



GERMANTOWN CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

MAY 2024 — BUDGET EDITION

BUDGET VOTE

TUESDAY
MAY 21, 2024
Noon – 9 p.m.

Elementary School Gym
123 Main Street
Germantown, NY 12526

2024-25 Budget Focuses on Doing More with Rising Costs

A community vote on Germantown CSD’s 2024-25 budget will take place Tuesday, May 21 from noon to 9 p.m. in the Elementary School Gymnasium. The 2024-25 school budget totals \$16,760,147 and requires a 1.27% tax levy increase, which is within New York State’s Property Tax Cap limit.

New York State has restored the Hold Harmless provision, which ensures school districts do not see a reduction in State Foundation Aid. Germantown CSD has seen an increase in Foundation Aid each year of 3.8% for average increases of revenue of \$117,245. However, in 2024-25 the district will not receive an increase and will actually receive a \$40,925 decrease in overall State Aid compared to the 2023-24 school year. Taking rising costs into consideration, this year’s proposed budget will focus on reducing unmandated services and consolidating some positions through attrition while attempting to limit the effect on student services.

“We have a responsibility to our students to continue to provide outstanding programming each year and ensure that they graduate and are college and career ready,” District Superintendent Benjamin Bragg said. “We also strive to be good financial stewards for our community. This is becoming difficult with inflation and contractual raises, but we will continue to find ways to do what is best for our school community as a whole.”

The school community will also vote on two (2) open seats on the Board of Education.

1.27% TAX LEVY
INCREASE

PROPOSED
2024-25 BUDGET

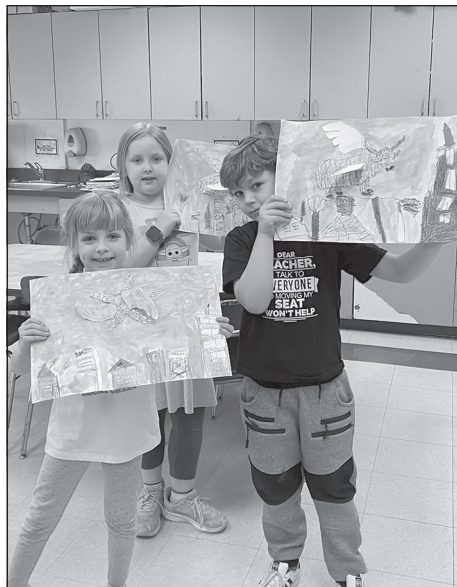
\$16,760,147

BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS:

- Improve inclusion strategies.
- Build more higher education opportunities.

ALSO ON THE BALLOT:

- Board of Education Election (Two Seats)



Students continue to work hard in the classroom and in athletics. Go Clippers!

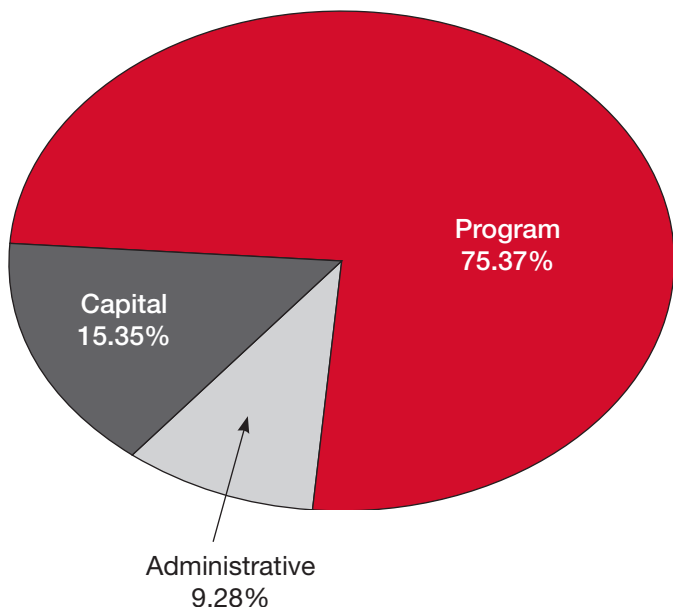
BUDGET COMPARISON

	2023-2024	2024-2025	Change	%of Budget
PROGRAM	\$13,438,758	\$12,632,019.45	(\$806,739)	75.37%
Teaching Regular School Inc. Summer School, Programs and Services for Students with Disabilities, Occupational Education, Instructional Technology, School Library, Guidance, Health Services, Social Work, Interscholastic Athletics, Co-Curricular Activities, Student Transportation, BOCES Support, Fringe Benefits				
ADMINISTRATIVE	\$1,229,250	\$1,555,666.15	\$326,416	9.28%
Board of Education, Central Administration, Business Administration/Finance, School Principals, Special Education Administrator, Purchasing, Data Processing, Auditing, Legal Services, General Insurance, BOCES Support, District Share of BOCES Admin. Cost, Fringe Benefits				
CAPITAL	\$2,621,015	\$2,572,460.97	(\$48,554)	15.35%
Operation of Plant, Maintenance of Plant, Security, Utilities, Construction From Operating Funds, Principal and Interest on Debt, BOCES Support, Fringe Benefits				
BUDGET TOTAL	\$17,289,023	\$16,760,147	(\$528,876)	100.0%

