

May 2024

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Budget Hearing
Thursday, May 9, 2024
 7:00 pm in the Auditorium

Budget Vote & School Board Election
Tuesday, May 21, 2024
 Noon to 8 pm
 in the Auditorium Lobby

Superintendent's Overview 2024-25 Proposed Budget

Dear Community Members,

On April 25, 2024, the Board of Education Schroon Lake Central School unanimously adopted the proposed budget for the upcoming 2024-2025 school year. As we move forward, your engagement and support are crucial, and I am pleased to share the details of this important endeavor.

This proposed budget is a culmination of diligent efforts by our leadership team and aligns closely with the budget goals I articulated to the Board early in the development process: transparency, zero-based budgeting, decreasing and ultimately eliminating our reliance on fund balance, investing in curriculum upgrades, and conceptualizing budgeting as a multi-year process. The proposed budget is designed to maintain the quality programming our students deserve while addressing the challenges posed by the pandemic and its residual effects on learning loss. However, it's important to acknowledge the challenges we faced in crafting this budget, including rising inflation, and increased costs of operation. These factors have necessitated careful consideration of every expenditure.

One of our key achievements in this proposed budget is the reduction of our reliance on fund balance by \$100,000, a significant step toward financial sustainability. Another key benefit of the proposed budget is the inclusion of a sixth grade teacher. Despite many challenges, our proposed budget reflects our unwavering commitment to our core values: providing high-quality instruction, maintaining a safe and clean environment, ensuring equitable access to athletic opportunities, offering opportunities in art and music, and tailoring programming to meet the diverse needs of our students.



As we move forward, I urge all community members to actively participate in the budget process. Please mark your calendars for the budget hearing scheduled for May 9, 2024, where you'll have the opportunity to engage directly with the budget details and make any inquiries you may have. Additionally, I encourage you to exercise your civic duty by casting your vote on May 21, 2024.

Your involvement is vital as we work together to shape the future of our school district. Thank you for your continued support and dedication to our students' success.

Sincerely,


Kemm Pemrick
 Superintendent



Board of Education President's Message

Dear Schroon Lake Community,

As we enter the final quarter of the school year, warmer weather is here, hummingbirds are migrating, and students long for summer break. As in years past, this also means it is time for the Board of Education to present the proposed budget for the upcoming school year.

The Board and administration continue to strive to provide a safe and quality learning environment for our students while keeping operational costs to a minimum. This year's budget has a goal of being transparent to the community, utilizing only the essentials to operate the school and provide the highest quality of education for our students. Unfortunately, the price increases we see in our household also affect our school budget. One major change that you may note for this year is that there is not a proposal for a new bus as we have in the past. This is primarily due to the increased operational expenses and our commitment to minimize the impact on the community as much as possible.

We hope that this transparent budget will reflect the hard work and careful planning that goes into managing the budget while balancing the needs of our students. Thank you for your continued support in our efforts to provide our children with a quality education and a safe place for them to learn and grow. Each one of our students has so much potential, and you play a large part in their success.

Please join us for the budget hearing on May 9th at 7 pm in the Auditorium. We also encourage your involvement in the budget vote on Tuesday, May 21st between noon and 8 pm. Voting will take place in the Auditorium Lobby.

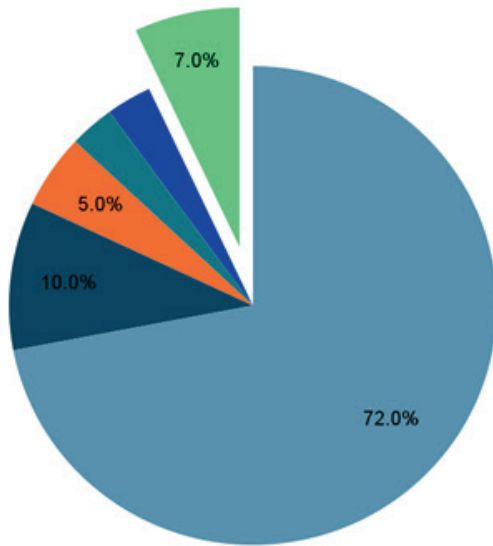
Serving you, the community, and the students of Schroon Lake Central School,

Jared Whitley

Jared Whitley

Board of Education President

SLCS Budget



What is everything else?

