



FFA Spotlight:

26-27 NYS FFA President

We are beyond proud to share some incredible news! Please join us in congratulating Sage Schroeder on being slated as the 2026–2027 New York State FFA President! Sage participated in a rigorous selection process that included interviews, activities, and leadership evaluations. Throughout it all, she represented our chapter, our school, and our community with confidence, professionalism, and heart. This is also a truly historic moment for Letchworth FFA. The last time our chapter had a New York State FFA officer was over 25 years ago, when Nicole Koerner Ayers served as the 1999–2000 New York State FFA Secretary.



Leadership evaluations. Throughout it all, she represented our chapter, our school, and our community with confidence, professionalism, and heart. This is also a truly historic moment for Letchworth FFA. The last time our chapter had a New York State FFA officer was over 25 years ago, when Nicole Koerner Ayers served as the 1999–2000 New York State FFA Secretary.

District Golden Owl Winner

The Golden Owl Award is a NYS FFA award that supports agricultural educators who devote countless hours, and often their own resources, to positively impact the lives of their students. The Golden Owl Award, students, fellow teachers and other supporters nominate their favorite agricultural teacher and summarize what makes him or her the best in their state. Mrs. Wilcox is now in the running to receive New York's Ag Teacher of the Year, to be announced at the 2026 NY State FFA Convention in May.



NYS FFA 101st Convention

Competing May 14-16 at NYS FFA

- Ag Issues - Ashton, Abby, Isabella, Anna, & Lizzy
- Maple - Aidan, Ethan, Bryce, Racquel, Tim, Juli, Katie & Alison
- Food Science - Sage, Isabella, Audrey G, Alison & Addie
- Ag Education - Addie
- Quiz Bowl - Gabe, Aubrey, Marissa, Levi
- Extemporaneous - Natalie

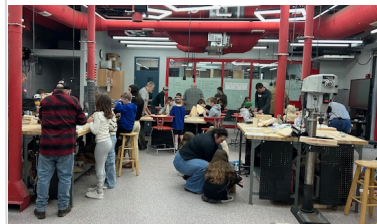


SAANYS Region 12 - Principal of the Year



Mr. Paul Rogers, High School Principal, has been named the 2026 School Administrators Association of New York State (SAANYS) Region 12 High School Principal of the Year. This honor recognizes outstanding leadership among school administrators across the Western New York Region. Region 12 of SAANYS consists of Erie, Niagara, Chautauqua, Cattaraugus, Allegany, and Wyoming Counties. This annual award celebrates administrators who demonstrate exceptional dedication and make a meaningful impact on student success. He will be recognized at a dinner for SAANYS Region 12 in May.

4th Grade Toolboxes



We extend our sincere thanks to Elitsac for their time, effort, and craftsmanship in creating toolboxes for our 4th grade students. These toolboxes are more than just practical items.

They represent hands-on learning, creativity, and a lasting resource that students will use and appreciate throughout the school year. We also gratefully acknowledge the Perry Rotary Club for their generous donation, which helped make this project possible. Their support continues to enrich our students' educational experiences. Thank you to both partners for helping bring this meaningful project to life.

Drama Club - Sound of Music & Shea's Wonder Award

LCS Drama Club, selected with 24 other WNY schools (including Fillmore Central), will compete in the 2026 Wonder Awards at Shea's Performing Arts Center in Buffalo. They're finalists for the Showstopper Award ("The Lonely Goatherd"), Spirit of Wonder: Magic of Theatre, and Spirit of Wonder: Celebration of Community. Evelyn's Sound of Music poster is also entered in a design category.

Club members are honored and excited, with some students performing in the opening ceremony. The awards take place Saturday, May 16 at 7 PM; tickets are available on Shea's website.



Budget Vote Information

BOARD OF EDUCATION - YOU MAY VOTE FOR ANY THREE (3) CANDIDATES

There are three vacancies for the Board for three year terms (July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2029). **You May Vote for Any THREE (3).** The candidates who receive a plurality of the votes cast respectively for the three offices are to be declared elected. Candidates are listed in the order they will appear on the ballot.

