

North Tonawanda City Schools



Mission

To provide an excellent education to all that encompasses developing confident, creative, competitive and caring students.

Vision

To develop a nationally recognized school system focused on:
A collaborative environment that fosters the academic, emotional and social growth of each student through quality and purposeful educational experiences. Students becoming independent, productive and globally competitive citizens. Instilling the belief that each student is invaluable.

Core Beliefs

North Tonawanda Lumberjacks are:

- Lifelong learners
- Understanding
- Motivated
- Brave
- Empowered
- Respectful
- Just
- Academically sound
- Caring
- Knowledgeable
- Strong



Superintendent's Message

It is hard to believe there are only two months of school left. May and June will go by very fast and there is still so much to do. As students prepare for state, local and regent exams, the district is also packing up to get ready for the new building configuration. Next year will find us in some new homes for grades K-3, 4-6 and 7-8.

Spruce, Drake and Ohio are excited to change from elementary buildings to primary buildings. While it will be sad to say good-bye to 4th, 5th and 6th graders, the staff has been excitedly planning to welcome the expanded K-3 students in September. The amount of growth that these grade level students experience is extraordinary. Having staff being able to focus on building strong reading and math foundations, in addition to strong social emotional skills is an opportunity we are eager to get started on.

North Tonawanda Intermediate (NTI) will be home to the 4th, 5th and 6th graders. The staff are excited to build on the strong foundation that the primary buildings have provided to their students. This is where the shift from learning to read to reading to learn really starts to take hold. The new structure will allow our intermediate students to make new friends at an earlier age and start to put to work positive social emotional skills at an earlier age. With a strong focus on science, technology, engineering, art and math, we are excited to help these intermediate learners explore future options that will be made to them as they enter grades 7-12.

Our Middle School will move to the Meadow campus and our 7th and 8th graders will enjoy a completely remodeled Meadow site with new FACS, technology, and science spaces. The music department will have a new home as well, right next to the auditorium. The library media area will be a place where quiet

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School Board President's Message

It is spring again, and for school districts across our region it means it is budget season. On May 8th, we will have a hearing to present to North Tonawanda residents the budget adopted by the NT Board of Education; and on May 15th the voters of NT will vote on that budget. The budget hearing is an opportunity for voters to ask questions about the budget and to learn more about what items are affecting the budget. This year, as in previous years, the Board of Education worked with the superintendent, administration and faculty to develop a budget focused on striking a balance between providing a quality education to our students and being financially responsible to the taxpayers of North Tonawanda.

Discussions and deliberations on the budget began in October, 2017. The current Board and I decided it was a priority to start the budget process early. It was imperative that we listen to feedback from all interested parties, including members of the public. For the past six months we have heard presentations at each public board meeting from the administration, members of the faculty and employees in many departments to understand the needs and priorities of our district.

We are very proud of the stellar efforts from our faculty, administration and employees of the district in evaluating the strengths and deficiencies of the district and the help this has provided in developing this year's budget. This was truly a team approach, and the result is a budget that is sensible and helps to continue to move the district in a positive direction.

This year the NTCSD budget will again stay under the New York State imposed property tax cap, making it 6 years in a row. Responsible decisions like: strategic use of the fund balance, selling or renting underused buildings, and restructuring the district to have three

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**Budget Vote and Board Election • Tuesday, May 15, Noon - 9 p.m.
Alumni Student Activity Center, 405 Meadow Drive**

What a Show!

The high school students showed off their talent at an art show at the Carnegie Art Center in March.



Ohio Students Enjoy Day in the Snow

Students enjoyed a “snow day” at Ohio School. They worked together to build snow castles and snowmen. Principal, Mike Hiller, says, “We could see that teamwork is beneficial in both learning and playing!”



Attack of the Artbots

Art teacher Melinda Wright has been exposing her students at Spruce, Meadow and Drake Elementary to a high-tech art form. It is called artbots and it is kinetic sculptures that were created by Marcel Duchamp, using a simple 9V motor, AA battery, and propeller for motion. The projects involved design, engineering, physics and production.

Mrs. Wright had this to say about the project, “The sixth graders created an art robot that has a simple motor and a AA battery. We talked a little bit about electricity and some physics because of the propeller and the legs. So they kind of had to mess around with it because they had to get it to balance and move. The students came up with an illustration first, so the artbot design is based on their drawing. Then they moved into the robot design.”

Drake student Samantha Ott says, “I liked this project a lot because I got to show off my creativity.” Isabelle Insana said she loved being able to design her robot. “It was super creative.” Classmate Mitchell Berg agreed. “It was really fun because we got to make our own robot. I think they turned out pretty cool.”

Mrs. Wright says that all her students love the artbots because they are works of art that create works of art!



(LtoR): Mia Bond, Samantha Ott and Isabelle Insana.



Mitchell Berg

CTE Students Talk BOCES Programs with North Tonawanda Middle School

Some of the North Tonawanda students at the Niagara Career and Technical Education Center spent a morning at the North Tonawanda Middle School talking about their programs with students for the school’s annual career fair.



