

CLINTON

CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

FINDING OUR PLACE IN THE WORLD | BUDGET EDITION | MAY 2025

CCS STUDENTS SUCCEED!

The recently published 2024 graduation rates for New York State schools reveal a truly exceptional achievement at Clinton Senior High School.

Not only did the school achieve a perfect **100% graduation rate**, placing it among just eighteen schools statewide to do so, but it also stands alone as the only school in Central New York to reach this milestone. This remarkable success is particularly significant considering this graduating class, the total cohort, began their high school journey in the challenging 2020-2021 school year.

Their ability to overcome the difficulties of that time and achieve such outstanding results is a testament to the dedication of the students, educators, and the entire Clinton community.

THE PLANETARIUM VISITS CLINTON

The Portable Planetarium, provided by OHM BOCES, brought a unique and immersive learning experience directly to Clinton. The presentation inspired students' curiosity and interest in science through interactive and engaging lessons aligned with the New York State Science Learning Standards.



Table of Contents

- 02 | *Discovery in the Elementary School*
- 04 | *Spreading our Wings in the Middle School*
- 06 | *Budget Information*
- 10 | *Emerging Leaders in the High School*
- 11 | *Building Generosity*

IMPORTANT BUDGET DATES

- TUESDAY -
MAY 13

**MEET THE
CANDIDATES FORUM**
5:30 p.m. | HS Cafeteria

BUDGET HEARING
6:30 p.m. | HS Cafeteria

- TUESDAY -
MAY 20

BUDGET VOTE
Noon - 8:00 p.m.
Theater Lobby

District Mission Statement

Clinton Central School proudly educates and empowers all students to realize their potential in becoming thoughtful, empathetic and contributing members of a global society.

District Vision Statement

Our students are prepared for the future through engaging, meaningful and challenging learning opportunities delivered by motivated and inspired professionals, and supported through collaborative partnerships with our community, businesses and organizations, and institutions of higher education.

Discovery in the Elementary School

SPOTLIGHT ON SCIENCE

SCIENCE FAIR

Approximately 85 students in pre-kindergarten through second grade participated in this year's science fair. Students presented their projects to their classmates during the school day in their classrooms. Classroom teachers guided our youngest scientists in leading class conversations and responding to the questions of their peers about their learning experiences.

In third through fifth grade, 124 students also presented their projects to their classmates during the school day. Over 80 students from the older grades excitedly returned Friday evening to share their projects with families and community members.

Clinton Elementary School would like to thank the Clinton Central School PTA for their continued support of the Science Fair. Each "scientist" was awarded a certificate and a ribbon, thanks to the generosity of the PTA. The Clinton Elementary School Science fair was coordinated by third-grade teacher Kelly Landry and elementary library media specialist Katie Parker.



LEARNING ABOUT ENERGY

Fourth grade students visited the NY Energy Zone in Utica, a fully interactive facility that offers a thrilling journey into the world of electricity, past, present, and future! They watched a spectacular movie in the 3D theater, then participated in interactive exhibits where they had the opportunity to build their own power structures or step into the role of a control room operator. The facility provides a window into New York State's electric history and the significant work at NYPA's Frederick R. Clark Energy Control Center.



DR. AARON STRONG PRESENTS TO GREEN TEAM

Dr. Aaron Strong, professor at Hamilton College, recently visited the Green Team to talk about energy efficiency. The students gained a deeper understanding of sustainability and also brainstormed ways to make our community more energy efficient.



Superintendent's Message

Dear Clinton Community,

Spring is always a vibrant and exciting time of year for our school community as we look forward to the many celebrations and events that mark the end of the school year in May and June. It is our unique privilege to work with all of our community's children throughout the year, and now we look forward to coming together to celebrate their growth, achievements, and hard work. Please be sure to check our website frequently for the latest updates about upcoming end-of-year events.

This season also marks the time when we present the 2025-2026 school budget for your consideration. Like many districts across the state, we are navigating a challenging financial landscape as we work to balance modest increases in state aid with the continued needs of our students. Our commitment remains clear: to support and enhance the educational experience of every child while remaining fiscally responsible to our community.

The proposed budget for the 2025-2026 school year is **\$33,871,812**, representing a **6.67%** increase from last year's budget. The proposed budget calls for a **2.63%** overall increase in the tax levy, which remains within the allowable tax levy limit. We are proud to present a spending plan that both supports the diverse needs of our students and reflects careful stewardship of our community's resources.

This edition of our newsletter highlights many of the awards, accomplishments, and initiatives that showcase the strong, well-rounded programs offered by the Clinton Central School District. You will also find detailed information about the proposed 2025-2026 budget.

