

Adirondack Central School District



2020-2021 BUDGET NEWSLETTER



Dear ACS Community:

As you know, school budget votes and elections across New York State will be held by absentee ballot this year. You will be receiving your ballot in the mail. If you do not receive a ballot, by June 1st, please call 315-942-9200 ext. 1802.

For the past several months, the Board of Education has worked diligently on the 2020-2021 school budget to provide what is best for all ACS students, faculty, staff and community. We are presenting a budget to voters that meets the needs of our students while also being fiscally and educationally responsible. It is very important to realize that the budget that you will be voting on maintains all of our instructional programs and staffing needs. We have been successful in keeping cuts away from student programming and activities as we are committed in providing our students with the best possible educational experiences.



CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2020

This year you will be voting on three items including: school budget, two Board of Education seats and a proposition for a capital reserve. Throughout the budget process, we have researched and looked closely in all areas where savings could be made without having an impact upon student learning for all students. We have accomplished this and adopted the 2020-2021 budget of \$30,052,380 which carries a tax levy increase of 3.3%. With declining enrollment, this year's budget eliminates three elementary teachers, a science, math and music teacher, four teacher aides and an administrator. Even with these positions that are being eliminated, we continue to maintain small class sizes and offer a variety of electives that affords students to experience a variety of interests. All student programs offered in the previous year will continue to be based on student interest.

As always, we truly appreciate your continued support of the Adirondack Central School District and we thank you. Because of all of you, our students are prepared to meet the challenges of an ever-changing world. Should you have any questions, please feel free to call at 942-9200 ext. 1802.

Respectfully Submitted,

Board of Education

Michael Kramer, President
Almanda Sturtevant, Vice President
John Abdo
Bruce Brach
Mark Emery
Richard Gallo
Doug Muha

Superintendent of Schools

Edward Niznik

Budget Hearing

May 28, 2020
via Live Stream
www.adirondackcsd.org

Budget Vote & Election

June 9, 2020
by Absentee Ballot Only



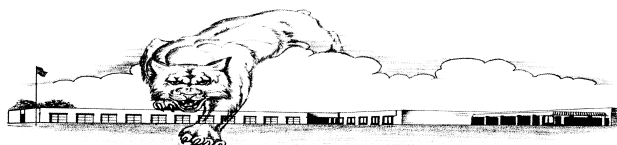


PROPOSED COMPONENT BUDGET

| ADMINISTRATIVE BUDGET | | 2019-2020 | 2020-2021 |
|--|------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| The Administrative component of the budget includes salaries and benefits for all certified school administrators; expenditures associated with the district’s central administrative offices, including the school board, superintendent, school business office, and principals; as well as other administrative activities. | BOARD OF EDUCATION | \$ 30,875 | \$ 29,885 |
| | CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION | \$ 257,596 | \$ 272,100 |
| | FINANCE | \$ 405,549 | \$ 405,643 |
| | LEGAL SERVICES | \$ 30,000 | \$ 30,000 |
| | PERSONNEL | \$ 41,963 | \$ 46,000 |
| | PUBLIC INFORMATION | \$ 3,700 | \$ 5,000 |
| | OTHER CENTRAL SERVICES | \$1,497,755 | \$1,550,738 |
| | CURRICULUM & STAFF DEVEL. | \$ 41,200 | \$ 41,200 |
| | SUPERVISION | \$ 946,100 | \$ 895,133 |
| | TOTAL ADMINISTRATIVE BUDGET | \$3,254,738 | \$3,275,699 |