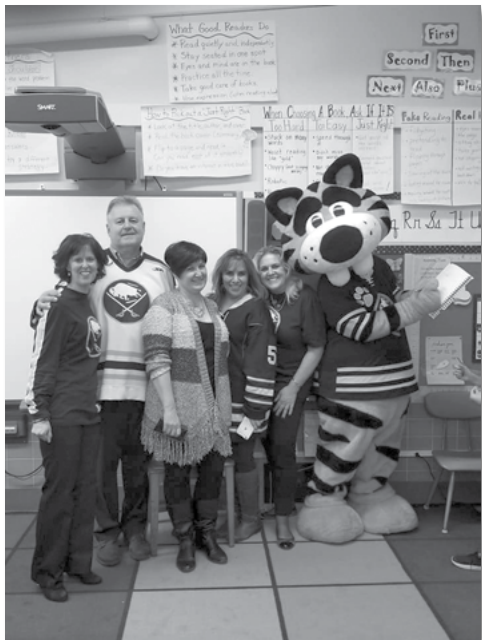
Ashley Rogers (Health Occupations Technician), Sam Taylor (Conservation), Jake Perkins, Alyssa Kissel, Natalie Prims and Olivia Waterson (Security and Law Enforcement), Kaitlynn Miller and Tiffany Cracknell (Cosmetology), Michael Bogdan and Lexi Brosius (Culinary), Jason Bronschidle and Logan Carozzolo (Certified Personal Trainer), Peter Marchenko (Auto Mechanics), Robert Meyer (Welding), Mike Finn (Building Trades), Kayleigh Kneiting and Laure Kyle (Early Childhood Education), Christian Riley (EMS) and Jared Martin (Cyber Security) volunteered with teachers Amber Croff (Security and Law Enforcement), Pauline Carney (Cosmetology), Lisa Cook (Culinary) and John Jeckovitch (Auto Mechanics).

Local Celebrities Celebrate Read Across America Day with Ohio Street Students

This year, to celebrate Ohio Street students and their growth as readers and writers, each primary class wrote a letter to the prominent heroes in North Tonawanda and the broader community inviting them to join in their celebration for “Read Across America” Day.

Among the many esteemed guest were: Mayor Pappas, from the City of North Tonawanda, and Buffalo Sabre Alumni, Morris Titanic. The guests were welcomed into classrooms and read one of their favorite childhood books to the students.

“Read Across America Day” is a nationwide reading celebration that takes place annually on March 2 which is Dr. Seuss’s birthday. Across the country, thousands of schools, libraries, and community centers participate by bringing together kids and books.

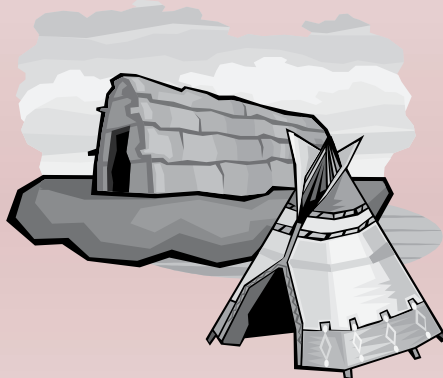


Fourth Grade Iroquois Project

As a culminating activity to demonstrate the learning of the Iroquois culture, the 4th grade children from Spruce Elementary created triaramas, posters, acrostic poems or replicas of an Iroquois village.



(LtoR) Abigail Buehler, Meredith Roberts and Carter Henneberger.



Kindergartners Show They Have Head for Business

Students in Mrs. Dexheimer’s kindergarten class at Spruce Elementary were busy buying and selling goods, along with reinforcing the recognition and value of the penny, nickel and dime.

The students needed to make sure that they were giving and receiving the correct coin, handing out receipts for their customers and doing their paperwork when business was slow. Each student invited their father or a special guest to be their business partner and to spend the afternoon with them.

There was a wide variety of items being sold such as pencils, erasers, balloons, candy, apples and baked goods! Following the shopping, the children and fathers sang, “You’ll Be In My Heart” and enjoyed some treats. It was a fun day of learning!



(LtoR): Gavin Steves, Gavin Bugyi and Mrs. Deborah Dexheimer, who was selling used books and balloons!

High School Students Learn About Health Careers

In an effort to promote Health Sciences, the NTHS Career Center held a "Health Professions Day" on Thursday, March 22, in the Library Media Center. Multiple Health Professionals were on hand to talk about their careers. They gave demonstrations and handed out information about their Health Field. The students were able to explore, learn and ask questions about the many different Health/Science fields available for them to study. It was a very beneficial day for many of them!



NT National Honor Society Helps to Make Wishes Come True

The National Honor Society Chapter of North Tonawanda High School decided with some much gloom and doom happening in the world they wanted to do something positive. The students decided they wanted to give back to someone in the community.

