



Red Creek Central School District

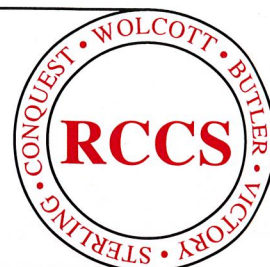
NEWSLETTER

PUBLISHED FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE RESIDENTS OF THE RED CREEK SCHOOL DISTRICT

Volume 42

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Number 2



Inside: 2021-22 Budget & Voter Information

BUDGET HEARING: Tues., May 4, 2021 at 6:30 p.m., High School Auditorium

BUDGET VOTE: Tues., May 18, 2021 from Noon - 9 p.m., High School Main Foyer

Introducing Mr. Larry Lang

Mr. Lawrence (Larry) Lang has joined us as Athletic Director / Director of IT / Dean of Students.

Mr. Lang comes from Clyde-Savannah Central Schools after serving as their Assistant Principal 6-12, Athletic Director, and most recently, Director of PE and Athletics. He is the Wayne County Athletic Association President and a member of the Section V Athletic Council.

Prior to Clyde-Savannah, Mr. Lang was a Physical Education teacher in the Seneca Falls CSD for 18 years and coached several sports during his time there.

He lives in Seneca Falls with his wife (Mary Lou), and two daughters (Haley and Hannah). In his spare time, he likes to golf, work out, run, and spend time with his family.

He looks forward to working with administration, faculty, staff, students, board, and the community at Red Creek CSD.



A Senior Year Like No Other

The Red Creek Class of 2021 has experienced a senior year like no other. Through tough times, they stuck together and created an everlasting bond while still maintaining their six feet of distance.

This class has worked through many challenges: canceled events, virtual learning, and split classes – just to name a few! The seniors were able to safely enjoy a few mornings before the start of the school day watching the sunrise together, hanging out, eating breakfast and enjoying each other's company. There were raffles, fun and silly games like "Minute to Win It," and time to celebrate their senior year.

New this year, students were invited to go snow tubing. Ms. Czeck, Senior Class Advisor, commented "It was amazing watching these students laugh,

have fun, and grow strong as a team, as well as build connections and bonds." As more events are being scheduled, students are enthusiastic to bring back a 'normal' senior year.

Up next for our seniors will be their Senior Bash (Lock-In), White Water Rafting, the Senior Picnic, and last but not least, finishing out their high school career with a memorable graduation ceremony.



From the desk of Cynthia Hay, Director of Curriculum

Literacy Initiatives at Red Creek

Recognizing the fundamental importance of reading fluency for everyone, the Red Creek Central School District is strategically integrating the "Science of Reading Instruction" into curriculum and daily classroom practices. The goal is to increase the number of students reading at grade level and to see measurable improvement on individual benchmark assessments.

UPK – Grade 2 teachers have integrated a research-based curriculum of daily phonemic and phonological awareness this year, known as Heggerty Phonological & Phonemic Awareness. These scientific terms may sound unfamiliar, but the concept is basic and straightforward – phonemic awareness is the ability to identify and manipulate sounds (phonemes) in spoken words. Phonological awareness is a good predictor of future reading success. Many teachers have incorporated the practices of David A. Kilpatrick, author of *Equipped for Reading Success*, into their lessons. These include practical ideas that can be used in the classroom to

further develop phonemic awareness and fluent word recognition.

Red Creek has also been focused on getting all elementary, special education, and reading teachers trained in Language Essentials for Teachers of Reading and Spelling, aka LETRS. This training gives teachers the knowledge necessary to transform literacy instruction by focusing on the fundamentals of the science of reading.

A team of Red Creek early literacy educators participated in a New York State targeted selection group focused on improving literacy instruction. This targeted selection group is a consortium of schools led by literacy specialists appointed by the State Education Department. These leaders provided the group with professional development in the form of collaboration time with other districts sharing the common goal of improving literacy practices. The Red Creek team has identified that curriculum, professional development, and consistency are key areas of focus for our district.

