



BUDGET EDITION
2025-26

CENTRAL SQUARE CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

REDHAWK REVIEW

Budget Public Hearing

Monday, May 12, 2025

6 p.m.

Paul V. Moore High School
Cafeteria

Budget Vote

Tuesday, May 20, 2025

Polls Open 8 a.m. - 9 p.m.

Election District #1:

Central Square American Legion

Election District #2:

Constantia VFW

Election District #3:

Brewerton Fire Department

Budget Fast Facts

Proposed Budget Increase

5.41%

Proposed Tax Levy Increase

6.86%

Central Square varsity girls flag football is off and running



History is in the making at Central Square High School as the district celebrates the debut of its first-ever varsity girls flag football team. The Redhawks have been taking the field against other Section III teams for their first season.

What began with a small but determined core group of student-athletes quickly grew into a full-fledged team, now boasting 35 passionate and dedicated players.



"All of us at CSSD are so proud of all of the high school girls that got the word out and recruited so that our inaugural flag football season can happen this year," said Central Square Superintendent Thomas J. Colabufo. "These are amazingly talented young ladies that have shined on the gridiron this spring."

The team's formation marks a milestone for the district, thanks in part to the leadership of Athletic Director Jamie Grimshaw, who was praised by Colabufo for his "excellent" efforts in bringing the program to life this spring.

With each practice and game, the team is blazing a trail not just for themselves, but for future generations of Redhawk athletes. Their teamwork, energy and commitment to the game have already left a lasting mark on the Central Square community.

Music in our Schools Month Wind Ensemble Concert rocks PVM HS





A Letter from the Superintendent

Dear Parents/Guardians/CSSD Community:

Each year, I'm proud to share the tremendous progress and accomplishments of our school district. Thanks to your continued support and investment, Central Square continues to grow as a model of academic excellence, opportunity, and student engagement.

At Paul V. Moore High School, we offer 26 college-level dual credit courses through Cayuga Community College, SUNY Oswego, Syracuse University, and advanced placement programs in art, business, world language, English, science, social studies, math, and technology. What makes this even more remarkable is that our District covers 100% of the college tuition costs, ensuring every student, regardless of financial circumstance, can earn college credit. Parents of recent graduates have shared that this has saved their families between \$40,000-\$65,000 — a life-changing benefit that levels the playing field and opens doors for all.

We've also expanded access to more than a dozen distance learning courses, taught by college professors or instructors across New York State. These unique opportunities ensure that every student can pursue their passions, whether in STEM, the arts, business, or trades. With comprehensive course offerings in every academic area — including 18 art, 14 business, 14 science, 13 social studies, 12 math, 12 technology, 11 ELA, 10 world language and more — our high school provides something meaningful for every learner.

Our Fine Arts program continues to earn state and national recognition, with hundreds of students participating in musical theater, jazz ensembles, marching band, color guard, drumline,

and drama. These programs not only foster talent, but also confidence, collaboration and creativity.

In both middle and high school, students are actively engaged in nearly 50 clubs and extracurriculars, serving hundreds daily after school. Our athletic program is thriving, with more than 1,200 student-athlete participants this year alone across modified, JV and varsity teams.

Academically, our students continue to shine:

- Our graduation rate reached 90% last year.
- The number of students with disabilities earning Regents diplomas rose significantly to 73%.
- Elementary math and reading scores continue to improve year after year.
- Our districtwide attendance rate is at 92%, a powerful reflection of student engagement and support.

At Central Square, we believe in meeting students where they are — not forcing them into a one-size-fits-all model. Whether students are headed for college, the workforce, or the military, they can begin building their unique path as early as middle school.

None of this would be possible without you. Your support has built a District where every student — all 3,600 of them — can thrive. On behalf of our faculty, staff, and administration, thank you for investing in our students' futures.

With gratitude,

Thomas J. Colabufo, Superintendent

THREE OPEN BOARD MEMBER SEATS (three 3-year terms)

Your local school board influences the direction that determines how your community's children are educated and how your tax dollars are spent. Voting for school board members is a simple but powerful way to support student success and strengthen your community.

