



## Community to vote on proposed budget May 20

*Budget stays within state “tax cap” while adding programming and staff*

**When and where?**  
**Tuesday, May 20**  
 Polls open 12 noon to 8 p.m.  
 Jr/Sr High School Gym Lobby

### What will I be voting on?



- Proposed budget  
**\$23,327,617**
- Bus Purchase
- Capital Reserve
- BOE Candidate

### Who is eligible to vote?



United States citizens who are at least 18 years of age and who have lived in the district for at least 30 days prior to the election.

### Do I need to pre-register to vote?



No, pre-registration is not required.

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Residents of the Mayfield Central School District will go to the polls Tuesday, May 20, to vote on a proposed \$23,327,617 budget for the 2025-26 school year.

The proposed budget keeps the tax levy increase to 3.37%, which is within the state’s “tax cap.”

The district has worked to identify key priority areas, develop action items for supporting these priorities and build a spending plan that aligns with our vision. These priority areas and subsequent plan were developed in collaboration with our Board of Education, leadership team and school community as part of our Strategic Plan for the coming years.

This year’s budget has a strong focus on expanding opportunities for students both in and outside of the classroom — from literacy initiatives and career-readiness programs to enriching field trips and guest speakers.

“We have developed a plan that will support our current programming while creating more meaningful educational experiences for our students,” said Superintendent Christopher Clapper. “Students should leave our doors as well-rounded individuals who are both academically



proficient and equipped with the social-emotional skills needed to succeed.”

The Board of Education unanimously approved the proposed budget on Tuesday, April 8.

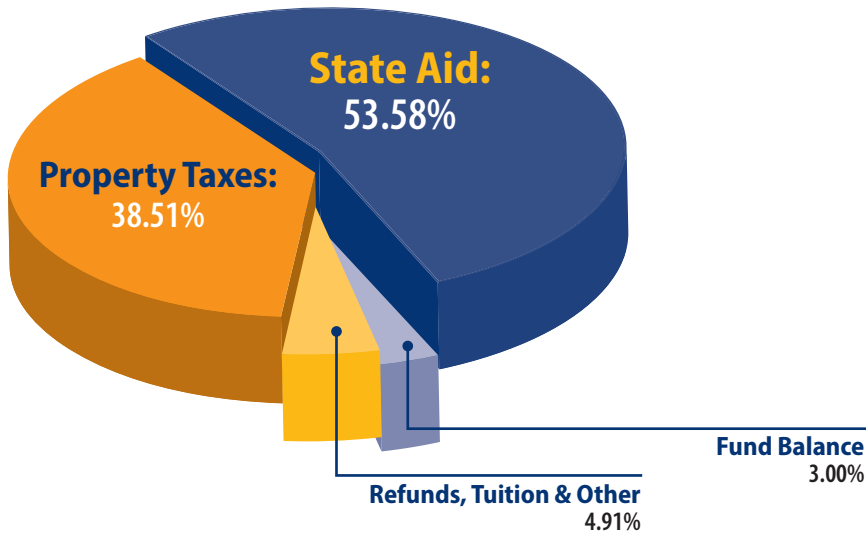
Community voting will take place from 12 noon to 8 p.m. on Tuesday, May 20, in the Gym Lobby at the Jr/Sr High School, 27 School St., Mayfield.

The 2025-26 budget maintains all programming while adding the following programs and positions:

