DANSVILLE
CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

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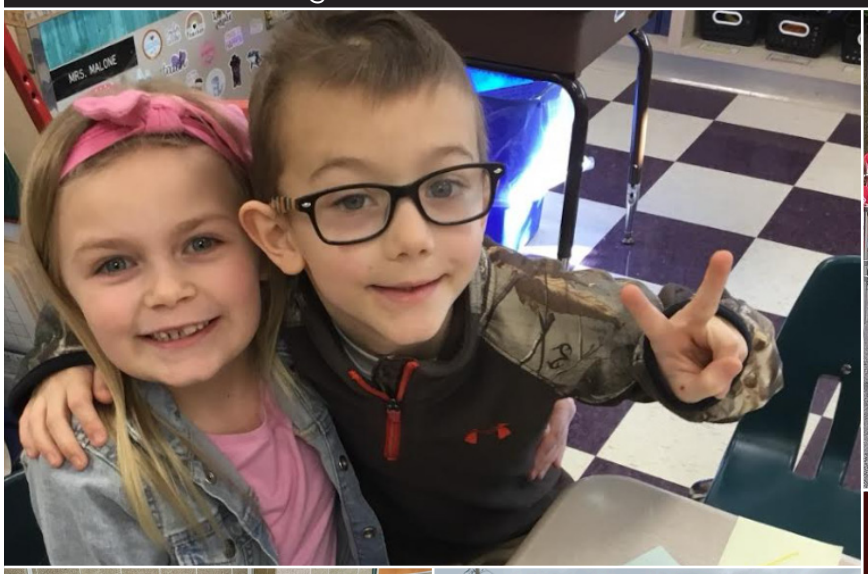
Proposed 2025-2026 Budget
Board of Education Candidates

Home of the Mustangs www.dansvillecsd.org May 2025



BUDGET & SPRING NEWSLETTER 2025

FROM THE **SUPERINTENDENT**

Dear Dansville Central Schools Families and Community Members,

Dansville Central School District takes a collaborative approach to preparing every student for their successful future. We accomplish this by creating an inclusive and engaging environment that provides students with the skills and experiences they need to thrive as confident, successful, and contributing members of society. **This is our mission and vision.**

We are proud to advance a school budget that aligns with our district's mission and vision. Our Board of Education has worked hard to develop a budget that prioritizes high quality academic and extra-curricular programming for our students while meeting the changing fiscal realities faced by our district and taxpayers.

Together, we have much to celebrate this year. Dansville Central Schools took significant steps toward establishing ourselves as a model district in our region. We collaborated with our entire community to establish a Blueprint for Excellence Strategic Plan that will guide us on a path of continuous improvement over the next three years. Our students experienced academic growth and many have been awarded for their academic achievements. We have enjoyed regional recognition for our extracurricular programs and accomplishments. Our athletic teams have had many scholar-athletes and have captured regional titles and recognition. We have also focused on activities that support career pathways and the mental health of both students and staff.

Together, we have also faced our share of challenges. This year brought significant increases to health and liability insurance premiums and increased costs associated with fuel, utilities, and materials. We also had two local companies come on to our tax rolls which inflated the tax levy. Both state and federal funding uncertainties have added to the challenge of developing a stable local budget, leaving many unanswered questions.

To successfully navigate the future, we need your support and partnership. The proposed 2025-2026 budget of $42,344,525 supports the preservation of high-quality programs, staff, and services, while respecting the position of our taxpayers. The increase in the proposed budget, responsibly remains below the rate of inflation with the greatest increases being put toward the programs that impact our students the most. It also results in no cuts to teachers and staff.

In spite of these challenges, we have achieved a balanced budget resulting in a modest increase in school tax to the average homeowner based on the assessment of your home. The impact is illustrated in this chart:

	Enhanced STAR		Basic STAR		No STAR	
Assessment	Monthly	Annual	Monthly	Annual	Monthly	Annual
$100,000.000	$0.43	$5.16	$2.16	$25.87	$3.09	$37.10
$150,000.000	$1.98	$23.71	$3.71	$44.52	$4.64	$55.65
$200,000.000	$3.52	$42.26	$5.26	$63.07	$6.18	$74.20

Following several open budget workshops, the Board of Education adopted the proposed budget on April 8, 2025. Please read on in this newsletter for budget details. A public budget hearing and an opportunity to meet candidates for the Board of Education will be held on Tuesday, May 13 at 6:30pm in the high school library. The annual budget vote and election will be on **Tuesday, May 20, from 8:00am to 8:00pm** in the high school gymnasium foyer. In this newsletter, you will also find information on ballot propositions, district highlights, and information on our Board of Education candidates. We are respectfully asking for your support in voting on all ballot items.

