



We Are Remsen

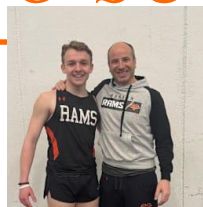


2025-2026



Student Opportunities Plan

SOAR TO SUCCESS!





We Are Remsen

Agenda

Vision, Mission, Values
Goals

We Are Remsen

2025-2026 Student
Opportunities Plan

Meet the Candidate

Voter and Voting Information

Community Appreciation



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RCS Vision, Mission, Core Values

Our Vision

Remsen Central School District forever aspires to be a unique, distinguished, welcoming learning community that fosters a growth mindset and essential traits of great character. RCS will remain dedicated to cultivating and supporting each student's individual abilities and interests as they confidently work to realize their full potential to lead happy, healthy, successful lives.
All Remsen students will Soar to Success.



Our Mission

The mission of Remsen Central School District is to lead by example, instill essential traits of great character, foster a sense of belonging, and provide a solid academic foundation. Students will be empowered to learn and achieve to their individual potential through diverse, challenging, relevant and engaging educational opportunities and differentiated learning experiences.

A commitment to students first, positive relationships, quality instruction, continuous personal and professional growth, recognition for hard work, as well as a comprehensive system of student supports provided in a safe, encouraging learning environment with consistently high expectations for everyone, will ensure that all Remsen students Soar to Success.



RCS Vision, Mission, Core Values



Remsen Central School District Core Values

We are committed to quality student learning, service, and preparation.

Academic excellence and hard work will be valued and recognized.

We will model and instill integrity, kindness, hard work, perseverance, professionalism, commitment, teamwork, respect, independence, self-discipline, humility, responsibility, love, and empathy.

The little things make a big difference.

We will provide a safe, healthy, welcoming and supportive learning environment with clear expectations that motivates students to do their best, solve problems, be creative, think intelligently, understand multiple perspectives, collaborate, and have fun.

Consistency in routines and procedures is essential.

We will enthusiastically embrace and encourage a growth mindset, learn to persevere through challenges, and understand that failure is an opportunity to learn and grow throughout life.

Always strive to improve.

We will utilize student data and feedback, the thoughtful application of knowledge, skills and traits, daily interactions, assessments, projects and state and national standards to measure student growth, learning, and achievement.

Every day is a gift, full of possibilities.

We are grateful for our school community. We will work collectively to ensure we are able to leave our children, for generations to come, with an even better community and school than we have today.





Remsen Board of Education Goals

Ensure each child has the opportunity to reach their full potential in a global society.

Hire, support, develop, and retain high quality staff.

Develop, maintain and improve resources within a fiscally sound and responsible budget.

Maintain transparency and communication with the district and community

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Additional Long-Term Goals

Maintain outstanding programs for our students while remaining fiscally responsible

Provide the necessary support and resources to put Remsen at the top for academic achievement

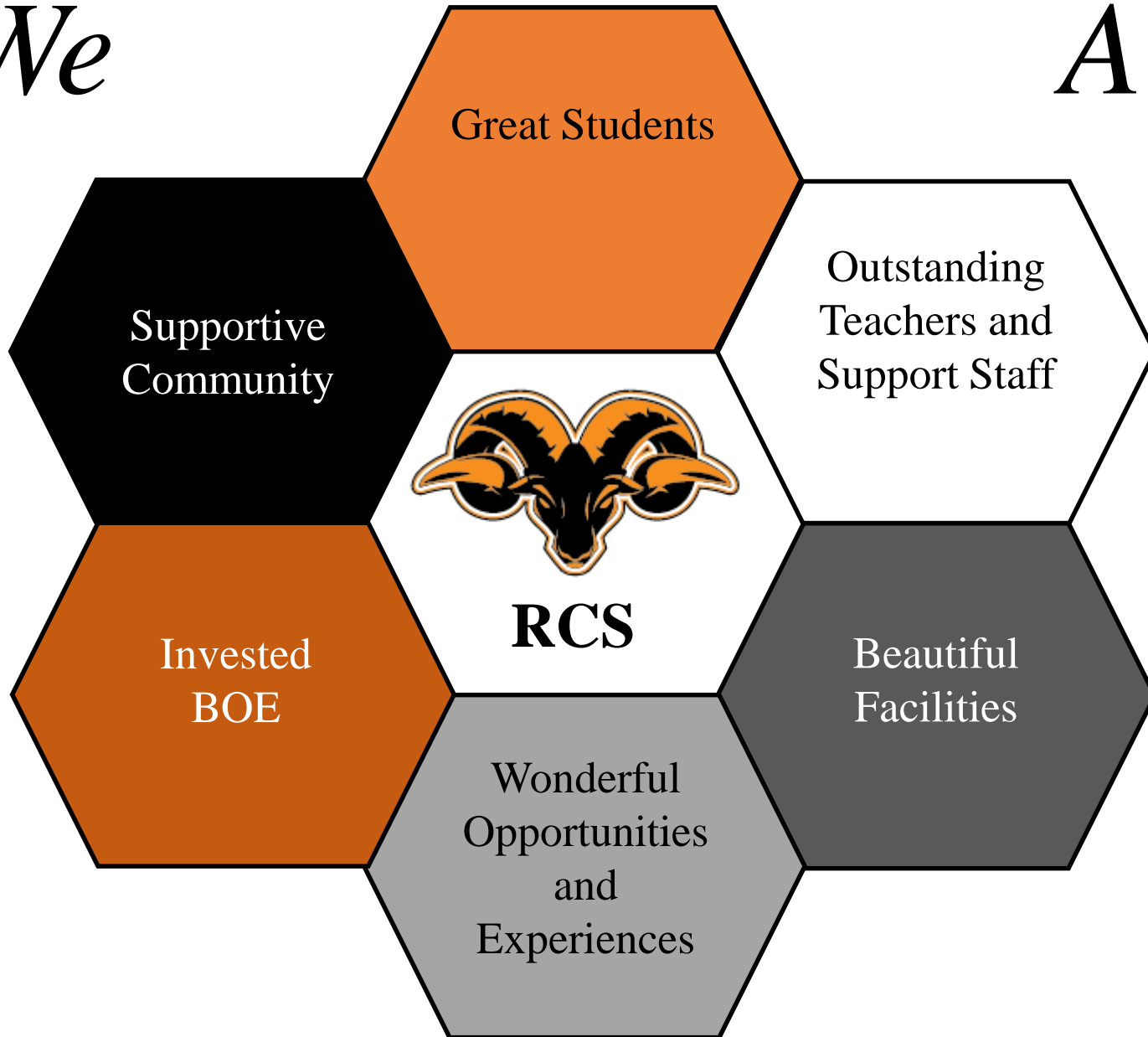
Long range district plans to ensure sustainability

