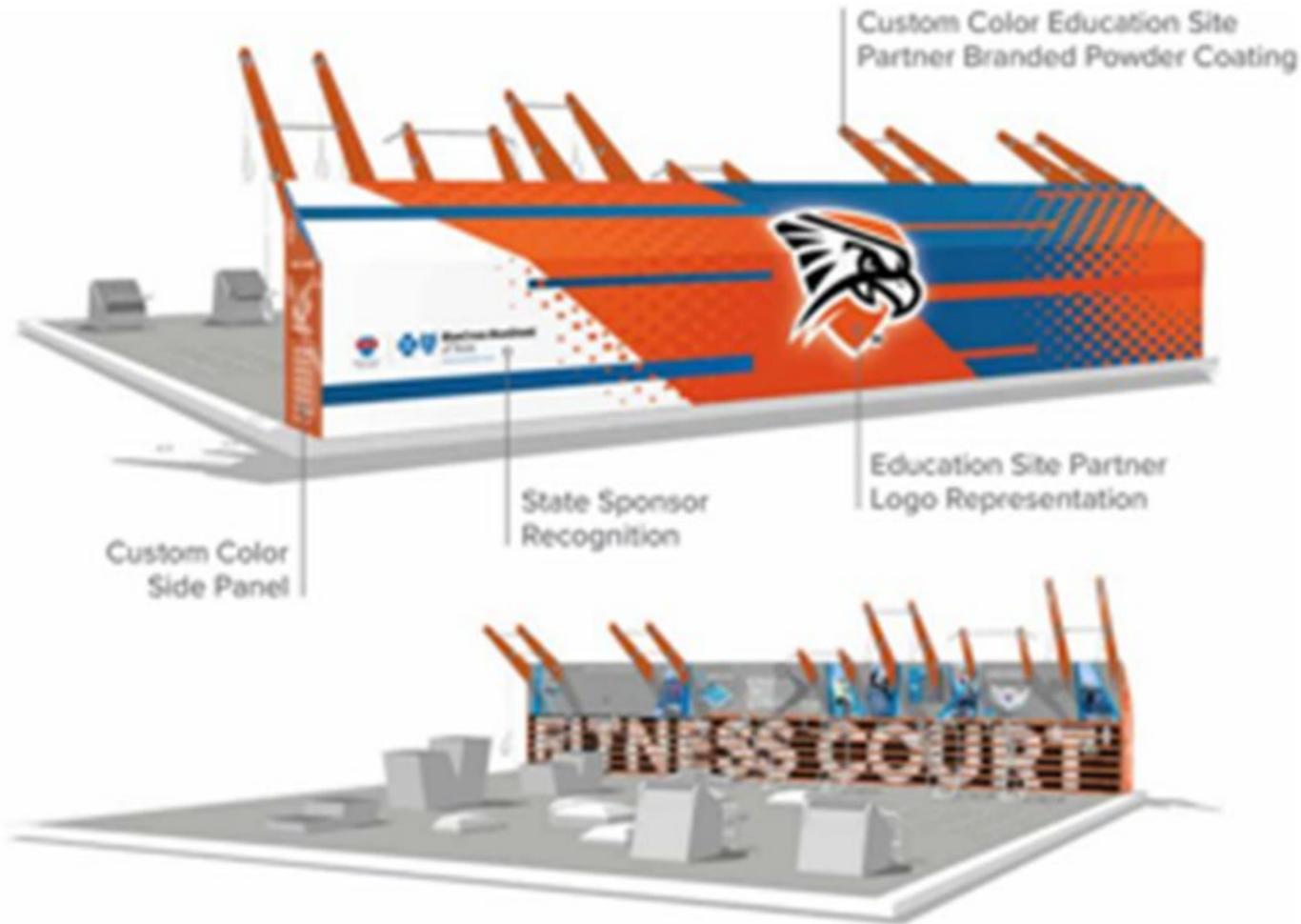


FITNESS COURT ART OFFERINGS



Education Art *Unlock a custom color Fitness Court with artwork catered to your specific school branding.*

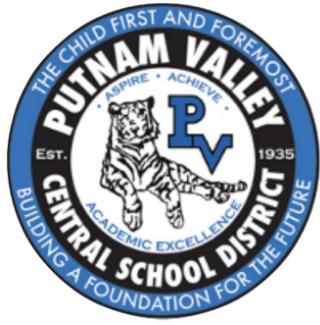
Additional Funding Required. Example Art. Will be customized for your school



Custom Art *Work with the in-house NFC Art Studio Team*

Additional Funding Required. Example Art. Will be customized for your school





Capital Projects

High School /Middle School Campus:

- Handicap parking lot and driveway behind the High School,
- Fencing,
- Bleacher refurbish,
- LED lights for turf,
- Pedestrian walkway to new stairs,
- Softball & Baseball Batting Cages
- Outdoor Fitness Equipment

Inside High School:

- Weight room/ dance studio renovation,
- Gymnasium work:
 - New Bleachers,
 - Basketball Hoops,
 - Floor refinishing,
 - Wall pads,
 - Scoreboards
- Move student support suite to 2nd floor

Next Steps and the May 19 Budget Vote



Proposition I

Shall the 2026-2027 school district budget, as submitted by the Board of Education, be hereby approved and the Board of Education be authorized to expend the sum of \$65,254,332 for the school year July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027, and to levy the necessary tax therefor?