In service and gratitude,

Kelly M. Zimmerman
Superintendent

DCSD GIVES BACK TO OUR COMMUNITY!

COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAMS

- Jump Rope Rally for the American Heart Association
- Law Enforcement Day
- Dansville Junior Firefighters
- C.U.R.E. Fundraiser
- Christmas Caroling
- Valentines for Livingston Co. Center for Nursing & Rehab.
- Jammies for Golisano Children's Hospital
- Soup-er Bowl donations to Food Pantry
- Ducks for Davin
- Food Drives
- Holiday Window Painting for local businesses

Through various service projects, our students demonstrate our **Core Values** of:

Accountability
Collaboration
Empathy
Integrity
Inclusivity
Collective Responsibility
Optimistic & Solution-Focused
LEADERSHIP

DANSVILLE CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

HIGHLIGHTS

DANSVILLE HIGH SCHOOL

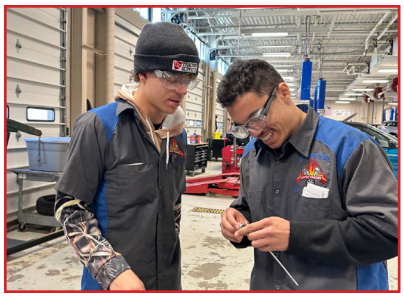
Academics

- 59 students in Accelerated College Enrollment programs
- 15 Advanced Placement (AP) Courses with results that exceed the NYS average
- Class of 2025 – 37 students graduating with Academics Honors (GPA of 90.0 or above)
- NYSED Seals of Civic Readiness and Biliteracy, World Language Honor Society
- National Honor Society, National Technical Honor Society
- Entrepreneurship class awarded Genesee Valley Excellence in Student Service Award
- 24 students recognized at 2025 Livingston County Teen Recognition Awards Banquet
- 135 students in 7th & 8th grades awarded at Honor's Tea Awards Ceremony
- 140 students recognized as Academic Department Mustangs of the Month
- 500 Positive Postcards mailed home
- Focus on College AND Career Readiness
    - Multiple annual college visits
    - Hosted Regional Career Expo
    - Monthly career presentations
    - Partnership with GV BOCES
    - Career & Technical Education programs

Extra-Curricular Activities

- Dansville High School offers 25 special interest clubs
- Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) had 2 students win States and 3 students qualify for Nationals across several categories of competition
- DHS ranked among the top competitors in multiple categories in Tech Wars 2025 at GCC

Approved by the NYS Education Department to offer the Seal of Biliteracy and the Seal of Civic Readiness. The NYSSB is a distinction that formally recognizes students who have attained a high level of proficiency in two or more world languages (one of which must be English) by high school graduation. The NYSSCR recognizes a student who has attained a high level of proficiency in terms of civic knowledge, civic skills, civic mindset, and civic experiences. These awards take the form of a Seal on the student's diploma and a medallion worn at graduation.



Music & Arts

- 60 students participated in the 2025 musical, SHREK!
- 42 students earned All-State or All-County recognition in Band and Chorus

Athletics

- Dansville High School offers over 40 Athletic Programs
- Over 300 students participated in organized, competitive athletics in 2024
- 2025-2026 welcomes Unified Basketball
- Memorial Competition Cheerleading 1st Place Finish
- Girls Alpine Skiing League Champions
- Wrestling Class B Section Champions
- Boys Swimming LCAA D-1 Title
- Girls XC (individual Sectional finish)

ELLIS B. HYDE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Academics

- Students in grades 3-6 have demonstrated consistent growth in reading and math, aligning instructional practices with DPS and DHS.
- 86 students participated in the D.A.R.E. program with Livingston County Sheriffs Dept.
- 106 students have been recognized as Leaders of the Month
- Students led their own Parent/Teacher Conferences!
- EBH is a Leader-in-Me Lighthouse School where students are leaders in learning and in life!

Extra-Curricular

- 17 extra-curricular clubs with opportunities to participate in multiple interest areas have been enjoyed by over 370 students
- 16 students participated in All-County Band and/or Chorus
- 79 students participated in our first ever Elementary Musical - Jungle Book, Jr.!
- Dogwood 5K run
- We enjoyed Family Game Nights, Cross-Country run, and the Halloween Monster Mash!

