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Panther Pause

MAYFIELD CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Budget vote set for May 17

Proposed tax increase stays below state's cap

Residents of the Mayfield Central School District will go to the polls Tuesday, May 17, to vote on a proposed \$20,636,429 school budget for 2022-23.

A 3% increase in state aid and funding from the federal American Rescue Plan helped the district to develop a budget aimed at limiting taxpayer burden. The proposed budget keeps the tax levy increase to 1.99%, which is below the district's allowable limit of 3.07% as calculated under the state's "tax cap" formula.

"In developing this budget, we were extremely sensitive to the fact that our families are dealing with higher costs on just about everything, from gas to groceries," Superintendent Christopher Harper said. "Despite many district expenses rising as well, we worked to minimize the impact on our taxpayers while keeping intact, and even growing, academic programming."

District leaders decided that given current economic circumstances, it would be an appropriate time to use \$156,407, of its fund balance.

Another contributing factor to holding the tax increase below the state cap is a 2% decrease in health insurance costs.

The district's Buildings and Grounds Department also has been able to tap into some extra revenue by auctioning off some of its old equipment, such as buses that are being retired, instead of trading them in. This approach has the potential



to bring in thousands more per item and is helping the department offset the costs of new equipment.

The proposed budget would increase September school tax bills by approximately \$31.70, or \$2.64 per month, for a home with a \$100,000 assessment.

The Board of Education unanimously approved the proposed budget on April 12.

Voting will take place from noon to 8 p.m. on Tuesday, May 17, in the Gym Lobby at the Jr./Sr. High School, 27 School St., Mayfield.

For the second consecutive year, the budget includes \$100,000 for a Capital Outlay Project for which the district will be reimbursed 81.4%. This year's project focuses on replacing the roof flashing at

continued page 3

BUDGET VOTE 2022-23

Tuesday, May 17

Polls open 12 noon to 8 p.m.
Jr./Sr. High School Gym Lobby

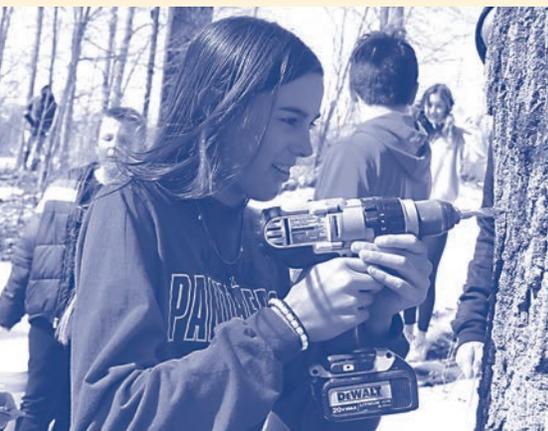
Proposed budget
\$20,636,429

Increase from 2021-22 budget
\$420,395 / 2.08%

Tax Levy Increase
\$161,857 / 1.99%

PUBLIC HEARING

Tuesday, May 10 • 6 p.m.
in the Jr./Sr. High School Library



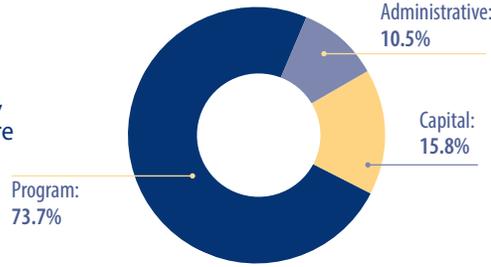
TOP: Sophomore Mitchell Hayner works on a project in Residential Structures class.

BOTTOM: Seventh-grader Abigail Powers drills a hole to tap a maple tree behind the Jr./Sr. High School as part of the New York Agriculture in the Classroom's Schoolyard Sugaring Maple Syrup Contest the family and consumer science classes participated in.

AT RIGHT: Eighth-graders spent time with therapy dog Scarlett during Wellness Day activities.

Three-Part Budget: 2022-2023

New York state school districts are required to present their budgets in three expenditure categories—program, administrative and capital—and compare them to current year’s amounts.



