2024-25 BUDGET INFORMATION

THE JAMESTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOLS DISTRICT REPORT | MAY 2024

VOTE

Tuesday, May 21
12 to 9 p.m.
Jefferson, Lincoln, & Washington schools



John Gonzalez celebrates during Jamestown High School Commencement at Chautauqua Institution in June 2023.

Love School student Koda Nutting leaves a Valentine in his friend's box.

A Message from Superintendent Kevin Whitaker, Ed.D

What a year it has been! Each year, we have the opportunity to reflect on the tremendous accomplishments of our school community — students and staff alike — through this annual newsletter. Our Jamestown Public Schools are so special because of the dedication and commitment of so many people in so many roles.

We've witnessed **strong performances on the state level by over a dozen Jamestown High School students, historic runs within Section VI and NYS, outstanding performances by our musical ensembles**, and tremendous developments in our classrooms through the adoption of a **new literacy curriculum and increased personalized instruction**.

As we look forward to achieving so much more in the 2024-25 school year, I invite you to turn over this newsletter and join us in celebrating the **many achievements that have happened across JPS**. These have occurred thanks to your continued support in the past. We are grateful, and ask for your continued support of our district and commitment to our community.

On **May 21**, we will ask you to vote on the **2024-2025 Budget**, in the amount of **$104,566,897**, which includes **a 0% increase to the tax levy**. The proposed budget will continue to **support critical positions** that have **directly addressed lingering impacts from the COVID-19 pandemic, including academic, social-emotional, and student-management needs.**

This budget would also allow us to begin to make some upgrades to **playground equipment** at our elementary schools and will provide necessary and mandated improvements to our bus fleet.

Finally, we will be asking you to vote for **three Board of Education members**. The two individuals who receive the most votes will be elected to three-year terms, while the individual who finishes third will be elected to a term that will expire June 30, 2025. There is more information you can find at **www.jpsny.org/BOEelections** and in an upcoming postcard that will be mailed to the community.

Our community's input and support is critical to the work that we do — we cannot do it without you. I thank you for taking the time to read this message and for your commitment to our community's children. Please remember to take the time to vote on **May 21**.

Dr. Whitaker



JHS juniors Leo Tehan, Maddox Knorr, Holden Putney, and Gavin Maggio show some school spirit at Battle of the Classes.

VOTER INFORMATION

When and where is the vote?

Polling places will be open on **Tuesday, May 21, 2024 from 12 to 9 p.m.** at **Jefferson** Middle School (195 Martin Road), **Lincoln** Elementary School (301 Front Street), and **Washington** Middle School (159 Buffalo Street). Please call the District Office **(716) 483-4420** for information on polling information and where to vote.

How can I vote by absentee or early ballot?

Registered voters who are not able to vote in person on Election Day may be eligible to vote by **absentee ballot**. Reasons for voting by absentee ballot include: Absence from county on election day; temporary illness or physical disability; permanent illness or physical disability; duties related to primary care of one or more individuals who are ill or physically disabled; resident or patient of Veterans Health Administration Hospital or detention in jail/prison, awaiting trial, awaiting action by a grand jury, or in prison for conviction of a crime or offense which was not a felony. **Early Voting** is also available. **Applications for both Absentee or Early Voting can be obtained through the District Clerk, in person, by mail, or by phone. (District Offices, 197 Martin Road, Jamestown, NY, 716-483-4420)**. Those wishing to receive the ballot by mail must apply by May 14. Absentee ballots must be received in person, or by mail, by 5 p.m. on May 21.

Who is eligible to vote?

To be eligible to vote in the JPS Budget/Board of Education Election, an individual must be: **at least 18 years of age, a United States citizen**, a **resident of the Jamestown City School District** for at least 30 days prior to May 21, and a **registered voter**. If you have a question regarding voter eligibility, please contact the District Clerk at **(716) 483-4420**.

Superintendent of Schools
Kevin Whitaker, Ed.D.
Board of Education 2023-24
Paul Abbott, President,
Joseph Pawelski, Vice President
Joseph Calimeri, Frank Galeazzo, Nina Karbacka, John Panebianco, Christine Schnars

SCAN TO LEARN MORE

JAMESTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

JAMESTOWN BOARD OF EDUCATION
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JAMESTOWN, NY 14701
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WWW.JPSNY.ORG

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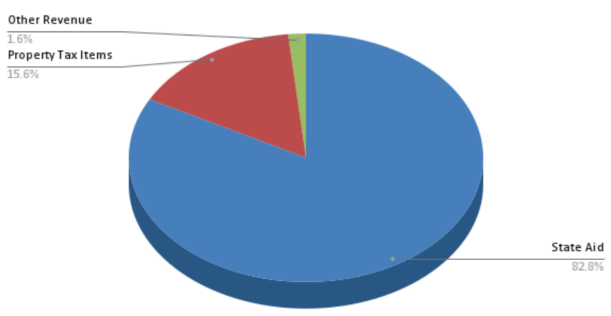
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14701
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Public Hearing - May 14 at Persell Middle School at 6 p.m.
Annual Budget Vote & BOE Election — May 21 from 12 to 9 p.m.

