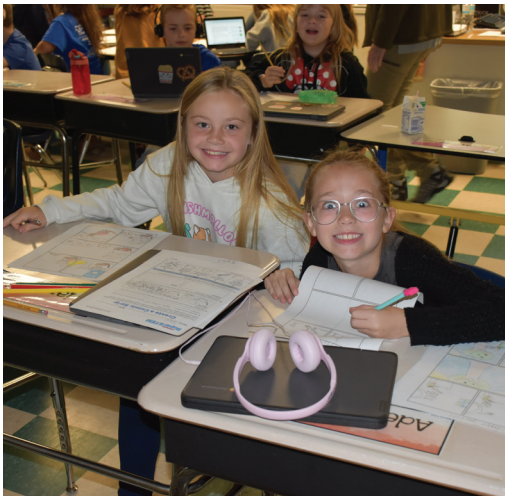
DANSVILLE CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

In This Issue:
News and Highlights
Proposed 2026-2027 Budget
Board of Education Candidates

Home of the Mustangs | www.dansvillecsd.org | May 2026



BUDGET & SPRING NEWSLETTER
2026-2027













FROM THE **SUPERINTENDENT**



Dear Dansville Central School District Families and Community Members,

At Dansville Central Schools, we believe every student deserves the opportunity to discover their strengths, pursue their passions, and graduate prepared for a successful future. Our mission and vision remain rooted in creating an inclusive, engaging learning environment where students gain the knowledge, skills, and experiences needed to thrive as confident and contributing members of society.

It is with pride and optimism that we present the proposed 2026–2027 school budget, a plan that continues to reflect our community's values and our district's commitment to excellence. We have worked diligently to develop a fiscally responsible budget that protects the high-quality academic programs, extracurricular opportunities, and student supports that make Dansville Central Schools a source of pride for our community.

Over the past year, our district has continued to build on the momentum created through our Blueprint for Excellence Strategic Plan, strengthening programs that support students academically, socially, and emotionally. This proposed budget reflects investments that expand graduation pathways, strengthen connections between students and community opportunities, and enhance the overall student experience. We are also proud that this budget continues to prioritize people — the dedicated educators and staff who make our district exceptional. Through thoughtful planning, the district has maintained the vast majority of positions affected by retirements or resignations while continuing to support classroom instruction and student services.

We also faced significant financial challenges this year. Rising costs in employee health insurance, retiree benefits, utilities, liability insurance, and transportation have placed considerable pressure on school budgets statewide. In addition, federal funding from the Stronger Connections Grant, which supported student mental health and community partnerships over the past three years, has now expired.

Despite these challenges, application of our Long-term Fiscal Planning Guide, careful planning, and responsible use of district reserves have allowed us to present a balanced budget proposal of $44,289,700 for the 2026-2027 fiscal year. The proposed tax levy increase of 2.39% remains within the state tax cap and results in a modest impact for local homeowners—approximately $2.40 per month for a home assessed at $100,000 before Basic and Enhanced STAR exemptions, which will further reduce this impact.

This budget continues to reflect our community's longstanding commitment to fiscal responsibility. Approximately 71% of the budget directly supports instructional programs and student services, ensuring that the greatest share of resources continues to benefit the classroom and student learning experiences.

A public budget hearing and opportunity to meet Board of Education candidates will be held on Tuesday, May 12, 2026, at 6:30 p.m. in the high school library, and the annual budget vote and election will take place on Tuesday, May 19, 2026, from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. in the high school gymnasium foyer.

In this newsletter, you will find additional information about the proposed budget, ballot propositions, and highlights of the many accomplishments of our students and staff. These achievements reflect what makes Dansville Central Schools such a special place to learn, grow, and serve.

Your continued support makes this work possible. Together, we can continue building a school district that prepares every student for their successful future while remaining mindful of our responsibility to the taxpayers who support our schools. Thank you for your ongoing partnership and commitment to our schools.