Family and Community Engagement

- Veterans Day Celebration, C.U.R.E. Fundraiser, Jump Rope Rally for the American Heart Association
- Jared Campell school-wide performance - "Being Your Best Self"
- 5th & 6th grade dance in collaboration with Dansville PTO

DANSVILLE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Academics

- Students in grades PK-2 have demonstrated consistent growth in reading and math, aligning practices with EBH.
- Embraces Science of Reading to teach our students to become strong, successful readers - students are already surpassing end-of-year goals
- Serves as a county evaluation and intervention program site for Pre-school special education services
- Leadership principles are taught in classrooms daily by teachers, 2x/month by school counselors, and monthly whole school morning meetings
- Student leadership opportunities include planning and facilitating whole school morning meetings; morning hallway greeters; planning spirit week dress up days; and greeting visitors on special events
- Recognize student leaders and classes at whole school morning meetings

Extra-Curricular Activities

- Robotics, including presenting at the Penfield FLL Explore Expo
- DPS Bike Club
- Student Lighthouse Club

Family and Community Engagement

- Annual after school family activities - Cozy Christmas & Camp Read-A-Lot
- 3PK Family Fridays once a month
- Kindergarten Teacher Tuck-In
- 100th Day project and showcase
- 2nd Grade Music Informance
- Leadership Day with students showcasing accomplishments in school as well as family participation in a whole school morning meeting

Congratulations to our 2025 Retirees!

- **Lynne Blum** - *DHS Librarian*
- **Christine Briggs** - *Bus Driver*
- **Deb Hagan** - *Bus Driver*
- **Cindy Harvey** - *DHS Clerical*
- **Phyllis Hober** - *DHS Special Education*
- **Seana Kowal** - *DPS Teacher*
- **Barb Pamper** - *Director of Curriculum and Technology*
- **Carrie Tubbs** - *DPS Clerical*

DANSVILLE HIGH SCHOOL

Class of 2025 Top 10%

Casey Youngers

VALEDICTORIAN

Briana Blair

SALUTATORIAN

Ella Martin

Haidyn Scollon

Alexandria Daly

Rebecca Pogel

Erik Stoner

Ivan Wolf-Mialky

Kaia Moulthroup

Mark Sick

Abigail Kendall

Journie Heiman

Eleni Mountzouros

2025-26 PROPOSED BUDGET

"The district budget is a numeric representation of our vision, mission and district goals."

BUDGET BASICS

BALANCED BUDGET

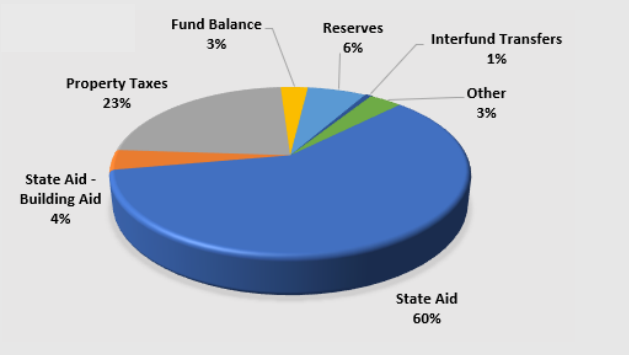
Expenses = Revenues
(budget needs) (income sources)

Expenses: Salaries, Benefits, Supplies, Equipment, Contractual Costs, BOCES Costs

Revenues: Taxes, State Aid, PILOT Payments, Fund Balance, Reserves

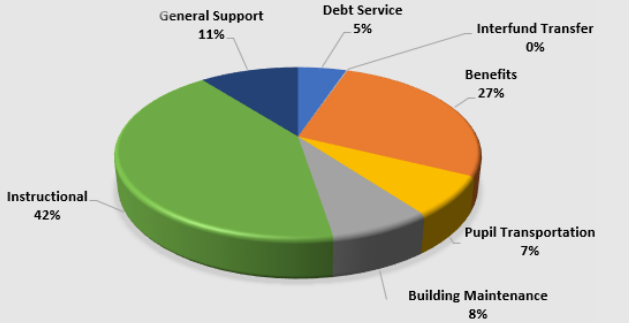
Tax Levy Explained:
The NYS "tax cap" is an 8-step formula that limits how much the school tax levy can grow each year. It uses 2% one part of this formula to limit the impact of inflation. However, other parts of the formula can impact the final allowable tax levy. One of these factors is the way large companies are taxed. This year, two companies are changing the way they pay taxes and must now be included on the general tax rolls. Because of the size of the companies compared to a typical home, this drove up the tax levy. Only a portion of the allowable increase will be reflected in school taxes for the average homeowner. This is further reduced by your STAR exemption status. The impact to you is shown by the figures in the chart.

