

# CONNECTION

Special  
BUDGET  
ISSUE  
2025

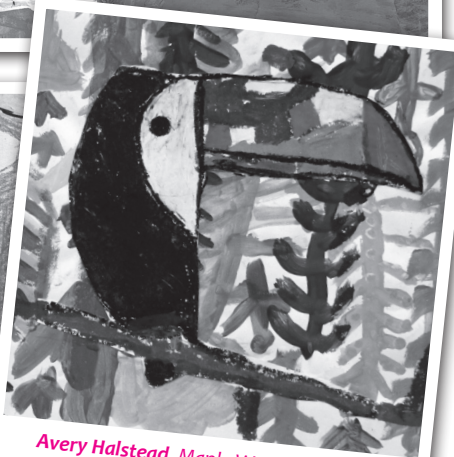
A publication for the residents of the Williamsville Central School District



Amelia Forman, Casey Middle School



Debtanu Som, Dodge Elementary



Avery Halstead, Maple West Elementary



Sadie Griffin, North High School

## ANNUAL DISTRICT BUDGET VOTE & SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION

**TUESDAY,  
MAY 20, 2025**

7 a.m. - 9 p.m.

North High School Gym  
1595 Hopkins Road



## Budget-At-A-Glance

### 2025-2026 Proposed Budget

\$242,719,867

Budget-to-Budget Increase:  
4.29%

Tax Levy Increase:  
2.99%

(Below mandated New York State tax levy cap for  
the Williamsville Central School District)

### Budget Highlights

- Maintains all current academic and extracurricular programming for students.
- Additional special education programming in alignment with Special Education Strategic Plan.
- Tax levy increase is below state tax cap limit.

For detailed information about the  
2025-2026 Proposed Budget, visit the District website: [www.williamsvillek12.org](http://www.williamsvillek12.org)



Dear Members of the Board of Education and Community,

I am pleased to present and recommend the 2025-2026 proposed budget to our school community. This balanced budget reflects our commitment to educational excellence that empowers all students to develop their unique potential and thrive as learners, citizens, and leaders in a

diverse global community.

The proposed \$242,719,867 budget represents a 4.29% spending increase driven mainly through contractual obligations for District employees and mandated expenses. The proposed tax levy is 2.99%, which is below the New York State tax levy cap by \$431,651 for Williamsville Schools. The proposed budget ensures all current instructional programs are maintained and also allows the District to add additional special education programming in alignment with the Special Education Strategic Plan and recommendations from the Western New York Education Service Council.

Throughout the course of the school year, our families, students, and staff are able to experience the investment and commitment our community makes in public education. From our Speaker Series on instruction, District and building newsletters, video and photo projects on our social media channels, concerts, games, and art shows, we are proud to show the work that goes on within our buildings. We continue to offer professional learning opportunities, so our faculty and staff are equipped with the latest tools and resources to provide amazing educational experiences to all of our learners. Our schools also continue to provide incredible academic programming, including our advanced coursework opportunities at the middle and high school levels. All of this prepares and equips our students for an ever-changing world and work force. None of this would be possible without a community that is invested in cultivating the great minds of tomorrow. We truly appreciate your support.

Questions or concerns about the 2025-2026 proposed budget can be sent to [budgetfeedback@willamsvillek12.org](mailto:budgetfeedback@willamsvillek12.org). We encourage all of our stakeholders to visit the District website at [www.willamsvillek12.org](http://www.willamsvillek12.org) to view the budget presentations. The Annual Budget Hearing is Tuesday, May 13, 2025. The Budget Vote and School Board Election is Tuesday, May 20, 2025 at Williamsville North High School.

Thank you for your continued partnership and support of the Williamsville Central School District.

Sincerely,

Dr. Darren J. Brown-Hall  
Superintendent of Schools



Dear Neighbors,

Our Williamsville school community values educational excellence. As members of this community, our investment in K-12 public education empowers all students to succeed as learners, citizens, and leaders. By providing a strong foundation, we prepare the next generation of well-educated

graduates to make meaningful contributions to our community and beyond.

Thanks to community support, we have continued to implement robust academic and extracurricular programs, added classrooms and services for students with special needs, and opened our Family Support Center. Additionally, we are currently working on our Elementary School Air Conditioning Project. Once completed, this will ensure our youngest learners are more comfortable and productive in their classrooms during hot weather, setting them up for academic success.