Social Emotional Learning at Red Creek

The district continues to focus on the Social and Emotional (SEL) development of students. Research indicates that students receiving quality SEL instruction demonstrate better academic performance, improved attitudes and behaviors, fewer negative behaviors, and reduced emotional stress. The district has structured each school day with a time slot for students to experience Community Circles. Community Circles provide a format in which all voices are equally heard. The district has continued the Positive Behavioral Intervention (PBIS) teams at each building. These teams are led by Laura Andrus, fifth grade teacher, Sharon Rosati, district social worker, and Kathryn Armstrong, high school guidance counselor. PBIS teams focus on proactive ways to prevent and to solve school problems related to student behavior.

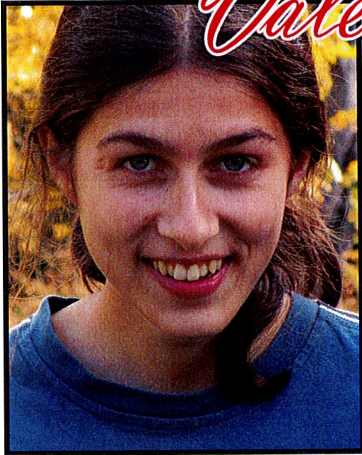
The district also has two Restorative Practices leaders, Andrew Rupert, third grade teacher, and Steven Parshall, elementary guidance counselor. Restorative Practices leaders focus on the development of systems and structures district-wide to change the way we think about behavior and discipline. Restorative Practices focus on building capacity in the five core social and emotional competencies that New York State has endorsed: self-awareness, self-management, social awareness, relationship building, and responsible decision making. The district has also formed a committee of stakeholders to help move this work forward, including reviewing and updating the student handbook.

Red Creek Central School District

Top Five Graduates

Congratulations!

Valedictorian



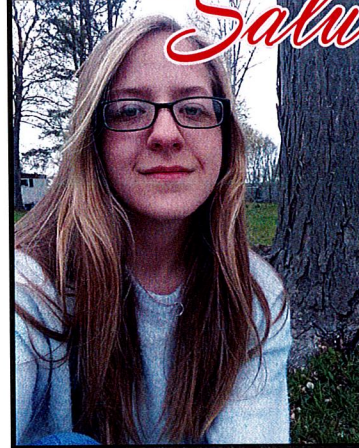
Ellen Haas
99.13%

Ellen Haas, daughter of Dale and Joanna Haas of Red Creek, NY has applied to Paul Smith's College, SUNY Cobleskill, and Finger Lakes Community College.

Ellen has been active in Varsity Indoor and Outdoor Track and Field, Drama Club, Science Honor Society, Spanish Honor Society, Envirothon, Science Olympiad, Class Marshall, and Photography Club.

Ellen's major will be Environmental Studies or Horticulture when she decides which college she will attend next fall.

Salutatorian



Dainaira Goldthwait
99.11%

Dainaira Goldthwait, daughter of Pamela Russo of Red Creek, NY has applied to Clarkson University, University at Buffalo, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Rochester Institute of Technology, and Syracuse University.

Dainaira has been active in Varsity Cross Country, Varsity Track and Field, Student Council, Spanish Honor Society, National Honor Society and Science Olympiad.

Dainaira will be attending the University at Buffalo next fall pursuing a career in Aerospace Engineering.

Congratulations to the top five seniors of the Class of 2021!

11 of our 57 seniors attained a cumulative average of 90 or above.

GRADUATION CEREMONY

District administrators are in the process of planning the Commencement Ceremony for graduating seniors, while adhering to state and local health and safety guidelines. More information will be forthcoming.



W. Brody Smith - 98.88%

W. Brody Smith, son of W. Steven and Molly Smith of Sterling, NY has applied to the University of Rochester.

Brody has been involved with National Honor Society, Spanish Honor Society, Science Honor Society, Science Olympiad, Envirothon, and Varsity Club. Brody competes in Cross Country, and Indoor and Outdoor Track and Field.

Brody is planning on attending the University of Rochester and pursuing a career in Biomedical Engineering.

