Volume 21, Issue 5



"Home, School and Community Educating for Life"

Olean City School District

# Dear Parents, Guardians, and Community Members,

As we prepare for the 2025-26 school year, I would like to share the priorities and initiatives of our school district.

#### Continuing to Prioritize Safety and Security: Our Utmost Commitment

I want to reaffirm our unwavering commitment to the safety and security of all students and staff within our schools. We continuously strive to maintain a nurturing environment where everyone feels safe, valued, and supported. To that end, we have continued our safety protocols and procedures, conducted regular drills and examinations of our safety plans, and enhanced our partnerships with law enforcement and community agencies. We will remain vigilant in our efforts to uphold the highest safety standards throughout our district.

#### Looking Ahead: Developing a New Budget for the Future

Our primary objectives in the next month will be to present a new budget for the upcoming school year. This process requires careful consideration of various factors, including our strategic plan, student needs, resource allocation, and community priorities. We are committed to maintaining fiscal responsibility while ensuring our schools have the resources to provide a high-quality education for all students. Your input and feedback will be invaluable as we work together to shape the future of our district.

#### Commitment to Positive Collaboration

As we move forward, it is essential that we, as a district and community, commit to positive collaboration. By working together, we can create an environment that fosters mutual respect, understanding, and shared goals. This collaborative spirit will enable us to better serve the students of our district, ensuring they receive the support and opportunities they need to succeed. Let us continue to build strong partnerships and engage in open, constructive dialogue for the benefit of our entire school community.

In closing, I want to thank each member of our school community for their ongoing support and dedication. Together, we will continue to strive for excellence and create a learning environment where every student can thrive.

Dr. Genelle Morris Superintendent of Schools



# 2025-2026 Proposed Budget

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Explanation of Three Part Budget Presentation - Chapter 436 of the Laws of 1997 require public school boards of education to present the proposed budget in three parts. As a result, this presentation is organized around the following components; administrative, capital, and program:

Administrative Component: Includes expenses associated with the operation of the school board, superintendent's office, and business office. Includes salaries and benefits for all certified administrators and supervisors who spend a majority of their time performing administrative duties, consulting costs not directly related to instructional programs, and all other activities that are administrative in nature.

Capital Component: Includes debt service for all facilities financed by bonds and notes of the district, lease expenditures, costs resulting from judgments in tax certiorari proceedings, awards from court judgments, administrative orders and settled claims, cost of construction, acquisition, reconstruction, rehabilitation, and improvements of school buildings, all expenses associated with custodial and maintenance salaries and benefits, service contracts, supplies, utilities, maintenance, and repair of school facilities.

**Program Component:** Includes salaries/ benefits of teachers and any school administrator or supervisor who spend a majority of their time performing teaching duties, and all transportation operating expenses.

## PUBLIC BUDGET HEARING

Tuesday, May 6<sup>™</sup> at 6pm Olean Intermediate Middle School LGI Room

#### BUDGET VOTE & SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION

**Tuesday, May 20<sup>тн</sup>** 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. Olean Intermediate Middle School Music Suite \*Must be a registered voter to cast your ballot.

### **Summary of Revenues & Other Sources of Funding**

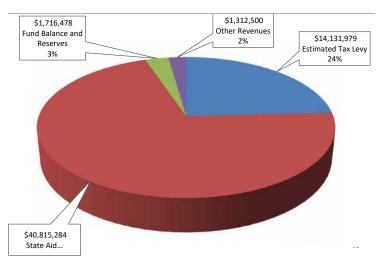
	2024-25		Inc (Dec)
	Actual	Proposed	Over Prior Year
State and Federal Aid	39,386,585	40,815,284	1,428,699
Other Revenue	899,000	1,312,500	413,500
PILOT (Payment in Lieu of Taxes)	93,448	105,000	11,552
Estimated Tax Levy & STAR Reimbursement	14,026,979	14,026,979	0
Total Revenue	54,406,012	56,259,763	1,853,751
Appropriated Reserve Contribution	175,197	552,000	376,803
Appropriated Reserves (ERS, Debt, Tax)	453,316	150,000	-303,316
Transfer from Capital Fund	535,000	114,478	-420,522
Appropriated Fund Balance	600,000	900,000	300,000
Total Revenue and Other Sources	56,169,525	57,976,241	1,806,716

