# MANCHESTER-SHORTSVILLE CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

BUDGET NEWSLETTER

May 2025



#### **EXCELLENCE**

Challenge and learning are the goals and the rewards

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#### **OUR MISSION**

We will challenge all learners and work in partnership with students, parents and community to achieve high standards.



**REDJACKET.ORG** 



@REDJACKETSCHOOLS



@RJSCHOOLS



CYOOL BUDGEN

Red Jacket
AUDITORIUM FOYER

AUDITORIUM FOYER OF

# Message from the Superintendent



Dear Red Jacket School Community,

As we turn the corner into spring, the pace of the school year seems to accelerate with each passing day. The longer days, warmer weather, and renewed energy bring excitement—and serve as a reminder that the final stretch of the 2024–2025 school year is now in full view.

Throughout this year, we've remained committed to our core focus areas: supporting academic growth, fostering strong relationships, and ensuring an inclusive and safe environment for all

students and staff. These priorities continue to guide our decision-making and are deeply reflected in our current budget planning. We are building a financial plan that aligns district resources with the areas we know make the greatest impact—now and into the future. That alignment isn't just strategic—it's a reflection of our values, our collaboration, and our belief in what's possible for Red Jacket.

We began this year with a focus on collective ownership, and we returned to it during the winter months because we know how essential it is. As we move into the final chapter of the school year, let's carry that mindset forward. The challenges ahead—and the celebrations, too—are not yours, not mine, but ours. And together, we've proven time and time again that we can handle anything.

While we have made significant strides, important work remains. True student success is built through a strong partnership between schools and families—when we work together, our students benefit the most. With your continued support, we will stay focused on providing the best possible opportunities for every student.

Thank you for your trust, engagement, and dedication to our shared work.

With Red Jacket PRIDE,

Christopher J. Barnard Superintendent of Schools Manchester-Shortsville CSD



# Reed Spells His Victory: 8th Grader Reed Laursen Advances to Scripps National Spelling Bee Competition



Reed Laursen, an 8th grader at Red Jacket Middle School, has made history by winning the Regional Spelling Bee at the Palmyra-Macedon Performing Arts Center. After competing fiercely against top spellers from across the region, Reed sealed his victory by correctly spelling "asthmatic" in the final round, claiming first place!



Reed's journey to this moment began when he won the Red Jacket Spelling Bee on March 7th, earning a spot in the regional competition. Now, with this impressive victory under his belt, Reed is set to take
the stage at
the prestigious
Scripps National
Spelling Bee
in National
Harbor,
Maryland, from
May 27–29.
There, he will
compete
against the
nation's
brightest

young spellers for the coveted Scripps Cup, marking the culmination of months of dedication and hard work.

This isn't Reed's first visit to the D.C. area this year—just a month ago, he was there on the 8th Grade Field Trip, experiencing the nation's capital. Now, he'll be back with a new mission: to prove himself as one of the best spellers in the country!

When asked what it means to him to represent the Red Jacket community on the national stage, Reed said, "When I first decided to take part in the spelling bee, I wasn't really expecting much, but now it feels really cool to be able to represent my school."

Reed is continuing a strong tradition at Red Jacket—he is the third student from the district to advance to the Scripps National Spelling Bee since 2018. He follows in the footsteps of Anna Penird (2018) and Tyler Wagner (2022), both of whom also represented Red Jacket on the national stage.

"We couldn't be prouder of Reed's remarkable achievement," said Principal Terry Febrey. "His dedication and hard work have paid off, and we're thrilled to see him represent Red Jacket Middle School on such a prestigious national stage."

The Scripps National Spelling Bee, known as the largest and longest-running educational competition in the country, brings together the best spellers from all over the United States and beyond. Reed's path to this incredible opportunity highlights the perseverance, focus, and passion he has for his academic pursuits. As he prepares to face some of the best spellers in the world, we'll be cheering him on every step of the way!