Our 2025-2026 proposed balanced budget is \$242,719,867. This budget is fiscally responsible and preserves all current academic and extracurricular programs. We prioritize maintaining these essential components of a Williamsville public education to benefit our students and our community. The proposed budget additions will enhance special education programming and increase appropriate services.

Along with voting on our proposed budget, as a qualified resident, you may elect three members to the Board of Education. The top three candidates will serve three-year terms beginning July 1, 2025. To learn more about the candidates, please visit [www.willamsvillek12.org/about-us/board-of-education/board-candidates](http://www.willamsvillek12.org/about-us/board-of-education/board-candidates).

Our Board of Education will soon welcome three new ex-officio (non-voting) Student Board members. At each of our three high schools, students will elect one Student Board member for a one-year term starting July 1, 2025. We are excited to elevate student voices during our public meetings.

Please stay informed and engaged as we approach the budget vote and Board member election on May 20, 2025, from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. in the Williamsville North High School gym. After casting your ballot, you can enjoy artwork displays and live musical performances by our talented students. We look forward to seeing you at the polls.

Sincerely,

Crystal Kaczmarek-Bogner  
President, Board of Education

# SAMPLE BALLOT



**Tuesday, MAY 20, 2025**



## PROPOSITION #1 - BUDGET

SHALL IT BE RESOLVED: That the Budget for the year 2025-2026 presented by the Board of Education be approved? YES NO

## VOTE FOR ANY THREE BOARD MEMBERS

Election of three (3) board members, the highest three vote recipients, each for a term of three (3) years beginning July 1, 2025 and concluding June 30, 2028.

**1A**  
**Julie Emerson**

**2A**  
**Mark A. Manna (i)**

**3A**  
**Philip G. Danielson**

**4A**  
**Stuart M. Bulan (i)**

**5A**  
**Christina Bleckinger (i)**

## Absentee/Early Vote Ballot Request Information

Ballot packets will be fulfilled upon request. A District voter must request in advance an application for an absentee/early vote ballot. Absentee Ballot: The voter must complete the application and state the reason they will not be able to appear in person on the day of the District vote for which the absentee ballot is requested. Early Vote Ballot: The voter must complete the application for this request. The application must be received by the District Clerk at least seven (7) days before the vote if the ballot is to be mailed to the voter, or one (1) day before the vote if the ballot is to be delivered personally to the voter. Please send request to Lynn Carey, District Clerk, email: [LCarey@Williamsville12.org](mailto:LCarey@Williamsville12.org) or call 716.626.8092 (if emailing - please include "Application" in the subject line).

Once an application and absentee/early vote ballot is requested:

1. The packet, with application included (if not already completed), can be mailed out or picked up at District Office, 105 Casey Road, E. Amherst.
2. The voter would return the completed packet to the District Clerk. Several options are available when turning in the packet:
  - a. Return completed application and ballot by mail according to the instructions in the packet.
  - b. Place in locked drop box located outside of entryway to District Office (door #14), 105 Casey Road, E. Amherst.
  - c. Return to District Office, 105 Casey Road, E. Amherst, during regular office hours.

**Absentee or Early Vote Ballot must be received by the District Clerk no later than 5:00 p.m. on May 20, 2025.**

**Questions: Please call the District Clerk, Lynn Carey at 716.626.8092 or email [LCarey@Williamsville12.org](mailto:LCarey@Williamsville12.org).**

## Voter Qualifications

In accordance with New York State law, to vote in the District's Annual Budget Vote and School Board Election, you must be:

- 18 years of age
- A citizen of the United States
- A resident of the District for at least 30 days prior to the vote
- Photo I.D. required on the day of the vote

## General Support

The General Support category of the operating budget covers instruction-related managerial functions for the entire District. Included are funds which make it possible for the Board of Education and its Chief School Officer, the Superintendent of Schools, to carry out required responsibilities. Also included in this category are funds for the strictly regulated financial operation of the District; operation and maintenance of the school buildings and grounds; fire and liability insurances, personnel management, legal affairs and public information expenses, and BOCES administrative charges.

