



# PATRIOT NEWS

MAY 2024

## 2024-25 Budget Hearing

Thursday, May 9, 2024, 7:00 PM  
In the Cafeteria

## 2024-2025 Budget Vote

Tuesday, May 21, 2024, 12:00 Noon - 8:00 PM  
Near the band room entrance

### SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Community Members,

This year's budgeting process has presented significant challenges, primarily due to uncertainties stemming from the Governor's budget cuts, including the possible removal of Hold Harmless and reductions in the inflation adjustment. These changes have made it difficult to forecast accurately and plan effectively. Despite these obstacles, our primary focus remains on prioritizing student programs and instructional needs.

One of the major factors affecting our budget is the possible decrease in foundation aid, which is directly tied to enrollment. It's important to note that the foundation aid formula currently in use dates back to 2008, despite significant changes in enrollment patterns over the past sixteen years. Historically, districts experiencing declines in enrollment have still received the same level of aid due to the Hold Harmless provision. If Hold Harmless was removed, our district would have faced a substantial cut in aid, totaling approximately \$852,440. The Hold Harmless was left in the budget but moving forward the Governor states that the formula will be revisited and funding will be adjusted. We will continue to plan long term with the anticipation of the change in foundation aid and will monitor as we go based on information from the state.

In response to these financial challenges, we have made several difficult decisions to mitigate the impact on our budget:

- Through attrition, we have chosen not to replace a maintenance position.
- Due to low enrollment, we have cut two elementary teaching positions, resulting in adjustments to class sizes. Third grade will be one class due to the number of students and there will only be one PK class. The PK class will be capped at 18 students. If there are more than 18 students we will then use a lottery system.
- We have reduced the number of Licensed Teaching Assistants (LTAs) by three positions.
- Strategic decisions have been made regarding transportation, including trading a 6-year old 30-passenger bus for a 30-passenger bus, purchasing a 65-passenger bus, and purchasing a 7-passenger vehicle to support out-of-district transportation needs.

Changes to the Administrative, Program and Capital budget line: The Administrative line has increased due to two factors. First, the BOCES administrative budget increased \$16,343 and second a portion of the elementary principal's salary was under Title IIa grants. The grant no longer allows for administrative salaries to be used under this grant. Therefore, the entire salary is now under the administrative budget. The Program budget increased due to salaries and increase of

### THREE-PART BUDGET

With the enactment of Chapter 426 of the 1997 Laws of New York State, a school district's proposed budget must be presented to the voters in a three-part format. Below, you will find the proposed 2024-2025 budget in that format, along with comparative data from the current year's budget.

**The total overall budget is \$14,768,325, which is a 1.14% increase over the 23-24 school year. The tax levy amount is 2%.**

#### ADMINISTRATIVE

|                       |             |
|-----------------------|-------------|
| Current year.....     | \$1,452,091 |
| Proposed 2024-25..... | \$1,515,699 |
| Change of .....       | \$63,608    |

The administrative budget includes those expenses directly related to the functioning of the Board of Education, District Clerk, Superintendent's Office, Business Office, BOCES Administrative charges and Supervision. The administrative budget is increasing by 4.38%.

#### PROGRAM

|                       |              |
|-----------------------|--------------|
| Current year.....     | \$10,675,162 |
| Proposed 2024-25..... | \$10,839,761 |
| Change of .....       | \$164,599    |

The program budget includes those expenses directly related to the teaching of students. Those include teachers, assistants, aides and other professional salaries, BOCES charges, supplies, textbooks, special education costs, health, guidance, co-curricular activities and athletics. This area also includes transportation expenses directly related to the functioning of the bus garage and the operation of the bus fleet. The program budget is increasing by 1.54%

#### CAPITAL

|                       |             |
|-----------------------|-------------|
| Current year.....     | \$2,474,410 |
| Proposed 2024-25..... | \$2,412,865 |
| Change of .....       | -\$61,545   |

The capital budget includes Operations and Maintenance expenses including salaries, fringe benefits, utilities, and supplies directly related to the cleaning and maintenance of the District's building and grounds. This portion of the budget also includes principal and interest costs related to the borrowing for our capital improvement projects. The District receives 81.5% building aid from NYS for this. Purchases for buses are reimbursed by NYS at 61.5% over five years. The capital budget is increasing by -2.49%.

