



# Cal-Mum Chronicle



MAY 2024

## District Budget Reflects Commitment to Excellence

Dear Caledonia-Mumford Parents and Residents:

On Tuesday, April 16, after months of careful planning and thoughtful consideration, the Caledonia-Mumford Board of Education unanimously adopted the proposed 2024-2025 School Budget of \$20,605,985. The adopted spending plan represents a 1.17% spending increase over the 2023-24 budget. In addition, the proposed spending plan will require a 2.65% tax levy increase and will require a simple majority for approval. As we celebrate our district's 125th anniversary this year, the district continues to be committed to excellence by providing a robust, diverse, and comprehensive curriculum and supporting the initiatives that have been successful.

On average, this 2.65% figure translates into an annual tax bill increase of approximately \$28 or \$2.33 per month for a property

valued at \$100,000. For the 13th year in a row, the proposed tax levy is at or below the state allowable limit. In addition to voting on the school budget, residents will also elect three candidates to the Board of Education and vote on the purchase of a school bus.

On May 21, district residents will vote from 12:00-9:00 p.m. in the District Office, located on Freeman Drive, off 99 North Street. Absentee and Early Voting ballots may be requested by contacting Susan Voos at 538-3400 between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. prior to May 20, 2024. Completed ballots must be received in the District Office by 5:00 p.m. on May 21, 2024.

We believe that we have prepared a budget that recognizes and addresses the challenges of the current economy for our schools and the community.

### Proposed 2024-2025 Budget

\$20,605,985  
1.17% budget to budget increase over 2023-2024

### Annual Budget Hearing

Tuesday, May 14, 2024, at 7 p.m. in the Middle/High School Chorus Room

### Annual Budget Vote

Tuesday, May 21, 2024  
12 p.m. to 9 p.m. in the District Office, Freeman Drive off of 99 North Street, Caledonia.

### Board of Education Election

#### Three (3) Seats

Meet the candidates forum following the Annual Budget Hearing on May 14, 2024. Read more about the candidates inside this newsletter.

Board President Chris Richter said, “The board and the administrative team have worked diligently to craft a fiscally responsible budget that supports our entire educational program. This budget accounts for escalating costs, preserves fund balance, and is mindful of the financial impact to taxpayers.” Vice President Elizabeth Doll said, “The school budget that we developed will provide the resources for students and staff to continue to prosper and ensure the stability and the long-term fiscal health of our district.”

The proposed budget is mission-driven, fiscally responsible, and responsive to the needs of our students. Did you know that the proposed 2024-2025 school budget will:

- Provide support to maintain core Pre-K-12 academic programs and employ highly qualified and dedicated educators.
- Provide funding for two full-time ENL Teachers (English as a New Language).
- Provide funding for 13 Advanced Placement courses in math, English, social studies, science, art, and psychology. In addition, 13 college-level courses in partnership with Genesee Community College (GCC) and Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT) will continue.
- Preserve all art, music, co-curricular activities, and athletic programs.
- Provide funding for two full-time School Resource Officers.
- Provide funding to implement Financial Literacy in grades K-12.
- Provide a comprehensive technology program which includes funding for 1:1 Chromebooks for all K-12 students.
- Adhere to the state-imposed tax levy cap.
- Provide approximately 60,000 breakfasts and 98,000 lunches.
- Maintain small class sizes.
- Provide funding for 16 varsity sport programs.
- Provide funding for 30 clubs/activities.
- Provide hands-on science, math, and STEAM enrichment clubs.
- Include resources to support the Olweus Bullying Prevention Program.
- Include additional funding for instructional materials for ELA, science, and social studies curriculum.
- Continue the District’s commitment to the implementation of a multi-year Technology Plan.
- Appropriate funding to provide high-quality transportation

services for district resident children.

- Provide funding to replace two sidewalks and to remove asbestos material from the middle/high school basement.
- Protect the community’s investment in facilities, infrastructure. and programming.
- Provide funding for a summer school reading and math intervention program for grades 1-5.
- Provide funding to support increased professional development opportunities for staff.
- Meet legal mandates and contractual obligations.

In addition to the proposed school budget (Proposition #1), voters will be asked to vote on Proposition #2, which seeks your approval to purchase a school bus, not to exceed \$180,000. The bus will be financed over five years to coincide with the District’s receipt of Transportation Aid.

We invite you to attend the Annual School District Budget Hearing on Tuesday, May 14, 2024, at 7:00 P.M. in the Middle/High Chorus Room. Immediately following the budget hearing, candidates for the Board of the Education will provide a brief statement and answer questions generated by the students from our Government classes.