- Teaching Curriculum & Conferences
- Athletic Program
- Supplies & Materials
- Books
- BOCES
- Audit
- Contractual Expenses
- Insurance
- Tax Collecting
- Membership Dues
- Co-Curricular Services

● Salaries + Benefits ● Debt ● Facilities + Transportation ● Special Ed ● Tech ● Everything Else



2024-2025 Budget Comparison

ADMINISTRATIVE COMPONENT	2023-2024 Budget	2024-2025 Proposed	Difference
GENERAL SUPPORT:			
Board of Education	\$10,290	\$10,128	(162)
Central Administration	\$245,550	\$239,750	(5,800)
Finance	\$182,453	\$217,816	35,363
Staff	\$22,000	\$20,200	(1,800)
Special Items	\$150,444	\$182,600	32,156
Instruction: Administration	\$106,000	\$103,000	(3,000)
Undistributed: Employee Benefits	\$201,293	\$177,900	(23,393)
TOTAL ADMINISTRATIVE COMPONENT	\$918,030	\$951,394	\$33,364
PROGRAM COMPONENT	2023-2024 Budget	2024-2025 Proposed	Difference
INSTRUCTION:			
Instructional Improvement	\$29,772	\$62,500	32,728
Teaching Regular School	\$2,192,062	\$2,317,594	125,532
Special Apportionment Programs	\$1,140,396	\$1,160,998	20,602
Instructional Media	\$248,656	\$294,000	45,344
Pupil Services	\$326,654	\$337,868	11,214
Transportation	\$360,663	\$311,726	(48,937)
Undistributed: Employee Benefits	\$2,602,553	\$2,599,900	(2,653)
Undistributed: Interfund Transfer	\$0	\$0	0
TOTAL PROGRAM COMPONENT	\$6,900,756	\$7,084,586	\$183,830
CAPITAL COMPONENT	2023-2024 Budget	2024-2025 Proposed	Difference
Central Services	\$516,410	\$583,898	67,488
Undistributed: Employee Benefits	\$74,918	\$237,200	162,282
Undistributed: Debt Service	\$895,213	\$933,299	38,086
TOTAL CAPITAL COMPONENT	\$1,486,541	\$1,754,397	\$267,856
Total Budget Expenditures	\$9,305,327	\$9,790,377	\$485,050

Please Note: Budget documents, with detailed line-by-line delineation, will be available on May 2nd in the school's main office, on our website at www.schroonschool.org or call 518-532-7164, ext. 3398 (Business Office) to have a copy mailed to you. The Budget will be reviewed at the Public Hearing on May 9th.

Property Tax Report Card

	Budgeted 2023-24	Proposed Budget 2024-25	Percentage Change
Total Budgeted Amount	9,305,327	9,790,377	5.21%
A. Proposed Tax Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount	7,329,377	7,757,281	
B. Tax Levy to Support Library Debt, if Applicable			
C. Tax Levy for Non-Excludable Propositions, if Applicable			
D. Total Tax Cap Reserve Amount Used to Reduce Current Year Levy, if Applicable			
E. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy (A + B + C - D)	7,329,377	7,757,281	5.84%
F. Permissible Exclusions to the School Year Tax Levy	852,089	870,592	
G. School Tax Levy Limit, Excluding Levy for Permissible Exclusions	6,169,404	6,654,970	
H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, Excluding Levy to Support Library Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions (E - B - F + D)		6,886,689	
I. Difference: (G - H); (negative value requires 60% voter approval)		-231,719	
Public School Enrollment	226	226	
Consumer Price Index			4.12%
	Actual 2023-24	Estimated 2024-25	
Adjusted Restricted Fund Balance	751,847	300,000	
Assigned Appropriated Fund Balance	600,000	500,000	
Adjusted Unrestricted Fund Balance	1,437,228	937,230	
Adjusted Unrestricted Fund Balance as a Percent of the Total Budget	15.45%	9.73%	

Proposed Budget – Estimated Tax Impact

Assessment	23-24 Taxes	24-25 Taxes	Estimated Tax Change
\$100,000	\$664	\$706	\$42
\$250,000	\$1,661	\$1,765	\$104
\$500,000	\$3,321	\$3,530	\$209

Estimated Revenues

Budget Year	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025
Interest & Penalties	\$16,000	\$16,000	\$14,000
Interest Earnings	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$90,000
Misc. Revenues	\$45,800	\$45,800	\$40,000
State Aid	\$1,270,330	\$1,309,100	\$1,389,096
Use of Fund Balance	\$551,626	\$600,000	\$500,000
Property Tax	\$6,926,084	\$7,329,377	\$7,757,281
Total Revenues	\$8,814,890	\$9,305,327	\$9,790,377



Shout Out to Wildcats! Our Positive Behavioral and Intervention Supports (PBIS) is at work recognizing all school members, even the adults, for behaviors that exemplify what it means to be a Wildcat!



Community Corner

Community Give-Back Day

This fall, a group of civic-minded high school students took the initiative to organize a Community Give-Back Day. Students in grades 9 through 12 signed up to participate in activities that benefit our community.

Students chose from cemetery clean-up, beach clean-up, washing the buses, assisting in classroom projects and roadside clean-up. Every student participated! We reconnected at the school to share a meal outside before gathering in the auditorium to report out on the groups' experiences.

What a wonderful way for the students to connect to the community and to each other. This certainly aligns with our One Town, One School, One Family theme and will surely become a new Schroon Lake CSD annual tradition!



Community Connections

The connections our school has with the community is vital to our success. The relationships we have enrich the academic and social lives of our students and teachers and serve to expand knowledge and available resources.