With appreciation and gratitude,



Kelly M. Zimmerman
Superintendent of Schools



COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAMS

DCSD GIVES BACK TO OUR COMMUNITY

Dansville Primary School

- Hornell Humane Society coordinated by DPS Student Council.
- 100th Day Donations:
  - 3PK/4PK - 495 toothbrushes and 168 tubes of toothpaste for Genesee Valley Rotary Sunshine Camp.
  - K - 105 pairs of pajamas for Ady's Jammies which donates to Golisano Children's Hospital.
  - 1st - 311 pairs of socks for Community Answers Needs Network (C.A.N.N.) and other local donation centers.
  - 2nd - 250 books for Noyes and Golisano Children's Hospital.
- Coffee and Donuts for Law Enforcement Appreciation Day by DPS Student Council.
- 150 Valentine's Day cards made for Livingston County Center for Nursing & Rehabilitation created by all of DPS and delivered to by DPS Student Council.
- DPS Student Council Rang Salvation Army Bells.

Ellis B. Hyde Elementary School

- Food Drive in November.
- Jump Rope for the Heart raised $4,748.21 for Kids Heart Challenge/American Heart Challenge.

Dansville High School

- 17 Days of Winter Fun:
  - Collection of non-perishable food items donated to local food pantry.
  - Collection of Holiday Cards - presented to the employees at NOYES Hospital.
- Salvation Army - Bell Ringing.
- Valentines Day Cards (in collaboration with Assemblywoman Andrea Bailey):
  - Collected then distributed to local nursing/elderly homes.
- March-April: Entrepreneurship and Student Council: Hornell Humane Society.











DANSVILLE CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

HIGHLIGHTS

DANSVILLE HIGH SCHOOL





Academics

- DHS continues to expand opportunities with college-level, AP, and honors courses.
- Students can earn college credit through 26 courses offered at DHS.
- DHS offers 15 Advanced Placement courses.
- 69 AP exams were taken in 2025.
- AP scores in Calculus, English Language, English Literature, Statistics, U.S. Government & History, and French exceeded New York State averages.
- DHS achieved its highest AP pass rate in at least 11 years.
- The Class of 2026 includes 31 Academic Honors graduates (GPA 90.0+).
- More than $95,000 was awarded at the Senior Scholarship Ceremony.
- 23 students were inducted into the new French and Spanish World Language Honor Societies.
- National Technical Honor Society Induction 2026. Congratulations to the following Dansville High School students that were inducted: Blake Folwell, Coralyn Griese, Avalyn Hall, Ty Halpenny, Elizabeth Hint, James Jamison, Kelci Johnson, Isaac Kurtz, Emma Nessler, Matthew Petrauskas, and Landon Wadsworth. Special shout-out to Casondra Young, Emily Terry and Madisyn Holmes on being selected as student speakers for the ceremony.
- Mustang of the Month: 120 students recognized so far this year.
- 59 total students earned college credit during the 25-26 year for a total of 465 total college credit hours.
- 21 students earned the Seal of Civic Readiness in 2026.





Extra-Curricular Activities

- DHS offers students 25 clubs and activities to explore their interests and leadership skills.
- 67 students starred in the 2026 musical, Chicago: Teen Edition.
- 22 Band students earned All-County Band recognition in 2025–2026.
- Club Fair in the Fall - All students had an opportunity to speak with advisors.
- Participated in Tech Wars Competition.







Music & Arts

- Congratulations to Paisley Cosimano for performing with the Conference All-State Treble Choir.
- Chicago the Musical Performance received raving reviews from our community. Students were interviewd by Channel 13.
- Stars of Tomorrow: Congratulations to David Sick for being selected as one of the of the 40 students to compete in the New York City Bound Competition. Good luck David!
- Recognized by NAMM as 2026 Best Communities for Music Education Districts.



Mustang Athletics

- Wyatt Sartori and Peter Thompson competed at the NYS State Tournament for Wrestling.
- Nearly 400 students in grades 7–12 participate in athletics.
- DHS proudly offers 43 athletic programs from modified through varsity.
- New this year: Girls Varsity Wrestling and Unified Basketball.
- The Girls Varsity Basketball Team earned the #1 seed in the Sectional Tournament.
- On April 30th, DHS will proudly host its first-ever Unified Basketball game.









NYS STATE SEALS OF ACHIEVEMENT HONORING STUDENT EXCELLENCE

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.

