

WYOMING CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT



BUDGET NEWSLETTER 2025-2026

Message from Emily Herman, Superintendent of Schools

Dear Wyoming Central School Community,

As I reflect on the past year, I remain incredibly proud of our school community and the collaborative spirit that drives us forward each day. Wyoming Central School continues to be a place of growth, opportunity, and resilience, qualities that shine through in both our students and our staff. Thank you for your continued support, engagement, and belief in the power of public education.

This year, we faced financial challenges that demanded thoughtful planning and community-centered solutions. Even though the state budget hasn't been finalized yet, we have had to move forward and finalize ours, despite the uncertainty around how much state aid we'll ultimately receive. That uncertainty adds another layer to what's already a tough process. Like many districts across New York and the country, we are feeling the effects of inflation, everything from utility bills to contract costs that continue to rise. Still, our commitment hasn't changed, we are here to give our students the high-quality education they deserve and prepare them for a successful future.

Budget Priorities and Program Continuation

We're proud to share that, thanks to thoughtful financial planning, we're able to continue two key programs in the 2025-2026 school year: our School Resource Officer (SRO) and our full-day Pre-K program. These programs are important parts of what makes our school feel safe, supportive, and welcoming—from helping our youngest learners get a strong start to making sure our whole school community feels secure.

...continued on Page 2

Public Hearing:

May 13, 2025
6:30 pm
School Conference
Room



Budget Vote:

May 20, 2025
1:00 pm - 8:00 pm
School Front Hall

Absentee ballots may be returned by mail or in person.
Absentee ballots must be received in the office of the District Clerk
by 5:00 pm on May 20, 2025 in order to be counted.

We've worked hard to build a budget that protects what matters most—strong academics, essential student support services, and opportunities beyond the classroom—while also being mindful of the impact on our taxpayers.

Capital Outlay Project

The proposed 2025–2026 \$100K Capital Outlay Project is dedicated to enhancing the audio and electrical infrastructure in our main building—specifically, a much-needed upgrade to the sound system in the gymnasium. This project aims to improve sound quality for school concerts, drama presentations, assemblies, and other community events held in this central space.

Having clear, high-quality audio makes a big difference—not just for performances, but for all the important moments that bring our school community together. Whether it's a concert, assembly, or celebration, everyone deserves to hear and feel fully part of the experience. This investment is about more than sound; it's about supporting the arts, strengthening connections, and making those special moments even more meaningful for our students, staff, and families.

Sustaining Our Vision

Our proposed budget of \$6,365,525 includes a 2% tax levy increase—a small but meaningful step to help us meet today's needs while planning responsibly for the future. As always, we have built this budget with our students and families in mind, staying true to our mission without compromising the quality of education we provide.

Looking Ahead

As we look to the future, our focus remains on sustainability, equity, and excellence. We will continue to explore creative strategies to support our district, strengthen community partnerships, and invest in professional learning to ensure our educators are equipped to meet evolving student needs.

We invite you to join us for our Annual Budget Public Hearing on May 13, 2025, at 6:30 PM in the school cafeteria, where we will present the full budget details and answer any questions you may have. Your voice and input are vital as we move forward together.

Thank you for being a part of our journey, and for your unwavering support of the Wyoming Central School District.

Sincerely,

Emily Herman

Superintendent

Wyoming Students
Cheering for the
Wyoming Quarterback!
Go Bills!



WYOMING CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

MEET THE CANDIDATE

Benjamin Chamberlain

To the Members of the WCS School District:

My name is Benjamin Chamberlain. I am a WCS graduate (Class of 2003) and lifelong resident of the Town of Middlebury. If elected this will be my third term on your school board. Since my initial appointment to the board, I've worked hard to maximize student services. I can proudly say that I supported and helped to found new programs like the new full-day Pre-K and after school programs.

While I will always champion new ideas and student services to help our students be the best they can be, I also understand taxpayers need for a reasonable budget. In a time when the cost of most everything is through the roof, we as a school board have to tighten our budget to balance the needs of the students with funds from the Federal and State governments, as well as from taxpayers right here in town to create a financial plan that works for everyone. My focus on applied economics and management at Cornell University taught me about risk management, frugality, and the importance of a balanced budget. I believe that public institutions like WCS should be run in a way that best serves the residents of the community, not as a business that needs to turn a profit.

