



# OSWEGO CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

*We educate, inspire, and empower all students*

# BUDGET NEWSLETTER

## MAY 2024

WHEN & WHERE TO VOTE

OVERVIEW OF THE 2024-25 BUDGET

SCHOOL VOTE

PROPOSITIONS AND CANDIDATES

BUDGET NOTICE & BASIC STAR

**Dear Oswego City School District community members,**

Let me begin by expressing my gratitude to the students, families, faculty, staff, and community partners for your ongoing support for the well-being of all in our school community throughout the 2023-2024 school year.

A school district budget should be designed to meet the unique needs of all its students and address the concerns and the priorities of the school community. The 2024-2025 proposed budget aligns resources to focus on student learning from pre-K through grade 12 while supporting all curricular areas. This budget also supports the priority areas of providing a safe learning environment, supporting student emotional and mental wellness, while maintaining all current levels of programming.

The school budget is the biggest investment the community collectively makes with its tax dollars. I want to thank the Board of Education for their vision and work to ensure our students and staff have the resources necessary to move the district forward.

Oswego City School District's \$112,153,995 proposed 2024-2025 budget, adopted by the Board of Education on April 16, reflects careful stewardship and foresight on the long-term fiscal health of the district and future needs of our students. This includes a \$100,000 capital outlay project to address some facility security upgrades at Charles E. Riley Elementary School.

This budget was especially difficult due to the loss of the federal stimulus money that had funded 27 positions in the district, including school counselors, special education teachers, and a psychologist. The 24-25 proposed budget is able to maintain these positions and add a district psychologist and social worker, which will advance our goal to better meet the emotional and mental wellness needs of our students. In our effort to prioritize our school's safety, we have budgeted for two additional School Resource Officers.

The district is able to maintain all programs and activities and expand the resources dedicated to our students' mental wellness and the safety and security of our school community with a levy increase of 3.17%, which is within the tax cap.

The Board of Education and I encourage our entire community to vote on the school budget Tuesday, May 21, from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Sincerely,

**Raymond W. Kilmer III, Ed.D**  
**Superintendent of Schools**

## BUDGET AT A GLANCE

### PROPOSED BUDGET

\$112,153,995

### TAX LEVY CHANGE

\$856,347 • 3.17%

### BUDGET VOTE

**Tuesday, May 21, 2024**

Polls Open 9 a.m. – 9 p.m.

### FAST FACTS:

✓ **SCHOOL SAFETY AND SECURITY**

Increases school security adding  
2 Oswego City PD SROs

✓ **SOCIAL /EMOTIONAL SUPPORTS**

Adds a district psychologist and a social worker  
to meet the social and emotional needs  
of our students

✓ **MAINTAIN PROGRAMMING**

Maintains 5 counselors, 1 psychologist,  
4 special education teachers, and TAs  
funded through expired federal grants

**OSWEGO SCHOOL BUDGET VOTE & BOARD ELECTION TUESDAY, MAY 21, 2024**

# OVERVIEW OF 2024-2025 BUDGET

## REVENUE

	2024-2025 PROPOSED BUDGET	2023-2024 BUDGET	\$ CHANGE
Property Taxes	27,883,685	27,027,338	856,347
PILOTS	25,244,378	25,244,378	0
State Aid	56,905,932	53,225,626	3,680,306
Other Sources	2,120,000	2,090,000	30,000
Fund Balance/Reserves	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>112,153,995</b>	<b>107,587,342</b>	<b>4,566,653</b>

## EXPENDITURE COMPONENT BUDGET

	2024-2025 PROPOSED BUDGET	2023-2024 BUDGET	\$ CHANGE
Administrative	10,615,750	10,628,844	-13,094
Capital	17,406,318	15,819,702	1,586,616
Program	84,131,927	81,138,796	2,993,131
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>112,153,995</b>	<b>107,587,342</b>	<b>4,566,653</b>

## BASIC STAR EXEMPTION IMPACT

Three factors that determine the tax rate on your home include tax levy, equalization rates and property assessment. The tax levy is set by the school district in May; equalization rates are established by the New York State Office of Real Property Services in August and each respective town establishes assessments and equalization rates, but these are just estimates. Therefore, tax rates are not finalized until late August, at which time school tax bills are printed and mailed. Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings Based on a Hypothetical Home Within the School District with a Full Value of One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000).

	Budget Proposed for the 2024-2025 School Year
Basic STAR Tax Savings <sup>1</sup>	<b>\$520</b>
<small><sup>1</sup>The basic school tax relief (STAR) exemption is authorized by section 425 of the Real Property Tax Law.</small>	

## POLLS WILL BE OPEN FROM 9 A.M. - 9 P.M.

On Tuesday, May 21, voters throughout the Oswego City School District will be going to the polls to decide upon the proposed 2024-2025 budget and elect two members to the Oswego City School District Board of Education.