Please take time to review the budget information in this newsletter and the information on the district’s website [www.cal-mum.org](http://www.cal-mum.org). I am available to answer any questions about the proposed plan. Thank you for your continued support and investment in our students.

Sincerely,



Robert Molisani  
Superintendent of Schools



***The Caledonia-Mumford Central School District, in collaboration with our community, takes pride in providing safe, comprehensive and rigorous educational experiences, in order for all students to graduate as ethical, responsible, lifelong learners, who are college and career ready.***

# Board of Education Candidates

There are three (3) candidates seeking the three (3) vacant seats this year on the Caledonia-Mumford Central School Board of Education. Each is a three-year term commencing July 1, 2024, and expiring June 30, 2027.

## Margaret Roll (Peggy)

**Address:** 3261 East Avenue, Caledonia, NY 14423

**Lived in the CMCS District:** 30 years

**Family:** Husband David, children Mark, Carolyn (Wray), Stephen, Christopher, Michael

### Why do you wish to serve on the Cal-Mum Board of Education?

I believe I can offer some unique perspectives from the experience of raising five children who attended several different schools over the years in addition to Caledonia-Mumford. I have seen the strengths and limitations of other schools and curriculums. We opted to homeschool several of our children for 4-5 years each before they returned to Cal-Mum for the high school years and the chance to take advanced math and AP classes and participate in sports and other extracurricular activities. They especially benefited from participating in Odyssey of the Mind, Brainstormers, MasterMinds, Fed Challenge, PageTurners, as well as the art, music, and technology programs. It has been discouraging to see that some of these programs have been eliminated or limited for my grandchildren. If I am elected, I will strive to the best of my ability to listen, to be fair and objective, and to offer guidance and opinions based on my experience as a mother, grandmother, community member, and taxpayer. Whenever possible I will advocate for writing skills (phonics, grammar, and vocabulary), math, science, history, geography, financial literacy, and the return of home and careers. Thank you for your support.

### Relevant Experience

- BS Home Economics (Food & Nutrition) with distinction, University of Illinois
- MPH Nutrition, University of Pittsburgh Graduate School of Public Health
- Genesee Country Village & Museum (14 years): historical interpreter, baker, moveable museum educator, class instructor for adults and children.
- Cal-Mum Home & Careers classroom volunteer: "The Quilt Lady"
- Latin teacher: Gloria Deo homeschooling co-op, also taught German exchange student
- Home school teacher (10 years): Planned curriculum and completed reports
- Nutrition Instructor (2 years): Roberts Wesleyan University
- Kids' Bible Nature Camp (VBS): planned and directed for 12 years
- Odyssey of the Mind coach (3 years)
- Cub Scout den leader (8 years)
- Big Springs Museum volunteer (14 years)
- The Roll Family Bakery (present)

## Rebecca McNear

**Address:** 8589 North Road, LeRoy, NY 14482

**Lived in the CMCS District:** 18 years

**Family:** Husband Seth, sons Sean, Wesley, Duncan, Garrett, and Collin

### Why do you wish to serve on the Cal-Mum Board of Education?

I have lived in the school district for over 18 years and currently have five children in the Cal-Mum schools—one in high school, one in middle school, and three in elementary school. My family has received so much from their experiences at Cal-Mum so

far, I would like the opportunity to give back. Being on the school board would allow me to serve both the school and the community.

As a member of the school board, I know there is a responsibility to both the students in the district and the community at large. I recognize we have a diverse community and I am willing to listen to various viewpoints to make informed choices. I will work to make sure the school board is making decisions that are not only best for the students and the community, but also maintain the goals and policies of the district.

### Relevant Experience

- Parental involvement with children's school and extracurricular activities
- Soccer coach for children's teams
- 11+ years as a dairy veterinarian, serving mainly Wyoming, Erie, and Genesee counties

## Michael Balonek

**Address:** 2668 Scottsville Mumford Road, Mumford, NY 14511

**Lived in the CMCS District:** Lifelong resident

**Family:** Wife Cassandra, children Robert (11, 5th grade at C-M) and Annette (9, 4th grade at C-M)

### Why do you wish to serve on the Cal-Mum Board of Education?

Education and learning have always been a central focus of my life. Attending and graduating from Caledonia-Mumford inspired me to pursue a career in teaching. Having strong role models provides motivation for students to explore, learn, and grow into capable and productive adults.

Through my role on the BOE, I spend a lot of my time listening to members of our community who share concerns. I take the most joy in serving on the elementary school Compact Committee and PTO, where we actively pursue opportunities to enrich the educational experiences for our children.

