Voters to Elect Three JPS Board of Education Members

On May 16, voters will elect three Board of Education members to serve three-year terms. There are four candidates on the ballot.



Paul Abbott, an incumbent, is seeking his sixth term, having started on the board in July 2008. Mr. Abbott has served as the Board of Education President since 2016. He is a JHS alumnus and graduated from JCC, the Chautauqua County Sheriff's Academy and the FBI National Academy in Quantico, Va. He is retired as the Investigative Commander of the Jamestown Police Department and is currently employed by the Chautauqua County Sheriff's Department. Mr. Abbott and his wife, Jennifer, have two daughters: Kelsey, a 2013 JHS graduate and Hannah, a 2017 JHS graduate.



Christine Schnars, an incumbent, is seeking her third term on the board since returning to it in 2017. She has been a member of the BOE for 31 years. She currently serves as second vice president and Area 3 Director for NYSSBA and is currently a member of the Erie 2 Chautauqua-Cattaraugus BOCES Board. She is a past president of the Fletcher PTA and served on the NYSPTA Board of Governors. Mrs. Schnars, her husband Jim and their four children are all JHS alumni. She has five grandchildren in the Jamestown schools.



John Panebianco is seeking his first full term on the Board of Education. Mr. Panebianco worked for JPS for 14 years, retiring as director of human resources in 2022. A graduate of JHS, he and his wife, Cindy, have one son Michael, a JHS graduate and local attorney, and two grandchildren. He is a U.S. Air Force and Army National Guard veteran and holds an associate's degree from JCC and a bachelor's, master's and two administrative degrees from SUNY Fredonia. He is an active member of St. Luke's Episcopal Church, a past board member of the Jamestown Community Learning Council and YMCA Camp Onyahsa, and serves as a mentor with Chautauqua Striders.



Melissa Paterniti is seeking her first term on the Board of Education. She graduated from Jamestown High School in 1993 and received an associate's degree from SUNY Jamestown Community College in 1996. Ms. Paterniti previously worked for The Resource Center and Uber/Lyft rideshare services. She returned to the area in 2019 after previously living in Austin, Texas and currently works for Ballgame Heroes. She is a member of the JPS Safety Committee and also helped raise funds for a memorial to late JHS student Lexy Hughan.

School Budget & BOE Election Info...

Tuesday, May 16, 2023

Polls are open for registered voters from **noon to 9 p.m.** at **Jefferson** & **Washington** Middle Schools & **Lincoln** Elementary School.

If you have any questions about where you should vote, please contact JPS District Clerk Jaunita Walter at (716) 483-4420 or jaunita.m.walter@jpsny.org.

What are You Voting On?...

- **2023-24 Proposed Budget $101,475,978**
- **NO Increase to the Local Tax Levy**
- **Election of Three Board of Education Members**
- **Proposition #2: The Establishment of a $5 million dollar Capital Improvement Reserve Fund**

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Our Focus is Learning:

We see every child learning every day!



JHS Marching Band students march down Martin Road during the 2022 Homecoming Parade.



Jamestown High School presented "Big Fish: School Edition" for their annual musical in March. Photo courtesy of Rob Sigler Photography.



Jalil Salik and his family celebrate his August 2022 graduation during a special ceremony with the JPS Board of Education.

School District Budget Notice

Overall Budget Proposal	Budget Adopted for the 2022-23 School Year	Budget Proposed for the 2023-24 School Year	Contingency Budget for the 2023-24 School Year *
Total Budgeted Amount, Not Including Separate Propositions	$ 93,893,354	$101,475,978	$100,969,478
Increase/Decrease for the 2023-24 School Year		$7,582,624	$7,076,124
Percentage Increase/Decrease in Proposed Budget		8%	7.5%
Change in the Consumer Price Index		8.0%	
A. Proposed Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount	$14,641,567	$14,641,567	
B. Levy to Support Library Debt, if Applicable	$350,000	$350,000	
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)	$14,991,567	$14,991,567	$14,991,567
F. Total Permissible Exclusions	$225,827	$0	
G. School Tax Levy Limit, Excluding Levy for Permissible Exclusions	$14,960,802	$15,024,997	
H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, Excluding Levy to Support Library Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions (E – B – F + D)	$14,415,740	$14,641,567	
I. Difference: G – H (Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval – See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions) **	$545,062	$383,430	
Administrative Component	$9,355,743	$9,697,112	$9,695,612
Program Component	$67,361,336	$71,898,867	$71,693,867
Capital Component	$17,176,275	$19,879,999	$19,579,999

* Provide a statement of assumptions made in projecting a contingency budget for the 2023-24 school year, should the proposed budget be defeated pursuant to Section 2023 of the Education Law.

The contingency budget includes a reduction in equipment for the District's building and grounds department and an elimination of all other equipment, including athletics and music, except for computer hardware.

** 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
Shall the resolution adopted by the Board of Education on 03/28/2023 authorizing the establishment of a Capital Improvements Reserve Fund not to exceed $5,000,000, be approved?	$5,000,000

*NOTE TO SCHOOL DISTRICT BUSINESS OFFICIALS: Please submit an electronic version (Word or PDF) of this completed form to: emscmgts@nysed.gov	Under the Budget Proposed for the 2023-24 School Year
Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings[1]	$541

The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2023-24 by the qualified voters of the Jamestown Public Schools district, Chautauqua County, New York, will be held at Jefferson Middle School, Lincoln Elementary School, and Washington Middle School in said district on Tuesday, May 16, 2023 between the hours of 12:00pm and 9:00pm, prevailing time in the Jefferson Middle School, Lincoln Elementary School, and Washington Middle School at which time the polls will be opened to vote by voting ballot or machine.

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