DANSVILLE HIGH SCHOOL



CONGRATULATIONS TO PETER THOMPSON!

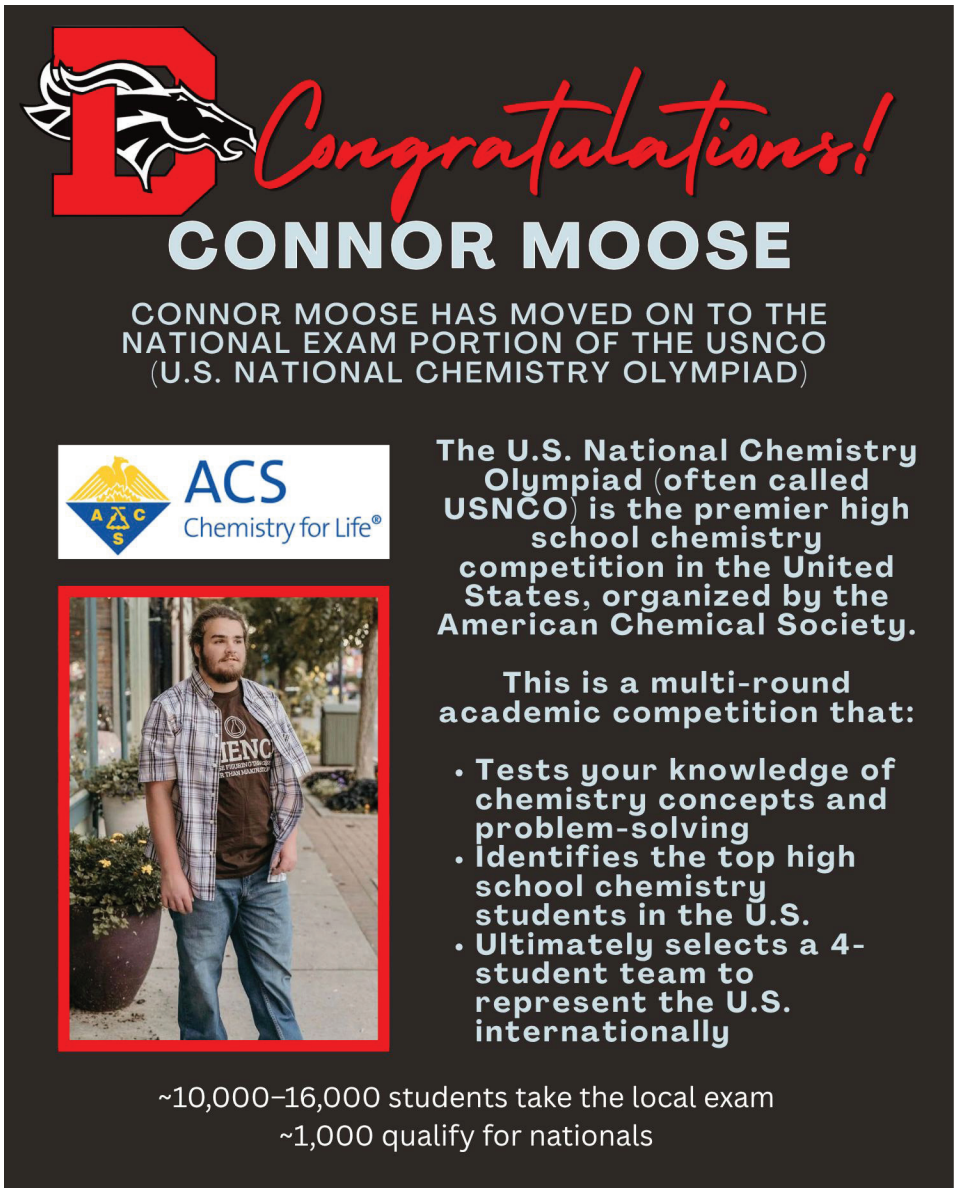
Senator Helming to Honor 26 Students at Youth Leadership Ceremony.