With a Bachelor's degree in Childhood Education (grades 1-6) and dual certification in Special Education, paired with teaching experience, I understand the educational and social challenges today's teachers and families are up against. I am not afraid to say no to actions that are not consistent with community values and student success.

If reelected, I promise to listen to community members and assist in creating policy that is most beneficial to our teachers and administrative staff, and which ensures a bright future for our students.

### Relevant Experience

- Parental involvement with children's school and extracurricular activities
- Soccer coach for children's teams
- 11+ years as a dairy veterinarian, serving mainly Wyoming, Erie, and Genesee counties

# Where do your tax dollars go?

State law requires the District to analyze spending by breaking our school budget into three basic components: Administrative, Capital, and Instructional Programs. Referred to as a three-part budget, this analysis shows another way of looking at District spending.

**Administrative** ————— **Total Dollars • \$2,421,904** ————— **11.76 %**

*The Administrative component consists of the following expenditures:*

- District Office and administrative expenses
- Expenses, salaries and benefits for other administrators and supervisors
- Board of Education expenses and dues
- Business Office and District Clerk expenses
- All legal, insurance, auditing, and other professional services
- District portion of BOCES administrative costs
- Consulting services costs
- Staff development expenses
- District expenses for newsletter, postage, and mailings

**Capital** ————— **Total Dollars • \$3,105,749** ————— **15.07 %**

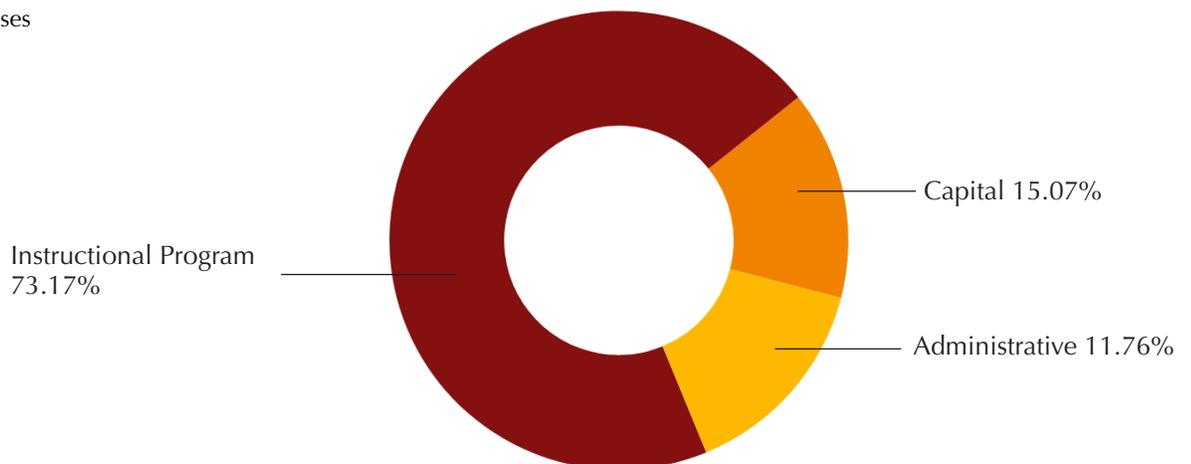
*The Capital component consists of the following expenditures:*

- Annual debt service obligations for District capital projects and the BOCES capital project
- All facility costs, including utilities
- Operation and maintenance expenses
- Salaries and benefits for maintenance staff
- Costs associated with community use of school facilities
- Security costs