The public budget hearing will be held on **Tuesday, May 13, 2025, at 6:30 p.m.** in the Secondary Cafeteria. This will be an opportunity for community members to learn more about the 2025-2026 budget and ask any questions. Candidates seeking

THIRD GRADE WEATHER

Third grade students were excited to learn about weather in a presentation by WKTV Chief Meteorologist Bill Kardas, enriching their classroom lessons with his career expertise. Thank you, Mr. Kardas!



Discovery in the Elementary School

GAME BOARD TUESDAYS



Game Board Tuesdays continue to be well-attended! Fourth and fifth grade students are invited to join in a variety of board games after school with special guest players such as illusionist Leon Entienne!

CHILL OUT AND READ!

During the Chill Out and Read event, parents and guests were invited to join third grade students in reading for 2,025 seconds to demonstrate their commitment to literacy.



ARTWORK DISPLAYED AT ARTISAN CORNER



Artwork created by students in grades K through 5 was displayed at an exhibit held at Artisans' Corner for the entire month of March to help celebrate Youth Art Month. Thank you to our community partner for supporting our student artists!

Superintendent's Message (Continued)

election to the Board of Education will participate in a forum at **5:30 p.m.** on the same evening and at the same location. Please consider attending both events so that you are fully informed ahead of the vote.

The budget vote and Board of Education election will be held on **Tuesday, May 20, 2025, from noon to 8 p.m.** in the Theater Lobby.

Thank you for your continued partnership and support of our schools and students. Your partnership is vital to the success of our district, and we are grateful to work alongside such a strong and supportive community.

Sincerely,

Christopher M. Clancy
Superintendent of Schools

Elementary All-County

Congratulations to elementary school musicians who participated in the OCMEA Elementary All-County Music Festival. Interested students are nominated by their teacher and reviewed by a committee to be selected for each ensemble, giving them the opportunity to work with students from other districts and guest conductors.



Pictured are band students Carson Perry, Elijah Bentley, Nicholas Waskiewicz, and Rhiannon Cofrin with guest conductor Hilary Lopata, and vocalists Ava Castle, Nora Magnarelli, Nora Banghardt, Emma Bono, McKenzie Wadsworth and Serena Baquero. Also participating as orchestra members were students Hannah Dreier, Will Stalknaker and Reed O'Mara. We are so proud of all of you!



ANIMALS IN ART AT WELLIN HALL

Third-grade classes enjoyed a trip to the Wellin Museum at Hamilton College, where they experienced the exhibition Menagerie: Animals in Art. The students learned about animals in myths from around the world as depicted in art from the Wellin's collection. Mrs. Hall continued this theme by having the third-grade classes create fish prints during their art classes. What a wonderful interdisciplinary experience! Special thanks to the Wellin Museum, Mrs. Hall, and the third-grade students and teachers!



Spreading our Wings in the Middle School

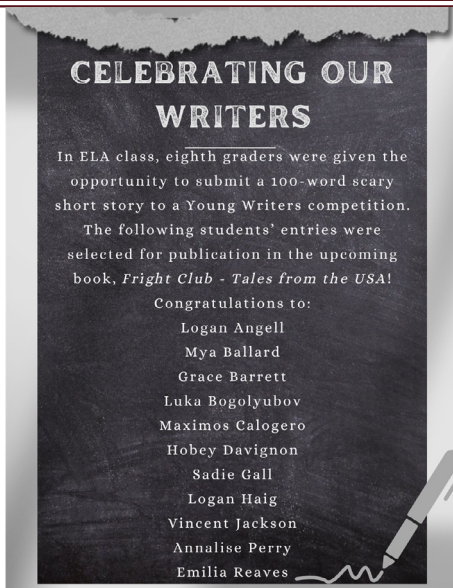
TECH SHOWCASE



Enthusiastic Tech Club students designed and built their CO₂ dragster cars in preparation for competition at the annual STEM Exploration Showcase at Mohawk Valley Community College, where they raced their creations against

students from schools across the region. This event is a wonderful celebration of technology, innovation, and hands-on learning, highlighting the incredible STEM talent in our area. Thanks to Mr. Milana for providing this opportunity for our students!

EIGHTH GRADE AUTHORS



Jr. High Area All-State

We are thrilled to celebrate our talented students who were selected to perform in the New York State School Music Association (NYSSMA) Area All-State festival at VVS!

These students earned this prestigious opportunity based on their outstanding solo performances last spring and performed alongside top musicians from across the region. This achievement is a testament to their dedication, hard work, and musical excellence. Thanks for representing the Comets community so well! Huge thanks to Mr. Lavender, Mr. Magagnoli, and Mrs. Wratten for all of their support in preparing our students for this event and for their work to support the festival.

Pictured are: Ava Carney, Taina Olivo, Claire Banghardt, Lauren Gus, Sierra Townsend, Claudia Hepler, Jesse Amuso, Aliyah Bentley, Yumeng Shi, Avery Otto, Molly Spadea, and Gwen Westmoreland (not pictured: Sydney Place).



