

### May 2026

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### Budget Hearing

Tuesday, May 12  
6 p.m. in the Auditorium

### Budget Vote & School Board Election

Tuesday, May 19  
Noon to 8 p.m.  
Auditorium Lobby

### Superintendent's Overview 2026-27 Proposed Budget

Dear Schroon Lake Community,

As we approach this year's budget vote, I want to take a moment to express my sincere gratitude for the unwavering support you have shown our school over the past several years. Because of your continued investment in our students and our district, Schroon Lake Central School is in a strong and stable financial position, one that allows us to sustain the programs, opportunities, and staffing that our students rely on every day.

Your commitment has not only preserved what makes our school special, but it has also positioned us to look ahead with confidence. We remain focused on returning to full instructional capacity and enhancing the learning experiences and outcomes for every student we serve. These goals are only possible because



of you.

This year, we are especially pleased to share that, for the first time since 2022, we are able to present a budget that remains within the tax cap. This reflects both careful stewardship and the strength of a community that consistently supports its school, a generational commitment that connects past, present, and future. Please know how much your partnership means to me personally and to all of us in the district. We are grateful not only for your support, but for the care and pride you take in our school and our students.

With sincere appreciation,



Kemm Pemrick  
Superintendent of Schools



# Board of Education President's Message

Dear Members of Our Community,

On behalf of the Board of Education, I am pleased to present this year's proposed school budget and to express our sincere appreciation for the continued support of our community.

As Superintendent Pemrick stated, we are proud to propose a budget that does not exceed the tax levy cap. This achievement reflects a thoughtful and disciplined approach to financial planning and transparency, as well as a commitment to balancing fiscal responsibility with the needs of our students and community. It is a direct result of the partnership we share with you, our residents, whose ongoing support makes this possible.

Despite remaining within the tax cap, this budget maintains the high-quality educational services our students deserve. It preserves essential academic programs, supports extracurricular opportunities, and continues to invest in resources that foster student growth, achievement, and well-being. At the same

time, we remain committed to offering programs and initiatives that enrich our broader community and ensure our school continues to serve as a vital hub for learning and engagement.

We are grateful for the trust and support you have shown our district. Your partnership allows us to move forward with confidence, knowing we can continue to provide exceptional educational opportunities without placing additional burden on taxpayers.

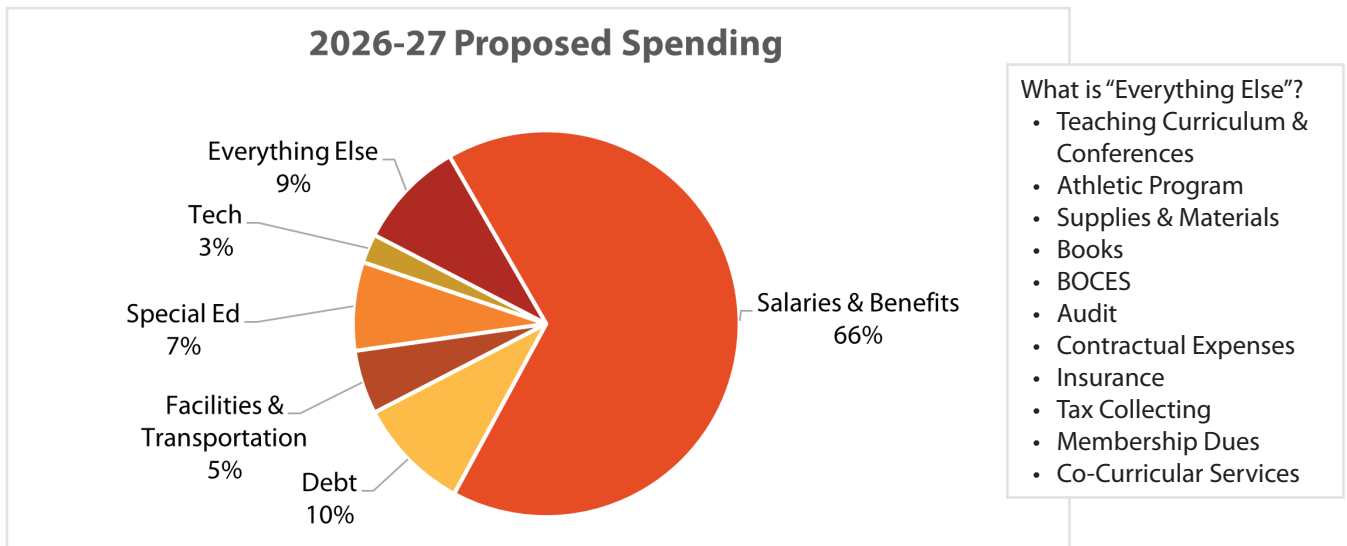
We encourage all community members to review the proposed budget and participate in the upcoming vote. Together, we can ensure the continued success of our school and the strength of our community.