Continue to update and improve our buildings and grounds to ensure safe, clean, and functional learning environments

Increase Innovative Technology/STEAM Opportunities

We

Are



Remsen



We Are Remsen

Invested
BOE



Board of Education

Mrs. Mary Lou Allen, President

Mr. Patrick Nolan, Vice President

Mrs. Stephanie Karis

Mrs. Jeannie Scouten

Mrs. Tara Kennerknecht

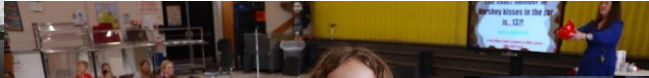
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We Are Remsen

Our Customers!

Great Students



*Soar to
Success!*



We Are Remsen

Our Customers!

Great Students

Class of 2025 Senior Plans

SUNY Cobleskill – Vet Studies
MVCC – Photography
Utica University – Communications and Media
Georgia Lineman School – Lineman Training
Mohawk Valley Psychiatric - Employment
MVCC – Radiology Tech
MVCC - Electrical
MVCC – Psychology and Sociology
Trade School – Construction Trades and apprenticeship program
SUNY Potsdam – Elementary Education
MVCC – Childhood Education
SUNY Oswego – Adolescent Education Grades 7-12 Social Studies
SUNY Geneseo – Business
Trade School - HVAC
Penn State – Civil Engineering
Wynn Hospital - Employment
MVCC – Surgical Technology
Utica University – Early Childhood Education
Local 43 Electricians Union – Electrician Program
Super Cuts in Oneida – Hair Stylist
SUNY Poly – Cyber Security
Trade School – Welding Program

Class of 2025 Senior Plans

Siena – Environmental Science
MVCC/Military – Marine Biology
MVCC and Work – Biology
SUNY Cortland – Sports
Management/Minor in Sales
Military – Marines





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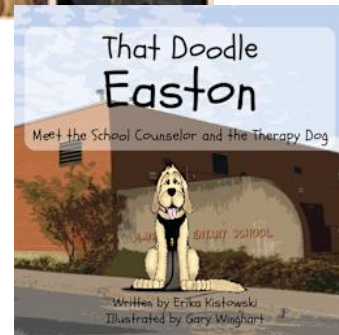
Great Students





We Are Remsen

Outstanding
Teachers and
Support Staff





Outstanding Teachers and Support Staff



Mrs. Boyd



Mr. Burkner



Mr. Byrne



Mrs. Carpenter



Mr. Casey



Mrs. Cooper



Ms. Countryman



Mr. Dangler



Mr. Denning



Mrs. Downing



Mrs. Dinsen



Mrs. DiNitto



Mr. Dolly



Mr. Gallo



Mr. Glass



Mr. Griswold



Mrs. Griswold



Mr. Harlander



Mrs. Harper



Ms. Harris



Ms. Inman



Mrs. Ives



Sara Izzo



Ms. Keener



Officer Lampshire



Mrs. Lauroy



Mrs. Martin



Mrs. Muzio



Mrs. Nichol



Mrs. Obenshiner



Mr. O'Bryan



Ms. Polidori



Mrs. Polowick



Mr. Prusser



Ms. Renninger



Miss Roberts



Mr. Smith



Officer Stankowski



Mrs. Taylor



Ms. Taylor



Mrs. Williams



Mr. Winghart





We Are Remsen

Beautiful
Facilities



High School

Storage Building



Elementary School

Bus Garage

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We Are Remsen

Wonderful
Opportunities
and
Experiences

STUDENT CLUBS

Lego Club
Drone Racing Club
Mathletics
Elementary STEAM Club
FFA
National Honor Society
Mock Trial
Yearbook
Diversity Club
International Club
Elementary Student Council
Jr./Sr. High School Student Council
Sophomore, Junior and Senior “Class of” Clubs
Elementary Drama Club
Jr./Sr. High School School Drama Club
Ski Club (Grades 5-12)
Journalism Club



ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

THE ARTS

ATHLETICS

FIELD TRIPS, SHADOWING, INTERNSHIPS

SERVICE and SUPPORT

CHARACTER BUILDING

Remsen is the place to be!