# Federal, State & Special Grants: 2024-25 School Year

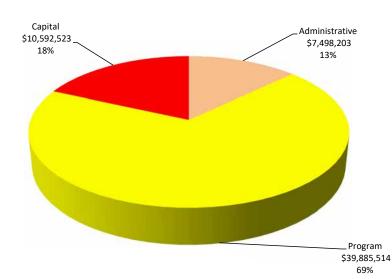
The following program dollars are used to support and enhance the local educational programs offered to all students of the Olean City School District.

	Federal, State & Special Grants School Year 2024-25		
ARP - ESSR 3	\$	1,700,000	
COPS GRANT	\$	99,997	
IDEA 611		639,013	
IDEA 619	\$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$	46,420	
July/Aug 4408 Tuition	\$	368,000	
July/Aug 4418 Transportation	\$	26,000	
State Supported School 4201	\$	125,000	
Liberty Partnership	\$	11,000	
STEP	\$	14,000	
Title I	\$	1,075,000	
Title IIA	\$	60,000	
Title IV - Allocational	\$	85,000	
Title V	\$	63,555	
Universal Pre-K	\$	477,387	
Farm to School	\$	99,500	
Total	\$	4,889,872	

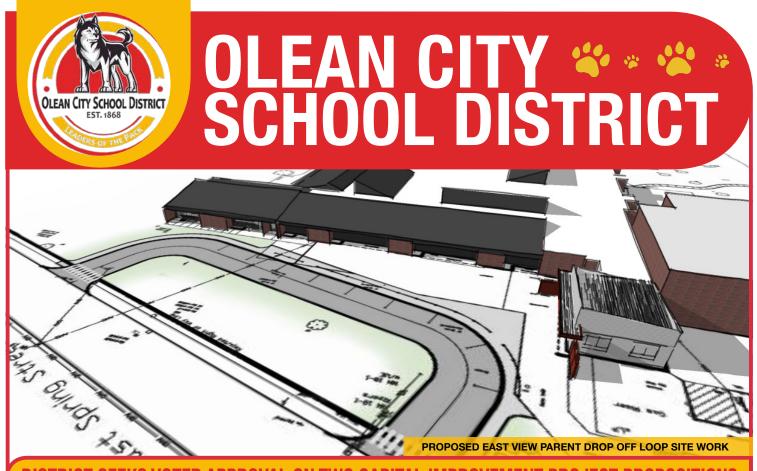
# 2025-2026 Sources of Education Funding



# 2025-2026 Uses of Education Funding



April 2025 - May 2025



DISTRICT SEEKS VOTER APPROVAL ON TWO CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT PROPOSITIONS

## **PROPOSITION 2: \$29,435,000**

• Includes various scopes across all 4 educational buildings within the district

• \$1,000,000 from Capital Reserve

• Up to \$28,435,000 financed

(Simple majority vote needed due to current available debt limit)

## **PROPOSITION 3: \$24,160,000**

• Includes HVAC/AC Upgrades at the High School and intermediate Middle School

• Up to \$24,160,000 financed (Super majority vote needed for this portion)

Proposition#3 cannot be approved without a positive vote on Proposition #2

## **NO TAX INCREASE**

# A MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

We would like to remind you to join other District residents in casting your vote on the Capital Project Propositions on May 20, 2025. These propositions will update our aging facilities and support our educational program goals. The Capital Project vote will take place on **May 20, 2025** at Olean Intermediate Middle School from 7AM to 9PM.