BATTLE OF THE BOOKS COMPETITION



On March 12, both the middle and high school Battle of the Books Teams competed at Utica University against 10 middle school and six high school groups, making for a challenging and exciting event.



Battle of the Books is a quiz-style competition where students read from a

selected book list and then answer questions by identifying the title and author of a given quote. Congratulations to both CCS teams for bringing home championship trophies!

The CCS Battle of the Books teams are advised by Library Media Specialist Karen Zaleski and Teacher Assistant Melissa Roy.

Mathcounts Team

MIDDLE SCHOOL MATHCOUNTS



Congratulations to the Middle School MathCounts team for an outstanding performance at the regional competition! The team placed third overall, earning a spot to compete at the state level. Special congratulations to Edwin Grant for winning first place in the Countdown Round!

MathCounts is a nationwide math competition that challenges middle school students with problem-solving and critical-thinking skills in four exciting rounds: Sprint, Target, Team, and Countdown. Our students have been preparing since the fall, and their hard work has paid off!

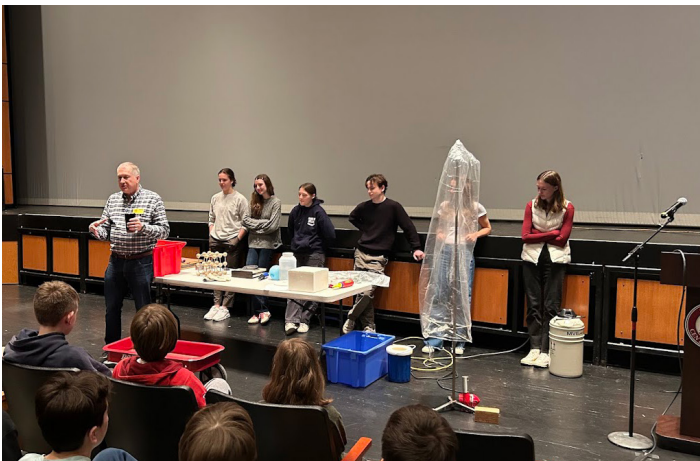
We are so proud of our MathCounts team! Thanks to the adviser, Mrs. Gemelli, for all of her support for our students and for providing this picture! Team members include: Edwin Grant, Edward Panasyuk, Blake Pflanz, James Shelley, Theodore Wileczka, and (not pictured) Samuil Suvorov.

Spreading our Wings in the Middle School

SPOTLIGHT ON COMMUNITY

THERMAL ENERGY

Middle school science classes had an exciting opportunity to witness thermal energy in action, thanks to visiting professors and students from Hamilton College. Students enjoyed the engaging demonstrations, including dry ice experiments with balloons and roses, a sample hot air balloon in the theater, and hands-on activities exploring heat transfer between our bodies and different materials. Students were fascinated by the science behind these demonstrations, sparking curiosity and thoughtful questions.



Exploring Space

Sixth-graders were given the opportunity to learn from Hamilton faculty and students through an exciting hands-on science demonstration. Held in the theater, the presentation brought space science to life using creative models and interactive activities. A lively game of "Simon Says" with moon phases kept everyone engaged, and sixth-graders impressed the presenters by showcasing their knowledge. What a fantastic way to bring science beyond the classroom and deepen students' understanding of space!



We are grateful to Dr. Gordon Jones, Dr. Wesley Clark, Dr. Adam Lark and their students for sharing their time and expertise. Huge thanks also goes to Amy James, Rachel Shin, Mrs. Baker, Mrs. Chesebro, Mr. DeStefanis, and Mr. King for helping to coordinate this event for our students. We look forward to continuing this collaboration for other grade levels.

GREATER UTICA HONOR BAND



The Greater Utica Area Honor Ensembles recently performed at Westmoreland High School after select students from Oneida County spent a month of Sundays rehearsing repertoire in preparation for the concert. Under the direction of Syracuse University's Brad Ethington and Westmoreland High

School band director Kristyn Cutler, the Honors Middle School Concert Band and the Honors Youth Wind Ensemble performed a variety of compositions showcasing the students' talent.

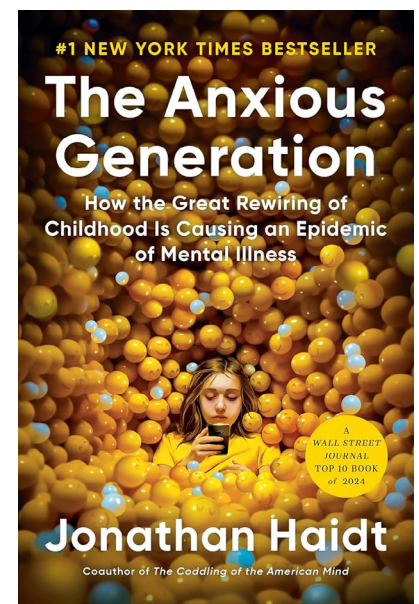
Pictured are middle school students Ava Carney, Claire Banghardt, Veronica Gianonne, Avery Otto, Logan Otto, and sophomore Emily Roy.