**Instructional Program** ————— **Total Dollars • \$15,078,332** ————— **73.17 %**

*The Instructional Program component consists of the following expenditures:*

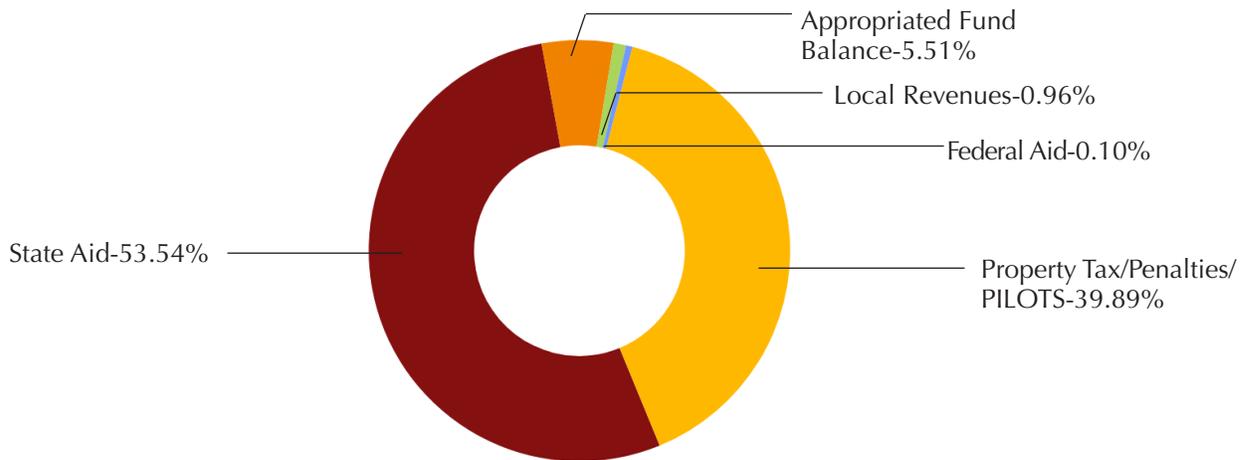
- Salaries and benefits for all teachers, teacher aides, and teacher assistants
- Salaries and benefits for bus drivers
- All transportation expenses including contract transportation
- BOCES Special Education and Occupational Education costs
- Instructional supplies, textbooks, computers, and software expenses
- Costs for extra-curricular activities and interscholastic sports
- Contractual expenses



# Projected Revenues

2023/24 Final ..... 2024/25 Proposed ..... % of Budget

Local Revenues <i>(tuition, fees, rentals, interest, miscellaneous, interfund transfers)</i> .....	\$198,500 .....	\$198,500 .....	0.96%
Appropriated Fund Balance .....	\$885,000 .....	\$1,135,000 .....	5.51%
State Aid .....	\$11,284,727 .....	\$11,033,646 .....	53.54%
Property Tax/Penalties/PILOTS .....	\$7,980,108 .....	\$8,218,839 .....	39.89%
Federal Aid .....	\$20,000 .....	\$20,000 .....	0.10%
<b>Total Projected Revenue .....</b>	<b>\$ 20,368,335 .....</b>	<b>\$ 20,605,985 .....</b>	<b>100.00%</b>



## Major Areas of Expenditures

Major Area	2023-24	2024-25	Difference	% Change
GENERAL SUPPORT	\$2,454,944	\$2,601,797	\$146,853	5.98%
INSTRUCTIONAL	\$10,882,265	\$11,265,241	\$382,976	3.52%
PUPIL TRANSPORTATION	\$914,986	\$971,819	\$56,833	6.21%
COMMUNITY SERVICES	\$17,022	\$10,150	-\$6,872	-40.37%
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	\$4,471,299	\$4,529,477	\$58,178	1.30%
DEBT SERVICE	\$1,527,819	\$1,127,501	-\$400,318	-27.28%
PLANNED BALANCE	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$0	0.00%
<b>TOTAL BUDGET</b>	<b>\$20,368,335</b>	<b>\$20,605,985</b>	<b>\$237,650</b>	<b>1.17%</b>

# Property Tax Report Card

	Budgeted 2023-24 A	Proposed 2024-25 B	Percent Change C
Total Budgeted Amount, not Including Separate Propositions	\$ 20,368,335	\$ 20,605,985	1.17%
A. Proposed Tax Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount <sup>(1)</sup>	\$ 7,718,926	\$ 7,923,478	
B. Tax Levy to Support Library Debt, if Applicable	\$0	\$0	
C. Tax Levy for Non-Excludable Propositions, if Applicable <sup>(2)</sup>	\$0	\$0	
D. Total Tax Cap Reserve Amount Used to Reduce Current Year Levy, if Applicable	\$0	\$0	
E. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy (A + B + C - D)	\$ 7,718,926	\$ 7,923,478	2.65%
F. Permissible Exclusions to the School Tax Levy Limit	\$ 110,964	\$ 183,369	
G. School Tax Levy Limit, Excluding Levy for Permissible Exclusions <sup>(3)</sup>	\$ 7,610,541	\$ 7,740,650	
H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, Excluding Levy Permissible Exclusions (E - B - F + D)	\$ 7,607,962	\$ 7,740,109	
I. Difference (G - H); (negative value requires 60.0% voter approval) <sup>(2)</sup>	\$ 2,579	\$ 541	
Public School Enrollment	796	800	0.50%
Consumer Price Index	8.00%	4.12%	-3.88%

(1) Include any prior year reserve for excess tax levy, including interest

(2) Tax levy associated with educational or transportation services propositions are not eligible for exclusion under the School Tax Levy Limit and may affect voter approval requirements

(3) For 2024-25, includes any carryover from 2023-24 and excludes any tax levy for library debt or prior year reserve for excess tax levy, including interest

	Actual 2023-24 (D)	Estimated 2024-25 (E1)
Adjusted Restricted Fund Balance	\$ 6,864,885	\$ 4,500,000
Assigned Appropriated Fund Balance	\$ 365,000	\$ 365,000
Adjusted Unrestricted Fund Balance	\$ 814,734	\$ 824,239
Adjusted Unrestricted Fund Balance as a Percent of the Total Budget	4.00%	4.00%

## Basic STAR Exemption Impact and Tax Rates

The following chart estimates your savings for your Basic Star Exemption. As in past years, the savings are calculated on the average home within the school district with a full value assessment of \$100,000 and a \$30,000 STAR Exemption.

