

Gloversville Public Library 2026-2027 Budget Presentation

Serving Gloversville since 1880



NYS Annual Report for Public Libraries: GPL Statistics

2024-2025

50,599 Onsite Visitors

6,832 Registered Borrowers

42,676 Physical and Electronic Checkouts

12,274 Program and Meeting Attendance

12,801 Computer and WiFi Sessions

9,882 Unique Website Hits

Annual Accomplishments: School Partnership Expansion

In January, Pre-K classes from across the city visited GPL for the first time. 3-5-year-olds from Park Terrace Elementary, Kingsborough Elementary, Fulmont Head Start, and The Rainbow School explored our Youth Services area and enjoyed a Library-themed craft.

Mid-March, we hosted 3rd graders from Boulevard Elementary, and we are looking forward to welcoming 1st graders from both Park Terrace and Kingsboro this May. In addition, we loved having the HFM BOCES PTECH 10th Grade Global Studies class share their local history projects with the community, as part of our National Library Week celebration.



Annual Accomplishments: Innovative Programming



We've worked hard this year to expand our programming for all ages. Highlights include:

- Our first celebration of National Library Week, featuring five days of local library history-themed programs
- The debut of Child's Play, our soft foam indoor play space, for preschoolers
- The creation of Kindergarten Kickoff, a summer readiness program for rising Kindergarteners, in collaboration with The Gloversville Educational Foundation
- A community art project that saw patrons create a mosaic interpretation of our famous front door archway
- School vacation drop-in activities exploring creativity and imagination through an array of building materials.

Annual Accomplishments: Community Collaborations

We proudly continued to extend our reach beyond the Library's four walls and out into the community. This year we have established or expanded collaborations with numerous local stakeholders, including:

- The Gloversville Educational Foundation
- The Glove Theatre
- The Glove Cities Arts Alliance
- Fulton County Public Health
- The Fulton County Museum



Proposed 2026-2027 Budget

Total Budget = \$1,115,388

Total Proposed Tax Levy = \$906,388
(\$114,783 increase from 2025-2026*)

2026-2027 Budget Overview

Expenses

Staff Salaries and Benefits	\$811,373 ↑
Facility Utilities	\$55,700 ↑
Insurance Policies	\$43,500 ↑
Maintenance and Service Contracts	\$104,000 ↑
Library Collections	\$27,755 ↑
Library Programs	\$7,500 ↑
Library Services	\$24,500 ↓
Office Supplies and Postage	\$11,000 ↑
Treasurer Fees	\$10,560 ↑
Professional Fees	\$15,000 ↓
Election Expenses	\$1,000 ↓
Professional Meetings	\$1,500 =
Promotion Expense	\$1,000 =
General Expenses	\$1,000 =
Total Expenses	\$1,115,388

Income

Tax Levy	\$906,388 ↑
Investment Income	\$9,000 ↓
GPL Foundation	\$144,000 =
Foundation Donations	\$10,000 ↑
State Aid and Grants	\$24,000 ↓
Other Grants	\$4,500 ↓
Direct Donations	\$5,000 ↑
Fines and Miscellaneous Income	\$2,500 =
Friends of the Library	\$10,000 =
Total Income	\$1,115,388

Understanding Budget Changes

- **Facility and Utilities (+\$10,000)** : The Library has seen a significant increase in utility costs over the past fiscal year, particularly electricity. This is despite the fact that our lights are connected to both motion sensors and daily timers, to ensure that electricity isn't wasted. Moving forward, we are determined to explore additional options for saving energy.
- **Maintenance Contracts (+\$28,000)**: During the next fiscal year, we have one of our largest service contracts – the one covering HVAC mechanical maintenance and repair – up for renewal. We have been told to prepare for increases resulting from higher transportation, manufacturing, and labor costs. In addition, we be adding a new roof inspection/repair contract to our expenses, which is required under the terms of our roof warranty.