I also pride myself on always being accessible. I would encourage anyone to reach out to bchamberlain@wyomingcsd.org with any questions or suggestions on how to improve our wonderful school. I will continue to work my hardest to serve the students and staff of WCS as well as all our community members for the next five years, and I hope to see you all at the reunion this summer.



Voting Procedures

How do I sign in? On the day of the vote between the hours of 1:00 pm and 8:00 pm, go to the sign-in table where you will be required to sign your name and township in which you reside. You will also be asked for the correct spelling of your name, and your address by our election workers. Our Election Workers also reserve the right to ask for a photo ID.

Where and how do I complete the ballot?

At the sign-in table, you will be given a paper ballot and privacy sleeve and then instructed to go to a privacy booth. Once at the privacy booth, review the paper ballot, and make your selection using the pen provided. Be sure to place a ☒ or ☒ in the square. Select either yes or no for each proposition and select one (1) candidate you would like to see on the Board of Education. After you have finished filling out the ballot, place your folded ballot in the ballot box.

If you have any problems on the day of the vote, please see one of the Election Workers at the main table. If you have any questions, please contact Nancy Norton, District Clerk at 585-495-6222 or via email at nnorton@wyomingcsd.org

CAPITAL OUTLAY EXCEPTION PROJECT

NYS Law provides that a district may receive building aid in the following aid year for one project each year in the district not exceeding \$100,000. Voter authorization for these projects is obtained by inclusion of funding in the budget presented to and approved by the voters, such must be paid by budget appropriation. Districts may not use borrowed money for these projects. Project components planned for this year's proposed budget include audio and electrical improvements at the main building.

Annual Budget Referendum 2025-2026

What's on the ballot?

PROPOSITION #1: Annual Budget

Shall the following resolution be adopted?

YES ☐ NO ☐ **RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education of the Wyoming Central School District shall be authorized to expend the amount of \$6,365,525.00 to meet the expenditures for the fiscal year 2025-2026, AND FURTHER that said Board of Education shall be authorized to levy and collect a tax upon taxable property of the School District in an amount necessary therefore.

PROPOSITION #2: Board Election

RESOLVED, to elect one (1) member of the Board of Education for one (1) five (5) year term commencing July 1, 2025 and expiring on June 30, 2030 to succeed Benjamin Chamberlain, whose term expires on June 30, 2025. All board positions are at-large.

Vote for one (1):

- ☐ Benjamin Chamberlain
- ☐ _____ Write-In Candidate

PROPOSITION #3: Authorization to withdraw from the existing "2020 Vehicle, Machinery, & Equipment Purchase Capital Reserve Fund"

Shall the following resolution be adopted?

YES ☐ NO ☐ **RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education of the Wyoming Central School District is hereby authorized to withdraw from the existing "2020 Vehicle, Machinery, & Equipment Purchase Capital Reserve Fund" a sum of money not to exceed Thirty-Three Thousand dollars (\$33,000), and to expend such funds for the costs associated with purchasing and installing equipment upgrades to the District's phone system.



PROPOSITION #4: Authorization to establish “2025 Vehicle, Machinery and Equipment Purchase Capital Reserve Fund”

Shall the following resolution be adopted?

YES ☐ NO ☐ **RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education of the Wyoming Central School District is hereby authorized to establish a capital reserve fund in accordance with New York State Education Law Section 3651 to be known as the “2025 Vehicle, Machinery and Equipment Purchase Capital Reserve Fund”.

The purpose of such fund being to finance, in whole or in part, the purchase and installation of vehicles, equipment, machinery or apparatus, furnishings, and costs incidental thereto, including transportation vehicles, (buses and vans), technology equipment (educational and office), buildings and grounds equipment, furnishings, and other equipment, machinery or apparatus incidental thereto or separately; provided that such capital costs are an object of purpose that would be eligible for financing under the Local finance Law.

The ultimate amount of such reserve fund shall not exceed \$500,000, plus earnings thereon. The probable term of such reserve fund shall be 10 years, but such fund shall continue in existence for its stated purpose until the fund is exhausted or otherwise liquidated in accordance with the Education Law.

