

# BUDGET EDITION

# News

...of the Horseheads Central School District

**Vote May 16, 2023**  
High School South Gym

## *Safety, support, and stability key parts of 2023-24 budget*

Dear Community Members:

We are fortunate to live in a community like Horseheads. Families looking to move to the area choose our district because of the quality of the education we offer and the opportunities we provide our students. Our family, like so many others, chose Horseheads for these reasons.

The Board of Education and district administration work hard to maintain and improve upon the educational opportunities in our district. To that end, **the district presents a budget for 2023-24 that maintains all current programs and services, provides additional opportunities and supports for students, and places a school resource officer in each school building.** On Tuesday, May 16, residents will vote on this plan, which includes a budget-to-budget increase of 6.12% and a tax levy increase of 4.66%.

The tax levy in this budget is within the state's 2% tax cap law. **The tax rate, which is the amount of taxes per thousand of a home's assessment, is estimated to increase 2.73%.** Last year's full value tax rate was \$16.04 per thousand. Under this proposed budget, the full value tax rate is estimated to increase by \$0.44 to \$16.48 per thousand based on preliminary assessment data and equalization rates. This would mean a conservative increase of \$44 on a home with a full value assessment of \$100,000. Our district's tax rate is currently one of the lowest in the region.

The 2023-24 budget has been developed to support our students, district, and community, including a full time school resource officer assigned to each school building in the district. The safety of our students, staff, and schools is our top priority, and having these positions in our schools is of utmost importance. I know you share our concern for our children's safety and the security of our schools.

The proposed budget also includes additional funding for academic intervention support for students, an additional bus monitor, instructional supports for teachers, and a continued sustainability plan for positions funded through federal pandemic funds.

Our district-wide capital improvement projects, approved by voters in 2017 and 2021, continue. Updated facilities enhance the education we offer and increase property values. We are grateful for the community's support to make these improvements happen.

We are able to maintain and increase educational services by maximizing state aid and effectively managing department budgets and the overall operations and programming of the district, while continuing to be fiscally prudent with our resources.

On behalf of the entire Board of Education, I ask that you **please vote on May 16**. Thank you for your continued support and dedication to our children and the Horseheads Central School District community.

Sincerely,



Kristine Dale, Board of Education President

## **Ballot items**

### *Proposition 1: 2023-24 School Budget*

- Budget \$93,884,722
- Budget Increase 6.12%
- Tax Rate 2.73% (est.)

**Increase of \$0.44 per  
thousand or \$44 on a home  
with a full value assessment  
of \$100,000**

- Tax Levy 4.66%  
*Meets the 2% tax cap law*

### *Proposition 2: Purchase of Buses*

Six full-size school buses, one wheelchair compatible bus, and one small Type A school bus at a cost not to exceed \$1,600,000.

### *Board of Education:*

Six candidates are running for three seats (see more on pp 8-9)

# 2023-24 Proposed School Budget

## *The proposed budget includes...*

- All current educational programs (based on current needs and enrollment)
- One school resource officer at each instructional building (six total)
- Two additional academic intervention support teachers (one funded with general funds and one with federal funds)
- Four additional primary level teaching assistants
- Additional instructional coach
- Additional floating bus monitor
- Director of instruction
- Continued sustainability planning for federally funded positions (social workers, reading teacher, intervention teacher, special education teacher, teaching assistants, Intermediate School counselor)



*Nikole Watts of the Chemung County Stormwater Coalition worked with sixth-graders in April, leading each class through a water table simulation on erosion and deposition.*

## *The tax levy...*

- Results in an estimated increase of 2.73% in the tax rate, from \$16.04 in the current year to \$16.48 per \$1,000 of assessed full value based on preliminary assessments, or \$0.44 per \$1,000 of assessed full value
- Meets the state's 2% property tax levy limit law with a 4.66% increase over the current year's levy
- Assessment values and equalization rates are finalized by each municipality in the summer

Visit <https://horseheadsdistrict.com/HCSDBudget2023-24.cfm> for more information.

