

Pawling

CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT



BUDGET NEWSLETTER 2023

VOTE MAY 16, 2023 FROM 6 AM TO 9 PM

Dear Pawling Community,

Just last spring, I was one of several school board members to symbolically break ground at the site of what would become our multi-sport athletic field and track. Today, I am one of the many fans who have been watching PCSD student-athletes play lacrosse on the now completed turf field. Later this spring, our nationally recognized track and field team will finally have a home track. I'm pleased to share that we are well into Phase II of our capital project, and have begun renovations at Pawling High School to build a new computer innovation lab, musical arts wing, and ground-level cafeteria and outdoor courtyard.

When Pawling voters approved the three capital project propositions in December 2020, the Board of Education promised the community that these improvements would not increase the capital portion of the tax levy or budget. We have kept that promise, and the proposed 2023-2024 budget marks the third consecutive year that the capital portion of the budget is actually lower than the 2020 baseline. Prudent planning has also kept the proposed tax levy increase below the allowable limit or tax cap.

The proposed school district budget, detailed in this newsletter, maintains and/or enhances all of our academic, co-curricular, and extracurricular student programs. It provides multiple opportunities for students to engage in rigorous coursework at both the middle school and high school levels, and expands applied studies in STEAM. The proposed budget also continues our partnership with Astor Children's Services to support our students' mental health needs.

In addition to the budget proposition, this year, there is a second proposition to create a Capital Reserve Fund for future transportation-related requirements. The proposition is explained in detail in this newsletter. There are two open seats for the Pawling school board, and candidate names are listed on the back page.

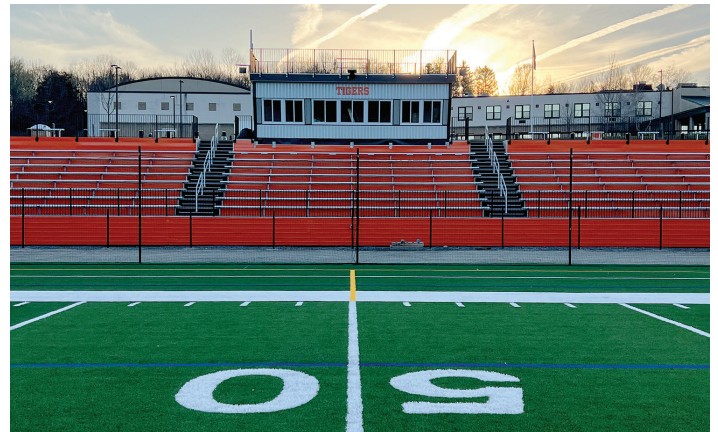
I encourage everyone in the community to vote on May 16th.

Sincerely,

Karen Burka, President
Pawling Board of Education

PAWLING CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
Student Showcase
A DISPLAY OF PreK-12 STUDENT ART AND PROJECTS

Please join us!
TUESDAY, MAY 16TH - 4:30PM TO 7PM
AT PAWLING ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



PCSD BUDGET 2023-2024

VOTERS WILL BE ASKED TO DECIDE THE FOLLOWING:

Proposition 1 – 2023-2024 Budget – \$45,043,577

Proposition 2 – Capital Reserve Fund

SHALL the Board of Education of the Pawling Central School District be authorized to (1) create a Capital Reserve Fund for the purpose of financing the construction of, and general improvements, reconstruction, renovations or additions to, the District's buildings and grounds, including site work and the acquisition of original furnishings, equipment, machinery or apparatus required for the purpose for which such buildings are to be used, and for the purchase of vehicles for student transportation and any infrastructure related thereto; (2) fund said reserve to the ultimate amount of \$10,000,000; (3) annually deposit into the Capital Reserve Fund such portion of the General Fund, such as unallocated fund balance, other reserve funds, etc., as determined by the Board of Education. The probable duration of the Capital Reserve Fund is ten (10) years.

What is Proposition 2?

Proposition 2 requests voter authorization to establish a Capital Reserve that may be used, among other things, toward the purchase of zero emission vehicles and their corresponding infrastructure. The Capital Reserve may be funded over a period of 10 years to a maximum amount of \$10 million.

Why is this being proposed?

Back in 2017, Pawling residents voted to establish a capital reserve for the purpose of upgrading our buildings and grounds. Over subsequent years the Board of Education funded that reserve and we used those funds to offset a portion of the cost for the capital project that was approved by the voters in December of 2020.

Governor Hochul is requiring all school districts to convert their bus fleets to zero emission vehicles. Pursuant to this directive, beginning in 2027, school districts may no longer purchase gasoline or diesel powered buses. By 2035, our entire fleet must be converted to zero emission vehicles. This new Capital Reserve would provide a source of funds for future vehicle purchases.

We will take advantage of any opportunities for funding sources, such as grants, for vehicle purchases, but this Capital Reserve would give us an alternative method to offset the anticipated increases for bus purchases.

The establishment of capital reserves must be approved by the voters, and the use of any funds from a capital reserve must also be approved by the voters. Once a capital reserve is established, the Board of Education has the authority to fund that reserve with operating savings from annual budgets.

If the mandate for zero emission buses is modified or eliminated, Proposition 2 is worded in such a way that would allow the use of the funds for other capital improvements to the School District's facilities. In all instances, expenditures from this fund will have to be approved by the voters.

CAPITAL PORTION OF THE TAX LEVY

During our conversations around the recently approved capital project, it was noted that the project would not increase the capital portion of the tax levy. The capital portion of the tax levy is the capital exclusion, which shows up in our tax levy limit calculation twice – once for each fiscal year. The 2020-2021 capital exclusions in the amount of \$2,306,343 represents our baseline. The allowable capital exclusions for 2023-2024 in the amount of \$1,708,909 actually represents a decrease of \$597,434 from the baseline year.