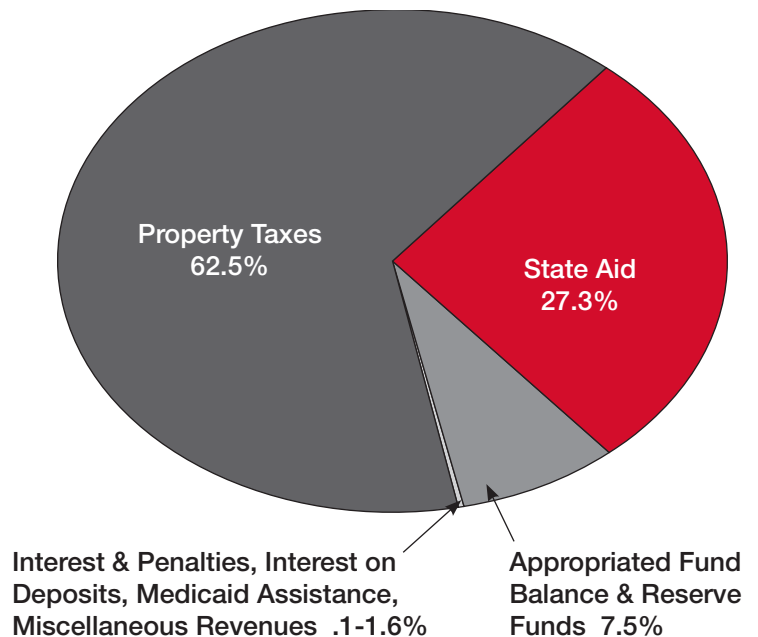
REVENUE ESTIMATES

	2023-2024	2024-2025	Change	%of Budget
Property Taxes	\$10,340,331	\$10,471,674	\$131,343	62.5%
State Aid	5,592,217	4,571,951	(1,020,266)	27.3%
Appropriated Fund Balance & Reserve Funds	646,823	1,264,256	617,433	7.5%
Interest & Penalties (for late payment of taxes)	20,000	15,000	(5,000)	0.1%
Interest on Deposits	30,000	120,000	90,000	0.7%
Medicaid Assistance	50,000	50,000	0	0.3%
Miscellaneous Revenues	609,652	267,266	(342,386)	1.6%
TOTAL REVENUES	\$17,289,023	\$16,760,147	(\$528,876)	100.0%

2024-25 Expenses



2024-25 Revenues



GERMANTOWN CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET NOTICE

SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET NOTICE

Overall Budget Proposal	Budget Adopted for the 2023-24 school year	Budget Proposed for the 2024-25 school year	Contingent Budget for the 2024-25 school year*
Total Budgeted Amount, Not Including Separate Propositions	\$17,289,023	\$16,760,147	\$16,563,151
Increase/Decrease for the 2024-25 school year		\$ (528,876)	\$ (725,872)
Percentage Increase/Decrease in proposed budget		-3.05%	-4.20%
Change in the Consumer Price Index		8.00%	
A. Proposed Tax Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount	\$ 10,340,331	\$10,471,675	
B. Levy to Support Library Debt, if Applicable	\$ -	\$ -	
C. Levy for Non-Excludable Propositions, if Applicable **	\$ -	\$ -	
D. Total Tax Cap Reserve Amount Used to Reduce Current Year Levy	\$ -	\$ -	
E. Total Proposed School Tax Year Levy (A + B + C + D)	\$ 10,340,331	\$ 10,471,675	\$10,274,679
F. Permissible Exclusions to the School Tax Levy Limit	\$ 545,352	\$ 424,896	
G. School Tax Levy Limit, <u>Excluding</u> Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$ 9,794,979	\$ 10,046,779	
H. Total Proposed Tax Levy for School Purposes, <u>Excluding</u> Permissible Exclusions and Levy for Library Debt, Plus Prior Year Tax Cap Reserve (E - B - F + D).	\$ 9,794,979	\$ 10,046,779	
I. Difference: (G - H); (Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval - See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions)**	\$ -	\$ -	
Administrative Component	\$ 1,229,250	\$ 1,555,666	\$ 1,538,670
Program Component	\$ 13,438,758	\$ 12,593,415	\$ 12,413,415
Capital Component	\$ 2,621,015	\$ 2,572,461	\$ 2,572,461

The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2024-25 by the qualified voters of the Germantown Central School District, Columbia County, New York, will be held at the Germantown Elementary School Gymnasium in said district on Tuesday, May 21, 2024 between the hours of 12:00pm and 9:00pm, prevailing time.