## Comparative Expenditures

Description	2022-23	2023-24	Dollar Change	Percent Change
Program	\$62,180,003	\$64,484,354	\$2,304,351	3.71%
Capital	\$13,474,063	\$15,786,864	\$2,312,801	17.16%
Administrative	\$12,816,477	\$13,613,504	\$797,027	6.22%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$88,470,543</b>	<b>\$93,884,722</b>	<b>\$5,414,179</b>	<b>6.12%</b>

## Comparative Revenues

Description	2022-23	2023-24	Dollar Change	Percent Change
Property Taxes/STAR/Payments in Lieu of Taxes/Interest and Penalties	\$42,376,077	\$44,388,209	\$2,012,132	4.75%
State Aid	\$41,303,551	\$43,791,327	\$2,487,776	6.02%
Other*	\$2,560,715	\$3,054,986	\$494,271	19.30%
Interfund Transfer	\$630,000	\$700,000	\$70,000	11.11%
Appropriated Reserves	\$600,200	\$950,200	\$350,000	58.31%
Appropriated Fund Balance	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$0	0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$88,470,543</b>	<b>\$93,884,722</b>	<b>\$5,414,179</b>	<b>6.12%</b>

*\*Other revenue includes items such as Medicaid and Medicare reimbursements, BOCES refund, interest, rental income, donations and gifts, and gate receipts.*

# Expenditures: Program

*This component of the budget includes all expenditures necessary for the instruction and transportation of our students, including salaries for teachers, teaching assistants, school counselors, school nurses, social workers, school psychologists, bus drivers, and any other positions involved in the teaching and transporting of students. The Employee Benefits line is a pro-rated calculation of this component's share of costs as required by the state for self-insured health/dental claims, district retirement contributions, workers' compensation and disability insurance, and social security. The component also includes materials, supplies, and contractual items such as conferences, repairs, and service contracts. Program expenditures make up 68.7% of the budget.*

<u>Description</u>	<u>2022-23 Budget</u>	<u>2023-24 Proposed</u>	<u>Dollar Change</u>	<u>% Change</u>
Legal	\$44,625	\$44,625	\$0	0.00%
Inservice Training, Instruction	\$142,965	\$126,615	- \$16,350	-11.44%
Teaching, Regular School	\$20,438,383	\$21,273,771	\$835,388	4.09%
Students with Disabilities	\$9,341,295	\$9,541,888	\$200,593	2.15%
English as a New Language	\$186,072	\$193,464	\$7,392	3.97%
Occupational Education (Grades 9-12)	\$3,081,440	\$3,246,792	\$165,352	5.37%
Teaching, Special Schools	\$3,090	\$3,000	-\$90	- 2.91%
School Library	\$841,301	\$836,866	-\$4,435	-0.53%
Computer Assisted Instruction	\$778,184	\$856,682	\$78,498	10.09%
Attendance	\$183,742	\$202,836	\$19,094	10.39%
Guidance	\$1,016,620	\$1,107,335	\$90,715	8.92%
Health Services	\$825,400	\$967,671	\$142,271	17.24%
Psychological Services	\$617,614	\$640,959	\$23,345	3.78%
Social Work Services	\$741,837	\$808,529	\$66,692	8.99%
Co-Curricular Activities	\$197,287	\$220,885	\$23,598	11.96%
Interscholastic Athletics	\$763,879	\$843,268	\$79,389	10.39%
District Transportation Services	\$3,913,213	\$4,433,953	\$520,740	13.31%
Garage	\$62,400	\$62,400	\$0	0.00%
Employee Benefits	\$18,698,346	\$18,770,505	\$72,159	0.39%
Transfer to Other Funds	\$302,310	\$302,310	\$0	0.00%
<b>Program Total</b>	<b>\$62,180,003</b>	<b>\$64,484,354</b>	<b>\$2,304,351</b>	<b>3.71%</b>

## Key Elements

- The Occupational Education line includes an increase in the district's share of the cost of the GST BOCES Career and Technical Education program.
- Computer Assisted Instruction includes increased funds to support the district's technology replacement cycle for laptops used by students.
- Health Services include additional funds to strengthen the health services provided to students.
- District Transportation increased due to contractual increases and anticipated increases in fuel costs.
- Teaching includes all current staff and programs, plus additional funds for four additional teaching assistants and academic intervention teacher.
- Special Education includes all current staff and programs for students with special needs.
- Co-Curricular Activities increased due to new intramural opportunities for students.
- The increase in Interscholastic Athletics is due to additional funds for athletic equipment and additional coaches to increase participation in athletics.

