



PLAINEDGE PRESS

Budget 2026

#WEAREPLAINEDGE

WWW.PLAINEDGESCHOOLS.ORG

A Message

from the Superintendent of Schools & Plainedge Board of Education

Dear Plainedge Community,

We are proud to share the proposed budget for the 2026-2027 school year, scheduled for a community vote on May 19, 2026. Following a comprehensive review of our academic programs, facilities, and learning opportunities, we have developed a plan that protects our existing excellence while investing in the technological and structural innovations of tomorrow, all while remaining deeply committed to fiscal responsibility.

We remain diligent in our efforts to balance student needs with the tax impact on our residents. This year's proposed budget of \$111,191,968 represents a budget-to-budget increase of 2.96%. Notably, the proposed tax levy increase is 2.14%.

This budget is a reflection of our community's shared values. Plainedge continues to earn state and national recognition for academic and extracurricular achievement. We are incredibly proud of the hard work and dedication shown by our students and staff.

Our mission remains focused on providing opportunities for student growth, such as:

- Expansion of our Pre-Kindergarten program
- Continued growth of our Integrated Co-Teaching (ICT) special education program at Eastplain Elementary School
- Implementation of financial literacy programs
- Continuing to grow course offerings for Career and Technical Education (CTE) and Advanced Placement courses based on student interest
- Additional opportunities for students in the areas of STREAM, Robotics, Athletics and the Arts
- Continued support of student mental health through our Character Strong program and partnership with Northwell Health

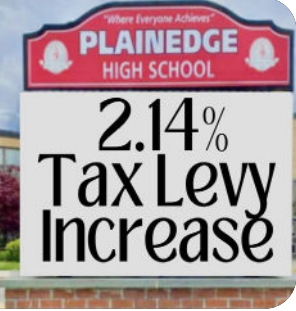
Through data-driven programming and a multifaceted approach to education, we ensure that our initiatives provide a tangible, positive impact on our families and the surrounding community. By approving this budget, we ensure our students will be equipped with the skills and resilience needed for lifelong success. The District remains steadfast in enhancing every facet of the student experience, from special education and the arts to athletics and facility upgrades.

For detailed information regarding the 2026-2027 budget, please visit www.plainedgeschools.org. Thank you for your continued partnership in making Plainedge a place where every student can achieve.

We look forward to seeing you at the polls on May 19, 2026!

Carol Muscarella, Interim Superintendent of Schools
Plainedge Board of Education
 Joseph Beyrouy, President
 Michael Morrissey, Vice President
 Ken Auer, Trustee
 Joseph Garcia, Trustee
 Douglas Pascarella, Trustee
 Michael Ponticello, Trustee
 Kathleen Versace, Trustee

A STRONG FOUNDATION FOR STUDENT SUCCESS



Highlights of 2026-2027 Budget

- **New High School Courses: Financial Literacy for Life, Foundations of Fitness, and College Pre-Calculus with Lab**
- **Continue to upgrade and improve technology security initiatives**
- **Teachers' expand use of AI in the classroom with program pilots and exploration**
- **Purchase of charging carts to support elementary Chromebooks**
- **Install sound system on new Middle School Turf Field**
- **Continue growth of STREAM initiatives, electives, events, and extracurricular activities for all students districtwide (Pre-K through 12)**
- **Expand functionality of Google Suite for teachers and students through new Google Education plus licenses**
- **SAT, ACT, AP and Regents review classes for Middle and High School students**
- **Expansion of ICT for grades K-1 Eastplain Elementary School**
- **Increase opportunities for students in AP Seminar and Research**
- **Curriculum alignment of the Next Generation Learning Standards for English Language Arts (ELA), Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, and Physical Education with professional development for teachers and cross-curricular endeavors**
- **Continue growth of STARS Morning and Afternoon Enrichment Academies, Summer Enrichment, Summer Prep for Elementary and Middle School students, and Adult Education offerings**

Approval of Proposition 2: Use of Capital Reserves = \$2,036,700



Approval of Proposition 2:

The taxpayer authorizes the District to expend \$2,036,700 from current Capital Reserve Funds:

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENTS:

- Eastplain Elementary School replacement of existing original classroom windows
- Plainedge High School replacement of courtyard windows
- Plainedge High School replacement of north elevation windows

Approval of Proposition 3: Use of Capital Reserves = \$3,792,734



Approval of Proposition 3:

The taxpayer authorizes the District to expend \$3,792,734 from current Capital Reserve Funds:

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENTS:

- Eastplain Elementary School replacement of classroom heating, ventilation, and air conditioning
- Charles E. Schwarting Elementary School expansion of drainage and paving at Flower Road
- Plainedge Middle School replacement of stair treads and riser covers, site restoration, asphalt, concrete, and curbs

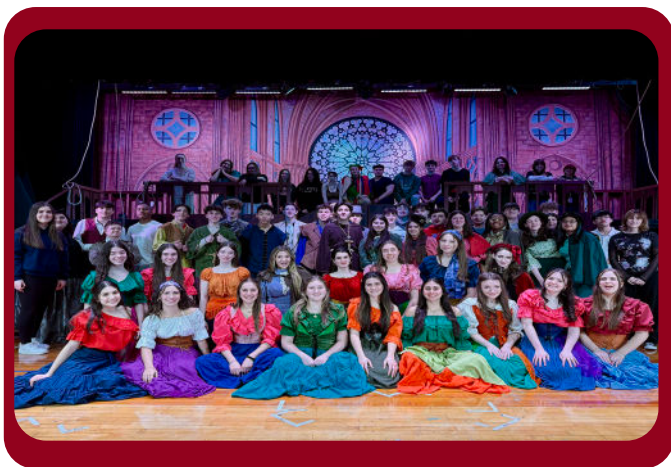
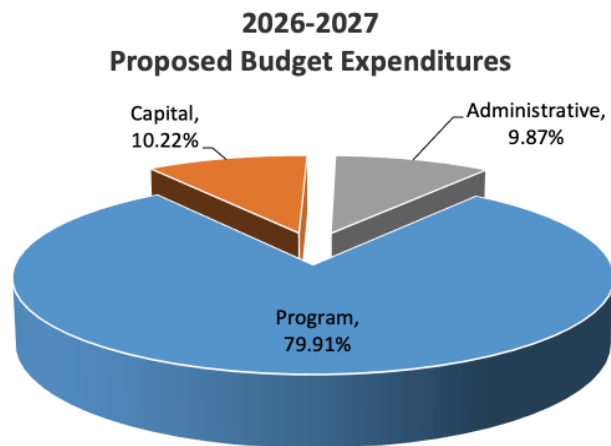
PLAINEDGE SCHOOL DISTRICT
241 Wyngate Drive
North Massapequa, NY 11758

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Bethpage, NY, 11714
PERMIT NO. 18

District Budget Vote

**Tuesday, May 19, 2026
6:00 AM - 9:00 PM
Plainedge High School
Gymnasium**

Proposed Budget Expenditures 2026-2027



What's On the Ballot?

For this election, residents will vote on the following:

- Proposition 1: The proposed 2026-2027 School Budget
- Proposition 2: The proposal to expend funds from the Capital Reserve Fund to improve Safety and Security districtwide
- Proposition 3: The proposal to expend Capital Reserve Funds for districtwide facility upgrades
- Proposition 4: The proposed creation of Capital Reserve Fund - 2026 Facilities Upgrades
- Proposition 5: The proposal to Vote at Large for School Board Trustees
- Proposition 6: The proposed 2026-2027 Plainedge Public Library Budget
- Board Of Education Trustees: The election of two (2) members to the Plainedge School District Board of Education
- Plainedge Public Library Board Trustees: The election of one (1) member to the Plainedge Public Library Board

