



CAZENOVIA

CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Spring 2025
Budget Edition



2025-26 proposed budget to maintain programs and services

Cazenovia residents will vote on a \$40,446,980 budget proposal on May 20. This budget aims to maintain the district's current comprehensive educational programs and address financial considerations, while considering Cazenovia's established record of academic excellence.

Fiscal History

- Cazenovia has a history of fiscal responsibility, maintaining one of the lowest per-pupil expenditure budgets in the region and competitive tax rates. The district's tax rates are the second-lowest in Madison County and the sixth-lowest within the OCM BOCES region (2023-24 data).

Funding Adjustments

- To maintain current educational offerings, including student well-being initiatives, a 6.77% tax levy increase and the use of \$1,641,005 from the district's fund balance are proposed, reflecting rising operational costs and a minimal 1.62% increase in state aid. The limited state aid increase is a direct result of Cazenovia's combined community district wealth being 27.2% higher than the state

average, indicating a greater capacity for local funding.

Maintaining Academic Excellence

- Supports continued academic excellence where students outperform comparable districts. Features include high graduation rates, up to 2 years of college credit, 61-78% Advanced Regents, and 24 college-level courses (12 AP/12 concurrent enrollment).

Potential Budgetary Impacts

- This budget requires a supermajority vote (60% approval). Failure to approve the budget could lead to reductions in programs and services, potentially affecting academic courses, extracurricular activities, and student support.

The outcome of this vote will determine the district's financial plan and its impact on educational programs and services. Residents are encouraged to review detailed budget documents online at cazenoviacsd.com and cast their vote on May 20 at the Middle School Auxiliary Gym, from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Please remember to

VOTE

Tuesday, May 20, 2025
7 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Cazenovia Middle School

Budget Snapshot

Proposed Budget
\$40,446,980

Proposed Spending Increase
\$2,019,758 (5.26%)

Proposed Tax Levy Increase
\$1,548,081 (6.77%)

Budget Highlights

- » Investing in student well-being
- » Upholding Cazenovia's identity through strong community ties and innovative learning partnerships
- » Maintaining a curriculum designed to support the full spectrum of student needs
- » Sustaining advanced AP/CTE courses
- » Continuing extracurricular offerings at all school levels
- » Addressing funding challenges

For more
information
about the
budget,
scan here:





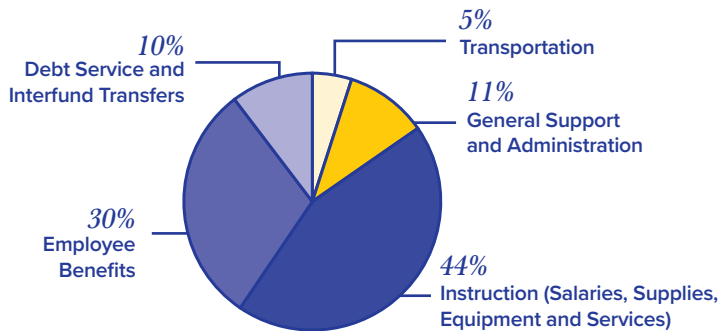
Expenditures

Breakdown by Category

All public schools in New York state are required by law to report their spending in three categories.

The budget is broadly divided into three areas: Program (student services, staff, activities, transport), Administrative (leadership, operations, board costs), and Capital (building, land, major equipment/upgrades) infrastructure upgrades.