# Meet our Valedictorian, Mikayla Morris



My name is Mikayla Morris though most people know me as Mac—and I'm honored to be the valedictorian of the Class of 2025. I'm the President of the National Honor Society, a member of our school's Mastermind team, involved in several musical activities, and a lifelong member of the Girl Scouts. I never imagined myself pursuing a career in science, but sophomore year flipped my perspective and pivoted me toward chemistry. I always thought my future lay in the humanities, but with a little guidance, course exploration, and a science camp, I realized that wasn't my path. So, after I graduate, I plan to major in chemistry at Clarkson University, and I hope to research alternative energy sources as my career.

Being named valedictorian was a shock to me. All throughout high school, I've struggled with the feelings associated with imposter syndrome. I didn't feel good enough to be a contender for the top of the class—I'm mistake-prone, not always the smartest, and certainly not perfect. I didn't understand

how a mediocre kid in elementary and middle school could become valedictorian. However, after talking with my parents and teachers, I realized it's my tenacity and willingness to learn that earned me this spot, even with my mistakes.

I would like to thank my teachers for their patience with my endless questions, their helping hands, and for brightening my day. I would also like to thank my parents for pushing me to be the best version of myself. They supported everything I wanted to try and always did their best to help—even if they didn't know the exact answer. You helped me learn to believe in myself.

# Meet our Salutatorian, Johnny Piermarini



My name is Johnny Piermarini, and I am honored to be the salutatorian of the Class of 2025. Throughout my life, frequent moves across the country have taught me adaptability and resilience, shaping who I am today. At Red Jacket, I served as the treasurer for both the National Honor Society and the Student Council, which allowed me to develop leadership skills and give back to the community.

My passion for technology was sparked at an early age. Building my own computer, tearing apart electronics, and rebuilding broken objects instilled in me a sense of problem-solving

and understanding that has guided my future goals. After graduation, I plan to attend the University of Notre Dame to study Electrical Engineering and pursue a career in related fields.

I am deeply grateful to the teachers at Red Jacket, who always offered one-on-one help, personalized their teaching beyond the textbook, and truly cared about preparing us for the real world. Thank you for your encouragement, guidance, and for helping shape me into the person I am today.

# Superintendent Chris Barnard Advocates for Stronger School Safety Measures



Red Jacket Superintendent Chris Barnard is taking action to improve school safety across New York State. Working alongside New York State Senator Pam Helming and other local lawmakers, Barnard has helped develop legislation aimed at closing a critical loophole in the current system.

The proposed legislation would require the state Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS) and the Department of Corrections and Community Supervision (DOCCS) to notify local schools and law

enforcement before releasing a felony offender under the age of 18. This change would allow school districts to take necessary steps to protect students while also preparing a plan to support the offender's transition back into society.

Barnard, emphasized the importance of this measure. "As a Superintendent and a father, I strongly believe every student has the right to a safe and supportive learning environment. Recent challenges have highlighted the need for a clearer, more effective approach to ensuring school safety while also providing the necessary resources for student reintegration," he said.

By ensuring better communication between state agencies and school districts, the legislation aims to create a more transparent and accountable system. Barnard believes this step will allow schools to take proactive measures to protect students while fostering a safer, more inclusive learning environment.

"This measure empowers school districts to take proactive steps in protecting students while maintaining a system rooted in transparency, accountability, and compassion. By strengthening our ability to address these critical issues, we can create a safer and more inclusive school community," Barnard stated. "I urge its passage to safeguard our schools and enhance the well-being of our students, staff, and families."

With the backing of local lawmakers and education leaders, this proposed legislation has the potential to make a lasting impact on school safety, ensuring that all students can learn in a secure and supportive environment.

### Junior Wyatt Rossignol Honored with NYS Senate Youth Leadership Recognition Award



Red Jacket junior Wyatt Rossignol was recognized with the prestigious New York State

Senate's Youth Leadership Recognition Award, a program designed to honor outstanding students across the state. Wyatt was chosen for his exceptional academic achievements and his demonstrated leadership in extracurricular and volunteer activities.

The award, which highlights nominees who excel both academically and in their contributions to their communities, is a testament to Wyatt's dedication and commitment. His recognition as one of the recipients in the 54th Senate district underscores his remarkable accomplishments.

Wyatt's achievement not only reflects his personal success but also brings pride to our local community. We congratulate Wyatt on this well-deserved honor and look forward to witnessing his continued growth and success.

