



Wildcat Connections

Wheatland-Chili Central School District

2022-2023 Budget

Superintendent's Message

Dear Community Members,

We continue to see much of school life return to normal. Together, we've made it through so much change this school year, and we're looking ahead to the next. We've been busy preparing the 2022-2023 school budget. We are pleased to report that this budget allows us to maximize our pursuit of academic excellence and maintains and enhances our present programs and facilities.

To that end, we are also presenting for your review and approval a proposed Capital project which would have no additional tax impact due to its timing. Our recent building study showed several capital needs to be addressed in the next several years. This leg of the work would amount to \$5.8 Million in expenditures with improvements at both school buildings and the transportation center. If approved, work would be done starting in summer 2023. We shared project details in its own newsletter a couple weeks ago.

Throughout all we've been through, we continue to make our Wheatland-Chili students our top priority. Investing in student success ensures the continued vitality of our diverse, tight-knit community.

Please use the material in this newsletter to make an informed vote on the school budget and election of Board of Education members on Tuesday, May 17, 2022.

Lynda Quick, Esq.
Superintendent of Schools



2022-2023
BUDGET VOTE
May 17, 2022
 7 a.m. – 9 p.m.
 Middle/High
 School Gym

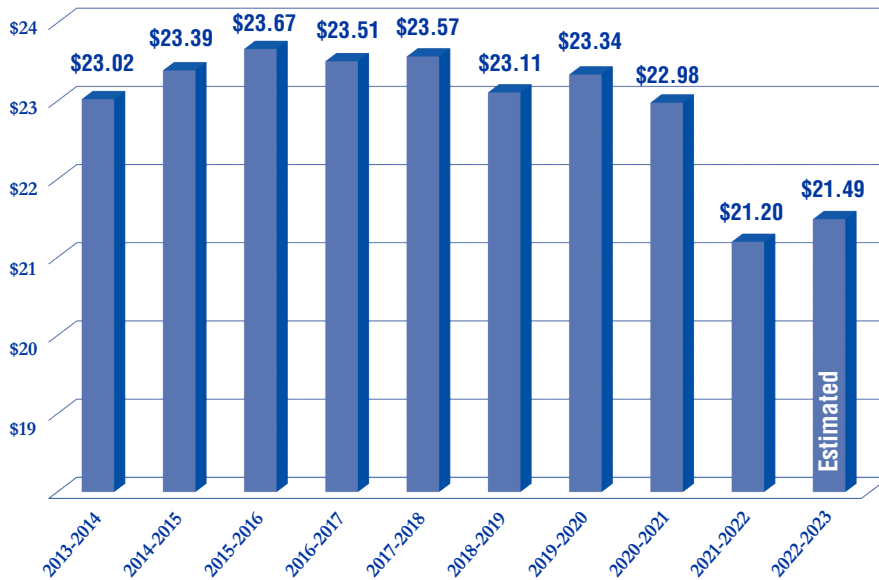
Inside this issue:

- Proposed Budget Facts
- The Property Tax Cap
- 2022-2023 Proposed Budget
- Projected Tax Bill Changes
- Mini-renovation Project
- Board Of Education Candidates

2022-2023 Proposed Budget Facts

- Budget decrease of 0.35% over the current year's budget
- Full value tax rate is projected to increase by approximately 1.37%.

Full Value Tax Rates



Where can I find budget information?

- Contact the District Office at (585) 889-6247 with questions.
- Visit the District website at www.wheatland.k12.ny.us and click on "2022-2023 Budget Information" Quick Link on the left-hand side.



Proposition 1:

Budget Resolution

SHALL the Board of Education of the Wheatland-Chili Central School District be authorized to spend for school purposes during the 2022-2023 fiscal year **\$20,836,533** and to levy the necessary tax therefor?

Proposition 2:

School Transportation Purchases

SHALL the following proposition be adopted: RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the Wheatland-Chili Central School District be authorized to withdraw and expend from the District's existing "Capital Reserve Fund 2018 (Bus and Grounds Equipment)" a sum of money up to Two Hundred Twenty-Seven Thousand Dollars (\$227,000), less trade-in allowance, to be used for the purchase of two (2) replacement vehicles for the transportation of District students, those vehicles being one (1) 65-passenger bus, and one (1) 10-passenger student transport van. Also being purchased is one (1) commercial wide area mower to be used for grounds maintenance.

