



LANSINGBURGH

— CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT —

BUDGET EDITION • MAY 2023

District Budget Vote: Tuesday, May 16

On Tuesday, May 16, 2023, Lansingburgh Central School District residents will vote on the proposed budget adopted by the Board of Education on April 3, 2023. The proposed budget of \$60,541,069 reflects a spending increase of \$3,157,203, or a 5.5% increase over the current school year. This increase represents the final year of the three-year phase-in of fully funding the district's Foundation Aid. It also includes \$3,802,559 in additional State Aid. This budget's State Aid revenues are

based upon the New York State Budget estimates published on February 1, 2023. The proposed tax levy increase for the 2023-24 Budget is 1.4%, which is below the allowable NYS tax cap of 1.8% for the 2023-24 School Year. The school tax bill impact on homeowners will vary depending on equalization and STAR. The increase on a home with the full market value of \$100,000 would be an estimated \$29.17.

BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS & CAPITAL RESERVE PROPOSITION:

The proposed budget not only continues to fund the purchase of all student school supplies, as in years past, but is also increasing the amount spent on them and teacher supplies. Student supplies are not a contingent item, so the district will not be able to pay for them if the budget is rejected. An approved budget would include an additional School Resource Officer for increased security, continuation of the Summer Academy previously funded using federal ARP grants, and a sound system upgrade in the KMS Auditorium.

In addition to the proposed budget, residents will be asked to consider

approval for the district to create a Capital Construction Reserve Fund. It would be a place to set aside money to help pay for district construction projects and would keep tax increases down by reducing the amount of funds the district would need to borrow for future projects. Voters play an active part in this fund since they must approve its creation and the district cannot use money in the fund without voter approval. Any spending from it must be approved by residents in a future vote. The proposition (see page 2) outlines the specifics of the fund, which includes a limit of \$5 million and a probable term of 10 years.

PUBLIC HEARING

MEET THE CANDIDATES: There will be a "Meet the Candidates" forum giving residents an opportunity to meet the candidates running for the single five-year term Board of Education position to be filled effective July 1, 2023. Meet the Candidates will begin at 6:00 p.m. and will be followed by a public hearing on the budget on May 8, 2023, in the Turnpike Elementary Gymnasium.

SUMMARY OF IMPORTANT DATES:

May 2, 2023:

- Voter Registration – 12:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

May 8, 2023:

- Meet the Candidates & Budget Public Hearing – 6:00 p.m.

May 16, 2023:

- Budget Vote & Board Election – 12:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

VOTER REGISTRATION

Voter registration will be held on Tuesday, May 2 from noon to 6:00 p.m. in the District Office (55 New Turnpike Road, Troy)

If you are not currently registered to vote, you must register for the school budget vote and board election. When registering, bring a valid driver's license. If you do not have one, bring other proof of date of birth and residence.

ABSENTEE BALLOTS

Applications for absentee ballots are obtainable from the District Clerk at the District Office (55 New Turnpike Road, Troy, NY) between 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. or on the district website (www.lansingburgh.org). See back page for more about absentee ballots.

VOTING LOCATIONS

Voting will take place at the following from 12:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

- Lansingburgh High School – 320 Seventh Avenue, Troy, NY 12182
- Turnpike Elementary School – 55 New Turnpike Road, Troy, NY 12182



BUDGET VOTE

**TUESDAY
MAY 16, 2023**
Absentee Ballots
Due by 5 p.m.

BOARD OF EDUCATION UPDATE

One (1) individual is running for the one (1) seat opening on the Lansingburgh Board of Education. The seat is for a 5-year term commencing July 1, 2023, and expiring on June 30, 2028.

The name of board candidate shall appear on the ballot as follows:

1. Jason Shover

More information about this year's candidate is available on www.lansingburgh.org

Copies of the Budget... are available in the district office, 55 New Turnpike Road, and in the main office at each of the four schools, at the Lansingburgh Branch of the Troy Public Library and on the district website, www.lansingburgh.org

Copies also will be available at the public hearing.