#### 2025-2026 BUDGET



MANCHESTER-SHORTSVILLE CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

# 2025-2026 BUDGET & VOTER INFORMATION

#### 2025-2026 PROPOSED SCHOOL BUDGET

The following table provides a comparison by major components of the 2025-2026 proposed budget with the current 2024-2025 budget.

The proposed 2025-2026 budget represents a 1.93% tax levy and a 3.10% budget increase.

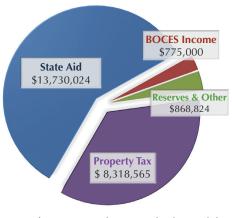
Budget Category	Administrative	Capital	Program	<b>Grand Total</b>	2024-2025	Inc./Dec	% Change
Board of Education	\$36,505			\$36,505	\$35,769	\$736	2.06%
District Meetings	\$3,486			\$3,486	\$5,428	-\$1,942	-35.78%
Central Administration	\$195,143			\$195,143	\$181,610	\$13,533	7.45%
Business Administration	\$488,180			\$488,180	\$470,677	\$17,503	3.72%
Business Operations	\$15,097			\$15,097	\$16,482	-\$1,385	-8.40%
Auditing	\$25,167			\$25,167	\$22,500	\$2,667	11.85%
Legal Services	\$36,192		\$15,000	\$51,192	\$54,730	-\$3,538	-6.46%
Operations		\$1,092,007		\$1,092,007	\$1,070,074	\$21,933	2.05%
Maintenance		\$461,778		\$461,778	\$429,916	\$31,862	7.41%
Insurance	\$65,000	\$15,603	\$44,397	\$125,000	\$115,000	\$10,000	8.70%
School Association Dues	\$8,500			\$8,500	\$8,500	\$0	0.00%
Refund for Taxes		\$56,000		\$56,000	\$56,000	\$0	0.00%
BOCES Admin	\$177,941			\$177,941	\$212,016	-\$34,075	-16.07%
Supervision/Curriculum	\$894,040		\$81,400	\$975,440	\$762,438	\$213,002	27.94%
Instruction-General	\$401,012	\$35,000	\$6,003,926	\$6,439,938	\$6,371,073	\$68,865	1.08%
Teaching-Disabilities			\$3,746,768	\$3,746,768	\$3,665,286	\$81,482	2.22%
Library			\$163,207	\$163,207	\$189,725	-\$26,518	-13.98%
Computer Assisted Instruction			\$814,498	\$814,498	\$670,232	\$144,266	21.52%
Counseling/Social Work			\$357,830	\$357,830	\$329,154	\$28,676	8.71%
Health Services			\$145,669	\$145,669	\$131,155	\$14,514	11.07%
Psychological Services			\$151,348	\$151,348	\$145,540	\$5,808	3.99%
Co-Curricular			\$63,606	\$63,606	\$63,392	\$214	0.34%
Interscholastic Athletics			\$338,300	\$338,300	\$304,425	\$33,875	11.13%
District Transportation			\$1,061,652	\$1,061,652	\$1,060,452	\$1,200	0.11%
Employee Benefits	\$473,235	\$323,236	\$3,750,514	\$4,546,985	\$4,380,367	\$166,618	3.80%
Debt Service		\$2,151,176		\$2,151,176	\$2,228,090	-\$76,914	-3.45%
Dollar Total	\$2,819,498	\$4,134,800	\$16,738,115	\$23,692,413	\$22,980,031	\$712,382	3.10%
Percentage Total	11.90%	17.45%	70.65%	100.00%			

# At a Glance:

**2025-26 BUDGET REVENUES** Where our money comes from:

#### **Explanation** of Revenues

· State Sources for revenue account for 57.9% of the total revenues for the district. The District is expecting a 4% increase of Foundation Aid



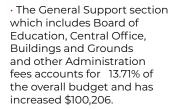
based on the Governor's Proposal. Foundation Aid is the largest portion of the District's State Aide.

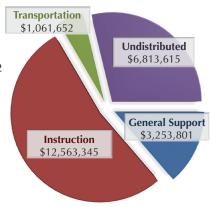
- · Major items in Local Sources include rent and utility payments from RJEC, Interest and Earnings, and Reserves.
- · A 1.93% increase is proposed for the local property tax.