Sincerely,

*Jared Whitley*

Jared Whitley

President, Board of Education



## 2026-27 Budget Comparison

ADMINISTRATIVE COMPONENT	2025-2026 Budget	2026-2027 Proposed	Difference
GENERAL SUPPORT:			
Board of Education	\$8,284	\$17,965	\$9,681
Central Administration	\$243,704	\$232,944	(\$10,760)
Finance	\$324,360	\$311,119	(\$13,241)
Staff	\$18,000	\$18,000	\$0
Special Items	\$194,218	\$270,953	\$76,735
Instruction: Administration	\$42,486	\$113,500	\$71,014
Employee Benefits	\$173,579	\$172,114	(\$1,465)
<b>TOTAL ADMINISTRATIVE COMPONENT</b>	<b>\$1,004,631</b>	<b>\$1,136,595</b>	<b>\$131,964</b>
PROGRAM COMPONENT	2025-2026 Budget	2026-2027 Proposed	Difference
INSTRUCTION:			
Instructional Improvement	\$0	\$0	\$0
Teaching Regular School	\$2,043,412	\$2,253,116	\$209,704
Special Apportionment Programs	\$1,956,669	\$1,825,374	(\$131,295)
Instructional Media	\$273,828	\$274,280	\$452
Pupil Services	\$320,468	\$375,344	\$54,876
Transportation	\$377,924	\$383,356	\$5,432
Employee Benefits	\$2,653,540	\$2,660,187	\$6,647
Interfund Transfer	\$0	\$0	0
<b>TOTAL PROGRAM COMPONENT</b>	<b>\$7,625,841</b>	<b>\$7,771,657</b>	<b>\$145,816</b>
CAPITAL COMPONENT	2025-2026 Budget	2026-2027 Proposed	Difference
Central Services	\$571,862	\$663,414	\$91,552
Employee Benefits	\$157,596	\$162,146	\$4,550
Debt Service	\$939,328	\$923,321	(\$16,007)
Interfund Transfer*	\$120,000	\$100,000	(\$20,000)
<b>TOTAL CAPITAL COMPONENT</b>	<b>\$1,788,786</b>	<b>\$1,848,881</b>	<b>\$60,095</b>
<b>Total Budget Expenditures</b>	<b>\$10,419,258</b>	<b>\$10,757,133</b>	<b>\$337,875</b>

\*District anticipates doing roof repairs and patches for the 2026-27 capital outlay.

Please Note: Budget documents, with detailed line-by-line delineation, are currently available in the school's main office and on our website at [www.slwildcats.org](http://www.slwildcats.org). Call 518-532-7164, ext. 3398 (Business Office) to have a copy mailed to you. The Budget will be reviewed at the Public Hearing on May 12th.

