

Middleburgh

CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT



Budget NEWSLETTER

2023-2024

Voters to consider \$24 million budget proposal

On Tuesday, May 16, Middleburgh Central School District residents will be asked to consider a \$24,312,490 budget for the 2023-24 school year. This proposed budget increases spending by 2.10%, or \$501,113 from the current year, and includes a tax levy increase of \$151,563 or 1.50%. Since the tax levy increase (the total amount of money to be raised through property taxes) is less than the district's maximum allowable

levy limit of 3.46%, the proposed budget needs a simple majority vote to be approved.

State Aid

As part of the state budget, there is an expected increase in state education aid for the 2023- 24 school year. Foundation aid, which is the primary source for general purpose operating aid, will be fully phased in over three years. Under the new funding formula, Middleburgh Central School District is expecting a



foundation aid increase of 3% each year through 2024.

Fund Balance Use

Middleburgh is using \$921,815 of fund balance to balance the budget.



Tuesday, May 16, 2023

12-9 p.m.

Jr./Sr. High School Gym Lobby

NOTE: All absentee ballots must be received by the district by 5 p.m. on May 16.



A Message from the Superintendent

Dear MCS Community,

It's been eight months since I joined the Middleburgh Central School District as superintendent. During that time, I have come to understand why generations of MCS graduates and the community enthusiastically support our efforts. Middleburgh is a great place to live, learn and work!

MCS is an active community partner, supporting Fourth Fridays, the Fall Festival, Miracle on Main Street and countless other activities in the village and beyond. We are proud of our partnerships and our collective work to support our students, families, and community.

I am pleased to share that MCS has the highest rating in the New York State Education Department's Accountability System: "In Good Standing." To maintain this rating, the 2023-24 budget proposal reflects continued investment in academic intervention and mental health services, which have both positively impacted student learning.

Our proposed budget has a 2.10% increase in expenditures, of which the majority is due to a 20% increase in prescription

drug rates and a 7% increase in health insurance costs for our employees. The district's State Aid will not fully offset these costs; therefore, we are seeking a 1.50% increase in the tax levy to balance the budget.

In addition to the budget proposal, we are asking voters to consider on May 16 the creation of two separate reserve funds, which are essentially how school districts create savings accounts. The district would use the money in these reserves for future capital projects, such as replacing the high school's 90-year-old roof, and for funding an emergency repair reserve.

Creating these reserves will allow us to prepare for the future while keeping an astute financial eye to minimize any impact on taxpayers.

Our community partnerships and engagement make MCS a vibrant school district. We will continue to look for ways to collaborate with the community to fulfill our mission of inspiring all to achieve excellence. Please take the time to vote on May 16!

Mark Place

Superintendent of Schools



PROPOSED BUDGET 2023-24

\$24,312,490

PROPOSED TAX LEVY INCREASE

1.50%

PROPOSED SPENDING INCREASE

\$501,113 or 2.10%

BOARD OF EDUCATION VOTE

One seat is available for a three-year term expiring June 30, 2026.

Candidates appearing on the ballot:

Sean Lawton

Bonnie Snyder

What's inside

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Expenditures/Revenues;
Bus Purchase Proposition

PAGE 3

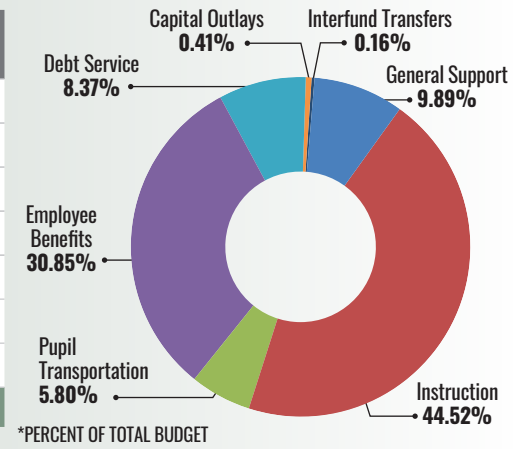
Overall Budget Proposal;
Voter Information

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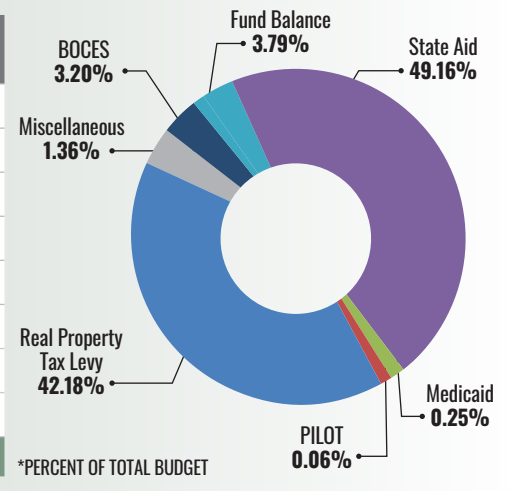
Student News