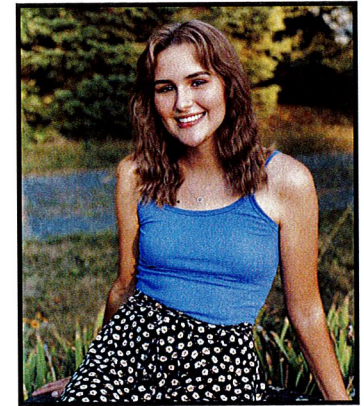


Sarah Paul - 98.80%

Sarah Paul, daughter of Julie Whitman of Martville, NY and Stephen Paul of Brazil, Indiana has applied to Reed College, Indiana University and the University of Kentucky.

Sarah has been active in Varsity Track and Field, Class Secretary, Chorus President, National Honor Society, Drama Club, Varsity Cheerleading, and All Star Cheer.

Sarah will be studying Political Science at either Reed College in Oregon or at the Indiana University next fall.



Emilia Bennett - 98.79%

Emilia Bennett, daughter of Merrilee Witherell and Steve Bennett of Victory, NY has been accepted at Colgate University and SUNY Buffalo.

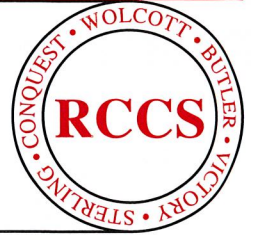
Emilia has been active in Varsity Basketball, National Spanish Honor Society, National Honor Society, Vice President of Student Council, Chorus, Select Choir, All-County Chorus, Area All-State Chorus, Band, Jazz Band, Spanish Club, and Varsity Club.

Emilia will be studying Natural Science with a concentration in Marine Science next fall when she attends Colgate University.

2021-2022 BUDGET



Red Creek Central School District 2021-2022 BUDGET & VOTER INFORMATION



On the Ballot:

PROPOSITION #1

Budget Approval

Voters of the Red Creek Central School District are requested to adopt a budget for the 2021-22 school year in the amount of \$23,702,538 in General Fund expenditures and to expend such funds as may be authorized by the Board of Education beginning July 1, 2021.

PROPOSITION #2

School Bus Purchase Approval

Voter approval is requested for the purchase and/or lease of one (1) 66-passenger school bus and two (2) 30-passenger school buses with diesel engines for a total amount not to exceed \$325,000. Eighty-five to ninety percent of the monies for such purchases will come from the State in the form of Transportation Aid.

Board of Education Membership Election

Three (3) vacancies on the Board of Education are up for election at this year's Annual Meeting/Election. They are for three year terms beginning on July 1, 2021 and ending on June 30, 2024. As per voter approval in May 1994, seats for the Board of Education are elected on an at-large basis. This means that if three seats are vacant, the top three vote getters will assume office. Seven (7) candidates have filed nominating petitions for the three (3) vacancies: **Katherine A. Madigan**, Main Street, Red Creek; **Christian A. Paige**, Old State Road, Cato; **Amy E. Sanzotta**, State Route 370, Red Creek; **Kimberly A. Allen**, Sterling Station Road, Sterling; **William K. DuMont**, Church Street, Sterling; **Jolean B. Bliss**, Jenkins Road, Red Creek and incumbent **Kyle D. Meddaugh**, State Route 104A, Red Creek.

CANDIDATES

★ Vote for any three (3) ★

Katherine A. Madigan

Christian A. Paige

Amy E. Sanzotta

Kimberly A. Allen

William K. DuMont

Jolean B. Bliss

Kyle D. Meddaugh *

Three (3) vacant seats

Three (3) ending
June 30, 2024

*Denotes incumbent

The vacant seats will be filled by the three (3)
highest vote getters (including write-ins).

Budgets Available

Line Item Composite Budgets will be available on May 4th, 2021 at the District Office, South Street Campus, Red Creek, New York. Stop by during regular business hours 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM, or contact the Business Office at 315-754-2011.

Plan to attend!