COMMUNITY BOOK STUDY

Fifty-six faculty and staff members participated in a community-wide book study of *The Anxious Generation* by Jonathan Haidt. District-wide participants met four times for discussion. In partnership with the Kirkland Town Library, community members were also invited to participate in the study and meet on two additional dates for conversation.

The goal was to foster meaningful conversations to support student well-being, provide practical strategies for educators, parents, & community, and enhance collaboration to create a supportive environment.

Thank you to the Kirkland Town Library for supporting this effort.

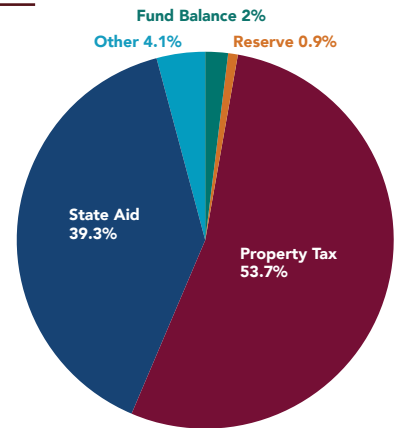


Budget Information

REVENUES

WHERE THE MONEY COMES FROM

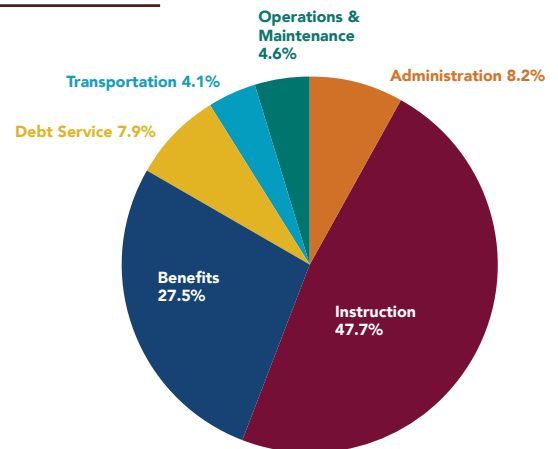
Revenues	2024-2025 Actual Budget	2025-2026 Proposed Budget
Local Property Tax	\$17,054,198	\$17,502,327
State Aid	\$12,475,825	\$14,106,645
Other	\$1,305,200	\$1,342,840
Fund Balance	\$650,000	\$650,000
Reserve	\$270,000	\$270,000
TOTAL	\$31,755,223	\$33,871,812



EXPENDITURES

WHAT IT WILL BE SPENT ON

Expenditures	2024-2025 Actual Budget	2025-2026 Proposed Budget
Instruction	\$15,130,891	\$15,273,313
Benefits	\$8,719,940	\$9,471,598
Debt Service/Transfers	\$2,531,474	\$3,250,010
Transportation	\$1,312,979	\$1,646,924
Ops. & Maintenance	\$1,452,693	\$1,493,790
Administration	\$2,607,246	\$2,736,177
TOTAL	\$31,755,223	\$33,871,812



What happens if this budget proposal is defeated?

The Board of Education has three options under the law:

- Submit the same budget to the voters for a second vote on the third Tuesday of June;
- Revise and submit the budget for a second vote on the third Tuesday of June;
- Reduce the budget by eliminating the purchase of equipment and any amounts tied to the community's use of the school facilities, and declare a contingency budget without a second vote.

If the Board of Education adopts a contingency budget, equipment expenditures of \$565,236 will be removed and other items as required by New York State Education Department regulations.

Enhancing Awareness

CCS teachers from various disciplines gathered at the Griffiss Institute for the event "Enhancing Awareness of the Mohawk Valley's Innovation Economy." It was an enlightening opportunity to hear from a diverse group of panelists discussing key topics such as the semiconductor and microelectronics industry, renewable energy and power in New York, and the importance of digital literacy and STEM readiness in the age of Artificial Intelligence.

The event provided valuable insights that will help enhance both teaching and learning in these rapidly evolving fields.



Budget Information

PROPOSITION 1

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Clinton Central School District, Oneida County, New York, is hereby authorized to expend and there is hereby appropriated, the sum of \$33,871,812 estimated by it to be necessary for school purposes for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2025 and to raise so much thereof as may be necessary by tax on the taxable property in said School District.

