



Schuylerville

CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

NEWS AND INFORMATION - BUDGET VOTE



District stays within tax "cap" in proposed 2019-20 budget

Schuylerville residents will go to the polls on Tuesday, May 21, to vote on a proposed \$36.2 million budget for the 2019-20 school year. The proposed budget calls for a 1.95 percent spending increase and an estimated tax levy increase of 1.67 percent, which is the district's maximum allowable tax "cap." This means, if the budget is approved, homeowners who qualify, will again be eligible for the state's property tax relief credit. Tax rates for individual properties will be determined over the summer once equalization rates and assessments are available for the district's seven towns.

"Despite a decrease in state aid, we were committed to keeping the tax levy at the cap without jeopardizing opportunities for our students," said Robert Thivierge, Board of Education President. "We are grateful to serve a community that not only understands our important mission, but continues to support it each year."

As part of the May 21 vote, residents will also select two Board of Education members, consider one proposition and vote in the Schuylerville Public Library Board of Trustees election.

Addressing declining enrollment

Each year, as part of the budget process, district administrators and the Board of Education forecast for future budgets, examine enrollment and evaluate staffing needs.

"We feel we have delivered a budget that is fair to taxpayers, while addressing our declining enrollment and maintaining the great opportunities our students have here in Schuylerville," said Business Manager Marian Chrisman.

This year, it was determined that three positions created by retirements would not need to be filled for the 2019-20 school year.

Over the past 10 years, the district's enrollment has decreased by 300 students due to larger graduating classes and smaller incoming kindergarten classes. With ten retirements expected over the next two years, the district will continue to monitor programming needs and enrollment as staff retire to determine the necessity for filling these positions.

At a glance

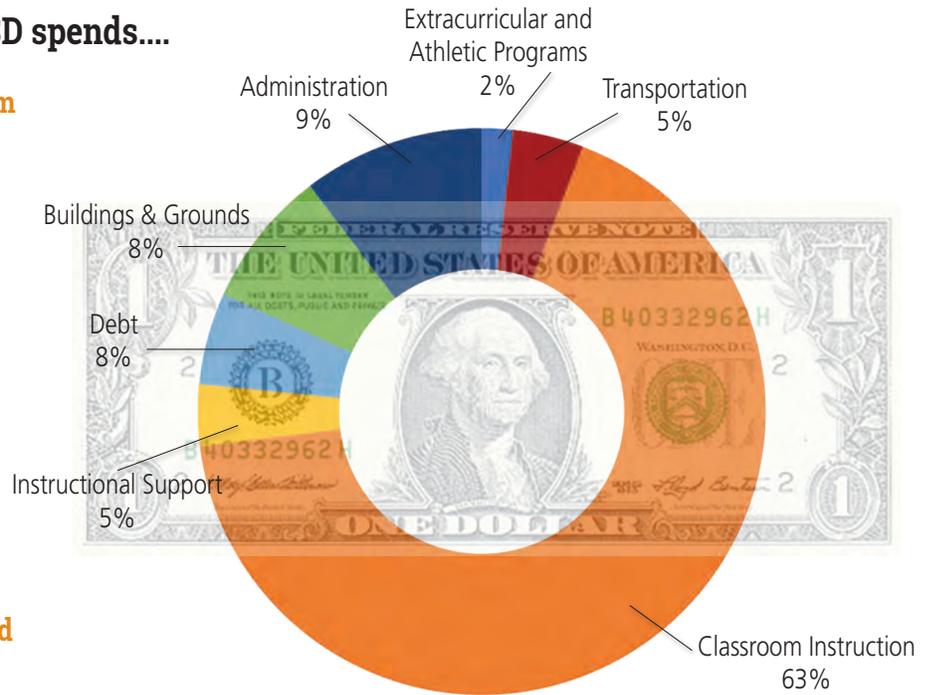
- **PROPOSED BUDGET**
\$36,233,795
- **BUDGET INCREASE**
1.95 percent
- **TAX LEVY INCREASE**
1.67 percent, which is compliant with the district's maximum allowable tax levy increase of 1.67 percent
- **ALSO ON THE BALLOT**
 - ▶ District Board of Education election
 - ▶ Proposition for Schuylerville Public Library budget
 - ▶ Schuylerville Public Library Board of Trustees election
- **VOTE**
Tuesday, May 21, 2019
12 p.m. - 9 p.m.
Elementary School
Gymnasium
- **LEARN MORE**
More information available at www.schuylervilleschools.org, or download the district app for the latest notifications:



How is the money spent?

