

2026-2027 Annual Budget Proposal



About Us

The mission of the Red Jacket Community Library is to empower learning and creativity by providing resources, programs, and a welcoming space for all.



124

New patrons received a library card at RJCL in 2025



1,289

Public computer and wi-fi connections were made in 2025



17,049

Digital and print materials were circulated in 2025, a 31% increase from 2024.



547

Programs for all ages were offered in 2025

About the 2026-2027 Budget

The Red Jacket Community Library is asking residents of the Manchester-Shortsville Central School District to vote on the library's proposed 2026-2027 funding. The proposed tax levy is \$316,842, representing an increase of \$14,913 over last year.

The proposed budget reflects increases in key operating expenses, including staffing, utilities, building operations, and system automation contracts that support services such as the library's catalog. As with many public libraries, personnel costs make up the largest portion of the budget, ensuring consistent service hours, effective collection management, and the delivery of programs and resources to the community. The library also remains committed to offering fair and competitive compensation to retain qualified and dedicated staff.

Approval of the proposed budget will allow the library to continue serving the community in a fiscally responsible manner while maintaining the services residents rely on. This includes access to materials, technology, educational programs, and community space. With voter support, the library will continue to provide reliable resources and opportunities that benefit residents of all ages.

Current Tax Levy: \$302,078
Proposed Tax Levy: \$316,842

Total Tax Levy Increase for 2026-2027:
\$14,913; an increase of 4.94%

Current 2025-2026 Budget: \$313,528

Proposed 2026-2027 Budget: \$329,042

If your property is assessed at:	\$100,000	\$200,000	\$300,000
then your current annual library tax is:	\$57-61	\$114-122	\$171-184
and we estimate your new library tax will be:	\$60-64	\$119-128	\$179-193
Estimated \$ increase:	\$3	\$6	\$8-9



Long Range Goals of the Library

Empower Learning & Creativity

- The core mission of the library is to support lifelong learning, curiosity, and creative expression for everyone in the community.

Increase Access to Library Services

- Expand access to the library's physical space, programs, and digital resources.
- Evaluate hours, locations, and ways to make services more convenient and available to more people.

Grow Community Awareness

- Boost visibility so more residents know what the library offers.
- Improve outreach, marketing, signage, and communication with the community.

Enhance Collections, Programs & Services

- Tailor collections and programming to what the community wants and needs.
- Use feedback and data to refine offerings and introduce new ones that matter to patrons.

Focus on Financial Sustainability

- Strengthen funding by pursuing grants, expanding donor support, and building sustainable revenue streams.
- Develop financial strategies that support long-term operations without overburdening local taxpayers.

Annual Trustee Election



There will be one vacancy on the RJCL Board of Trustees open for election this year. The seat will be filled for a three-year term.

Those interested in running can pick up a trustee candidate packet at the library circulation desk beginning April 16th.

Budget Information Session

**Tuesday, May 26
at 7pm**

RJ Community Library Board of Trustees

	Term
President: Kerry Adams	2022-2027
Vice President: Carl Persson	2025-2030
Secretary: Kathleen Honchen	2025-2030
Trustee: Celeste Andrews	2024-2029
Trustee: Heather Baxter	2023-2028
Trustee: Nancy Johnsen	2026-2029
Trustee: Vacant	

Questions?

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Visit us!
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