PROPOSITION 2

Shall the Board of Education of the Clinton Central School District is hereby authorized to establish a capital reserve fund pursuant to Section 3651 of the Education Law to be designated, "2025 Technology and Equipment Capital Reserve Fund" created to defray the cost of original equipment, machinery, vehicles, apparatus, appurtenances, furnishings and other incidental improvements and expenses in connection with the School District's building and facilities, and in order to accomplish the same, the Board is hereby authorized to establish the ultimate amount of such Reserve Fund to be Two Million (\$2,000,000.00) Dollars, plus accrued interest and other investment earnings with a probable term of ten (10) years and, to appropriate from the available fund balance, from the balance and accrued interest of the 2016 Capital Reserve Fund, and/or other legally available funds of the School District to such Reserve Fund?

Proposal: New Technology & Equipment Reserve

What is a reserve fund?

Reserve funds allow school districts to set aside funds for specific purposes, providing financial stability and reducing reliance on indebtedness for capital projects and acquisitions.

If approved, what would this reserve be used for?

This reserve would be used to replace technology equipment necessary to maintain and advance our network infrastructure. It would also be used to defray the cost of original equipment, machinery, vehicles, apparatus, appurtenances, furnishings and other incidental improvements and expenses in connection with the School District's building and facilities.

How would this new reserve be funded?

To establish reserve funds, the District would ask voters to authorize moving the remaining balance of the 2016 Capital Reserve into this new reserve fund; approximately \$160,000 plus interest.

PROPOSITION 3

Shall the sum of \$355,066 be raised by annual levy of a tax upon the taxable property within the Clinton Central School District for the purpose of funding the Kirkland Town Library?

Library tax is not school tax and is not part of the school district budget. When a school district is approached by a library regarding tax levies, the district does not have a choice with respect to whether to present the proposition to voters. Under Education Law section 259, a BOE must submit a library appropriation to voters if requested by a library's board of trustees. For more information, visit www.kirklandtownlibrary.org, or contact Director Anne Debraggio at adebraggio@midyork.org.

BOARD OF EDUCATION CANDIDATES

Two (2) candidates will be running for two (2), vacant, at-large Board of Education seats.

CANDIDATES INCLUDE:

Ms. Jennifer Giannone
Ms. Lisa Magnarerlli, Incumbent

The community will have the opportunity to meet the candidates on May 13 at 5:30 p.m. in the High School Cafeteria. The Budget Hearing and regular Board of Education meeting will follow.

NOTICE:

Absentee and Early Mail Ballots are available in the Superintendent's Office by calling 315.557.2253 or by emailing the District Clerk at jscranton@ccs.edu.

THREE – PART BUDGET SUMMARY

New York State requires districts to present their proposed budgets in three categories: program, capital and administrative. The chart below shows the dollar amount and percentage of spending in each of those three categories in the 2024 – 2025 budget and the proposed 2025 – 2026 budget.

PROGRAM

All instructional programs, transportation, athletics, co-curricular and associated employee benefits.

2024-25	\$23,960,335	75.45%
2025-26	\$25,247,793	74.54%

CAPITAL

Operation of buildings, maintenance of buildings, refunded taxes, debt service, and associated employee benefits.

2024-25	\$4,419,240	13.92%
2025-26	\$5,135,698	15.16%

ADMINISTRATIVE

Board of Education, central administration, finance, legal services, personnel, public information, central services, special items, supervision of instruction and associated employee benefits.

2024-25	\$3,375,648	10.63%
2025-26	\$3,488,322	10.30%

TOTAL

2024-25	\$31,755,223	100%
2025-26	\$33,871,812	100%

Clinton Central School District Budget Notice

Overall Budget Notice

	2024-25 ADOPTED BUDGET	2025-26 BUDGET PROPOSED	2025-26 CONTINGENCY BUDGET
Total Budgeted Amount, Not Including Separate Propositions	\$31,755,223	\$33,871,812	\$33,306,576
Increase/Decrease for the 2025-26 School Year		\$2,116,589	\$1,551,353
Percentage Increase/Decrease in Proposed Budget		6.67%	4.89%
Change in the Consumer Price Index		2.95%	
A. Proposed Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount	\$17,054,199	\$17,502,327	
B. Levy to Support Library Debt, if Applicable	\$344,724	\$355,066	
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)	\$17,398,923	\$17,857,391	\$17,409,265
F. Total Permissible Exclusions	\$441,794	\$436,425	
G. School Tax Levy Limit, Excluding Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$16,612,405	\$17,065,902	
H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, Excluding Levy to Support Library Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions (E - B - F + D)	\$16,612,405	\$17,065,902	
I. Difference: G - H (Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval - See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions) **	\$0	\$0	
Administrative Component	\$3,375,648	\$3,488,322	\$3,438,091
Program Component	\$23,960,335	\$25,247,793	\$24,738,239
Capital Component	\$4,419,240	\$5,135,698	\$5,130,246

If the Board of Education adopts a contingency budget, equipment expenditures of \$565,236 will be removed as required by New York State Education Department regulations.