Proposition 3:

Classroom Furnishings Purchase

SHALL the following proposition be adopted: RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the Wheatland-Chili Central School District be authorized to withdraw and expend from the District's existing "Capital Reserve Fund 2021 (School Equipment)" a sum of money up to One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000) to be used for the purchase and/or replacement of the Middle/High School classroom furnishings to support instruction.

Proposition 4:

2022 Capital Improvement Project

SHALL the following proposition be adopted: RESOLVED, that the Board of Education (the "Board") of the Wheatland-Chili Central School District (the "District") is hereby authorized (i) to undertake a capital improvement project consisting of alterations, renovations and improvements to the District's school buildings and associated facilities, including external work, site improvements

for various school purposes, and other appurtenant and related improvements, and the acquisition and installation in and around the foregoing improvements of original furnishings, equipment, machinery, apparatus and technology improvements, and other services incidental thereto (collectively, the "Project") and (ii) to expend \$235,000 from the District's existing Capital Reserve Fund 2017 (Facilities), the total estimated maximum cost of the Project not to exceed \$5,800,000, with such cost being raised by the expenditure of such \$235,000 from the Capital Reserve Fund 2017 (Facilities), with the balance thereof, not to exceed \$5,565,000, being raised by a tax upon the taxable property of the District to be levied and collected in annual installments as provided in Section 416 of the Education Law, with such tax to be offset by State aid available therefore, and in anticipation of such tax, by obligations of the District as may be necessary.

The Property Tax Cap

Although New York has what is commonly called a “two percent property tax cap,” the law does not restrict the proposed tax levy increases to two percent. The law establishes a tax levy limit for each school district. The tax levy limit allows school districts to increase their property tax levy from one year to the next by two percent or the rate of inflation, whichever is less, based on a multi-step formula. School districts are then allowed to take certain exemptions that may increase their tax levy limits to more than two percent or the inflation rate.

If a school district’s proposed tax levy increase is within its limit, a simple majority of voters is needed for budget approval.

The tax levy limit with exclusions for Wheatland-Chili was calculated at 2.42% for 2022-2023. The adopted budget for 2022-2023 is based on the tax levy increase of 2.42%, as well. Therefore a simple majority of voters is needed for budget approval.

Does the tax levy indicate how much my taxes will rise?

No. The tax levy is the amount of money the school district can raise through property taxes. The amount an individual will pay to contribute to the levied amount is the tax rate. Tax rates paid by individual taxpayers may differ greatly from one household to another based on such things as equalization rates and assessed property values. Based on current data, the anticipated increase to the projected 2022-2023 tax rate is 1.37%.

What happens if voters reject the proposed tax levy and the budget is defeated?

If voters in the district reject the proposed budget, the school board may put up the same or a revised budget for a second vote, or adopt a contingency budget with a tax levy no greater than what was levied the previous year. If voters reject the spending plan twice, schools must adopt a budget with the same tax levy as the prior year – essentially a zero percent cap. For Wheatland-Chili, we have created a 2022-2023 budget with a 0.35% decrease. The contingency budget was calculated under NYS Education Law. Certain equipment purchases and capital projects not necessary to maintain the health and safety of the students, and some raises for non-union employees, must be eliminated under the law. For Wheatland-Chili, that would mean a minimum of \$391,263 reduction in a contingency budget.

Annual Budget Vote

Tuesday, May 17, 2022 | 7 a.m. – 9 p.m.

Middle/ High School Gym • 940 North Road, Scottsville, NY

VOTER QUALIFICATIONS

Voters must be:

- A citizen of the United States;
- At least eighteen years of age; and
- A legal resident within the District for a period of thirty (30) days next preceding the meeting at which he/she offers to vote.

RESIDENTS UNABLE TO VOTE BECAUSE OF MILITARY SERVICE

Residents unable to vote because of military service (as defined under the Commissioner’s Regulation Part 122, and by reason of such military service, is absent from the school district in which he or she is qualified to vote on the day of registration or election; or a spouse, parent, child or dependent of a voter as described above, accompanying or being with such voter, if a qualified voter of the State of New York and a resident of the District) may request applications for absentee ballots.

Applications may be requested from District Clerk Diane Stocking at (585) 889-6247 or by email to diane_stocking@wheatland.k12.ny.us.