What will I see on the ballot?

➤ PROPOSITION NO. 1 – 2022-23 Budget Consideration

Residents will vote on the proposed 2022-23 district budget totaling \$20,636,429.

➤ PROPOSITION NO. 2 – Bus purchase

Residents will be asked to consider the purchase of one 41-passenger bus at a cost of approximately \$128,000 and one Chevy Suburban for approximately \$50,000 to be paid from the Bus Purchase Reserve fund. The purchases would have no effect on the 2022-23 school tax levy.

The district is eligible for roughly 75% reimbursement for these vehicle purchases through state school transportation aid.

➤ PROPOSITION NO. 3 – Pickup with plow purchase

Residents will also be asked to consider the purchase of one pickup truck equipped with a plow at a cost of approximately \$45,000 to be paid from the district’s Reserve Fund. The purchase would have no effect on the 2022-23 school tax levy.

➤ BOARD OF EDUCATION ELECTION

One five-year term on the Mayfield Central School District Board of Education is up for election this year.

The five-year seat, presently occupied by Cassie Kristel, will become vacant as of June 30, 2022.

The two candidates, in the order they will appear on the ballot, are:

- Cassie Kristel
- Kevin Capobianco

The candidates are invited to share their views and take questions at the public hearing set for 6 p.m. Tuesday, May 10, in the library at the Jr./Sr. High School.

THREE-PART BUDGET	BUDGETED 2021-22	PROPOSED 2022-23	\$ CHANGE '21-22 TO '22-23
Administrative	\$2,084,244	\$2,165,337	\$81,093
Program	\$14,945,916	\$15,212,630	\$266,714
Capital	\$3,185,874	\$3,258,462	\$72,588
TOTAL	\$20,216,034	\$20,636,429	\$420,395

*The decrease in program costs is a result of savings from health insurance, not reductions in student programs.

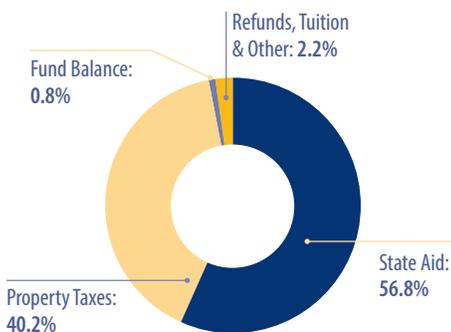
PROJECTED REVENUES *Where the money comes from...*

REVENUES	BUDGETED 2021-22	PROPOSED 2022-23	\$ CHANGE '21-22 to '22-23	% OF REVENUE
State Aid	\$11,407,510	\$11,733,641	\$326,131	56.8%
Property Taxes	\$8,133,524	\$8,295,381	\$161,857	40.2%
Refunds, Tuition & Other	\$675,000	\$451,000	(\$224,000)	2.2%
Fund Balance	\$0	\$156,407	\$156,407	0.8%
Total Revenue	\$20,216,034	\$20,636,429	\$420,395	100.0%

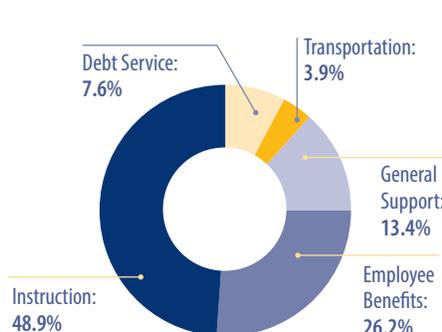
PROJECTED EXPENDITURES *...and where it is spent*

EXPENDITURES	BUDGETED 2021-22	PROPOSED 2022-23	\$ CHANGE '21-22 to '22-23	% OF EXPENSES
Instruction	\$9,527,687	\$10,085,910	\$558,223	48.9%
Employee Benefits	\$5,631,555	\$5,408,923	(\$222,632)	26.2%
General Support	\$2,581,910	\$2,773,720	\$191,810	13.4%
Pupil Transportation	\$813,488	\$792,613	(\$20,875)	3.9%
Debt Service	\$1,661,394	\$1,575,263	(\$86,131)	7.6%
Total Expenditures	\$20,216,034	\$20,636,429	\$420,395	100.0%

REVENUES



EXPENDITURES



Budget Proposal *continued from page 1*

the Jr./Sr. High School to address leaks in the gymnasium and other areas of the building.