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# CHERRY VALLEY-SPRINGFIELD CENTRAL SCHOOL

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Cherry Valley, NY 13320

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Organization  
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## Board Members

Amy Garretson, President  
Gregory Lowry, Vice-President  
April Aramini  
Ellen Johnson  
Erin Seeley

**CURRENT RESIDENT OR**

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**ECRWSS  
BOXHOLDER**

*continued from front*

health insurance premiums. The Capital budget decreased due to the change in the maintenance position.

To address the budget shortfall, we are proposing a tax levy increase of 2%. Additionally, we are utilizing Appropriated Fund Balance and reductions in positions to help bridge the gap.

We deeply appreciate the ongoing support of our families and community members. Your commitment to education and your dedication to our students are invaluable. We are grateful to be part of a commu-

nity where education is valued, and we remain committed to working together to ensure the success of our students and our school district.

If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to reach out to me directly. Your feedback and input are always welcome and appreciated.

Thank you for your continued partnership.

Sincerely,  
*TheriJo Snyder*, Superintendent

## 2024-2025 PROPOSITIONS

### TRUSTEE AT LARGE (VOTE FOR TWO CANDIDATES)

For one five-year term to fill the vacancy created by the expiration of the term of April Aramini.

For one two-year term to fill the vacancy created by the expiration of the term of Ellen Johnson who, for one (1) year, fulfilled the vacancy left by the resignation of Robert Tabor.

- Nicole T. Fox
- Hilary Fox Lusk
- Ellen Johnson
- April Aramini

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### Proposition I - BUDGET AMOUNT

To adopt the budget as presented in the amount around \$14,768,325, to authorize the Board of Education to levy and collect the necessary taxes.

### Proposition II- BUSES PURCHASE

Shall the Board of Education be authorized to purchase two school buses - one sixty-five (65) passenger and one thirty (30) passenger with the total cost not to exceed \$236,000? The source of the funds shall be a tax upon the taxable property of the District to be levied and collected in annual installments in such years and in such amounts as may be determined by the Board of Education.

### Proposition III- VEHICLE PURCHASE

Shall the Board of Education be authorized to purchase one seven passenger vehicle with the total cost not to exceed \$43,000? The source of the funds shall be a tax upon the taxable property of the District to be levied and collected in annual installments in such years and in such amounts as may be determined by the Board of Education.

### Proposition IV- TECHNOLOGY CAPITAL RESERVE FUND

Shall the Board of Education of the Cherry Valley-Springfield Central School District be authorized to (1) establish a capital reserve fund to be known as the Technology Capital Reserve Fund for the purpose of renovating and improving School District facilities for the purpose of technology related improvements and to finance the acquisition of furnishings, wiring, computers, equipment, or apparatus related thereto; (2) deposit into such fund the ultimate amount of \$5,000,000; and (3) annually deposit into the Technology Capital Reserve Fund such portion of the General Fund, unallocated fund balance, state aid reimbursement, other reserves, such other monies as the voters may direct, and/or other legally available funds of the School District in an amount determined by the Board of Education up to the maximum authorized amount. The probable duration of this Technology Capital Reserve fund is ten (10) years?

### Proposition V- AUTHORIZATION of ESTABLISHMENT OF CAPITAL RESERVE FUND 2024

Shall the Board of Education of the Cherry Valley-Springfield Central School District be authorized to establish a capital reserve fund to finance construction, reconstruction and renovation projects of the School District pursuant to Section 3651 of the Education Law of the State of New York (the "Fund"); that the Fund shall be known as the "Capital Reserve Fund 2024 for the Undertaking of Various Building Projects of the School District," that the ultimate amount of the Fund shall not be greater than \$10,000,000 (plus interest earned thereon;) that the probable term of the Fund shall not be longer than fifteen (15) years; and that the permissible sources from which the Board is authorized to appropriate monies to such Fund from time to time shall be (a) unappropriated fund balance moneys from the School District's General Fund authorized by the Board to be deposited in the Fund, (b) State aid received as reimbursement for expenditures by the School District in connection with School District capital improvements, (c) such other moneys from the School District's General Fund as approved by the voters, and (d) any remaining balance in the current Capital Reserve Fund upon expiration?