1) Robert Jines

2) Vanessa Krarasiewicz

3) Shane Scott

2026 Candidates for the Board of Education

Robert Jines



Hello, my name is Rob Jines and am currently serving on the Board of Education for Letchworth Central School. I am asking for your support in re-election.

My wife and I are both alumni of Letchworth Central School, and we care deeply about the continued success of our district. We have two children - one who is currently enrolled, and one who recently graduated. I understand firsthand the importance of maintaining strong schools for our families and communities.

During my time on the Board, I have worked collaboratively with the administration to support high-quality education for all students. As we face challenges such as declining enrollment, rising costs, and their impact on budgeting, I am committed to helping guide the district through these difficult decisions with a focus on long-term stability and student success.

It has been a privilege to serve, and with your vote, I would be grateful for the opportunity to continue working on behalf of our district for another three years.

Shane Scott



My name is Shane Scott, and I am a lifelong resident of Castile. I graduated from Letchworth Central School in 1998 and went on to study veterinary science at Alfred State College. After completing my education, I worked as a project manager for a large company in Buffalo. In 2010, I chose to return to my roots and start my own business, with the goal of serving and supporting our community. My wife, Ricci, and I are proud to be raising our three children here, including one who recently graduated from Letchworth. As a parent and community member, I care deeply about the strength of our schools, the opportunities available to our students, and the pride we take in maintaining a

welcoming well-kept campus. I am passionate about education and committed to fostering collaboration among the school district, faculty, parents, and students. I believe in working together to address challenges, support student success, and maintain a safe, positive learning environment. I also value preparing students with the practical life skills they need for success beyond graduation, while ensuring responsible and effective use of taxpayer dollars at LCS. It has been a privilege to serve, and I would be grateful for the opportunity to continue working on behalf of our district for another three years. I respectfully ask for your vote, and thank you for your consideration.

Qualifications of a voter:

- A United States Citizen
- Eighteen Years of Age or older
- Resident of the School District for 30 days prior to voting

Vanessa Karasiewicz



Hello, my name is Vanessa Karasiewicz. I am a longtime resident of Pike and a 1986 graduate of Fillmore Central School. My husband, John, and I have two children, both of whom graduated from Letchworth Central School.

I retired from SUNY Geneseo, where I worked for 25 years in the Computing and Information Technology Department. I am respectfully asking for your support as I seek a fourth term on the Letchworth Central School Board of Education.

During my time on the Board, we successfully completed two improvement projects, always with a focus on using taxpayer dollars responsibly and effectively. I am deeply committed to our school community and to the continued success of Letchworth Central School.

I believe in maintaining strong academic standards while also ensuring that student have access to a wide range of opportunities, including athletics, fine arts, and extracurricular activities. If re-elected, I would be honored to continue working collaboratively with fellow Board members to serve our community.

Thank you for your consideration. I respectfully ask for your vote.

May 19, 2026 (12PM - 8PM)

Smoked Pulled Pork, Homemade chips, Coleslaw, Water - \$12 (5PM -7PM)

- Budget Vote & BOE Election
- FFA Plant Sale
- Student & Faculty Art Show
- Music Recital @ 7PM
- Junior Class Fundraiser
- Science Fair

Budget Vote Information

PUBLIC HEARING

Monday, May 11, 2026 @ 7:30 PM

The annual school district Public Hearing will be held at Letchworth Central School in the High School Cafeteria at 7:30 PM for the purpose of reviewing the 2026-2027 school budget and to meet the candidates.



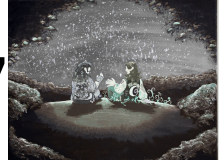
BUDGET VOTE/BOARD MEMBER ELECTIONS

Tuesday, May 19, 2026 Noon - 8:00 PM

The polls will be open in the Auditorium lobby, between the hours of 12:00 Noon and 8:00 PM to vote on the 2026 - 2027 budget, proposition and to elect three members of the Board of Education.