We Are Remsen

Supportive
Community

Beautiful Countryside

Hardworking People

Small Businesses

Farms

Didymus Thomas
Memorial Library

Remsen Depot

Remsen Arts Center

Barn Fest



Great School/Community Relationships

RCS is the Hub of the Community

Dedicated Sports Booster's Organization

Great Community Organizations

Supportive Adirondack Foothills Rotary Club

Supportive Remsen Alumni Association

Remsen is a great place to live and work!



We Are Remsen

More Information

Enrollment of 430 Wonderful Students

Remsen is classified as a “High Needs Rural School District”

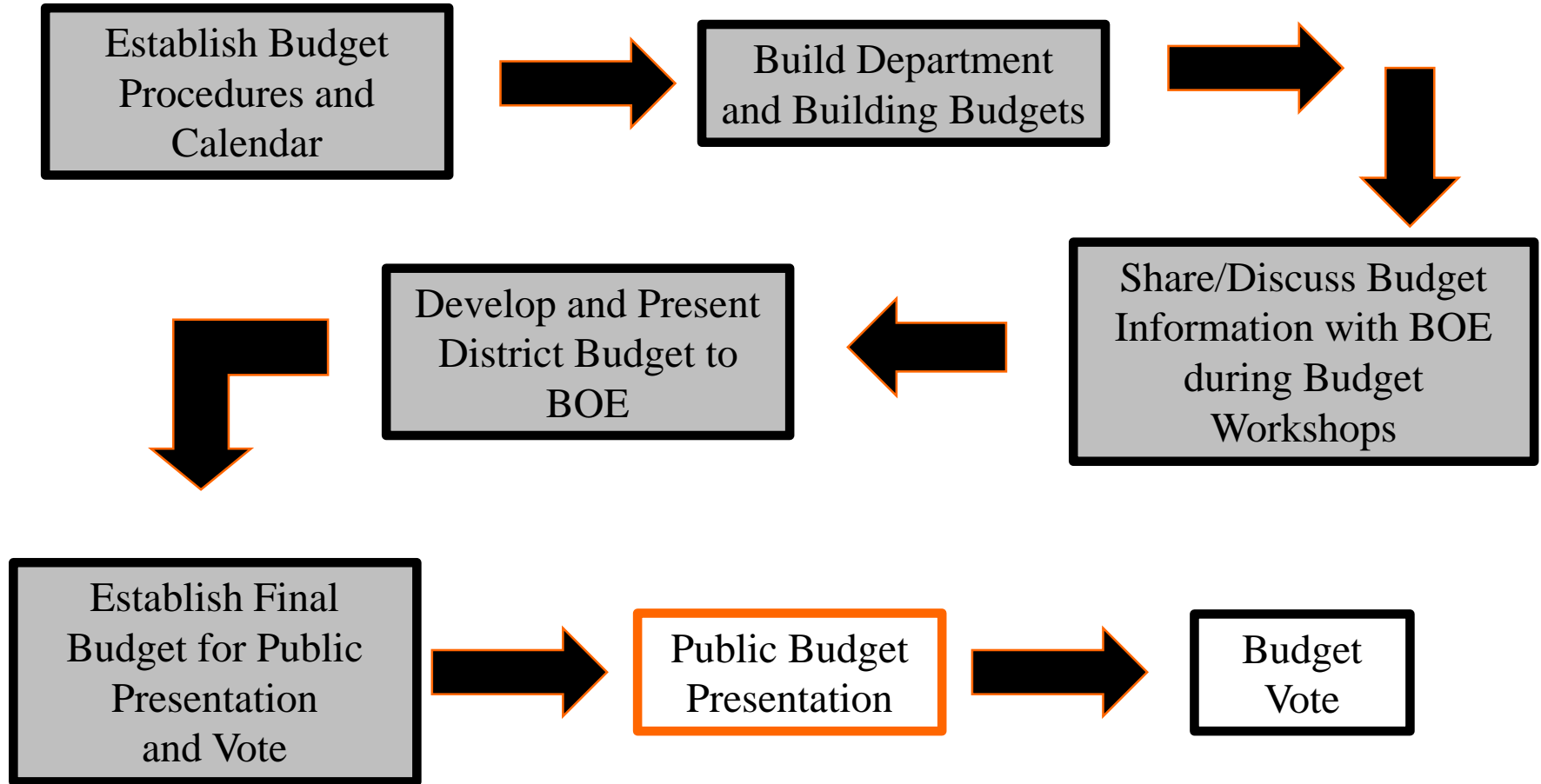
RCS serves the towns of Boonville, Forestport, Ohio, Remsen,
Russia, Steuben, and Trenton



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The Budget Process



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Budget Calendar

January 14, 2025 - Budget Overview and Discussion

February 11, 2025 - Board, Administration, Buildings and
Grounds, Athletics, Transportation, Debt,
Governor's Proposal

March 11, 2025 - Curriculum and Instruction, Benefits,
Tax Cap, Revenues

April 8, 2025 - Review and Adoption

May 13, 2025 - Public Hearing

May 20, 2025 - Budget Vote





Budget Analysis Information

For 2024-2025 (Current School Year)

- Operating on only a 2.53% budget to budget annual increase
- Governor and Legislators provided 0% increase in our Foundation Aid
- Maintained a bare-minimum 1% increase to the Levy
- Allocated a projected \$509,143 of unrestricted fund balance

What's on the Horizon for 2025-2026 and Beyond?

