



JORDAN-ELBRIDGE

Central School District

BUDGET EDITION 2026

2026-2027 SCHOOL BUDGET *Key Dates*



PUBLIC HEARING & MEET THE BOARD OF EDUCATION CANDIDATES

Wednesday, May 6th, 2026

6:00 p.m.

JEMS Library

BUDGET VOTE

Tuesday, May 19th, 2026

7:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.

JEHS Events Entrance

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On Tuesday, May 19, 2026, residents will vote on the proposed \$40,852,900 budget for the 2026-27 school year. The plan reflects a 3.5% spending increase and a 1.7% tax levy increase, while continuing to prioritize student success and community value. This budget supports all Jordan-Elbridge academic and co-curricular programs, maintains the district's practice of purchasing buses with cash, and strategically utilizes reserve funds to help minimize the local tax impact.

"This budget reflects our continued commitment to our students and community," said Superintendent James Froio. "While the Governor continues to provide rural schools like JE with a minimum 1% increase in Foundation Aid—below the current rate of inflation—our goals remain unchanged. We aim to preserve all student programming, pursue academic excellence for every learner, reduce staffing through attrition when possible, and responsibly use interest and reserves to lessen the tax burden. Jordan-Elbridge continues to offer small-school benefits with large-school opportunities."

Assistant Superintendent R.J. Hartwell emphasized the district's pride in its offerings. "We are incredibly proud of our academic and extracurricular programming, and this budget allows us to continue building on that success," he said. "The 1.7% tax levy increase—well below the statewide average of 2.6%—combined with thoughtful reserve use, demonstrates our commitment to both students and taxpayers. We remain focused on fostering personal growth, achievement, and providing the very best educational opportunities for all."

As the vote approaches, the district encourages all community members to stay informed and take part in this important process. Polls will be open on May 19, 2026, from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. at Jordan-Elbridge High School, with access available through the events entrance. Absentee or early mail ballot requests can be made by contacting the district clerk.

Together, we continue to build a strong future—rooted in Eagle pride.

PROPOSED 2026-2027 BUDGET SUMMARY

ANTICIPATED OPERATING REVENUES

REVENUE SOURCES	2025-2026 Revised Revenues	2026-2027 Estimated Revenues	% Change
Property tax increase for school taxes → Tax Levy (Including STAR)	\$13,312,200	\$13,538,510	1.7%
Other Tax Items	597,749	530,500	(11.3%)
Non-property Taxes	20,000	35,000	75%
Charges for Services	35,000	64,500	84.3%
Rental of classroom to BOCES → Use of Property	82,000	82,000	0%
Miscellaneous & Interest	864,715	1,133,954	31.1%
State Aid	20,062,536	20,098,536	0.2%
Federal Medicaid Revenue	25,000	30,000	20%
Interfund Transfer-EBALR	0	235,000	N/A
Interfund Transfer-Tax Certiorari	94,647	30,000	(68.3%)
Interfund Transfer-TRS	150,000	300,000	100%
Interfund Transfer-ERS	400,000	423,000	5.8%
Interfund Transfer-Workers Comp	100,000	200,000	100%
Interfund Transfer-Bus Reserve	615,000	650,000	5.7%
Interfund Transfer-Unemployment	100,000	600,000	500%
Interfund Transfer-Liability	0	151,900	N/A
Minimum Foundation Aid increase of 1% → Appropriated Fund Balance	3,000,000	2,750,000	(8.3%)
Maintains Fund Balance below the comptroller's 4% threshold →			
Total:	\$39,458,847	\$40,852,900	3.53%

Decrease due to retirements

Increased student services

Ensuring SEL support for student needs

Re-classifying expenses; preserving all student activities & athletics

PROPOSED BUDGET AT A GLANCE

FUNCTION	2025-2026 Adopted Budget	2026-2027 Proposed Budget	% Change
General Support	\$4,906,627	\$4,918,806	0.2%
Instruction	19,089,434	18,880,787	(1.1%)
Pupil Transportation	3,658,223	3,736,125	2.1%
Community Service	36,000	36,000	0%
Employee Benefits	8,438,750	9,953,719	18.0%
Debt Service	2,869,813	2,867,463	(0.1%)
Interfund Transfers	460,000	460,000	0%
Total:	\$39,458,847	\$40,852,900	3.53%

Includes purchase of: 1 half bus, 1 mid-size wheelchair bus, 1 large bus

Planned replacement of mechanical lift in 25-26

PROPOSED BUDGET, 3-PART FORMAT

COMPONENT	2025-2026 Adopted Budget	2026-2027 Proposed Budget	% Change
Administrative	\$4,358,170	\$4,459,906	2.3%
Program	28,182,876	29,310,327	4.0%
Capital	6,917,801	7,082,667	2.4%
Total:	\$39,458,847	\$40,852,900	3.53%