ADMINISTRATION/PROGRAM SUPPORT

	Proposed Budget 2026-2027	Current Budget 2025-2026
Board of Education	183,389	192,173
Central Administration	818,596	871,526
Finance	1,145,212	1,097,559
Legal	129,677	105,932
Central Services	245,690	237,900
Central Data Processing	901,786	875,545
Curriculum Development and Program Supervision	726,805	733,675
Building Supervision	3,240,133	3,165,438
Special Items	1,377,525	1,238,915
Employee Benefits	2,208,976	2,145,248

TOTAL ADMINISTRATION

\$10,977,789

\$10,663,911

PROGRAM FOR STUDENTS

Teaching	31,987,280	31,719,900
Special Education	18,283,988	16,964,086
English Language Learners/Occupational Education	1,439,394	1,405,351
Special Schools	466,127	434,699
Instructional Media and Technology	3,100,505	2,811,491
Guidance/Testing Services	1,705,995	1,681,766
Health Services/Nurses	720,596	634,684
Psychological/Social Workers	1,509,848	1,417,021
Co-Curricular Activities	560,698	530,686
Interscholastic Athletics	1,440,711	1,578,187
Pupil Transportation	4,290,061	4,633,064
Legal	129,678	105,933
Community Service	659,660	671,519
Transfer to other Funds	531,000	381,000
Employee Benefits	22,026,518	21,099,476

TOTAL PROGRAM

\$88,852,059

\$86,068,863

Capital Program

Operations and Maintenance	8,069,832	7,801,817
Debt Service	1,326,883	1,326,883
Transfer to Capital Fund (Capital Projects)	500,000	750,000
Employee Benefits	1,465,405	1,382,202

TOTAL CAPITAL

\$11,362,120

\$11,260,902

TOTAL BUDGET

\$111,191,968

\$107,993,676

Questions & Answers

Q: What does the budget support?

A: The proposed budget preserves all curricular and co-curricular programs, athletic teams, and includes numerous new project-based learning initiatives.

This includes:

- Curriculum & technology integration that supports the expansion of dual enrollment coursework including 18 AP and 20 college courses (3 - 6 credits per course)
- Increased learning opportunities & enhancements in STREAM & Robotics (Pre K through 12)
- Core academic programs and resources
- College and Career readiness course electives
- Professional development
- Enhancement of all school facilities & athletic fields
- Enhancements to campus safety
- Financial literacy program
- The purchase of athletic supplies and equipment
- Additional mental health supports
- Expansion of ICT for grades K-1 at Eastplain Elementary School
- 1:1 technology devices for all students & staff

Q: How does the district save on costs?

A: The District continually looks for efficiency. We utilize Nassau BOCES for many of our purchases resulting in cost savings and significant additional revenue in the form of State Aid. When possible, the District utilizes cooperative governmental bids for goods and services. We maximize savings through E-Rate, which provides discounts for telecommunication, Internet access, and internal connections.

Q: How is the tax levy limit calculated?

A: There is an eight-step formula for determining the tax levy limit and it takes several factors into account. The factors include: Consumer Price Index, Tax Base Growth Factor, Capital Tax Levy and any changes in projected PILOTs.

Q: What happens if the budget fails?

A: If the budget is defeated on May 19, state law allows the district to present either the same budget or revised budget, which would require educational program cuts and possibly eliminate or reduce the number of interscholastic sports and co-curricular activities which are currently offered.

2026-2027 Board of Education Elections

District residents will be asked to elect two individuals to the Board of Education, for a term of three years beginning July 1, 2026.

Candidate for Seat 1



Joseph Beyroudy (Incumbent)

“Kids First. Always.” After completing nearly three years on the Board of Education, this will remain the slogan. I believe this mindset has served the Plainedge Schools and the community well. Over this period we have striven to keep low taxes, to continually focus on improving academic achievement, and to prove that we actively seek community input to help drive decision-making.

The reason this slogan works is that it reinforces the idea that a trustee’s primary focus is to ensure that the children in Plainedge have the best resources and opportunities to achieve lifelong success after graduation.

As a father to six children in the district and with over 20 years of experience in the finance and accounting world, I will leverage my soft and technical skills to continue to serve all stakeholders with the utmost care and integrity. The concept of providing a high-quality education and being fiscally responsible are not mutually exclusive. I look forward to earning your trust and vote to be re-elected to the Plainedge Board of Education.