CAREER FAIR DANSVILLE HIGH SCHOOL HOSTS 3RD ANNUAL CAREER EXPO:

Dansville High School Principal and School Counselors worked directly with Livingston County Area Chamber of Commerce to organize the event, which included students from Dansville and local school districts. Almost 40 employers graciously offered their time to meet with students and discuss career opportunities in their respective fields. Many students prepared resumes for this event in hopes of being considered for future employment opportunities.



THE U.S. NATIONAL CHEMISTRY OLYMPIAD

Connor Moose has moved on to the National Exam portion of the USNCO (U.S. National Chemistry Olympiad). The U.S. National Chemistry Olympiad (often called USNCO) is the premier high school chemistry competition in the United States, organized by the American Chemical Society.



SHARED FROM LIVINGSTON COUNTY NEWS:

Dansville Senior, Bryce Ludlow - The next generation: GLOW With Your Hands looks to future health care.

ANSVILLE HIGH SCHOOL

Class of 2026

Top 10%



Connor Moose

VALEDICTORIAN



Emma Mackey

SALUTATORIAN



Miriam Corbett



Karson Qiu



Natalie Bovee



Kassidy Cole



Azlyn Berry



Cole Thompson



Paisley Cosimano



Isaiah Goins



Noah Gibson

HIGHLIGHTS

PAGE TURNERS CLUB



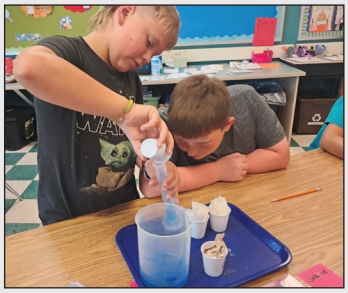
Congrats Page Turners! Our students traveled to Keshequa and competed against 5 other teams answering questions about a selection of books they have read. Everyone was on their best behavior and exhibited Mustang pride with our T-shirts provided by a grant from the Dansville foundation and Finger Lakes Tees.

EBH DRAMA CLUB

Our EBH Drama Club is excited to have our students perform Beauty and the Beast. There are more than 100 students between the students on stage and the backstage crew.











DANSVILLE CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

HIGHLIGHTS

ELLIS B. HYDE ELEMENTARY

EBH

- Caring School Community program involves all students in grades K–6. The program aims to promote core values, prosocial behavior, and a schoolwide feeling of community.
- 7 Habits throughout the school has helped students see themselves as leaders in their learning and in life.
- 80 students graduated the DARE program.

School Wide Activities:

- Cross-country run.
- Jump Rope Rally-American Heart Association Fundraiser.
- Student-led conferences.
- Spirit Weeks.

Academics

- Focus on maximizing instructional time:
  - Reveal Math: student growth with consistency across grade levels.
  - Oral reading fluency scores increasing at 3rd-6th grade with a focus on phonics, morphemes and increased independent reading.
- EBH teachers use The Writing Revolution, a method built on clear, step-by-step instruction that helps students grow from writing strong sentences to full compositions. The Hochman Method isn't a separate writing curriculum—it's an approach that can be worked into any subject, at any grade level, alongside what's already being taught.
- AimsWeb is providing consistent data across grade levels so we can discuss instructional areas of strength and areas of need; as well as individual student needs.

Extra-Curricular

- EBH offer Clubs and After School Activities: ASL Club, Chess Club, Archery Club,Pageturners, EBH Ski Club, Rise Up & Run, Student Council, 4th, 5th and 6th Grade Band, 5th and 6th Grade Chorus, Fitness Club.

Student Recognition

- Trimester 1- **WE CARE** (AWARD for KINDNESS in December): empathy, inclusion, kindness.
- Trimester 2 - **WE LEARN** (AWARD for GROWTH MINDSET in March): balance, growth mindset/persevere, reflection, curiosity/inquiry, critical thinking.
- Trimester 3: **WE LEAD** (AWARD for LEADERSHIP in May/June): service, responsibility, integrity, confidence, trustworthy.
- Shout Out postcards are sent to families on a regular basis.
- 7 Students participated in All-County Band and 8 students participated in All-County Chorus.