School Budget Ballot 2023-2024:

✓ YES or NO

Budget
Proposed

RECOMMENDATION: Be it resolved, that the detailed Proposed Budget in the amount of \$60,541,069 be adopted with an anticipated income exclusive of taxes in the amount of \$43,871,933; and the amount to be raised by taxes of \$16,669,136; and that this budget will be referred to as the **Basic Budget**.

✓ YES or NO

Capital
Reserve Fund

RECOMMENDATION: Shall the Board of Education be authorized to establish a capital reserve fund, designated as the 2023 Capital Reserve Fund, in accordance with Education Law § 3651(1), for the purpose of paying the cost of future building projects and capital improvements, in a maximum amount not to exceed \$5,000,000 to be raised by annual transfer of unexpended operating funds and excess fund balance, for a probable term of ten (10) years, effective immediately and expiring June 30, 2033, provided that, pursuant to Education Law § 3651(3), no expenditure shall be made from such fund except upon authorization of the voters of the District for the purposes specified herein?

SUMMARY OF EXPENDITURES

	BUDGET 2022-2023	PROPOSED 2023-2024
General Support	\$ 5,631,254	\$ 6,479,065
Instruction	30,382,767	32,789,380
Transportation	4,762,798	4,962,155
Community Service	900	900
Employee Benefits	11,292,269	12,023,294
Transfer to Other Funds/Debt Services	5,313,876	4,286,275
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 57,383,864	\$ 60,541,069

SUMMARY OF REVENUE

	BUDGET 2022-2023	PROPOSED 2023-2024
Appropriated Fund Balance	\$ 750,000	\$ 350,000
State Aid	39,109,874	42,912,433
Charges for Services	174,000	22,500
Use of Money & Property	67,000	68,000
Refund Of Prior Years Expenditures	380,000	430,000
Federal Affected Areas	0	0
Interfund Revenues	375,000	0
Payment in Lieu Of Tax/Penalties	89,000	89,000
Property Tax	16,438,990	16,669,136
TOTAL REVENUES	\$ 57,383,864	\$ 60,541,069

ESTIMATED ASSESSED VALUE TAX PER THOUSAND

	LANSINGBURGH	BRUNSWICK	SCHAGHTICOKE	PITTSBURY
2022-2023	\$20.84	\$76.13	\$89.15	\$30.47
2023-2024	\$21.13	\$77.19	\$90.39	\$30.90



LANSINGBURGH

Message from the Superintendent

To the Lansingburgh School Community:

To date, this school year has been nothing short of inspirational and there is much to be proud of. Our students are excelling in and out of the classroom and we have begun the planning phase for renovating Rensselaer Park Elementary and our athletic facilities. We succeeded in a multiyear plan to achieve the New York State Education Department's highest accountability rating for our middle school and district (more on page 5). We have also continued improving our student services by transitioning to a new transportation provider and a new before/after school care provider. Lansingburgh continues to find innovative uses for federal CARES and American Rescue Funding to strengthen our academic assistance programs, offer free after school care, improve our facilities, and recruit/retain dedicated faculty/staff.

Lansingburgh's Board of Education has adopted a proposed budget of \$60,541,069 to present to the voters for the 2023-24 School Year, an increase of \$3,157,203 (5.5%). The board understands an investment in high-quality education for our students is an investment in the future of our community and asks for your support in that. **If passed, this budget will allow the district to maintain all current programs.**

In this budget is a tax levy increase of \$230,146 (1.4%), which **DOES NOT EXCEED** our maximum allowable tax cap (1.8% this year). We have

been careful to ensure this budget is representative of Lansingburgh's mission statement to "provide a safe and nurturing educational environment where high expectations, rigor, life-long learning and civic responsibility are developed and encouraged."

Also, on the ballot this year is a proposition asking voters to approve the creation of a Capital Reserve Fund. If voters approve the creation of the fund, the district can use it to set aside savings to help pay for future construction projects. Any future spending from this fund would also require voter approval.

As in years past, our district continues to avoid any erratic tax levy changes, while providing high-quality education for the children of the Lansingburgh community. If you have any questions about any aspect of the budget, please email me (aabitabile@lansingburgh.org) or call me at 518-233-6850. I will be more than happy to speak with you further about it.

