



# The Glances

**Harrisville**  
Central School District  
BUDGET EDITION // 2023-24

## Harrisville voters to decide on \$11.56 million budget proposal

On Tuesday, May 16, Harrisville Central School District residents will vote on a proposed spending plan for the 2023-24 school year, which stays within the state-mandated tax levy limit, or “cap.” Budget approval requires a simple majority of votes (50% plus one).

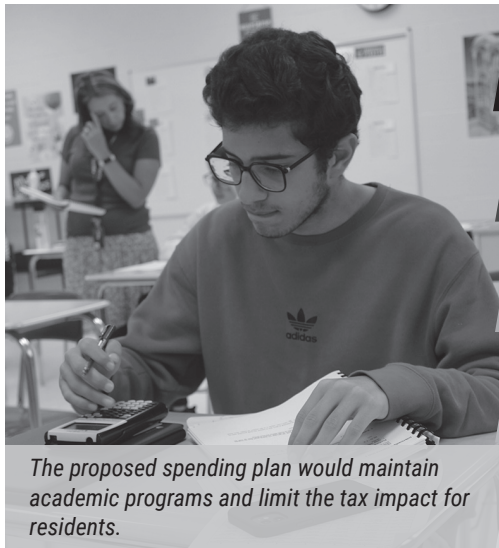
Polls will be open from 1-8 p.m. in the Harrisville Central School Library, 14371 Pirate Lane.

In addition to voting on the \$11,564,651 budget proposal, residents will be able to elect two members to the board of education and vote on a \$311,980 proposition to purchase two 66-passenger school buses (see page 3).

The proposed budget calls for a spending increase of \$243,190, or 2.15%, over the current year’s budget. Much of the increase can be attributed to the higher costs of materials and supplies, offering additional in-district support services, salary increases and benefits.

District leaders are proposing a tax levy increase of \$163,580, or 3.99%, which is below the district’s calculated tax levy limit, or “cap,” required by the state. While final assessment figures are not available until August, it is projected that homeowners with an assessment of \$100,000 will see their annual taxes increase by approximately \$65.56, without the STAR exemption (see page 3).

“The administration and board of education worked tirelessly to prepare a budget proposal that upholds the quality Harrisville is known for while minimizing the impacts on taxpayers,” said Superintendent Rob Finster. “This proposed spending plan



*The proposed spending plan would maintain academic programs and limit the tax impact for residents.*

prioritizes student achievement and maintains the comprehensive educational opportunities we offer our students.”

During the budget development process, it became clear the district would need to proactively reduce its labor costs to ensure the financial stability of the district moving forward. As a result of lower state aid projections, the end of one-time federal funding and continued declining enrollment, the budget proposal includes the reduction of four full-time equivalent (FTE) teaching positions at the elementary and middle school grade levels.

“While this was a difficult decision for us to make, we felt it was the most appropriate way to maintain a solid financial path forward for our district,” said Finster. “Despite this staffing reduction, we are confident the district can preserve its current academic programs.”

Harrisville residents are encouraged to attend the district’s Annual Public Hearing on Tuesday, May 9, at 5:30 p.m., in the Harrisville Central School Auditorium. More information about the 2023-24 proposed budget is also available on the district website, [www.hcsk12.org](http://www.hcsk12.org), or by calling the District Office at 315-543-2707.

## BUDGET VOTE

### BUDGET AT-A-GLANCE

**Proposed Budget**  
\$11,564,651

**Budget Change**  
\$243,190

**Tax Levy Change**  
3.99%

## BUDGET VOTE DATES

### ANNUAL PUBLIC HEARING

- Tuesday, May 9, 2023, at 5:30 p.m.
- Harrisville Central School Auditorium  
14371 Pirate Lane, Harrisville

### BUDGET VOTE

- Tuesday, May 16, 2023, from 1-8 p.m.
- Harrisville Central School Library  
14371 Pirate Lane, Harrisville