**** 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
Kirkland Town Library	\$355,066

Basic STAR Exemption Savings	UNDER THE BUDGET PROPOSED FOR THE 2025-26 SCHOOL YEAR
Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings ¹	\$569

The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2025-26 by the qualified voters of the Clinton Central School District, Oneida County, New York, will be held at the Theater Lobby in said district on Tuesday, May 20, 2025 between the hours of noon and 8:00 pm., prevailing time in the Middle School, at which time the polls will be opened to vote by voting ballot or machine.

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

Why Does the 2025-2026 Budget Reflect a 6.67% Increase?

The District expects to begin making debt payments on the Capital Project that was approved by voters in 2022. This increase is reflected in our overall expenses in the proposed budget.

At the same time, the Capital Project will begin generating NYS Building Aid. This increase is reflected in our overall revenues in the proposed budget. This new revenue helps offset the Capital Project and keeps the budget balanced.

Budget Information

PROPOSED 2025-26 BREAKDOWN

District Support 8.1% of Budget <i>Dollar Change: \$128,931 Percent Change: 4.95%</i>	2024-2025 BUDGET	2025-2026 PROPOSED
Board of Education	\$44,685	\$47,309
Central Administration	\$249,568	\$260,147
Business Administration	\$466,126	\$447,591
Auditing	\$29,400	\$29,400
Treasurer	\$25,874	\$69,000
Tax Collection	\$7,000	\$7,000
Fiscal Agent Fees	\$10,000	\$10,000
Legal Services	\$45,000	\$48,800
Personnel	\$65,260	\$87,505
Central Printing	\$114,950	\$116,450
Data Processing	\$13,000	\$13,000
Liability/Property Insurance	\$137,000	\$193,000
Refund Taxes	\$5,000	\$5,000
BOCES Administration	\$359,862	\$354,967
Curriculum Development	\$179,748	188,645
Supervision of Schools	\$854,773	\$858,363
SUBTOTAL	\$2,607,246	\$2,736,177

Debt Service 9.5% of Budget <i>Dollar Change: \$718,536 Percent Change: 28.78%</i>	2024-2025 BUDGET	2025-2026 PROPOSED
School Construction Bonds	\$1,804,899	\$1,586,924
Bond Anticipation Note	\$391,875	\$1,329,600
Energy Performance Contract	\$299,700	\$298,486
SUBTOTAL	\$2,496,474	\$3,215,010

Interfund Transfers .1% of Budget <i>Dollar Change: \$0 Percent Change: 0.00%</i>	2024-2025 BUDGET	2025-2026 PROPOSED
Special Education/Summer School	\$35,000	\$35,000
SUBTOTAL	\$35,000	\$35,000

Operations & Maintenance 4.4% of Budget <i>Dollar Change: \$41,097 Percent Change: 2.83%</i>	2024-2025 BUDGET	2025-2026 PROPOSED
Custodial Services	\$1,313,141	\$1,354,238
Maintenance Expenses	\$139,552	\$139,552
SUBTOTAL	\$1,452,693	\$1,493,790

Instruction 45.1% of Budget <i>Dollar Change: \$142,422 Percent Change: 0.94%</i>	2024-2025 BUDGET	2025-2026 PROPOSED
Teaching/Regular School	\$8,750,948	\$8,359,799
Special Education	\$3,658,019	\$4,065,896
Library/Media	\$327,979	\$332,140
Computer Instruction	\$543,197	\$604,148
Guidance	\$321,982	\$335,337
Health Services	\$230,999	\$223,449
Psychological Services	\$150,745	\$159,247
Social Work Services	\$312,680	\$323,995
Co-Curricular Activities	\$301,475	\$309,100
Athletics	\$532,867	\$560,202
SUBTOTAL	\$15,130,891	\$15,273,313

Benefits 28.0% of Budget <i>Dollar Change: \$751,658 Percent Change: 8.62%</i>	2024-2025 BUDGET	2025-2026 PROPOSED
Health, Dental & Vision Insurance	\$5,997,328	\$6,734,112
Teachers' Retirement	\$1,102,098	\$1,058,152
Employees' Retirement	\$362,928	\$397,219
Social Security (FICA)	\$1,028,131	\$1,036,660
Workers Compensation	\$50,000	\$50,000
Life Insurance	\$9,055	\$9,455
Disability Insurance	\$4,300	\$4,300
Benefits Administration	\$16,100	\$16,700
Employee 403B Deferral	\$150,000	\$165,000
SUBTOTAL	\$8,719,940	\$9,471,598

Student Transportation 4.9% of Budget <i>Dollar Change: \$333,945 Percent Change: 25.43%</i>	2024-2025 BUDGET	2025-2026 PROPOSED
Transportation	\$1,142,979	\$1,471,924
BOCES Bus Maintenance	\$170,000	\$175,000
SUBTOTAL	\$1,312,979	\$1,646,924

