

TIGER TRIBUNE

Waterloo Central School District

ALL STUDENTS. ALL STAFF. ONE FAMILY.



SCHOOL BUDGET VOTE

TUESDAY, MAY 19 | NOON - 8 P.M.

WATERLOO SCHOOL DISTRICT OFFICE
109 WASHINGTON STREET, WATERLOO, NY 13165

WHAT'S ON THE BALLOT:

- Annual School Budget
- Four Board of Education Seats
- Annual Appropriations for Waterloo Public Library
- Transportation Bus Purchases
- Technology and Equipment Capital Reserve Fund

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#TIGERPRIDE #WATERLOO #ONEFAMILY



@WATERLOOCENTRALSCHOOLEDISTR7124



WATERLOO CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT



Board of Education

- Patrick Tellier, President
- Coreen Lowry, Vice President
- Ashley Davoli
- Chersti Kuhlmann
- Kyle Percey
- Barbara Westerberg
- Jolynn Worden

Superintendent of Schools

Sarah Cupelli

Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum & Instruction

Christine Taylor

Business Administrator

Shaun Merrill

Director of Pupil Personnel Services

Shelli Tam

A MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

DEAR WATERLOO TAXPAYERS:

This year’s budget vote will take place on May 19. The vote is an opportunity for you to use your voice to shape the direction of our school district in the coming year, and I encourage you to take advantage of it.

When students returned to school for the 2025-26 school year, we made it our district’s mission to foster a school environment that fulfills curiosity and learning without limits. It truly takes a community to make great things happen. Your support has created opportunities for our students to flourish on a daily basis, and has empowered our teachers and staff to support them on a deeper and more meaningful level.

The 2026-27 school year will be an opportunity to elevate this work even more. The budget we have constructed for the 2026-27 school year has been carefully put together with an emphasis on fiscal responsibility.

The establishment of an assistant principal position at Skoi-Yase Primary School and Lafayette Intermediate School will allow building leadership to further balance their administrative responsibilities with time to forge deeper bonds with students and staff and focus on school safety and instructional leadership. This, when combined with the reduction of the secondary executive principal position, two dean of students positions and four instructional positions that will not be filled, will result in cost savings for the overall budget.

We are proud that this budget maintains all of the extracurricular activities and opportunities for students. In fact, this budget adds several higher-level courses and authentic experiences for students through community partnerships and grant funds.

The Waterloo community has always demonstrated a strong passion for our students and school district.

We hope you will exercise your right to vote on May 19.

With Tiger Pride,



Sarah Cupelli
 Superintendent of Schools

Year	Tax Cap Limit	Levy increase
2022-23	2.923%	1.75%
2023-24	3.29%	0%
2024-25	3.21%	2%
2025-26	2.57%	1.9%
2026-27	1.78%	1.5%

School District Budget Notice

Overall Budget Proposal	Budget Adopted for the 2025-26 School Year	Budget Proposed for the 2026-27 School Year	Contingency Budget for the 2026-27 School Year *
Total Budgeted Amount, Not Including Separate Propositions	\$ 50,018,410	\$52,433,420	\$52,158,420
Increase/Decrease for the 2025-26 School Year		\$2,415,010	\$2,140,010
Percentage Increase/Decrease in Proposed Budget		4.83 %	4.28%
Change in the Consumer Price Index		2.7%	
A. Proposed Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount	\$13,313,201	\$13,512,899	
B. Levy to Support Library Debt, if Applicable	\$0	\$	
C. Levy for Non-Excludable Propositions, if Applicable **	\$0	\$	
D. Total Tax Cap Reserve Amount Used to Reduce Current Year Levy	\$0	\$	
E. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy (A + B + C - D)	\$13,313,201	\$13,512,899	\$13,313,201
F. Total Permissible Exclusions	\$0	\$0	
G. School Tax Levy Limit, <u>Excluding</u> Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$13,400,736	\$13,753,429	
H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, <u>Excluding</u> Levy to Support Library Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions (E - B - F + D)	\$13,313,201	\$13,512,899	
I. Difference: G - H (Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval - See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions) **	\$87,535	\$240,530	
Administrative Component	\$ 4,282,232	\$ 4,572,141	\$ 4,572,141
Program Component	\$ 38,939,798	\$ 39,231,743	\$ 39,231,743
Capital Component	\$ 6,796,379	\$ 8,629,536	\$ 8,354,536

* Provide a statement of assumptions made in projecting a contingency budget for the 2026-27 school year, should the proposed budget be defeated pursuant to Section 2023 of the Education Law.