## Property Tax Report Card

	Budgeted 2025-26	Proposed Budget 2026-27	Percent Change
<b>Total Budgeted Amount</b>	<b>\$10,419,258</b>	<b>\$10,757,133</b>	<b>3.24%</b>
A. Proposed Tax Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount	\$8,401,135	\$8,670,971	
B. Tax Levy to Support Library Debt, if Applicable			
C. Tax Levy for Non-Excludable Propositions, if Applicable			
D. Total Tax Cap Reserve Amount Used to Reduce Current Year Levy, if Applicable			
E. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy (A + B + C - D)	\$8,401,135	\$8,670,971	3.21%
F. Permissible Exclusions to the School Tax Levy Limit	\$962,211	\$1,027,598	
G. School Tax Levy Limit , Excluding Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$7,039,033	\$7,669,906	
H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, Excluding Levy to Support Library Debt and/ or Permissible Exclusions (E - B - F + D)	\$7,438,924	\$7,643,373	
I. Difference: (G - H); (negative value requires 60% voter approval)	-\$399,891	\$26,533	
<b>Public School Enrollment</b>	225	204	
<b>Consumer Price Index</b>			2.63%
	<b>Actual 2025-26</b>	<b>Estimated 2026-27</b>	
Adjusted Restricted Fund Balance	\$283,375	\$311,655	
Assigned Appropriated Fund Balance	\$400,000	\$300,000	
Adjusted Unrestricted Fund Balance	\$2,505,265	\$2,405,054	
Adjusted Unrestricted Fund Balance as a Percent of the Total Budget	24.04%	22.36%	

## Estimated Revenues

Budget Year	2024-2025	2025-2026	2026-2027
Interest & Penalties	\$14,000	\$14,000	\$14,000
Interest Earnings	\$90,000	\$110,000	\$110,000
Misc. Revenue	\$40,000	\$40,000	\$40,000
State Aid	\$1,389,096	\$1,454,123	\$1,622,162
Use of Fund Balance	\$500,000	\$400,000	\$300,000
Property Taxes	\$7,757,281	\$8,401,135	\$8,670,971
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$9,790,377</b>	<b>\$10,419,258</b>	<b>\$10,757,133</b>

## Community Corner

### One School, One Book

Our elementary staff joined students and their families by reading and sharing one book together. This is our 3rd year participating in the One School, One Book program, and once again, it was a great success! The students were engaged in sharing “The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane” with peers, family members, and staff members.



### Library Community Volunteers

This year, community member, Joan Lawless, worked with English teacher, Cassie Britt, to coordinate community volunteers to come into the library to read to elementary students, sign books in and out, as well as shelving returned books. They have been such an asset in giving our students opportunities to explore all our library has to offer.

## Proposed Budget - Estimated Tax Change

Town	2025-26 Tax Rate	Estimated 2026-27 Tax Rate	Estimated Tax Bill on \$100k Assesment	Estimated Tax Bill on \$300k Assesment	Estimated Tax Bill on \$500k Assesment
Schroon Lake	\$6.48	\$6.62	\$662	\$1,986	\$3,310
North Hudson	\$8.18	\$8.36	\$836	\$2,508	\$3,415
Chester	\$6.71	\$6.83	\$683	\$2,049	\$3,415

## World of Wildcats Sports



This year has been an exciting one for our athletic program. The Girls Varsity Basketball team made history by not only winning back-to-back sectional titles but by bringing home our first-ever regional game win. They made it to regional finals, and although it didn't end as they'd hoped, they made our community, school, and families so proud. Our girls finished with a State ranking of 6th.

This fall, both our girls' and boys' soccer teams were divisional champions. They represented our school well, and our community came out to support them as they made a great run in sectionals.



Spring sports are underway, and we are fielding baseball, softball, golf, and flag football teams. These teams have started strong, and we look forward to what's ahead.

We couldn't finish writing about SLCS sports without talking about our amazing fans who always show up for our kids. Everywhere we go, people talk about the amazing crowd that shows up no matter the distance. A huge thank you to our Wildcat fans!



# The Arts

## Music & Theater

Our year started participating in CASMA Fall Festival with other local schools. Many students participated in Jazz Band, Elementary Band, Junior Chorus, and Senior Chorus during the festival. Mr. Tracy and Mrs. Masiello were both conductors of groups this year.