### Election District No. 1

Location of polling place:  
SCRIBA FIRE STATION

5618 State Route 104E  
Oswego, NY 13126

Who will vote here: Scriba and Volney  
(Oswego City School District residents only)

### Election District No.2

Location of polling place:  
ANTHONY J. CRISAFULLI RINK  
(FORT RINK)

32 Fort Ontario Road  
Oswego, NY 13126

Who will vote here:  
Ward 2, Ward 4 and Ward 6

### Election District No.3

Location of polling place:  
ELIM GRACE CHURCH

340 W. First Street  
Oswego, NY 13126

Who will vote here:  
Ward 1, Ward 3, Ward 5  
and Ward 7

### Election District No. 4

Location of polling place:  
OSWEGO TOWN HALL

2320 County Route 7  
Oswego, NY 13126

Who will vote here: Oswego Town  
and Town Of Minetto  
(Oswego City School District residents only)

# Can I Vote?

### TO BE ENTITLED TO VOTE IN THE OSWEGO CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT A PERSON MUST:

1. Be a citizen of the United States
2. Be 18 years of age or older
3. Be a resident of New York State and the Oswego City School District for 30 days preceding the May 21, 2024 voting day
4. Be a registered voter in their school election district

Anyone with questions regarding voting and budget information should contact Superintendent Raymond W. Kilmer Ed.D. at (315) 341-2001 or rkilmer@oswego.org, or District Clerk Diane Schrader at (315) 341-2001 or dschrade@oswego.org.

# SCHOOL DISTRICT VOTE: MAY 21, 2024

## Proposition No. 1 Annual Budget of the School District for 2024-2025

To approve the Annual Budget of \$112,153,995 for the School District for the 2024-2025 fiscal year.

## Proposition No. 2 Student Representative

Shall there be a high school student to serve as an ex-officio member of the Board of Education, and thereby entitled to sit with the Board members at all of its public meetings, and participate therein, but without authority to vote on matters before the Board or to attend executive session?

## Proposition No. 3 Purchase of Student Transportation Vehicles

Shall the bond resolution adopted by the Board of Education of the City School District of the City of Oswego (the "School District") on March 19, 2024, which authorizes (a) the purchase of student transportation vehicles, at a total combined maximum estimated cost not to exceed \$1,500,000; (b) the issuance of up to \$1,400,000 serial bonds of the School District to pay the cost thereof; (c) the pledge of School District's faith and credit for payment of bond anticipation notes and such bonds; and (d) the levy of taxes on the taxable real property in the School District to be collected in annual installments to pay debt service on such obligations, be approved?

## Proposition No. 4 Oswego City Public Library

Shall the Oswego City School District Public Library Board of Trustees be authorized to levy and collect an annual tax, separate and apart from the annual school district budget, in the amount of \$1,444,531.94 (an increase of \$28,324.16) for the continuing support and maintenance of the Oswego CSD Public Library, with this appropriated amount to be the annual appropriation until thereafter modified by a future vote by the taxpayers of the Oswego City School District?



### Candidates for the Board of Education Vote for up to two

**Sean  
Ohnmacht**

**Tom  
Ciappa**

### Library Trustee Vote for up to two

**Marie (Molly)  
Clark**

**Matthew  
Beaudry**

## NON-DISCRIMINATION NOTICE

The Oswego City School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age in its programs, activities, employment, and admissions, and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Jacklyn Beck, District Coordinator. She can be reached by calling (315) 341-2014 or by mail at 1 Buccaneer Boulevard Oswego, NY 13126. Inquiries concerning the application of the OCSO non-discrimination policies may also be referred to the U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights (OCR), 32 Old Slip, 26th Floor, New York, NY 10005, telephone (646) 428-3800 (voice) or (800) 877-8339 (TTY).



1 Buccaneer Boulevard • Oswego, NY 13126

**BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Dr. James MacKenzie, *President*  
 Mr. Tom Ciappa, *Vice President*  
 Mr. Sean Callen  
 Mrs. Julie Chetney  
 Mr. David Crisafulli  
 Ms. Kristin Norfleet  
 Mr. Sean Ohnmacht  
 Michael Paestella, *Student Representative*

**SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS**

Dr. Raymond Kilmer III

Non-Profit Organization  
 Carrier Route Sort  
**BULK RATE  
 POSTAGE  
 PAID**  
 Permit No. 315  
 Oswego, NY 13126

# Postal Patron

## 2024-25 SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET NOTICE

Overall Budget Proposal	Budget Adjusted for the 2023-24 School Year**	Budget Proposed for the 2024-25 School Year	Contingency Budget for the 2024-25 School Year *
Total Budgeted Amount, Not Including Separate Propositions	\$ 107,222,860	\$ 112,153,995	\$ 111,297,649
Increase/Decrease for the 2024-25 School Year		\$ 4,931,135	\$ 4,074,789
Percentage Increase/Decrease in Proposed Budget		4.60 %	3.80%
Change in the Consumer Price Index		4.12%	
A. Proposed Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount	\$ 27,027,338	\$ 27,883,685	
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)	\$ 27,027,338	\$ 27,883,685	\$ 27,027,338
F. Total Permissible Exclusions	\$ 3,278,796	\$ 2,919,414	
G. School Tax Levy Limit, <u>Excluding</u> Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$ 23,748,542	\$ 24,955,009	
H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, <u>Excluding</u> Levy to Support Library Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions (E – B – F + D)	\$23,748,542	\$ 24,955,009	
I. Difference: G – H (Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval – See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions) **	\$ 0	\$ 0	
Administrative Component	\$ 10,264,362	\$10,615,750	\$ 10,505,000
Program Component	\$ 81,138,796	\$ 84,131,927	\$ 83,485,581
Capital Component	\$ 15,819,702	\$ 17,406,318	\$ 17,306,318

Should the Budget be defeated, all new equipment that does not constitute ordinary contingent expenses will be eliminated. These include, no new capital expenditures except in emergency situations; no non-essential maintenance would be allowed and outside organizations would have to pay for facility use.

\*\*2023-24 Adjusted budget total of \$107,222,860 includes adjusted appropriations for unexpected expenses in the District's self-funded plan and other encumbrances.