Description	Amount
School Buses	\$676,345

** List Separate Propositions that are not included in the Total Budgeted Amount: (Tax Levy associated with educational or transportation services propositions are not eligible for exclusion and may affect voter approval requirements)

<p>*NOTE TO SCHOOL DISTRICT BUSINESS OFFICIALS: Please submit an electronic version (Word or PDF) of this completed form to: emscmgt@nysed.gov</p>	<p>Under the Budget Proposed for the 2026-27 School Year</p> <p>Average of 5 townships</p>
<p>Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings¹</p>	<p>\$471.60</p>

The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2026-27 by the qualified voters of the Waterloo Central School District, Seneca County, New York, will be held at the Waterloo Central School District Office in said district on Tuesday, May 19, 2026 between the hours of 12:00 pm and 8:00 pm, prevailing time in the District Office, at which time the polls will be opened to vote by voting ballot or machine. -----

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

WATERLOO CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

WATERLOO HIGH SCHOOL

POST GRADUATION PLANS:

37%
4-year school

28%
2-year school

29%
enter the workforce

6%
military

60+ students enrolled in agricultural education courses.

59 students enrolled in internships.

57 electives offered.

90%
graduation rate

29
ADVANCED PLACEMENT COURSES

24
FLCC COURSES



2 members attending Oswegatchie FFA Camp in summer 2026, providing an opportunity to meet students with similar interests in an engaging, natural setting.

9 students enrolled in the Waterloo chapter of the National FFA Organization.

11 high school students read to second-grade classes at Skoi-Yase Primary School as part of Agricultural Literacy Week



LAFAYETTE INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

100% of students participate in weekly typing through STEAM classes to prepare them for skills needed in life.

48,000 PRIDE tickets handed out for positive behavior aligned to our PRIDE Traits (Respectful, Responsible, Engaged, and Safe).

93.84% attendance rate: Contributed to by the new attendance mentor program.

29 students were inducted into the National Elementary Honor Society.

21 students participate in Elementary Art Club.

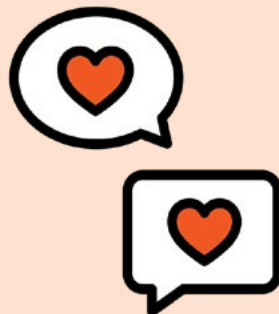
94 students participated in a Read 20 Minutes Per Day Challenge.

WATERLOO MIDDLE SCHOOL

15 students inducted into National Junior Honor Society.

67 middle school enrollments in high school-level courses.

3 Roots and Routes Assemblies allowed middle students to hear from past Waterloo CSD graduates on tools for success post-graduation.



SKOI-YASE PRIMARY SCHOOL

93.3% attendance rate

First year with Skoi-Yase morning program, which focuses on social-emotional learning and collaboration on STEAM building projects such as Lincoln Logs, connector sets, etc. Students also helped establish a school garden, where they harvested crops in the fall and planted new ones in the early spring.



BY THE NUMBERS

ARTS

12 ensembles are offered to middle and high school students.

33 Waterloo CSD selections for SoloFest. 

40 student musicians selected for FLMEA All-County performances.

6 students selected for Area All-State performances.

1 student selected for Carnegie Hall World-Strides performance.

36 students participated in fall Drama Club production of *The Outsiders*.

56 students participated in spring Drama Club production of *Grease*.

42 Fifth-Grade students participate in LaFayette Intermediate School Band.

100+ students anticipated to participate in Waterloo CSD's annual Art Show with eight Senior Spotlight displays planned.

ATHLETICS

656 student-athletes across the fall, winter and spring seasons.

11 Scholar-Athlete teams in the fall and winter seasons.


90 Individual Scholar-Athletes in the fall and winter seasons.

1 Waterloo student-athlete selected for the NYSPHSAA Student Leadership Conference.

1 Waterloo cross country student-athlete qualified for the NYSPHSAA State Championship meet.

2 school records in Indoor Track and Field were broken by senior Chase Osterhout.