Continued planned payment on long-term district debt

PROPOSED 2026-2027 BUDGET

A LINE-BY-LINE LOOK

INSTRUCTION

FUNCTION	2025-2026 Budget	2026-2027 Proposed Budget	% Change
Curriculum Development	\$146,675	\$152,230	3.8%
Supervision-Regular School	1,040,795	987,163	(5.2%)
Research, Planning & Evaluation	151,000	153,000	1.3%
In-Service Training	93,000	93,250	0.3%
Teaching-Regular School	8,494,385	8,149,910	(4.1%)
Programs-Students w/Disabilities	4,851,130	4,930,150	1.6%
English Language Learners	33,638	65,000	93.2%
Occupational Education	975,000	975,000	0%
Teaching-Special Schools	61,800	62,000	0.3%
School Library & AV	324,029	272,672	(15.8%)
Computer Assisted Instruction	879,814	893,833	(4.5%)
Guidance	619,712	691,478	11.6%
Health Services	201,750	204,837	1.5%
Psychological Services	150,125	154,940	3.2%
Social Work Services	96,376	96,649	0.3%
Co-Curricular Activities	293,710	282,435	(3.8%)
Interscholastic Activities	676,495	716,240	5.9%
Total Instruction:	\$19,089,434	\$18,880,787	(1.1%)

GENERAL SUPPORT

FUNCTION	2025-2026 Budget	2026-2027 Proposed Budget	% Change
Board of Education	\$19,730	\$20,500	3.9%
District Clerk	10,000	10,000	0%
District Meeting	3,150	3,150	0%
Chief School Administrator	289,754	292,121	0.8%
Business Administration	382,189	351,185	(8.1%)
Auditing	34,650	35,850	3.5%
Tax Collection	12,250	17,250	40.8%
Purchasing	4,665	5,200	11.5%
Legal Services-Other	83,800	85,000	1.4%
Legal Services-Financial Advisor	6,500	7,500	15.4%
Legal-BOCES Services	27,017	28,000	3.6%
Personnel	120,930	117,065	(3.2%)
Records Management	2,500	2,500	0%
Public Information & Services	85,790	86,675	1.0%
Operation of Plant	1,972,750	1,939,750	(1.7%)
Maintenance of Plant	718,250	773,000	7.6%
Central Printing & Mailing	77,400	79,310	2.5%
Central Data Processing	576,602	581,250	0.8%
Insurance & BOCES Admin. Services	478,700	483,500	1.0%
Total General Support:	\$4,906,627	\$4,918,806	0.2%

Decrease due to retirements

Hired new tax collector & reinstalled stipend

TRANSPORTATION; BENEFITS; DEBT SERVICE; INTERFUND TRANSFERS

	2025-2026 Budget	2026-2027 Proposed Budget	% Change
PUPIL TRANSPORTATION			
District Transportation	\$3,308,932	\$3,537,650	6.9%
Garage Building	328,175	176,475	(46.2%)
Transportation From BOCES	21,116	22,000	4.2%
Total Pupil Transportation:	\$3,658,223	\$3,736,125	2.1%
COMMUNITY SERVICE			
Total Community Service:	\$36,000	\$36,000	0%
DEBT SERVICE (PRINCIPAL & INTEREST)			
Total Debt Service-Construction:	\$2,561,813	\$2,561,813	0%
Total Debt Service-BOCES:	\$308,000	\$305,650	(0.8%)

	2025-2026 Budget	2026-2027 Proposed Budget	% Change
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS			
Employees' Retirement	\$569,000	\$577,500	1.5%
Teachers' Retirement	1,344,500	1,344,500	0%
Social Security	1,415,800	1,415,800	0%
Workers' Compensation	190,000	190,000	0%
Unemployment Insurance	35,000	10,000	(71.4%)
Health (Medical)	4,703,450	6,234,919	32.6%
Vision, Dental, 403b, Flex	171,000	171,000	0%
Employee Tuition	10,000	10,000	0%
Total Employee Benefits:	\$8,438,750	\$9,953,719	18.0%
INTERFUND TRANSFERS			
Transfer to Special Aid Funds	\$360,000	\$360,000	0%
Transfer to Capital Fund	100,000	100,000	0%
Total Interfund Transfers:	\$460,000	\$460,000	0%

Rising health care costs

	2025-2026 Budget	2026-2027 Proposed Budget	% Change
GRAND TOTAL:	\$39,458,847	\$40,852,900	3.53%

JEHS ANNOUNCES CLASS OF 2026 VALEDICTORIAN AND SALUTATORIAN

Jordan-Elbridge High School is proud to announce the Class of 2026 valedictorian and salutatorian—two outstanding students whose dedication, leadership, and commitment to excellence have left a lasting impact on the school community.