For every dollar Schuylerville CSD spends....

- ▶ **63 cents** will go directly to **classroom instruction**
- ▶ **8 cents** will go to **debt service**
- ▶ **8 cents** will go to **buildings and grounds**
- ▶ **9 cents** will go to **administrative**
- ▶ **5 cents** will go to **supporting instructional activities**
- ▶ **5 cents** will go to **transporting students** to and from school and school-related activities
- ▶ **2 cents** will go to **extracurricular and athletic programs** for students



Projected Expenditures

Budget Category	2018-19 Budget	Proposed 2019-20 Budget	Difference
Salaries	\$15,198,892	\$15,360,426	\$161,534
Benefits	\$10,855,521	\$10,868,202	\$12,681
BOCES Services	\$2,905,796	\$2,923,694	\$17,898
Supplies	\$684,650	\$742,247	\$57,597
Contractual Costs	\$1,273,940	\$1,839,706	\$565,766
Debt Service	\$3,189,750	\$2,978,670	-\$211,080
Equipment	\$108,200	\$143,200	\$35,000
Utilities	\$519,200	\$518,000	-\$1,200
Insurance	\$200,000	\$167,500	-\$32,500
Tuition, ESY	\$455,000	\$497,650	\$42,650
Textbooks, Library, Software	\$129,500	\$174,500	\$45,000
Transfer to Other Funds	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$0
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$35,540,449	\$36,233,795	\$693,346

Where does the money come from?

- ▶ **State & Federal Aid: 47%**
- ▶ **Fund Balance & Other Local Revenue: 4%**
- ▶ **Local Property Taxes: 49%**

Interest, After School Program, Athletic Events, Refunds, Fund Balance and Reserves



State and Federal Aid

Local Property Taxes

Projected Revenues

Income Sources	2018-19 Budget	Proposed 2019-20 Budget	Difference
Local Property Taxes	\$17,318,147	\$17,574,555	\$256,408
State Aid	\$16,580,302	\$16,980,161	\$399,859
Interest Earnings, Tax Penalties, Medicaid Reimbursements	\$183,000	\$120,079	-\$62,921
Misc. Charges for Services	\$259,000	\$359,000	\$100,000
Appropriated Reserves	\$1,200,000	\$1,200,000	\$0
TOTAL REVENUES	\$35,540,449	\$36,233,795	\$693,346

Public Library proposition, election also part of May 21 vote

As part of the May 21 vote, residents will vote on a proposition for the Schuylerville Public Library. By law, the district must offer the library proposition. However, the library expenditures are not part of the district's operating budget. Residents will also vote in the Board of Trustees election for the Schuylerville Public Library.

Proposition: Schuylerville Public Library budget appropriation

Voters will determine if the Schuylerville Public Library can increase its annual budget appropriation to \$350,000, up from \$340,000. According to library officials, the increase would allow the library to maintain

resources and increase the public programming budget.

This cost is not part of the school district's budget, and the district does not participate in the development of the public library budget. If approved, taxes raised would be spread among all taxable properties in the district.

Schuylerville Public Library Board of Trustees election

The Schuylerville Public Library is holding elections for two seats on its Board of Trustees. Candidates for the positions will be named by the library before the election is held. The two candidates who receive the highest total number of votes cast



in their favor shall each fill a three-year term ending in 2022, created by the expiration of the current terms of Trustees Laura Dooley and Heidi Levin.

For more details on the library elections or for nominating petitions, please visit the library or its website (schuylervillelibrary.sals.edu), or call 518-695-6641.

Construction underway on district capital project

Work is underway on Schuylerville Central School District's \$24.7 million capital project after construction bids came back under budget in February. The project, which is set to fix infrastructure issues, increase school safety and security, and modernize facilities to help educators prepare students for their futures, was approved by voters in December 2016. The district received state approval in July 2018. It is important to note that the capital project and district annual operating budget are two entirely separate budgets.