Varsity Golf claimed the co-league championship.

Coach Mike Bree celebrated 200 career wins as head coach of the Waterloo girls varsity basketball team, en route to winning the 2025-26 Class B Section V championship. 



TRANSPORTATION

18 buses operated on daily basis.

3 transportation staff members awarded at NYAPT conference in summer 2025.

95% current DOT safety rating.

CANDIDATES FOR SCHOOL BOARD SEATS

The terms of three board members will expire June 30, 2026. The fourth vacant seat will have a one-year term. The three candidates receiving the most votes will serve for a term of 3 years commencing July 1, 2026. The candidate with the fourth highest vote will earn the seat with the shortest term commencing immediately. The order in which these candidates will be posted on the ballot is as follows: **Michael Passalacqua, Stephanie Felice, Patrick Tellier, Theresa Turnmyre.**

BOARD CANDIDATE INFORMATION: The following biographical information appears in the order that names will appear on the ballot. Each biography appears as submitted by the candidate.

Michael Passalacqua:

Occupation: Police Officer/
Investigator

Spouse: Jessica Passalacqua

Children:

Owen-13 yoa-7th

Luke-10 yoa-4th

Mia-10 yoa-4th

Community Groups, Volunteer Activities to which you belong or have served:

St. Mary's/St. Claire Parish Council Member

Priorities and Goals as a School Board Member:

- Fiscally responsible to the tax payer
- Prioritize confidentiality
- Open communication with tax payers/parents/families
- School safety/security - SRO in schools



Patrick Tellier:

Occupation: Owner & Photographer
at Tellier Studios

Spouse: Jennifer Tellier

Children: Clay, 15, Freshman;

Jasper, 11, Fifth Grade; Winden, 5,
pre-school

Community Groups, Volunteer Activities to which you belong or have served:

1. Many years coaching youth sports in Waterloo community
2. President of Waterloo Music Boosters
3. Waterloo School Board Member

Priorities and Goals as a School Board Member:

Student safety, academic achievement, and fiscal responsibility are always at the top of the list when discussing district priorities. After completing my first term on the School Board, I want to share where my focus goes beyond that. I believe a strong Board of Education starts with communication, transparency, and ongoing training. Our district works best when we come together as one team – board members, administrators, teachers, staff, and families – working to improve and grow. As a student, I struggled with learning disabilities, and that experience continues to shape who I am today and drives me to be a voice for students who may feel unheard. I believe it's our responsibility to build a school system that works for every student and keeps students at the center of every decision we make.



Stephanie Felice:

Occupation: College Professor at
St. John Fisher University/
U of R: Eastman School of Music

Children: Isabella (Bella) Felice, 22

St. John Fisher Graduate (2026)

Penfield High School Graduate (2022)

Occupation: Monroe County Probation

Community Groups, Volunteer Activities to which you belong or have served:

Erie Canal Applied Psychologists (ECAP) President
(2022-Present)

Penfield High School Senior Planning Committee (2022)

Priorities and Goals as a School Board Member:

I am running to continue to strengthen our schools through collaboration using three main focuses:

1. Learning for every student: Every child learn differently. Together, we can ensure every student gets the support they need to reach their full potential.
2. A culture of respect: Our district and community are strongest when everyone has a seat at the table. We can build an environment where parents, teachers and students feel safe sharing ideas and raising questions.
3. Clear and open communication: Trust is built on transparency. I'm committed to supporting and making decisions using an open and collaborative approach that allows everyone to understand how our community can grow together.



Theresa Turnmyre:

Occupation: Business Process
Manager

Spouse: Daniel Turnmyre

Children: Daniel-26-Sales;
Ryan-24-Service/Sales

Priorities and Goals as a School Board Member:

As a school board member, my priorities are to support the district's academic goals while strengthening relationships among students, staff, families, and the broader community. I believe student success is rooted in strong partnerships, clear communication, and trust. I will advocate for literacy growth, personalized learning, and a consistent MTSS (Multi-Tiered System of Supports) process, while ensuring staff are supported through professional development and collaboration. Equally important is engaging families and community members in meaningful dialogue about pathways, opportunities, and student growth. We can create a supportive, student-centered environment where every learner and educator can thrive through transparency and connection.