2024-25 Budget Information

2024-25 Revenues

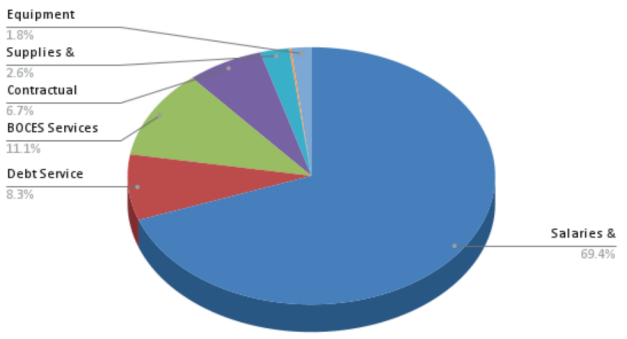
Where General Fund Dollars Come From



Operating Revenues	2024-25 Proposed Budget	% of Budget
State Aid	$ 86,563,584	82.78%
Property Tax Items	$ 16,310,058	15.60%
Other Revenue	$ 1,693,255	1.62%
TOTAL	$ 104,566,897	100.00%

2024-25 Expenditures

Where General Fund Dollars Are Spent



Operating Expenses	2024-25 Proposed Budget	% of Budget
Salaries & Benefits	$ 72,588,371	69.42%
Debt Service	$ 8,632,803	8.26%
BOCES Services	$ 11,606,201	11.10%
Contractual Services	$ 7,030,169	6.72%
Supplies & Materials	$ 2,675,303	2.56%
Interfund Transfers	$ 190,000	0.18%
Equipment	$ 1,843,980	1.76%
TOTAL	$ 104,566,827	100.00%

*More information at **jpsny.org/budgetinfo***

Just a few JPS highlights...

- Jamestown High School students raised $9,020.24 for the Rays the Barr Foundation as part of the 43rd JHS Battle of the Classes fundraiser.
- 30 JHS students were named Fall All-WNY Scholars Athletes by Section VI
- The Jamestown High School Boys Basketball team clinched the Section VI title with a win over Health Sciences and later defeated Victor in the Far West Regional to earn a trip to the NYSPHSAA Final Four in Glens Falls in March 2024.
- The JHS Boys Soccer Team made an appearance in the Section VI title game for the first time in program history.
- The JHS A Cappella Choir's Madrigal Singers were featured alongside Broadway talent in Starring Buffalo's production of "Sister Act: The Musical" at Shea's 710 Theatre in Buffalo.
- JHS students raised a record $8,040.48 for JPS students Johnny LaMancuso and Landon Tota during their annual Penny Wars fundraiser.
- Stephen Hallberg and London Hamilton finished in second and seventh place, respectively, at the Section VI Cross Country meet to qualify for the NYSPHSAA Cross Country meet in November 2023.
- JHS junior Conner Dean helped his Frewsburg/Jamestown/Southwestern/Falconer teammates, Aidan McCleery, Grady Moore, and Miles Moore swim to a New York State title in the 200-yard freestyle in a NYSPHSAA record time of 1:24.05 in March 2024.
- The inaugural JHS Girls Flag Football team finished as Chautauqua-Cattaraugus Athletic Association runners-up after advancing to the league championship game. JHS also introduced unified basketball and bowling programs.
- The Jamestown High School musical production of "The Music Man" received six nominations in the Shea's High School Musical Theatre Awards.
- JHS junior Abbie Derby qualified for the NYSPHSAA Championships for the second straight year, earning her second state title as a member of the Section VI composite team in March 2024.
- JHS wrestlers Tyler Zwald and Zachary Little qualified for the NYSPHSAA State Wrestling Championships in March 2024.
- Jarren Cotter set a new indoor track record for the 300 meters in 36.08, qualifying him for the NYSPHSAA Indoor Track Championships in March 2024.
- JHS senior Isaac Sinatra was selected to attend the New York State School Music Association's Conference All-State festival in December 2023. A baritone, Sinatra performed with the festival's Mixed Chorus.
- Sinatra and eight other JHS music students were also selected to attend the NYSSMA Area All-State Festival at SUNY Fredonia in November 2023: Olivia Beach (soprano), Annie Conroe (flute), Gina Delgado (clarinet), Brighton Lumia (French horn), Elsa Lumia (violin), Adrianna McSkimming (clarinet), McKenna Schneider (trombone).
- Jamestown High School students Addison Zahn, a junior, and Greg Brumagin, a senior, finished 1st and 3rd, respectively, in the Junior Achievement Virtual Stock Market Challenge in November.
- Hermoine Santiago Cruz and Hugo Mundo-Jonsson received scholarships from the Puerto Rican Hispanic Youth Leadership Institute.