This year we have invited community organizations into the school and they have invited us to share their expertise. Our students connected with the fire department, Lion's Club, Senior Center, State Troopers and the K9 Unit, local businesses, and Seagle Colony, just to name a few. We have worked a great deal in collaboration with the Town Library.

We now have high school teachers and students visiting the library and broadening their access to resources. And every student in grades PreK-5 has a library card! We look to further expand the availability of the school building to the community at large.

Our goal is to make the school the center of the community. One Town, One School, One Family!

World of Wildcats

Wildcats Excel On and Off the Field and Court

We take immense pride in the outstanding achievements of our Wildcat athletes, both on the playing field and in their academic pursuits. This past season, our soccer teams shone brightly, with both squads earning the prestigious Scholar Athlete Team award from the state.

During the winter season, the Boys Varsity basketball team continued their winning streak, securing their second consecutive Section 7 Championship title. They wrapped up the season as the 9th-ranked Class D basketball team in the state, showcasing their talent and dedication.

As we move into the spring season, there's a buzz of excitement in the air. Our girls are currently participating in the second season of Flag football. Additionally, we're thrilled to announce the revival of our modified baseball and softball teams. We will be fielding our own teams for the first time in a number of years. Our golf team is also gearing up for an impressive season, poised to be among the top contenders in the MVAC Athletic Conference.



The Arts @ SLCS

Music

Did you know that 84 students in grades 4-12 participate in band? That is over half of our student body! Schroon Lake Central School's instrumental performing groups include the 5/6 Band, 7-12 Band, Junior Jazz Band, and Senior Jazz Band. Each group has been very busy this year, performing at the Veteran's Day Assembly, Holiday Concert and the Pops Concert.

Schroon Lake brought our entire band and chorus to the first We Are Instrumental Music Summit, held in Ticonderoga in October. We have also had several students participate in the CASMA Fall and Spring Festivals and the NYSSMA Area All-State Festival. We were thrilled to see several student musicians play their instruments in this year's production of *The Little Mermaid*.

We will send more students to the NYSSMA Solo Festival this spring, and we look forward to having all of the groups perform in the upcoming Celebration of the Arts concerts on May 21st (PreK-6th grade) and June 4th (7-12th grade). We thank our Board of Education and our community for your continued support of our music program and all that we do!



Theater

This year's production of *The Little Mermaid* was a hit! Opening night was a packed house; standing room only! We are so impressed with the talent that our school produces. Performers, set designers, stage crew, lighting crew, costumes, audio, choreography... it takes a lot of talent, time and dedication to make a show work and there is no show supply of that at SLCS! Bravo!

Visual Arts

Wildcats have talent! On view currently at the Schroon Lake Public Library is an art display that showcases a wide array of our elementary and middle school students' artwork. Displays feature 3D and ceramic artwork; from textured turtles, fish dishes, and pinch pots, to signs and sculptures. Also on view are handmade origami books by the 8th grade exploring the Elements of Art. The library is also showcasing our local winners for this year's Lions Club peace poster contest.

The theme this year was, "Dare to Dream." Our high school students were recently provided with the opportunity to enter their artwork into an annual juried art competition hosted by the Hyde Collection in Glens Falls. Out of 584 total entries, 10 pieces of artwork from five Schroon Lake students were selected by a panel of judges as semi-finalists. Students now await the results of the second round of judging to find out if their work will be part of the 33rd Annual High School Juried Show on display at the Hyde through the month of May. Best of luck to our creative Wildcats.

To see more student works of art, please attend our Celebration of the Arts at 6:30pm on May 21st for PreK-5 and June 4th for grades 6-12. See you there!





Overview 2024-25 Proposed Budget

May 2024

News from Schroon Lake Central School District

REQUEST AN ABSENTEE BALLOT	WHEN & WHERE TO VOTE	WHAT AM I VOTING ON
<p>Community members may also request an absentee ballot by completing the application found on our website or calling the district office.</p>	<p>Tuesday, May 21, 2024 Noon to 8 p.m.</p> <p>Schroon Lake Central School Auditorium Lobby</p>	<p>2024-25 Budget 2 Members of the BOE</p> <p>Cody Aiken</p> <p>Bruce Murdock</p>

For more information on the 2024-25 Budget  Visit our district website <https://www.schroonschool.org/>

VOTE ON MAY 21, 2024

2024-25 BUDGET

The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2024-25 by the qualified voters of the Schroon Lake Central School District, Essex County, New York, will be held in the Schroon Lake Central School Auditorium Lobby on Tuesday, May 21, 2024 between the hours of noon and 8 p.m., at which time the polls will be opened to vote by ballot.

BUDGET HEARING MAY 9 AT 7:00 PM

The Public Budget Hearing will be held in the Schroon Lake Central School Auditorium at 1125 US Rt. 9 Schroon Lake, N.Y. 12870.



Lions Club members present the winners of this year's Peace Poster Contest

www.schroonschool.org

Kemm Pemrick
Superintendent
518-532-7164

BOARD OF EDUCATION
Jared Whitley – Board President
Susan Repko- Vice President
Bruce Murdock
Codie Aiken
Valerie Leblanc

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