## Instruction

Instruction is the core of the school budget. This general category covers salaries for administrators, teachers, nurses, aides, related instructional personnel (library media specialists, school counselors, psychologists and social workers) and all materials, supplies, and equipment necessary to support the educational environment. Co-curricular and interscholastic athletic activities are also included in this general area of instruction.

## Pupil Transportation and Other Community Services

**Pupil Transportation** - The District uses outside contractual services to provide regular transportation within and outside of the District for all students and for co-curricular and interscholastic athletic activities at other locations as well as for instructional-related field trips. **Other Community Services** - This general category includes costs related to District census activities and support for certain community use of facilities.

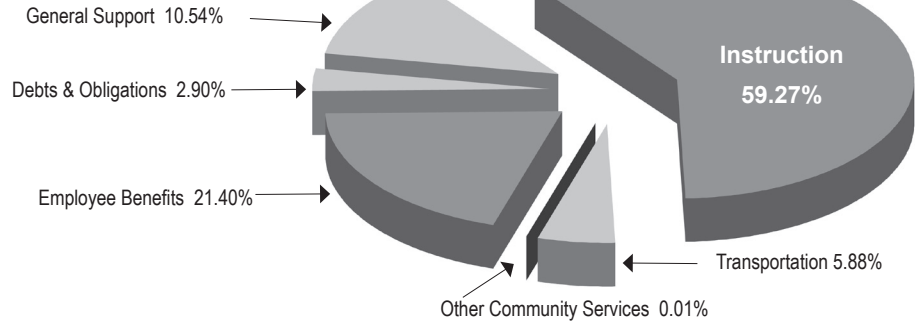
## Employee Benefits

This category groups a variety of District benefit costs including required contributions to the State Retirement Systems, Social Security, Health/Medical Insurance, Workers' Compensation, and an Unemployment Insurance Fund.

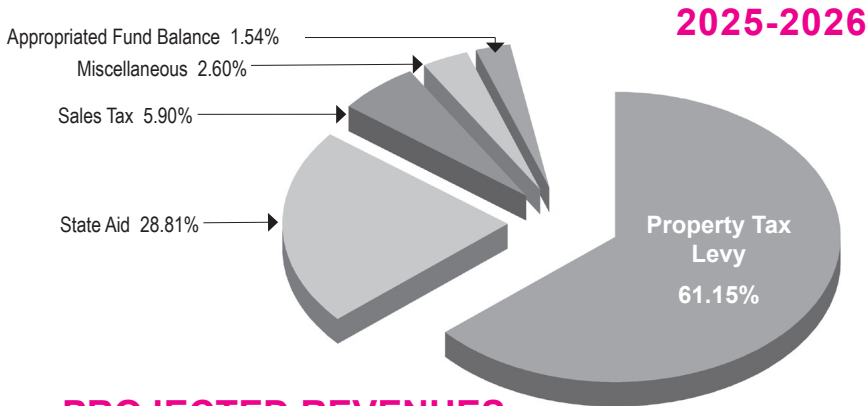
## Debts & Obligations

This category groups a variety of District-wide costs which are not included in other areas such as long term debt payments.

