



# PULASKI

## ACADEMY & CENTRAL SCHOOLS

BUDGET EDITION 2025

### 2025-2026 School Budget **KEY DATES**

#### **PUBLIC HEARING** PACS HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY

**Tuesday, May 13, 2025**  
**6:30 p.m.**

#### **BUDGET VOTE** RINGGOLD FIRE HALL

**Tuesday, May 20, 2025**  
**8 a.m. to 8 p.m.**

#### **ABSENTEE/EARLY MAIL BALLOTS**

**For information,  
contact the District Office  
(315-298-5188).**

**Ballots must be received  
by 5 p.m. on May 20, 2025.**

## A Message From the Pulaski Board of Education

We extend our sincere appreciation to the PACS staff and the entire school community for their dedication and support of our students and schools.

The proposed budget reflects the Board of Education's commitment to enhancing academic opportunities while maintaining the rigorous educational standards that define our District. It ensures that students continue to have access to high-quality programs that foster learning, growth, and achievement.

At the same time, this spending plan emphasizes sustainability by carefully managing resources to optimize school operations. The Board remains mindful of economic factors affecting both the District and the community, striving to balance educational excellence with fiscal responsibility.

The proposed 2025–26 school budget totals \$31,258,000, reflecting a 0% increase over last year's budget. Although debt payments from previous capital projects have decreased — helping to offset overall costs — state aid associated with those projects has also been reduced. At the same time, operational and instructional expenses have risen. To balance these factors, the budget includes a 1.9% increase in the tax levy, or \$142,225.

A public hearing to present the 2025-26 budget will be held at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 13, in the Pulaski Middle-High School library. Voting will take place Tuesday, May 20, from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. at the

Ringgold Fire Hall. The vote will include the 2025-26 budget, a proposition to withdraw \$100,000 from the bus purchase reserve, and the election of two members to the PACS Board of Education.

The budget also includes \$100,000 to be used toward a capital outlay project. The New York State Education Department allows for schools to complete capital improvement projects of up to \$100,000 during the proposed budget year. Building aid revenue is then received the following year (PACS state aid rate is 92.8%). The 2025-26 capital outlay project will replace some flooring in instructional spaces at Pulaski Middle-High School.

The Pulaski Academy & Central School District has a tradition of sound financial planning and budget development. The Board of Education and administrative team will continue to be strategic with our resources to provide opportunities and programs for students that we can all be proud of.

Please visit [www.pulaskicsd.org](http://www.pulaskicsd.org) for PACS academic and extracurricular program highlights as well as more information on the 2025-26 school budget.

***Thank you for your continued support.***

Sincerely,

***PACS Board of Education***

## WHO CAN VOTE?

**According to New York Education Law,  
in order to vote, you must be:**

- ✓ A citizen of the United States
- ✓ 18 years of age
- ✓ A resident of the district for at least 30 days

You do NOT have to be registered to vote.

You do NOT have to own property in the district, but you **MUST** reside in the district.

Identification and proof of residence **WILL** be requested at the time of voting.



## PACS REVENUE BUDGET

	2024-25 ACTUAL BUDGET	2025-26 PROPOSED BUDGET
<b>STATE AID</b>		
Foundation Aid	\$13,722,659	\$13,999,112
Community Schools Set Aside	100,000	100,000
Hardware & Technology Aid	17,686	16,955
Transportation Aid	1,213,247	1,305,683
BOCES Aid	2,625,251	2,629,837
Software, Library & Textbook Aid	71,257	70,112
Building Aid	2,425,334	1,793,594
High Cost & Private Excess Cost Aid	600,000	550,000
Homeless Aid	80,000	100,000
<b>Total State Aid</b>	<b>\$20,855,434</b>	<b>\$20,565,293</b>
<b>PROPERTY TAXES</b>		
Tax Levy	\$7,485,513	\$7,627,738
Pilots	282,002	280,469
Tax Penalty	25,000	26,000
<b>Total Property Taxes</b>	<b>\$7,792,515</b>	<b>\$7,934,207</b>
<b>OTHER INCOME</b>		
Interest on Deposits	\$110,000	\$255,000
Miscellaneous	741,051	784,500
Debt Service	315,000	275,000
Reserves	865,000	865,000
Appropriated Fund Balance	579,000	579,000
<b>Total Other Income</b>	<b>\$2,610,051</b>	<b>\$2,758,500</b>
<b>TOTAL BUDGET</b>	<b>\$31,258,000</b>	<b>\$31,258,000</b>

**ESTIMATED  
BASIC STAR  
EXEMPTION  
SAVINGS\***

Under the Budget  
Proposed for the 2025-26  
School Year, the Estimated  
Basic STAR Savings:

**\$465**

\*The basic school tax relief (STAR)  
exemption is authorized by section  
425 of the Real Property Tax Law.