**Vote Tuesday, May 16 • 7 a.m. - 9 p.m. • High School South Gym**



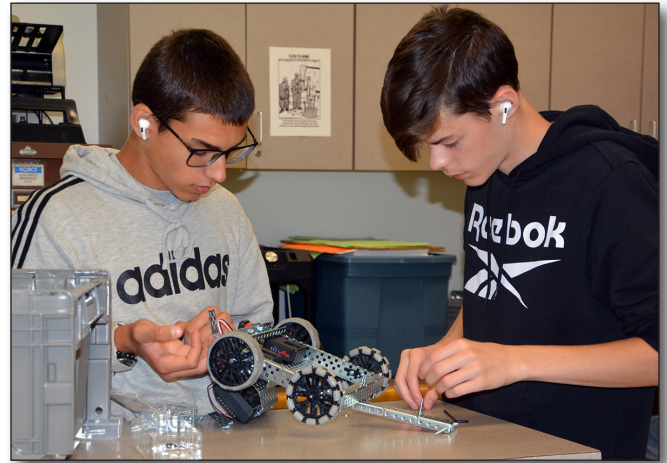
# Expenditures: Capital

The capital component includes all costs related to the operations and maintenance of the district's buildings, as well as the financing of our annual bus purchases and capital improvement projects. This component includes all expenditures associated with custodial salaries, service contracts, supplies, utilities, and maintenance and repair of school facilities. The Employee Benefits line is a pro-rated calculation of this component's share of costs as required by the state for self-insured health/dental claims, district retirement contributions, workers' compensation and disability insurance, and social security. Capital expenditures make up 16.8% of the budget.

Description	2022-23 Budget	2023-24 Proposed	Dollar Change	% Change
Operation of Plant	\$2,540,915	\$2,606,742	\$65,827	2.59%
Maintenance of Plant	\$1,761,378	\$1,873,737	\$112,359	6.38%
School Construction Financing	\$5,042,256	\$7,013,998	\$1,971,742	39.10%
Bus Purchase Financing	\$1,378,200	\$1,431,950	\$53,750	3.90%
Transfer to Capital Fund	\$1,250,000	\$1,250,000	\$0	0.00%
Employee Benefits	\$1,501,314	\$1,610,437	\$109,123	7.27%
<b>Capital Total</b>	<b>\$13,474,063</b>	<b>\$15,786,864</b>	<b>\$2,312,801</b>	<b>17.16%</b>

## Key Elements

- The increase in the School Construction Financing line is due to the rising interest rate market for the district's short-term borrowings, which finance the district-wide capital improvement project approved by voters in 2017.
- The Transfer to Capital Fund of \$1,250,000 is for fire alarm system upgrades at Big Flats and Gardner Road, playground upgrades at Big Flats and Gardner Road, and roof replacements at the Intermediate/Middle School complex.



High School technology students built VEX EXP robots and used block coding to make the robots stop when hit a certain way. Teams then participated in timed competitions, making adjustments along the way to improve performance.

# Vote Tuesday, May 16, 2023

## 7 a.m. - 9 p.m. • High School South Gym

Learn more about the 2023-24 budget at <https://horseheadsdistrict.com/HCSDBudget2023-24.cfm>

The Horseheads Central School District offers educational programs without regard to race, color, national origin, creed, religion, marital status, military status, sex, sexual orientation, age, gender identity, predisposing genetic characteristic, or disability, and provides equal access to applicable groups under the Boy Scouts of America Equal Access Act. Inquiries regarding this policy may be made to Caitlin DeFilippo, Title IX/DASA Coordinator, and Co-Civil Rights Compliance Officer; Anthony Gill, Co-Civil Rights Compliance Officer; or Kelly Squires, Section 504 Coordinator; Horseheads Central School District, One Raider Lane, Horseheads, NY 14845, (607) 739-5601. This policy of non-discrimination includes access by students to educational programs, counseling services, course offerings, and activities, as well as recruitment and appointment of employees and employment pay, benefits, advancement and/or termination.