**2025-26 BUDGET EXPENDITURES** Where our money goes:

#### **Explanation of Expenditures**

· The budget for the 2025-26 school year is \$23,692,413, which is an increase of \$712,132 or 3.10% from the current budget.





- · The Instruction section, which includes items such as teacher salaries, classroom textbooks and supplies, programs for students with disabilities, and interscholastic athletics, accounts for 53.03 of the overall budget and has increased \$402,334
- The Transportation section, which includes district transportation costs accounts for 4.48 of the overall budget and has increase of \$2,251
- The Undistributed section of the budget accounts for 28.78% of the overall budget and includes such things as group health insurance, employee retirement system contributions, Social Security payments and debt service. The Undistributed section of the budget again includes a \$100,000 transfer to the Capital Fund for minor improvements to school district buildings in the form of a Capital Outlay Project. The Capital Outlay Project for 2025-2026 will include Door Replacement throughout the campus. It is important to note that approximately 88.6% of this expense will be returned to the district in the form of Building Aid in the following year.

### **Explanation of Components**

**Educational Program Component** - includes expenses for teaching general and special education students, i.e., employee salaries, benefits, insurance, programs for students with disabilities, occupational education, inservice training, school library, attendance, guidance, health services, psychological services, pupil personnel services, co-curricular activities, interscholastic athletics, student transportation services, recreation/youth programs, civic activities, and special aid funds.

Capital Component - includes expenses for the operation and maintenance of school buildings, school bus purchases, principal and interest payments for debt service, transfers to capital and debt service funds, property tax refunds, and employee benefits attributable to salaries included in these functions.

Administrative Component - includes expenses for the Board of Education, central administration, instructional supervision, curriculum development, legal services, central data processing, printing, mailing, storage, and employee benefits attributable to salaries included in these functions.

Component	Proposed Budget	Percent of Budget
Educational Program	\$16,738,115	70.65%
Administrative	\$2,819,498	11.90%
Capital	\$4,134,800	17.45%
Total Budget	\$23,692,413	100.00%

### **Contingent Budget**

The State requires the District to report to the community the budget reductions that will be made to the proposed 2025-2026 budget if the budget is defeated by the community. Contingent budget regulations require the District to remove Non-State-Aided equipment and school supplies provided to students, and requires fees to be charged to the community for use of District facilities - such as the Red Jacket Hoops, adult education, CYO, AAU, Finger Lakes Youth Football, other local individual groups including adult basketball, volleyball, and summer youth recreation.

Contingent	Item Reductions:			
Non-State-Aided Custodial & Ma	Equipment aintenance	\$51,505		
Reductions Attri	Reductions Attributed to Community Use of Facilities\$12,000			
District Equipment\$81,331				
BehaviorSpeciali	st	\$127,730		
Total		\$272,566		
Proposed Budget	<b>Contingent Budget Reductions</b>	Contingent Budget		

\$272.566

730 and er Based design Signifi

# Fiscal Responsibility at Red Jacket Schools

What is a tax levy? The total amount of property taxes a school district must collect to balance its budget, after accounting for all other revenue sources, including state aid. The 2024-2025 tax levy increase was 2.38%. We are asking voters to vote on a 1.93% tax levy increase for the 2025-2026 school budget.

Fiscal Stress Score: Once again, Red Jacket's New York State Fiscal Stress Score is "No Designation," which is the BEST designation a district can achieve. The System analyzes the financial information against a set of uniform financial and environmental indicators. Based on this data, districts are designated the following 4 levels: Significant Fiscal Stress, Moderate Fiscal Stress, Susceptible to Fiscal Stress, or No Designation.

#### **School Budget Notice**

Budget Adopted for the Current Year:

\$22.980.031

23.692.413

Budget Proposed for 2025-2026:

\$23,692,413

Increase/Decrease with Current Year:

\$712,132

Tax Levy:

1.93%

Percent Change in the Budget:

3.10%

Percent Change in Consumer Price Index:

2.95%

Contingent Budget:

\$23,419,847

The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2025-2026 by the qualified voters of the Manchester-Shortsville School District, Ontario County, New York, will be held at the High School Auditorium Lobby in said District on **Tuesday, May 20, 2025**, between the hours of **8:00 am and 8:00 pm**, prevailing time, at which time polls will be opened to vote by voting machine.