DANSVILLE CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

HIGHLIGHTS

DANSVILLE PRIMARY SCHOOL



Academics

- Implemented Caring School Community to create a school environment where students feel safe, valued, and connected.
- Monthly whole school morning meetings (facilitated by Student Council members).
- February Community Read of "The Color Monster" along with home and school related activities.
- Expanded 3PK program to 2 full day sections (with an option of half-day).
- 3PK Outdoor Education monthly at Dansville Fish & Game Club.

Extra-Curricular (K-2nd Grade)

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

Family Engagement Opportunities

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



HIGHLIGHTS

PRIMARY SCHOOL BIKE CLUB



Genesee Valley School Board Association awarded us an Excellence in Student Services Award for Derek Wampole's facilitation of Bike Club along with the assistance of colleagues Tricia Dale, Patty Pope, and Rachel Sacks as well as high school student Jacob Kreiley.

Bike Club started in the fall of 2023 and the fleet of bicycles expanded when The Foundation for Dansville Education helped to purchase additional adaptive strider bikes, including 8 larger sizes in September of 2024.

Bike club provides K-2nd grade students with an opportunity to enjoy riding a bike and/or learning to ride a bike. 15-20 students attend each session with a total of 135-180 students participating in a school year. Students are also taught basic bicycle safety skills like the importance of wearing a helmet and other protective gear, checking both ways at crosswalks, and maintaining good self space while riding. Students can take these skills and use them outside of school, hopefully having the chance to ride in the community. When the weather cooperates, students can be found riding out on the tennis courts and during the cold and rainy months biking around the school hallways. Throughout the year, 2nd grade students are given opportunities to help out during 1st and Kindergarten sessions to serve as role models and help build leadership qualities.







2026-27 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

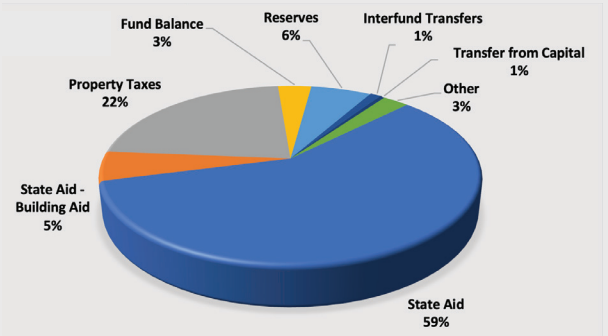
Revenues: Taxes, State Aid, PILOT Payments, Fund Balance, Reserves

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. This is further reduced by your STAR exemption status. The impact to you is shown by the figures in the chart.

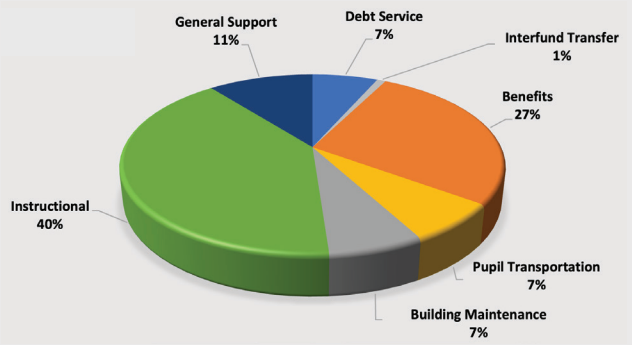


REVENUES



	2025-26 Budget	2026-27 Proposed Budget
State Aid	$ 25,280,350	$ 25,907,841
State Aid - Building Aid	$ 1,632,850	$ 2,353,265
Property Taxes	$ 9,697,469	$ 9,928,800
Fund Balance	$ 1,250,000	$ 1,500,000
Reserves	$ 2,484,656	$ 2,712,703
Interfund Transfers	$ 490,000	$ 490,000
Transfer from Capital	$ 192,825	$ 212,746
Other	$ 1,316,375	$ 1,184,345
	$ 42,344,525	**$ 44,289,700**

EXPENSES



	2025-26 Budget	2026-27 Proposed Budget
Debt Service	$ 2,188,140	$ 2,928,590
Interfund Transfer	$ 438,000	$ 388,000
Benefits	$ 11,441,105	$ 12,207,415
Pupil Transportation	$ 3,185,695	$ 3,105,040
Building Maintenance	$ 2,943,200	$ 3,006,755
Instructional	$ 17,797,115	$ 17,949,595
General Support	$ 4,351,270	$ 4,704,305
	$ 42,344,525	**$ 44,289,700**