Proposed Annual School Budget for 2026-2027 Proposition 1 - Budget \$28,577,177.00



The Board of Education of the Letchworth Central School District shall be authorized to expend the sum set forth in the proposed budget for the 2026-27 school year in the amount of \$28,577,177.00 and to levy the necessary tax therefore.

Proposition 2 - Library Funding (as received from the libraries)

Shall the amount of funds raised by taxation to support the four public libraries in the Letchworth Central School District be increased from \$243,096.12 to \$286,964.46 the increased amount to be distributed as followed: \$36,822.18 to the Eagle Free Library, Bliss; \$114,026.00 to the Cordelia A. Greene Library, Castile; \$69,041.57 to the Gainesville Public Library, Silver Springs; and \$67,074.71 to the Pike Library Association, Pike.



Complete your ballot



Scan your ballot



EARLY/ABSENTEE BALLOTS

The option of using an absentee ballot is available for the school district annual budget vote. To obtain an absentee ballot, you must be a qualified voter of the school district and be unable to personally appear to vote. One of the following qualifications must apply:

- 1) A patient in the hospital, or unable to appear personally at the polling place on such day because of illness or physical disability;
- 2) Where such duties, occupation, business or studies are not of such a nature as ordinarily to require such absence, a statement must be given for the special circumstances to account for such absence;
- 3) On a vacation outside of the district - you must provide dates of beginning & ending of vacation, where you will be, name & address of employer, or statement of self-employment, or a statement of retirement;
- 4) Jail - absent from residence because you are detained in jail awaiting action by grand jury, are awaiting trial, or you are confined in a prison after conviction for an offense other than a felony.

Applications for absentee ballots must be received by the District Clerk at least 7 days before the election is mailed to the voter, or the day before the election if it is to be delivered personally to the voter at the Office of the District Clerk. All completed absentee ballots must be received **no later** than 5PM on the day of the election (May 19, 2026). Qualified voters may pick up an application at the District Office at Letchworth Central School during regular business hours. You can request an application for Absentee voting to be sent to you by writing the District Clerk at 5550 School Road, Gainesville, NY 14066 or call 585-493-5450.

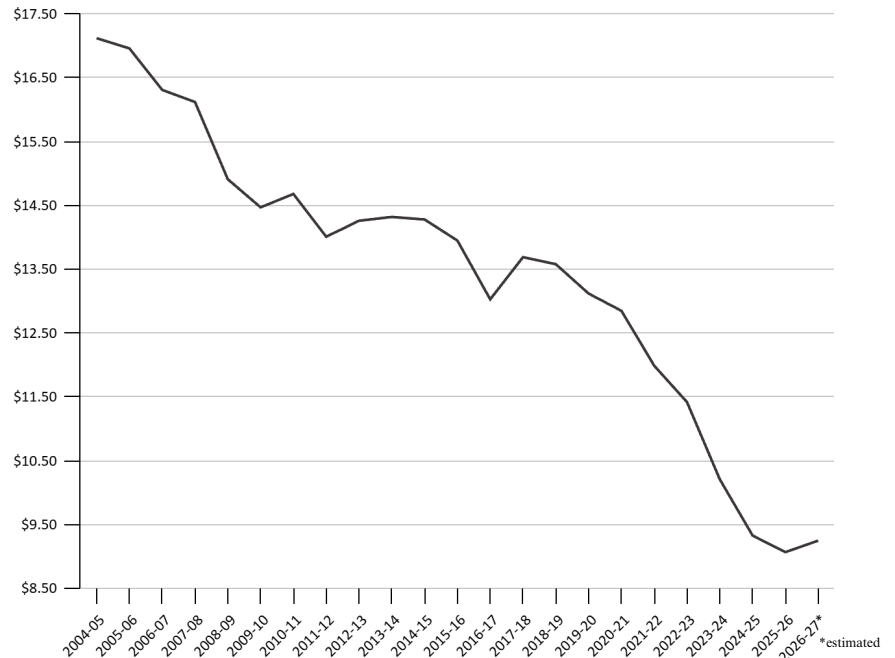
The following provides the proposed revenue and expenditure plan for the 2026-2027 school-year in a summarized format. The tri-part format and the District Report Card are available in the District Office, by calling: 585-493-5450 or on the District website at: <https://www.letchworth.k12.ny.us/depts/business-office/budget-information/2026-2027-budget-information>