# Expenditures: Administrative

*Administrative costs include all expenditures related to the administrative operations of the district: materials, supplies, and contractual obligations for school offices, the board of education, and district offices including the superintendent's office, business office, and human resources; legal fees; the district's portion of the BOCES administrative budget; and salaries of all school administrators, supervisors, and their support staffs. The Employee Benefits line is a pro-rated calculation of this component's share of costs as required by the state for self-insured health/dental claims, district retirement contributions, workers' compensation and disability insurance, and social security. Administrative expenditures make up 14.5% of the budget.*

<i>Description</i>	<i>2022-23 Budget</i>	<i>2023-24 Proposed</i>	<i>Dollar Change</i>	<i>% Change</i>
Board of Education	\$11,750	\$11,000	-\$750	-6.38%
District Meeting	\$23,423	\$24,080	\$657	2.80%
Chief School Administrator	\$324,933	\$363,049	\$38,116	11.73%
Business Administration	\$826,518	\$955,082	\$128,564	15.55%
Auditing	\$34,000	\$40,544	\$6,544	19.25%
Tax Collection	\$3,760	\$3,760	\$0	0.00%
Fiscal Agent Fees	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$0	0.00%
Legal	\$44,625	\$44,625	\$0	0.00%
Human Resources	\$637,833	\$636,085	-\$1,748	-0.27%
Public Information and Services	\$93,516	\$97,789	\$4,273	4.57%
Central Printing and Mailing	\$247,375	\$294,893	\$47,518	19.21%
Central Data Processing	\$2,341,478	\$2,565,945	\$224,467	9.59%
Insurance	\$235,000	\$245,000	\$10,000	4.26%
School Association Dues	\$12,200	\$12,452	\$252	2.07%
BOCES Administrative Costs	\$1,865,321	\$1,743,023	-\$122,298	-6.56%
Curriculum Development/Supervision	\$1,421,341	\$1,592,953	\$171,612	12.07%
Supervision, Regular School	\$2,009,006	\$2,083,328	\$74,322	3.70%
Research, Planning, and Evaluation	\$142,154	\$95,023	-\$47,131	-33.15%
Employee Benefits	\$2,537,244	\$2,799,873	\$262,629	10.35%
<b>Administrative Total</b>	<b>\$12,816,477</b>	<b>\$13,613,504</b>	<b>\$797,027</b>	<b>6.22%</b>

## Key Elements

- Chief School Administrator increased due to accounting code adjustments for conference expenses (offset by a decrease in Inservice Training, Instruction in the Program budget) and the hiring of a new administrative assistant.
- Business Administration increased due to an additional accountant position and an increase in GST BOCES services.
- Central Data Processing includes increases in GST BOCES services necessary to support the increased inventory of laptops used by students.
- The Central Printing and Mailing increase is due to increased costs of the BOCES Print Shop service.
- The Curriculum Development/Supervision line includes the addition of a director of instruction and curriculum coach.
- The Research, Planning, and Evaluation line is decreasing due to the transition of grants services from BOCES to an in-district position.

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# Revenues

## Property Tax

The 2023-24 budget meets the state's 2% property levy limit law, resulting in an increase in the tax levy of 4.66% over the current year. The tax levy refers to the total amount collected in school taxes across the district. This is not the same as the tax rate, which indicates a property owner's share of taxes based on the property's assessment.

The district's current full value tax rate is \$16.04 per \$1,000 of assessment. For 2023-24, the full value tax rate is estimated to increase 2.73% to a potential rate of \$16.48 per \$1,000 of assessed full value. On a home with a full-value assessment of \$100,000, the estimated change is an increase of \$44.

Because assessments and equalization rates are finalized after the budget process, the district must estimate the effect on the full value tax rate at this time. The district calculates the tax rate in August upon receipt of final assessments and equalization rates.