TOTAL PROPOSED BUDGET

2024-2025 Budget: \$31,755,223
2025-2026 Proposed: \$33,871,812

Dollar Change: \$2,116,589 | Percent Change: 6.67%

Emerging Leaders in the High School

SPOTLIGHT ON LEADERSHIP

ELEVATING STUDENT VOICES



Clinton students are dedicated to fostering an inclusive school environment where every peer feels welcomed. At OHM BOCES' Elevating Student Voices program, Madame Hogan and Mrs. Pavone have been honored to continue working with Daniel Gus, Luca Pavone, Mia Torre, Andrew Bashant, Ella Kelly, Zoe Pieri, Gemma Spadea, and Maren Wohnsen, with Gemma and Ella taking on leadership roles during discussion groups.

In December, the discussion circles centered on the concept of belonging, prompting students to reflect on their personal experiences as students, the school's cultural climate, and their aspirations for the future. They explored strategies for driving positive change to ensure universal inclusion.

March's discussions addressed the influence of social media, encouraging students to consider how their voices and choices can contribute to constructive change.

The culmination of these efforts, showcased at the next gathering, students will present their proposed short and long-term initiatives aimed at supporting the program's objectives across the district. Maren Wohnsen will deliver the Opening Remarks, and Gemma Spadea will participate as a panelist.

STUDENT ATHLETES ATTEND LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE



Four student-athletes from Clinton recently attended Cooperstown Central School's 10th Annual Student-Athlete Leadership Conference, which occurred on Thursday, March 6. Juniors Justin Zalewski, Ryder Stilz, Juliana Bean, and Charlotte Gale joined

Varsity Girls Soccer Coach Micaela Honsinger and Clinton's Athletic Director Robert Bentley at the conference for the day.

The Cooperstown Central School Leadership Training for Athletes Program welcomed approximately 400 student-athletes, coaches, and athletic directors representing more than 60 school districts around Central New York. The day-long conference, entitled "Respect: It Goes Both Ways," was held at Cooperstown's Clark Sports Center and the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum.

Student-athletes engaged in a variety of workshops throughout the day, while coaches and athletic directors from the participating schools were able to take part in professional development seminars at the Hall of Fame, experiencing the Museum's award-winning curriculum. Students and educators left the conference with a better understanding of what it takes to be a leader and legend in the world of athletics.

STUDENT BOARD MEMBERS

STUDENT EX-OFFICIO BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS

In accordance with New York State Education Law, effective July 1, 2025, every school district in the State must have at least one student member. This law highlights the importance of student involvement in school board discussions, aiming to amplify student voices in decisions that directly impact their education, wellbeing, and school experiences. It also encourages civic

engagement among young people, giving our students a chance to further develop leadership and communication skills. By including student members, school boards benefit from a broader range of perspectives, leading to more thoughtful and inclusive decision-making.

The CCS Board of Education is inviting one junior and one senior who meet criteria under the law to serve as ex-officio members of the Board for the 2025-2026 school year. New student members would begin their service in July 2025.

Student ex-officio board of education members will serve as the primary voice for the student body on the school board, ensuring that student perspectives, concerns and interests are represented in all board decision-making processes. Ex-officio members do not vote or attend executive sessions. While student members may report on school events, student members are also expected to:

- Bring valuable insights into how board policies affect students, while also acting as a liaison to communicate student needs to the board.
- Report back to their peers, ensuring transparency and keeping students informed.
- Gather feedback from fellow students on key issues that will allow them to offer a well-rounded perspective on district matters.

The Board of education anticipates adopting this policy before the end of the school year.

LEGISLATIVE BREAKFAST



Several CHS students had the opportunity to participate in the 25th Annual Legislative Forum & Breakfast, which took place at Hart's Hill Inn.

The forum provided students with a unique chance to engage with legislators and elected officials, deepening their understanding of community issues and opportunities. This experience was invaluable in fostering civic awareness and encouraging active participation in our democratic process. Students were joined by Superintendent Clancy.

MODEL UN EVENT



On Saturday, March 29, the high school Model United Nations club held a mini-conference for our 7th and 8th graders here at CCS. Middle

schoolers were introduced to the basics of Model UN conferences including terminology, moderated versus unmoderated caucuses, whips, and an introduction to writing resolutions. Topics included climate change, nuclear proliferation and capital punishment. High school students also used incentives, commonly used at conferences, to increase participation. By the end of the morning two rooms had passed resolutions on their topics! It was a productive morning, and our high school students did an outstanding job of creating a wonderful experience for our CCS students! Model UN is advised by teacher Nicole Goodelle.