Construction schedule

Work began in April with asbestos abatement performed at the administration building. Demolition of the building is scheduled for early May. All offices that were located at the administration building have moved to the high school and can be accessed through the high school main entrance. Please be advised that parking in the area of the former administration building will not be allowed during construction.

Construction will be picking up this spring and summer, with work beginning on the high school technology and agriculture addition, as well as new concessions and bathrooms. Crews will also begin making modifications to the turf field entrance, installing additional bleachers and performing updates to the main parking lot. Also this spring, crews will be relocating the generator and transformer in anticipation of construction on the middle school addition, which is scheduled to begin in June. Additionally, crews will be expanding the retention pond and beginning irrigation system work, along with making modifications



Deconstruction underway on administration building.

to improve the elementary school drainage swale. Replacements will also be made at the bus garage, including new siding and a new furnace, as well as mechanical work at the high school.

Impact on summer activities

As a result, the campus will be closed to the community this summer for recreational purposes. All athletic fields will also be closed, with the exception of the tennis courts.

The Extended School Year (ESY) program will take place at the high school from July 8 to Aug. 16. Please note, the main entrance for students in the ESY program will be through the first-floor entrance under the library.

Summer school for both middle school and high school students will be held from July 1 to Aug. 14 in the high school. Driver's education will be held from July 1 to Aug. 14 in the high school auditorium. All middle school and high school students should use the high school main entrance.

Please be advised the main entrance to the middle school and the doors by the middle school guidance office will not be accessible for the duration of the summer. Anyone needing to access the middle school during this time will need to enter through the elementary school main entrance.

The district will be posting

frequent updates throughout the project to keep the community aware of progress, as well as any limitations on campus. Visit schuylervilleschools.org and download the district app to stay informed.

Administration Building Relocates to High School

- ▶ **Superintendent**
Dr. Ryan Sherman: Room 250
- ▶ **Business Manager**
Marian Chrisman: Room 251
- ▶ **Director of Facilities**
Peter Riggi: Room 251
- ▶ **Business Office:** Room 224
- ▶ **Secretary to the Superintendent:** Room 224

District Team

- ▶ **Dr. Ryan Sherman,**
Superintendent
- ▶ **Peter Riggi,**
Director of Facilities
- ▶ **Marian Chrisman,**
Business Manager
- ▶ **Matthew Monahan,**
SEI Design Group Architect
- ▶ **William McMordie,**
Saratoga Project Management
- ▶ **Paul Irish,**
Construction Manager

Voters to elect two Board of Education members

In addition to considering the proposed 2019-20 school budget, residents will vote in the district's Board of Education election.

Two seats will be available on Schuylerville Central School District's Board of Education beginning July 1, 2019. Board members serve five-year terms on a voluntary basis. The four candidates are listed here in the order they will appear on the ballot.

A full profile of each candidate is posted on the district website (schuylervilleschools.org).

▶ Bernard Buff,

Jr. is running for his first term on the Schuylerville Board of Education.

He currently works as a construction engineer for Verizon Wireless in North Greenbush. Buff graduated from New Lebanon High School, earned an associate's degree from Hudson Valley Community College and a bachelor's degree in landscape architecture from SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry. Buff and his wife, Cathleen, have lived in the district since 2009 and have two daughters. Maeve is a freshman at Schuylerville High School and Anika is in seventh grade at Schuylerville Middle School. The family lives at 171 Southard Road in Saratoga Springs.



▶ Joanna Crowley

is running for her first term on the Schuylerville Board of Education. She is currently a stay at home mom of two children in the district. She was previously employed as a senior accountant at AngioDynamics and an auditor for PricewaterhouseCoopers. Crowley graduated from Saratoga Springs High School, earned a bachelor's degree in biology from Syracuse University and a master's degree in accounting from the University at Albany. Crowley and her husband, Brian, live at 1 Seymour Drive in Saratoga Springs with their two daughters. Olivia is in sixth grade at Schuylerville Middle School and Lilah is in fourth grade at Schuylerville Elementary School.