Three candidates are running for three (3) seats on the Central Square School District Board of Education. The candidates with the highest three vote totals will fill three (3) of the seats which carry a three-year term beginning on July 1, 2025.

1. **Kenneth Sherman**
2. **Ryan Lucas**
3. **Allison Douglas**

To view candidates' bios please visit: cssd.org

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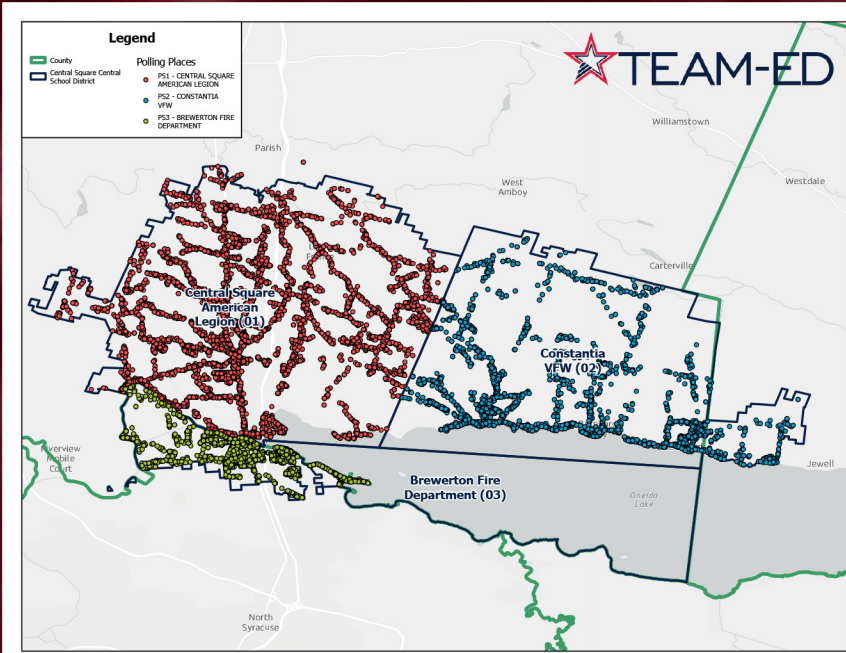
**Thank YOU
VOTERS!**



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THE CENTRAL SQUARE SCHOOL DISTRICT ANNOUNCES A THIRD POLLING LOCATION



ELECTION DISTRICT #1:

Located at the Central Square American Legion
Residents of the village of Central Square,
Towns of Hastings, West Monroe, Parish,
Schroeppel, Mexico and Palermo

ELECTION DISTRICT #2:

Located at the Constantia VFW
Residents of the village of Cleveland,
Towns of Constantia, Amboy, and Vienna

ELECTION DISTRICT #3:

Located at the Brewerton Fire Department
Towns of Clay and Cicero, all residents of
Onondaga County

What if I do not know where to vote? Please visit vip.ntsteamed.com

Wall of Distinction

Two Paul V. Moore High School alumni joined the ranks of the Central Square School District's Wall of Distinction during a mid-April ceremony.

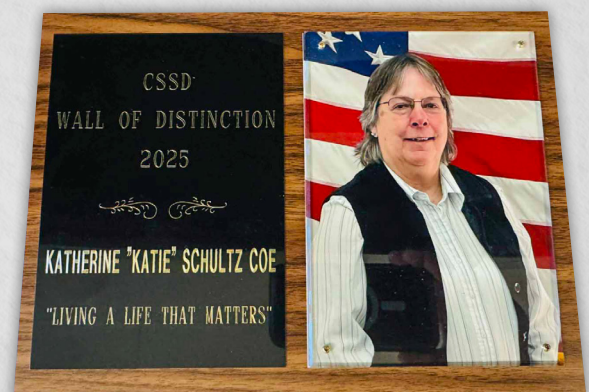
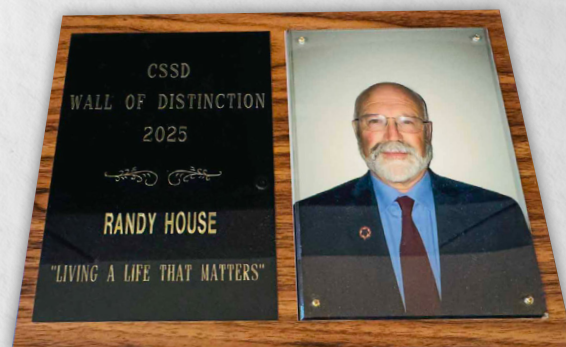
The inductees for the 2024-25 school year included Katherine "Katie" (Schultz) Coe, a 1975 CSSD graduate, and Randy House, who crossed the stage to graduate PVM in 1972.