- Operating expenses will continue to increase year over year
- Advocacy for the Governor and Legislators to provide annual increases in our Foundation Aid (over 56% of our budget is funded by State Aid)
- Estimated Foundation Aid increase for 25-26 of 2%
- Work to maintain the lowest possible Levy increase for our community (however, if the Governor and the Legislators allow schools to receive 0% increases, inadequate increases, or cuts to Foundation Aid in the future, this goal will become less feasible.)
- ADVOCATE for ADEQUATE SCHOOL FUNDING!
- Responsibly determine the amount of unrestricted fund balance needed



Three Components of Our Student Opportunities Plan

Program

The program budget contains expenses directly related to the teaching of students; teachers, instructional aides and other professional salaries, materials and supplies, textbooks, special education, health services, library-media, and guidance services. Transportation of students, athletics, and co-curricular activities are also included here.

Description	Approved 2024-2025	Proposed 2025-2026	Change
Legal	\$38,000	\$ 38,000	\$ -
Instructional	\$6,547,995	\$ 6,749,853	\$ 201,858
District Transportation	\$789,172	\$ 726,826	\$ (62,346)
Garage Building	\$28,500	\$ 28,500	\$ -
Employee Benefits	\$3,283,998	\$ 3,418,032	\$ 134,034
Total Program	\$10,687,665	\$ 10,961,211	\$ 273,546



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Three Components of Our Student Opportunities Plan

Capital

The capital budget includes costs associated with operations and maintenance of buildings, upkeep of grounds, electricity, heat, oil, water, sewer and telephone services. Funds are also included here for the lease and purchase of buses, payment of debt for capital projects (principal and interest), refund of taxes, and insurance. The final piece of this budget is a transfer to capital for ongoing building improvements.

Description	Approved 2024-2025	Proposed 2025-2026	Change
Operation of Plant	\$855,545	\$ 846,219	\$ (9,326)
Maintenance of Plant	\$163,497	\$ 167,139	\$ 3,642
Insurance and Claims	\$48,650	\$ 51,083	\$ 2,433
Refund of Taxes	\$1,200	\$ 1,200	\$ -
Employee Benefits	\$305,055	\$ 317,505	\$ 12,450
Debt Service	\$988,502	\$ 947,132	\$ (41,370)
Transfer to Capital Fund	\$100,000	\$ 100,000	\$ -
Total Capital	\$2,462,449	\$ 2,430,278	\$ (32,171)



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Three Components of Our Student Opportunities Plan

Administrative

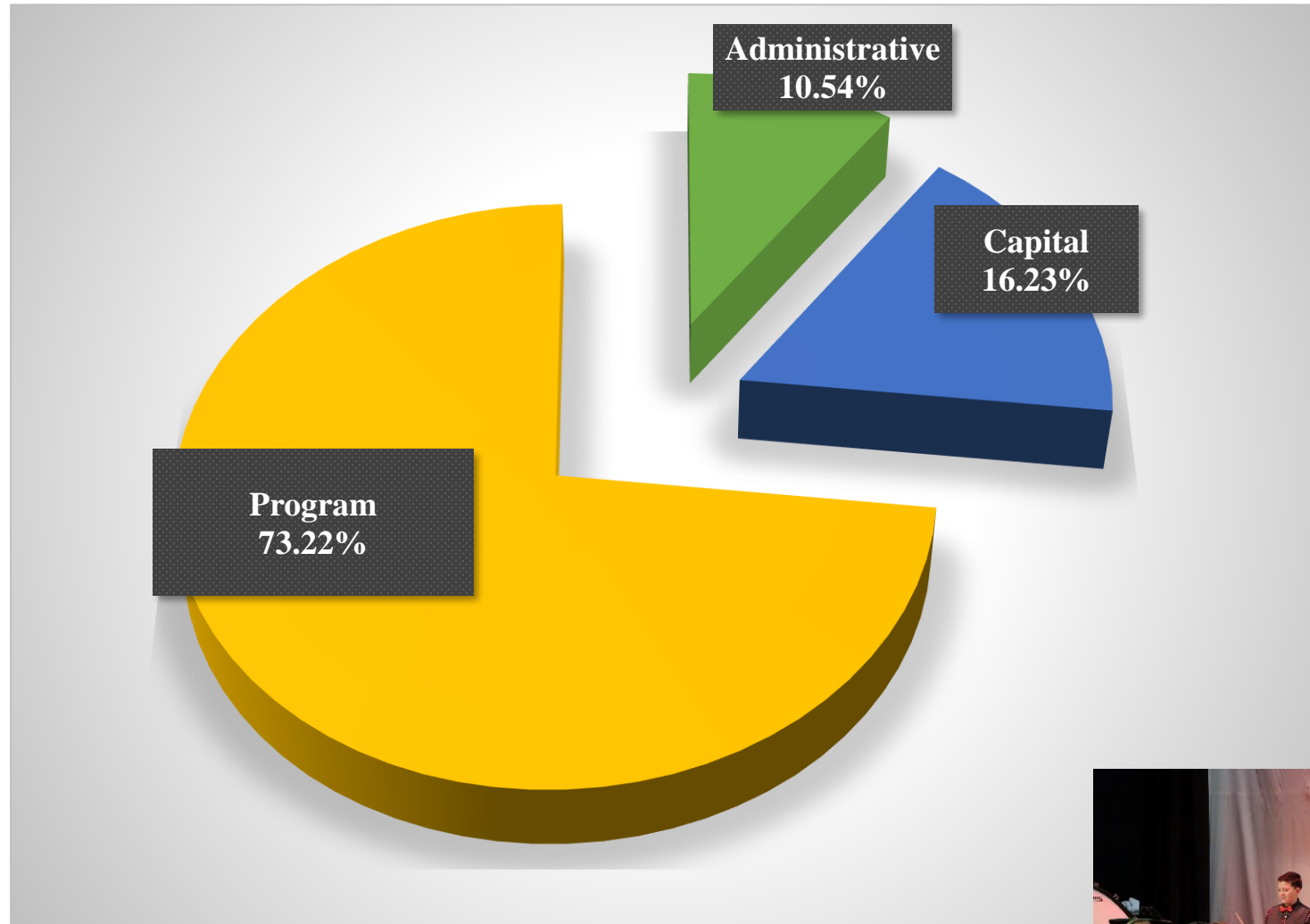
The administrative budget includes costs associated with management activities including Board of Education, superintendent's office, district clerk, business office and operations such as payroll, supervision, training, data processing, purchasing, BOCES administration charges, printing, mailing, legal, and auditing services.