**Budget Adopted for the  
2023-2024 School Year**

**Budget Proposal for the  
2024-2025 School Year**

**Basic STAR Tax Savings**

**\$564**

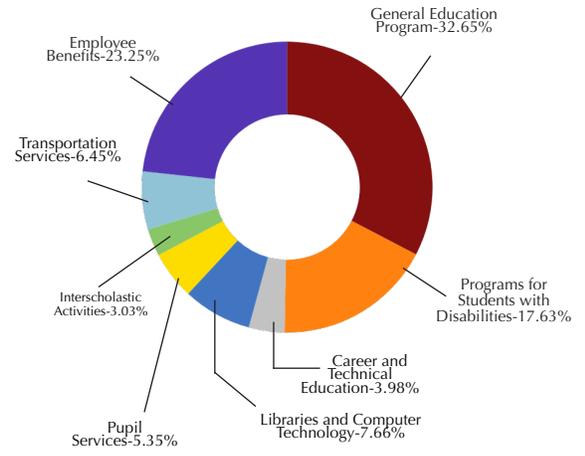
**\$483**

Senior citizens with the Enhanced STAR have approximately a \$83,160 exemption. The Enhanced STAR for senior citizens is adjusted for inflation annually by the Office of Real Property Services. Senior citizens benefit by receiving more than twice the amount of the Basic STAR exemption.

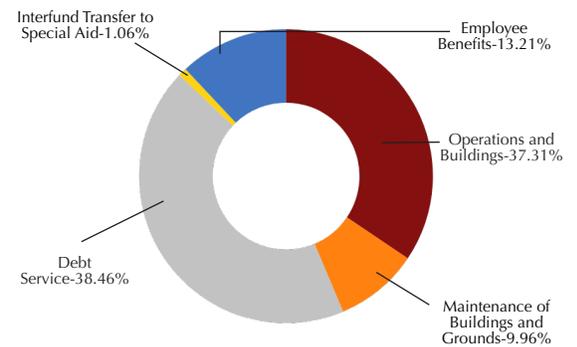
We know that residents are concerned about assessments, tax rates, and their STAR benefits. If you have any questions on these matters, please call your Town Tax Assessor.

# Proposed 2024-2025 Three Part Budget Summary

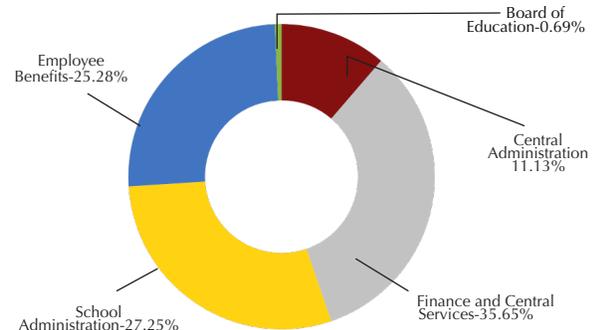
	2023-24 Budget	2024-25 Proposed	%
<b>PROPOSED PROGRAM BUDGET</b>			
<b>PROPOSED PROGRAM BUDGET PERCENT OF TOTAL BUDGET</b>			<b>73.17%</b>
General Education Program	\$4,776,358	\$4,923,026	32.65%
Programs for Students with Disabilities	\$2,623,108	\$2,658,224	17.63%
Career and Technical Education	\$487,286	\$599,752	3.98%
Libraries and Computer Technology	\$1,163,349	\$1,154,834	7.66%
Pupil Services	\$742,434	\$806,262	5.35%
Interscholastic Activities	\$434,882	\$457,615	3.03%
Transportation Services	\$914,986	\$971,819	6.45%
Employee Benefits	\$3,533,928	\$3,506,800	23.25%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$14,676,331</b>	<b>\$15,078,332</b>	<b>100.00%</b>