Revenues

	Budget 2025-2026	Proposed Budget 2026-2027	Percent Change
State Sources			
Foundation Aid & Excess Cost Aids	13,886,790	14,114,129	
State Expense Based Aids	5,428,727	5,966,618	
Instructional Materials Aids	83,086	79,950	
Total for State Sources	19,398,603	20,160,697	+3.93%
Property Tax & Star Payments	4,854,007	4,951,087	
Appropriated Fund Balance	0	905,464	
Appropriated Empl Contribution Reserve	300,000	53,436	
Appropriated Unemployment Reserve	15,784	6,170	
Appropriated Workers Comp Reserve	15,000	18,220	
Total Tax, Appropriated Fund Balance & Reserves	5,184,791	5,934,377	+14.46%
Local Sources			
Payment in lieu of tax	277,178	303,965	
Transportation for other districts	1,183,714	1,207,388	
Miscellaneous/Other revenues	720,750	845,750	
Total Other Local Sources	2,181,642	2,357,103	+8.04%
Other Revenues			
	0	0	
Interfund transfer – debt service	25,000	45,000	
Interfund transfer – school lunch	80,000	80,000	
Federal aid - Medicaid	105,000	125,000	
Total Other Revenues			
TOTAL REVENUES	26,870,036	28,577,177	+6.35%

The proposed expenditure plan of \$28,577,177 is partly funded by a tax levy of \$4,951,087. This is a 2% increase in the levy from last year. To calculate the tax rate for each of the nine towns within the District, both the assessed values and the equalization rates are used. Final assessments and equalization rates will not be available until August. The graph to the right displays historical information on the true value tax rate in the district with a projected rate for 2026-27.

Under the proposed budget, the tax rate on true value is estimated to be \$9.25/thousand.



The School Budget and the New York State Tax Levy Limit:

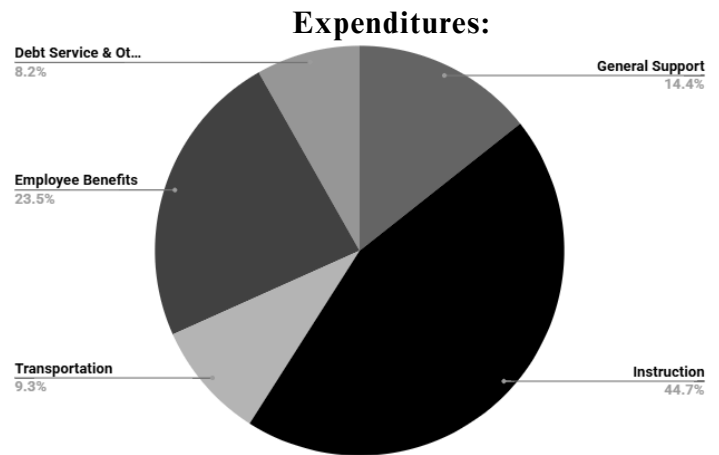
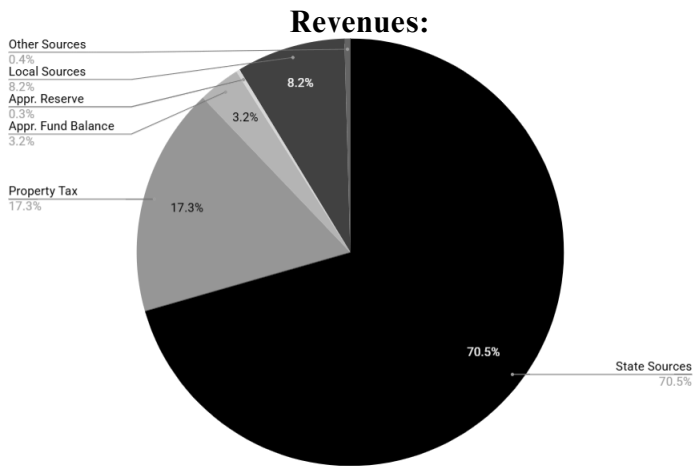
New York has instituted a tax levy limit, commonly referred to as a “cap,” that provides a state formula to establish a levy limit that determines if a simple majority or a super (60%) majority would be required for passage. The levy limit for Letchworth was calculated to be 3.9%. Since the proposed levy increase for the year is 2%, a simple majority will be required for passage.