The Wall of Distinction recognizes, celebrates and honors alumni of CSSD who have shown prominence in their personal and professional lives, or have generously dedicated their time through community service and volunteer work for the district.

Candidates for the Central Square Wall of Distinction must be nominated by a member of the greater Central Square district community, be of sufficient moral character to represent a positive role model for students and must have graduated at least 20 years prior to nomination.

Profiles of Coe and House in addition to those of previous inductees can be found on the CSSD website at the following link: <https://www.cssd.org/WallofDistinction>

Nomination forms for next year's 2025-26 induction class, which will be due next January, can also be found on the site.





What will I be voting for on May 20th?

Polls will be open on May 20, 2025 from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Voters will decide on the following items:

PROPOSITION 1

2025-2026 GENERAL FUND BUDGET

Shall the Board of Education of the Central Square Central School District, County of Oswego, State of New York, be authorized to incur expenditures not exceeding \$103,896,223 (U.S. Dollars: One Hundred and Three Million, Eight Hundred and Ninety-Six Thousand, and Two Hundred and Twenty-Three) or so much as necessary for its General Fund operating expenses during the school fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025 and ending June 30, 2026, and to levy a tax on the taxable property of the School District sufficient to meet the amount of this sum not received from other sources?

PROPOSITION 2

SCHOOL TRANSPORTATION VEHICLES

Shall the Board of Education of the Central Square Central School District be authorized to purchase and finance seven (7) diesel/gas, 65-passenger student transportation vehicles, two (2) diesel/gas, 30-passenger student transportation vehicles, and one (1) diesel/gas, 24-passenger/5 wheelchair student transportation vehicle, including necessary furnishings, fixtures and equipment and all other costs incidental thereto, and expend a total sum not to exceed \$1,769,100, which is estimated to be the total maximum cost thereof, and said amount, or so much thereof as may be necessary, shall be raised by the levy of a tax upon the taxable property of said School District and collected in annual installments as provided by Section 416 of the Education Law; and, in anticipation of such tax, obligations of said School District, in the principal amount not to exceed \$1,769,100, shall be issued.

PROPOSITION 3

LIBRARY TAX

That the Board of Education of the Central Square Central School District, County of Oswego, State of New York, pursuant to Education Law, Section 295, be authorized to levy and collect an annual tax, year after year, separate and apart from the annual school district budget, in the amount of \$25,000 (in addition to the current annual appropriation of \$70,000 for a total of \$95,000 annually), which shall be paid to the Central Square Library for the support and maintenance of the library, with this appropriated amount to be the annual appropriation until thereafter modified by a future vote of the electors of the Central Square Central School District.

Board Approves Resolution for a Capital Outlay Project at the March 10, 2025 Meeting

Under current SED law for projects that are wholly funded through budgeted capital outlay which have a total cost of no more than \$100,000, these costs are reimbursed through building aid.

Central Square School District's budget proposal includes a \$100,000 Capital Outlay Project (found in the debt service category). This includes replacement of dust collectors and carpet replacement at the CS Middle School, including, site improvements, original furnishings, fixtures and equipment.

WHO CAN VOTE?

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

- 18 years of age
- A resident of the district for at least 30 days prior to vote
- A citizen of the United States
- A registered voter*

* You may register with the school District Clerk up to five (5) days prior to the annual election or with Oswego County Board of Elections up to ten (10) days prior to the election. The District Clerk, Pearl Horn, will conduct voter registration at the District Office Monday through Friday between the hours of 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. Personal identification and proof of residency must be provided at the time of registration.

Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings*

Under the Budget Proposed for the 2025-2026 School Year, the Estimated

Basic STAR
Savings:

\$473

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

Tax Levy is 6.86% increase.



Three-Part Budget

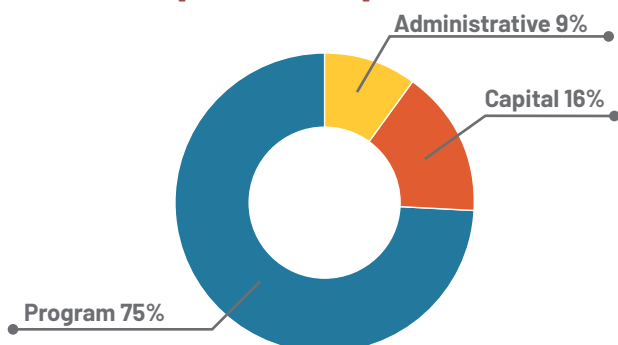
All school districts are required by law to present their budgets in three component parts; program, administrative and capital. The program component represents the largest portion of the District's budget. Program costs include the salaries and benefits of all teachers and staff delivering pupil services.

EXPENSE CATEGORY	2024-2025 Budget	2025-2026 Proposed	Dollar Change
PROGRAM EXPENDITURES	\$ 73,893,189	\$ 77,477,029	\$ 3,583,840
K-12 Instructional	\$64,251,097	\$67,461,705	\$3,210,608
Pupil Transportation	\$9,642,092	\$10,015,324	\$373,232
ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENDITURES	\$ 9,342,959	\$ 9,591,137	\$ 248,178
School Supervision/Curriculum	\$3,415,739	\$3,539,305	\$123,566
Business & Finance	\$2,941,014	\$3,026,122	\$85,108
BOCES Services	\$2,409,500	\$2,431,500	\$22,000
Central Administration	\$495,629	\$513,133	\$17,504
Board of Education	\$81,077	\$81,077	\$0
CAPITAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 15,326,935	\$ 16,828,057	\$ 1,501,122
Operations & Maintenance	\$7,841,935	\$8,268,057	\$426,122
Debt Service	\$7,485,000	\$8,560,000	\$1,075,000
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 98,563,083	\$ 103,896,223	\$ 5,333,140

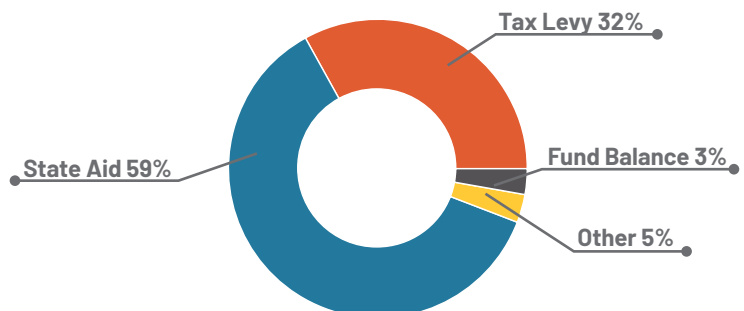
REVENUE CATEGORY	2024-2025 Budget	2025-2026 Proposed	Dollar Change
State Aid	\$ 58,913,256	\$ 61,578,332	\$2,665,076
Tax Levy	\$32,074,827	\$34,274,931	\$2,200,104
Fund Balance	\$3,000,000	\$3,000,000	\$0
Other	\$4,575,000	\$5,042,960	\$467,960
TOTAL REVENUES	\$ 98,563,083	\$ 103,896,223	\$ 5,333,140

Full Budget information can be found on the District's website: cssd.org

Proposed Expenditures



Proposed Revenues





PVM DECA students stand out at NYS competition

Students from the Paul V. Moore High School DECA chapter attended the New York State DECA competition from March 5-7 at the Rochester Convention Center.

They competed against approximately 3,500 students from across the state.

"We are so unbelievably proud of all of our students who attended the state competition and for those who qualified to attend the International Career Development Conference in Orlando, Fla., in April," said advisors Michele Nelson and Carol Dristle.