#### **Voter Qualifications**

23,419,847

Voters at the annual meeting or any special school district meeting must possess the following qualifications:

- A citizen of the United States.
- At least eighteen (18) years of age.
- A resident within the District for a period of at least thirty (30) days prior to the day of the vote.

#### **Absentee Ballots**

Applications for absentee ballots for election of the members of the Board and the adoption of the annual budget may be applied for at the office of the Clerk of the District in the Business Office. Such applications must be received by the Clerk of the District or designee of the School Board at least seven (7) days before the election if the ballot is to be mailed to the voter, or the day before the election if the ballot is to be delivered personally to the voter.

# On the Ballot:

#### PROPOSITION #1 Budget Approval

RESOLVED: that the Board of Education of the Manchester-Shortsville Central School District, County of Ontario, New York, is hereby authorized to levy the necessary tax for and appropriate a sum not to exceed \$23,692,413 for the purpose of the General Fund Budget for the 2025-2026 school year.

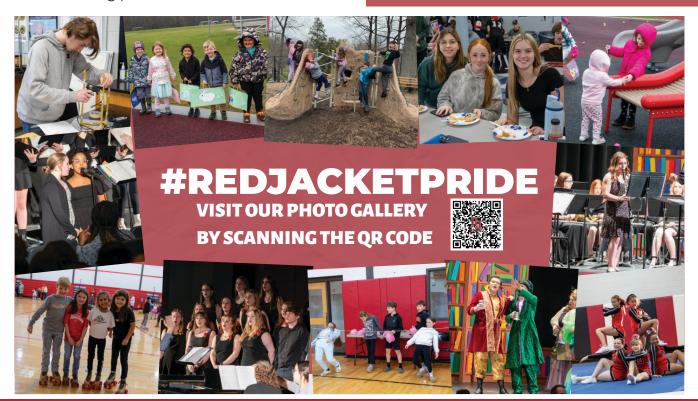
#### PROPOSITION #2 School Bus Purchase Approval

RESOLVED: that the Board of Education of the Manchester-Shortsville Central School District, County of Ontario, New York, is hereby authorized to purchase two (2) 65-passenger full-size diesel buses; and one (1) mini bus; not to exceed \$505,000 during the 2025-2026 school year and expend payment from the bus reserve.

# **Board of Education Membership Election**

Two (2) vacancies on the Board of Education is up for election at this year's Annual Meeting/Election. It is for two (2) five-year terms beginning on July 1, 2025 and ending on June 30, 2030. As per voter approval, seats for the Board of Education are elected on an atlarge basis. This means that if one seat is vacant, the top vote getter will assume office. One (1) candidate filed a nominating petition: Scott Van Aken

# CANDIDATES \* Vote for any Two \* Two (2) vacant seats Term ending June 30, 2030



# Meet the Candidate:

# Scott Van Aken





#### **Personal History:**

I've been married for 35 wonderful years to my loving wife, Rechelle (Sitterley) Van Aken, a proud graduate of Red Jacket. We have three daughters—Sara, Reanna, and Stephanie—all of whom attended Red Jacket as well. Stephanie is currently a junior in high school, while Sara and Reanna graduated in 2019 and 2022, respectively.

I earned my AAS degree in Engineering Science from Monroe Community College in 1985 and completed an additional year of study in Mechanical Engineering at the University at Buffalo.

#### **Occupation:**

I'm a manufacturing manager, overseeing both a production department and an engineering department.

#### **Community Activities:**

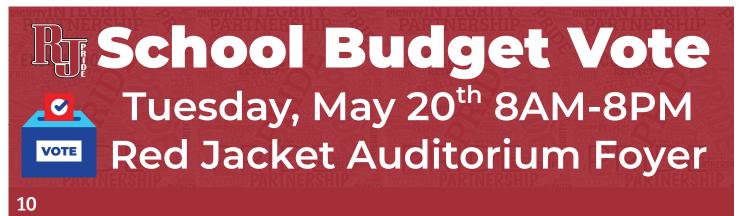
I currently serve as Chairman of the Town of Manchester Planning Board and am a former board member of Red Jacket Junior Hoops.