Candidate for Seat 2



Kathleen Versace (Incumbent)

Kathleen “Kat” Versace is a trustee on the Plainedge Public Schools Board of Education and a proud 15-year resident of the community. As a mom of a ninth grader and an eleventh grader, she understands firsthand what’s at stake for Plainedge families.

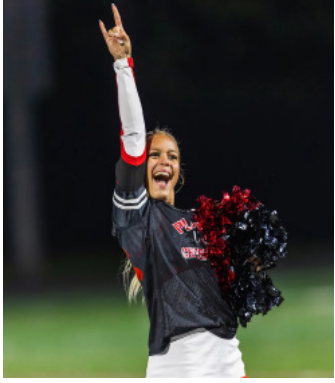
Kat brings more than a decade of experience as a former New York City Department of Education (DOE) teacher, along with a long track record of hands-on involvement in Plainedge schools and community life. From serving as a class parent to leading major school events and fundraisers, she has consistently shown up and done the work. She has also coached youth athletics, volunteered as a strength trainer for students, and supported programs like the Special Olympics.

A certified teacher and ACE-certified personal trainer, Kat is a strong advocate for student wellness, academic growth, and real opportunities for all kids. Her decision to serve on the Board was driven by a clear belief that every voice in this community matters to students, parents, and residents alike.

During her time on the Board, Kat has focused on asking thoughtful questions, working collaboratively, and ensuring decisions are made with transparency and accountability. She is committed to strengthening communication, supporting high-quality education, and making responsible choices that reflect the priorities of the entire community.

Kat is running to continue that work because Plainedge deserves leadership that listens, shows up, and delivers.

2025-2026 POINTS OF PRIDE



Amazing Achievements

- Charles E. Schwarting Elementary was recognized as a 2026 State and National School of Character
- PMS was redesignated as an Essential Elements School-to-Watch from the National Forum and New York State
- PHS students took 470 AP exams across 18 content areas - 85% of students achieving proficiency
- Plainedge High School has earned Silver recognition on the 2025 AP School Honor Roll
- 86% of the graduating students from the Class of 2025 are attending college with 79% attending four-year colleges
- 13 Summa Cum Laude Students (GPAs over 100)
- 73 Students received NYS Seal of Civic Readiness
- 1 PHS Student was a National Merit Finalist and 2 Students were commended by the National Merit Scholarship Program
- 12 PHS Students earned the AP Capstone Diploma (7 Seniors; 5 Juniors)
- 6 Students recognized by the College Board as National First-Generation Recognition
- PHS hosted Instant College Decision Week - 182 acceptances; approximately \$2 million in scholarships
- 2 PHS Students named as All-State Musicians
- 6 PHS Students named to NYSBDA All State HS Honors Band
- PMS Students participated in the National Science Bowl STEAM Competition
- PMS Robotics team placed 4th overall in the FIRST FTC Long Island Championships and received the Robot Design Award at the FIRST LEGO League Robotics competition
- 288 Plainedge Students participated in NYSSMA Solo Festival, 50 Students in All-County Festivals (Divisions I-IV), 7 Students in the Long Island String Festival
- 3 Plainedge Senior Artists selected for Advanced Placement Exhibit - Art League of Long Island
- Plainedge Elementary Teacher, Denise Dooling; earned NYS Master Teacher
- Plainedge MS Teacher, Caitlin Sweeney; earned National Board Certified Teacher
- Plainedge CTE Teacher, Dr. Eileen Santoro; received the 2025 ASSET Bright Light Award, and was highlighted in the Newsday Teacher Spotlight
- Plainedge Special Education Teacher, Megan Bender; received NY Islanders Teacher of the Month
- 16 Varsity Teams named Scholar Athlete Teams
- 168 Varsity Athletes named Individual Scholar Athletes
- Girls Volleyball County Finalists
- Varsity Football Conference Champions and County Finalists
- Girls Varsity Soccer County Finalists
- Girls Varsity Basketball County and Long Island Champions
- Fall and Winter Cheerleading participated in County Championships
- Varsity Wrestling - One Student, three time State Champion
- Varsity Bowling - One Student competed for State Championship
- Track and Field - Two Students won County titles