*Under NYS law, a school may submit a budget to voters a maximum of two times. If the budget is defeated the Board may adopt a contingent budget or put a budget before the voters a second time. If the budget is defeated twice, the Board must adopt a contingent budget. Certain existing contingent budget requirements remain in effect that prohibit spending in specific areas including community use of buildings, certain salary increases and new equipment purchases. More significantly a district that adopts a contingent budget may not increase its current tax levy by any amount. Using the required formula, the proposed budget is within the allowable tax levy limit and requires a simple majority. The proposed tax levy increase under the proposed budget is \$131,344.

**List separate Propositions that are not included in the Total Budgeted Amount: (Tax Levy associated with educational or transportation services propositions are not eligible for exclusion and may affect voter approval requirements)	Description	Amount
	NONE	\$0

Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings ¹	Under the Budget Proposed for the 2022-23 School Year	\$449,400
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1. The basic school tax relief (STAR) exemption is authorized by section 425 of the Real Property Tax Law.

BOARD OF EDUCATION ELECTION

There are two (2) candidates seeking to fill two (2) open seats on the Board of Education. Both seats are for four (4) year terms beginning in July 2024. The following candidates will be listed on the ballot in the following order (as determined by random drawing):

Lori Marchisio Crawford

I am a graduate of Germantown Central School, Class of 2002. After graduating, I attended SUNY Cobleskill, before transferring to The College of Saint Rose to complete my bachelor's degree in Early Childhood Education with a master's degree in Literacy. I taught two to five year olds at a private preschool in Red Hook for 9 years before shifting career paths in 2014. I currently own Marchisio Properties, a local self storage and commercial office building facility on Palatine Park Road. I am the mother of two children, a seven and a three year old. My son is a current second grader and my other son will join the Clipper family in the fall as a Pre-K student. I have been an active member of the GCS PTSA for the last four years, two years as secretary and two years as treasurer. I have enjoyed my time volunteering at Trunk or Treat, book fairs, parent's night out, field day, and organizing teacher and staff appreciation events throughout the school year. As a mother of two students, I am committed to dedicating my time and effort to being an advocate for not only them, but for your children as well. As a business owner and taxpayer in the community, I am committed to hearing the community's concerns and helping to be your voice.

Mike Pudney

I am running for the Germantown Central School Board because I believe I have a great deal to offer our current school board, the district, and most importantly the students. As a teacher of 30 years in our wonderful district, I believe I have a skill and experience set that is often unique to school board candidates. As a teacher in multiple grades and a former coach in multiple sports, I have taught or coached over 1,000 students in Germantown. This first-hand familiarity provides me with valuable insight to share with school and community leaders. There are very real challenges facing our District moving forward. It is because of my experiences in the district that I have a deeper understanding of each of these very real challenges. As a former executive in our teachers' union, I have many years of experience working with different sides for a common goal-to provide the best learning environment for all our students.

Germantown has been much more than a place of employment for all these years. This school has been my home away from home. I want to bring the skills, experience and relationships I've built over the past 30 years to develop a more collaborative approach that leverages the talents, passion and expertise of everyone in our school community to create successful outcomes for all our students.

LOCAL POSTAL CUSTOMER

Board of Education

Lester Olsson, President
Teresa Repko, Vice President
Linda Anderson
Ralph DelPozzo
Andrea Foley
Lori Crawford
David Rifenburgh

Superintendent

Benjamin Bragg

Produced by Questar III Communications Service

www.germantowncsd.org



Students in the Jr./Sr. High School performed in *The Addams Family* during the Spring Musical.

VOTER INFORMATION

When and where is the vote?

TUESDAY, MAY 21 • NOON – 9 P.M.

Elementary School Gymnasium
123 Main Street • Germantown, NY 12526

Who is eligible to vote? Anyone who is a U.S. citizen, 18 years of age or older and is a resident of the Germantown Central School District for a period of 30 days or more prior to the day of the vote or is registered to vote with either the School District or the Columbia County Board of Elections.

How can I vote by absentee ballot? An eligible voter who is unable to go to the polls on May 21 can cast their vote by absentee ballot. Applications for absentee ballots may be obtained at the District Office. If you would like your ballot to be mailed to you, applications must be received by District Clerk Lisa Shanley no earlier than thirty (30) days prior to the vote and no later than seven (7) days prior to the vote.

Completed absentee ballots must be received at the office of the District Clerk no later than 5 P.M. on May 21.

What if I have questions?

The district website, www.germantowncsd.org, has additional budget resources including budget presentations. You can also call the District Office at 518-537-6281.