	2023-24 Budget	2024-25 Proposed	%
<b>PROPOSED CAPITAL BUDGET</b>			
<b>PROPOSED CAPITAL BUDGET PERCENT OF TOTAL BUDGET</b>			<b>15.07%</b>
Operations and Buildings	\$1,157,184	\$1,158,685	37.31%
Maintenance of Buildings and Grounds	\$253,854	\$309,254	9.96%
Debt Service	\$1,594,819	\$1,194,501	38.46%
Interfund Transfer to Special Aid	\$33,000	\$33,000	1.06%
Employee Benefits	\$353,009	\$410,309	13.21%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$3,391,866</b>	<b>\$3,105,749</b>	<b>100.00%</b>



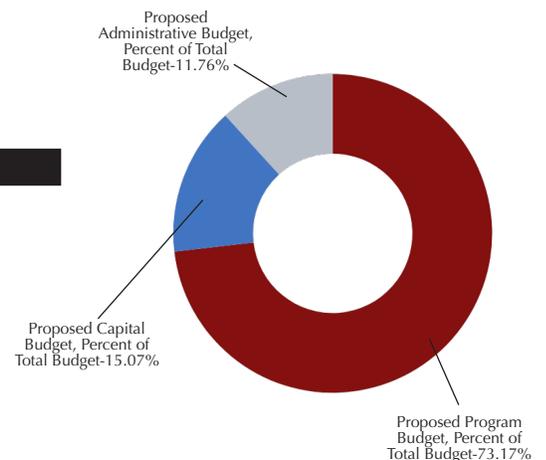
	2023-24 Budget	2024-25 Proposed	%
<b>PROPOSED ADMINISTRATIVE BUDGET</b>			
<b>PROPOSED ADMINISTRATIVE BUDGET PERCENT OF TOTAL BUDGET</b>			<b>11.76%</b>
Board of Education	\$16,218	\$16,618	0.69%
Central Administration	\$258,674	\$269,678	11.13%
Finance and Central Services	\$769,014	\$863,297	35.65%
School Administration	\$671,870	\$659,943	27.25%
Employee Benefits	\$584,362	\$612,368	25.28%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$2,300,138</b>	<b>\$2,421,904</b>	<b>100.00%</b>



**TOTAL PROPOSED BASIC BUDGET    \$20,368,335    \$20,605,985**

## Total Proposed Budget 2024-2025

PROPOSED PROGRAM BUDGET, PERCENT OF TOTAL BUDGET	73.17%
PROPOSED CAPITAL BUDGET, PERCENT OF TOTAL BUDGET	15.07%
PROPOSED ADMINISTRATIVE BUDGET, PERCENT OF TOTAL BUDGET	11.76%



# Caledonia-Mumford Central School District Budget Notice

## Overall Budget Proposal

	Budget adopted for the 2023-2024 school year	Budget proposed for the 2024-2025 school year	Contingency budget for the 2024-2025 school year*
Total Budgeted Amount, Not Including Separate Propositions	\$20,368,335	\$20,605,985	\$20,433,808
Increase/Decrease for the 2024 - 2025 school year		\$237,650	\$65,473
Percentage Increase/Decrease in Proposed Budget		1.17%	0.32%
Change in Consumer Price Index		2.00%	
A. Proposed Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount	\$7,718,926	\$7,923,478	
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)	\$ 7,718,926	\$ 7,923,478	\$ 7,718,926
F. Permissible Exclusions to the School Tax Levy Limit	\$ 110,964	\$ 183,369	
G. School Tax Levy Limit, Excluding Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$ 7,610,541	\$ 7,740,650	
H. Total Proposed Tax Levy for School Purposes, Excluding Permissible Exclusions and Levy for Library Debt, Plus Piror Year Tax Cap Reserve (E - B - F + D)	\$ 7,607,962	\$ 7,740,109	
Difference (G - H) (Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval - See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions) **	\$ 2,579	\$ 541	
Administrative Component	\$ 2,300,138	\$ 2,421,904	\$ 2,300,138
Program Component	\$ 14,676,331	\$ 15,078,332	\$ 15,054,295
Capital Component	\$ 3,391,866	\$ 3,105,749	\$ 3,079,375

\* Provide a statement of assumptions made in projecting a contingency budget for the 2024-25 school year, should the proposed budget be defeated pursuant to Section 2023 of Education Law.

In the event the proposed budget is defeated and a contingency budget is adopted, the District would be prohibited from purchasing equipment, certain supplies, as well as any costs associated with the community use of school facilities.

## Estimated Tax Information

Homeowners are eligible for tax relief under the New York State's School Tax Relief Program (STAR). Upon application, homeowners may be eligible for up to a \$29,700 decrease in their assessment. Senior citizens (age 65 and older) may be eligible for Enhanced STAR for up to a \$83,160 decrease in their assessment.