Proposed Expenditures

	Budget 2025-2026	Proposed Budget 2026-2027	
General Support:			
Board of Education	41,636.00	42,342.00	
District Meeting	3,440.00	3,610.00	
Chief School Administrator	251,671.80	249,056.40	
Business Administration	306,944.90	318,782.30	
Auditing	25,000.00	25,000.00	
Treasurer	74,303.00	58,113.00	
Tax Collector	10,964.00	11,180.00	
Purchasing	6,396.70	6,785.00	
Fiscal Agent Fees	7,000.00	7,000.00	
Legal	98,975.00	99,975.00	
Personnel	14,801.27	15,019.95	
Public Information	14,860.00	14,860.00	
Operation of Plant	1,292,283.70	1,374,105.50	
Maintenance of Plant	763,865.50	785,629.85	
Security of Plant	95,775.00	102,624.00	
Central Storeroom	1,500.00	1,500.00	
Central Printing & Mailing	69,789.50	69,125.75	
Central Data Processing	449,762.62	461,858.48	
Unallocated Insurance	150,000.00	150,000.00	
School Association Dues	7,224.00	8,074.00	
Refund on Real Property Taxes	3,500.00	3,500.00	
BOCES Administrative Costs	273,507.00	294,690.00	
Total General Support	3,963,199.99	4,102,831.23	+3.523%
Instruction:			
Curriculum Development	302,137.19	438,734.30	
Supervision, Regular School	453,635.17	486,597.20	
Inservice Training, Instructional	25,575.00	82,906.50	
Teaching, Regular School	4,954,705.01	5,216,935.95	
Programs for Students w/Dis.	3,576,688.41	3,911,485.72	
Programs for Eng. Lang. Learn. (ELL)	32,914.20	93,791.00	
Occupational Education	672,158.48	676,206.25	
Teaching, Special Schools	22,709.00	24,560.00	
School Library	204,346.20	206,274.50	
Computer Assisted Instruction	611,151.17	681,063.97	
Attendance	8,800.00	8,800.00	
Guidance	209,626.30	212,643.80	
Health Services	118,982.00	123,369.00	
Psychological Services	167,749.10	122,950.80	
Social Work Services	7,440.00	15,360.00	
Co-Curricular Activities	51,843.00	56,041.00	
Interscholastic Athletics	389,308.57	408,668.87	
Total Instruction	11,809,768.80	12,766,388.86	+8.100%
Transportation:			
District Transportation	2,671,948.83	2,554,055.58	
Garage Building	87,301.25	89,960.00	
Contract Transport	5,000.00	5,000.00	
Transportation from BOCES	3,604.00	0.00	
Total Transportation	2,767,854.08	2,649,015.58	-4.293%

The 2026-27 general fund proposed budget includes a capital outlay project that would be completed during the upcoming school year. This project includes HVAC and building automation improvements. The total cost of the project will not exceed \$100,000 and is aided through state building aid. By completing this work as a capital outlay project, the District will receive the state building aid in the following year.