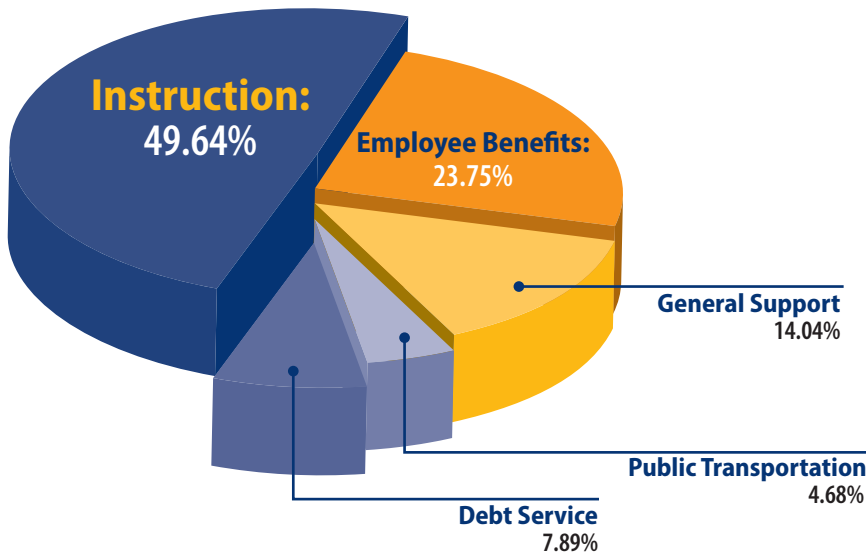
- **New ELA curriculum and a reading interventionist.** In our efforts to focus on literacy instruction, we are purchasing new ELA/Reading curriculum and hiring a reading interventionist to support the program. The addition of a reading interventionist offers opportunity for more individual and small group instruction.
- **An additional day of instructional coaching.** Our instructional coach works to find areas of curriculum and instruction that need improvement, helps teachers set and attain goals within their classrooms, and provides insight on data-driven interventions. This position is tailored to the needs of the district.

**continued page 3**

## Where does the money come from?



## Where is the money spent?



## What will I see on the ballot?

### PROPOSITION NO. 1 2025-26 Budget

Residents will vote on the proposed 2025-26 district budget totaling \$23,327,617.

### PROPOSITION NO. 2 Bus Purchase

Residents will be asked to consider the purchase of two (2) 66-passenger buses and one (1) SUV passenger vehicle in an amount not to exceed \$425,000, and to authorize the district to utilize the Bus Purchase Reserve to finance such costs.

### PROPOSITION NO. 3 Capital Reserve

Residents will be asked to consider modifying the terms of the district's Capital Reserve (revised by voter proposition on May 21, 2024) to increase the total allowable deposits from \$3 million to \$8 million dollars. This will be used to finance the cost of improvements to district buildings and property in future voter approved Capital Improvement Projects.

### PROPOSITION NO. 4 Board of Education Election

One 5-year term on the Mayfield Central School District Board of Education is up for election this year. The 5-year seat, presently occupied by Aaron Flynn, will become vacant as of June 30, 2025.

The candidate that will appear on the ballot:

**David "Tank" Jones**





**Budget Proposal** continued from page 1

■ **Increased professional development opportunities.**

When teachers have access to the resources needed to enhance their skills and knowledge, the potential for student learning and achievement increases. This plan leaves room for more specific, individualized opportunities.

■ **Addition of a third pre-k classroom.**

We are fortunate to see an increase in enrollment of pre-k students. This additional classroom means all early learners will have the same academic opportunities at Mayfield.

■ **Creation of restorative rooms in each building.** Restorative approaches help resolve conflict constructively and promote a culture of respect. These spaces are vital for creating a positive and empathetic learning environment.



■ **Increased field trips, assemblies and guest speakers.** Collectively, these experiences provide students with enriching opportunities to engage with new ideas and perspectives. They broaden students' understanding of the world around them and are a powerful extension of classroom learning.

■ **Continuous security upgrades.**

The district is committed to maintaining an environment where students and staff feel safe to learn and grow. Security upgrades are a continued priority.

Additional details of our current and upcoming programming and expenditures can be found on the Jr/Sr High School and Elementary School pages.

## Budget Q & A

? **What is a "tax levy limit"?**

... The tax levy limit is the highest tax increase a school district can propose and need the approval of a simple majority of voters (50% plus one) for passage. The limit is calculated using a multi-step formula that takes into account any allowable exclusions (such as capital expenditures and related state aid, and use of reserves). Any proposed tax levy above this limit requires approval by a super majority of voters (60%). The Mayfield Central School District 2025-26 tax levy increase is within the tax levy limit.