JHS seniors perform during the 43rd annual Battle of the Classes fundraiser.


Love School's STEM Club received a special grant from the Cummins Jamestown Engine Plant to purchase materials for STEM Wars.


The JHS Marching Band marches down Martin Road during the 2023 Homecoming Parade.


Bush Elementary School teacher Annie Berg works wtih students during Garden Club.


Fletcher Elementary School Assistant Principal Michelle Trussalo demonstrates proper dog handling and safety with service dog Dwight in class.



Fletcher Elementary School music teacher Sofia Isabella demonstrates the keyboard to a student.


Persell science teacher Mary Maggio slimes Principal Traci Thompson after students collected a record number of cans for St. Susan Center.

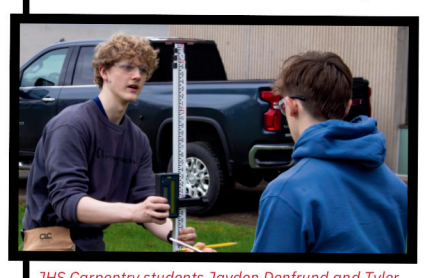

JHS students rehearse for their production of "The Music Man" at the Merton P. Corwin Auditorium.


Washington Middle School ELA teacher Deb Rein works with students on an assignment.


JHS students raised $9,020.24 for the Raise the Barr Foundation as part of the 43rd JHS Battle of the Classes fundraiser.


Jefferson Middle School fifth grade teacher Cassidy Siebert works with students in ELA.


Jefferson Middle School student Sebastian Gibbs demonstrates how to sew a button with School Board President Paul Abbott during a presentation at JPS Board of Education meeting.


JHS Carpentry students Jayden Denfrund and Tyler Zwald work on a project at the Innovation Center @ R.R. Rogers School.


Lincoln student Parker Whitacre plays with STEM blocks on the 100th Day of School.

JPS 2024-25 Budget Questions & Answers

Q. What is on the May 21 ballot?

The community will be voting on three items on the ballot: **the 2024-25 School Budget**, a **proposition to approve a Capital Reserve Fund**, and **three Board of Education seats** — two (2) for three-year terms to commence in July 2024 and one (1) for a term to commence on May 22, 2024 and end on June 30, 2025.

Q. What are the highlights of the proposed 2024-25 budget?

The proposed budget will continue to support critical positions that have directly helped our students' and families' social and emotional needs as well as directly address lingering academic, social-emotional, and student-management impacts from the COVID-19 pandemic **at a zero percent increase to the tax levy.** This budget would also allow us to make some upgrades to playground equipment at our elementary schools and will provide necessary and mandated improvements to our bus fleet.

Q. Where can I vote?

Polling locations are at **Lincoln, Washington, and Jefferson schools** from 12 to 9 p.m. on Tuesday, May 21. You can vote at any of the three sites. Please call the District Office (716) 483-4420 for information on polling information and where to vote.

Q. How will the proposed 2023-24 JPS Budget affect my taxes?

There is **no increase in the School Tax Levy**. In fact, the levy is at the same level as it was in 2010-11, which means that JPS has been able to continue the trend of keeping school taxes flat for over a decade.

Q. Why do we need a proposition to establish a new capital reserve fund?

As in the case of your home when you save for a new roof, or you when you plan for the future need to put new tires on your car, the district also needs to save for potential capital projects. While our reimbursement for capital projects is at 98 percent, we are responsible for 2% locally. Rather than go to taxpayers for that amount, we can draw from monies set aside for this purpose in a capital reserve in order to complete the project **without any additional tax burden to our community**.

JPS is proposing establishing this capital reserve fund for this purpose. This will enable us to ensure that we can maintain our facilities well into the future without having to draw from our local taxpayer base for capital improvements and will allow us to continue our plan to maintain a flat tax rate impact into the future.

VOTE on Tuesday, May 21 | 12 to 9 p.m. at Lincoln, Washington, & Jefferson schools.
Call (716) 483-4420 for more information.