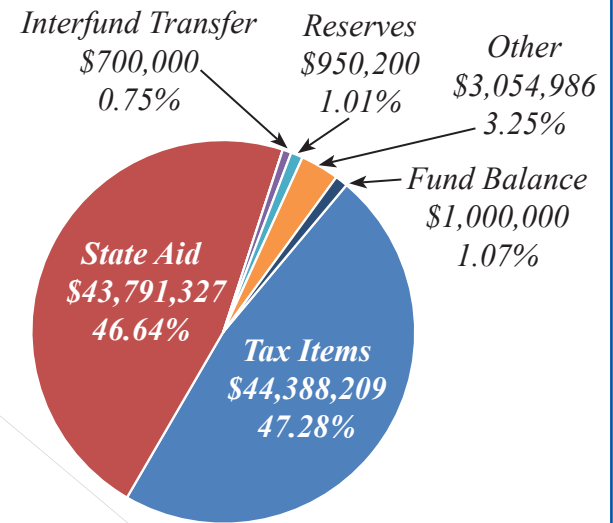
The Horseheads Central School District serves all or part of seven municipalities: Horseheads, Big Flats, Catlin, Erin, Veteran, Cayuta, and Baldwin. Each municipality assesses its properties separately and submits final assessments in late summer.

State law requires that all property within a municipality be assessed at a uniform percentage of market value. In the summer, the state sets equalization rates, which are meant to equalize the assessments from one municipality to the other.



*In October, first-graders at Big Flats used pumpkins to help them build science and math skills - and celebrate autumn. Each student received a small pumpkin to measure, count the lines, and weigh.*

## Revenue Categories



## State Education Aid

The state budget for fiscal year 2023-24 includes a 6.0% increase in total state aid to the district based on the governor's budget released February 2023. As of the printing of this newsletter, the state has yet to finalize its budget.

## Other Revenue Sources

The district plans to use \$1 million of fund balance, \$950,200 from appropriated reserves, and \$700,000 in an interfund transfer from the debt service fund. Other revenue of \$3.05 million includes Medicaid and Medicare reimbursements, BOCES refund, interest, admissions, rental income, donations and gifts, and stop-loss insurance payments.

## Area tax rate comparison: Per \$1,000 of assessed full value

	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
Corning	\$23.81	\$23.39	\$22.86	\$21.74
Elmira	\$20.60	\$20.79	\$20.88	\$17.55
Elmira Heights	\$22.78	\$21.95	\$21.65	\$18.91
<b>Horseheads*</b>	<b>\$18.04</b>	<b>\$18.00</b>	<b>\$17.32</b>	<b>\$16.04</b>

*\*Horseheads' tax rate for 2023-24 is estimated to increase to \$16.48 per \$1,000.*

**Vote**  
**May 16**  
**7 a.m. - 9 p.m.**  
**High School**  
**South Gym**



# Proposition 2: Purchase of Buses



*Currently, the district has 74 buses and six other student transportation vehicles.*

Each year, voters are asked to vote on the purchase of buses. This allows the district to borrow funds to replace buses that are ten years old or older and have 100,000 miles or more. This replacement process meets New York State Education Department recommendations for maintenance and replacement of a bus fleet.

For 2023-24, the district seeks approval to purchase six full size school buses, one wheelchair compatible bus, and one small Type A school bus, at a cost not to exceed \$1,600,000.

The district would finance the purchase through a five-year bond, with a substantial portion of the payment covered primarily by state aid for the five years following the purchase.

Maintaining a replacement schedule allows the district to keep its bus fleet in good working order, minimizing maintenance needs. The district's Transportation Department has a current bus inspection passing rate of 99.6% as a result of the regular care they take in maintaining buses while minimizing costs.



*Center Street students celebrated Unity Day in October. They attended an assembly to learn about the day and to decorate puzzle pieces to be placed together in a display at the school. The puzzle pieces reminded students that they are all unique, but they all fit in.*



*In October, seventh-graders created museum exhibits of organelles and their roles and significance to the overall function of a cell. They then presented what they learned to groups of Intermediate School students and their fellow students at the Middle School.*

## Absentee Ballots

Registered voters who cannot get to the polls on May 16 due to illness or travel may vote by using an absentee ballot. Current rules allow any voter to request an absentee ballot if concerned about exposure or has an increased risk for severe illness from COVID-19 during the ongoing pandemic.