REVENUES



	2024-25 Budget	2025-26 Proposed Budget
State Aid	$ 24,552,524	$ 25,280,350
State Aid - Building Aid	$ 1,671,331	$ 1,632,850
Property Taxes	$ 9,290,475	$ 9,697,469
Fund Balance	$ 1,250,000	$ 1,250,000
Reserves	$ 2,247,860	$ 2,689,656
Interfund Transfers	$ 195,000	$ 285,000
Other	$ 1,646,535	$ 1,509,200
	$ 40,853,725	**$ 42,344,525**

EXPENSES



	2024-25 Budget	2025-26 Proposed Budget
Debt Service	$ 2,225,415	$ 2,188,140
Interfund Transfer	$ 53,000	$ 53,000
Benefits	$ 11,315,740	$ 11,441,105
Pupil Transportation	$ 3,060,635	$ 3,185,695
Building Maintenance	$ 3,153,815	$ 3,216,355
Instructional	$ 16,706,525	$ 17,797,115
General Support	$ 4,338,595	$ 4,463,115
	$ 40,853,725	**$ 42,344,525**

3-PART BUDGET SUMMARY

Category	2024-2025 Amount	2025-2026 Amount	$ Difference	% Increase
Adminstrative	$ 5,094,405	$ 5,118,850	$ 24,445	0.48%
Capital	$ 6,262,875	$ 6,418,360	$ 155,485	2.48%
Program	$ 29,496,445	$ 30,807,315	$ 1,310,870	4.44%
TOTAL	**$ 40,853,725**	**$ 42,344,525**	**$ 1,490,800**	3.65%

The **Administrative** component of the budget includes expenses for central administrative and support salaries and related costs, Board of Education expenses, business office expenses, and insurance.

The **Program** component of the budget includes expenses relating to instruction, including salaries, benefits, textbooks, supplies, transportation, and athletics.

The **Capital** component of the budget includes costs associated with custodial salaries and benefits, building maintenance costs, debt services costs, and capital outlay expenses, not to exceed $100,000, for minor building renovations and site work.

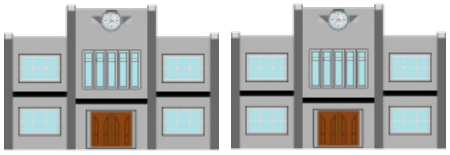
TAX ON TRUE VALUE COMPARISON

4.38%

Calculated Tax Levy Increase
(2 companies drove up the levy this year)

1.60%

Portion of tax increase attributed to 2 companies



2.78%

Community Taxpayer portion of School Tax increase

Your contribution helps maintain programs and staff

	Enhanced STAR		Basic STAR		No STAR	
Assessment	Monthly	Annual	Monthly	Annual	Monthly	Annual
$100,000.000	$0.43	$5.16	$2.16	$25.87	$3.09	$37.10
$150,000.000	$1.98	$23.71	$3.71	$44.52	$4.64	$55.65
$200,000.000	$3.52	$42.26	$5.26	$63.07	$6.18	$74.20

*Current estimates based on equalized values across the district.

DANSVILLE CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Annual Budget Vote and School Board Election

May 20, 2025
8:00am – 8:00pm
Dansville High School Gymnasium Foyer

PROPOSITION #1: ***2025-26 School Budget***

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Dansville Central School District is hereby authorized to expend the sum of $42,344,525 for the school budget for the 2025-26 school year and to levy the necessary tax on the taxable property of the school district.

PROPOSITION #2: ***Purchase School Buses and Vehicles***

Shall the following resolution be adopted to wit:

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Dansville Central School District is hereby authorized to undertake the acquisition of three (3) large school buses, one (1) small wheelchair accessible school bus and one (1) SUV/Van, all at an estimated maximum aggregate cost of $795,000, less trade-in value, if any, and to appropriate and expend from the existing school bus and equipment purchase reserve fund $145,000 for such cost, and that the balance of such cost, or so much thereof as may be necessary, shall be raised by the levy of a tax to be collected in annual installments; and, in anticipation of such tax, debt obligations of the school district as may be necessary not to exceed $650,000 shall be issued, or the School District may enter into an installment purchase contract if the Board of Education determines that it is in the best interest of the School District to finance the purchase in that method.