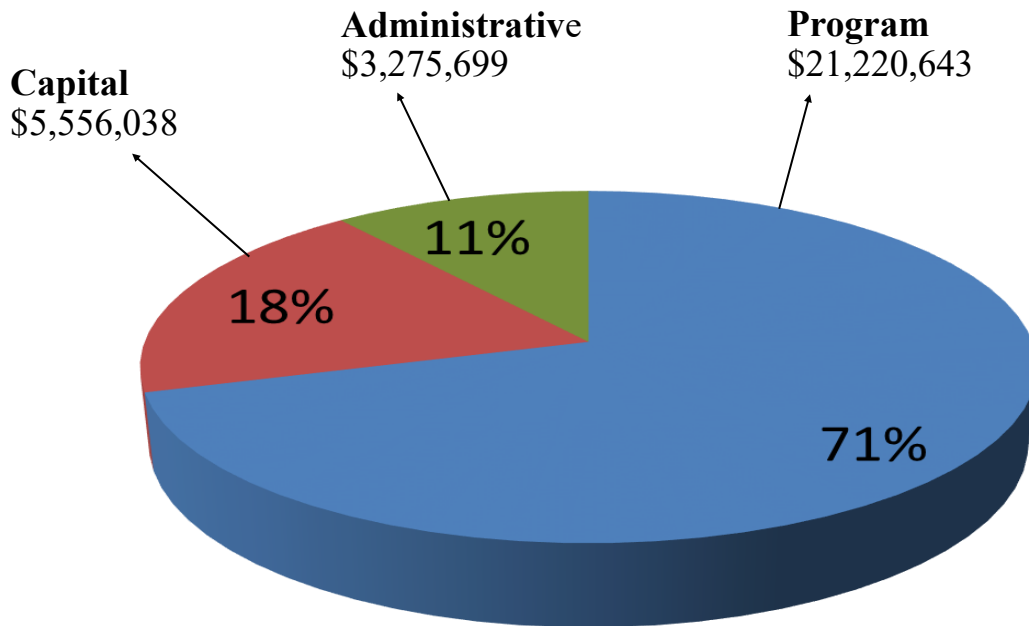
| PROGRAM BUDGET | | 2019-2020 | 2020-2021 |
|--|-----------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| The Program component of the budget includes salaries and benefits of teachers, supervisors who spend a majority of their time performing teaching duties, and operating expenses for instructional and transportation programs. | LEGAL SERVICES | \$ 30,000 | \$ 30,000 |
| | INSTRUCTION | \$11,801,948 | \$11,952,277 |
| | DISTRICT TRANSPORTATION | \$ 1,734,801 | \$ 1,889,679 |
| | BUS GARAGE | \$ 66,400 | \$ 67,900 |
| | PROGRAM EMPLOYEE BENEFITS | \$ 7,237,847 | \$ 7,252,787 |
| | OTHER TRANSFERS | \$ 25,000 | \$ 25,000 |
| | COMMUNITY SERVICES | \$ 3,000 | \$ 3,000 |
| | TOTAL PROGRAM BUDGET | \$20,898,996 | \$21,220,643 |

| CAPITAL BUDGET | | 2019-2020 | 2020-2021 |
|---|-------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| The Capital component of the budget includes funds for the purchase of school buses, principal and interest payments on debt service, and all operational, cleaning and maintenance costs for district facilities, including salaries and benefits, service contracts, supplies, and utility costs. | OPERATION OF FACILITIES | \$1,304,935 | \$1,315,885 |
| | MAINTENANCE OF FACILITIES | \$ 427,964 | \$ 452,132 |
| | JUDGEMENT AND CLAIMS | \$ 10,000 | \$ 10,000 |
| | NEW BUS PURCHASES | \$ 354,000 | \$ 354,000 |
| | CAPITAL EMPLOYEE BENEFITS | \$ 510,880 | \$ 593,473 |
| | DEBT SERVICE | \$2,069,737 | \$2,730,548 |
| | TRANSFER TO DEBT SERV/CAPITAL | \$ 100,000 | \$ 100,000 |
| | TOTAL CAPITAL BUDGET | \$4,777,516 | \$5,556,038 |
| | TOTAL BUDGET | \$28,931,250 | \$30,052,380 |





PROPOSED BUDGET BREAKDOWN



Capital Outlay Project

Temperature Control Replacement for Mechanical Systems

The 2020-2021 capital outlay project would be “replacing existing mechanical temperature control devices with new mechanical control devices with wiring, programming into a software management control system”.

The state allows school districts to transfer general funds to the capital fund for building and/or reconstruction projects not to exceed \$100,000. Projects funded in this manner receive reimbursement from the state the following budget year, unlike traditional capital projects, which are reimbursed over time. The state will reimburse Adirondack for approximately 85% of the project.