Applications for absentee ballots are available in the district's Business Office, 143 Hibbard Road, Horseheads, from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. up to and including May 15.

Completed ballots must be returned to the Business Office no later than 5 p.m. May 16.

The district mails absentee ballots to voters listed as "permanently disabled" by the Chemung County Board of Elections.

*Questions? Call (607) 739-5601, x4201.*

# Board of Education Election

*On May 16, voters will elect three residents to three-year terms on the Board of Education. Below are the six candidates and information they provided to the district. Candidates are listed in the order their names will appear on the ballot.*

## Azfar (Azi) Farooquee



**Employment:** Information Security Management at Lowe's Companies

**Educational background:** B.S. Computer Information Systems, Chapman University; M.S. Accounting & Information Management, University of Texas at Dallas; MBA, Georgia Institute of Technology

**Family:** Maria (spouse); Children - Ibrahim (13), Horseheads Middle School - grade 8; Alaaya (5)

**Number of years living in the district:** 10

**Reason(s) for running:** "I am running for the Board of Education to serve our community, students, teachers, and parents. I believe that good education is essential to shaping a successful future, and our children and students deserve the very best that we can offer to them. As a board member, I will partner with fellow board members to deliver effective governance to meet the needs of our stakeholders."

## Brian Lynch



**Employment:** President of Winchester Optical

**Educational background:** Cornell – Bachelor's degree in Operations Research and Industrial Engineering. University of Rochester – MBA in Finance and Marketing

**Family:** Wife – Deb. Three daughters (all graduated from Horseheads). Sarah – class of 2009, Katie – class of 2011, Danica – class of 2020

**Number of years living in the district:** 56

**Reason(s) for running:** "My three children and I have all benefitted from the outstanding Horseheads schools. I have a strong desire to maintain the excellence in the district so that our students are prepared to be successful after graduation while also trying to keep it affordable for the community."

We are facing very challenging times with school financing, and the school board is looking at different ways to keep our district strong and affordable. I feel my business and operations background has provided me the analytical skills needed to fully understand the complex personnel, financial and statistical information necessary to make good decisions for the District. I have a very thorough understanding of these complexities because of my opportunity to serve on the Horseheads School Board the last eighteen years."

## Warren Conklin



**Employment:** Horseheads Central School District (Retired), Corning Community College Adjunct Professor (Retired)

**Educational background:** BA History Minor in Education Hobart College, Master's in Education Elmira College

**Family:** Spouse: Jackie Minchin-Conklin

**Number of years living in the district:** 44

**Reason(s) for running:** "I have been a resident in the district for over 40 years. During this time I was a High School teacher for 35 years and a coach for 34 years. In addition, I have been a member of the Board of Education for 12 years, serving on various committees. These experiences have given me an important insight into the framework and interconnectedness of the Horseheads school system and the community. Our educational system is our areas most important resource and responsibility. The taxpayers have demonstrated just how crucial education is to them by their approval of \$200 million to enhance educational opportunities for our children, as part of Project 2030. I would appreciate your support to remain a part of the team that will bring this project to its fruition."

*continued*



## Katrina Ungvarsky



**Employment:** Owner of 112 North Main Street LLC, located in Hanover Square Horseheads where I practice Massage and Esthetics

**Educational background:** Horseheads High School class of 2002, The Natural Health Institute, The Fingerlakes School of Massage, and GST Boces Esthetics Program

**Family:** Daniel Swartz (Spouse), Kingston Swartz (2nd grade Center Street) Zachary Swartz (pre-school age 2023-2024)

**Number of years living in the district:** Nearly 40

**Reason(s) for running:** “I am running for the Horseheads school board because I care deeply about the community that I grew up in, that I am raising my family, and that I own a business in. I attended

Horseheads from K-12th grade and was very active in the student council, choir/GRP, as well as being a student athlete. I currently serve on the Center Street PTO and was a former bus driver for the district. It is very important to me that all of the children in our community get to have a positive schooling experience and strong educational foundation. While the staff have a supportive and positive work environment. While also being fiscally responsible to the tax payers that support our district. I was also a Director for a school that I worked to get nationally accredited following the rules, and regulations of the New York State education department (NYSED). The experience being responsible for creating the schools policies gave me an incredible insight as to how policy could be made to create either a wonderful or stressful schooling environment and the avenues you can use to change policy to best suit the needs of the people. Your Voice Matters!”