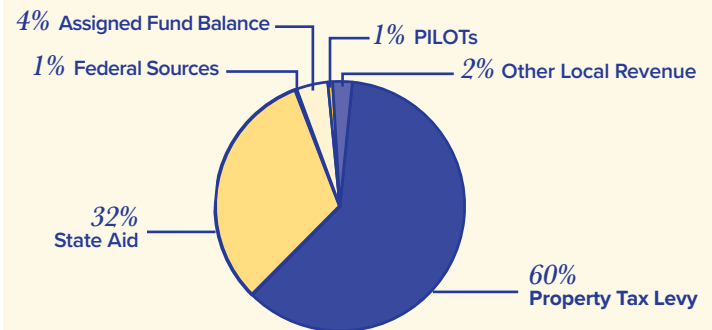
Category	2024-25 Budget	2025-26 Proposed	Change
Program	\$26,864,288	\$28,991,677	\$2,127,389
Administrative	\$4,153,891	\$4,182,160	\$28,269
Capital	\$7,409,043	\$7,273,143	-\$135,900
Total	\$38,427,222	\$40,446,980	\$2,019,758



Revenues

Breakdown by Category

Category	2024-25 Budget	2025-26 Proposed	Change
State Aid	\$12,802,430	\$13,009,718	\$207,288
Federal Sources	\$90,000	\$90,000	\$0
Property Tax Levy	\$22,882,786	\$24,430,867	\$1,548,081
PILOTs (Payments In Lieu Of Taxes)	\$237,756	\$253,899	\$16,143
Other Local Revenue (Includes: Charges, Interest, Rentals)	\$773,245	\$1,021,491	\$248,246
Use of Reserved Fund Balance	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$0
Use of Unassigned Fund Balance	\$641,005	\$641,005	\$0
Total	\$38,427,222	\$40,446,980	\$2,019,758



» \$100K CAPITAL OUTLAY PROJECT

As in years past, the 2025-26 budget includes \$100,000 for a capital project to be completed during the upcoming school year. This type of project is eligible for state Building Aid (currently 71.7%), which is reimbursed to the district in the school year following completion. By performing these projects each year, the District is able to address facility needs between major capital construction projects. This year, we are proposing to perform HVAC control systems improvements and/or door hardening and/or gym floor refinishing at the Emory Avenue Complex.



The district needs new buses to replace an aging fleet and guarantee compliance with current, essential safety standards for student transport.

On the Ballot: Propositions

» 2025-2026 PROPOSED BUDGET

Voters will be asked to consider a \$40,446,980 budget for the 2025-26 school year.

» BUS PURCHASE

Voters will be asked to vote on the purchase of four buses, at a total cost not to exceed \$658,158.

» LIBRARY BUDGET

Shall the Board of Education of the Cazenovia Central School District be authorized to levy a tax in the amount of \$525,486 for Cazenovia Public Library, and \$197,894 for the New Woodstock Free Library, said amounts to be remitted to those public libraries. The combined total levy is \$723,380.

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Overall Budget Proposal	Budget Adopted for the 2024-25 School Year	Budget Proposed for the 2025-26 School Year	Contingency Budget for the 2025-26 School Year*
Total Budgeted Amount, Not Including Separate Propositions	\$38,427,222	\$40,446,980	\$38,898,899
Increase/Decrease for the 2025-26 School Year		\$2,019,758	\$471,677
Percentage Increase/Decrease in Proposed Budget		5.26%	1.23%
Change in the Consumer Price Index		2.95%	
A. Proposed Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount	\$22,882,786	\$24,430,867	
B. Levy to Support Library Debt, if Applicable	\$0	\$0	
C. Levy for Non-Excludable Propositions, if Applicable**	\$0	\$0	
D. Total Tax Cap Reserve Amount Used to Reduce Current Year Levy	\$0	\$0	
E. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy (A + B + C – D)	\$22,882,786	\$24,430,867	\$22,882,786
F. Total Permissible Exclusions	\$1,415,836	\$1,143,299	
G. School Tax Levy Limit, <u>Excluding</u> Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$21,466,950	\$22,458,006	
H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, Excluding Levy to Support Library Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions (E – B – F + D)	\$21,466,950	\$23,287,568	
I. Difference: G – H (Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval – See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions)**	\$0	-\$829,562	
Administrative Component	\$4,153,891	\$4,182,160	\$4,009,707
Program Component	\$26,864,288	\$28,991,677	\$27,796,200
Capital Component	\$7,409,043	\$7,273,143	\$7,092,992

** Should the proposed 2025-26 budget be defeated, a contingency budget, as mandated by education law, will be adopted. This will require the elimination of all non-contingent expenses. Assumptions include cutting non-mandated programs like extracurriculars and electives, minimizing administrative costs, freezing non-mandated hiring, reducing supply purchases, deferring non-emergency capital projects, and potential reductions in instructional and support services.