PROPOSITION #3: ***Reserve Fund Expenditure***

Shall the following resolution be adopted to wit:

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Dansville Central School District is hereby authorized to expend $140,000 from the existing school bus and equipment purchase reserve fund for the acquisition of one (1) wide-area lawnmower, at an estimated maximum cost of $140,000.

BOARD OF EDUCATION CANDIDATES: ***Vote for any (2)***

o Natacia Schledorn
o Matthew R. Crane

Board of Education Candidates

MATTHEW R. CRANE

High School: Dansville High School
College: Ithaca College and SUNY Brockport
Degree: B.A. in Music Education
Occupation: 32 years in NYS Dept. of Corrections
Special Interests/Hobbies: Antique restoration and collecting
Years in the District: 67 years
Reasons for Interest in the BOE: Community service
Strenghts of Dansville CSD: Strong leadership, active music and art programs, and competitive sports
Challenges of Dansville CSD: Cellphone usage in school, maintaining school property, and transportation
Additional community involvment: BOCES School Board for 13 years, Dansville School Board for 13 years, and Mason 14 years. Former owner of "Crane's Gym" and "Crane's Antiques". Sparta Church member for 40+ years combined. Manager at Battlestreet Brewery for 7 years.
Personal Statement: I am running for the Dansville School Board to better serve the community. My child is grown and I have no personal agenda to direct my decisions or opinions. I am a problem solver who believes in common sense and facts to direct my decisions. As a lifetime resident of Dansville I will strive to make sure your child gets the best education possible.

NATACIA SCHLEDORN

High School: Dansville High School
College: D'Youville College
Degree: BS/MS in Occupational Therapy
Occupation: 24 years as an OT and 20 years in pediatrics
Special Interests/Hobbies: Reading, doing puzzles, spending time with my family, and traveling
Personal Statement: I am Natacia Schledorn. I am a lifelong resident of Dansville and graduated from Dansville Senior High in 1995. My husband, Tom, is also a graduate of Dansville. We have two daughters, Ashlyn and Hayden, who currently attend the school district as 10th and 7th graders. I have been an occupational therapist for the past 25 years, working 20 of those years with children (birth-21 years) with disabilities. Most recently I was one of the occupational therapists at Dansville Central School. I was there for approximately 8 years before leaving in June 2024 to pursue a different career. I am now a licensed insurance sales agent, specializing in Medicare, selling insirance to those over 65. Being a former employee, I have insight into how the decisions (positive and negative) of the district impact the students and staff. As a parent, I also see how my own children have been impacted. Anyone who knows me, knows that I put my heart into my family which includes the children I worked with over my career as an OT. Each one became "my kid" and I want the best for each and every one of them. I worked with students in the general education setting, it is important to provide the resources children need in order to advance their academic, social, and emotional skills. I believe it is important to have all employees, the school board, parents, and community members help accomplish this task. This past year has been a year of challenge in our district. There has been increased transparency with open board meetings, which I feel is a benefit to our community/district. Having open, honest conversation is needed to ensure our district continues heading in a positive direction. The needs of our students have to be top priority, as well as finding ways to help the teachers meet the needs of each and every student. We need to find ways to build solid working relationships, with mutual respect and a joint effort to put our kids first. As a parent and community member, I want to help bridge that relationship with the board and keep moving the district forward.

Dansville Central School District

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Dansville, NY 14437
(585) 335-4000

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Dansville Central Schools Board of Education

Brian Applin - President
Pamela Mark - Vice President
Nikole Berry
Kristy Ebert
Jeffrey Englert
Margaret Foster
Christopher Hall
Briana Blair - Student Representative

Superintendent of Schools

Kelly M. Zimmerman

Thank you for supporting our schools!

Budget Hearing and Meet the Candidates Night

Tuesday, May 13, 2025 @ 6:30pm
High School Library

Budget Vote

Tuesday, May 20, 2025
8:00am-8:00pm
High School Gym Foyer

Voter Qualifications

- At least 18 years of age
- A legal resident of the Dansville Central School District for at least 30 days prior to the election date
- Identification required
- No prior registration is required

Mission

We collaboratively prepare every student for their successful future.

Vision

We create an inclusive and engaging environment that provides students with the skills and experiences they need to thrive as confident, successful, and contributing members of society.