Ever Upwards,

Dr. Antonio W. Abitabile, Ed. D.
LCSD Superintendent

School District Budget Notice

Overall Budget Proposal	Budget Adopted for the 2022-23 School Year	Budget Proposed for the 2023-24 School Year	Contingency Budget for the 2023-24 School Year *
Total Budgeted Amount, Not Including Separate Propositions	\$ 57,383,864	\$60,541,069	\$59,999,516
Increase/Decrease for the 2023-24 School Year		\$3,157,205	\$2,615,652
Percentage Increase/Decrease in Proposed Budget		5.50 %	4.56% %
Change in the Consumer Price Index		8.0%	
A. Proposed Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount	\$16,438,990	\$16,669,136	
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)	\$16,438,990	\$16,669,136	\$16,669,136
F. Total Permissible Exclusions	\$571,480	\$504,273	
G. School Tax Levy Limit, <u>Excluding</u> Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$15,867,510	\$16,164,863	
H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, <u>Excluding</u> Levy to Support Library Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions (E – B – F + D)	\$15,867,510	\$16,164,863	
I. Difference: G – H (Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval – See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions) **	\$0	\$0	
Administrative Component	\$5,219,590	\$5,599,367	\$5,565,866
Program Component	\$43,131,776	\$46,466,677	\$45,961,459
Capital Component	\$9,032,499	\$8,475,023	\$8,472,191
*Under a contingency budget, the District may not raise the tax levy over the prior year. In addition, the District cannot purchase any equipment, student supplies and materials, transfer funds to the Capital fund, allow buildings and grounds to be used by the public, or provide salary increases to non-contractual personnel.			
** 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
			\$
			\$
			\$

Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings¹

Under the Budget Proposed for the 2023-24 School Year

\$528

The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2023-24 by the qualified voters of the Lansingburgh Central School District, Rensselaer County, New York, will be held at Lansingburgh High School and Turnpike Elementary school(s) in said district on Tuesday, May 16, 2023 between the hours of 12:00pm and 9:00 pm, prevailing time in the locations listed above, at which time the polls will be opened to vote by voting ballot or machine.

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



BUDGET Q & A

Q: What happens if the budget fails?

A: If the budget is not approved, then the Board of Education has the option to:
1. Put up the same budget for a revote 2. Put up a new budget for revote
3. Adopt a Contingent Budget

Q: What if the second vote fails?

A: If the budget were to fail a second time, the Board of Education must adopt a contingent budget.

Q: What is a contingent budget?

A: A contingent budget is one where the Tax Levy cannot exceed that of the previous year. In addition, the administrative portion of the budget must be equal to or less than the percent from the previous year's budget, and all non-contingent items cannot be included in the budget.

Q: What are contingent items?

A: Legal Expenses – Debt Service, Principal, and Interest Judgements
Other Legal Obligations – Social Security and other payroll taxes and assessments, Preexisting contractual obligations.
Expenditures specifically authorized by statute: Transportation, Textbooks, Supplies for Loan to Pupils, Membership in NYS School Board Association, Convention and Conference Expenses, District's Share of Services Provided by BOCES, Health Services, Student Accident Insurance, In-Service Training for Teachers, Child Nutrition Programs and other items necessary to maintain Lansingburgh educational programs.

Q: What are Non-Contingent Items?

- A:**
- Rental of office equipment
 - Use of school buildings by outside organizations except where there is no identifiable extra cost to the district, or such cost is fully paid by a donation before the activity occurs
 - Capital expenditures (except in an emergency)
 - Transportation and maintenance of interscholastic athletic teams
 - Equipment purchases
 - Pupil uniforms whether for athletic activities or otherwise.
 - Student Supplies