- Districtwide Law Enforcement and First Responder Appreciation Day
- Plainedge School District swore in first Ex-Officio Student Board Member
- PHS expanded electives offered to students including College Child Development and AP Pre-Calculus
- PHS hosted two fall and one spring college fairs
- PHS bi-weekly advisory program with character education
- PHS College TV Students produced and streamed live morning announcements
- PHS hosted the Passing of the Torch with seniors and 5th graders and Safe Halloween
- PHS new club driven by student voice: Social Studies Honor Society
- PHS Students hosted the 50 year reunion for Plainedge Alumni
- PHS hosted parent and student workshops/information sessions: Senior College Night, Junior College Night and Panel, Financial Aid Night, Grade 9 Night, Curriculum Night, College Testing (PSAT, SAT, ACT) Night, Grade 8 Orientation
- Bright Futures Week and College Awareness Week offered our K-8 students amazing opportunities to explore their future pathways
- Special Education continued the PHS Red Devil Roast Coffee Shop and Plainedge Perk run by special education students
- Plainedge held its 5th Annual Best Buddies Fashion Show
- Transition to In-District Vocational Counseling
- All elementary students participated in the World Read Aloud Day, Great Kindness Challenge during Kindness Week, Cards for Cops, Valentines for Vets, Global Day of Play, PARP (Pick A Reading Partner), Red Ribbon Week, P.S. I Love You Day, and food, clothing, and toy drives
- Our elementary students raised over \$15,000 for the American Heart Association through the Kids' Heart Challenge
- Elementary students are involved with In-Service Learning Projects
- District student transition support programs: Pre-K Orientation, Sail Into Kindergarten, 5th Grade Project Challenge, 5th Grade Pen Pal Wellness Day, MS Summer Transition Program, PHS/MS Orientations, and New Entrant Breakfasts

Plainedge Gold Card Program:

All residents of the Plainedge School District who are 60 years of age or over are eligible for membership in the Gold Card program. Upon receipt of a completed membership form, Seniors will receive a Gold Card in the mail within a few days. Visit the district website at www.plainedgeschools.org to learn more.

Plainedge Fitness Center:

Have you signed up for your free membership? Visit the district website at www.plainedgeschools.org to learn how to register for a Plainedge Fitness Center Community membership.

Voter Eligibility and Registration

If you are registered to vote with the Nassau County Board of Elections or with the School District, you are eligible to vote in the 2026-2027 School District Budget and Board Election. Residents may register any school day until May 14, 2026 (five days before the vote) 9:00 AM-3:30 PM at the Central Administration Office, located at 241 Wyngate Drive, North Massapequa. Visit the District website for more information or call the District Clerk's Office at (516) 992-7457.

In order to vote in the School District Budget and Board Election, a person must be:

- A citizen of the United States
- 18 years of age or older
- A resident of the district for 30 days prior to voting
- A registered voter in either the school district, state or national elections

Absentee/Early Mail In Ballot Applications

The submission of absentee/early mail in ballot applications must be received by the District Clerk seven days before the election if the ballot is to be mailed to the voter (May 12, 2026), or the day before the election if the ballot is to be issued to the voter in person (May 18, 2026). Visit the District website for more information or call the District Clerk's Office at (516) 992-7457.

Kindergarten Registration

Did you register for kindergarten? You can still register your child for kindergarten for the 2026-2027 school year.

Children must be 5 years of age on or before December 1, 2026. Registration forms are available at www.plainedgeschools.org and all elementary schools. Please call (516) 992-7420 if you have questions.

Remember to Vote!

Tuesday, May 19, 2026 • 6:00 AM – 9:00 PM Plainedge High School Gymnasium

Follow Us!
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The Plainedge Board of Education

Joseph Beyrouthy, President
Michael Morrissey, Vice President
Ken Auer • Joseph Garcia
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