The 2023-2024 Property Tax Cap for Pawling CSD is as follows:

Prior Year Tax Levy	\$30,232,000
x Tax Base Growth Factor	1.0000
Tax Levy Plus Growth Factor	\$30,232,000
Plus Prior Year PILOT	\$49,433
Minus 2022-2023 Prior Year Capital Exclusions	\$1,667,042
Adjusted Prior Year Tax Levy	\$28,614,391
x Allowable Levy Growth Factor	1.0200
Tax Levy Limit Before Exclusions	\$29,186,679
Minus PILOT receivable	\$49,433
Plus Allowable 2022-2023 Capital Exclusions	\$1,708,909
Allowable Tax Levy for 2023-2024	\$30,846,155
Percentage Allowable Increase in Tax Levy	2.03%
Actual Tax Levy for 2023-2024	\$30,824,155
Percentage Actual Increase in Tax Levy	1.96%

FUND BALANCE 2022-2023

Restricted Fund Balance

Capital Reserve	\$1,500,628
Unemployment Reserve	\$50,000
Insurance Reserve	\$855,000
Reserve for Tax Certiorari	\$928,189
Reserve for Employee Benefits	\$ 573,556
Reserve for ERS	\$3,090,676
Reserve for TRS	\$996,810
Assigned Fund Balance	\$2,085,050
Unrestricted Fund Balance (at 4%)	\$ 1,674,018

MORE DETAILED BUDGET INFORMATION MAY BE FOUND AT:
www.pawlingschools.org, Public Library website, Pawling Chamber of
Commerce website, request by emailing generosom@pcsdny.org

OVERALL BUDGET PROPOSAL	Budget Adopted for the 2022-2023 School Year	Budget Proposed for the 2023-2024 School Year	Contingency Budget for the 2023-2024 School Year
Total Budget Amount, Not Including Separate Propositions	\$41,980,503	\$45,043,577	\$44,161,339
Increase/Decrease for the 2023-24 School Year		\$3,063,074	\$2,180,836
Percentage Increase/Decrease in Proposed Budget		7.3%	5.2%
Change in Consumer Price Index		8.0%	
A. Proposed Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount	\$30,232,000	\$30,824,155	
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 Levy	\$0	\$0	
E. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy (A + B + C - D)	\$30,232,000	\$30,824,155	\$30,133,217
F. Total Permissible Exclusions	\$1,667,042	\$1,708,909	
G. School Tax Levy Limit, <u>Excluding</u> Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$28,598,120	\$29,137,246	
H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, <u>Excluding</u> Levy to Support Library Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions (E - B - F + D)	\$28,564,958	\$29,115,246	
I. Difference: G - H (Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval - See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions)	\$33,162	\$22,000	
Administrative Component (General Support & Building Administration)	\$4,294,830	\$4,610,833	\$4,578,732
Program Component (Programs and Services)	\$30,804,525	\$33,001,432	\$32,930,432
Capital Component (Operations & Maintenance, Interfund Transfers and Debt Service)	\$6,881,148	\$7,431,313	\$6,652,175

Statement of assumptions made in projecting a contingency budget for the 2023-24 school year, should the proposed budget be defeated: We would be unable to continue our established practice of replacing school buses on an annual basis. We would eliminate the purchase of four buses, but this would be partially offset by the need to increase the budget for bus repairs and parts to accommodate an older fleet. The interfund transfer to replace our bus lift would be eliminated. We would also eliminate other non-contingency equipment, non-contingency salary increases, non-mandatory overtime, and use of facilities may need to be restricted.

Under the Budget Proposed for the 2023-24 School Year

Establishment of New Capital Reserve	\$0
Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings	\$889

**2023-2024
PROPOSED BUDGET
\$45,043,577**

**2023-2024 TAX LEVY
\$30,824,155
1.96%***

* Below the allowable levy limit



**VOTE
MAY 16
2023**

**Pawling Elementary School
Haight Street | 6 am to 9 pm**



Follow our district on Facebook and Twitter @PawlingCSD3

Postal Patron

BOARD OF EDUCATION CANDIDATES

The following candidates are running
for two seats on the school board:

PREETI GOVINDARAJAN
SANDRO F. ORÉ

VOTE MAY 16, 2023

Pawling Elementary School, Haight Street
6 am - 9 pm

PAWLING SCHOOLS ADMINISTRATION

Superintendent
Ms. Kim Fontana

*Assistant Superintendent
for Finance*
Mrs. Marianne Heslin

*Assistant Superintendent
for Instruction*
Dr. Debra Kirkhus

BOARD OF EDUCATION

President
Ms. Karen Burka

Vice President
Mrs. Deborah Klein

Board Members
Mr. Guido Garbarino
Mrs. Preeti Govindarajan
Mr. Zack Graczyk
Mr. Sandro Oré
Mrs. Jennifer Walsh

PCSD NEWSLETTER

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PNW BOCES
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ON FACEBOOK
AND TWITTER
@PAWLINGCSD3**



PAWLING HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 2023 VALEDICTORIAN AND SALUTATORIAN

Magnolia Garbarino (left) is the Pawling High School
Class of 2023 Valedictorian. She will attend the
University of Tulsa and plans to study Biological
Sciences and an BS/MD Program.

Salutatorian Madalyn Henke has not decided on her
college choice but plans to major in Finance.



Photo: Anjanet Riina