None of the items listed above would be allowed under a contingent budget

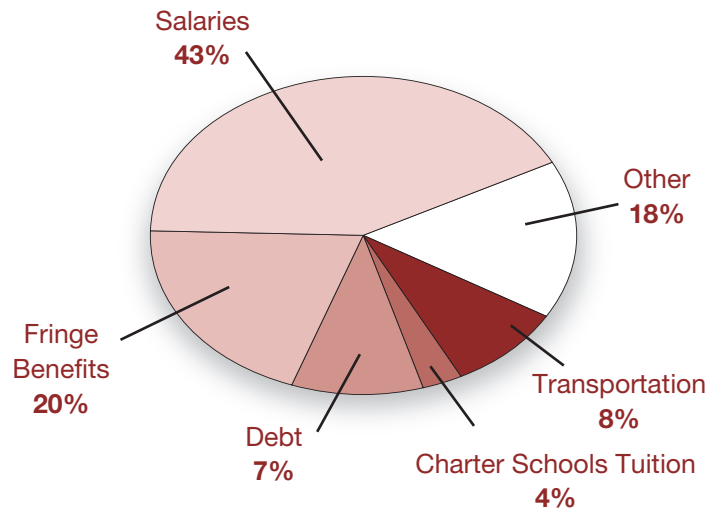
Senior Citizen School Tax Exemption Information

Annual Income	Percentage Assessed Valuation Exempt From Taxation
\$29,000	50 percent
\$30,000	45 percent
\$31,000	40 percent
\$32,000	35 percent
\$32,900	30 percent
\$33,800	25 percent
\$34,700	20 percent
\$35,600	15 percent
\$36,500	10 percent
\$37,400	5 percent

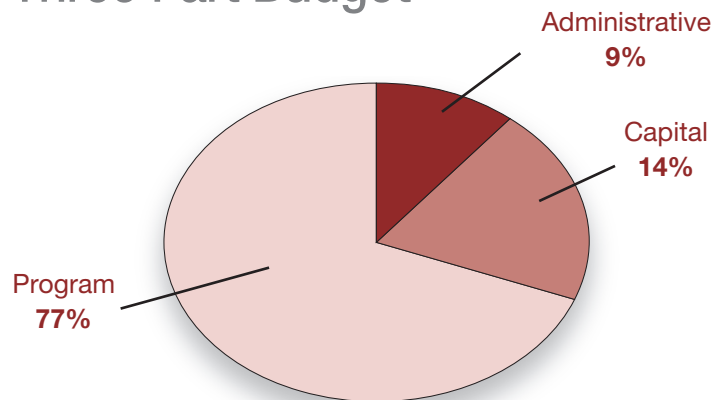
The Lansingburgh School District will allow a percentage school tax exemption on real property owned by persons 65 years of age or over. Taxpayers must meet the statutory qualifications set forth in Section 467 of the Real Property Tax Law of the State of New York. The annual income scale and the tax exemption percentage are listed to the left.

Note: Applications approved by the city or town tax assessor's office will automatically be applied to your school district taxes.

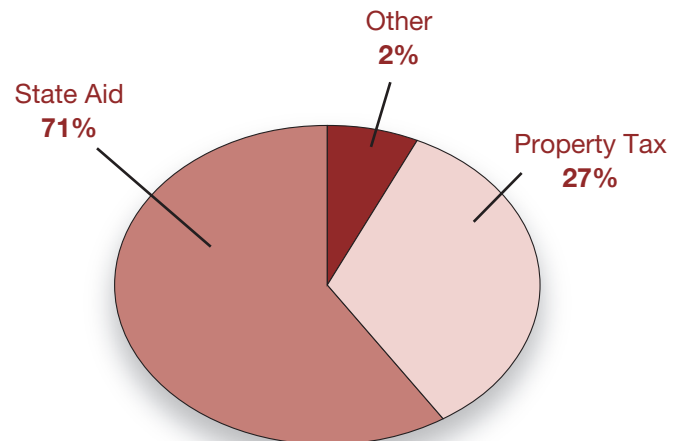
2023 – 2024 Proposed Budget



Three Part Budget



2023 – 2024 Revenue





Multi-Year Improvement Plan a Success

Lansingburgh Central School District is proud to announce Knickerbacker Middle School has received an accountability status of “Local Support and Improvement” (LSI) - the best possible school accountability status - from the New York State Education Department (NYSED). Under the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), public school districts nationwide are held accountable for how their students succeed. ESSA is the primary federal law governing national K-12 public education.