### Maximum 2024-25 STAR Exemption Savings\*

Municipal Name	Basic	Enhanced
Town of Caledonia .....	\$ 483 .....	\$ 1,233
Town of Chili .....	\$ 475 .....	\$ 1,181
Town of LeRoy .....	\$ 488 .....	\$ 1,290
Town of Riga .....	\$ 459 .....	\$ 1,159
Town of Wheatland .....	\$ 488 .....	\$ 1,191

\* Per NYS Department of Tax and Finance

Due to recent changes to the STAR application process, homeowners are encouraged to visit [www.tax.ny.gov/star](http://www.tax.ny.gov/star) for more details.



# Annual Budget Referendum 2024-2025

## Proposition #1 — Budget Resolution

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the proposed budget of expenditures for the fiscal year 2024-2025 in the amount of \$20,605,985, and for the purposes shown in statement of estimated expenditures adopted by the Board of Education, be one and the same, hereby is approved and the amount thereof shall be raised by a levy of a tax upon the taxable property of the school district.

## Proposition #2 — Bus Resolution

The second proposition on the ballot will ask voters to approve the purchase of one (1) 66-passenger school bus at a total cost not to exceed \$180,000. New York State Law also requires school districts to obtain voter authorization to spend money from these accounts.

**RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education of the Caledonia-Mumford Central School District is hereby authorized to undertake the acquisition of one (1) 66-passenger school bus, at an estimated maximum cost of \$180,000, less trade-in value, if any, and that such costs, or so much thereof as may be necessary, shall be raised by the levy of a tax to be collected in annual installments; and, in anticipation of such tax, debt obligations of the school district as may be necessary not to exceed \$180,000 shall be issued, or the school district may enter into an installment purchase contract if the Board of Education determines that it is in the best interest of the school district to finance the purchase in that method.

## Board of Education Members

### Vote For Any Three (3)

Three (3) district residents have submitted petitions to run for three (3) seats on the Board of Education. Each open seat is for a three-year term beginning July 1, 2024, and expiring on June 30, 2027.

- Margaret Roll
- Rebecca McNear
- Michael Balonek



**2024 Cal-Mum K-12 District Wide Art Show**

**May 21 5pm-7pm**

Instrumental Music Room  
@ Cal-Mum Middle/High School

*Celebrate our talented Raiders!*

Hosted by Art Teachers:  
Mrs. Vicki McArdle - Middle/High School  
Mrs. Heather Cassidy-Schaffer - Elementary/Middle School



*Save The Dates!*

**May 31**  
Alumni Evening Social Gatherings

**June 1**  
125th Cal-Mum School A.M. Events:  
• Pancake Breakfast  
• Trout Trot 5K  
• Unveiling of History Wall  
• School Tours  
• Time Capsule Burial  
• Raider Family Fest on Front Lawn  
2nd Annual Caledonia Trout Festival  
• Events happening all day and night

**June 2**  
Alumni Golf Tournament  
Caledonia Country Club

**THE TRADITION CONTINUES!**  
1899-2024

**125**  
LEARN LEAD INSPIRE

**GO RAIDERS!**  
CAL-MUM  
HOME OF CHAMPIONS



# Frequently Asked Questions Regarding the School Budget

**Q: What is the history of voting outcomes, tax levy and budget-to-budget change for the district?**

A: See below

School Year	Voted Yes	Voted No	% Voted Yes	Tax Levy Change	Budget to Budget Change
2014-2015	344	140	71.1%	1.66%	2.41%
2015-2016	258	88	74.6%	1.90%	3.44%
2016-2017	250	67	78.9%	1.50%	-2.08%
2017-2018	221	67	69.3%	1.99%	3.28%
2018-2019	213	58	79.7%	1.99%	2.38%
2019-2020	198	38	83.5%	1.99%	1.70%
2020-2021	882	238	78.8%	1.99%	1.94%
2021-2022	579	201	74.2%	1.49%	1.18%
2022-2023	643	268	70.6%	1.99%	2.26%
2023-2024	327	134	70.9%	1.90%	4.73%
<b>10 year avg.</b>	<b>392</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>75.10%</b>	<b>1.84%</b>	<b>2.12%</b>

**Q. How much is the proposed budget?**

A. The proposed budget is \$20,605,985.

**Q. What are the major items that increased from the current year to the 2024-25 year?**

A. The major items that have increased are special education costs, technology purchases, and the addition of a second SRO.

**Q. How did the District achieve savings in the budget?**

A. The District achieved savings from the difference in salaries between retiring veteran teachers and newly-hired teachers.