3-PART BUDGET SUMMARY

Category	2025-2026 Amount	2026-2027 Amount	$ Difference	% Increase
Adminstrative	$ 5,118,850	$ 5,629,905	$ 511,055	9.98%
Capital	$ 6,418,360	$ 7,235,940	$ 817,580	12.74%
Program	$ 30,807,315	$ 31,423,855	$ 616,540	2.00%
TOTAL	**$ 42,344,525**	**$ 44,289,700**	**$ 1,945,175**	4.59%

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

Assessed Value of your Home	Monthly Increase*	Annual Increase*
$100,000	$2.40/mo.	$28.83
$150,000	$3.60/mo.	$43.25
$200,000	$4.81/mo.	$57.66



- Current estimates are based on equalized values across the district without STAR exemptions
- Enhanced and Basic STAR exemptions will further reduce these values
- While the assessed value of your home may have been affected by the recent reassessments in Livingston County, this is unrelated to school taxes. The district does not determine property assessments.

DANSVILLE CENTRAL SCHOOLS
CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

We're excited to share that the 2026–2027 school year will mark the Centennial of Dansville Central Schools—celebrating 100 years since becoming Dansville Central School District! In 1926-27, Dansville consolidated its school with surrounding villages , forming the district we know today. This milestone year will honor our shared history, community, and generations of students, staff, and families who have shaped Dansville over the past century.

DANSVILLE CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Annual Budget Vote and School Board Election

PROPOSITION #1: 2026-27 School Budget

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Dansville Central School District is hereby authorized to expend the sum of $44,289,700 for the school budget for the 2026-2027 school year and to levy the necessary tax on the taxable property of the school district.

PROPOSITION #2: Purchase of Diesel/Gas School Buses and Vehicles

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Dansville Central School District is hereby authorized to undertake the acquisition of diesel and gasoline school buses, including, without limitation, two (2) large diesel school buses, one (1) small gasoline school bus and one (1) SUV or Minivan-type vehicle all at an estimated maximum aggregate cost of $599,000, less trade-in value, if any, and to appropriate and expend from the existing bus purchase reserve fund $108,000 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, with such tax to be offset by state aid available therefor; and, in anticipation of such tax, debt obligations of the school district as may be necessary not to exceed $491,000 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

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Dansville Central School District is hereby authorized to expend $80,000 from the existing school bus and equipment purchase reserve fund for the acquisition of one (1) tractor, at an estimated maximum cost of $80,000.

PROPOSITION #4: Purchase of Zero-Emission Electric School Bus

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Dansville Central School District is hereby authorized to undertake the acquisition of a zeroemission school bus, including, without limitation, one (1) large zero-emission electric school bus, at an estimated maximum acquisition cost of $499,250, but with an estimated net maximum cost of $242,000 after the receipt of grants, credits, or rebates, if any, and to appropriate and expend from the existing bus purchase reserve fund $47,000 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, with such tax to be offset by state aid available therefor; and, in anticipation of such tax, debt obligations of the school district as may be necessary not to exceed $195,000 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.

BOARD OF EDUCATION CANDIDATES:

Vote for any (3) *(Candidates earning the first and second most votes will be elected to the 3-year terms; the candidate earning the third most votes will fill the May 20, 2026 through June 30, 2027 term of the vacated seat.)*

- Naomi Mosman
- Margaret Foster
- Nicholas Will

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Proposition #4 Explained: NYS Electric School Bus Requirement - *What to Know*

New York State law now requires all school districts to transition to zero-emission (electric) school buses by 2035. Beginning in 2027, all new bus purchases must be electric, and by 2035, all buses in operation must be zero-emission. The State has also established a waiver process for school districts that may face challenges meeting these timelines due to cost, infrastructure, terrain, or operational limitations. These waivers can delay the purchase of electric buses, but do not change the final deadline for full transition by 2035.