CAMERON FRAHER – VALEDICTORIAN

Cameron Fraher has distinguished herself as a leader both in and out of the classroom. A three-sport athlete, she has competed on the tennis, basketball, and softball teams, while also serving as President of Student Council. Cameron is a member of the National Honor Society, Science Honor Society, and Link Crew, consistently demonstrating her commitment to leadership and service.

She credits her parents as her biggest influence. “They’ve pushed me to be my best 24/7,” she said. Reflecting on earning the title of valedictorian, Cameron shared simply, “I worked really hard to get here.”

Outside of school, Cameron enjoys hunting and spending time with her family, especially her many younger cousins. This summer, she is most looking forward to “the warm weather!”—a sentiment many in Central New York can appreciate. She laughingly notes she will miss “hanging out with everyone in Kufs’ room like five hours out of the day.” In the fall, Cameron will attend Le Moyne College to study occupational therapy, with the goal of becoming a pediatric occupational therapist.

SOLOMIA MAKARCHUK – SALUTATORIAN

Solomia Makarchuk has built an impressive high school career grounded in academic excellence and service. She is a member of the National Honor Society, Science Honor Society, and a representative on Student Council. Solomia also participated in the OCC Advantage program through Onondaga Community College, where students meet rigorous benchmarks in attendance, academics, and community service to prepare for college success.

Solomia credits Spanish teacher Mrs. Killian as a major influence. “She’s always been there for me and I could always talk to her,” she shared, noting their connection dates back to fifth grade.

Outside of school, Solomia enjoys hiking and is planning several trips to the Adirondacks this summer, including a climb up Mount Marcy. Following graduation, she plans to attend Onondaga Community College’s nursing program to earn her associate degree before continuing on to Upstate to pursue her bachelor’s degree and a career in nursing.

Jordan-Elbridge congratulates Cameron and Solomia on their incredible achievements. Their hard work, leadership, and Eagle pride have set a strong example for future generations. The district also looks forward to celebrating their accomplishments and hearing their inspiring graduation speeches on June 26.

JORDAN-ELBRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 2026 Valedictorian

Cameron
Fraher



JORDAN-ELBRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 2026 Salutatorian

Solomia
Makarchuk



ON THE MAY 19 BALLOT



PROPOSITION 1:

The 2026-27 budget

Shall the proposed 2026-2027 budget for the Jordan-Elbridge Central School District, in the amount of **\$40,852,900** as approved by the Board of Education on March 18, 2026, be adopted?

PROPOSITION 2:

Elbridge Free Library

Shall the annual appropriation for the Elbridge Free Library be increased by the sum of \$10,000.00, for a total levy of \$137,500, to be raised by the levy of a tax upon the taxable property within the Jordan-Elbridge Central School District, in accordance with Section 259 of the Education Law?

PROPOSITION 3:

Jordan Bramley Library

Shall the annual appropriation for the Jordan Bramley Library be increased by the sum of \$10,000.00, for a total levy of \$150,500, to be raised by the levy of a tax upon the taxable property within the Jordan-Elbridge Central School District, in accordance with Section 259 of the Education Law?

BOARD OF EDUCATION ELECTION:

(Three Seats) See page 6 for biographical information of the Board of Education candidates.

What if the 2026-2027 budget is not approved?

If voters reject the initial budget proposal on May 19th, the Board of Education has the option of putting the same or a revised budget up for a revote in June. If a proposed budget is defeated twice by voters, the district must adopt a contingent budget.

THREE-COMPONENT BREAK DOWN

Administrative Component: Salaries and benefits, as well as all other costs to operate the central district services and each school's main office and cover Board of Education expenses.

Instructional Component: Funding for all K-12 educational programs, including teacher and support staff salaries and benefits, BOCES special education and instructional services, interscholastic athletics and transportation.

Capital Component: Cleaning and maintaining district facilities, including salaries, benefits, service contracts, utilities, materials and supplies, capital outlay projects and debt service.

HOW YOUR TAX DOLLARS ARE SPENT

PROPOSED BUDGET: \$40,852,900

Administrative
10.9%



Capital
17.3%



Program
71.7%



WHAT THE BUDGET PAYS FOR*

*Summary and not an item-by-item list

PROGRAM

- » Salary and benefits (teachers, counselors, librarians, coaches, teaching assistants, bus monitors, bus drivers)
- » Teacher supplies, materials and equipment, conferences
- » Textbooks and software
- » Sports and co-curricular activities
- » Transportation
- » Library Services

ADMINISTRATIVE

- » Board of Education expenses
- » District clerk and district meeting expenses
- » Salary and benefits for: superintendent, assistant superintendent, principals/supervisors, and central office and main office staff
- » Staff development
- » School resource officers

CAPITAL

- » Salary and benefits (custodial, grounds keepers, and maintenance)
- » Supplies and materials
- » Equipment
- » Water, sewage and utilities
- » Bond principal and interest payments
- » Capital Outlay
- » Bus purchases

BOARD OF EDUCATION CANDIDATES

Three seats are available on the Jordan-Elbridge Board of Education. Each board seat has three year terms.