***Tax Levy  
is below  
the Tax Cap***



## PACS MAJOR BUDGET UNITS

	2024-25 ACTUAL BUDGET	2025-26 PROPOSED BUDGET
ADMINISTRATIVE BUDGET		
Board of Education	\$35,277	\$35,277
Central Administration	245,424	258,842
Finance	346,422	312,970
Staff	122,881	125,760
Central Services	360,518	401,356
Administration and Improvement	1,081,005	1,151,100
Employee Benefits	900,411	918,880
Special Items	676,561	692,275
<b>Total Administrative Budget</b>	<b>\$3,768,499</b>	<b>\$3,896,460</b>
PROGRAM BUDGET		
Teaching	\$11,521,741	\$11,679,365
Instructional Media	906,484	1,036,506
Pupil Services	1,075,673	1,162,673
Pupil Transportation	1,154,432	1,158,072
Community Services	17,222	17,222
Employee Benefits	6,947,409	7,115,151
Interfund Transfers	100,000	75,000
<b>Total Program Budget</b>	<b>\$21,722,961</b>	<b>\$22,243,989</b>
CAPITAL BUDGET		
Central Services	\$1,943,939	\$2,059,498
Pupil Transportation	405,000	425,000
Debt Service	2,748,525	1,938,225
Employee Benefits	569,076	594,828
Interfund Transfers	100,000	100,000
<b>Total Capital Budget</b>	<b>\$5,766,540</b>	<b>\$5,117,551</b>
<b>TOTAL BUDGET</b>	<b>\$31,258,000</b>	<b>\$31,258,000</b>



**Tom Jennings**  
Superintendent of Schools

#### **Board of Education**

Joel Southwell, *President*  
Chad Farmer, *Vice President*  
Alex Allport  
Todd Masuicca  
Darcy McCarty  
Joe McGrath  
Chris Weisenburger

**Pulaski Academy & Central School**  
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[www.pulaskicsd.org](http://www.pulaskicsd.org)

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### PROPOSITIONS

#### **2025-26 Budget \$31,258,000**

Shall the Board of Education of the Pulaski Central School District No. 1 of the Towns of Richland, Albion and Sandy Creek, Oswego County, New York be authorized to expend a sum not exceeding \$31,258,000 commencing July 1, 2025 and ending on June 30, 2026, and to levy the necessary tax on the taxable property of said District?

#### **2025-26 Bus Reserve withdrawal of \$100,000**

Shall the Board of Education of the Pulaski Central School District No. 1 of the Towns of Richland, Albion and Sandy Creek, Oswego County, New York be authorized to expend a sum not exceeding \$100,000 or so much thereof as may be necessary from the 2022 Bus Purchase Reserve Fund for the purchase of transportation vehicles?

#### **Board Members - Two Seats**

Please vote for two candidates for the available board of education seats.

### CAPITAL OUTLAY

The budget also includes \$100,000 to be used toward a capital outlay project. The New York State Education Department allows for schools to complete capital improvement projects of up to \$100,000 during the proposed budget year. Building aid revenue is then received the following year (PACS state aid rate is 92.8%). The 2025-26 project will replace some flooring in instructional spaces at the Middle-High School.

### BOARD CANDIDATE BIOS - VOTE FOR 2

#### **DARCY MCCARTY**

Darcy McCarty is seeking reelection to the PACS Board of Education for a fourth term. A lifelong resident of Pulaski and 1994 PACS alumna, she graduated from LeMoyne College in 1998. She married fellow PACS alumnus Chad McCarty and, together, they returned to their tight-knit hometown, where they decided to raise their children. Darcy is an active member in the community and has volunteered in many capacities throughout the years, including the Pulaski Backpack Program which she co-founded and co-leads.

Throughout her twelve years of service on PACS Board of Education, Darcy has had the pleasure of collaborating with an esteemed group of dedicated school board members and would be grateful for the opportunity to continue to learn and grow with them while fostering a mutually beneficial vision for both the school and community members. She has helped guide the district through nine unique budget seasons, building projects both large and small. Her proven experience includes years of policy and program development and the celebration of the continued adaptability and successes of PACS educators, staff, leaders and students. She would be grateful for the opportunity to continue to represent the voice of the community as PACS continues to prosper.

#### **JOSEPH MCGRATH**

Joseph McGrath will finish his third term as Board Member for the Pulaski Academy and Central School District in June. Mr. McGrath has been a resident of the Town of Richland for the past 46

years. Mr. McGrath was employed by the Pulaski Central School for 34 years, retiring in 2011. During his tenure with the School District he served as the High School Counselor, Chairman of the Committee of Special Education, Assistant Principal and finally as the Junior-Senior High School Principal. Joe's children, Ryan and Erin are graduates of the Pulaski High School, and his grandchildren are currently students in Pulaski. Mr. McGrath is also a local businessman and served on the Town of Richland Planning Board for 34 years. Joe has been a member of P.R.O.P and served on the Board of Directors of the Pulaski Day Care Center during the construction of the new facility. It is Joe's hope to continue serving the Pulaski schools and community for another 3-year term.

## REMEMBER TO VOTE!



## Polling Location Will Be Ringgold Fire Hall!