? **How is the tax levy different from a tax rate?**

... The tax levy is the amount of money the district raises from local taxpayers while the tax rate is the amount of tax residents pay per \$1,000 of property value. In 2025-26 the school tax levy would increase by 3.37%. The impact on school tax bills is projected to be an approximate \$87.30, or **\$7.28 per month**, for a property assessed at \$100,000.

? **What happens if the budget is defeated?**

... If the proposed budget is defeated, the Mayfield Central School District Board of Education can put another budget, revised or not, up for a vote in June or immediately adopt a contingency budget. If the budget is defeated twice, the district would have to adopt a contingency budget, with a zero percent tax levy increase, which could mean a \$293,250 reduction to programs and services.

## Capital Outlay Project: *Auditorium Upgrades*

As part of its annual budget, Mayfield Central School District includes a Capital Outlay Project — a New York State initiative that allows school districts to complete building improvements up to \$100,000. These projects are eligible for an 80% reimbursement through state building aid, allowing the district to make significant improvements to the school at a much lower

cost. Projects must receive formal approval from the New York State Education Department (NYSED), and follow a required public bidding process to ensure transparency and fiscal responsibility.

For the 2025-26 school year, the district plans to focus this project on targeted upgrades to the auditorium, including the replacement of seating, carpeting,

and enhancements to the stage area. These improvements address both functional and safety-related needs in a space that serves students, staff, and the broader community.

We appreciate the ongoing support that makes projects like this possible and helps maintain our facilities for future generations.



## BOE Candidate



### David "Tank" Jones

David "Tank" Jones is seeking a first term on the Mayfield Central School District Board of Education.

Tank graduated from SUNY ESF Ranger School with an associate degree in forestry with an emphasis in land surveying. He has worked in the land surveying, engineering and construction fields for 24 years and is currently employed by Tripoint Construction Layout.

For the past six years, he has volunteered as the president of the Southern Adirondack Snowmobile Association. He has also volunteered his time with the Mayfield sports program by helping to paint lines on the soccer fields, running the scoreboard for games and keeping the books for travel and modified basketball.

While he did not attend Mayfield school, Tank has strong ties to the community through his extended family and has spent many weekends at the lake and his family's camp while growing up. His wife is a Mayfield graduate and together with their two children they have lived in the community for 22 years, valuing the benefits and opportunities a smaller school district has to offer. Their son is a 2022 graduate and their daughter is currently in 9th grade.

Tank says he is running for a seat on the board of education because of the amazing, supportive community we have at Mayfield. He wants the opportunity to provide children with the best chance for success in their future, and is eager to work with families, students, teachers and staff to keep the school the hub of this tight-knit community.



# Jr/Sr High School *News*

## *Building Character*

At the Jr/Sr High School, we have focused on character-building initiatives that help students establish positive relationships and encourage behaviors that foster their academic, personal and social success.

This year we have held quarterly Character Assemblies to recognize students that continually demonstrate positive character traits. At each assembly we have had alumni speak about the character they developed while at Mayfield and how it has shaped their lives for the better.

## *Pathways to Career Readiness*

The Pathways program offers career-themed courses and real-world opportunities that allow students to develop skills aligned with the needs of the workforce.

The Mayfield Jr/Sr High School has partnered with HFM BOCES to bring an Arts in Business Pathway to the school for the past five years. For 2025-26, we plan to expand this successful program to include pathways in Agriculture, Civics and Business.



By the end of the 2025-26 school year, students will be able to receive New York State's Seal of Civic Readiness.

Our Agriculture program has already taken off and this summer we are planning to house a flock of chickens and cultivate a robust garden on campus.

## *Excellence in Academics*

The Jr/Sr High School is proud of the academic achievements of our students over the past year. Examples include:

- All students on our varsity sports teams have been recognized as scholar athletes.

- The National Honor Society inducted a record 25 students in February.

- Our number of students taking the PSAT exams and SAT more than doubled from last year.

- All of our 11th graders took the ELA Regents exam in January with an 85% passing rate.

## *Looking Ahead: Restorative Practices*

Restorative practices are used in schools to foster positive school culture and strengthen connections between individuals. By focusing on resolving conflict, repairing harm and healing relationships, they reduce disciplinary incidents. For the 2025-26 school year our teachers will be in their second year of utilizing these practices and learning the methods of this approach. To support these efforts, we will be adding a Restorative Room. This will be a dedicated neutral space where we listen and speak responsibly, and offers students an opportunity to process difficult emotions and work through challenging situations.