SARA AASERUD

Spouse: Eric Aaserud

Children: Grace - 6th Grade & Isla - Kindergarten

Years lived in district: 7.5 years

Employment: Project/Program Management Contractor for Experis

High school & college: Union Springs CSD Class of 2005, Cornell University (B.S. in Mechanical Engineering) Class of 2010



SARA
AASERUD

MOLLY GODFREY

Spouse: Adam Godfrey

Children: Keegan - 8th Grade & Kinley - 6th Grade

Years lived in district: 40 years

Employment: Bookkeeping Services for Bridge Financials

High school & college: Jordan-Elbridge CSD, Pace University (Bachelors in Education)



MOLLY
GODFREY

KURT HANDLEY

Spouse: Lindsay Handley

Children: Blake - 8th Grade, Ella - 7th Grade, Emmi - 3rd Grade, Cole - Kindergarten

Years lived in district: 15 years

Employment: Business Development Manager for Carrier

High school & college: Auburn High School, SUNY Polytechnic Institute (B.S. in Mechanical Engineering)



KURT
HANDLEY

Jordan-Elbridge Indoor Percussion Captures *First* NYS Championship

The Jordan-Elbridge Indoor Percussion Ensemble has made history.

On March 29, 2026, at Gates-Chili High School, the JE Indoor Percussion Ensemble brought home its first-ever New York State Percussion Championship—a milestone nearly 30 years in the making.

Competing at a high level, the ensemble is known for its dynamic performances that blend precision musicianship with high-movement drills and intricate choreography. Adding to the uniqueness of the program, members play a key role in shaping each season by selecting their own acts and styling, creating truly authentic and engaging performances.

Their championship performance earned a score of 90.1, placing them at #6 in the nation in the Percussion Scholastic A rankings—an incredible achievement that reflects the group’s dedication, talent, and relentless pursuit of excellence.

The journey doesn’t stop here. Next up for JE Indoor Percussion is the WGI Percussion World Championships.

Jordan-Elbridge congratulates these outstanding student performers on an unforgettable season and a championship that will be remembered for years to come.



Celebrating the *Top Ten* Students of JEHS Class of 2026

Jordan-Elbridge High School is proud to recognize the outstanding academic achievements of the Class of 2026 Top Ten. These students have demonstrated exceptional dedication, perseverance, and commitment to excellence throughout their high school careers.

This year’s Top Ten includes:

- | | | |
|----------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Cameron Fraher | 5. Bridget Whiting | 8. Daniel Conrad |
| 2. Solomia Makarchuk | 6. Madison Curtis | 9. Sophia Rinaldo |
| 3. Mick Chmielewski | 7. William Haumann | 10. Alex Jay |
| 4. John Peters | 8. Olivia Smith | |

Notably, the Class of 2026 features a tie for the number eight position, highlighting the strong academic performance and competitiveness among this year’s graduating class.

These students have excelled both inside and outside of the classroom, contributing to the Jordan-Elbridge community through academics, extracurricular activities, athletics, and leadership opportunities. Their hard work has set a high standard and serves as an inspiration for their peers and future Eagles.

Jordan-Elbridge congratulates the Top Ten of the Class of 2026 on this incredible accomplishment and looks forward to celebrating their success at graduation this June!





JORDAN-ELBRIDGE

Central School District

District Office: 9 North Chappell St.

Jordan, NY 13080

Mailing Address: PO Box 902

Jordan, NY 13080

Non-Profit
Organization

PAID

Jordan, NY
13080

Permit #5

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Jeff Poor, *President*

Tabitha DelCostello, *Vice President*

Molly Godfrey

Kurt Handley

Jodi May

Matt Gardiner

Sara Aaserud

SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

James R. Froio

ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT

R.J. Hartwell

POSTAL PATRON

Please Vote!

Tuesday, May 19th, 2026

JEHS Events Entrance

Voting will take place in-person. Absentee ballots will be available by request. If you'd like one, please contact the District Clerk at 315-689-8500 ext. 5002. All ballots have to be returned to the District Clerk by **5 p.m. on May 19, 2026.**

WHO CAN VOTE?

Voter Qualifications:

- » U.S. citizen
- » 18 years of age or older
- » District residency for at least 30 days prior to the vote
- » No voter registration is required



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