|                                                      | 2025-2026<br>PROPOSED | 2024-2025<br>BUDGET   |
|------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>General Support</b>                               |                       |                       |
| Board of Education                                   | \$ 114,755            | \$ 113,055            |
| Chief School Officer                                 | \$ 449,337            | \$ 418,373            |
| Finance                                              | \$ 828,898            | \$ 814,369            |
| Public Information                                   | \$ 222,953            | \$ 217,791            |
| Human Resources & Legal Services                     | \$ 1,801,630          | \$ 1,537,569          |
| Operations & Management                              | \$ 15,560,131         | \$ 14,559,652         |
| Central Printing & Mailing                           | \$ 713,255            | \$ 678,855            |
| Data Processing                                      | \$ 2,589,641          | \$ 2,589,641          |
| Special Items                                        | \$ 3,301,010          | \$ 2,405,400          |
| <b>TOTAL GENERAL SUPPORT</b>                         | <b>\$ 25,581,610</b>  | <b>\$ 23,334,705</b>  |
| <b>Instruction</b>                                   |                       |                       |
| Curriculum & Staff Development                       | \$ 2,084,511          | \$ 1,885,418          |
| Supervision: Regular School                          | \$ 6,274,805          | \$ 5,633,659          |
| Teaching: Regular School                             | \$ 85,385,875         | \$ 82,185,616         |
| Exceptional Education & Student Services             | \$ 29,063,904         | \$ 26,839,600         |
| Occupational Education                               | \$ 2,678,462          | \$ 2,132,852          |
| Teaching & Supervision: Special Schools              | \$ 742,390            | \$ 753,240            |
| School Library & Audio-Visual Services               | \$ 1,877,261          | \$ 1,687,590          |
| Computer Assisted Instruction                        | \$ 3,930,398          | \$ 4,005,588          |
| Guidance Services                                    | \$ 4,131,124          | \$ 3,842,850          |
| Other Pupil Services                                 | \$ 4,869,019          | \$ 4,575,457          |
| Co-Curricular Activities                             | \$ 558,388            | \$ 539,650            |
| Interscholastic Athletics                            | \$ 2,263,780          | \$ 2,193,127          |
| <b>TOTAL INSTRUCTION</b>                             | <b>\$ 143,859,917</b> | <b>\$ 136,274,647</b> |
| <b>Pupil Transportation &amp; Community Services</b> |                       |                       |
| Pupil Transportation                                 | \$ 14,281,827         | \$ 13,190,605         |
| Other Community Services                             | \$ 22,000             | \$ 21,000             |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                                         | <b>\$ 14,303,827</b>  | <b>\$ 13,211,605</b>  |
| <b>Employee Benefits</b>                             |                       |                       |
| New York State Retirement Systems                    | \$ 13,955,016         | \$ 12,571,015         |
| Social Security                                      | \$ 9,491,592          | \$ 9,658,054          |
| Unemployment Insurance                               | \$ 35,000             | \$ 35,000             |
| Medical Insurance                                    | \$ 27,835,349         | \$ 25,777,992         |
| Other Benefits                                       | \$ 615,252            | \$ 585,252            |
| <b>TOTAL EMPLOYEE BENEFITS</b>                       | <b>\$ 51,932,209</b>  | <b>\$ 48,627,313</b>  |
| <b>Debts &amp; Obligations</b>                       |                       |                       |
| Long Term Debt                                       | \$ 6,742,304          | \$ 11,092,304         |
| Special Aid Fund                                     | \$ 300,000            | \$ 200,000            |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                                         | <b>\$ 7,042,304</b>   | <b>\$ 11,292,304</b>  |
| <b>GRAND TOTAL</b>                                   | <b>\$ 242,719,867</b> | <b>\$ 232,740,574</b> |

**2025-2026****PROPOSED EXPENDITURES**

|                          | Proposed 2025-26   | % of Total  | 2024-25            | % of Total  |
|--------------------------|--------------------|-------------|--------------------|-------------|
| General Support          | \$ 25,581,610      | 10.54       | \$ 23,334,705      | 10.03       |
| Instruction              | 143,859,917        | 59.27       | 136,274,647        | 58.55       |
| Transportation           | 14,281,827         | 5.88        | 13,190,605         | 5.67        |
| Other Community Services | 22,000             | 0.01        | 21,000             | 0.01        |
| Employee Benefits        | 51,932,209         | 21.40       | 48,627,313         | 20.89       |
| Debts & Obligations      | 7,042,304          | 2.90        | 11,292,304         | 4.85        |
| <b>TOTAL</b>             | <b>242,719,867</b> | <b>100%</b> | <b>232,740,574</b> | <b>100%</b> |

**CURRENT YEAR EXPENDITURES****PROJECTED REVENUES**

|                             | Proposed 2025-26   | % of Total  | 2024-25            | % of Total  |
|-----------------------------|--------------------|-------------|--------------------|-------------|
| Property Tax Levy           | \$148,413,562      | 61.15       | \$144,100,000      | 61.91       |
| State Aid                   | 69,916,534         | 28.81       | 63,773,074         | 27.40       |
| Sales Tax                   | 14,326,271         | 5.90        | 15,000,000         | 6.44        |
| Miscellaneous               | 6,313,500          | 2.60        | 6,867,500          | 2.96        |
| Appropriated Fund Balance   | 3,750,000          | 1.54        | 3,000,000          | 1.29        |
| Appropriated Reserve Funds: |                    |             |                    |             |
| ♦ Employee Benefits         | 0                  | -           | 0                  | -           |
| ♦ Workers' Compensation     | 0                  | -           | 0                  | -           |
| ♦ Repair Reserve            | 0                  | -           | 0                  | -           |
| ♦ Unemployment Reserve      | 0                  | -           | 0                  | -           |
| ♦ Retirement Reserve        | 0                  | -           | 0                  | -           |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                | <b>242,719,867</b> | <b>100%</b> | <b>232,740,574</b> | <b>100%</b> |