▶ Jack Macica

is running for his eighth term on the Schuylerville Board of Education, where he's served as president (9 years), vice president (20 years), legislative liaison (2 years) and Board auditor (3 years). He retired in November 2018 from State Farm Insurance, where he worked as a project manager for agency system distributions. Macica graduated from Schuylerville High School and earned a degree in business management through the SUNY system. Macica and



his wife, Jamie, live at 844 Rt. 29 in Saratoga Springs. They have two daughters - Danielle Bailey and Elizabeth Macica - who both graduated from Schuylerville High School, as well as two grandchildren - Ian Bailey and Campbell Bailey - who are currently in grades eight and six, respectively, at Schuylerville Middle School.

▶ Jessica Schwerd

is running for her first term on the Schuylerville Board of Education. She currently works as a preschool teacher for Saratoga Independent School and as a park educator for Hudson Crossing Park. Schwerd graduated from Greenwich High School, earned a bachelor's degree in early childhood education and mathematics from SUNY Cortland and a master's degree in elementary reading and literacy from Walden University. Schwerd and her husband, Rick, have lived in the district for 14 years. They have four children: Ted is a freshman at Schuylerville High School, Kevin is in seventh grade at Schuylerville Middle School, Anna is in fifth grade at Schuylerville Elementary School and Nora is in second grade at Schuylerville Elementary School. The family lives at 200 Hanehan Road in Schuylerville.





School District Budget Notice

Overall Budget Proposal	Budget Adopted for the 2018-19 School Year	Budget Proposed for the 2019-20 School Year	Contingency Budget for the 2019-20 School Year *
Total Budgeted Amount, Not Including Separate Propositions	\$35,540,449	\$36,233,795	\$36,097,795
Increase/Decrease for the 2019-20 School Year		\$693,346	\$557,346
Percentage Increase/Decrease in Proposed Budget		1.95 %	1.6%
Change in the Consumer Price Index		2.44%	
A. Proposed Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount	\$17,318,147	\$17,574,555	
B. Levy to Support Library Debt, if Applicable	N/A	N/A	
C. Levy for Non-Excludable Propositions, if Applicable **	N/A	N/A	
D. Total Tax Cap Reserve Amount Used to Reduce Current Year Levy	N/A	N/A	
E. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy (A + B + C - D)	\$17,318,147	\$17,574,555	\$17,318,147
F. Total Permissible Exclusions	\$318,429	\$111,825	
G. School Tax Levy Limit, <u>Excluding</u> Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$16,999,718	\$17,462,730	
H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, <u>Excluding</u> Levy to Support Library Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions (E – B – F + D)	\$16,999,718	\$17,462,730	
I. Difference: G – H (Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval – See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions) **	\$0	\$0	
Administrative Component	\$3,051,014	\$3,235,788	\$3,235,788
Program Component	\$26,476,225	\$27,036,341	\$26,945,341
Capital Component	\$6,013,210	\$5,961,666	\$5,916,666

* If voters do not approve the proposed 2019-2020 budget within two votes, the Board must adopt a contingent budget, which limits the property tax levy increase to zero percent, no exclusions. Deliberations would center around removing equipment line items and shifting amounts to other expenses.

** 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
N/A	

	Under the Budget Proposed for the 2019-20 School Year
Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings ¹	\$725

The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2019-20 by the qualified voters of the Schuylerville Central School District, Saratoga County, New York, will be held at Schuylerville Elementary School in said district on Tuesday, May 21, 2019 between the hours of 12:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m., prevailing time in the Schuylerville Elementary School gymnasium, at which time the polls will be opened to vote by voting ballot or machine.

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

What is the return on taxpayers' investment in Schuylerville schools?

At a proposed \$36.2 million spending plan for next year, the school budget is the biggest investment the community makes with its tax dollars. The following student and staff achievements are just a sample of the return on this community investment.

Academics

- ▶ Senior Peter Schwartz was awarded The Post-Star's Teen Excellence Award for demonstrating personal growth, leadership and innovation, along with a commitment to the community.
- ▶ More than six dozen students were inducted into the National Honor and National Junior Honor Societies in 2019.
- ▶ Middle School technology teacher Mark Belden was named a New York State Master Teacher for his work in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) education.
- ▶ A fifth grade team took second place at the seventh annual Battle of the Books, a competition that encourages students to read.