For more information: middleburghcsd.org

Expenditures Summary	2022-23	2023-24	\$ Change	% Change
Support	\$2,211,799	\$2,403,621	\$191,822	8.67%
General Support	\$11,325,959	\$10,823,743	-\$502,216	-4.43%
Pupil Transportation	\$1,372,081	1,409,866	\$37,785	2.75%
Employee Benefits	\$6,883,893	\$7,500,555	\$616,662	8.96%
Debt Service	\$1,857,645	\$2,034,705	\$177,060	9.53%
Capital Outlays	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$0	0.00%
Interfund Transfers	\$60,000	\$40,000	-\$20,000	-33.33%
Total	\$23,811,377	\$24,312,490	\$501,113	2.10%



Revenues Summary	2022-23	2023-24	\$ Change	% Change
State Aid	\$11,613,186	\$11,953,173	\$339,987	2.93%
Tax Levy	\$10,104,199	\$10,255,762	\$151,563	1.50%
Fund Balance	\$646,815	\$921,815	\$275,000	42.52%
PILOT	\$46,546	\$14,879	-\$31,667	-68.03%
Miscellaneous Revenue	\$311,000	\$330,000	\$19,000	6.11%
Medicaid	\$60,000	\$60,000	\$0	0.00%
BOCES	\$754,631	\$776,861	\$22,230	2.95%
Repair Reserve	\$275,000	\$0	-\$275,000	-100.00%
Revenue in Budget	\$23,811,377	\$24,312,490	\$501,113	2.10%



VOTERS TO DECIDE ON THREE ADDITIONAL PROPOSITIONS



When Middleburgh residents go to the polls on May 16, they will vote on three propositions in addition to the 2023-24 proposed budget.

One proposition will be for the purchase of one 60-passenger bus, one 30-passenger bus (wheelchair accessible), and one minivan for pupil transportation not to exceed \$306,500. New buses replace old buses based on the bus's mileage, age, repair history, and condition and coincides with the long-range bus replacement plan to keep the bus fleet in safe, working order.

State aid would fund \$236,925 (77.3%) of the purchase cost and \$69,575 (22.7%) would come from the local share, which would be paid over a five-year period.

Voters will also consider establishing a Capital Reserve Fund and transfer funds to the Repair Reserve



Fund. A reserve fund is much like a savings account and is funded when a school district's expenses are less than what was expected, or revenues are higher than expected, resulting in excess fund balance. The district would use excess fund balance for future capital projects, such as replacing the high school's 90-year-old roof, and emergency repairs. No new taxes would be levied to fund these accounts. Instead, the money would come from excess revenues or unspent appropriations.

The Capital Reserve Fund would have a \$4,000,000 limit over a duration of 10 years. The transfer

amount for the Repair Reserve Fund would not exceed \$200,000.

Read more information about the May 16 propositions on middleburghcsd.org.

School District Budget Notice



Tuesday, May 16, 2023

VOTER INFORMATION

Voter Eligibility

By law, all voters must be U.S. citizens, at least 18 years old and residents of the Middleburgh Central School District for at least 30 days prior to the vote. Voters must have a valid I.D.

Absentee Ballots

Eligible voters who will be out of town or unable to vote in person due to circumstances detailed on the absentee ballot application can vote by absentee ballot. **You must complete an application to receive a ballot.**

Absentee ballot applications are available on the district website or by contacting District Clerk Kim Lawyer: 518-827-3625. If a voter requests to receive a ballot by mail, the application must be received by the district clerk by **5 p.m. on May 9**. If the voter is going to pick up the absentee ballot in person in the district office, the district must receive the application by **5 p.m. May 15**. All absentee ballots must be returned to the district by **5 p.m. May 16**.

Questions?

A list of frequently asked questions is on the district website or call District Clerk Kim Lawyer at **518-827-3625**.