BUDGET PROPOSITIONS

Proposition No. 1: 2026-27 Budget

Shall the budget for the Waterloo Central School District for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2027, as presented by the Board of Education, be approved and adopted in the amount of \$52,433,420 with the required funds be appropriated and the necessary real property taxes required be raised by a tax on the taxable property in the District to be levied and collected as required by law?

Proposition No. 2: Authorization to Appropriate and Expend from Capital Reserve Fund and Purchase Motor Vehicles for Use in Student Transportation

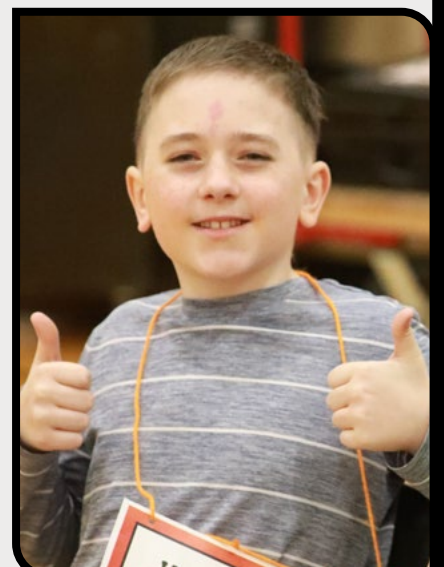
Shall the Board of Education of the Waterloo Central School District, be authorized to purchase motor vehicles for use in student transportation from the District's existing Bus and Vehicle Capital Reserve Fund, with no additional tax levy cost; and shall the Board of Education be further authorized to enter into one (1) or more purchase contracts on terms satisfactory to the Board of Education, in the aggregate amount of \$676,345.11 with respect to the vehicle(s) hereby authorized to be acquired?

Proposition No. 3: Annual Appropriations for Waterloo Public Library

Shall the annual sum of \$366,148.46 be collected by the Waterloo Central School District for the 2026-27 operating budget of the Waterloo Public Library, as determined by the Library Board of Trustees, with such sum to be raised by a levy to be collected annually?

Proposition No.4: Waterloo Technology & Equipment Capital Reserve Fund

Shall the Board of Education of the Waterloo Central School District be authorized to establish a new ten-year capital reserve pursuant to Section 3651 of the Education Law in an amount not to exceed \$10,000,000, plus accrued interest and investment earnings thereon, to be used to finance in whole or in part: 1. The purchase of equipment, including hardware, software, related networking infrastructure, and related peripheral machinery and apparatus as well as technology projects including District wide improvements to technology infrastructure, and ancillary or related work required in connection therein; or 2. The purchase of maintenance vehicles and equipment for school district use; 3. The purchase of classroom and office furniture. The source of monies to be paid into such reserve fund can be funded from (i) year-end budget surplus funds known as unassigned fund balance, as available, for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2026 and each fiscal year thereafter for the term of the reserve fund, (ii) transfers of excess monies from Board of Education designated reserves, (iii) amounts from budgetary appropriations from time to time, and (iv) New York State Aid received and made available by the Board of Education from time to time, all as permitted by law.





BUDGET VOTE

TUESDAY, MAY 19, 2026

NOON UNTIL 8 P.M.

Waterloo Central School District Office
109 Washington Street, Waterloo, NY 13165

VOTER REQUIREMENTS

Eligible voters must be:

- A U.S. citizen
- At least eighteen (18) years of age
- A resident of the District for at least 30 days preceding the vote

ABSENTEE AND EARLY MAIL BALLOTS

Qualified voters may apply for absentee and early mail ballots at the District Clerk's Office. Absentee and early mail vote applications must be received by the District Clerk at least seven days before the vote if the ballot is to be mailed to the absentee or early mail voter. Absentee and early mail ballots must be received by the District Clerk by 5 p.m. on May 19, 2026 to be counted.



WATERLOO CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
109 Washington Street
Waterloo, NY 13165

Non-Profit Org.
US Postage
Waterloo, NY 13165
Permit No. 50

Board of Education
Patrick Tellier, President
Coreen Lowry, Vice President
Ashley Davoli
Chersti Kuhlmann
Kyle Percey
Barbara Westerberg
Jolynn Worden

POSTAL CUSTOMER