Using the Make-A-Wish Foundation as inspiration, they started a school wide awareness fundraiser where they sold stars for one dollar and encouraged their classmates and staff to write their wish on the star and then posted them on a wall at the high school so everyone could see. National Honor Society secretary, Nina Marranca, wrote in the letter that they enclosed with their \$269 check to the charity, "In a world sometimes dominated by negativity, it was beautiful to see so many selfless wishes. We called it the Wishing Wall and proudly displayed it in the cafeteria hallway. Many students and teachers participated; we noticed that many wishes pertained to others, rather than themselves, and many donated more than the dollar necessary to buy a star. We were pleased and encouraged."



Standing in back from left to right: Michael Finn, Brandon Lynch, Carly McBride, Mike Krawczyk, Alex Marchioli, Allison Kujawa and Hannah Craig. 2nd row in front: Nina Marranca, Jazlyn Ludlow, Erin Sammarco, Emily O'Bryan, Alexis Riester, Samantha Michlin. Missing were Amanda Davis, Jenna Flach, Grace Vater, Laney Wiclaw, Casey Trombley, Alexis Grawe, Carson Essenburg, and Alexis Cannizzaro.

Drake Students Experience Milk Magic

The students at North Tonawanda's Drake Elementary School were dazzled with magic and illusions performed by magicians, Rob and Carol Allen.

The Allens presented the Very Dairy Magic Show for grades kindergarten through 3rd grade. The show was sponsored by the Dairy Farmers of WNY and featured live animals, comedy, music and of course some healthy eating choices!



Carol and Rob Allen with student Connor Shiesley.

The Allens were very excited about being at Drake, since both attended school there!



Two North Tonawanda Students Named Top Youth Volunteers in NYS

North Tonawanda sisters, Bailey and Shelby Walter, were recently recognized by the New York State Prudential Spirit of Community Awards. The awards are a nationwide program honoring young people for outstanding acts of volunteerism. The awards are in their 23rd year and are conducted by Prudential Financial in partnership with the National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP). Honorees were judged on criteria including personal initiative, effort, impact and personal growth.

Bailey is a junior at the High School and has been volunteering since the fourth grade to raise awareness of Spinal Muscular Atrophy (SMA) and money for the cure. She was inspired by a friend, who has the disease. "In second grade I knew a boy who had it. It renders kids where they can't walk or can't move sometimes. You get diagnosed at about 18 months of age. It is very deadly, but not a lot of people know about it."

She decided she wanted to help him and others who have SMA. "I asked my mother if I could start a charity and she said no, I was too young. I came back to her two years later and asked again and she told me to do my research and give her a presentation and she would decide. After my presentation she told me if I could sell 100 bracelets to start my charity, she would let me do it."

Bailey, with the help of her teachers at Drake Elementary, sold her bracelets in a couple of days for two dollars each. She started her charity called "Let Them Dance" and its mission was to raise money and awareness for SMA. "We are trying to light the world purple to get people to know about it. We are trying to take monuments all across the country and the world and light them purple on August 16th, which is SMA Day. We need to help kids with this."

With the help of Senator Robert Ortt, who was Mayor of North Tonawanda at the time, they were able to light the Peace Bridge purple on that day. "Senator Ortt was the first person to take me seriously. He is such an amazing man and I can't thank him enough for his support." She also thanks her parents, family and Senator Chris Collins, who is also a big supporter of her cause. "I was really happy to receive the Prudential Award. I had also received the Nickelodeon HALO Award a few years ago, which goes to teens who are helping or leading others. That really helped to bring attention to my charity because they gave me a commercial on their website and flew me to New York for the show. It will be great if this brings attention to SMA as well."

Shelby is a sixth grader at Drake Elementary School and has collected enough school supplies to fill hundreds of backpacks for kids in need over the past two years. "It started a few years ago when I saw a girl who didn't have a backpack. Apparently her family didn't have enough money to get her one and I felt very bad about that."

With her sister Bailey and a teacher as her inspiration, she created a website telling people her mission was to make sure that every child had a backpack and school supplies. Encouraged by the response, she started asking local businesses for donations. The support was overwhelming. Shelby says she starts looking at her inventory in the middle of summer and then starts looking for donations for whatever she is lacking. "I start packing the backpacks at the end of the summer and asking family and friends if they know of anyone who needs one."

Not only has she helped students in the North Tonawanda City School District, but children in

other countries. "We had a mission trip at our church, so the youth group helped me pack up over 250 backpacks and we sent them all overseas."

Shelby is very modest about winning the award. "I am sure there are other people more deserving than me, but I feel lucky to have received it." Drake Elementary Principal, Katie Smith, says Shelby has helped a lot of students at the school and that she is very proud of her. "Shelby is certainly the type of person that we would see as a leader in the future because she has already taken on so much of that in what she does now. She serves others and that is the best thing we could have happen for any of our kids, is provide service to the community and for the greater good. She is certainly an exemplary example of that. We are fortunate to have her here at Drake and for the service she has done for Drake and NT and the community and beyond."