“ACS ARTISTS”



“SENIORS AT THE PEP RALLY”

“SENIORS DRESSED FOR HALLOWEEN”

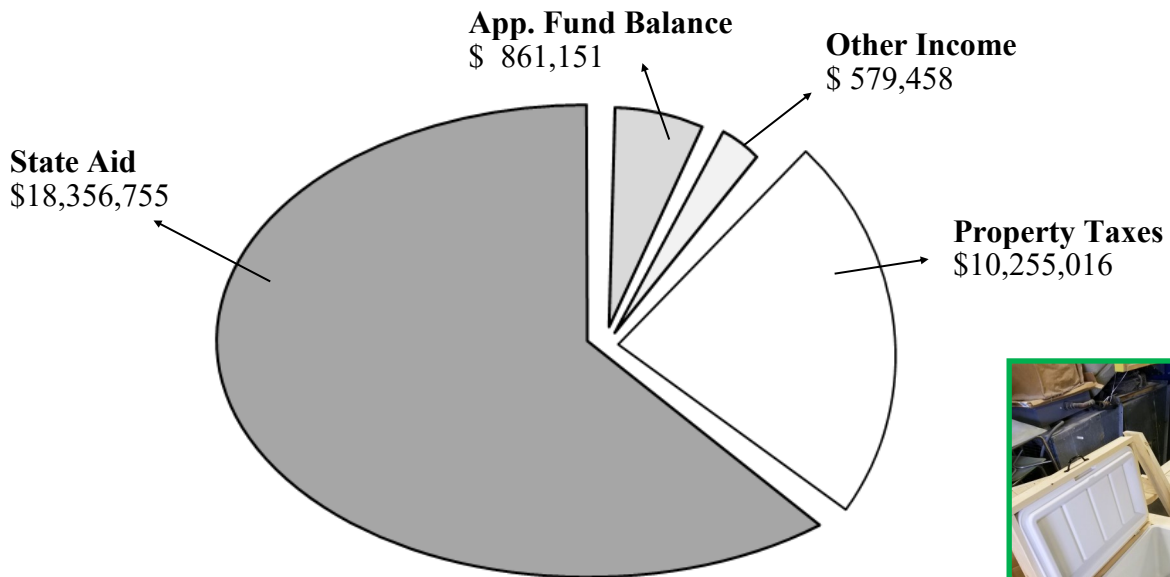




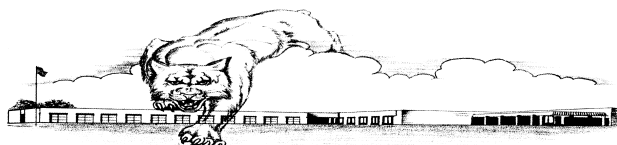
Proposed Budget Revenue Comparison

| | 2019-2020 Revenue | 2020-2021 Revenue | Dollar Increase/Decrease |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| Property Taxes | \$ 9,925,546 | \$10,255,016 | ▲ \$ 329,470 |
| State Aid | \$17,565,095 | \$18,356,755 | ▲ \$ 791,660 |
| Other Income | \$ 579,458 | \$ 579,458 | 0 |
| Appropriated Fund Balance | \$ 861,151 | \$ 861,151 | 0 |
| | \$28,931,250 | \$30,052,380 | ▲\$1,121,130 |

Estimated Revenue & Fund Balance For the 2020-2021 School Year



Occupational Education students designed and built ice chests.





BOARD CANDIDATES

(The following letters were submitted by the Candidates)

JOHN ABDO:

My name is John Abdo, and I am currently seeking re-election for a seat on the Adirondack School board for a fourth term. I have proudly served on the school board for 9 years now, having served as president for 6 years. I have learned, maintained and enforced the functions of the school board and how it supports the students and faculty. I strive to make sure the children of Adirondack Central School get the best education possible.

Tammy, my wife of 30 years, is a graduate of ACS. Our daughter Alison also attended ACS, graduating in 2009 and then proceeded to graduate from Paul Smith's College with a degree in Culinary Arts. Our son Andrew also graduated from ACS in 2014.