** 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)

Description	Amount
PURCHASE FOUR (4) REPLACEMENT SCHOOL BUSES	\$658,158
Under the Budget Proposed for the 2025-26 School Year	
Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings ¹	\$497

The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2025-26 by the qualified voters of the Cazenovia Central School District, will be held at Middle School Aux Gym in said district on Tuesday, May 20, 2025, from 7:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m., 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.

Budget Considerations for Long-Term Financial Stability

The proposed tax levy aligns with a five-year financial forecast for long-term fiscal stability.

- » It aims to protect the district's strong credit rating, potentially leading to lower interest rates for taxpayers.
- » It prioritizes the preservation of core programming.
- » It addresses funding challenges and maintains a healthy fund balance.
- » It's structured to avoid a "moderate fiscal stress" designation, which is based on state financial indicators.



Tax Rate Estimate

School taxes paid by property owners are calculated using tax rates, which are determined by the school tax levy along with assessment and equalization rates set by municipalities.

Township	Actual	Projected	\$ Change	% Change
Cazenovia	\$20.43	\$21.81	\$1.38	6.8%
Fenner	\$22.67	\$24.20	\$1.53	6.8%
Georgetown	\$18.13	\$19.36	\$1.23	6.8%
Lincoln	\$22.67	\$24.20	\$1.53	6.8%
Nelson	\$22.67	\$24.20	\$1.53	6.8%
Pompey	\$23.03	\$24.59	\$1.56	6.8%
Sullivan	\$20.87	\$22.29	\$1.41	6.8%

Example: Town of Cazenovia

Assessed Value	STAR Exemption	Taxed Value	
\$100,000	\$24,300	\$75,700	
Tax Bill Amount			
2024-25	2025-26	\$ Change	% Change
\$1,546.55	\$1651.02	\$104.47	6.8%



CAZENOVIA

CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

District Office: 31 Emory Ave.
Cazenovia, NY 13035

Non-Profit
Organization
PAID
Cazenovia, NY
13035
Permit #32

Board Members

JoAnne Race, **President**
Meghan Kelly, **Vice President**
Travis Barr
Judith Hight
Ron Luteran
Jennifer Parmalee
Jan Woodworth
BOE Member email:
boe@caz.cnyric.org

Emily Ayres, District Clerk

*Produced in cooperation with Capital Region
BOCES Engagement & Development Services.*



Budget Newsletter



VOTE

**Tuesday, May 20, 2025
7 a.m. to 9 p.m.**

Cazenovia Middle School, Auxiliary Gym

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Board of Education Candidates

Residents will elect two members to the Cazenovia Central School District Board of Education. Three candidates filed nominating petitions. The two candidates with the highest number of votes will fill the available seats. Each term will run from July 1, 2025, to June 30, 2028.

- » **Judith Hight**
- » **Jennifer Parmalee**
- » **Danielle Synborski**

Voter Information

Who may vote?

Per New York state law, a qualified voter is a United States citizen, at least 18 years old, a school district resident for at least 30 days prior to the meeting at which he or she offers to vote, and who is not otherwise prohibited from voting under the provisions of section 5-106 of the Election Law.

Absentee and early mail ballots

Applications to obtain an absentee ballot or early vote by mail ballot can be found on the district website or by visiting the District Office during normal business hours. In order for your ballot to count, it must be received by the District Clerk (in its signed, dated, and sealed official envelope) by 5 p.m. on May 20, 2025 (by mail or in person).

Please call (315) 655-1317 or email District Clerk Emily Ayres at eyayres@caz.cnyric.org with any questions.