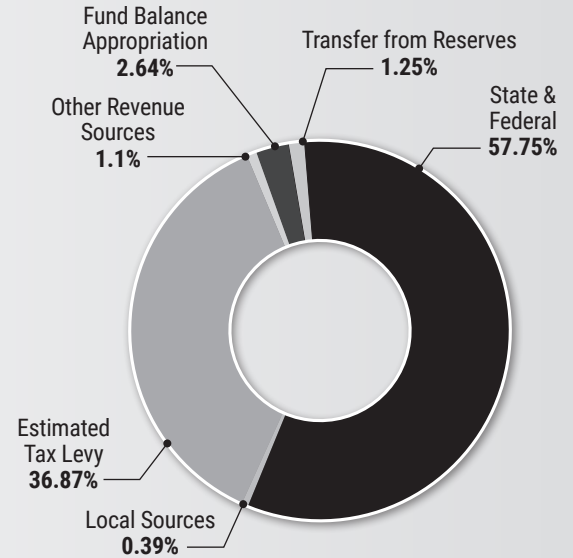


## in *this* issue:

- 2 PROPOSED REVENUES, PROPOSED EXPENDITURES, THREE-PART BUDGET
- 3 ON THE BALLOT, BUDGET Q&A
- 4 VOTER INFORMATION

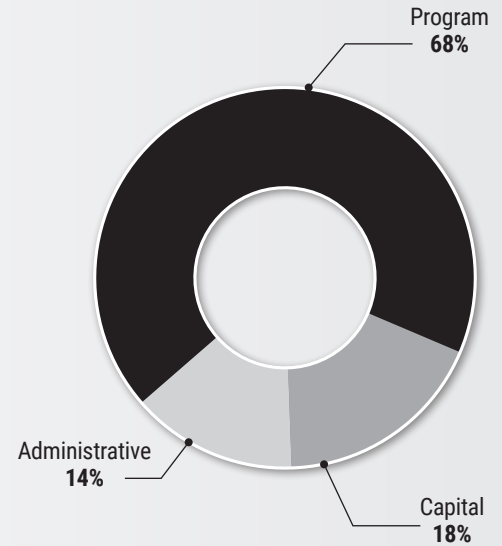
## Proposed Revenues

	2022-23 Budget	2023-24 Proposed Budget
<b>Local Sources</b>		
Charges for Services	\$1,000	\$0
Use of Money and Property	\$8,000	\$45,000
<b>Total Local Sources</b>	<b>\$9,000</b>	<b>\$45,000</b>
<b>State and Federal Sources</b>		
Basic Formula Aid	\$6,222,450	\$6,678,355
Categorical State Aid	\$30,479	\$0
<b>Total State and Federal Sources</b>	<b>\$6,252,929</b>	<b>\$6,678,355</b>
Estimated Tax Levy	\$4,099,729	\$4,263,309
Transfer from Debt Service Fund	\$100,000	\$0
Transfer from Reserves	\$263,439	\$144,124
Other Revenue Sources	\$99,000	\$128,863
Fund Balance Appropriation	\$497,364	\$305,000
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$11,321,461</b>	<b>\$11,564,651</b>



## Proposed Expenditures

	2022-23 Budget	2023-24 Proposed Budget
Board of Education	\$7,396	\$8,660
Central Administration	\$313,334	\$324,768
Central Printing & Mailing	\$18,750	\$17,880
Community Service/Census	\$1,500	\$2,000
Debt Payment - Principal/Interest	\$1,046,553	\$1,107,517
Finance	\$233,590	\$168,162
Fringe Benefits	\$3,346,104	\$3,196,650
Instructional	\$363,100	\$432,350
Instruction - Special Schools	\$911,778	\$842,390
Instruction of Students with Disabilities	\$2,172,439	\$2,327,717
Instructional & Computer Assistant	\$257,845	\$265,810
Instructional Administration & Supervision	\$180,133	\$259,125
Legal, Personnel & Public Information	\$56,530	\$67,360
Operations & Maintenance	\$705,515	\$788,113
Pupil Services	\$594,703	\$646,379
Refund of Real Property Taxes	\$3,000	\$3,000
Special Items	\$361,108	\$364,800
Transfer to Cafeteria/Capital	\$130,000	\$130,000
Transportation	\$618,083	\$611,970
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$11,321,461</b>	<b>\$11,564,651</b>



ABOVE FIGURES ARE ROUNDED TO THE NEAREST DOLLAR.

## Three-part budget summary

Administrative Component		Capital Component		Program Component	
\$1,565,031	14%	\$2,110,394	18%	\$7,889,226	68%

## ON THE BALLOT

### PROPOSITION NO. 1

#### 2023-24 BUDGET

Shall the Board of Education be authorized to expand monies in the proposed 2023-2024 budget in the amount of \$11,564,651?

YES

NO

### PROPOSITION NO. 2

#### SCHOOL BUS PURCHASE

Shall the Board of Education be authorized to purchase two (2) 66-passenger school bus at an estimated maximum aggregate cost of \$311,980, less trade-in value, if any, and that such costs, or so much thereof as may be necessary, shall be raised by the levy of a tax to be collected in annual installments; and, in anticipation of such tax, debt obligations of the school district as may be necessary not to exceed \$311,980 shall be issued, or the school district may enter into an installment purchase contract if the Board of Education determines that it is in the best interest of the school district to finance the purchase in that method?