Applications must be received by the District Clerk no later than 25 days prior to the vote on May 17, 2022. In all cases, the ballots must be returned to the District Office no later than 5 p.m. on Tuesday, May 17, 2022.

BUDGET INFORMATION

Copies of the budget document will be available in the District Office, High School Office, Elementary School Office, Chili Library and Scottsville Library. See additional information at www.wheatland.k12.ny.us

The proposed budget will be discussed at an in-person public hearing on Monday, May 9, at 7 p.m. as part of the Board of Education meeting. Additional questions may be addressed to Lynda Quick, Superintendent at (585) 889-6246 or email at lynda_quick@wheatland.k12.ny.us.

School Board members are also eager to help constituents understand the spending plan and revenue picture and will be pleased to talk with community members.

ABSENTEE BALLOT

Residents who may qualify can vote by absentee ballot in the budget vote to be held on May 17, 2022. Residents unable to vote in person because of disabilities, illness, travel, or other reasons listed as valid under Election Law, may request applications for absentee ballots by contacting District Clerk Diane Stocking at (585) 889-6247, or in person at 13 Beckwith Avenue, Scottville, on weekdays between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. Residents who do not wish to vote in person for fear of contracting or spreading COVID-19 may also request an absentee ballot.

Requests for applications must be received by the District Clerk at least seven days before the vote, if mailed, and the day prior to the vote if in person. In all cases, the ballots must be returned to the District Office no later than 5 p.m. on May 17, 2022.

2022-2023 Proposed Budget

Administrative Budget	2021-2022	2022-2023	\$ Change	% Change
Board of Education	25,188	25,500	312	
Central Administration	278,663	288,424	9,761	
Finance	327,227	339,014	11,787	
Legal, Personnel, and Information	210,863	209,341	-1,522	
Central Data Processing	187,050	192,000	4,950	
Insurance, BOCES Administrative/Capital	277,272	289,442	12,170	
Instruction, Administrative	539,448	449,349	-90,099	
Curriculum	226,452	203,863	-22,589	
Employee Benefits	666,403	693,221	26,818	
Total Administrative	2,738,566	2,690,154	-48,412	-1.77%

The **ADMINISTRATIVE** component provides for overall general support and management of the operations of the District and includes:

- Board of Education costs;
- Central and school administration;
- Finance (including tax collection, purchasing, legal and auditing expenses);
- Curriculum development; and
- BOCES administrative expenses.

Program Budget	2021-2022	2022-2023	\$ Change	% Change
In-Service Training	50,864	52,256	1,392	
Instruction, Other than Administrative	7,556,487	7,411,359	-145,128	
Library and Computer Instruction	1,041,571	1,137,423	95,852	
Counseling, Support, and Health Services	690,314	712,346	22,032	
Co-Curricular and Athletics	412,030	442,505	30,475	
Pupil Transportation	973,014	996,896	23,882	
Employee Benefits ¹	3,990,394	4,364,976	374,582	
Special Aid and Food Service Transfer	96,527	102,000	5,473	
Total Program	14,811,201	15,219,761	408,560	2.76%

The **PROGRAM** component is the largest portion of all planned expenditures for instruction and support services and includes:

- Instructional, co-curricular, and athletic programs;
- Counseling and health services; and
- Pupil transportation.

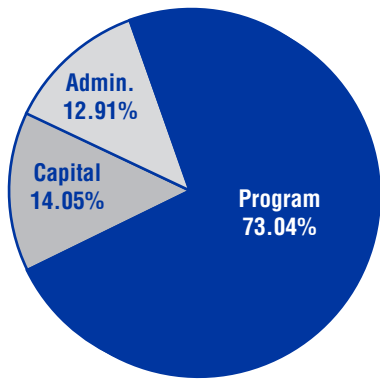
Capital Budget	2021-2022	2022-2023	\$ Change	% Change
Central Services, Maintenance and Operations	1,022,842	1,044,211	21,369	
Employee Benefits	277,285	312,519	35,234	
Debt Service, Energy Performance Contract	2,059,599	1,569,888	-489,711	
Total Capital	3,359,726	2,926,618	-433,108	-12.89%

The **CAPITAL** component includes costs associated with maintaining facilities and grounds:

- Building and equipment repairs;
- Custodial and maintenance supplies;
- Utilities; and
- Debt service.