**CURRENT YEAR REVENUES**

## 2025-2026 COMPONENT BUDGET

**Program: \$192,706,072**

The Program Component includes all program expenditures, including the salaries and benefits of teachers and any school administrators or supervisors. Also, all transportation operating expenses including diesel fuel.

**Capital: \$28,009,412**

The Capital Component includes all transportation capital, debt service, and lease expenditures; costs resulting from court judgments, administrative orders or settled or compromised claims; and all facilities costs including lease expenditures, annual debt service and total debt for all District facilities financed by bonds and notes. Also, included are all expenditures associated with custodial/maintenance salaries and benefits, service contracts, supplies, utilities and maintenance repair of school facilities.

**Administrative: \$22,004,383**

The Administrative Component includes Board of Education and central administrative expenses; salaries and benefits of the Superintendent and all certified school administrators and supervisors who spend the majority of their time performing administrative or supervisory duties; all expenditures associated with the annual District budget vote; any consulting costs not directly related to student services and program planning; and all other administrative activities.

**Total: \$242,719,867**



Elliott Miller, South High School

## Estimated 2025 School Tax Bill for Amherst

| Property's<br>Assessed Value | Estimated<br>2025 | Estimated<br>Tax Increase |
|------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------|
| \$250,000                    | \$3,005           | \$87                      |

School tax bills are estimated based on the prior year's (2024) property assessments and equalization rates. Property assessment, equalization rates and changes in the New York State STAR program will impact a homeowner's actual tax bill.

The District issues a tax levy amount that is certified by Erie County Real Property Tax Services and reported to the Office of the New York State Comptroller. The proposed 2025-2026 levy is voted on by the community in May and does not change when town assessors issue final assessment numbers which are received in July 2025.

### Tax Levy and Tax Cap

The 2025-2026 budget includes a tax levy that is \$431,651 below the tax cap limit. The tax cap limit provided the District an increase of \$4,745,213 or 3.29%.

### Contingent Budget

The Board of Education is required by state law to implement a contingent budget if the proposed budget fails to receive community approval after two budget votes. Under a contingent budget, the school tax levy cannot exceed the prior year's tax levy. For the Williamsville Central School District, a contingent budget would require a \$4,313,562 reduction to the 2025-2026 proposed budget.



Ryan Kapperman, Transit Middle School

[www.williamsvillek12.org](http://www.williamsvillek12.org)

# SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET NOTICE

## OVERALL 2025-2026 BUDGET PROPOSAL

*New York State requires the following presentation of 2025-2026 Budget Information:*

|                                                                                                                        | Budget Adopted for<br>2024-25 School Year | Budget Proposed for<br>2025-26 School Year | Contingency Budget for<br>2025-26 School Year* |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|
| Total budgeted amount, not including separate propositions                                                             | \$ 232,740,574                            | \$242,719,867                              | \$238,406,305                                  |
| Increase/Decrease for 2025-26 school year                                                                              |                                           | \$9,979,293                                | \$5,665,731                                    |
| Percentage increase/decrease in proposed budget                                                                        |                                           | 4.29%                                      | 2.43%                                          |
| Change in consumer price index                                                                                         |                                           | 2.95%                                      |                                                |
| A. Proposed Levy to support the total budgeted amount                                                                  | \$144,100,000                             | \$148,413,562                              |                                                |
| 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)                                                                       | \$144,100,000                             | \$148,413,562                              | \$0                                            |
| F. Total Permissible Exclusions                                                                                        | \$0                                       | \$0                                        |                                                |
| G. School Tax Levy Limit, <u>excluding</u> levy for permissible exclusions                                             | \$145,604,000                             | \$148,845,213                              |                                                |
| H. Total proposed school year tax levy, excluding levy to support library debt and/or permissible exclusions (E-B-F+D) | \$144,100,000                             | \$148,413,562                              |                                                |
| I. Difference: G-H (Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval; see note below regarding separate propositions)**    | \$1,504,000                               | \$431,651                                  |                                                |
| Administrative Component                                                                                               | \$19,720,535                              | \$22,004,383                               | \$21,358,643                                   |
| Program Component                                                                                                      | \$182,834,510                             | \$192,706,072                              | \$189,361,336                                  |
| Capital Component                                                                                                      | \$30,185,529                              | \$28,009,412                               | \$27,686,326                                   |