Our next performances were the Veterans Day Celebration, where we proudly honored our local veterans with band and chorus performances by our elementary, middle, and high school ensembles, and a trip to the Elderwood Senior Center in Ticonderoga by the Senior Jazz Band and 7-12 Chorus to perform carols for the residents. Chorus also had the opportunity this winter to perform the National Anthem at an Adirondack Thunder game.

We kicked off 2026 with rehearsals starting for our stage production of Frozen, the Broadway Musical. Our awesome cast and crew worked tirelessly for three months to bring us a performance that we are all so proud of. Many hours of practicing songs, lines, and choreography by our wonderful actors went into the final performances.

Our Pops Concert in February was a great evening of popular songs. This concert featured our Beginning Band, 5-6 Band, 7-12 Band, Junior Jazz Band, Senior Jazz Band, and 7-12 Chorus. Then, in mid April, we brought our students to CASMA Spring Festival.



We are looking forward to the last performances of the year. In May, many band students will be attending the NYSSMA Solo Festival in Plattsburgh at Stafford Middle School. They will perform solos for a judge who will give feedback on their performances. Elementary students will be participating in the Young American Voices concert hosted at the MVP Arena in Albany. We will have our Annual Celebration of the Arts concerts in May, where all our performing groups will have their final concerts of the year. And finally,



the 9-11 Band students will perform at this year's graduation to send off our seniors with a well-deserved musical farewell.

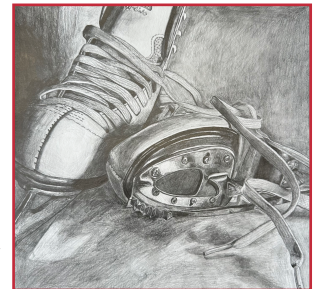
## Visual Arts

The Art Room is a buzz of activity as we prepare for our annual art show during the Celebration of the Arts in May! Students have been painting, designing, collaging, sculpting and printing creative collaborative murals and exploring a variety of 2D and 3D materials to prepare work that will be on display in the main hall before the musical performances. We look forward to sharing our hard work with the community.

7th graders participated in the annual Lions Club peace poster contest this fall. The contest theme this year was "Together As One", and students created posters to visually represent the theme. Posters were judged by community members, and one had their poster move on to judging at the next level (Aliza Ahmad), and two received an honorable mention (Scarlett Schmidt & Jayce Porcaro). All three received a monetary prize from the Lions Club.

Artwork at all levels was selected for display at the Town of Chester Public Library's annual art showcase, highlighting the works of our talented students. This show was on display for the month of January.

Mrs. Livingston, along with several high school students, put in many hours painting sets for our musical Frozen. These pieces helped bring the show to life through the visual arts.



High school students were recently provided with the opportunity to enter their artwork into an annual juried art competition hosted by the Hyde Collection in Glens Falls. Out of 18 schools and 446 total entries, 3 artworks from 3 different SL students were selected by a panel of judges as semi-finalists. After the second round of judging, 2 students' artwork were selected and will be part of the 35th Annual High School Juried Show on display at the Hyde of Glen Falls Hospital from April 18th-May 17th.





**REQUEST AN ABSENTEE BALLOT**

Community members may request an absentee ballot by completing the application found on our website or calling the district office.



**WHEN & WHERE TO VOTE**

**Tuesday, May 19, 2026  
Noon to 8 p.m.**

Schroon Lake Central School  
Auditorium Lobby

**WHAT AM I VOTING ON**

- 2026-27 Budget
- 1 Mini-Bus
- 1 Seat on the Board of Education

**BUDGET HEARING  
MAY 12 AT 6:00 PM**

Schroon Lake Central School Auditorium  
1125 US Rt. 9, Schroon Lake, N.Y. 12870



For more information on the 2026-27 Budget



Visit our district website  
**SLWildCats.org**  
or scan the QR code:



**VOTE ON MAY 19, 2026**

SLWildCats.org

**Kemm Pemrick  
Superintendent  
518-532-7164**

**BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
Jared Whitley, Board President  
Bruce Murdock  
Codie Aiken  
Valerie LeBlanc  
Jenny Pitkin

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