Understanding Budget Changes

- **Staff Salaries and Benefits (+\$65,000):** In 2026-2027, the Library will incur a 20% increase in medical insurance benefit costs. Pension contributions through the NYS retirement system will also increase substantially. Staff will only receive a small cost of living adjustment, without any raises or promotions anticipated.
- **Library Collections, Services, and Programs (+\$7,500):** We hope to modestly build back from the 2024-2025 budget loss. This includes money for new books, and periodical subscriptions, as well as bringing back some popular programs for both children and adults that had been canceled.
- **State Aid and Grants (-\$19,000):** 2026-2027 is the last year of our Empire State Development grant. The remaining amount is \$17,000 less than last fiscal year. We have also closed out our grants with the NYS Department of Health and the youth-services focused John Henry Foundation.

Cost to Taxpayers

City or Town	Percentage of Tax Levy	Rate per \$1,000	Annual Tax on \$100,000 Assessed Value
City of Gloversville	54.7%	1.3480	\$134.80
Town of Bleecker *	15.3%	0.9370	\$93.70
Town of Caroga *	0.2%	2.5922	\$259.22
Town of Johnstown*	29.6%	1.8562	\$185.62
Town of Mayfield *	0.2%	2.1968	\$219.68

** Final tax rates are set by the school district in August once final equalization rates are provided by the state.*

Why is a Tax Levy Increase Necessary?

An increase in the levy is necessary to reinstate Library hours, to provide the requested and vital programs and services for all our residents, and to safely staff and maintain the Library facility.

How Will This Affect My Library Taxes?

- The *average tax rate* will be approximately \$1.44 per \$1,000 of assessed value for property located within the school district.
- The *average tax* on \$100,000 assessed value will be approximately \$93.70 - \$259.22.
- The *total increase* for homeowners with \$100,000 assessed value could be approximately \$30.56, which is equal to the cost of buying one standard hardcover book.

Why Not Use More Foundation Money, Seek More Grants & Donations, Charge For Library Cards, or Use Volunteers?

- Investment income from the Foundation will provide 14% of the operating budget. If the endowment's principal is spent, there will be less income to use in future budgets. Without this income, a much greater amount of tax money would have to be raised each year.
- In the past four years the Library has obtained more than 45 public and private grants for specific programs and infrastructure repairs. We will continue to seek grants and donations, but it is not realistic that these, alone, can fund Library operations.
- It is against NYS Education Law to charge for Library cards.
- The Library is required by the NYS Department of Education to ensure that the Library is staffed adequately to safely operate and maintain a public facility. That determination is based on square footage and building layout, as well as program and service priorities. The Library is also part of the NYS Civil Service system that ensures qualified staff are secured and protected under State hiring guidelines for government and municipal offices.

Why Should I Support the Library If I Don't Use It?

- **Free Access to Resources & Programs:** We provide free access to a vast collection of print and e-resources, as well as both in-person and virtual programs.
- **Community Hubs:** We serve as an important community gathering place, offering spaces for study, meetings, and events, fostering connections and a sense of belonging.
- **Digital Literacy and Technology Access:** We provide free internet access and computer assistance, so individuals can apply for jobs, research health issues, develop digital skills, and stay connected.
- **Preservation of Knowledge:** We are an important repository of knowledge about Gloversville, preserving historical records, cultural artifacts, and literary works for future generations.
- **Safe and Inclusive Spaces:** We offer a safe and welcoming environment for everyone, regardless of age, background, or ability, providing a place to learn, explore, and connect.
- **Community Engagement:** We partner with an array of local organizations to address community needs.
- **Essential Community Resource:** We are an essential resource, like our schools and hospital.