\*Provide a statement of assumptions made in projecting a contingency budget for the 2025-26 school year, should the proposed budget be defeated pursuant to Section 2023 of the Education Law.

The District's contingency budget reductions would remove \$2,141,956 from the equipment budget codes and \$2,171,606 from the program codes if a contingent budget situation were to occur.

\*\* 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 |
|-------------|--------|
| N/A         | \$0    |
| N/A         | \$0    |

Under the Budget Proposed  
for the 2025-26 School Year

Estimated Basic STAR exemption savings<sup>1</sup>

\$406

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

The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2025-26 by the qualified voters of the Williamsville Central School District, Erie County, New York, will be held at North High school(s) in said district on Tuesday, May 20, 2025 between the hours of 7:00am and 9:00pm, prevailing time, at which time the polls will be opened to vote by voting ballot or machine.

## 2024-25 Board of Education

Crystal Kaczmarek-Bogner, *President*

Maureen Poulin, *Vice President*

Christina Bleckinger, *Parliamentarian*

Stuart Bulan

Michael Buscaglia

Dawn Fletch

Mark Manna

Dr. Swaroop Singh

Dr. Kerry Spicer

Dr. Darren J. Brown-Hall, *Superintendent*

Mr. Nick Filipowski, *Editor*

Mrs. Amy Vohwinkel, *Graphic Designer*



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## PTSA Council honors two individuals for Service to Youth

The 68th Annual Service to Youth Awards honored two individuals who have demonstrated extraordinary service to the children of the Williamsville Central School District. The 2025 Award recipients are:



### PROFESSIONAL AWARD

**Carrie Fey-Daly**

*Williamsville East High School*



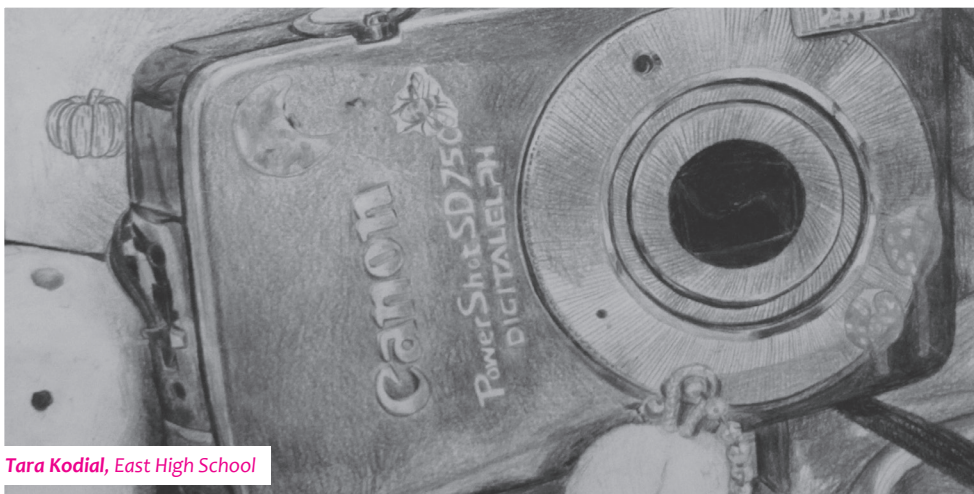
### VOLUNTEER AWARD

**Rebecca Greene**

*Williamsville South High School*



Aryna Mohan, Casey Middle School



Tara Kodial, East High School

★★★★★  
**VOTE**

★★★★★

**MAY 20, 2025**

**7 a.m. - 9 p.m.**

**North High Gym**

1595 Hopkins Rd., Williamsville