"Prudential is proud to recognize these remarkable young people for using their energy, creativity and compassion to bring meaningful change to their communities," said Prudential Chairman and CEO John Strangfeld. NASSP Executive Director, JoAnn Bartoletti, added, "These students have not only improved the lives of the people and the communities they've served, they also set an important example for their peers. They prove that you're never too young to make a difference."

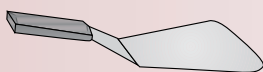


Shelby Walter



Bailey Walter

McWonderful!



The staff at Drake Elementary School took over the registers and drive thru at McDonalds on Meadow Drive for McTeacher night. It was all part of a fundraising opportunity where the restaurant chain invites school districts to work in the restaurant to help with school needs. Part of the sales from the evening goes back to the school for the school to use at their discretion.

Thanks to the support of school families and friends, \$877.23 was made!



Kindergarten Students Celebrate Valentine's Day



(LtoR) Keithan Pitner and Ariana Sanford.

Mrs. Debbie Dexheimer's kindergarten class at Spruce Elementary School was busy getting ready for the day of sharing.... Valentine's Day!

The children made beautiful and creative mailboxes to receive cards from their classmates. "It is very exciting for the children to write their own cards and to share them with their friends. The students have also worked hard at making cards to share with our community DeGraff Hospital," says Mrs. Dexheimer.



Spruce Focuses on Attendance During Career Week

Spruce Elementary counselor Alyssa Gierke says during Career Week attendance was one of the focuses. "We had a themed week to promote career awareness and increase attendance. Each grade level created career stars that are posted throughout the school and classes had a parent career day on Friday of that week."

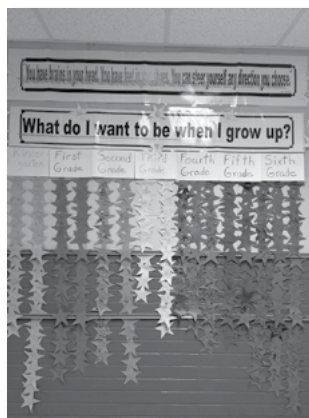
Spruce also created the "Attendance Challenge 2018" where each class's attendance rates are recorded every day. At the end of the month, the class with the highest attendance rate receives a pizza party! Spruce will be continuing this challenge until the end of the school year; each month the attendance resets to 100%. Students who are sick are encouraged to stay home and rest before returning to school!



Ohio and Drake Students Explore Careers

From February 5th through the 9th, Drake Elementary and Ohio Elementary School students experienced a Reach for the Stars Career Awareness Week. During this week, students participated in activities and discussions which included displaying their dream jobs, scavenger hunts, inspirational quotes, and wearing themed clothing to promote good school attendance, out of this world futures, and higher education. These activities helped get students excited about their promising and amazing futures.

Culminating this exciting week, on the mornings of February 9th and February 16th, Drake Elementary and Ohio Elementary Schools each hosted Career Speakers in Kindergarten through 6th grade classrooms. A total of 35 parents and community members graciously volunteered their time to speak to Drake and Ohio Elementary students about their career education, training and responsibilities, and answer questions. Students, volunteers, and teachers enjoyed the opportunity to listen, share, and host on these enlightening and fun mornings. Nathan Schelble, the school counselor, would like to thank the generous contributions of the speakers, administration, faculty, and staff who all contributed to making Reach For the Stars Career Awareness Week a success!



North Tonawanda Celebrates Students' College Choices on National College Signing Day

College-bound seniors were celebrated by their counselors, administrators, teachers and their peers at National College Signing Day at the North Tonawanda High School recently. This is the third year the high school has recognized this day.

The students visited during their lunch period at a table set up by the school's counselors in the hallway across from the lunchroom. For the school counselors it was perfect timing because it was School Counselor Week as well. School Counselor Jennifer Kupiec says, "We basically have the seniors write down on a sign where they are going to college or where they want to go to college. Some know already and some are in that process of where they are waiting to hear back from schools and then they can make those decisions. It's good because it starts that conversation and gets them thinking about it. They are going to have to make a huge decision in a few months. This is a perfect time to talk to us and their peers and think about what they want to do."

The signs are then hung up, so the whole school can see them. The students also are able to partake in some raffles for food, spa treatments and prom tickets. "It's really a fun day to celebrate seniors and bring attention to college awareness. We are actually doing this with all the students, K-12, throughout the district," explains Mrs. Kupiec. "The schools are doing all sorts of activities like having career speakers and talking about college and career choices. "It is a great day for all of us because the students are very excited about their future."



Counselors (On the Left) Mrs. John, Mrs. Kupiec, Mrs. Graves and Mr. Hammond. (On the Right) Right side: Mr. Derrett, Mrs. Wright, Mrs. Schultz and Ms. Kelley.



Students: Ylka Sopi, Sara Dolan and Grace Proefrock with their signs.

Opportunities Fair

Recently, NTMS 8th graders took part in an "Opportunities Fair" set up by its Guidance Department during school hours to learn about their futures at the high school.

Academy representatives and academy students were on hand to discuss programs and answer questions. In addition, local college representatives were also present.