This project is part of a long-term facilities plan to address specific needs identified in the State-mandated Building Condition Survey that is conducted every five years. In collaboration with our architect and construction manager, the District reviewed and prioritized these needs into a capital project that will ensure a safe and secure learning environment and promote academic excellence, with no increase to the local tax share. This was an important objective from the start.

This project is an investment in our students and community that will not only improve our facilities and academic programming but will also bring state tax dollars back to the Olean area and create opportunities for local companies to perform the work. We thank you for your consideration and encourage you to vote on May 20.

- Olean City School District Board of Education

# PUBLIC VOTE: TUESDAY, MAY 20TH7AM - 9PM | OIMS IN THE MUSIC SUITE



# **OLEAN CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT 2025 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT**

# **PROPOSITION 2: \$29,435,000**

## HIGH SCHOOL/ INTERMEDIATE MIDDLE SCHOOL: \$19,921,245









- HS OFFICE/ MAIN ENTRY RENOVATIONS
- AUDITORIUM LIGHTING/ SOUND SYSTEMS
- BIOLOGY CLASSROOM RENOVATIONS
- HS & OIMS BCS PRIORITIES

- HS SITE WORK
- OIMS SITE WORK
- REPAVE TENNIS COURTS/ ADD LIGHTING

## WASHINGTON WEST ELEMENTARY SCHOOL: \$3,789,378



- CLASSROOM RENOVATIONS
- TOILET ROOM RENOVATIONS
- WINDOW SECURITY FILM UPGRADES

BCS PRIORITIES

- PLAYGROUND
- PLAYGROUND

CONCEPTUAL CLASSROOM INSPIRATION







# **OLEAN CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT 2025 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT**

# PROPOSITION 2: \$29,435,000

## EAST VIEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL: \$5,724,377





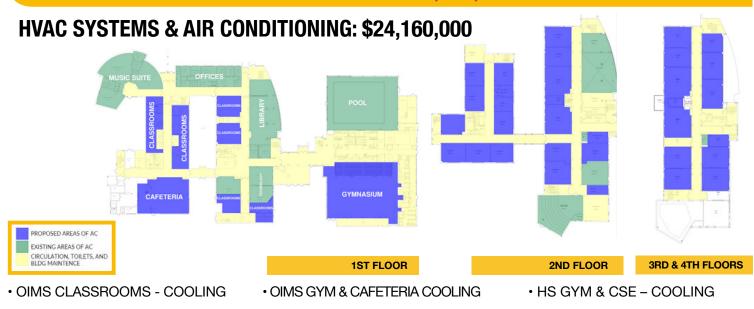




- ELEVATOR PROJECT
- MEZZANINE RENOVATIONS
- BCS PRIORITIES

- STAIR/ DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS
- PARENT DROP OFF

# **PROPOSITION 3: \$24,160,000**





# **OLEAN CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT 2025 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT**

# **BUDGET SUMMARY**

## **FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

Olean City School District is eligible for 96.8% State Building Aid. This is a form of state aid a school district can receive specifically for Capital Improvement Projects.

The Capital Reserve Fund will be used to offset the local cost of work.







OLEAN CITY SCHOOLS 3.2%

# DISTRICT SEEKS VOTER APPROVAL ON TWO CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT PROPOSITIONS



# PUBLIC VOTE: TUESDAY, MAY 20TH 7AM - 9PM | OIMS IN THE MUSIC SUITE

## **TO VOTE YOU MUST:**

Be a registered voter and resident of the District at least 30 days prior to the vote. Personal registration will be held at the District Clerk's Office, 410 West Sullivan Street, Olean, New York on Wednesday, April 30, 2025 from 12PM to 4PM prevailing time.

## **ABSENTEE BALLOTS:**

Absentee ballots may be applied for at the office of the District Clerk from 8AM until 4PM prevailing time on weekdays. Applications for absentee ballots must be received by the District Clerk at least seven days prior to the vote. Absentee ballots must be received by the District Clerk located at the Administration Offices, 410 West Sullivan Street, Olean, New York 14790, no later than 5PM prevailing time on May 20, 2025.