Total Budget	\$20,909,493	\$20,836,533	\$-72,960	-0.35%
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2022-2023 Proposed Budget (cont.)



The Program component is the largest portion of the 2022-2023 budget, reflecting 73.04% of the total expenses. The Capital expenses represent 14.05% of the budget, with Administrative costs representing the smallest portion of the budget at 12.91%.



Projected Tax Bill Changes

Hypothetical home with \$100,000 assessed value.

Impact on Homeowners	Per Year	Per Month
Increase on tax bill (full value on \$100,000)	\$29.00	\$2.42
Increase on tax bill (full value with STAR on \$100,000)	\$20.30	\$1.69

Actual tax rates are finalized in August. The following assumptions were used for current tax rate estimates:

- State aid revenues as of April 7, 2022.
 - Assessed valuations and STAR exemptions estimates as of April 7, 2022.
 - Equalization rates are currently estimated at 89% for the town of Brighton, 91% for the town of Chili, 100% for the town of Caledonia, and 100% for the town of Wheatland, and will be finalized by August 2022.
 - The budgeted levy as projected above.
 - STAR Basic exemptions calculated at \$30,000 (may vary by towns).
- NOTE: Property assessments and equalization rates in the four municipalities will affect actual tax bill.

School District Budget Notice

Overall Budget Proposal	Budget Adopted for the 2021-22 School Year	Budget Proposed for the 2022-23 School Year	Contingency Budget for the 2022-23 School Year*
Total Budgeted Amount, Not Including Separate Propositions	\$20,909,493	\$20,836,533	\$20,445,270
Decrease for the 2022-23 School Year		-\$72,960	-\$464,223
Percentage Decrease in Proposed Budget		-0.35 %	-2.22 %
Change in the Consumer Price Index		4.7 %	
A. Proposed Tax Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount	\$9,804,107	\$10,041,347	
B. Levy to Support Library Debt, if Applicable	-	-	
C. Levy for Non-Excludable Propositions, if Applicable **	-	-	
D. Total Tax Cap Reserve Amount Used to Reduce Current Year Levy	-	-	
E. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy (A + B + C - D)	\$9,804,107	\$10,041,347	\$9,804,107
F. Total Permissible Exclusions	\$156,597	\$99,285	
G. School Tax Levy Limit, <u>Excluding</u> Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$9,647,510	\$9,942,062	
H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, <u>Excluding</u> Levy to Support Library Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions (E - B - F + D)	\$9,647,510	\$9,942,062	
I. Difference: (G – H); (Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval – See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions) **	\$0	\$0	
Administrative Component	\$2,738,566	\$2,690,154	\$2,659,524
Program Component	\$14,811,201	\$15,219,761	\$14,997,450
Capital Component	\$3,359,726	\$2,926,618	\$2,788,296

* Provide a statement of assumptions made in projecting a contingency budget for the 2022-23 school year, should the proposed budget be defeated pursuant to Section 2023 of the Education Law.

The contingency budget was calculated under NYS Education Law, section 2023. Actual line item appropriations under a contingency budget will be determined by the Board of Education. Certain equipment purchases and capital projects not necessary to maintain the health and safety of the students, and some raises for non-union employees, must be eliminated under the Education Law. (For the Wheatland-Chili Central School District, that would mean a minimum \$391,283 reduction in the 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
Bus Proposition	\$186,000
Bus and Grounds Equipment	\$41,000
Instructional Equipment	\$100,000

Under the Budget Proposed for the 2022-23 School Year

Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings ¹	\$632
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The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2022-23 by the qualified voters of the Wheatland-Chili Central School District, Monroe County, New York, will be held in the district's gymnasium at the High School on Tuesday, May 17, 2022, between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m., 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.

2022-2023 Projected Revenue

State and Federal Sources – \$9,205,229 (2.19% decrease from 2021-2022)

Projected state and federal aid, including foundation aid, lottery, BOCES, building, transportation, high cost, and other aids, plus Medicaid reimbursements.

Appropriated Reserves – \$200,000

The District will use reserves to the extent needed.

- Retirement Contribution Reserve – up to \$200,000

Appropriated Fund Balance – \$300,000

Projected unexpended funds plus unanticipated revenues used to offset the levy.