# Elementary School News

## *Bringing Life Back to the Library*

With a passion for reading and fostering a love of books, our new librarian, Mrs. Reynolds, is dedicated to making the library a welcoming space for students to explore, learn and grow. Her enthusiasm for literacy is contagious, and she's already been working hard to create engaging literacy units and hands-on STEAM activities. She provides students with the research and technology literacy skills needed to succeed.

## *Inspiring Creativity through Hands-on Learning*

Mr. Lamonto is our Project Lead the Way (PLTW) instructor with a passion for hands-on learning. PLTW is a curriculum program that focuses on engaging, hands-on learning STEAM experiences for k-12 students and teachers. Mr. Lamonto's classes inspire creativity and critical thinking as students dive into projects that encourage problem-solving and teamwork. With his guidance, Mayfield students are already becoming the innovators of tomorrow.



## *Building a Supportive School Community*

At our school, we are committed to creating a safe and supportive environment where every student feels valued and empowered. This year, we have held a series of anti-bullying assemblies designed to promote kindness, respect and inclusion. These assemblies provide students with valuable tools to recognize and stand up against bullying, while nurturing positive relationships within our school community.

## *Fostering Positive Student Behavior*

Our Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) program, along with the recognition of Students of the Month and good attendance, has made a noticeable impact on improving student behavior this year. Through the PBIS program, students are encouraged to demonstrate respect, responsibility, and safety both in and outside of the classroom, leading to a more supportive and respectful school environment. By recognizing Students of the Month and the celebration of good attendance, we are not only acknowledging their hard work, but also inspiring their peers to follow their example.

## *Looking Ahead: Literacy in Focus*

We are excited to announce the launch of a new literacy program aimed at further enhancing our students' reading and writing skills. This program will provide a comprehensive, research-based approach to literacy instruction, focusing on phonics, comprehension, fluency, and vocabulary development. In 2025-26, we will be adding a new reading interventionist to our team to help provide individualized support. Our goal is to ensure that every student is equipped with the tools they need to become confident and passionate readers and writers.

In addition to our new literacy program, we are now entering the second year of our new math program, Eureka Squared. The program's focus on conceptual understanding and critical thinking has already shown positive results.



## Overall Budget Proposal

	BUDGET ADOPTED FOR THE 2024-25 SCHOOL YEAR	BUDGET PROPOSED FOR THE 2025-26 SCHOOL YEAR	CONTINGENCY BUDGET FOR THE 2025-26 SCHOOL YEAR*
Total Budgeted Amount, Not Including Separate Propositions	\$ 22,489,083	\$ 23,327,617	\$23,034,366
Increase/Decrease for the 2025-26 School Year		\$ 838,534	\$545,284
Percentage Increase/Decrease in Proposed Budget		3.73%	2.42%
Change in the Consumer Price Index		2.95%	
A. Proposed Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount	\$ 8,689,843	\$ 8,983,094	
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)	\$ 8,689,843	\$ 8,983,094	\$ 8,689,843
F. Total Permissible Exclusions	\$ 238,211	\$ 275,817	
G. School Tax Levy Limit, Excluding Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$ 8,456,493	\$ 8,707,277	
H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, Excluding Levy to Support Library Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions (E – B – F + D)	\$ 8,451,632	\$ 8,707,277	
I. Difference: G – H (Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval –See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions)**	\$ 4,861	\$ 0	
Administrative Component	\$ 2,550,627	\$ 2,655,144	\$ 2,655,144
Program Component	\$ 15,895,472	\$ 16,884,461	\$ 16,792,210
Capital Component	\$ 4,042,984	\$ 3,788,012	\$ 3,587,012

\* Provide a statement of assumptions made in projecting a contingency budget for the 2025-26 school year, should the proposed budget be defeated pursuant to Section 2023 of the Education Law.