In order to qualify for the waivers, the district must demonstrate efforts to inform taxpayers of the new law and authorize any related expenditures. Therefore, an electric bus purchase authorization will appear as a separate proposition (Proposition #4) on the ballot. Separating this proposition from the regular purchase of gas or diesel buses ensures transparency and allows voters to consider this transition independent from the district's routine transportation purchases. Proposition #2 is for the purchase of diesel/gas buses and does not include the electric bus. Additional information can be found on our website (www.dansvillecsd.org). Ultimately, we leave this decision in the hands of our taxpayers.



Budget Hearing and Meet the Candidates Night

Tuesday, May 12, 2026
@ 6:30pm
High School Library

Budget Vote

Tuesday, May 19;
8:00am to 8:00pm;
High School Gym Foyer

Superintendent of Schools

Kelly M. Zimmerman

Dansville Central Schools Board of Education

Brian Applin - President
Margaret Foster - Vice President
Nikole Berry
Matthew Crane
Kristy Ebert
Natacia Schledorn
Kaelyn Oliver - Student Rep.

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

Thank You for Supporting Our Schools!

BOARD OF EDUCATION CANDIDATES



NAOMI MOSMAN

High School: East High School, Rochester, NY

College & Degree: SUNY Brockport Class of 2006, Interdisciplinary Arts for Children, BA

Occupation: HR Generalist – Gunlocke, Wayland, NY

Special Interests/Hobbies: Gardening, reading, cuddling my dogs and cats, being with my family

Years in District: I have lived in Groveland for almost 20 years.

Reason(s) for Interest in Serving: To bring a balanced, practical perspective to help District decisions. As a parent and HR professional, I've seen how important communication, supportive policies, and accountability are.

What do you see as the strengths of the school district: Strong communication from teachers, staff, and administration.

What are the greatest challenges facing the District: Educators are navigating classrooms where student behavior and mental health needs require significant attention, while also working to engage families at various levels of involvement. Despite these challenges and budget issues, teachers are still expected to help students learn the same as before.

Personal Statement: I care deeply about the success of our students and school community. As a parent of a child with an IEP and school anxiety, I've seen how important strong connection, communication, supportive services, and inclusive opportunities are. My daughter, now graduated, found a connection through athletics, while my son is currently involved in music and drama. This has given me an appreciation for the value of both academics and extracurricular programs.

I work in HR with experience in policy, compliance, and supporting people while balancing organizational needs. My experience with the District has been met with open communication and accessibility. With one child graduated and one child almost done, I am motivated to give back and support thoughtful, student-centered decisions that strengthen our schools.



MARGARET FOSTER

High School: Dansville High School, Class of 1994

College & Degree: Alfred State College – AAS, BBA; SUNY Brockport – MBA

Occupation: SUNY Geneseo, Enrollment Operations & Technology Director

Special Interests/Hobbies: Volunteering, hiking, and biking.

Years in District: I have lived in the district my entire life.

Reason(s) for Interest in Serving: I am seeking to continue my service on the BOE because I remain deeply committed to strengthening our District's long-term vision to supporting student success.

What do you see as the strengths of the school district: There is a strong sense of community, dedicated educators and commitment to student success.

What are the greatest challenges facing the District: One of the most significant is ensuring financial stability while continuing to meet the needs of students.

Community/Business Activities: I have been a School Board Trustee for the past 10 years. I am in my second year on the BOCES School Board. I am Treasurer for Dansville All Sports Boosters. I have worked at SUNY Geneseo for 26 years.

Personal Statement: I am running for re-election to the Dansville Central School District Board of Education because I am deeply committed to our students, our schools, our staff, and our community. As a board member, I believe my role is to listen, ask thoughtful questions, and make decisions that keep student success at the center while being respectful of our taxpayers and staff. During my time on the board, I have worked to approach issues collaboratively and with long-term stability in mind. Dansville is a strong district because of its dedicated educators, supportive families, and close-knit community. I believe it is important for board members to build trust, maintain transparency, and support thoughtful planning.

I bring a perspective that values data-informed decision-making, fiscal responsibility, and equity of opportunity for all students.

It would be an honor to continue serving the Dansville community and to help ensure our schools remain strong, supportive, and forward-focused for future generations.