I have over 23 years of experience in budgeting, handling union contract negotiations, OSHA and safety initiatives. I welcome the chance to continue to serve the community and our children, helping them to grow strong, confident, knowledgeable and ready for their future and making it as bright and knowledgeable as possible.

I thank you and appreciate your continued support for the upcoming term.

JOAN INGERSOLL:

My name is Joan Ingersoll and my husband and I continue to reside in Forestport. Our three children are ACS graduates. I previously served as an elected school board member from 2009 through 2016. I retired from active employment at that time because of family health issues and decided not to seek re-election.

Now, everything changes! There is absolutely no doubt about it, huge challenges lay ahead of us in all aspects of our lives. My motto remains the same, "Children First". I believe it is imperative for all of us; parents, teachers, administrators, staff and taxpayers to work together to put the pieces of the "educational puzzle" back together. In these most difficult of times our budget still must be addressed. We must meet educational needs, mandates, and all else that's necessary to have us function properly. Now more than ever we must strive to make sound economic decisions... and let's not forget...nothing stays the same, wants are different from needs and transparency builds trust.

My background: I am the second of six children. I was born in Boonville; received my early education at Woodgate Common School, Madison Central and Boonville Central Schools. We moved again and I attended Remsen Central School from fourth grade forward and graduated from there. I received a Teacher's Assistant Certificate from MVCC and worked as an aide at ACS from September 1972 through May 1983. I've worked in various clerical positions at G.P. and later at LFPP. I continued my education at the Utica School of Commerce and have an Associate's Degree in Accounting and Business Management. I was the office manager/bookkeeper for two different employers in the area for several years prior to my retirement.

I continue to be community minded and have served many years on various boards and committees, both elected and appointed. I understand finances. I have prepared and administered budgets and have been involved with capital projects. I'm nobody special, just someone with common sense who again wishes to serve our area as a member of the ACS School Board. With voter approval I will achieve that and always remember "It's About the Children".

Thank you and please stay healthy and stay safe.

MICHAEL KRAMER:

My name is Michael Kramer and I would like the opportunity to again serve as a member of the Board of Education at Adirondack Central School. My wife Denise and I reside on Hutton Heights in the Village of Boonville. We have four children, David, Lindsey, Lauren and Anna, and they, like myself, are graduates of ACS.

I have been employed as a pharmacist at Walgreens Pharmacy in Boonville for 21 years and prior to that I was the owner of Sanford Pharmacy on Main Street in Boonville. I am currently completing my 5th term on the ACS Board of Education. I believe that this experience has given me the insight, the knowledge and the qualities needed to be a valuable member of the ACS Board once again.

There is no better community service than to provide a healthy and safe environment for learning, excellent leadership and sound educational opportunities for all children.





| Overall Budget Proposal | Budget Adopted for the 2019-20 School Year | Budget Proposed for the 2020-21 School Year | Contingency Budget for the 2020-21 School Year * | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|--|---|--|-------------|--------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Total Budgeted Amount, Not Including Separate Propositions | \$28,931,250 | \$30,052,380 | \$29,536,780 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Increase/Decrease for the 2020-21 School Year | | \$ 1,121,130 | \$ 605,530 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Percentage Increase/Decrease in Proposed Budget | | 3.87% | 2.1% | | | | | | | | | | |
| Change in the Consumer Price Index | | 1.81% | | | | | | | | | | | |
| A. Proposed Tax Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | \$9,925,546 | \$10,255,016 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 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) | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | \$9,925,546 | \$10,255,016 | \$9,925,546 | | | | | | | | | | |
| F. Total Permissible Exclusions | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | \$ 174,391 | \$ 149,740 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| G. School Tax Levy Limit, <u>Excluding</u> Levy for Permissible Exclusions | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | \$10,178,622 | \$10,105,276 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| H. Total Proposed Tax Levy, <u>Excluding</u> Levy to Support Library Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions (E - B - F + D) | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | \$9,751,155 | \$10,105,276 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| I. Difference: (G - H); (Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval - See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions) ** | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | \$0 | \$0 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Administrative Component | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | \$ 3,254,738 | \$ 3,275,699 | \$ 3,275,699 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Program Component | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | \$20,898,996 | \$21,220,643 | \$21,220,643 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Capital Component | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | \$ 4,777,516 | \$ 5,556,038 | \$ 5,040,438 | | | | | | | | | | |
| * Provide a statement of assumptions made in projecting a contingency budget for the 2020-21 school year, should the proposed budget be defeated pursuant to Section 2023 of the 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) | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Description</th> <th>Amount</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td> </td> <td> </td> </tr> <tr> <td> </td> <td> </td> </tr> <tr> <td> </td> <td> </td> </tr> <tr> <td> </td> <td> </td> </tr> </tbody> </table> | | Description | Amount | | | | | | | | |
| Description | Amount | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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NOTE: Please submit an electronic version (Word or PDF) of this completed form to: emscmgts@nysed.gov