Reductions as a result of a contingent budget could include elimination of non-essential expenditures such as interscholastic athletics, field trips and other extracurricular activities, equipment, use by outside agencies of school buildings and grounds, capital outlay projects, etc. Should the proposed budget be defeated pursuant to Section 2023 of the Education Law, the tax levy may be no greater than the levy of the prior year (Chapter 97 of the Laws of 2011). In addition to this limitation, the administrative component of a contingent budget may not comprise a greater percentage of the contingency budget, exclusive of the capital component, than the lesser of: (1) that percentage which the administrative component had comprised in the prior year's budget.

\*\* 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 two (2) 66-passenger school buses, one (1) SUV	\$ 425,000
Re-establishment of the Capital Reserve, which includes increasing the maximum allowable deposits from \$ 3 million to \$ 8 million	\$ 5,000,000

Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings	Under the Budget Proposed for the 2025-26 School Year
Town of Broadalbin-Perth	\$ 369.79
Town of Johnstown	\$ 351.29
Town/Village of Mayfield	\$ 362.54
Town of Northampton	\$ 390.94

The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2025-26 by the qualified voters of the Mayfield Central School District, Fulton County, New York, will be held at Mayfield school in said district on Tuesday, May 20, 2025 between the hours of 12 noon and 8:00pm, prevailing time at the Jr/Sr High School gymnasium, at which time the polls will be opened to vote by voting ballot or machine.

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







# Mayfield

CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

27 School Street, Mayfield, NY 12117

Non-Profit  
Bulk Rate  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Mayfield, NY  
Permit #4

## Board of Education

Aaron Flynn, *President*  
Vanessa DiNitto, *Vice President*  
Jeremiah "Jake" VanEvery  
Kevin Capobianco  
Courtney Scalise

## Superintendent

Christopher Clapper

Dated Material: Important for district residents. Please send any address additions or corrections to the Superintendent's Office at MCSD.

Produced in cooperation with Capital Region BOCES Engagement & Development Services.

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MAYFIELD CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

BUDGET VOTE 2025-26



## BUDGET VOTE

Tuesday, May 20

Polls are open  
12 noon to 8 p.m.

Jr/Sr High School Gym Lobby

### ABSENTEE BALLOTS

- Residents who will not be in the area on May 20, or are otherwise unable to vote in person, may apply for an absentee ballot. Please contact the District Clerk at [anastasia.stacie@mayfieldcsd.org](mailto:anastasia.stacie@mayfieldcsd.org) for an absentee ballot.
- If the absentee ballot is to be mailed to the voter, the application must be submitted at least seven (7) days prior to the vote, or May 13.
- If the absentee ballot is to be picked up by the voter in person, applications will be accepted until 4 p.m. on May 19.
- Absentee ballots must be returned to the District Clerk no later than 5 p.m. on May 20.

### EARLY VOTING

- A qualified voter may vote as an early mail voter. Please contact the District Clerk at [anastasia.stacie@mayfieldcsd.org](mailto:anastasia.stacie@mayfieldcsd.org) for an early voting application.
- The application must be received by the District Clerk at least seven (7) days before the election/vote if the ballot is to be mailed to the voter, or the day before the election/vote if the ballot is to be delivered personally to the voter.
- Upon receipt and approval of the application, a ballot will be mailed. The completed ballot must be received by the District Clerk by 5 p.m. on May 20 the day of the vote.

### VOTER INFORMATION

#### Voter eligibility

To be eligible to vote, residents must live in the school district for at least 30 days prior to the May 20 election, be at least 18 years of age and be a citizen of the United States.

#### Voter registration

Residents who are not already on the school register may register to vote by

contacting the District Clerk at [anastasia.stacie@mayfieldcsd.org](mailto:anastasia.stacie@mayfieldcsd.org) before May 20. Residents may also register to vote prior to voting on May 20 in the lobby of the Jr/Sr High School gymnasium with photo identification and proof of residence (for example, a current utility bill).



For more information, please contact the District Clerk at [anastasia.stacie@mayfieldcsd.org](mailto:anastasia.stacie@mayfieldcsd.org).

[www.mayfieldk12.com](http://www.mayfieldk12.com)