# What experience do you have that makes you qualified to be a Board Member?

As a returning member of the Board of Education, I bring an engineering and business background that helps me collaborate effectively with fellow board members.

# Reasons you want to become a Board of Education member and/or goals you have if you become a member?

I'm seeking re-election to help continue the important and effective work the current Board of Education has accomplished.



#### 2025-2026 BUDGET

### **School District 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	\$22,980,031	\$23,692,413	\$23,419,847
Increase/Decrease for the 2025-26 School Year		\$712,132	\$439,566
Percentage Increase/Decrease in Proposed Budget		3.10%	1.91%
Change in the Consumer Price Index		2.95%	
A. Proposed Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount	\$8,161,056	\$8,318,565	
B. Levy to Support Library Debt, if Applicable			
C. Levy for Non-Excludable Propositions, if Applicable **			
D. Total Tax Cap Reserve Amount Used to Reduce Current Year Levy			
E. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy (A + B + C - D)	\$8,161,056	\$8,318,565	\$8,161,056
F. Total Permissible Exclusions	\$0	\$0	
G. School Tax Levy Limit, Excluding Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$8,311,726	\$8,489,155	
H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, <u>Excluding</u> Levy to Support Library Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions (E – B – F + D)	\$8,161,056	\$8,318,565	
Difference: G – H (Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval –     See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions) **	\$150,670	\$170,590	
Administrative Component	\$2,610,832	\$2,819,498	\$2,691,768
Program Component	\$16,256,620	\$16,738,115	\$16,656,784
Capital Component	\$4,112,579	\$4,134,800	\$4,071,295

<sup>\*</sup> Provide a statement of assumptions made in projecting a contingency budget for the 2024-25 school year, should the proposed budget be defeated pursuant to Section 2023 of the Education Law.

Description	Amount
Bus Purchases-2 Full Size Buses, 1 Mini Bus	\$505,000

<sup>\*\*</sup> 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)

NOTE: Please submit an electronic version (Word or PDF) of this completed form to: <a href="mailto:emscmgts@nysed.gov">emscmgts@nysed.gov</a>	Under the Budget Proposed for the 2025-26 School Year
Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings <sup>1</sup>	\$588

The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2025-26 by the qualified voters of the Manchester-Shortsville Central school district, Ontario County, New York, will be held at Red Jacket High School school(s) in said district on Tuesday, May 20, 2025 between the hours of 8:00am and 8:00pm, prevailing time in the auditorium lobby, at which time the polls will be opened to vote by voting ballot or machine.

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

# RJHS Students Visit the Golisano Institute for Business and Entrepreneurship



Students from Red Jacket High School recently visited the Golisano Institute for Business and Entrepreneurship in Brighton, where they got an inside look at studying business. The Golisano Institute provided charter bus transportation and lunch, making the experience even more enjoyable for our students. The trip offered a chance to explore a real-world business environment and learn from experienced professors

Upon arrival, the President of the Golisano Institute welcomed the group and explained the Institute's mission of helping students from small districts succeed in business. The admissions team shared valuable information about campus life and what a typical day at the school looks like.

The students attended presentations led by two professors. One, Graham

Anthony from RIT, discussed the role of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in business, particularly relevant since the Institute recently launched a one-year Al certification program. The second professor introduced

students to Applied Economics, a subject many hadn't studied before, in an engaging and understandable way.

The campus features modern facilities designed for collaboration, including classrooms equipped with advanced technology like Al simulations. Students also learned how the Institute supports students in developing and launching their own business ideas.

A unique aspect of the school is its focus on business casual attire, helping students



prepare for the professional world. For those without business clothing, there is a consignment shop on campus.

Throughout the day, students had the chance to interact with professors and staff in a supportive environment. The welcoming atmosphere was evident, with faculty members regularly greeting students. The day concluded with a pizza lunch, offering a chance to reflect on their experiences.



At Red Jacket High School, we offer business electives for students in grades 9-12 to prepare them for future careers in business, whether they aim to start their own company or work in the field. The field trip to the Golisano Institute was a valuable opportunity for hands-on learning, providing students with real-world insights and exposure to advanced business programs.