## Susan Ungvarsky



**Employment:** Daycare provider

**Educational background:** Graduate of Thomas A. Edison

**Family:** Husband Edward 46 years; Daughter Kara (James), Jordan, Andrew, Lexi, Son Kristopher (Vanessa), Devon, Derek, Jamison, Daughter Katrina (Dan), Kingston, Zachary, Son Kyle (Lizzy)

**Number of years living in the district:** 43

**Reason(s) for running:** “I’m running for the Horseheads school board to be a voice for the community, staff and students. Having served on the school board from 1993-2003. Operating a Universal Pre-School at my home for the Horseheads school district from 2003-2019. Being the lead advisor for the Horseheads/Southern Tier Snow Kats Ski Club for 30 years. Continuing to offer daycare for

the children in the Horseheads school district for the last thirty-nine years. Our four children are graduates of Horseheads and greatly benefitted from their experience there. They had many wonderful opportunities while in Horseheads in academics, music, sports, extra curricular activities. Four of our grandchildren now attend Horseheads. We need to strive for what is best for all students. Engaging the issues of mental health and safety a priority. There are several building projects going on. I have many questions and want to ensure that the decisions that are offered are what is best for students, staff and our community. We need to be more effective in our budgeting, student numbers are decreasing, yet our budget increases every year. I would be honored to serve on the board again to represent our community, staff and students. I’m looking forward to serving on the school board and being a voice for our community.”

## Erin Schiavone



**Employment:** Corning Incorporated-Information Technology: Technology Business Management, Senior Analyst for Resource Management

**Educational background:** BA-Secondary Social Studies Education, SUNY Oswego; MS Ed-Reading, SUNY Cortland; CAS Educational Administration, Building & District Administrator, SUNY Brockport

**Family:** Spouse: Christopher Schiavone - Horseheads Graduate 1994, Choral Music Teacher Horseheads High School; Daughter: Emma Schiavone - Horseheads Graduate 2019, School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences at Binghamton University 2nd year: Class of 2025; Son: Ryan Schiavone - Horseheads High School sophomore: Class of 2025.

**Number of years living in the district:** 17

*continued on page 10*

## *Election, continued from page 9*

### **Erin Schiavone**

**Reason(s) for running:** “I am choosing to run for the Horseheads Central School District Board of Education for the following reasons: I have a varied skill set, perspective, and background as a community member, district parent, former Horseheads educator, and building/district level administrator that can benefit the District and help to push forward goals for student and staff excellence. I come to this candidate process as a servant leader. I wish to make use of my extensive background and skill set in education to make a positive impact on students and teachers in my community. I am an advocate for all students, staff, and teachers. My first questions will be: “Is it best for students?” and “Is it best for staff and teachers?”. These attributes would allow me to be a voice for current and new initiatives that the District is working toward: 1) Educational leader at the building, District, and regional levels, 2) Educational program/system builder (Online Learning, Alternative Education), 3) Professional Developer for Teachers and Administrators, 4) Success with Culture Building, 5) Deep understanding and advocate for the Career and Technical Education pathways.



*Students studying in the courtyard at the High School on a sunny day in April.*



*At Gardner Road's Veterans Tribute in November, students invited relatives and friends who have served in the military or are currently serving to the school for breakfast, a parade through the hallways, and a concert in the gym. Each grade level sang a patriotic song.*

### ***Vote on district image May 16***

On May 16, students across the district will vote on an updated image for the district. District residents and alumni can also vote on May 16 in a separate vote from the budget vote/board election.

The vote for district residents and alumni will be held in the High School Multi-Media Center from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. May 16.

Community members were invited to submit images earlier this year. The submissions were narrowed down to three final images by the Board of Education.

You do not need to vote on the budget to vote for a district image.



