

HUDSON FALLS

CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

2024-25 BUDGET EDITION

Proposed 2024-25 Budget to Enhance Programming While Limiting Tax Impact

On Tuesday, May 21, Hudson Falls Central School District residents will vote on a \$54,553,867 proposed budget for the 2024-25 school year. The proposed budget, which has an increase of \$1,101,058 or 2.06% over the current year's budget, will result in a 1.9% increase to the tax levy. The tax levy increase falls well below the New York State property tax levy limit of 4.15% for the District.

Also on the ballot is a \$425,000 bus proposition to purchase one 66-passenger school bus and two 28-passenger school buses. This expense is included in the budget total. The state will pay for approximately 90% of the cost of the vehicle purchases.

The proposed 2024-25 \$54.55 million dollar budget includes a \$100,000 capital outlay project. The District will receive state aid reimbursement for this project to address health, safety, and energy efficiency items.

The proposed budget for the upcoming school year focuses on sustaining the increased extracurriculars and clubs the district has been able to offer students in recent years. The budget will allow the Hudson Falls Central School District to add school support service professionals to the staff roster. Funding allocations will allow for distance learning opportunities to be integrated into our current course offering at the secondary levels. At the elementary level, phonics-based reading initiatives will be implemented. The budget also includes money to support anticipated repairs.

Additionally, voters will be asked to elect two community members to the board of education. These two seats are currently held by Crystal Grimaldi and Heidi Andrejkovics. The term for the seats runs from July 1, 2024, to June 30, 2029.

Thank you to our Hudson Falls Central School District community for voting to approve our 2024 Capital Project. The approval of the capital project will fund major improvements to facilities and infrastructure over the next few years. Our 2024-2025 budget vote that will take place on May 21 will propose the funding for school operations, positions, and programs for the upcoming school year.



After a two-year hiatus, our Drama Club came back to perform "The Sound of Music" for families and the community in our newly renovated auditorium. The improvements to the auditorium were made possible by the approval of our 2021 capital project.

2024-25 BUDGET AT-A-GLANCE

TOTAL BUDGET
\$54,553,867

BUDGET INCREASE
\$1,101,058/2.06%

TAX LEVY INCREASE:
1.9%

Also On the Ballot

Two Board of
Education Seats

BUS PROPOSITION:
\$425,000

BUDGET  **Vote**

Tuesday, May 21

Polls will be open from
Noon to 8 p.m.
at the HFHS Gymnasium
80 E LaBarge Street
Hudson Falls, NY

Budget Hearing
Monday, May 13 – 6:30 p.m.

Join us for the return of the
Celebration of the Arts at the
High School on May 21
from 6 - 8 p.m.

Visit www.hfcsd.org
for more information.

Budget Breakdown – Revenue & Expenditure Summary

3-PART EXPENSE SUMMARY

ADMINISTRATIVE 9.87%

2024-2025 \$5,385,562

2023-2024 \$5,060,229

Administrative Expenditures cover expenses related to district management.

PROGRAM 76.45%

2024-2025 \$41,705,782

2023-2024 \$38,601,416

Program Expenditures include items directly related to instruction. These include salaries, benefits, and transportation.

CAPITAL 13.68%

2024-2025 \$7,462,523

2023-2024 \$9,791,164

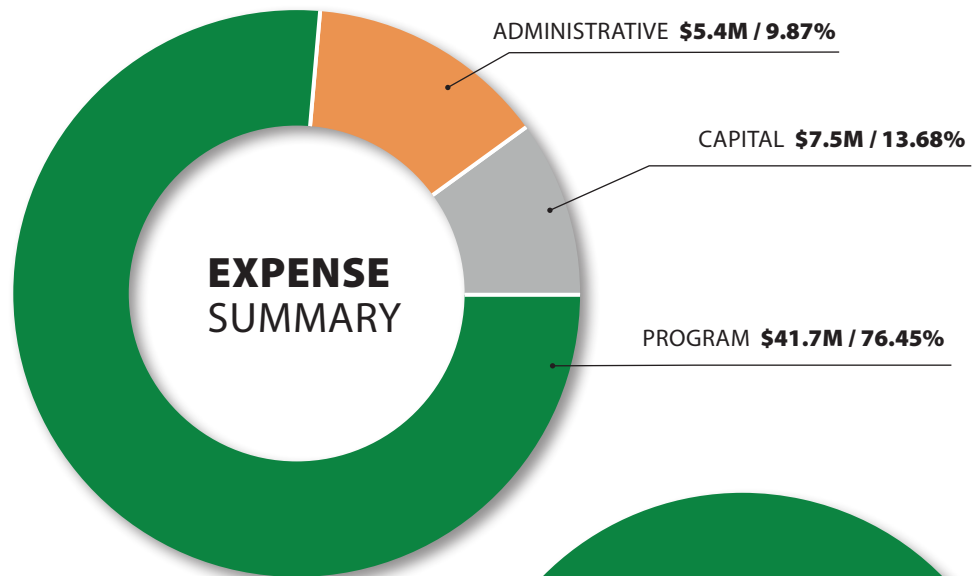
Capital Expenditures include the cost of maintenance, operation, utilities, transportation, and debt service.