Overall Budget Proposal	Budget Adopted for the 2022-23 School Year	Budget Proposed for the 2023-24 School Year	Contingency Budget for the 2023-2024 School Year*
Total Budgeted Amount, Not Including Separate Propositions	\$23,811,377	\$24,312,490	\$24,160,927
Increase/Decrease for the 2023-24 School Year		\$501,113	\$349,550
Percentage Increase/Decrease in Proposed Budget		2.10%	1.47%
Change in the Consumer Price Index		8.00%	
A. Proposed Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount	\$10,104,199	\$10,255,762	
B. Levy to Support Library Debt, if Applicable	\$0	\$0	
C. Levy for Non-Excludable Propositions, if Applicable **	\$0	\$0	
D. Total Tax Cap Reserve Amount Used to Reduce Current Year Levy	\$0	\$0	
E. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy (A + B + C - D)	\$10,104,199	\$10,255,762	\$10,104,199
F. Total Permissible Exclusions	\$356,229	\$420,937	
G. School Tax Levy Limit, <u>Excluding</u> Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$9,929,693	\$10,033,142	
H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, <u>Excluding</u> Levy to Support Library Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions (E - B - F + D)	\$9,747,970	\$9,834,825	
I. Difference: G - H (Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval - See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions) **	\$181,723	\$198,317	
Administrative Component	\$2,373,942	\$2,347,524	\$2,311,524
Program Component	\$17,758,411	\$17,990,347	\$17,939,784
Capital Component	\$3,679,024	\$3,974,619	\$3,909,619

*Under NYS law, a school may submit a budget to voters a maximum of two times. If the budget is defeated, the Board of Education may adopt a contingent budget or put a budget before the voters a second time. If the budget is defeated twice, the Board of Education must adopt a contingent budget and cannot increase the current year tax levy amount. As a result, the Board would be required to reduce the proposed budget by \$151,563. In this event the district would be subject to restrictions and limitations in areas where money can be spent. For example, the purchase of new equipment would not be permitted and there would be mandated charges for the use of school facilities by outside organizations (Section 2023 Education Law).

** 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
Purchase of 3 school buses (amount not to exceed)	\$306,500
Transfer to Repair Reserve (amount not to exceed)	\$200,000
Establish 10-year Capital Reserve from available fund balance	

Under the Budget Proposed for the 2023-24 School Year	
Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings ¹	\$586

The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2023-24 by the qualified voters of the Middleburgh Central School District, Schoharie County, New York, will be held at the Middleburgh Junior/Senior High School in said district on Tuesday, May 16, 2023, between the hours of 12:00 p.m. (noon) and 9:00 p.m., prevailing time, at which time the polls will be opened to vote by voting machine.

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

2023-24 SCHOOL YEAR BUDGET SUMMARY

New York state law requires school districts to present their budgets divided into three expenditure categories—program, administrative and capital—and compare them to the previous year’s costs. Middleburgh’s three-part budget breaks down as follows:

Program	2022-23	2023-24
Amount	\$17,758,411	\$17,990,347
73.99% of Proposed Budget		

Includes salaries and benefits of all teachers and staff who deliver pupil services (guidance, health, library/media etc.), textbooks, equipment, co-curricular activities, athletics and transportation costs.

Administration	2022-23	2023-24
Amount	\$2,373,942	\$2,347,524
9.66% of Proposed Budget		

Includes the salaries and benefits of administrators, supervisors, and administrative clerical staff, public information, printing, curriculum and staff development, school board costs, general insurance and professional fees.

Capital	2022-23	2023-24
Amount	\$3,679,024	\$3,974,619
16.35% of Proposed Budget		

Includes salaries and benefits of maintenance and custodial staff, debt service on buildings and school bus purchases, utilities, tax certiorari and court-ordered costs.

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Pamela Standhart, *President*
Becky Binder, *Vice President*
Debra Bechtold
Vicki Hoerz
Scott VanKuren

DISTRICT OFFICIALS

Superintendent of Schools: Mark Place
School Business Manager: Robyn Bhend

SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS

Elementary School: Amy Irwin
Jr. / Sr. High School: Matthew Sloane
Pupil Services: Stella Ritter

CONTACT

Phone: (518) 827-3600 x3625

*Newsletter produced by the
Middleburgh Central School District,
in cooperation with the
Capital Region BOCES
Communications Service.*

Middleburgh



CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

P.O. Box 606
291 Main Street
Middleburgh, NY 12122

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For more information: middleburghcsd.org

BUDGET VOTE

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12-9 p.m.

Jr./Sr. High School Gym Lobby

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Students Explore Future Careers

Middleburgh students saw what their futures might look like during a recent Career Day event at the Jr./Sr. High School. Over 40 presenters talked to students about careers in business, education and training, human services and manufacturing. They offered candid discussions on salaries, benefits and job security for their fields, why they enjoy their professions and what challenges they have faced. Students asked questions at the end of each presentation and developed a broader understanding of the economic marketplace.

"I thought Career Day was interesting," Junior Stuart Shaul said. "I didn't realize how much the trade professions work together."

Not all of the discussions focused on the future. Many presenters talked to students about classes they could take and school clubs they could join to prepare themselves

for college and career. Some presenters outlined current opportunities to volunteer or apply for summer jobs with their organizations.