The source of monies to be paid into such reserve fund shall include: (a) current and future unappropriated fund balance made available by the Board of Education from time to time; (b) any appropriations authorized by the voters from time to time; (c) New York State Aid received and made available by the Board of Education from time to time; and (d) fund balances transferred from other reserve funds of the District, all as authorized by law.

PROPOSITION #5: Authorization to establish “2025 Building Capital Reserve Fund”

Shall the following resolution be adopted?

YES ☐ NO ☐ **RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education of the Wyoming Central School District, Wyoming County, New York, is authorized to establish a capital reserve fund in accordance with New York State Education Law Section 3651 to be known as the “2025 Building Capital Reserve Fund”.

The purpose of such fund shall be used to finance, in whole or in part, the construction, reconstruction, additions, alterations, renovations, and improvement of school buildings and facilities and the acquisition and installation of machinery, equipment, apparatus, or furnishings and costs incidental thereto, such capital costs being of a type that would be eligible for financing under the Local Finance Law.

The ultimate amount of such fund shall not exceed Eight Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$850,000) plus earnings thereon. The probable term of such reserve fund shall be 10 years, but said fund shall continue in existence for its state purpose until the fund is exhausted or otherwise liquidated in accordance with the Education Law.

The source of monies to be paid into such reserve fund shall include: (a) current and future unappropriated fund balance from the General Fund of the district as directed by the Board of Education; (b) any appropriations authorized by the voters from time to time; (c) New York State Aid received and authorized by the Board of Education; and (d) fund balances transferred from other reserve funds of the District, as authorized by law.

PROPOSITION #6: Wyoming Free Circulating Library Association

Shall the following resolution be adopted?

YES ☐ NO ☐ **RESOLVED**, shall the sum raised by annual levy of a tax upon the taxable real property within the Wyoming Central School District for the purpose of funding a portion of the operating expenses of the Wyoming Free Library Association be increased by Two Thousand dollars (\$2,000.00) from the annual amount of Forty-Five Thousand Four Hundred Ninety-Five dollars (\$45,495.00) to the annual amount of Forty-Seven Thousand Four Hundred Ninety-Five Dollars (\$47,495.00) commencing with the 2025-2026 school year?

Three-Part Budget Summary

Proposed Program Budget	2024-25 Budget	2025-26 Proposed	Increase / (Decrease)	Percent of Program Budget	Percent of Total Budget
General Education	1,477,847	1,555,486	77,639	35.46%	24.44%
Programs for Students with Disabilities	805,394	956,287	150,893	21.81%	15.02%
Career and Technical Education	112,320	94,816	(17,504)	2.16%	1.49%
Teaching Special Schools	2,900	2,980	80	0.07%	0.05%
Library and Computer Technology	90,506	86,567	(3,939)	1.97%	1.36%
Pupil Services	302,574	214,420	(88,154)	4.89%	3.37%
Interscholastic Athletics	26,675	23,900	(2,775)	0.55%	0.38%
Transportation Services	557,548	531,861	(25,687)	12.13%	8.36%
Community Programs	700	700	0	0.02%	0.01%
Employee Benefits	918,273	890,470	(27,803)	20.31%	13.99%
Transfers	17,500	27,500	10,000	0.63%	0.43%
TOTAL	4,312,237	4,384,987	72,750	100.00%	68.90%

Proposed Capital Budget	2024-25 Budget	2025-26 Proposed	Increase / (Decrease)	Percent of Capital Budget	Percent of Total Budget
Operations and Buildings	291,433	309,799	18,366	31.84%	4.85%
Maintenance and Security of Buildings & Grounds	176,327	189,539	13,312	19.48%	2.98%
Refund of Property Taxes	2,000	2,000	0	0.21%	0.03%
Bus Purchases ⁽¹⁾	162,593	169,038	6,445	17.37%	2.66%
Debt Service	112,969	110,569	(2,400)	11.36%	1.74%
Employee Benefits	86,686	92,073	5,387	9.46%	1.45%
Transfers ⁽²⁾	100,000	100,000	0	10.28%	1.57%
TOTAL	932,008	973,018	41,010	100.00%	15.28%

(1) We intend to purchase a 64 passenger diesel engine school bus in the 2025-26 school year.