PLEASE SCAN THE QR CODE WITH YOUR MOBILE DEVICE FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE UPCOMING CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT.

PLEASE EMAIL US ANY SPECIFIC QUESTIONS TO CAPITALPROJECT@OLEANSCHOOLS.ORG



# News From OHS



## Emma Edwards Continues Softball Career

Emma Edwards has signed her Letter of Commitment to play softball with Tarleton State University in Stephenville, TX (Division 1). Emma plans on majoring in Psychology. CONGRATULATIONS, EMMA!

Front row left to right: Amie Merchel (mother), Emma Edwards, Greg Edwards (father) Back row left to right: Matt Foster (Olean Synergy softball coach), Steve Anastasia (Olean High School softball coach), Jeff Henning (Olean Synergy softball coach)







## Model UN Competed in Three Conferences!

The high school's Model United Nations team members researched and debated topics thoroughly to have a successful year. They competed against over 50 high schools at three conferences throughout the school year: Ohio State University, Canisius University, and St. Bonaventure University. The delegates explored current events such as women's rights and disaster relief; they also investigated historical events such as the UN's Oil for Food program and the genocide in Rwanda. Jourdan Morris earned an award at the OSU conference, and Olivia Black, Lina Chauhdry, Alexis Guglielmi, Colin Simons, and Calvin Spring won awards at the SBU conference. Senior delegates were Desiree Muir, Tatiana Warmley, and Lakya Maull. Also representing OHS were junior Jabreyah Brown, sophomores Lokesh Anumalasetty, Mia Bean, Simran Chahal, Seamus Leslie, Zi Mitchell, and Nicole Yang. Freshmen Wyatt Menter, May Eaton, and Noah Anderson also competed.

#### **Olean City School District Newsletter**

# News From OIMS



A group of 7th graders from OIMS had the opportunity to attend the Middle Level Student Leadership Workshop at the Challenger Learning Center. Students participated in fun and engaging activities teaching students what it means to be a leader. The students also created dream boards and wrote appreciative letters to their loved ones.



The Art Department hosted a poster contest to design the poster for this year's District Art Show, happening in the month of May at the Olean Public Library. A winner was selected from each building. This year's winners are: Porter Swan, 3rd grade, East View; Roja'Mae Canales, 3rd grade, Washington West; Adah Kalinowski, 6th grade, OIMS; and Sydney Clark, 9th grade, OHS. Congratulations to all of these amazing artists!

#### April 2025 - May 2025



# Washington West Elementary School











# **Masked Readers:**

To celebrate our love of reading in the halls of Washington West, our faculty and staff hosted a Masked Reader Event, where five staff members hid behind an inflatable costume, shared in a read aloud for our pack of pups, and revealed their true identity. Our husky pups left with smiles, new books, and of course, our mantra ringing in their heads and hearts - "don't stop the reading!"



#### Husky Hunt: In partnership with Raymour + Flanigan furniture, our

In partnership with Raymour + Flanigan furniture, our husky pups were on a hunt - a hunt for five hidden huskies! In following their maps and husky hunt clues, our families and pack of pups were led to TREASURE! Reading and engaging together at this event made for a wonderful night of reading engagement and overall FUN!

Follow your Husky Pups on Twitter @OleanWW Olean City School District Newsletter















### Smiles, Laughter, and Good Sportsmanship: Our PBIS Game Day Success!

To celebrate the incredible efforts of our students who consistently demonstrated our Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) expectations throughout the month of March, we recently held a good old-fashioned game day — and what a blast it was!

The air was filled with excitement and friendly competition as students from all grade levels participated in a variety of games. From Connect Four, The Game of LIFE, Jenga, and BINGO, it was a fantastic opportunity for everyone to let loose, laugh together and enjoy some healthy fun. What made the day even more special was the enthusiastic participation of our dedicated staff who joined in in the games, cheering on our students and even showing off their own competitive spirit! It was truly heartwarming to see everyone connecting and building positive relationships in such a fun way.