(LtoR) Alaina Roberts, Allison Chaplin, and Sarah Polek, speaking with Canisius representative Matt Kwiakowski MBA.

Sports Broadcaster Visits North Tonawanda High School

There was a special career speaker at the High School on February 12th.

Sal Capaccio, from WGR Sports Radio 550, spoke to students in the Library Media Center about his career on the radio station as a talk show host and being the Buffalo Bills beat and sideline reporter.

"It was a great opportunity for our students interested in sports and broadcasting to be able to talk to a professional," says Career Center Mentor Lori Graves.

Mrs. Graves with Sal Capaccio.



PROPOSITION #1 VOTE ON BUDGET

Shall the proposed budget of Expenditures of the North Tonawanda City School District for the 2018-2019 school year in the amount of \$77,887,449 and for the purposes shown in the statement of estimated expenditures adopted by the Board of Education, be 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, after first deducting the monies available from State Aid and other sources provided by law.

☐ Yes ☐ No

Transportation Capital Expenditure

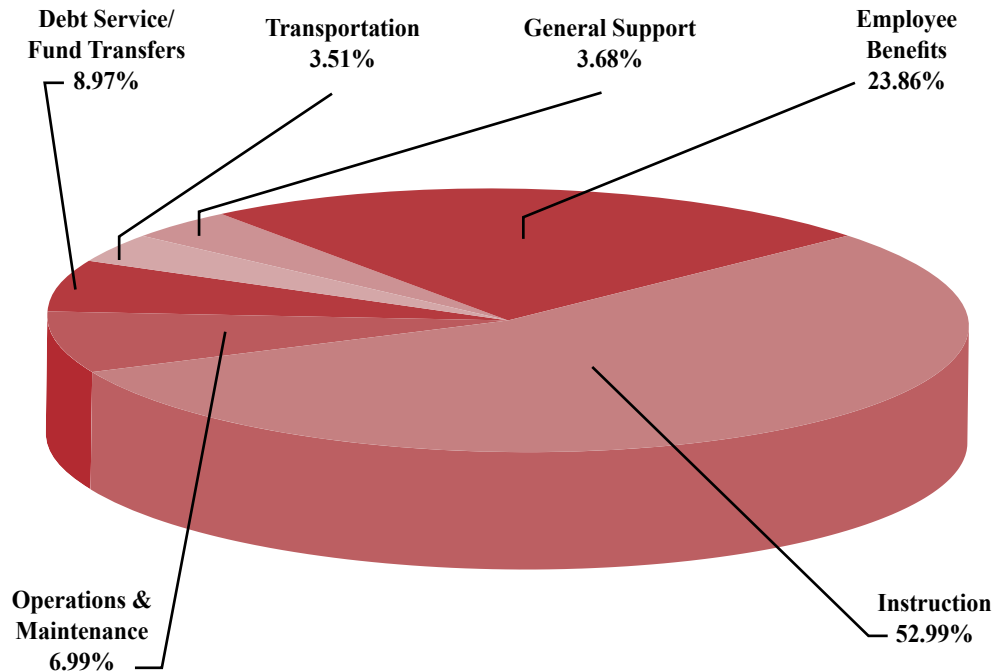
In the 2018-2019 budget year, the district is proposing to purchase a 22-passenger wheelchair bus and a 6-passenger vehicle for the purpose of transporting students as part of home to school services. These vehicles will be replacing vehicles that will need to be retired from the current district fleet.

\$100,000 Capital Outlay Project

What is the capital outlay project that is included in the 2018-2019 school budget this year?

Capital outlay projects were established by NYSED Department of Facilities Planning as a method for districts to maintain facilities, make modest upgrades, and improvements of up to \$100,000 between larger capital projects. The most important aspect of these projects is that they will generate state aid for the school district. In the past these necessary repairs and improvements would all be paid for through local funds as building repairs in the budget, or the district would have to delay repairs until the district could put together a large capital project. Now, using capital outlay projects the district will only pay for approximately 16% of the costs with local funds because the state will provide aid for approximately 84% providing a funding source for the district to reduce the local cost to taxpayers. In the 2018-2019 budget year the district is proposing to use these funds for a construction/reconstruction project to address security measures in school buildings.

EXPENDITURES



| | 2017-2018 | 2018-2019 | Percent Change from 2017-18 |
|--------------------|--------------|--------------|-----------------------------|
| Instruction | \$40,083,679 | \$41,271,840 | 2.96% |

Includes: K-12 Instructional program, supervision, curriculum development, BOCES, special education programs, occupational education, interscholastic athletics, co-curricular programs, health services, library media, computer instruction, pupil personnel services.

| | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------|--------------|------|
| Employee Benefits | \$18,454,722 | \$18,584,065 | .70% |
|--------------------------|--------------|--------------|------|

Includes: Employee retirement systems, health insurance, unemployment insurance, social security and worker's compensation.

| | | | |
|------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------|
| General Support | \$2,826,950 | \$2,869,872 | 1.52% |
|------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------|

