

ICHABOD CRANE CENTRAL SCHOOL
VALATIE, NEW YORK 12184

ANNUAL ELECTION AND BUDGET VOTE
2026-2027 Budget
May 19, 2026

MINUTES

The election of members of the Board of Education and the vote upon appropriating the necessary funds to meet the estimated expenditures and the vote upon all propositions involving the expenditures of money, or authorizing the levy of taxes, took place at the Ichabod Crane High School Gymnasium, Valatie, NY between the hours of 8AM and 9PM.

The Annual Budget Hearing took place on May 5, 2026 at 7:00 p.m. in the High School Library at the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education.

Registered voters in the district were deciding on the following:

Candidates for the Board of Education

Three vacancies:

Three three-year terms as the terms of Max DiOrio, Kelly Firmbach, and Christopher Scoville are expiring on June 30, 2026; and

Three candidates will fill seats beginning July 1, 2026 until expiring on June 30, 2029.

The District Clerk received petitions from the following for nomination to the Board of Education:

- Betsy Thorleifson
- Kelly Firmbach
- Christopher Scoville

PROPOSITION #1 – BUDGET

Shall the Board of Education of the Kinderhook Central School District be authorized to expend the total amount of \$51,936,861 during the school year 2026-2027 and to levy the necessary tax therefor?

PROPOSITION #2 – BUS PURCHASE

Shall the Board of Education of the Kinderhook Central School District be authorized to: (1) acquire four (4) school buses, at a cost not to exceed \$653,506 which is estimated to be the maximum cost thereof; (2) expend such sum for such purpose; (3) levy the necessary tax therefor, to be levied and collected in annual installments in such years and in such amounts as may be determined by the Board of Education in accordance with Section 416 of the Education Law taking into account state aid and trade-in value; and (4) in anticipation of the collection of such tax, issue bonds, notes and/or installment purchase contracts of the District at one time or from time to time in the principal amount not to exceed \$653,506, and levy a tax to pay the interest on said obligations when due?

Chairman Mindy Potts checked the roll of election officials and found the following inspectors present: Bernadette Torre, MaryAnn Carr-Perez, Theresa Lux, Ann Engel, Robin Sullivan, Elaine Dragos, and Jean Barford

The Election Inspectors and the Chairman inspected the voting machines and determined the machine currently had a zero count. The Election inspectors and the Chairman inspected and accounted for the ballots available for the public. The District Clerk issued the oath of office to the election inspectors.

The polls were declared open by the Chairman at 8AM.

At 9PM the doors to the gymnasium were closed; however, those who were still in line were allowed to vote. After determining that all present in the room had recorded their votes, the Chairman declared the polls closed.

The Inspectors of Election and the Chairman canvassed the vote and reported the following results:

TOTAL NUMBER OF MACHINE VOTES RECORDED: 989

TOTAL NUMBER OF ABSENTEE BALLOTS COUNTED BY MACHINE: 70

TOTAL NUMBER OF ABSENTEE BALLOTS REQUIRING HAND COUNTING: 2

TOTAL NUMBER OF EARLY MAIL VOTER BALLOTS: 3

Total Votes Cast: 1064

NOMINEES FOR THREE (3) BOARD POSITIONS:

	Total Votes
Betsy Thorleifson	652
Kelly Firmbach	794
Christopher Scoville	710

WRITE-IN CANDIDATE TOTALS

<u>Candidate</u>	<u>Number of votes</u>
Martin VanBuren	2
Thomas Driscoll	2
Christine Burke	2
President Trump	2
Pasty Leader	2
Jarrod Beebe	2

The following received 1 vote each: Mary Beth Wallace, Donald Trump, Elon Musk, Gosia Geiger, Ronald Reagan, Frank Scott, Ross Cox, Bob Wheeler, Julie Horn, Larry Sheldon, Kelly Nicotetta, James Antalek, Robert Warner, Matt Konkle, Matthew Hogan, Remi Gaylord, Helen Schneider, Jed Egnasher, Stewart Peckner, Darryn Cooke, Crystal Cirillo, Kelly Nicoletta, Matthew Hogencamp, Jay Verro, Peter Mullins, Brian McComb, John Chandler, and Mary Jo Gibson

Proposition #1 : Budget for the 2026-2027 School Year (\$51,936,861) PASSED

Yes: 624

No: 437

Proposition #2 : Bus Purchases (4 school buses at a cost of \$653,506) PASSED

Yes: 617

No: 443

Betsy Thorleifson begins a three-year term (July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2029)

Kelly Firmbach begins a three-year term (July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2029)

Christopher Scoville begins a three-year term (July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2029)

Seven current Board members were present at the end of the vote:

Max DiOrio Kelly Firmbach Matthew Nelson Elizabeth Phillips

Anne Schaefer Christopher Scoville Cal Waits

MOTION DIORIO

2ND WAITS

To accept the results of the vote as presented by the Chairman

Carried, 7-0

The meeting was adjourned at 9:33 p.m.

Mindy M. Potts, District Clerk

The following documents were available with the district clerk for public inspection

- Listing of voters receiving absentee ballots
- Legal Notice
- 2026-2027 General Fund Budget Document
 - Includes:
 - Appropriations Budget
 - Revenue Budget
 - Complete Budget Summary
 - Three Component Budget (Admin/Program/Capital)
 - Property Tax Report Card
 - Salary Disclosure Information For Administration
 - School District Report Card
 - Tax Exemption Impact Report
- 2024-2025 Audit Report