Under the Budget Proposed for the 2020-21 School Year

| | |
|---|-----------|
| Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings ¹ | \$ 424.00 |
|---|-----------|

The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2020-2021 by the qualified voters of the Adirondack Central School District, Oneida County, New York, will be held by absentee ballot only on Tuesday, June 9, 2020. To obtain an absentee ballot, please contact our District Clerk, Michelle Freeman at 315-942-9200. All absentee ballots must be returned by 5:00 p.m. on June 9, 2020.

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





QUESTIONS & ANSWERS:

Q. What is the budget process?

The annual budget process commences in the fall of each school year and consists of two main components, expenditures and revenue. Administrators and teachers provide feedback to the Superintendent in relation to staffing, materials/supplies and other purchases. Drafts of the budget are presented throughout the process. Each draft has a number of changes. These changes take into account a number of factors such as staff retirements, BOCES final costs, retirement and health insurance rates, and contractual increases. With each draft, the amount of the deficit can increase or decrease. The main portion of the revenue budget is state aid. The Governor releases the first state aid runs in January. This year the district received far less aid than anticipated because of the COVID-19 adjustments. The final budget is approved by the Board of Education who determines the program changes and the increase in tax levy.

Q. Who can vote?

To be eligible to vote, a resident must meet the following requirements:

- Lived in the Adirondack Central School District for at least 30 days prior to June 9, 2020
- Be at least 18 years of age.
- Be a citizen of the United States.

Q. How Do I Vote?

Due to the Executive Order handed down by the Governor of New York State, the vote this year will take place by absentee ballot only. Absentee ballots will be mailed out by the school district prior to June 9th. The ballots will need to be returned to the district by 5:00 p.m. on June 9th in order to be counted. A stamped return envelope will be in with the ballot for easy return.

If you do not receive a ballot by **June 1st**, please call the District Clerk, Michelle Freeman at 315-942-9200 ext. 1802 or email mfreeman@adirondackesd.org

Q. What's on the Ballot?

Budget:

The Board of Education of the Adirondack Central School District in Boonville, is hereby authorized to levy the necessary tax for and appropriate a sum not to exceed \$30,052,380 for the purpose of the General Fund Budget for the 2020-2021 school year.

Proposition I - Capital Reserve

Authorizes the Board of Education to place periodically available funds in a 10-year capital reserve, not to exceed \$10,000,000 to be used for capital improvements as authorized by the voters.

Election of School Board Trustees:

The election of two (2) members to the Board of Education will take place. Each term is for three (3) years beginning July 1, 2020 until June 30, 2023.

Q. What Is Proposition I?

Every ten years, the voters must re-establish the districts capital reserve. The capital reserve may only be used to pay the costs of the construction, reconstruction, renovation and equipping of School District buildings. The funds from this reserve require voter authorization to be removed. This means a proposition will be required for the money in the reserve to be spent.

ACS WILDCATS



Adirondack Central School
110 Ford Street
Boonville, NY 13309-1200
May, 2020

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*PLEASE EXERCISE YOUR
RIGHT TO VOTE*



Page 8

Budget Issue May 2020

Budget Newsletter May 2020



Adirondack Excellence