(2) \$100k to be used for a capital outlay exception project in the 2025-26 school year.

Proposed Administrative Budget	2024-25 Budget	2025-26 Proposed	Increase / (Decrease)	Percent of Admin Budget	Percent of Total Budget
Board of Education	21,658	23,729	2,071	2.36%	0.37%
Central Administration	203,276	221,243	17,967	21.96%	3.48%
Finance and Central Services	439,201	449,131	9,930	44.57%	7.05%
School Administration ⁽¹⁾	58,051	100,562	42,511	9.98%	1.58%
Employee Benefits	189,063	212,855	23,792	21.13%	3.34%
TOTAL	911,249	1,007,520	96,271	100.00%	15.82%

(1) Reclassification of salary expense.

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TOTAL PROPOSED BASIC BUDGET	6,155,494	6,365,525	210,031		100.00%
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What is the Three-Part Budget?

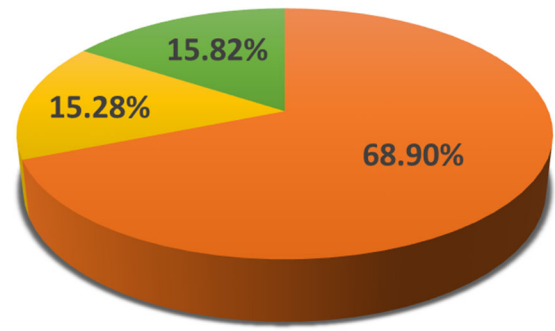
New York State law requires that all school districts present the proposed budget in three parts: Program, Capital and Administrative. The law also states that the Three-Part Budget must exclude any propositions or voter-authorized adjustment.

The Program component of the proposed budget includes expenses associated with our instructional program, teacher salaries and benefits, transportation costs, special education, legal services, and community services.

The Capital component contains building and grounds, maintenance, custodial services, utilities, administrative services, tax refunds and judgments, capital expenses, and debt services.

The Administrative component includes costs associated with running the Superintendent's/ Principal's Office, Board of Education expenditures, finance/legal services, and personnel.

Percent of Total Budget Information



■ Proposed Program Budget ■ Proposed Capital Budget ■ Proposed Administrative Budget

Voter Qualifications

In order to participate in the voting process, you must be...

- ☒ A United States citizen;
- ☒ At least 18 years old;
- ☒ A resident of the school district for at least 30 days prior to the voting date.

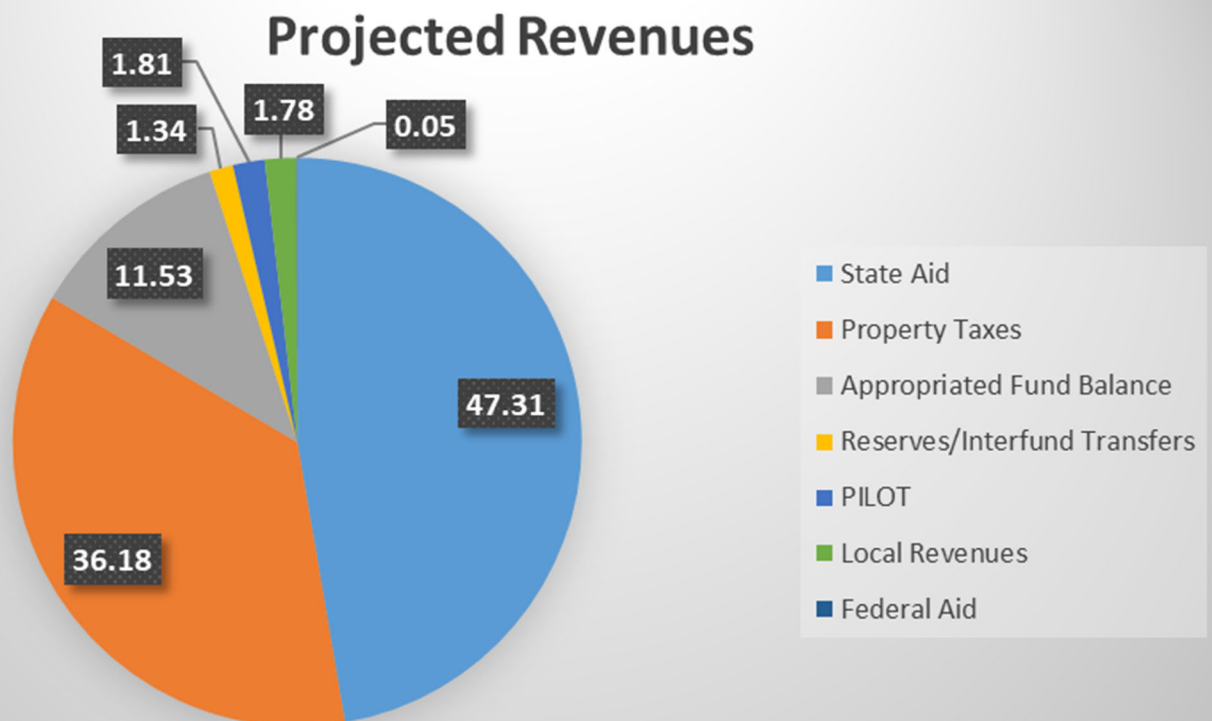
Absentee and Early Voting Ballot Information