We are very pleased to announce that the following students placed in their respective events:

3RD PLACE

Cadence Graham

Buying and Merchandising Team Decision-Making

Emma Lacey

Buying and Merchandising Team Decision-Making

5TH PLACE

Zachary Card *Entrepreneurship Team Decision-Making*

William Card *Entrepreneurship Team Decision-Making*

Chloe Sheehan *Hotel and Lodging Management*

TOP TEN OVERALL FINALIST

Jonah Martinez *Business Services Marketing*

Abbey Tetrault *Community Awareness Project*

Averie Sheehan *Business Innovation Plan*

Connor Peterson *Personal Financial Literacy*

Andrew Landes *Quick Serve Restaurant Management*

Andrew Card *Sports and Entertainment Marketing*

TOP TEN ROLEPLAY

Owen Chapman *Accounting Applications*

Cee Gibbs *Apparel and Accessories Marketing*

Jack Mable *Food Marketing*

Delayna Humphrey *Restaurant and Food Service Management*

Jonah Martinez *Business Services Marketing*

Cadence Graham

Buying and Merchandising Team Decision-Making

Emma Lacey *Buying and Merchandising Team Decision-Making*

Chloe Sheehan *Hotel and Lodging Management*

Sara Hulbert *Human Resources Management*

Connor Peterson *Personal Financial Literacy*

Andrew Landes *Quick Serve Restaurant Management*

Andrew Card *Sports and Entertainment Marketing*

TOP TEN TEST

Zachary Card *Entrepreneurship Team Decision-Making*

William Card *Entrepreneurship Team Decision-Making*

Connor Peterson *Personal Financial Literacy*

Andrew Card *Sports & Entertainment Marketing*

DECA HONOR SOCIETY INDUCTEES

Averie Sheehan

Summer Fedder

Jack Mable

If you would like more information on the Paul V. Moore High School DECA chapter or would like to sponsor a student to attend a future conference, please email the advisors, Michele Nelson at mnelson@cssdapps.org or Carol Dristle at cdristle@cssdapps.org.

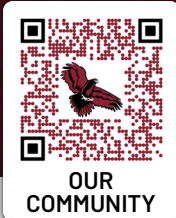
Middle School 7/8 team takes third at countywide Battle of the Books

Three Central Square Middle School students represented the district at the countywide Battle of the Books and came away with third place medals in the grades seven/eight competition.

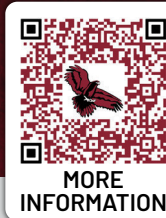
The team, named the "Tactical Readers," consisted of Thanh Phan, Sophie Brouty, Kenzie Khatab and Anthony Mazur. They competed against six other teams from Oswego County.



The Central Square School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age. Further, the District does not discriminate on the basis of religion or creed, sexual orientation, military status, genetic status, marital status, domestic violence victim status, criminal arrest or conviction record, or any other basis prohibited by state or federal non-discrimination laws.



IT'S ALL HAPPENING HERE



ACADEMICS

- 26** College level dual credit courses CSSD funds: CCC, SUNY Oswego, SUPA and AP art, business, world language, English, science, social studies, math and technology
- 12+** More than a dozen Distance Learning Live courses

PVM HS Classes, Electives and Number Offered:

18 Art	7 Music
14 Business	2 PE/Health
4 Career Exploration	14 Science
11 English	13 Social Studies
10 World Language	12 Technology
12 Math	

CSMS Offers:

- 27** Clubs/Extra-Curricular Activities, serving hundreds of students

PVM HS Offers:

- 20** Clubs/Extra-Curricular Activities (not including athletics), serving hundreds of students

A Career Center

CSSD offering that allows students to explore jobs and meet professionals.