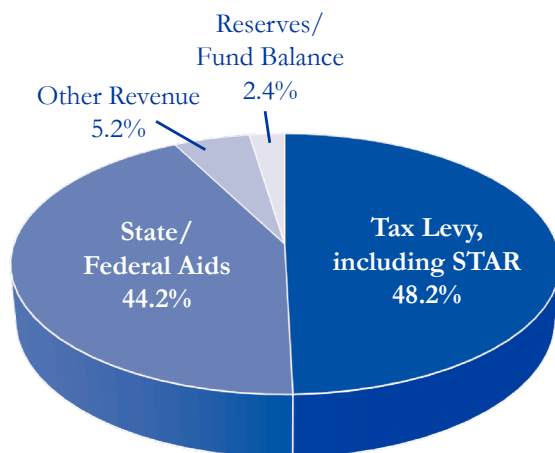
Other Sources – \$1,089,957

Other earnings, tuition from other schools and individuals, payments in lieu of taxes, rental of property and equipment, refunds from prior years, gifts, etc.

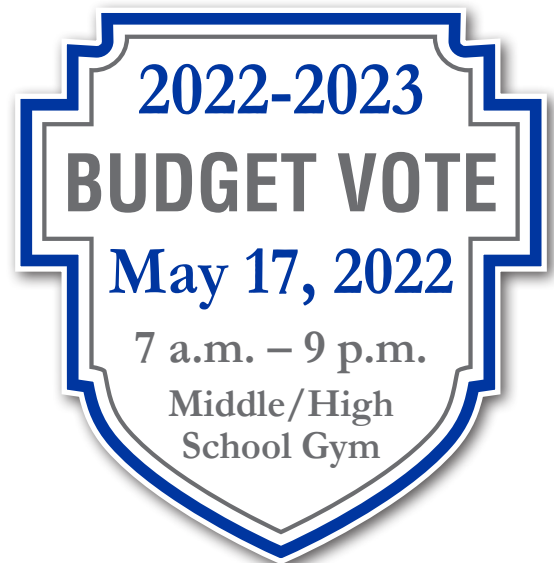
Property Tax Levy - \$10,041,347

Amount needed after all other revenue sources are projected. The estimated STAR portion is about \$1,209,731 of this total.

Total Budget - \$20,836,533
(0.35% decrease from 2021-2022)



2022-2023 Revenue



MINI-RENOVATION PROJECT

Wheatland-Chili CSD seeks to maximize state aid in order to make the most of the district's tax dollars. Continuing a strategy from last year, a mini-renovation project is again being proposed this year that will include flooring upgrades at the Middle/High School. This mini-renovation project takes advantage of capital project aid from the state. If this work was not performed as part of a capital project, the district would incur the full cost

of the work. By including the \$100,000 budget for this work in a mini-capital project within the proposed annual budget, the district will receive approximately \$74,900 in additional aid during the 2022-2023 school year. This is part of a long-range strategy in which the building aid returned in the following year will continue to fund additional mini-renovation projects as a regular part of the district's budget.

Board of Education Candidates

Three candidates will seek election to two seats on the Board of Education for three-year terms. The candidates are identified in the order they will appear on the ballot.

The candidates were each asked to respond to questions to help voters understand their positions.



Greg Berl

Background: My name is Greg Berl. I have lived in Scottsville with my wife Nancy for over 30 years. I have been active in the Wheatland-Chili community as a School Board member for 6 years, former member of the Village Planning and Zoning Boards, and former President of the Scottsville Athletic Association and Youth soccer coach. My 3 daughters graduated from Wheatland-Chili and have gone on to successful careers. I enjoy serving the people of this community.

Why are you running for election to the board? I am running for the School Board because I want to see many of the projects that I have been involved with come to fruition. As a Board member, I will be open-minded and listen to all stakeholders in this community to maintain a successful school district that we ALL can be proud of.

What do you see as the major challenges facing public education and specifically the Wheatland-Chili Central School District?

I feel one of the major challenges facing the WCCSD is largely the budgetary restrictions placed on us by NY State. We are aware that our students suffered both academically and socially during COVID. We need to concentrate on resolving these issues and focus on the future success of our students.

What experiences or skills could you bring to the board to address these challenges?