YES

NO

## BOARD OF ED CANDIDATES

OFFICE	Board of Education Member (5-Year term commencing July 1, 2023)
	<b>Denise Avallone (Incumbent)</b>
	<b>Heidi McIntosh (Incumbent)</b>

## 2023-24 ESTIMATED TAX RATES

	2022-23	2023-24	Difference
Tax rate per \$1,000 assessed value*	\$16.37	\$17.03	\$0.66
Estimated taxes for \$50,000 property without STAR exemption	\$818.72	\$851.50	\$32.78
Estimated taxes for \$50,000 property with Basic STAR exemption	\$327.49	\$340.60	\$13.11
Estimated taxes for \$50,000 property with Enhanced STAR exemption	\$0	\$0	\$0

\*Based on 100% equalization rates. Assessed values were changed in 2022-23. These calculations assume no changes in total assessed value for 2023-24.

# Budget Q&A

### What would the proposed tax levy increase mean for my tax bill?

The proposed budget would increase the tax levy—the total amount of property taxes raised by the district—by 3.99 percent, or \$163,580. Residents' tax bills are determined by several factors that are out of the district's control, including assessment levels and equalization rates. Equalization rates are determined by the state's Office of Real Property Services to better reflect property's actual market value.

### How is the tax levy different from the tax rate?

The tax levy is the total amount of money a school district raises in taxes each year from all property owners in the district. Tax rates are calculated by dividing the total amount of the levy by the total taxable assessed value in a community. Tax rates are affected by changes in both municipal assessments and state equalization rates, which are

determined in the summer. The tax rate is used to calculate each individual property tax bill.

### Does the percentage of increase in the tax levy equal the percentage of increase in the tax rate?

No. Typically, the tax rate increase is lower than the tax levy increase. New home construction and businesses added to the tax roll can lower the tax rate.

### What is the state's School Tax Reduction, or STAR, Program?

New York State's School Tax Relief Program, or STAR, provides partial school property tax savings to eligible homeowners. Most New Yorkers who own and live in their homes are eligible for STAR savings on their primary residences. Because the STAR program is not a district program, taxpayers STAR savings are not factored into a school budget.



*On March 31, K-4 students had a chance to turn Superintendent Rob Finster into an ice cream sundae! It was just one fun part of the celebration held that day as the One School, One Book reading program wrapped up for the school year. The program provided students from pre-K to fourth grade their own copy of *The One and Only Ivan* to read at school and with their families at home.*

More information about STAR can be found at: <https://www.tax.ny.gov/pit/property/star/eligibility.htm>.



# Harrisville Central School District

14371 PIRATE LANE  
HARRISVILLE, NY 13648

Non-Profit  
Organization  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Harrisville, N.Y.  
Permit No. 2

## Board of Education

Jan Mosher  
PRESIDENT

Cory Bearor  
VICE PRESIDENT

Parish Atkinson  
Denise Avallone  
Kathy Felio  
Heidi McIntosh  
Tennille Schmitt

**Postal Patron**

## Administration

Robert Finster  
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS  
PREK-4 PRINCIPAL

Eric Luther  
5-12 PRINCIPAL  
ATHLETIC DIRECTOR  
CSE CHAIRPERSON

Sheryl Tuttle-Lamb  
PREK-12 CURRICULUM COORDINATOR

For more budget information, visit [www.hcsc12.org](http://www.hcsc12.org).

*Produced in cooperation with the Capital Region BOCES Communications Service.*

## 4 The Glances

BUDGET EDITION // 2023-24

**BUDGET  
VOTE**

**TUESDAY, MAY 16  
FROM 1-8 P.M.**  
Harrisville  
Central School Library  
14371 Pirate Lane

**VOTER ELIGIBILITY**

- Must be a U.S. citizen
- and 18 years or older
- and a district resident for at least 30 days prior to the vote

### WHAT SHOULD I BRING?

- Personal identification/proof of residency is required (e.g., driver's license or utility bill, both with name and current address).



On April 5, a group of Harrisville students took first place in the Clarkson University IMPETUS Roller Coaster Competition! The annual event requires students to design and build a model roller coaster using nothing but common materials. *Students pictured left to right: Joanie Shaw, Evelyn Winters, Maia Bernhard and Alex Horten.*

### ABSENTEE BALLOT INFORMATION

- Residents who will not be in the area on May 16 or are otherwise unable to vote in person may request an absentee ballot at the District Office.
- If the absentee ballot is to be mailed to the voter, the application must be submitted at least seven days prior to the vote – by May 9.
- If the absentee ballot is to be picked up by the voter in person, applications will be accepted until May 15.
- Absentee ballots must be returned to the District Clerk no later than 5 p.m. on May 16.