Applications for absentee and early voting ballots may be obtained from the District Clerk during school hours. The completed applications must be received by the District Clerk at least seven days prior to the election if the ballot is to be mailed, or the day before the election if the ballot is to be issued in person.

The District Clerk must receive completed absentee and early voting ballots no later than 5:00 pm on Tuesday, May 20, 2025.

Projected Revenues

	Budgeted 2024-25	Proposed 2025-26	2025-26 Increase / (Decrease)	2025-26 Percent Change	2025-26 Percent of Budget
Local Revenues (tuition, fees, rentals, interest, miscellaneous)	118,899	113,584	(5,315)	(4.47)%	1.78%
Property Taxes	2,257,562	2,302,713	45,151	2.00%	36.18%
Payments in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT)	113,000	115,000	2,000	1.77%	1.81%
State Aid	2,982,743	3,011,667	28,924	0.97%	47.31%
Federal Aid	10,000	3,500	(6,500)	(65.00)%	0.05%
Reserves/Interfund Transfers	283,290	85,061	(198,229)	(69.97)%	1.34%
Appropriated Fund Balance	390,000	734,000	344,000	88.21%	11.53%
Total Projected Revenues	6,155,494	6,365,525	210,031	3.41%	100.00%



Property Tax Report Card

Wyoming CSD #671002

	Budgeted 2024-25	Proposed 2025-26
Total Budgeted Amount, Not Including Separate Propositions	6,155,494	6,365,525
A. Proposed Tax Levy to Support the Total Budged Amount ⁽¹⁾	2,257,562	2,302,713
B. Tax Levy to Support Library Debt, if Applicable	0	0
C. Tax Levy for Non-Excludable Propositions, if Applicable ⁽²⁾	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)	2,257,562	2,302,713
F. Permissible Exclusions to the School Tax Levy Limit	640	0
G. School Tax Levy Limit, <u>Excluding</u> Levy for Permissible Exclusions ⁽³⁾	2,257,323	2,302,973
H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, <u>Excluding</u> Levy to Support Library Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions (E-B-F+D)	2,256,922	2,302,713
I. Difference: (G-H); (negative value requires 60.0% voter approval) ⁽²⁾	401	260
Public School Enrollment	144	136
Consumer Price Index	4.12%	2.95%

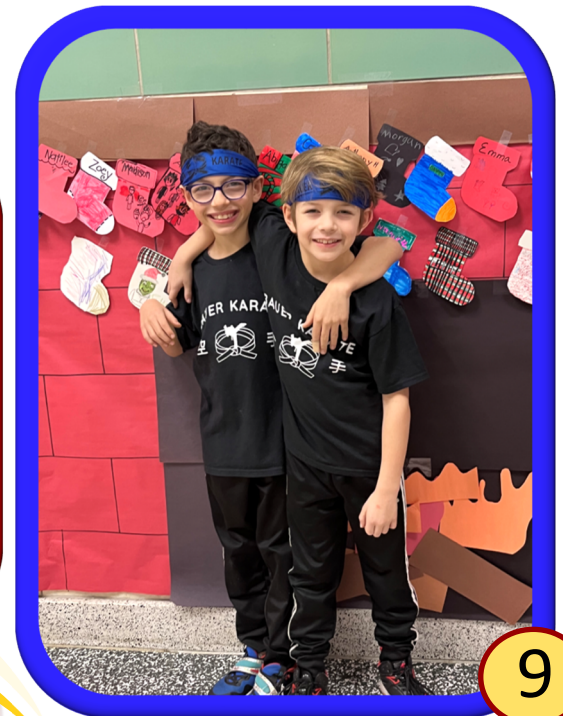
(1) Include any prior year reserve for excess tax levy, including interest.