I bring 35 years of working in the Surveying and Construction industry to the Board. At work, I deal with many diversified personalities and groups of people which, in turn, has taught me how to resolve conflicts, solve problems and come to a mutual solution. I am vested in Scottsville and I want continue to be proud of our School and Community and help it thrive.



Keith Nicolosi

Background: Keith Nicolosi, owner of iKON Ice Cream, KV Amusement, and the Kael Nicolosi Foundation. I received my Bachelors of Business Management from SUNY Empire State. I am also the coach of the SAA Scottsville iKONS Girls u12 travel soccer team. I'm seeking a seat on the board of education with hopes of making a positive difference in education for my daughter and the rest of the students attending Wheatland-Chili.

Why are you running for the board?

I am running for election to the board, because I believe I can help to make positive changes to help further the success of education at the Wheatland-Chili district.

What do you see as the major challenges facing public education and specifically the Wheatland-Chili Central School District?

I feel the major challenges facing public education and the Wheatland-Chili district is the lack of opportunity for parents to be more involved in the structure, curriculum and learning environments which their children are educated in.

What experiences or skills could you bring to the board to address these challenges?

Children have inspired me to lead and make hard decisions that will provide them with a greater future. I have a well-established relationship with the incredible people of the Wheatland-Chili community and an adequate understanding of the issues which are the most near and dear to their hearts.



Cindy Dawson

Background: Hello! My name is Cindy Dawson. I am re-running for a second three year term on the WCCSD BOE. My husband John and I have lived at 1372 North Road for 28 years. We have three children that graduated from WC in 2011 and 2015. While they were in school, I was involved with the SAA, PTA and Sports Booster clubs/organizations. I have worked full time in the Bio-Pharmaceutical industry for more than 35 years.

Why are you running for the board?

I would like to continue to work with the amazing Administration and Staff to overcome the challenges at hand and provide the best education in a safe environment for the students and our future.

What do you see as the major challenges facing public education and specifically the Wheatland-Chili Central School District?

It has been a challenging past two years with COVID, staff shortages, state mandates and mental health concerns.

What experiences or skills could you bring to the board to address these challenges?

Recently, I decided to work part time. This has allowed me the time to serve on both the W-C and BOCES2 school boards and several committees to hear from and share information with other districts.

Wheatland-Chili Central School District

13 Beckwith Avenue
Scottsville, NY 14546
585-889-6247

Board of Education (2021-2022)

James Musshafen, President
Shanna Fraser, Vice President
Gregory Berl
Cindy Dawson
Beth Nolan
Courtney Panek
Kim Snyder

Superintendent

Lynda Quick, Esq.

Graphic Design

Shannon Sweeney

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How is an Equalization Rate Determined?

Equalization rates are determined by the Office of Real Property Tax Services. The rates per municipality are determined after the total assessments are submitted by the Town Assessor's Office. They are a measure of a municipality's level of assessment as follows: $\text{Total Assessed Value} / \text{Total Market Value} = \text{Equalization Rate}$.

Where the Equalization Rate equals 100

- Town is assessing property at 100% of market value
- Most likely a reassessment was conducted in recent years
- Your property's assessment should be roughly its market value (the price for which you could sell your property)

Where the Equalization Rate is less than 100

- Overall property in the town is assessed at less than market value
- The lower the equalization rate, the longer it has probably been since the last reassessment
- For instance, an equalization rate of 43 means overall property in the town is assessed at 43% of market value.

Where the Equalization Rate is more than 100

- Overall property in the town is assessed higher than market value
- Property values may have decreased since the last reassessment, but assessments were not adjusted downward

How Does the Equalization Rate Affect My Taxes?

- There are four municipalities within the Wheatland-Chili Central School District
 - Wheatland, Chili, Brighton, and Mumford
- There are slightly different tax rates for each municipality
 - In order for a school district to fairly distribute its property tax levy (the total amount of school taxes to be collected), the levy is divided in proportion to the total market value of each municipality. This allows for an equitable distribution of taxes based upon the market value of each municipality.
 - If the assessed values of homes in a municipality are below market value as noted to the left, the municipality or NYS Office of Real Property Tax Services sets an equalization rate that increases the tax rate of properties to provide for the payment of their fair share of taxes within the District.
 - The estimated \$21.49 rate per \$1,000 of assessed value is the blended tax rate (of all four municipalities) for 2022-2023.