In addition to voting on the 2022-23 school budget, the community also will consider:

- Allowing the district to purchase a 41-passenger bus for approximately \$128,000, a Chevy Suburban for approximately \$50,000 and a pick-up truck with a plow for approximately \$45,000. These are separate propositions on the ballot and will be paid from Reserves. They will have no impact on the 2022-23 tax levy.

- Electing one Board of Education member to a five-year term.

MCSD was allocated about \$2.4 million over three years in American Rescue Plan funding from the federal government. This money is required to be put in the Special Aid Fund, so it is not included in the district's General Fund. However, with the upcoming year's portion of this funding, the district will be able to provide the following in 2022-23:

- Two additional sections at the elementary school to reduce class sizes where needed.
- The addition of Academic Intervention Service (AIS) or special education teachers to provide extra support to students who may have fallen behind as a result of the pandemic.
- Further investment in technology, including adding and replacing classroom Smart Boards and replacing Chromebooks for all students.
- A licensed practical nurse to be shared between the two schools.
- Additional teacher aides to provide extra supervision in hallways, study halls and other settings.
- Installation of vape-sensing equipment in the restrooms of the Jr./Sr. High School. In addition to deterring vaping, the sensors also detect bullying language to help administrators encourage a positive school culture.



- An expanded summer school program for all grade levels.
- Funding for numerous after-school clubs at the elementary and high school levels, providing character-building and academic enrichment for students.
- Personnel training for Mayfield CSD to become a Trauma-Skilled School, a model program from the National Dropout Prevention Center that gives educators and administrators tools to reduce the effects of stress and trauma on learning and behavior.
- Expansion of the district's arts in education programming. Mayfield will host special speakers and performers from the Arts and Enrichment Service through HFM BOCES. This initiative will bring in interactive presentations such as the Sweethearts & Heroes program visiting the district this spring, which delivers an anti-bullying message that teaches students empathy and leadership.

The 2022-23 budget preserves all current academic programs and

positions and also adds:

- A technology instructor to support the school's Computer Science and Robotics Pathway. This is part of the district's ongoing efforts to bolster STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts and math) education. Two new robotics courses will be offered next year.
- Increased security measures to include more cameras at the Jr./Sr. High School. As part of New York's initiative to make schools safer, Mayfield is reimbursed per camera up to approximately \$28,000 per year. This will be the third year the district is using the program, adding a total of 50 cameras at the Elementary and Jr./Sr. High School buildings.
- Two full-time custodial workers to ensure the buildings are clean, safe and properly maintained.
- A full-time groundskeeper to focus on the continued maintenance of the athletic fields and renovations to the baseball field.



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
Cassie Kristel, Vice President
Vanessa DiNitto
Emory Chase
Jeremiah "Jake" VanEvery

Superintendent

Christopher M. Harper

** B001

POSTAL CUSTOMER

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 Communications Service.

Betsy DeMars, editor

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Panther Pause

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BUDGET VOTE 2022-23

PUBLIC HEARING

Tuesday, May 10 • 6 p.m.
in the Jr./Sr. High School Library

BUDGET VOTE Tuesday, May 17, 2022

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 17, or are otherwise unable to vote in person, or are uncomfortable voting in person due to COVID-19 concerns, may apply for 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, or May 10.
- If the absentee ballot is to be picked up by the voter in person, applications will be accepted until 4 p.m. May 16.
- Absentee ballots must be returned to the District Clerk no later than 5 p.m. on May 17.
- For more information or to request a ballot, call the District Office at 518-661-8207.



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 17 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 at the District Office (8 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays) before May 17.

Residents may also register to vote prior to voting on May 17 in the lobby of the Jr./Sr. High School gymnasium with photo identification and proof of residence (for example, a current utility bill).



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