2021-22 BUDGET HEARING
Tuesday, May 4, 2021 7:00 PM
Red Creek High School Auditorium
QUESTIONS? Call 315-754-2010

Don't miss this important date! **VOTING**

Tuesday, May 18, 2021 Noon to 9 p.m.
Red Creek High School Main Foyer South St., Red Creek

VOTER QUALIFICATIONS

- ★ Citizen of the United States
 - ★ Eighteen (18) Years of Age or Over
 - ★ Resident of the School District for Thirty (30) Days
- Pre-Voter Registration Not Required

2021-2022 BUDGET

What you need to know:

WERE THERE ANY STAFF ADDITIONS OR REDUCTIONS IN THIS BUDGET?

There are no planned staff reductions based on the 2021-22 budget. All vacated positions will be evaluated based on the district's needs.

WILL RED CREEK GET ADDITIONAL STATE AID IN THE 2021-22 SCHOOL YEAR?

In the 2021-22 school year Red Creek will be receiving a 3.07% increase in State Aid, which translates to an amount equal to \$327,328.

HOW MUCH IS THE PROJECTED TAX LEVY INCREASE FOR 2021-22?

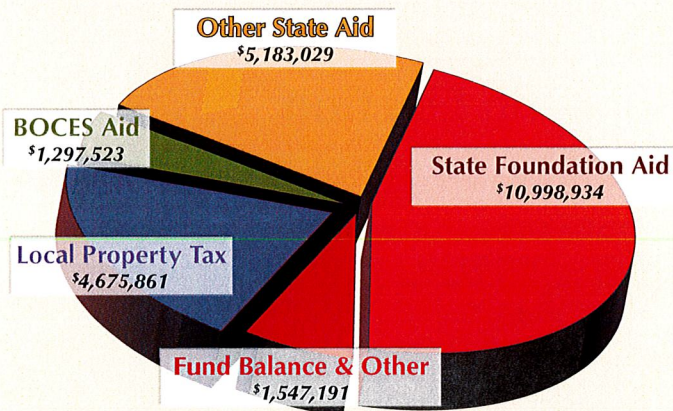
The tax levy will increase by 2.02%, or \$92,797, in 2021-22 as required by the tax cap law formula. Assuming no change in assessment or equalization rates, on average a person that paid \$1,000 in school taxes in 2020 will pay approximately \$20.00 more in 2021.

WHAT ARE THE MAJOR FACTORS IMPACTING THE 2021-22 BUDGET?

The district's health insurance consortium has approved an increase of 10% for 2021-22. This increase is reflected in the 2021-22 budget. Also, the mandated expenses for the Teachers Retirement and the Employees Retirement Systems have increased over the previous year. The District is also planning to replace a few pieces of aging equipment in this budget.

At a Glance:

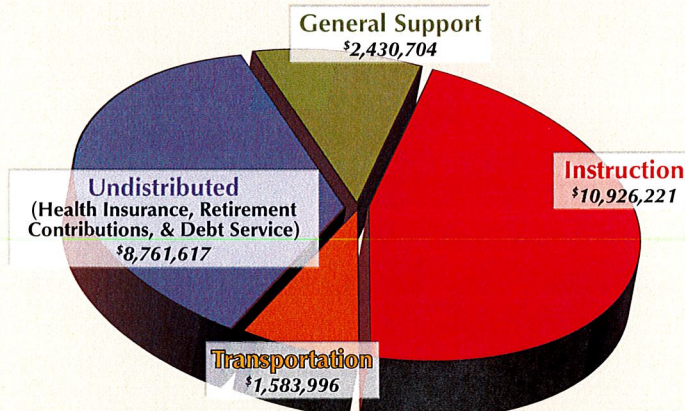
2021-22 BUDGET REVENUES Where our money comes from:



Explanation of Revenues

- The amount that the district will receive in Foundation Aid for the 2021-22 school year will increase approximately 3.07%.
- Students with Disabilities, Transportation, and Building Aid make up the major portion of the "Other State Aid" category and are paid by the State based on prior year expenditures.
- Major items in "Local Sources" include sales tax received from Wayne County, Interest and Earnings, and Appropriated Fund Balance from the prior year's budget. The Appropriated Fund Balance has been decreased for the 2021-22 school year.
- The district will increase the tax levy by 2.02% which is the mandated tax cap. This means if your assessment and/or equalization rates remained the same as prior year, your taxes may increase slightly with this budget.
- Local revenues are down due to a decrease in Appropriated Fund Balance and the elimination of Planned Fund Balance use. State sources have increased due to the 3.07% increase in Foundation Aid for the 2021-22 school year.