Description	Approved 2024-2025	Proposed 2025-2026	Change
Board of Education	\$26,589	\$ 26,589	\$ -
Central Administration	\$161,817	\$ 165,908	\$ 4,091
Finance	\$294,067	\$ 294,991	\$ 924
Legal	\$6,000	\$6,000	\$ -
Personnel	\$17,876	\$17,876	\$ -
Records Management	\$7,700	\$7,700	\$ -
Other Central Services	\$59,346	\$59,346	\$ -
Other Special Items	\$109,672	\$109,672	\$ -
Curriculum Development/Support	\$23,500	\$23,500	\$ -
Supervision Regular School	\$391,812	\$420,177	\$ 28,365
Research, Evaluation, Planning	\$5,329	\$5,329	\$ -
Employee Benefits	\$423,639	\$ 440,929	\$ 17,290
Total Administrative	\$1,527,347	\$ 1,578,017	\$ 50,670

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Student Opportunities Plan Component Breakdown



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Tax Cap Calculation

2025-2026 Tax Cap Calculation	
Tax Levy 2024-2025	\$5,702,271
x Tax Base Growth Factor	x 1.0027
	\$5,717,667
Plus Prior Year PILOT/Less Capital Exclusion	- \$127,918
	\$5,589,749
x Allowable Levy Growth	x 1.02
	\$5,701,544
+Capital Exclusions/- PILOT/+ERS	+ \$127,193
Tax Levy 2026	\$5,828,737



Allowable NYS Property
Tax Cap Levy Increase
2.22%





Student Opportunities Plan Summary

REVENUE	Adopted 2024-2025	Proposed 2025-2026	Increase/Decrease	% Change
Estimated Aid (State + Federal)	\$8,216,047	\$8,322,605	\$106,558	1.30%
Tax Levy	\$5,702,271	\$5,759,294	\$57,023	1.00%
Other Revenue	\$250,000	\$250,000	\$0	0.00%
Fund Balance	\$509,143	\$637,607	\$128,464	25.23%
Totals	\$14,677,461	\$14,969,506	\$292,045	1.99%
EXPENDITURES	Adopted 2024-2025	Proposed 2025-2026	Increase/Decrease	% Change
Totals	\$14,677,461	\$14,969,506	\$292,045	1.99%

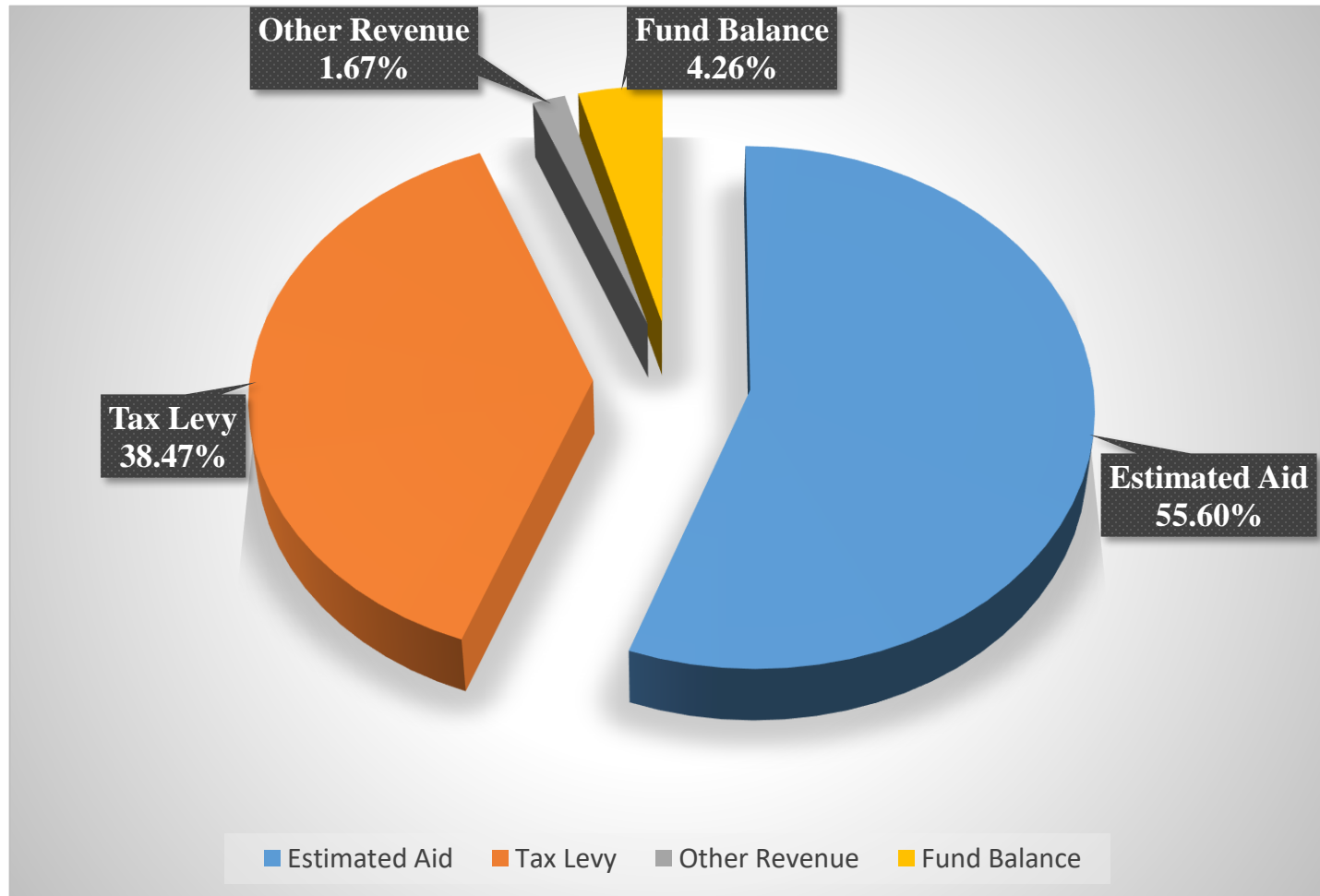
Proposed increase of 1%.