Overall, the visit was an exciting and educational experience, leaving many students inspired about future business career possibilities.

## Senior Dylan Henry Receives Superintendent's Award

In March, Red Jacket senior Dylan Henry received the Superintendent's Award at a ceremony held at the Conference Center at Wayne-Finger Lakes BOCES.

The event was the fourth annual Wayne-Finger Lakes Superintendents Awards Dinner. Each year, superintendents from the 25 school districts in the Wayne-Finger Lakes region select one senior who stands out among their peers.

The Manchester-Shortsville Central School District chose Dylan for this honor. To qualify, students must show leadership, citizenship, and academic achievement, maintaining a GPA of 80 or higher by the end of their junior year. Award recipients are also eligible for scholarships through the Superintendent's Award Program, funded by five local businesses.

The evening began with a welcome message from W-FL BOCES District Superintendent Lynne Rutnik. The keynote speaker was Felicia Stevens, a graduate of Marion Central School District and now an officer with the Wayne County Sheriff's Department.

"The achievements of these incredible student leaders are a testament to their hard work and dedication," said Rutnik. "We extend our



congratulations and look forward to the future, knowing the positive difference these young scholars will make."

Dylan's recognition reflects his commitment to academic success and leadership, and this award highlights the positive influence students can have on their schools and communities.

# **Kindergarten & UPK Registration Now Open**



Red Jacket Elementary School is now accepting registrations for Kindergarten and Universal Pre-Kindergarten (UPK) for the 2025–2026 school year.

#### **Eligibility Requirements:**

**Kindergarten:** Children who turn five years old on or before December 1, 2025.

**UPK:** Children born between December 2, 2020, and December 1, 2021, who live within the Manchester-Shortsville Central School District.

If your child is currently enrolled in the UPK program at Red Jacket Elementary, no action is needed—your child will be automatically registered for kindergarten.

Per New York State Compulsory Education Law, all children who turn six years old on or before December 1, 2025, must be enrolled in school

#### **Kindergarten Screening:**

All incoming kindergarten students who are not currently enrolled in Red Jacket's UPK program must attend a mandatory screening session with a parent or guardian on Tuesday, May 27, 2025. Screenings will take about an hour. Families will receive a letter with their scheduled appointment time.

**How to Register:** Families can register online at www. redjacket.org or visit the District Office to register in person.

For more information, please contact the school office.

# A Legacy of Generosity: Phil Bredesen Donates \$5 Million to Red Jacket Students



Red Jacket is proud to share exciting news from one of its most well-known and accomplished alumni. Phil Bredesen, a 1961 graduate of Red Jacket High School, has donated \$5 million to create a long-term scholarship fund for Red Jacket students.

The donation will be placed in a trust and used to support multiple students each year as they head to post-secondary education. The Bredesen Scholarship will be awarded by the Red Jacket High School Scholarship Committee

to graduating seniors planning to continue their education. Mr. Bredesen also plans to continue contributing to the fund in the future, ensuring that generations of students benefit from his support.

After graduating from Red Jacket, Bredesen

went on to earn a degree in physics and became a successful businessman in the pharmaceutical industry. He later entered public service, serving two terms as Mayor of Nashville and two terms as Governor of Tennessee. Throughout his career, he has remained grounded in the values he developed growing up in Shortsville.

Bredesen has long supported scholarships for Red Jacket students, but this new donation marks a major milestone in that commitment. It guarantees lasting financial support for students with postsecondary goals, no matter their background. His continued involvement with the school—through visits, conversations with staff, and community engagement shows how deeply he values his connection to Red Jacket. "Mr. Bredesen's gift will help hundreds of our students pursue their college dreams—not just during my tenure, but for years to come" said Red Jacket High School Principal Bryon George. "This kind of generosity doesn't just change individual lives, it lifts up our entire school community. We are deeply grateful."

This historic donation strengthens Red Jacket's scholarship program and ensures a brighter future for students for many years to come.

# Help Shape the Future—Make a Difference at Manchester-Shortsville CSD!













Ready to Join Us? Scan the QR Code to Apply Now!