2021-22 BUDGET EXPENDITURES Where our money goes:



Explanation of Expenditures

- The budget for the 2021-22 school year is \$23,702,538, which is an increase of \$604,090 or 2.62% from the current budget.
- The Instruction section, which includes items such as teacher salaries, classroom textbooks and supplies, programs for students with disabilities, and interscholastic athletics, accounts for 46.1% of the overall budget and has increased \$265,531 or 2.5% from the current year.
- The increase in instructional costs includes more students in occupational education programs, residential special education placements, and salary increases.
- The Undistributed section of the budget accounts for 36.9% of the overall budget and includes such things as group health insurance, employee retirement system contributions, Social Security payments and debt service.
- The Undistributed section of the budget again includes a \$100,000 transfer to the Capital Fund for minor improvements to school district buildings in the form of a Capital Outlay Project. It is important to note that approximately 90% of this expense will be returned to the district in the form of Building Aid in the following year.

2021-2022 BUDGET

2021-2022 PROPOSED SCHOOL BUDGET

The Numbers:

SUMMARY OF APPROPRIATIONS

	ADOPTED BUDGET 2020-21	% TOTAL BUDGET 2020-21	PROPOSED * BUDGET 2021-22	% TOTAL BUDGET 2021-22
EXPENDITURES:				
General Support	\$ 2,418,434	10.5%	\$ 2,430,704	10.3%
Instruction	\$ 10,660,690	46.2%	\$ 10,926,221	46.1%
Transportation	\$ 1,326,994	5.7%	\$ 1,583,996	6.7%
Community Services	\$ -	0.0%	\$ -	0.0%
Undistributed	\$ 8,642,330	37.4%	\$ 8,761,617	36.9%
Planned Fund Balance	\$ 50,000	0.2%	\$ -	0.0%
GRAND TOTAL	\$ 23,098,448	100.0%	\$ 23,702,538	100.0%

SUMMARY OF REVENUES

	ADOPTED BUDGET 2020-21	% TOTAL BUDGET 2020-21	PROPOSED * BUDGET 2021-22	% TOTAL BUDGET 2021-22
LOCAL SOURCES:				
Property Tax	\$ 4,583,064	19.8%	\$ 4,675,861 **	19.7%
Planned Balance	\$ -	0.0%	\$ -	0.0%
Sales Tax	\$ 150,000	0.6%	\$ 150,000	0.6%
Interest and Earnings	\$ 4,000	0.0%	\$ 4,000	0.0%
Rentals	\$ 35,000	0.2%	\$ 35,000	0.2%
Other Sources	\$ 499,500	2.3%	\$ 494,300	2.1%
Appropriated Fund Balance	\$ 724,033	3.1%	\$ 355,619	1.5%
Reserves (Unemployment, Retirement, Bus Purchase, Liability)	\$ 445,000	1.9%	\$ 445,000	1.9%
SUB TOTAL	\$ 6,440,597	27.9%	\$ 6,159,780	26.0%
STATE SOURCES:				
Foundation Aid	\$ 10,771,606	46.6%	\$ 10,998,934	46.4%
Other State Aid	\$ 4,740,415	20.5%	\$ 5,183,029	21.9%
BOCES Aid	\$ 1,082,485	4.7%	\$ 1,297,523	5.5%
Textbook Aid	\$ 63,345	0.3%	\$ 63,272	0.2%
SUB TOTAL	\$ 16,657,851	72.1%	\$ 17,542,758	74.0%
GRAND TOTAL	\$ 23,098,448	100.0%	\$ 23,702,538	100.0%

* Estimate

** Estimated Tax Levy INCREASE = 2.02%

Tax Rate on True Valuation

2020-21 Actual Tax Rate on True Value	\$13.73
2021-22 Tax Rate on True Value (Estimate based on 2020 assessments and equalization rates)	\$14.00 *

* The Tax Rate on True Valuation and the final Local Tax Levy will be determined in August 2021 or as soon as the certified tax rolls (assessments) and equalization rates (as set by the State) are finalized.