*This number is well below our allowable NYS
Property Tax Cap Levy Increase Limit of 2.22%*

Summary of 2025-2026 Student Opportunities Plan	
Change in Operating Budget	1.99%
Change in Property Tax Levy	1%
Allowable Property Tax Levy Limit	2.22%



Student Opportunities Plan Revenue Summary



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Why a small tax levy increase?

Even with a small increase in the tax levy (1.00%), the estimated gap between revenue and expenditures is still \$637,607.

A 1.00 % increase in Remsen's tax levy equates to \$57,023.

Operational costs, health insurance, and retirement contributions continue to increase.

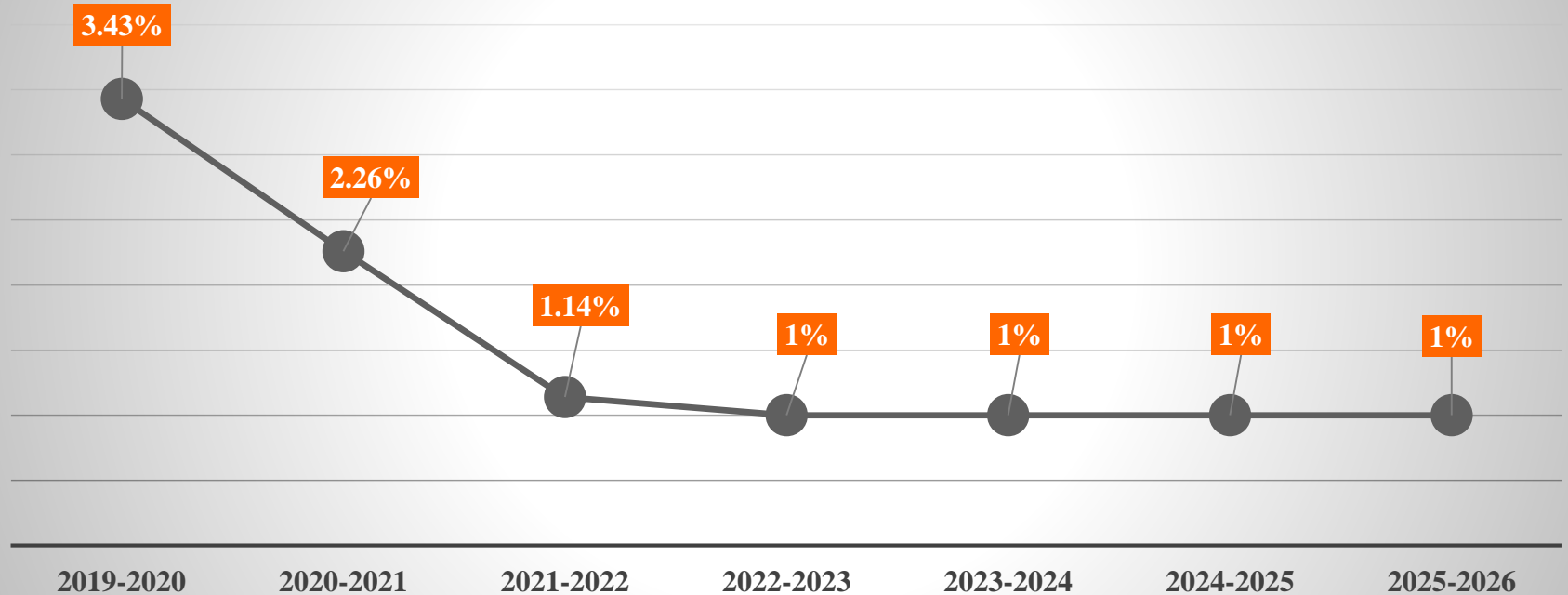
Minimize the community tax burden by working to prevent the need for drastic spikes in tax levy increases.