	Budget 2025-2026	Proposed Budget 2026-2027	Percent Change
Community Service:			
Adult Education & Recreation	7,628.00	7,628.00	
Total Community Service	7,628.00	7,628.00	0%
Employee Benefits:			
State Retirement	563,652.24	613,652.24	
Teachers' Retirement	727,940.18	632,800.99	
Social Security	871,445.44	877,931.69	
Workers' Compensation	95,000.00	105,000.00	
Unemployment Insurance	3,000.00	5,000.00	
Health Insurance	3,610,359.27	4,387,415.41	
Other-Benefits	91,100.00	91,100.00	
Total Employee Benefits	5,962,497.13	6,712,900.33	+12.585%
Debt Service:			
Serial Bonds - Principal	1,340,000.00	1,405,000.00	
Serial Bonds - Interest	844,088.00	783,413.00	
Total Debt Service	2,184,088.00	2,188,413.00	+0.198%
Interfund Transfer:			
Transfer to Special Aid Fund	75,000.00	50,000.00	
Transfer to Capital Fund	100,000.00	100,000.00	
Total Interfund Transfer:	175,000.00	150,000.00	-14.286%
Total General Fund:	26,870,036.00	28,577,177.00	+6.35%



VOTE!

Tuesday, May 19, 2026 12PM - 8PM

Art Show

FFA Plant Sale

Science Fair 5:30 - 7PM

Music Recital @ 7PM

**Junior Class Fundraiser -
Smoked Pulled Pork, Homemade
chips, Coleslaw, Water - \$12
(5PM -7PM)**

Athletics: NYSPHSAA Scholar-Athlete

Congratulations to the following Winter Sports Teams for earning NYSPHSAA Scholar-Athlete Team Status (75% of the roster had a GPA of 90% or better):

Boys Basketball, Girls Basketball, Boys Swimming/Diving, Indoor Track/Field, Competitive Cheer & Wrestling.

*All Varsity programs have received Scholar Athlete status so far in the 2025 - 2026 Year.

LCAA Winter All-Stars

Boys Basketball - Brody Beachel
Boys Swimming/Diving - Turner Bartholomew & Eli Volpe
Girls Basketball - Sasha Bellamy, Annika Milillo, Charity Scott
Competitive Cheer - Madelyn Geising, Maddyn Miller, Haley Nelligan, Katrina Snyder
Wrestling - Denison Johnson, Nolan Kelly, Gunner Kemp, Justin Mann, Joe Scott.

Exceptional Seniors

Boys Basketball - Darren Abbott
Girls Basketball - Sasha Bellamy, Annika Milillo, Charity Scott
Competitive Cheer - Madelyn Geising, Maddyn Miller, Haley Nelligan, Katrina Snyder

Sectional Champions

Gunner Kemp - Wrestling (165 lbs)
Joe Scott - Wrestling (138 lbs)
Naomi Yount - Indoor Track/Field (Shotput)



Congratulations to Joe Scott on his 3rd place finish at the NYS Wrestling Tournament in February. This is Joe's fourth consecutive Top 8 finish at the NYS Wrestling Tournament.

Pictured here is Maddy Geising who had the opportunity to cheer at the Ronald McDonald All Star Game on March 27 at Gates Chili High School.



School Psychologist of the Year for Chapter C - Mrs. Stroud



Arts Council of Wyoming County

Congratulations to the following high school visual arts students on a successful ACWC All-County Art Exhibition: Emma Beagle, Kira Wantuch, Annika Milillo, Allannah Giardino, Lillian Lane, Z Sommer, Ivy Smith, Maci Natalia Weaver, Kaylyn Bradley, and Shirley Pfeiffer.

Letchworth Fine Arts Department is also proud to announce three All-County Art Exhibition award recipients: 2nd Place- Maci Natalia Weaver, People's Choice- Kaylyn Bradley, Director's Choice- Shirley Pfeiffer. Their work has left a lasting impression and represents the very best of artistic expression! You can find the images throughout this newsletter.

The Mission & Vision of a LEGEND

The Letchworth Central School District is proud to unveil its newly developed Mission and Vision statements—an inspiring reflection of the shared commitment and collaboration across our entire school community. This meaningful work brought together teachers, administrators, Board of Education members, support staff, students, and parents, all contributing their voices to shape a unified direction for the future.