Includes: Legal services, personnel, insurance, school board, refund on property tax, BOCES administrative charges, administrative and financial services, public information, central data processing and auditing.

| | | | |
|-----------------------|-------------|-------------|-------|
| Transportation | \$2,594,560 | \$2,723,643 | 4.98% |
|-----------------------|-------------|-------------|-------|

Includes: Transportation to public and non-public schools, vocational schools, educational field and athletic trips and transportation of special education children.

| | | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|--------|
| Debt Service/Fund Transfers | \$4,022,561 | \$6,989,809 | 73.77% |
|------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|--------|

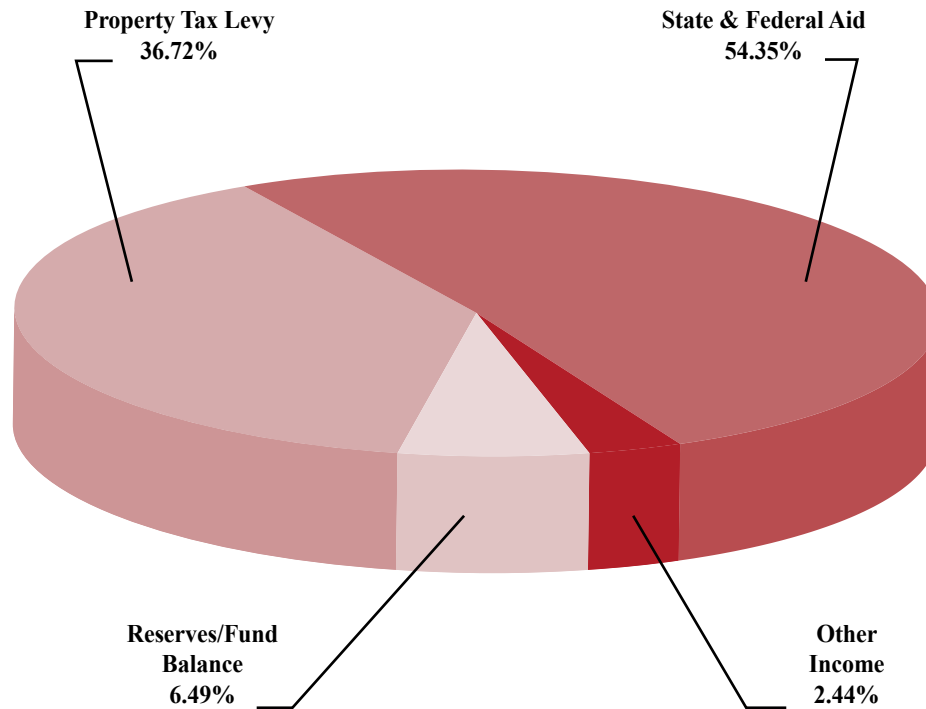
Includes: Principal and interest payments on debt for district building reconstruction projects and energy conservation projects. Also, includes District's share of special education summer programs.

| | | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|--------|
| Operations & Maintenance | \$5,509,141 | \$5,448,220 | -1.11% |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|--------|

Includes: Maintenance of district facilities, custodial services and utility costs.

| | | | |
|---------------------|--------------|--------------|-------|
| TOTAL BUDGET | \$73,491,613 | \$77,887,449 | 5.98% |
|---------------------|--------------|--------------|-------|

PROJECTED REVENUES



| | 2017-2018 | 2018-2019 | Change from 2017-18 |
|-------------------|--------------|--------------|---------------------|
| State/Federal Aid | \$38,558,709 | \$42,332,552 | \$3,773,843 |

State/Federal Aid represents the largest portion of revenue for the District. In the 2018-19 school year, it is projected to be 54.35% of all revenue. Last year it was 52.47%. This year, the aid increased by \$3,773,843.

| | | | |
|--------------|-------------|-------------|-----------|
| Other Income | \$1,778,842 | \$1,903,842 | \$125,000 |
|--------------|-------------|-------------|-----------|

Any income received by the School District other than State and Federal Aid, Fund Balance or Tax Levy is included under this heading. Examples of other income would be: rentals, interest earnings, payments in lieu of taxes, refunds of prior year's expenses, gifts, fees, tax penalties, commissions and athletic event gate receipts.

| | | | |
|-----------------------|-------------|-------------|------------|
| Reserves/Fund Balance | \$5,107,385 | \$5,050,000 | (\$57,385) |
|-----------------------|-------------|-------------|------------|

Reserves: The District maintains Reserve Funds in accordance with guidelines established by the State of New York and adopted and accepted by the Board of Education. With the significant financial issues currently affecting districts across the State, the Board of Education has adopted a fiscally responsible process to use those reserve funds that are available. They have adopted a process which attempts to maintain quality programs while keeping the tax levy reasonable and within the Tax Cap threshold.