*The Boys' Modified Soccer Team played at the district stadium in the fall. The football team stayed after their practice to wish the team well.*

**Vote Tuesday, May 16 • 7 a.m. - 9 p.m. • High School South Gym**

# School District Budget Notice

Overall Budget Proposal	Budget Adopted for 2022-23 School Year	Budget Proposed for 2023-24 School Year	Contingency Budget for 2023-24 School Year*
Total Budgeted Amount, Not Including Separate Propositions	\$88,470,543	\$93,884,722	\$91,487,167
Increase/Decrease for the 2023-24 School Year		\$5,414,179	\$3,016,624
Percentage Increase/Decrease in Proposed Budget		6.12%	3.41%
Change in the Consumer Price Index		8.0%	
Proposed Tax Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount	\$41,781,717	\$43,727,924	
Levy to Support Library Debt, if Applicable	\$0	\$0	
Levy for Non-Excludable Propositions, if Applicable	\$0	\$0	
Total Tax Cap Reserve Amount Used to Reduce Current Year Levy	\$0	\$0	
Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy	\$41,781,717	\$43,727,924	\$41,781,717
Total Permissible Exclusions	\$0	\$965,589	
School Tax Levy Limit, Excluding Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$41,781,717	\$42,762,335	
Total Proposed Tax Levy, Excluding Levy to Support Library Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions	\$41,781,717	\$42,762,335	
Difference: (Negative Value Requires 60% Voter Approval - See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions)**	\$0	\$0	
Administrative Component	\$12,816,477	\$13,613,504	\$13,194,486
Program Component	\$62,180,003	\$64,484,354	\$64,034,138
Capital Component	\$13,474,063	\$15,786,864	\$14,258,544

\*A contingent budget includes ordinary contingent expenses and salaries subject to a cap on the administrative portion of the budget, with no increase in the tax levy over the prior year. There would be no purchase of new equipment, including buses unless approved by separate proposition, no capital expenditures unless approved by separate proposition and except in emergency situations, no salary increases for certain civil service employees not covered by an agreement with a recognized bargaining unit, outside organizations would have to pay for all facilities use, and the budget would be subject to an administrative cap on administrative expenditures.

## \*\*Separate Propositions

Description	Amount
Acquire six (6) full size school buses, one wheelchair compatible bus, and one small Type A school bus	\$1,600,000

## Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings<sup>1</sup>

	Budget Proposed for 2023-24 School Year
Basic STAR Tax Savings	\$517

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

The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2023-24 by the qualified voters of the Horseheads Central School District, Chemung and Schuyler counties, New York, will be held at the Horseheads High School in said district on Tuesday, May 16, 2023 between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m., prevailing time in the Horseheads High School, at which time the polls will be opened to vote by voting ballot or machine.

**Vote Tuesday, May 16 • 7 a.m. - 9 p.m. • High School South Gym**

Learn more about the 2023-24 budget at <https://horseheadsdistrict.com/HCSDBudget2023-24.cfm>



# **Budget Vote/Board of Education Election Tuesday, May 16, 2023 7 a.m. - 9 p.m. Horseheads High School South Gym**

## *Who is eligible to vote?*

All district residents are eligible to vote, as long as they meet the following requirements:

- Are a U.S. citizen
- Are 18 years of age or older on the day of the vote
- Have lived in the district for at least 30 days prior to the vote on May 16
- Are not restricted from voting in general elections based on election law

*Note: You do not have to be registered in general elections or own property in order to vote.*

*Questions? Contact us at [hcsdinfo@horseheads-district.com](mailto:hcsdinfo@horseheads-district.com) or 607-739-5601, x4201.*

Horseheads Central School District  
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607-739-5601, x4295

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Above: Ridge Road students enjoy a sunny day. Below: The High School Greenroom Players presented *The Little Mermaid* in March.



## **Board of Education**

Kristine Dale, President  
Brian Lynch, Vice President  
Kevin Adams; Tom Casey; Daniel Christmas;  
Warren Conklin; MaryAnne Corbett; Doug  
Johnson; Liz O'Dell Wehling; Tatiana Copp,  
student representative

## **Superintendent of Schools**

Dr. Thomas J. Douglas

## **Contact**

Susan Pirozolo, (607) 739-5601, x4295  
[supirozz@horseheadsdistrict.com](mailto:supirozz@horseheadsdistrict.com)