This collaborative process highlights the strength of our district and our collective dedication to student success. The result is a Mission and Vision that truly captures who we are and what we stand for.

Our Mission:

Together, we establish a safe culture of continuous improvement and collaboration, where every student is supported, driven and inspired to grow, explore, and exceed expectations—because **We Build Legends**.

The Mission & Vision of a LEGEND

Our Vision:

Together... We Build Legends

- **L** – Learn and Lead with Integrity
- **E** – Empathize with Others
- **G** – Grow with Ambition
- **E** – Excel in Employability
- **N** – Navigate Challenges with Resilience
- **D** – Develop Innovative Solutions
- **S** – Support and Strengthen Others

This new framework embodies the heart of what it means to be a Letchworth Legend. It will serve as a guiding light for our district's priorities and decisions, ensuring we remain focused on fostering growth, resilience, innovation, and compassion in every student.

We are incredibly proud of this shared accomplishment and excited to move forward—Together—Building Legends every day.

Superintendent Campbell's Budget Remarks

As you can see in this newsletter there is so much to be proud of. Students and staff continue to excel. A huge thank you to our staff, some of the best people in the field of education. I also want to thank the Board of Education for their support and insights into financial planning that offer a 2026-27 budget that is responsible to our students and tax payers.

At Letchworth Central School District, our commitment extends far beyond academics—we are dedicated to educating the whole child. This means creating opportunities and supports that nurture not only **strong learners**, but students **who are driven and inspired to grow, explore, and exceed expectations**. Our graduates become capable individuals prepared for life beyond our classrooms.

Letchworth continues to prioritize high-quality instruction while also a continued access to essential mental health services, ensuring that every student feels supported and ready to learn. We believe that a student's well-being is foundational to their success, and we remain steadfast in providing resources that meet their social and emotional needs. Officer Ivan (SRO) is a consistent physical presence for students and staff, providing the physical safety we all deeply value.

Learning at Letchworth is dynamic and engaging. Through innovative, hands-on experiences in our STEAM labs, with a wide range of extracurricular activities, students are encouraged to explore their interests, discover their passions, and build critical life skills. Whether in the classroom, on the stage, in athletic competition, or through clubs and service opportunities, our students are developing the skills that matter most—**strong work ethic, problem-solving abilities,**

collaboration, and resilience.

Equally important is the sense of belonging we strive to cultivate. We are proud of a school culture that emphasizes kindness, respect, and connection. Our students are encouraged to care for one another, contribute positively to their school environment, and give back to the broader community. These experiences help shape individuals who not only succeed personally, but also uplift those around them.

These core values—academic excellence, whole-child support, opportunity, and community connection—are deeply reflected in the budget we are proposing to the Letchworth community. At the same time, fiscal responsibility remains a top priority. The proposed budget includes a 2% increase in the tax levy, which will generate approximately \$97,080 to help offset rising costs—pressures that many families are also experiencing in their own household budgets.

Letchworth Central School District remains highly dependent on New York State aid to sustain and enhance our educational program. **Even with the recommended 2% increase, LCS continues to maintain the lowest true value tax rate in the region (approx. \$9.25/thousand), reflecting our commitment to balancing educational excellence with affordability for our community.**

One of the most significant challenges impacting this year's budget is a 30% increase in health care premium costs. As you can imagine, this creates a substantial financial strain. Despite this, we have worked diligently to preserve the programs, services, and opportunities that our students rely on and deserve.

Please plan on coming out to vote on Tuesday, May 19 from 12pm-8pm.

Together, we are building more than strong students—we are building future-ready individuals who will lead, contribute, and make a difference, while remaining mindful stewards of our community's resources as **We Build Legends!**

As superintendent, I remain committed and enthusiastic about what lies ahead for LCS. This is a vibrant community that supports our students and the school as a whole. Thank you for your part in making us legendary for years to come. It is truly a joy to serve at LCS.

Respectfully,
Todd Campbell, Superintendent