NICHOLAS WILL

High School: Madison Central School

College & Degree: SUNY Plattsburgh, Journalism, B.A.

Occupation: Information Technology

Special Interests/Hobbies: Hiking, Camping, Painting, Photography

Years in District: I have been in the district for six years.

Reason(s) for Interest in Serving: I hope to contribute to the education of our community.

What do you see as the strengths of the school district: Smaller class sizes that contribute to more personal education and experiences.

What are the greatest challenges facing the district: Finances, tough program decisions, transportation.

Community/Business Activities: I was involved in the development of the tabletop gaming club in Mt. Morris.

Personal Statement: I understand how difficult it is to balance the wants and needs of a community against a budget that is constrained by the past. I want to bring a unique perspective and voice to these conversations.

DANSVILLE CENTRAL SCHOOLS HONORED WITH 2025 FARM TO SCHOOL PARTNERSHIP AWARD



Dansville, NY – October 24, 2025 — Dansville Central Schools is proud to announce that the district has been awarded the 2025 Farm to School Partnership Award, presented jointly by the New York School Nutrition Association (NYSNA) and the New York State Department of Agriculture & Markets. The award was presented during the NYSNA Annual Conference in Buffalo, New York, on Friday, October 24, 2025.

The Farm to School Partnership Award celebrates exemplary farm-to-school initiatives across New York State that connect students to local agriculture while supporting farmers and promoting healthy eating. Applications are reviewed by both NYSNA and the Department of Agriculture & Markets, recognizing schools that demonstrate creativity, collaboration, and community impact.

This year's award honors the efforts of Dansville Central Schools Farm to School Committee: Katie Bancroft (Dansville Primary School Teacher), Lauren Prunoske (Dansville HS Science Teacher), Chad Flint (Dansville HS Business Teacher), and Rita Morrow (Dansville CSD Director of Food Service). Together, they have developed hands-on agricultural experiences and built partnerships with local farms to bring fresh, local food directly to students district-wide.

Highlights of their recent work include:

Featuring Farm to School Day on January 15, 2025, with menu items sourced from local producers including Knapp Farms Beef (Ossian, NY) and Upstate Milk.

Integrating classroom learning with the cafeteria, as students in Lauren Prunoske's Intro to Agriculture class grew cilantro later served on the school menu.

Hosting "Farmers of the Future—Bringing Agriculture to the Classroom," where Katie Bancroft's primary students visited the high school's agriculture program for hands-on learning (April 8–9, 2025).

Revitalizing the school's outdoor garden under the leadership of Chad Flint, high school business teacher, who incorporated food production into his Business Management and Outdoor Business Management classes. Students planted a variety of crops—including asparagus, strawberries, peppers, squash, and more—and installed a self-sustaining summer watering system.

Through these initiatives, Dansville students are learning where their food comes from, how it's grown, and how agriculture connects to their community and environment.



Representatives from the New York School Nutrition Association commended Dansville Central Schools for their innovative partnerships with local farms and their dedication to enriching student learning through agriculture. Accepting this award on behalf of the district were Kelly Zimmerman, Superintendent, Rita Morrow, Director of Food Service, and Lauren Prunoske, High School Science Teacher. Presenting the award was Commissioner Jeanette Moy and the NYSNA President is Bryan McCoy.



The New York School Nutrition Association is a statewide organization of school nutrition professionals dedicated to ensuring that all students have access to healthy meals. NYSNA provides training, professional development, and advocacy for school nutrition programs across New York.

The New York State Department of Agriculture & Markets promotes New York's diverse and high-quality agricultural products, fosters environmental stewardship, and safeguards the state's food supply, land, and livestock to support the growth and sustainability of New York's agricultural industries.

Dansville Central School District

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CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2026 RETIREES!

- Tina Arend
- Christine Atwell
- Christine Button
- Cynthia Cotton
- Terri Fraser
- Deb Hagen
- Craig Harris
- Kristin Luxon
- Chuck Malone
- Linda Malone
- Christine Spoor
- Loraine Wilson
- Vivian Young

Thank you for your service and dedication to DCS!



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.