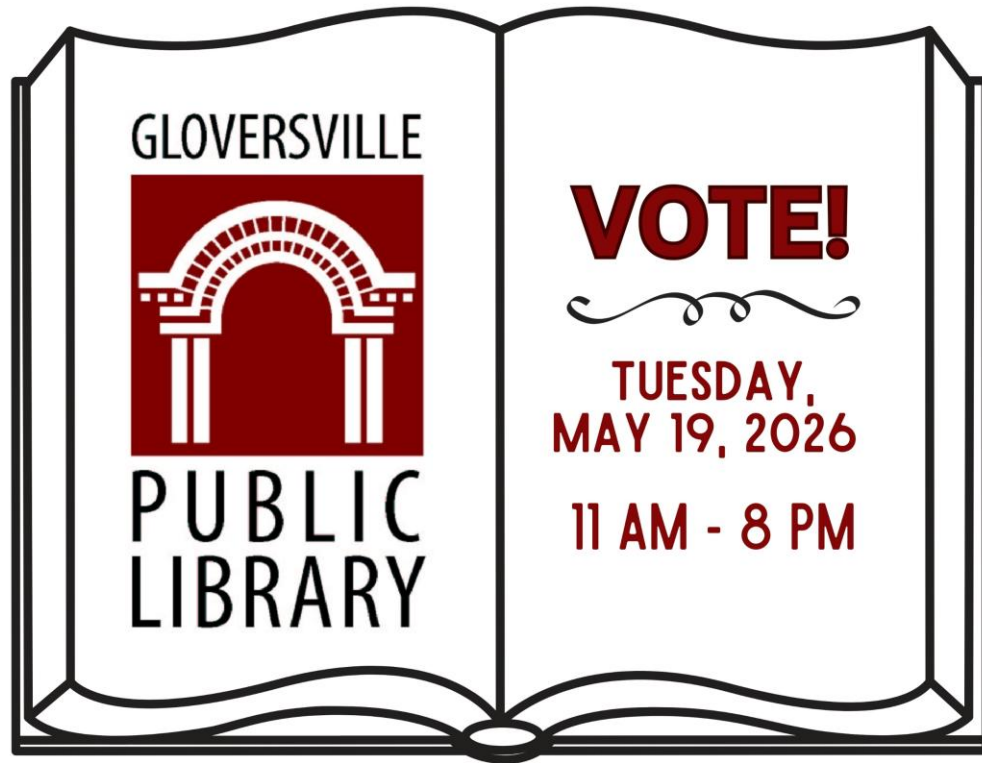
Future Goals

- Responsibly increase Library hours until we return to pre-2024-2025 operations. In September 2027 we hope to provide curbside service hours on Mondays. This will expand the public's access to Library to materials to 6 days per week.
- Continue to responsibly grow our circulating collections to reflect patron borrowing trends.
- Restore popular titles in our periodical and newspaper subscriptions.
- Establish weekend open hours in the Local History Room and embark on the archival restoration of its most damaged materials.

Future Goals

- Establish annual library visits for GESD 6th and 9th grade scholars
- Partner with area educational organizations to establish adult job training workshops at the Library.
- Reimagine our Summer Reading Program to include a new reading club for adults, an enhanced reading club for youth, as well a reading club collaboration with the Gloversville Summer Recreation Program and other youth-based community organizations.

Voting Information



NEW LIBRARY VOTE POLLING LOCATIONS

*Open to all registered voters residing in
the Groversville Enlarged School District*

CITY OF GLOVERSVILLE

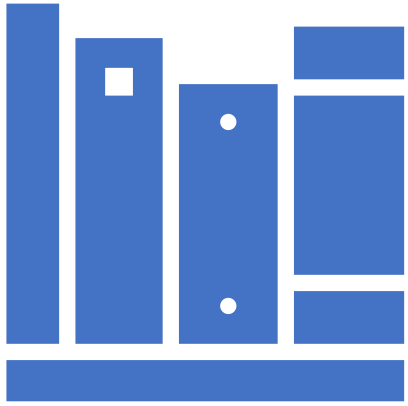
GLOVERSVILLE HIGH SCHOOL GYMNASIUM
199 Lincoln St.
Groversville, NY 12078
11 AM - 8 PM

TOWN OF BLEECKER

BLEECKER TOWN HALL
575 County Road 112
Groversville, NY 12078
11 AM - 8 PM

**PLEASE NOTE THAT THE
GLOVERSVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY
IS NOT A POLLING LOCATION**

*For detailed information on the library budget and
trustee candidates please visit www.groversvillelibrary.org*



Questions? gpl@mvls.info

Thank you!