(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 2025-26, include any carryover from 2024-25 and exclude any tax levy for library debt or prior year reserve for excess tax levy, including interest.

	Actual 2024-25	Estimated 2025-26
Adjusted Restricted Fund Balance	2,509,166	2,765,945
Assigned Appropriated Fund Balance	390,000	734,000
Adjusted Unrestricted Fund Balance	246,220	254,621
Adjusted Unrestricted Fund Balance as a Percent of the Total Budget	4.00%	4.00%

Twins Day!



Wyoming CSD Budget Notice

Overall Budget Proposal

	Budget Adopted for the 2024-25 School Year	Budget Proposed for the 2025-26 School Year	Contingency Budget for the 2025-26 School Year*
Total Budgeted Amount, Not Including Separate Propositions	\$6,155,494	\$6,365,525	\$5,921,014
Increase/(Decrease) for the 2025-26 School Year		\$210,031	(\$234,480)
Percentage Increase/(Decrease) in Proposed Budget		3.41%	(3.81%)
Change in the Consumer Price Index		2.95%	
A. Proposed Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount	\$2,257,562	\$2,302,713	
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)	\$2,257,562	\$2,302,713	\$2,257,562
F. Total Permissible Exclusions	\$640	\$0	
G. School Tax Levy Limit, <u>Excluding</u> Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$2,257,323	\$2,302,973	
H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, <u>Excluding</u> Levy to Support Library Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions (E - B - F + D)	\$2,256,922	\$2,302,713	
I. Difference: G - H (Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval — See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions)**	\$401	\$260	
Administrative Component	\$911,249	\$1,007,520	\$921,447
Program Component	\$4,312,237	\$4,384,987	\$4,360,587
Capital Component	\$932,008	\$973,018	\$638,980
*Equipment and bus purchases, as well as transfers to the capital fund for capital construction projects, have been eliminated to arrive at a contingent budget.			
**List Separate Propositions that are not included in the Total Budgeted Amount: (Tax Levy associated with educational or transportation services propositions are not eligible for exclusion and may affect voter approval requirements)	Description		Amount
	Library Proposition		\$47,495
	(vote to increase library levy by \$2,000, from \$45,495 to \$47,495)		

	Under the Budget Proposed for the 2025-26 School Year
Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings ¹	\$416

The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2025-2026 by the qualified voters of the Wyoming Central School District, Wyoming County, New York will be held at the school in said district on Tuesday, May 20, 2025 between the hours of 1:00 pm and 8:00 pm, prevailing time in the Wyoming Central School District foyer, at which time the polls will be opened to vote by paper voting ballot.

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



"Nothing can dim the light which
shines from within."

-- Maya Angelou

Come join us at the
WCS Spring Concerts

3rd & 4th Grade
May 13th @ 6:30

Middle School
May 15th @ 6:30



PTO IS HOSTING AN
END OF THE YEAR
BASH ON...

SATURDAY,
JUNE 21ST
12:00 -
3:00

AT THE WYOMING PARK

ACTIVITIES WILL INCLUDE A
BOUNCE HOUSE,
FACE PAINTING AND MORE.
FOOD TRUCKS WILL ALSO
BE AVAILABLE!

**SAVE
THE
DATE**

Wyoming Central School District
1225 State Route 19
PO Box 244
Wyoming NY 14591-0244

NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
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14591

Board of Education

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Barry True, Vice President
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Jordan Wetherwax
Nicole White

Superintendent of Schools

Emily Herman

District Treasurer

Joelle Stroud