Fund Balance: Funds which are budgeted but unexpended at the end of the budget year, and revenues which are realized in excess of those budgeted for the year, are available at the end of the fiscal year to be carried forward as fund balance.

| | | | |
|------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|-----------|
| Tax Levy (Includes Prorated Taxes) | \$28,046,677 | \$28,601,055 | \$554,378 |
|------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|-----------|

This is the amount to be raised through local property taxes. The Board of Education desires to keep any increases in the levy as low as possible. For the 2018-19 school year, it is anticipated that there will be a tax levy increase of \$554,378 which amounts to a 1.98% increase.

| | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|
| TOTAL ESTIMATED REVENUES | \$73,491,613 | \$77,887,449 | \$4,395,836 |
|--------------------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|

School Board President's Message

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K-3 schools, one 4-6 intermediate school and one 7-12 middle school/high school complex will make it possible for NT to stay considerably under the tax cap limit again for the 2018-2019 school year. Specifically, we will have a tax rate increase of 1.98%, which is 1.35% **below** the tax cap limit for 2018.

Despite being 1.35% **below** the tax cap limit, we still will be adding back programs and resources cut in previous years when state funding was slashed. The programs and resources that are tentatively slated to be added back in this year's budget are:

- Art classes for grades K-1
- 4th grade band
- Elementary counselors (previously funded through a grant that ended in 2017)
- Special education teachers for grades K-3 and 4-6
- 21st Century skills librarian for grades 4-6 – assist in STEAM (Science Technology Engineering Art and Math) curriculum

These Important programs are being added back in the most economical way possible. All of these items were identified as priorities by our faculty, administration and the board to achieve the district goals.

Art for grades K-1 was cut in previous difficult budget years, as was 4th grade band, but both of these items are a critical part of a young child's development. Our counselors are addressing social and emotional issues early on in our grade schools in an effort to identify and address problems before they lead to disruptions in the classroom. Having a dedicated counselor in each K-3 building is critical for the success of all children in our district.

We think this budget responsibly addresses the needs of our students and provides the faculty and administration the resources it needs to improve our district's performance. We invite you to attend the budget hearing on May 8 at 7pm in the auditorium at Spruce Elementary to learn more about the budget and the direction the district is moving.

Our district has a bright future. We have many dedicated parents and families in our district that desire and strive for the success of their children. This budget, our current capital project, and the reconfiguration of our schools will transform the district and allow our students to flourish.

Please help us to continue to move this district in the right direction and vote yes on this year's budget.

Thad McMurray
President, Board of Education

OVERALL BUDGET PROPOSAL

North Tonawanda City Schools Budget Notice

OVERALL BUDGET PROPOSAL

| | Budget Adopted for the 2017-18 School Year | Budget Proposed for the 2018-19 School Year | Contingency Budget for the 2018-19 School Year * |
|--|--|---|--|
| Total Budgeted Amount, Not Including Separate Propositions | \$73,491,613 | \$77,887,449 | \$77,333,071 |
| Increase/Decrease for the 2018-19 School Year | | \$4,395,836 | \$3,841,458 |
| Percentage Increase/Decrease in Proposed Budget | | 5.98% | 5.23% |
| Change in the Consumer Price Index | | 2.13% | |
| | | | |
| A. Proposed Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount | \$28,046,677 | \$28,601,055 | |
| 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) | \$28,046,677 | \$28,601,055 | \$28,046,677 |
| F. Total Permissible Exclusions | \$155,443 | \$524,992 | |
| G. School Tax Levy Limit, Excluding Levy for Permissible Exclusions | \$27,955,601 | \$28,504,071 | |
| H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, Excluding Levy to Support Library Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions (E – B – F + D) | \$27,891,234 | \$28,076,063 | |
| I. Difference: G – H (Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval – | \$64,367 | \$428,008 | |
| See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions) ** | | | |
| Administrative Component | \$6,931,557 | \$7,082,130 | \$7,052,630 |
| Program Component | \$55,656,223 | \$56,862,194 | \$56,627,318 |
| Capital Component | \$10,903,833 | \$13,943,125 | 13,653,125 |

The District would adopt a contingency budget with \$554,378 reduced from student supplies and materials, equipment, nonessential maintenance, and non-instructional non-unionized salaries. Also, due to the contingency budget regulations, school facilities would not be available for public use at no cost.

| | Under the Budget Proposed for the 2018-19 School Year |
|---|---|
| Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings ¹ | \$595 |

The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2018-2019 by the qualified voters of the North Tonawanda City Schools, Niagara County New York, will be held at 405 Meadow Drive in said district on Tuesday, May 15, 2018 between the hours of 12:00pm (Noon) and 9:00pm, prevailing time in the North Tonawanda City Schools.

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

Budget Vote and Board Election • Tuesday, May 15, Noon - 9 p.m.
Alumni Student Activity Center, 405 Meadow Drive

Board of Education Adopts New Boundary Lines for K-3 Buildings

At the November 1 Board of Education meeting members adopted the new boundary lines for the K-3 buildings.

Next school year, the District's capital project will be completed and the district will now be home to three K-3 buildings, one 4-6 building and a new 7-12 campus in the Middle School and High School that will be connected by the alumni center.

With the change in grade level configuration, the boundary lines needed to be adjusted to reflect Meadow Elementary coming off line and becoming the new Middle School.