Our PBIS Game Day is just another tangible way to show our students how much we value their efforts in creating a safe, respectful, responsible and kind learning environment. The smiles on their faces and the sounds of their laughter were the best reward!



### Lights, Camera, Action! East View's News Crew is On the Air!

Did you know that East View has its very own news crew? We're thrilled to share the exciting presence of our very own student-focused news broadcast! That's right, East View is buzzing with young journalists who are diligently reporting on everything that matters within our walls and beyond.

For our enthusiastic third graders, becoming a news anchor is a highly anticipated rite of passage. Each year, these bright youngsters bravely audition for the coveted anchor sports, eager to take on the responsibility of keeping East View informed and connected. And, what a fantastic job they do! They expertly cover everything from exciting building and community events, sharing the highlights and bringing energy to everyone. They also take the time to celebrate individual moments by joyfully announcing birthdays and acknowledging those students and staff who go above and beyond with acts of kindness. And let's not forget the allimportant weather report, ensuring that everyone is prepared for the day ahead (particularly recess)!

These dedicated third graders approach their roles with remarkable diligence and professionalism and take pride in delivering the news in a clear and engaging manner. Their enthusiasm is infectious, and their commitment to keeping the East View community informed is truly inspiring.

A huge round of applause also goes to the incredible sponsors of our news crew, Mrs. Heather McIntosh and Mrs. Jennifer Rodman. Their guidance, support and passion have been instrumental in bringing this fantastic initiative to life. They have nurtured the talents of our young reporters and provided them with the platform to shine. Thank you, Mrs. McIntosh and Mrs. Rodman, for your unwavering commitment to our students and our school community!

#### Follow our school on twitter @OleanEastView

April 2025 - May 2025



#### OLEAN CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

410 W. Sullivan St. Olean, NY 14760 www.oleanschools.org

#### BOARD OF EDUCATION

Kelly Keller, President Mary Hirsch-Schena, Vice President Elizabeth Burrows Lee Filbert Julio Fuentes Rene' Garrison Kevin Stevens

#### SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Dr. Genelle Morris

#### Assistant Superintendent of Academic Ser Dr. Michael Irizarry

Di. Michael mizariy

#### SCHOOL BUSINESS ADMINISTRAT

Jenny M. Bilotta

#### NON PROFIT ORGANIZATION

U.S. POSTAGE PAID

Permit No. 73 Olean, NY 14760

**ECRWSS** 

OR CURRENT RESIDENT

POSTAL PATRON LOCAL





### Mission Statement

The Olean City School District is a student-centered community of excellence in which all members are challenged to learn, achieve, contribute, and innovate.

#### Vision Statement

- The Olean City School District will support excellence by holding everyone tohigh standards in academics, character, extracurriculars, and service.
- Our district will uphold a culture of acceptance, inclusion, and equity for all, whileembracing the diversity of our community. We will create and foster a safe andpositive climate for our students, staff and families that is adaptive for the ever-changing needs of society.
- Our students will graduate future-focused, engaged, resilient, and prepared toachieve their goals.
- Our staff will be learner-centered, innovative, inquisitive, professional, and committed to student success.
- Our families will be engaged, collaborative partners in academic success for all.

OLEAN CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT



#### Guiding Principles A commitment to fostering:

- A respectful, safe, and welcoming environment
- Embracing diversity
- Continuous improvement
- Academic excellence and lifelong learning
- Honesty, integrity, responsibility, and accountability
- Student potential and achievement

## Mission Statement

- Create and Support a Positive Culture
- Maximize Success for All
- Data-Driven Decision Making
- Progressive and Enriching Learning for All Students
- Engaging Parental and Community Involvement

## www.oleanschools.org

Olean City School District Newsletter