We Understand and Work to Minimize Our Community Tax Burden

Remsen Tax Levy Increase History





What did we do to help ensure that our 2025-2026 operating budget only increased slightly for next year?

- 1) Remaining fiscally responsible while working to ensure that all of our students receive a quality educational experience.
- 2) Integrate the use of fund balance to minimize the tax burden on the community.
- 3) Forward-thinking to maintain a responsible fund balance and build reserves.
- 4) Thoughtful planning as vacancies occur to optimize personnel and contain costs.
- 5) Potential savings realized on new staff hires due to retirements.





Bus Proposition

Two diesel 66 passenger buses and one small gas 20 passenger bus at an estimated maximum aggregate cost of \$433,375, less trade in value.

Transportation Aid = 85.9%

Estimated District Cost After Aid = \$61,106



Responsible Long-Range Replacement Planning

designed to keep the District's fleet in safe, working order by phasing out buses that are no longer cost effective to maintain.

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Capital Outlay Information 2025-2026

Continue to Include \$100,000 for Capital Outlay
Projects Each Year (*Building Aid* = 83.5%)

Responsible Facilities and Maintenance Planning

Actual District Cost After Aid = \$16,500

No Additional Impact to Tax Payers

2025-2026: Capital Outlay funds will be used to cover the cost of replacement of the elementary gym/cafeteria floor that has failed.



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In the Event of a Budget Defeat

Option 1: Keep Same Budget and Vote Second Time
Option 2: Develop a Revised Budget for Voter Approval
Option 3: Adopt a Contingency Budget

Contingency Budget Limitations:

- 1. Tax Levy no greater than in the last successful budget.*
- 2. Removal of equipment.*
- 3. Removal of raises for employees not covered by a collective bargaining agreement.*
- 4. Administrative Component as a % of the sum of Administrative and Program Components no greater than in the last successful budget.*
- 5. No public use of school buildings/grounds unless district charges fee that meets or exceeds actual costs.*
- 6. No non-emergency capital expenditures*

Component	2025-2026 Proposed	2025-2026 Contingency
Program	\$ 10,961,211	\$ 10,928,651
Capital	\$ 2,430,278	\$2,415,228
Administrative	\$ 1,578,017	\$ 1,468,216
Total	\$ 14,969,506	\$ 14,812,095
% Budget Increase	1.99%	.92%



Current and Ongoing Budget Challenges

Operating Costs

Health Insurance

Retirement
Contributions

Increase in Students'
Needs

Schools are required to
do more than ever
before – much larger
mission

County requires districts to
pay 100% of SPO costs

Rockefeller Institute Foundation Aid
Formula Recommendations

Upcoming mandates from the NYSED
Blue Ribbon Commission for sweeping
curriculum, assessment, teaching, and
graduation requirements changes.

Will schools realize adequate increases
in Foundation Aid from NYS in the
future? **Remsen received a 0% increase
for 2024-2025 and is slated for a 2%
increase for 2025-2026.**



The lack of reliable and predictable
funding from NYS is a serious concern.

*STAR Information

Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings Under
Proposed Budget

\$533.84

Must have ownership and be primary residence

**Note: This is an estimate. The STAR exemption is authorized by section 425
of the Real Property Tax Law*





Meet the Candidate

School Board of Education Member

One Seat on the Remsen Board of Education

Five-Year Term Commencing July 1, 2025

Candidate Will Appear on the Ballot



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Meet the Candidate



Mr. Patrick Nolan

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Biography

Family: *I live on French Road in Remsen with my wife and 4 children. We also have 3 labs and a mini dachshund.*

Education: *I was homeschooled and briefly attended MVCC before joining the Army.*

Work Experience: *I own and operate a local construction company.*

Mr. Patrick Nolan



Board of Education Information



Why do you think it is important to serve the community and school as a BOE member?

It's a way that I feel I can support and give back to my community.

What strengths/experiences would you bring to board service?

I have served on the BOE for the past 5 years. In that time I have learned a lot about how the school functions and if given the opportunity I look forward to continue working with the other BOE members and the school administration to help provide a safe, fun and effective learning environment for our students and staff.

What do you think are or will be the most pressing issues facing education in general or Remsen Central School?

There are a few things that come to mind but one of the things I think is going to be hard on RCS is the electric bus mandate being forced on schools without the proper infrastructure to support it and the high prices of both installing the infrastructure and purchasing the buses themselves.

Mr. Patrick Nolan



On the Ballot

BUDGET

To adopt the annual budget of the Remsen Central School District in the amount of \$14,969,506 for the fiscal year 2025-2026 and to authorize the requisite portion thereof to be raised by taxation on the taxable property of the District.





On the Ballot

PROPOSITION 1

School Buses

RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the Remsen Central School District is hereby authorized to undertake the acquisition of three (3) school buses, at an estimated maximum aggregate cost of \$433,375, less trade-in value, if any, 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 \$433,375 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.





On the Ballot

To Elect One (1) Member to the Board of Education

Five-Year Term Commencing July 1, 2025

There is one candidate running and will appear on the ballot as follows:

1. Patrick Nolan





Ballot Overview

2025-2026
Remsen
Central
School
Budget

Budget Resolution

Resolved, to adopt the annual budget of the Remsen Central School District in the amount of \$14,969,506 for the fiscal year 2025-2026 and to authorize the requisite portion thereof to be raised by taxation on the taxable property of the District.