Emerging Leaders in the High School

ATHLETIC CHAMPS

BOYS RELAY TEAM COMPETES AT THE STATE LEVEL



On March 8, the boys 4x200m relay team of Isaiah Palmer, Ronan Milne, Henry Schweitzer, and Jack Jacobson represented the Clinton varsity track and field team at the NYS High School Championships at the Ocean Breeze Athletic Complex in Staten Island.

This marks the first time in program history that a relay team has qualified for the state championships. At the NY State Qualifier Meet, their time of 1:36.39 not only secured their win but was less than half a second from breaking the school record.

Additionally, both the boys and girls indoor track & field teams achieved CSC Division 1 Championship titles.

SCHOLAR ATHLETES

The New York State Public High School Athletic Association's Scholar-Athlete Team Award Program has been created to recognize outstanding scholastic achievement by varsity level student-athletes. We are pleased to announce that Clinton had five teams qualify for the honor for the winter sports season. In all, 78 individual student-athletes achieved a 90% average or better. To qualify as a team, 75% of a team's average GPA for the season must be equal to or greater than 90%. Congratulations!

Scholar-Athlete Team averages were as follows:

Boys Indoor Track & Field - 97.16

Girls Indoor Track & Field - 96.05

Girls Ice Hockey - 94.59

Girls Basketball - 93.89

Girls Volleyball - 93.62

STEMSPIRATION

Middle and high school students attended a STEMspirational event at Hamilton College's Tolles Pavilion, celebrating women in STEM through hands-on activities and expert discussions.



Students explored biology, chemistry, and physics by engaging in interactive experiments with Hamilton faculty and students. Thank you to Amy James and Rachel Shin for creating this opportunity and to all the faculty and Hamilton students who participated.

HS MUSICAL

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS PERFORM!

In March, Clinton High School presented a truly memorable production of "The Drowsy Chaperone"!

This hilarious musical comedy, featuring music and lyrics by Lisa Lambert and Greg Morrison, and orchestrated by Larry Blank, was a resounding success. The talented cast, crew and pit orchestra delivered outstanding performances that delighted audiences.

Thank you music staff, teachers, and everyone who joined to watch and support our students!



SCIENCE OLYMPIAD



The CCS team competed at the State Science Olympiad contest held at LeMoyne College against the best in NYS across 22 competitions. Competitions range in content and skills across the science and technology fields and include tests, real

time experiments, and constructions that are used on the day of the competition. Students Eva Stone and Clara Kelly earned medalist honors placing sixth in the "Write it, Do It" competition where one member observes a three-dimensional build and conveys instructions in writing and code for the other partner to build a replica of the original. Congratulations, team, on achieving this honor.

UU SCIENCE FAIR

Congratulations to our Clinton High School students who presented at the 46th annual Utica University Regional Science Fair.

In the high school "Senior Level" division, Cooper Rorick, Eliana Bentley, and Ella Brehaut swept first through third place in the Senior Level Physical Science Division. Daniel Gus and Ella Kelly placed second and fourth in the Senior Level Natural Science Division. Additional awards were earned by Rorick, Gus, Brehaut, and Nicholas Venero. Also representing CCS were Parker Sodja, Scarlet Stanton, and Adeline Grant. Great job to all!



In the middle school "Junior Level" division, Aliyah Bentley placed third in the Math, Engineering, and Computer Science Division and also received the AFCEA Award supported by the Air Force Research Laboratory and the Office of Naval Research Science Award.

Superintendent of Schools

Mr. Christopher Clancy

Clinton Board of Education

Ms. Melinda Leising, *President*

Ms. Lisa Magnarelli, *Vice President*

Mr. Sam Catterson

Ms. Rachael Clark

Mr. Orlando Guitián

Mr. Patrick LaVeck

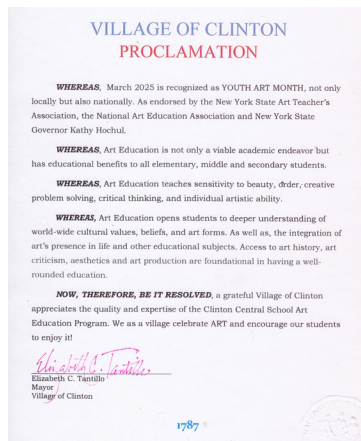
Ms. Erica Shaw

ART PROCLAMATION

The Village of Clinton Supports CCS Artists

Clinton Mayor Elizabeth Tantillo visited art rooms at CCS and presented a proclamation in support and recognition of the Clinton Central School Art Program.

Congratulations to our creative students and teachers, and thank you, Mayor Tantillo, for this wonderful honor!



RETIREES

You Will Be Missed!

We congratulate, with gratitude for their many years of service, several faculty members who will be retiring at the end of the 2024-2025 school year.

Retirees include teachers Monica Crumrine, Amy Doggett, Hilary Lopata, Brian McIntosh, and Margaret Steele, teacher assistant Michelle McNichol and school nurse Elizabeth Hobaica.

We wish you all the best!