- ▶ Senior Annika Brown was recognized as one of the top 600 National Honor Society members in the nation and was awarded a \$3,200 scholarship.

Arts

- ▶ More than four dozen students in grades 5 through 8 took part in the 2019 New York State School Music Association (NYSSMA) Solo Festival in March.



- ▶ The high school drama club impressed with its performance of "High School Musical on Stage!" in November.
- ▶ The middle school drama club brought a childhood classic to life with its performance of "Little Mermaid Jr." in March.



- ▶ Seniors Zoe Andrews, Lindsey Fish and Myranda Gale showcased their artwork as part of the Annual High School All Stars Exhibition at the Saratoga Arts Center.
- ▶ Five middle school students were named winners of the annual Lions Club Peace Poster contest.

Athletics & Extracurriculars

- ▶ The high school math league won its second straight Warren-Washington-Saratoga County Math League Championship in March. It marked the third time in four years Schuylerville has taken first place.
- ▶ Senior Emily Swenson won gold in her event at the U.S. Rowing Youth Regional Challenge in Sarasota, FL in December.
- ▶ Eight high school FFA members advanced to the State FFA Convention after placing in the top two of their

Leadership Development Events at the substate competition.

- ▶ Junior Hannah Klingebiel placed second in Slalom and third in Giant Slalom at the Alpine Skiing State Championships in February.



- ▶ Senior Stratton Sherman received the National Football Foundation and College Hall of Fame Capital District Chapter Student-Athlete Award in March.

Making a Difference

- ▶ Elementary school students donated 2,436 items to SAFER as part of their 100 days of school celebration.
- ▶ High School senior McKenzie DuFrain helped restore a car for a local veteran through the CTE Auto Body Repair program.
- ▶ Students in Mrs. Jordan's elementary Life Skills class donated \$700 to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital through their Valentine's Day teddy bear sale.
- ▶ Elementary school students raised more than \$3,700 for the Albany Ronald McDonald House as part of the Read for Ronald McDonald House Program.

Board of Education

Robert Thivierge, President
Frank Nesbitt, Vice President
Michael Bodnar, Legislative Liaison
Matthias Donnelly, Audit Committee Chairperson
Stan Barber
Michael Booth
Jack Macica

Superintendent

Dr. Ryan Sherman

Editor: Stacey Rice

Schuylerville

CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

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● **VOTE** ● Tuesday, May 21, 2019, 12-9 p.m., Elementary School Gymnasium
● **Public Hearing** ● Tuesday, May 7, 2019, 6 p.m., High School Library

2019 Budget Vote Information

Who is eligible to vote?

To be eligible to vote, a person must be 18 years old, a resident of the district for at least 30 days prior to the vote and a U.S. citizen.

When and where is the vote?

Tuesday, May 21, 2019 from 12-9 p.m. in the Elementary School Gymnasium, 14 Spring St.

What will I be voting on?

Residents are voting on the proposed budget for the 2019-20 school year, a proposition for the Schuylerville Public Library, and candidates to fill two seats on the Board of Education and two seats on the library's Board of Trustees. Turn to pages 3 & 5 for details on each of the elections.

Is the district using fund balance to help balance the budget?

Yes. The district will be using funds from several reserves to offset expenditures.



Schuylerville Elementary School students on the first day of school.

What if the proposed budget is voted down?

The Board of Education has the option of putting another budget (revised or not) up for a vote in June or immediately adopting a contingent budget. After two unsuccessful votes, a district must adopt a contingent budget, which limits the property tax levy increase to zero percent, with no exclusions. Deliberations would center around removing equipment line items and shifting amounts to other expenses.

Can I vote by absentee ballot?

If you would like an application for an absentee ballot, please call the Superintendent's Office at

695-3255, extension 3242. Absentee ballots must be submitted to the district office, now located inside Schuylerville High School, by 5 p.m. on Tuesday, May 21.

How can I get more information about the budget proposal?

If you'd like more details, please call the Superintendent's Office at 695-3255, extension 3242 or see the district website (schuylervilleschools.org). Additionally, the district's plain-language budget and the School Report Card are available at the district office located inside Schuylerville High School at 14 Spring Street, Schuylerville.