Absentee Ballot for School District Elections

Requests for absentee ballots to be mailed to the absentee voter must be received at the District Office on South Street, Red Creek, New York, at least seven (7) days in advance of the election on May 18, 2021. Requests for absentee ballots to be picked up personally by the absentee voter can be accepted until 5:00 PM, local time, the day before the vote on May 17, 2021.

Absentee ballots must be received by the District Clerk not later than 5:00 PM on Tuesday, May 18, 2021.



Superintendent Brian Corey

Message from the Superintendent

It has been my pleasure serving the Red Creek Central School District as the Superintendent of Schools starting in the 2018-19 school year. I continue to be truly impressed with the high level of pride and dedication to the school by the community, staff, and students. With the support of the community, we have been able to provide

many extraordinary opportunities for our students while affording them a broad range of academic offerings. Our students are able to enjoy high quality instruction and support from our faculty and staff.

I would like to extend a sincere congratulations to our senior class who will be graduating at the end of June. This class has experienced challenges unlike any other senior class has ever experienced. Despite a sudden and unexpected change in learning through changing instructional platforms these

students have prevailed. I believe that they are prepared for college and careers, but most importantly to be productive members of society.

Our budget for the 2021-22 school year is sound and includes continued support and development for initiatives that we implemented in previous school years. These additions focus on student programming, safety, student supports and services, and instructional assistance in content areas. We are very proud of these accomplishments and plan to continue development of these areas as well as other areas of the district. The budget meets the Tax Cap Law allowable amount which is a 2.02%, affording the district the opportunity to increase our tax levy by \$92,797 from the 2020-21 budget. The overall proposed budget is \$23,702,538.

This year the Board of Education has three (3) open seats, all for 3 year terms. Seven candidates have filled out petitions to run (see inside).

Along with the budget proposition is a proposition to purchase school buses and the election of three Board of Education members. I urge you to review the budget materials that can be found on the district website at rccsd.org. Please feel free to email me with any questions that you may have. The budget voting will take place on Tuesday, April 18 from noon until 9:00 P.M.

I would like to thank you for your support, and if you should have any questions, please contact me at brian.corey@rccsd.org.

— Dr. Brian M. Corey

Universal Pre-Kindergarten

The Red Creek Central School District is inviting parents of preschoolers to register their children for the 2021-2022 Universal Pre-Kindergarten program.

- To be eligible for the UPK program this fall, a child must be four years old on or before **December 1, 2021** and be a district resident.
- It is our intention to provide bus transportation for students who are 4 years old.
- UPK Registration will be held on **May 10th, 2021, at 6:00 pm via Zoom meeting**. The link will be located on our website rccsd.org.
- UPK registration papers are available on the school website at www.rccsd.org under the "Departments/Services" tab.
- If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Dennis Taylor, M.W. Cuyler Elementary School Principal, at (315) 754-2100.

#RAMSPROUD

VOTE DATE — TUESDAY, MAY 18, 12 - 9 P.M.

RED CREEK CENTRAL SCHOOL
SOUTH STREET, P.O. BOX 190
RED CREEK, NEW YORK 13143
www.rccsd.org

Board of Education

Kyle D. Meddaugh, *PRESIDENT*
Wm. Steven Smith, *VICE-PRESIDENT*
Lawrence E. Curtis, *MEMBER*
Bradford H. Dates, *MEMBER*
Molly L. Goodwin, *MEMBER*
Brian L. Nodine, *MEMBER*
Darrell T. Uetz, *MEMBER*

Superintendent of Schools

Dr. Brian M. Corey

Business Administrator

Mr. William R. McDonald

RURAL or P.O. BOXHOLDERS

U.S. POSTAGE

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