2024-25 BUDGET PRIORITIES

The proposed budget focuses on funding in three key areas:

- **Integration of phonics-based reading at elementary schools.**
- **Addition of distance learning opportunities.**
- **Addition of school support service professionals.**
- **Maintaining electives and graduation credit opportunities at the middle school.**
- **Maintaining electives at the high school.**
- **Continuing to offer recently added classes, clubs, and extracurricular activities.**

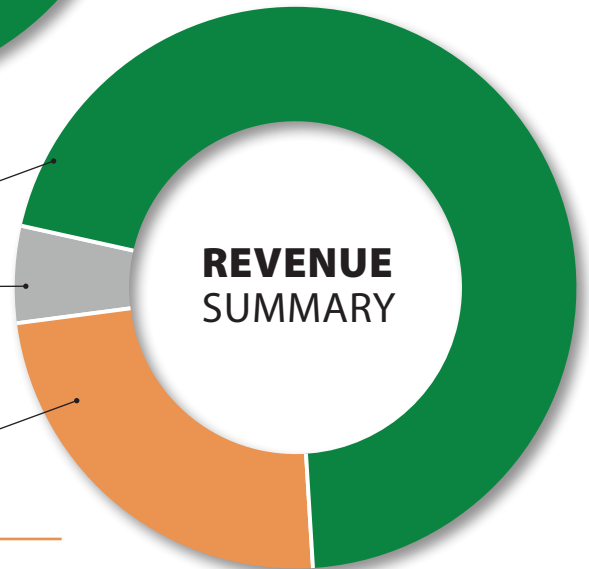
(See **page one** for more details.)



STATE AID \$38.6M / 70.82%

OTHER \$3.0M / 5.46%

PROPERTY \$12.9M / 23.72%



Revenue Summary

REVENUES	2023-24	Proposed 2024-25	Change
State Aid	\$38,432,899	\$38,637,592	\$204,693
Property Tax Levy	\$12,703,410	\$12,944,775	\$241,365
Payment in Lieu of Taxes	\$80,000	\$85,000	\$5,000
Interest Earnings	\$50,000	\$150,000	\$100,000
Medicaid Reimbursement	\$350,000	\$350,000	\$0
Summer School Tuition	\$35,000	\$35,000	\$0
Miscellaneous	\$1,100,000	\$1,100,000	\$0
Gifts & Donations	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$0
Appropriated Fund Balance	\$350,000	\$650,000	\$300,000
Appropriated Reserves	\$250,000	\$250,000	\$0
Employee Benefit Reserve	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$0
Transfer from Debt Service	\$0	\$250,000	\$250,000
TOTAL	\$53,452,809	\$54,553,867	\$1,101,058

REQUIRED SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET NOTICE

Overall Budget Proposal	Budget Adopted for the 2023-24 School Year	Budget Proposed for the 2024-25 School Year	Contingency Budget for the 2024-25 School Year *
Total Budgeted Amount, Not Including Separate Propositions	\$53,452,809	\$54,553,867	\$54,204,943
Increase for the 2024-25 School Year		\$1,101,058	\$752,134
Percentage Increase in Proposed Budget		2.06%	1.41%
Change in the Consumer Price Index		4.12%	
A. Proposed Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount	\$12,703,410	\$12,944,775	
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)	\$12,703,410	\$12,944,775	\$12,703,410
F. Total Permissible Exclusions	\$0	\$6,356	
G. School Tax Levy Limit, <u>Excluding</u> Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$13,231,145	\$13,223,914	
H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, <u>Excluding</u> Levy to Support Library Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions (E - B - F + D)	\$12,703,410	\$12,938,419	
I. Difference: G - H (Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval - See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions)	\$527,735	\$285,495	
Administrative Component	\$5,060,229	\$5,385,562	\$5,115,562
Program Component	\$38,601,416	\$41,705,782	\$41,705,782
Capital Component	\$9,791,164	\$7,462,523	\$7,383,599

* Pursuant to Section 2023 of the Education Law, should the proposed budget be defeated, certain equipment in the capital and administrative components would be reduced.