# Scholarship Awards and Contributors

The Manchester-Shortsville Central School District would like to thank the following organizations, individuals, and scholarship providers who contribute to the list of scholarships below. Your generosity is helping our graduates pursue their continued education in post-secondary institutions of learning.

Amanda Peck Nursing Scholarship

American Legion Auxiliary Unit 34 Scholarship

Bob Goodell Memorial Scholarship

Bridget Brown Memorial Scholarship

Cindy Coffey Memorial Scholarship

Clara Johnson Scholarship

Class of 1994 Memorial Scholarship

Dale Bardun Citizenship Award

Dominic Carra Memorial Scholarship

Ellen McWilliams Scholarship

Erin Alicia Mangan-Isaacs Memorial Scholarship

Finger Lakes Gaming & Racetrack Scholarship

First Baptist Church of Manchester Scholarship

Fred "Soot" Record Scholarship

Gary H. Bliss Memorial Scholarship

Grape Lakes Family Dental Scholarship

Herendeen Trade/Technical Scholarship

James McNinch Scholarship

James Weed Scholarship

Jane Cunion Scholarship

Joshua Herendeen Memorial Scholarship Joshua Lewis Memorial Scholarship

JS Goodnow Scholarship

Judith Macri Memorial Scholarship

Leon & Ruth Malter Cooley Scholarship

Madge & Ward Preston Scholarship

Manchester Volunteer Fire Department Scholarship

Manchester Shortsville Ladies Lions Club

> Margaret Vienna Memorial Scholarship

Mary Ann King Memorial Scholarship

Mary C. D'Arduini Memorial Scholarship

Mary Sassone Nursing Scholarship

Michael D. Misleany Memorial Scholarship

Monica B. and James E. Romeiser Scholarship

> Neil Harkenrider Memorial Scholarship

> NYS Academic Excellence Scholarship

Philip J. D'Ardiuni Memorial Scholarship

Bredesen Scholarship

Red Jacket Community Scholarship

Red Jacket Faculty Association Scholarship Red Jacket Memorial Scholarship

Red Jacket PTSA Scholarship

Red Jacket Rotary Club Award

Richard "Dick Southard" Memorial Scholarship

RJ Adult Athletic Association Sportsmanship and Leadership Award

Red Jacket Scholarship Walk-a-thon

Robert Hulbert Memorial Scholarship

Sons of the American Legion Americanism Award

Sue Dorscheid Memorial Scholarship

Timothy & Elaine Benjamin Scholarship

Turner Schrader American Legion Scholarship

Turner Schrader American Legion Scholarship - Dorothy & Melvin Nessinger

Twin Cities Lions Club Scholarship

Twin Cities Lions Club Vocational Scholarship

William Plaisted Memorial Scholarship

Citizen Hose Scholarship

Farmington Chamber of Commerce

Lehigh Valley Snow Riders Snowmobile Club

# THE 32ND ANNUAL MANCHESTER-SHORTSVILLE COMMUNITY WALK-A-THON



#### Join us to support Red Jacket students!

A benefit to help fund 100+ scholarships awarded to Red Jacket seniors

**SATURDAY, MAY 17, 2025** 

Red Jacket High School, 1506 Rt. 21, Shortsville

Donate online by scanning the QR code





### **Budding Readers Program**

#### Free Books for Babies

Is your baby 36 months of age or younger? Do you know a baby of this age in our school district? Budding Readers has free "bundles of books" with tips for parents about reading to babies and toddlers ready to deliver. To request a free "bundle of books", you can call, email, place a request on our website, or scan the QR code. One of our volunteers will contact the parent to arrange a mutually convenient time to deliver the bundle of books.

Email: books@buddingreaders.org

Website: www.books@buddingreaders.org

Phone: (585) 900 - 1725

Thank you for helping us provide books for babies.

Budding Readers offers free bundles of books in the following school district communities: Bloomfield, Canandaigua, Honeoye, Marcus Whitman, Midlakes, Naples, Red Jacket & Victor.



# YOUR VOTE MATTERS! Budget Vote: May 20th, 2025 Polls Open: 8AM-8PM Red Jacket Auditorium Foyer

MANCHESTER-SHORTSVILLE CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT 1506 ROUTE 21 SHORTSVILLE, NY 14548

www.redjacket.org

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