Each state has its own accountability system based on ESSA criteria. New York classifies schools into different accountability categories by considering multiple factors. These include student academic performance, absenteeism, student growth and more. NYSED accountability categories from highest to lowest are:

- **Local Support and Improvement (LSI, previously known as “In Good Standing”)**. The highest possible accountability status.
- **Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI)**
- **Targeted Support and Improvement (TSI)**

All schools, no matter their accountability status, are encouraged by NYSED to continuously improve, which is why “In Good Standing” was updated to the LSI status. LSI is the highest achievable status, but the modified name is meant to encourage schools meeting NYS regulatory education requirements to not be complacent and continue striving for ongoing improvement.

In December 2018, Lansingburgh was informed Knickerbacker Middle School (KMS) had been identified as a Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI) school. School and district administration began planning right away and by January 2019 a multi-year process to improve upon the school’s CSI determination was in motion. Step one was developing an improvement plan (per NYSED, a School Comprehensive Education Plan) that would be implemented at the start of the following school year. The KMS improvement plan was put into action at the start of the 2019-2020 School Year and was updated each following year based on student and school data.

Examples of some key strategies from the 2022-2023 version of the KMS improvement plan include the following.

Ally Program: Formed with the intent of ensuring every KMS student has a teacher, staff member, or counselor to reach out to for support. The program is based on individual students’ needs. Some students meet with their allies weekly, some meet monthly and some quarterly or only as needed. This includes checking in during lunches, after school meetings, and quarterly scheduled ally events at school. The program has helped build closer relationships between KMS teachers/staff and students to ensure their well-being and academic success.

21st Century After School Program: In the 2022-2023 School Year, the district began this grant-funded after school program for KMS students

and it has since expanded to Lansingburgh High School as well. It offers multiple activities/clubs that increase student engagement in the school environment and help them meet standards in core academic subjects (reading, math).

On March 16, 2023, Superintendent Dr. Antonio Abitabile, Assistant Superintendent Rebecca McGrouty and KMS Principal Carrie Phelan gathered middle school faculty/staff together to inform them the school’s yearslong efforts had paid off. KMS had improved its NYS accountability status and all in attendance at the meeting were thanked for their dedication to making it possible. Of note is that this goal was accomplished even with three school years in a row facing varying levels of COVID-19 disruption.

“To demonstrate this level of improvement over these past very difficult three years is a testament to the level of commitment that our families, students and faculty/staff have invested in this process. Ultimately, it has made us a better district overall and we look forward to continued improvement in the future,” said Dr. Abitabile after the meeting.

Principal Phelan added “I’m so proud to be part of Knickerbacker Middle School, where our teachers and staff always come together with the best interest of our students to make the necessary improvements. Lansingburgh is a place where the administrators at the district level are so supportive of the schools and our surrounding school community is equally supportive. This is what makes our school and district such a special place.”

The district wishes to thank all the members of the Knickerbacker Middle School community (teachers, staff, administrators, students and their families) for helping make the school the best it can be.





LANSINGBURGH
— CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT —

55 New Turnpike Road
Troy, New York 12182

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BUDGET VOTE

BUDGET AND
BOARD OF
EDUCATION
VOTE

TUESDAY
MAY 16, 2023

*This newsletter is published
by the B.O.E as a community
service to inform the public of
school news and business.
Board of Education, 55 New
Turnpike Road, Troy, New York,
12182. Phone: (518) 233-6850.*

Lansingburgh Voting Districts

Voting District 1:

Lansingburgh High School Gym (320 7th Ave.)

The voting location for those living north of 101st St to the south of 118th St.

Voting District 2:

Turnpike Elementary School Gym (55 New Turnpike Rd.)

The voting location for those living north of 118th St to the end of Pleasantdale; Northern Drive;
Corliss Park; Miami Beach Estates; Highpointe; all of Brunswick 7; and all of Speigletown.

Absentee Ballots

Applications for absentee ballots are obtainable from the District Clerk at the District Office (55 New Turnpike Road, Troy, NY). Completed absentee ballot applications must be received by the District Clerk at least seven (7) days before the election if the ballot is to be mailed to the voter, or the day before the election if the ballot is to be delivered personally to the voter. Absentee ballots must be received by the District Clerk no later than 5:00 PM, prevailing time, on May 16, 2023.

Board of Education

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