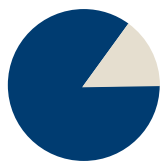


# School Budget Basics



## What is a school budget?

A school budget is a school district's annual financial plan. It is an expression in dollars of how a district's anticipated revenues are allocated to its educational programs, co-curricular and extra-curricular offerings, and operations. A district's school budget has a direct effect on the quality of a child's education and school experience. In New York State, public school budgets are highly regulated and mandated by state law.



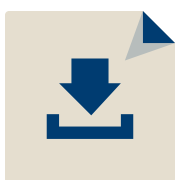
## Why should I participate in the school budget process?

Active community participation helps to identify what our community values in our public schools and ensures discussion about how limited resources will be spent. Participation also provides you with a better understanding of the issues affecting our public schools and their impact on programs for the upcoming school year.



## How do I get school budget information?

The school budget is presented at public Budget Work Sessions of the Board of Education (the Board). All meetings begin at 8:15 p.m. at Garden City High School. Budget Work Sessions, unlike other Board Work Sessions, allow a period for public comment at the end.



## What if I can't attend the Budget Work Sessions?

The district posts Budget Work Session presentations on its website following the meeting. Visit [gardencity.k12.ny.us](http://gardencity.k12.ny.us) and click Budget Information, then Budget Presentations. The Budget Presentations page also includes Budget Definitions, Budget FYIs, and other important information. Watch for the district's Question of the Week series, a feature designed to answer residents' questions about schools budgets and other issues facing public education, and the On the Line Newsletter: Budget Edition.



## What is this year's school budget timetable?

The Superintendent presents the district's proposed detailed budget to the Board and the community at the first four Budget Work Sessions. The Superintendent's proposed budget is the starting point for discussion. The Board and the community may comment and voice concerns during the Budget Work Session process. The Board may make adjustments before its acceptance and final adoption of the budget.

- 2-05-19 - Overview of Superintendent's Proposed Budget & Revenues
- 2-12-19 - All Non-Instructional Areas, Administrative & Capital
- 3-06-19 - Instructional Components Part 1
- 3-12-19 - Instructional Components Part 2
- 4-10-19 - Additional Budget Review (if needed)
- 4-16-19 - Adoption of Budget - no changes after this point
- 5-14-19 - Budget Hearing
- 5-22-19 - Budget Vote 6 am – 9 pm Garden City High School



## Whom can I contact about the school budget?

The Superintendent of Schools: [supt@gcufsd.net](mailto:supt@gcufsd.net) and the Board of Education: [boe@gcufsd.net](mailto:boe@gcufsd.net).



## Why should I vote for the school budget?

These are our children, our public schools, and our community. Your vote does make a difference! **Don't forget to vote on Tuesday, May 22nd, 6:00 am – 9:00 pm, at Garden City High School.**

## Garden City PTA at work:

The GC PTA's Legislation Committee attends Budget Work Sessions and provides updates to PTA members via the PTA's monthly newsletters, social media platforms, and section in the GC News. The Committee communicates PTA member concerns to the administration and the Board; advocates on behalf of our public schools with local legislators; and organizes StandUp4GC grassroots advocacy campaigns. It coordinates, along with GC SEPTA, the "Get Out & Vote" messages to residents. For school budget coverage, visit [gardencitypta.org](http://gardencitypta.org) and click on Committees - Legislation on the top bar. Connect @GardenCityPTA and @GCSEPTA.