The District has tried to maintain as much as possible the current neighborhoods around Ohio, Drake and Spruce while absorbing the students in K-3 that would have been attending Meadow.



Superintendent's Message *continued from page 1*

studying and technology lessons will be provided. This building will also feature its own brand new gymnasium and weight room.

As you can see we have a lot to do in a small amount of time, but we are to get moved and set for an exciting start to the 2018-2019 school year. The community's help and support is what makes NT a great place to live. Thank you for always supporting your school district, as we appreciate it. We look forward to showing off our new look in September.

Sincerely,

Gregory J. Woytila
Superintendent of Schools

Ohio Street Students Get Show On Building Character

Last month, Ohio Street School hosted "The NED Show", a character education program designed to help kids become champions at school and in life. The presenter, Soupy, demonstrated through narration, and his skilled YoYo-ing, how to accomplish amazing things. Soupy's message was that students can achieve great success if they're given positive motivation and specific directions that lead them down that path.



The NED Show taught the Ohio students three foundational stepping-stones: **N**ever Give Up, **E**ncourage Others, **D**o Your Best. Our entire mission is based on a fundamental belief in children.

Vote Qualifications Board of Education Candidates

- You must be a citizen of the United States.
- You must be 18 years of age.
- You must be a resident of the school district for a period of 30 days immediately prior to the vote.

Information on Board of Education candidates can be found on the district website: www.ntschoools.org.

The election of members of the Board of Education shall be held to fill three (3) at-large vacancies on the Board. All seats are for three (3) year terms.

Candidates listed below are in alphabetical order:

1. Krista Vince Garland
2. Mario Gregori
3. Erik Herbert
4. Cheryl McMahon
5. Erica Robinson



**NORTH TONAWANDA
CITY SCHOOLS**

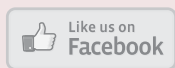
176 Walck Road
North Tonawanda, NY 14120

Board of Education

Thad McMurray, President
Cheryl McMahon, Vice President
Colleen Angelhow
Michele Golding
Matthew Kennedy
Zachary Niemiec
John Zloty
Madison Heiss, Student Member

Gregory J. Woytila
Superintendent of Schools

www.ntschoools.org



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Tentative Building Schedules Announced for 2018-19 School Year

The North Tonawanda City School District has announced its summary of building schedules for the 2018-19 school year.

The Tentative building schedules FOR STUDENTS are as follows:

- High School
 - School start - 7:50 a.m.
 - School dismissal - 2:35 p.m.
- Middle School
 - School start - 7:30 a.m.
 - School dismissal - 2:30 p.m.
- Intermediate School
 - School start - 8:50 a.m.
 - School dismissal - 3:05 p.m.
- Primary Schools (Spruce, Ohio & Drake)
 - School start - 9:25 a.m.
 - School dismissal - 3:50 p.m.

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Outstanding Athletes Fall/Winter

Congratulations to our Sports Teams for another outstanding season! We would like to give a special shout out of our athletes that really shined this season.

Criteria for the Section VI ADPRO All-WNY Scholar Athlete Individual Award is: The student must have an overall GPA of 90 or above for six semesters and must be a starter or important reserve. Only seniors are eligible.

The criteria for Team Awards is: A required number of team members must have a combined team average of 90% or higher.

Fall:

Scholar Individual Athletic Awards went to: Jessica Bonafede, Hannah Craig, Hallie Daigler, Sara Dolan, Sean Ferry, Brianna Gochala, Jordan Holmes, Allison House, Alyssa Kissel, Michael Krawczyk, Alexandra Marchioli, Jasmine Moran, Dylan Normandin, Lindsay Piotrowski, Erin Sammarco, Austin Spatorico, Brandon Stychalska, Brandon Thompson and Tyler Yim.

The Athletic Department would like to also congratulate Hannah Craig for being selected as the winner of the Section VI Scholar Athlete award for the season.

The season's Scholar Athlete Varsity Team awards go to: Football, Girls Volleyball, Boys Volleyball, Golf, Girls Swimming/Diving, Boys and Girls Cross Country, Cheerleading, Girls Tennis, Boys Soccer and Girls Soccer.

Winter:

Scholar Individual Athletic Awards went to: Sean Ferry, Amy Carson, Hallie Daigler, Amada Davis, Matthew Grigg, Madison Heiss, Jordan Holmes, Alyssa Kissel, Brandon Lynch, Leah Manth, Amelia Milioto, Jarod Powers, Angela Stevick, and Brandon Stychalska.

The season's Scholar Athlete Varsity Team awards go to: Boys Hockey, Girls Bowling, Girls Indoor Track, Boys Indoor Track, Girls Basketball, Boys Basketball and Boys Swimming.

"Research continues to provide evidence that student-athletes perform better in the classroom when compared to their non-participating classmates. The NYSPHSAA Scholar-Athlete program brings attention to the benefit and impact interscholastic sports participation has upon students," said Robert Zayas, NYSPHSAA Executive Director.