Description	Amount
School Bus Proposition	\$425,000

Under the Budget Proposed for the 2024-25 School Year

Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings ¹	\$320
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The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2024-25 by the qualified voters of the Hudson Falls Central School District, Washington County, New York, will be held at the High School in said district on Tuesday, May 21, 2024 between the hours of noon and 8 p.m., prevailing time, at which time the polls will be opened to vote by voting ballot or machine.

School districts are required by New York State law to mail this information to all households within the district. If you would like more information about the budget, please call the superintendent's office at (518) 747-2121 or visit the district website at www.hfcsd.org.

¹ The basic school tax relief (STAR) exemption is authorized by section 425 of the Real Property Tax Law.

VOTER INFORMATION

Voter eligibility

To be eligible to vote, residents must live in the school district for at least 30 days prior to the May 21 election and be at least 18 years of age and be a citizen of the United States.

Voter registration

Residents may register to vote on the budget vote day, May 21, in the High School gymnasium.

Voting location

The school budget vote will take place from 12 to 8 p.m. on Tuesday, May 21, in the gym of Hudson Falls High School located at 80 E LaBarge St., Hudson Falls, NY.

Absentee ballot information

- ✓ The district will provide mail-in and absentee ballots if requested.
- ✓ The district will provide absentee ballots for those previously identified on the county list.
- ✓ The New York Early Mail Voter Act allows registered voters to request a mail-in ballot. You can request an early voter ballot in person up to the day of the election.
- ✓ Absentee and Early Mail Voter ballots must be returned to the District Clerk no later than 5 p.m. on May 21.

Questions & Answers

Q: How would the proposed budget affect my taxes? Is it within the cap?

The District's proposed 2024-25 budget includes a 1.9% tax levy increase. The New York state eight-step property tax levy limit formula for Hudson Falls allows for a maximum tax levy increase or "cap" of 4.15% in 2024-25. The 1.9% tax levy increase in the Board of Education's proposed budget plan aims to respond to the community's needs while preserving and investing in current student programming.

Q: What is included in the proposed budget?

The proposed budget will empower the district to integrate phonics based reading at the elementary levels and integrate distance learning opportunities at the Secondary levels. To prepare students for the world post-graduation, the district has brought in electives and classes focused on developing technology, opportunities to earn college credit, and career exploration options. These offerings will be maintained in the 2024-25 budget. At the middle school level, budget allocations will maintain electives, graduation credit opportunities, and empower recently implemented literacy initiatives. The proposal also includes funding to add school support service professionals to the HFCSD staff.

Q: What is the bus proposition?

The district is proposing a \$425,000 bus proposition to purchase one 66-passenger school bus and two 28-passenger school buses. The district is looking to replace three older buses on the fleet that have become costly to run due to the frequent need for maintenance. School buses are required to pass state mandated inspections before they can be approved to carry students.





Hudson Falls
CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
80 East LaBarge Street
Hudson Falls, NY 12839

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Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 940
Albany, NY

BOARD OF EDUCATION
Jeffrey Gaulin, President
Amanda Landsman, Vice President
Dr. Bryan Steele
Megan Borlang
Timothy Keenan
Heidi Andrejkovics
Crystal Grimaldi
Vincent Canini
Mike Fitzgerald
SUPERINTENDENT
Daniel Ward

EDITOR
Hannah Hurley
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POSTAL CUSTOMER

Hudson Falls 2024-25 BUDGET EDITION

ON THE BALLOT

PROPOSITION I	PROPOSITION II
<p>2024-25 BUDGET</p> <p>RESOLVED, the Board of Education of the Hudson Falls Central School District is authorized to expend the sums set forth in the budget in the total amount of \$54,553,867 million during the school year 2024-25 and to levy the necessary tax therefore.</p> <p>YES NO</p> <p><input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/></p>	<p>PURCHASE OF SCHOOL BUSES</p> <p>RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Hudson Falls Central School District is hereby authorized to purchase one 66-passenger school bus and two 28-passenger school buses at a total cost not to exceed \$425,000 and that the sum of \$425,000 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 the Education Law and the Local Finance Law, and in anticipation of such tax, obligations of said School District shall be issued.</p> <p>YES NO</p> <p><input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/></p>

OFFICE	BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBER (5-YEAR TERM)
 A	Heidi Andrejkovics
 B	Crystal Grimaldi





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OFFICE	BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBER (5-YEAR TERM)
<div></div> ➡ A	Heidi Andrejkovics
<div></div> ➡ B	Crystal Grimaldi