Yes No
☐ ☐

Proposition 1

Resolved that the Board of Education of the Remsen Central School District is hereby authorized to undertake the acquisition of three (3) school buses, at an estimated maximum aggregate cost of \$433,375, less trade-in value, if any, 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 \$433,375 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.

Yes No
☐ ☐

To approve
the purchase
of two new
diesel 66-
passenger
buses and
one new 20-
passenger
gas bus

Official Ballot for the 2025 Remsen Central School Election
County of Oneida
Remsen 1, Ballot ID: 2009
May 20, 2025
Sarah F. Bormann, Commissioner
Nichole D. Shortell, Commissioner

Instructions

Mark the oval to the left of the name of your choice.

To vote for a candidate whose name is not printed on the ballot, print the name clearly in the box labeled "write-in," staying within the box. Any mark or writing outside the spaces provided for voting may void the entire ballot.



The number of choices is listed for each contest. Do not mark the ballot for more candidates than allowed. If you do, your vote in that contest will not count. If you make a mistake or want to change your vote, ask a poll worker for a new ballot.

Instructions for Voting on Questions and Proposals

To vote on a question or proposal, mark the oval below your choice. If you make a mistake, or want to change your vote, ask a poll worker for a new ballot.

Remember to
Vote Both
Sides



**PLEASE BE SURE TO TURN THE BALLOT
OVER TO VOTE FOR BOE MEMBER!**



Ballot Overview

Office	Board Member (Vote for one)
Remsen Central School	<input type="radio"/> 1A Patrick Nolan <small>Remsen Central School</small>
Write-In	Write-in

To elect one member
to the Board of
Education for a term
of 5 years

Official Ballot for the 2025 Remsen Central School Election
County of Oneida
Remsen 1, Ballot ID: 2009
May 20, 2025
Sarah F. Bormann, Commissioner
Nichole D. Shortell, Commissioner

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Remember to
Vote Both
Sides



School Budget Vote



Tuesday, May 20, 2025

1:00 PM – 8:00 PM

Elementary Cafeteria



Student Art Show and
FFA Plant Sale!

FFA Plant Sale - Outside Elementary
Cafeteria Doors Starting at 3:00 PM



Where to Vote

Remsen Elementary School
Cafeteria

Enter Cafeteria to Vote Here

Elementary Cafeteria
1:00 PM – 8:00 PM



Voter Parking in Elementary Lot

Please enter through cafeteria doors from the parking lot

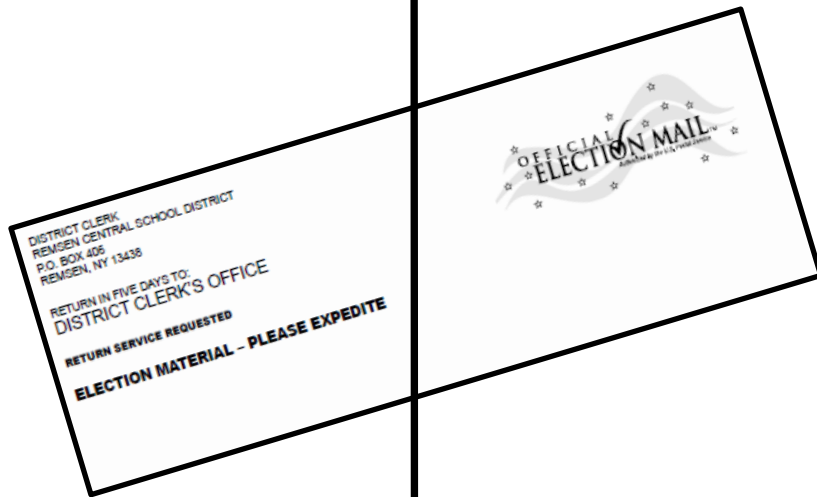
Note: Elementary Parents picking up their child in the afternoon may find a parking spot, come in to vote, and then take their child from the gym





Absentee Ballot

Absentee Ballot



For an absentee ballot application, please contact the District Clerk at 315-205-4300 x.4221 or aroberts@remsenscd.org

Can I Vote By Absentee Ballot?

Residents who will not be in the area on May 20, or who are unable to vote in person, may apply for an absentee ballot at the Remsen Central School District Office. If the absentee ballot is to be mailed to the voter, the application must be submitted at least seven days prior to the vote. If the absentee ballot is to be picked up by the voter in person, applications will be accepted until May 19. Absentee ballots must be returned to the district clerk no later than 5:00 PM on May 20.

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Voter Qualifications



To Vote, You Must Be:

A citizen of the United States

At least 18 years old

A resident of the school district for at least 30 days prior to the date of the meeting when the vote is held

Qualified to register for or vote at an election in accordance with the provisions of section 5-106 of the Election Law





Your support of Remsen Central School ensures...

...that we can continue to provide our students with a high quality, well-rounded education



...well-maintained, safe, efficient facilities

...sustainability

...community use of school facilities

...and...



SOAR TO SUCCESS!



Your support ensures...

...that we continue to work towards our collective goal to ensure that we leave our children, for generations to come, with an even better community and school than we have today.

This is accomplished by continuing to work together to help cultivate our Remsen community and by providing our children the ability to receive an innovative education, full of diverse learning opportunities and experiences.



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We Are Remsen



Thank you for your support!



Priority #1 = Our Students!
SOAR TO SUCCESS!