**Q. What is the proposed tax levy increase for the 2024-2025 school year?**

A. The proposed tax levy increase for the 2024-2025 school year is 2.65%. Caledonia-Mumford’s allowable tax levy cap is 2.65%.

**Q. Why purchase buses each year?**

A. The District purchases a bus or two each year as part of its replacement schedule. Based on our current schedule, our buses will be replaced after approximately 13-16 years of service and 100,000-120,000 miles of use. Continuing our current strategy will sustain our fleet and provide for a systematic update of our fleet configuration.

Did you know that the District is reimbursed for 75.8% of a bus purchase?

**Q. What happened to the state's 2% tax cap?**

A. In 2011, the state signed into law a property tax cap. It was falsely presented and popularized by the media as a 2% tax cap. In reality the property tax cap is 2% or the Consumer Price Index (CPI) whichever is lesser. The property tax cap calculation excludes and takes in consideration eligible exemptions such as retirement system expenses greater than 2%, capital debt, court orders, and PILOTS. Caledonia-Mumford's allowable tax levy cap is 2.65%. The proposed tax levy increase is within the District's allowable limit.

**Q. I am still confused with the increase in property assessments. How will this affect my school taxes?**

A. The school is not involved in any increase/decrease in your property assessment. If you have questions with regard to your assessment, you should call your town tax assessor.

**Q. How much Lottery Aid does the Caledonia-Mumford C.S.D. receive from the State of New York?**

A. The school receives about \$1.2 million from New York State Lottery purchases.

**Q. What happens if the budget is not approved by voters?**

A. If the budget is not approved by voters, the Board has three options: present the same budget to voters for a second time, present a revised budget to voters, or adopt a contingency budget. If the proposed budget is defeated twice by voters, the District must adopt a contingency budget. Under the new property tax cap law, a school district that adopts a contingency budget cannot increase its prior year tax levy by any amount.

**Q. What is fund balance? How is it used?**

A. Fund balance is a reserve much like a homeowner's savings account. When District expenses are less than expected or revenues are higher than expected, the excess money is classified as fund balance.

Districts may appropriate fund balance each year as a revenue in the budget to minimize spending cuts and stabilize tax rates. The money is also used for unforeseen expenses and cash flow throughout the year. By law, a district's unrestricted fund balance may not exceed 4% of the next year's budget.

Just as homeowners are careful not to use up their savings accounts, districts also must plan carefully how to use their fund balance to ensure it does not run out.



**Caledonia-Mumford Central School**  
**Caledonia NY 14423**

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**2023-24 Board of Education**

- Mr. Christopher Richter, President
- Mrs. Elizabeth Doll, Vice-President
- Mr. Michael Balonek
- Mr. John Bickford
- Mrs. Elizabeth Dietrich
- Mr. Jamie Fitch
- Mr. Arnold Rychlicki

**ECRWSS**  
**To Boxholder or Resident**

**Administration**

- Mr. Robert Molisani, Superintendent of Schools
- Mr. Jeremy Nardone, Business Administrator
- Dr. Rebekah Chenaille, Middle/High School Principal
- Mr. Tim McArdle, Assistant Middle/High School Principal
- Mrs. Michele Meyer, Elementary Principal
- Mr. Peter Greene, Assistant Elementary Principal
- Mrs. Megan Rogers, Director of Pupil Services

**Questions?**

Contact Mr. Jeremy Nardone  
 CMCS Business Administrator  
 Email: jnardone@cal-mum.org  
 Phone: 585-538-3400

# Learn, Lead and Inspire

*Everyone has a stake in the success of our public schools. When schools are strong and students succeed, our community benefits!*

**Public Hearing**

Tuesday, May 14, 2024  
 7 p.m.  
 MS/HS Chorus Room



**Vote**

Tuesday, May 21, 2024  
 12 p.m. to 9 p.m.  
 District Office

**Voter Qualifications**

- United States Citizen
- Eighteen (18) years of age or older
- Legal resident of the school district for at least 30 days prior to the district meeting and election

**Absentee Ballots**

Voters may request an absentee ballot from the CMCS District Office prior to May 21, 2024, between the hours of 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Completed ballots must be received in the District Office by 5 p.m. on May 21, 2024. Please call Susan Voos at 538-3400 for more information.

**State Regulations Regarding the Budget**

State regulations require that school districts inform the public of the options available to the Board of Education in the event that a budget is not passed. A Board of Education has several options:

- Resubmit the original budget for another vote
- Submit a revised budget for voter approval
- Adopt a contingent budget

Under the educational law regarding a contingent budget, non-contingent expenses cannot exceed the total amount of spending in the prior year budget. A contingent budget requires that the Board of Education charge for community use of school facilities and grounds for non-school activities.