	Students	Grad. Rate	Adv. Regents Diploma	Regents Diploma
2023-24 All Student	291	90%	37%	53%
2023-24 Students with Disabilities	33	76%	0%	73%
2022-23 All Student	282	89%	47%	41%
2022-23 Students with Disabilities	33	72%	8%	51%

ELEMENTARY READING PROGRESS

Grade Level	2021 - 22	2022 - 23	2023 - 24
K	78%	89%	82%
1st	64%	74%	86%
2nd	60%	70%	75%
3rd	56%	64%	67%
4th	46%	49%	56%
5th	55%	57%	57%

DAILY ATTENDANCE RATES

	2022 - 23 Attendance Rate	2023 - 24 Attendance Rate	2024 - 25 Attendance Rate
District	91.1%	91.7%	91.84% (2/21/2025)
PVM HS	89.4%	89.7%	89.8% (2/21/2025)
CSMS	91.2%	91.5%	91.63% (2/21/2025)

MUSIC AND ART

Fine Arts (Band/Music/Theatre): Extra-Curricular Music Participation

- 80** PVM HS Musical Theatre Program
- 65** PVM HS Drama Program
- 23** CSMS Drumline
- 45** Guard Program (Junior, JV and Varsity)
- 30** CSMS Jazz Ensemble
- 25** PVM HS Jazz Ensemble
- 70** Redhawk Regiment Marching Band
- 150** Parade Band - CSMS and PVM HS

CSMS art shows showcased at: Fulton Savings Bank, Brewerton, Central Square, Constantia branches. Monthly art show in community 6-8 students per month. CSMS Art Show NOPL Library, Brewerton CSMS Student Art Show 40-50 students. CSMS Salmon River Fine Art Center, Pulaski Oswego County Juried Art Show 40 students.

ATHLETICS

Fall	Winter	Spring
161 Modified Participants	140 Modified Participants	163 Modified Participants
292 JV/Varsity Participants	208 JV/Varsity Participants	265 JV/Varsity Participants



2024-2025

Board of Education

Steven Patch, *Board President*

Kristy Fischmann, *Vice President*

Allison Douglas

Randy Hoyt

Bryan Maether

Casey Morey

Kenneth Sherman

David Tackman

Lorraine Wood

Matteo Pelosi, *Student Representative*

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Permit No. 1

BOX HOLDER
LOCAL POSTAL PATRON

CENTRAL SQUARE CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT: 2025-26 BUDGET NOTICE

OVERALL BUDGET PROPOSAL	Budget Adopted for the 2024-25 School Year	Budget Proposed for the 2025-26 School Year	Contingency Budget for the 2025-26 School Year*
Total Budgeted Amount, Not Including Separate Propositions	\$98,563,083	\$103,896,223	\$101,696,119
Increase/Decrease for the 2025-26 School Year		\$5,333,140	\$3,133,036
Percentage Increase/Decrease in Proposed Budget		6.86%	3.18%
Change in the Consumer Price Index		2.95%	
A. Proposed Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount	\$32,074,827	\$34,274,931	
B. Levy to Support Library Debt, if Applicable	0	0	
C. Levy for Non-Excludable Propositions, if Applicable **	0	0	
D. Total Tax Cap Reserve Amount Used to Reduce Current Year Levy	0	0	
E. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy (A + B + C - D)	\$32,074,827	\$34,274,931	\$32,074,827
F. Total Permissible Exclusions	0	0	
G. School Tax Levy Limit, <u>Excluding</u> Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$32,074,827	\$34,274,931	
H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, <u>Excluding</u> Levy to Support Library Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions (E - B - F + D)	\$32,074,827	\$34,274,931	
I. Difference: G - H (Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval - See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions) **	0	0	
Administrative Component	\$9,342,959	\$9,591,137	\$9,541,716
Program Component	\$73,893,189	\$77,477,029	\$75,476,346
Capital Component	\$15,326,935	\$16,828,057	\$16,678,057

*** What does a contingency budget mean?** If the proposed budget is defeated by district voters, the Board of Education may adopt a contingency budget or present a budget for a second vote. If the proposed budget is defeated twice by district voters, the Board of Education is legally bound to adopt a contingency budget. A contingency budget jeopardizes valuable programs and affects the positive direction of our school district. Our students' education is an investment in the future of our community which is beneficial to everyone.

	Under the Budget Proposed for the 2025-26 School Year
Estimated Basic STAR** Tax Exemption Savings	\$473

Estimated Basic STAR Exemption** based on a hypothetical home within the school district with a full value of one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000). The basic school tax relief (STAR) exemption is authorized by section 425 of the Real Property Tax Law.