

EAGLE SPOTLIGHT

GALWAY CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWS

BUDGET 2021-22



Budget Hearing

Thursday, May 6, 2021
6:30 p.m., High School Library

Voting Day

Tuesday, May 18, 2021
10 a.m. - 8 p.m.

- Proposed School Budget
- 2 School Board Positions
- Small Capital Project

Eligibility to Vote

- Citizen of the United States,
- 18 years of age or older on the day of the vote,
- Resident within the district for a period of 30 days prior to the vote
- Registered to vote

Register to Vote

If you are registered to vote in the general election, then you are registered to vote in the school election. If you are unsure if you are registered to vote, please call the Board of Elections Office for the county in which you reside.

Absentee Ballots

Absentee ballots are available to registered voters of the Galway Central School District who will not be able to vote on Election Day. The ballot application, with instructions, is available at www.galwaycsd.org or by contacting the District Clerk, Linda Dumblewski, at 518-882-1033 Ext. 3224.

Vote Tuesday, May 18, 2021

The Galway Central School District Board of Education has adopted a fiscally responsible budget that is centered on creating well-rounded students by maintaining existing core programs and building programs around student wants/needs to provide individual student success each academic year. To achieve this goal, the Board focused on the following priorities when developing the budget:

1. Fiscal stability and sustainability
2. Maintain core program
3. Assess student wants/needs
4. Health and safety of students and faculty
5. Safe facilities

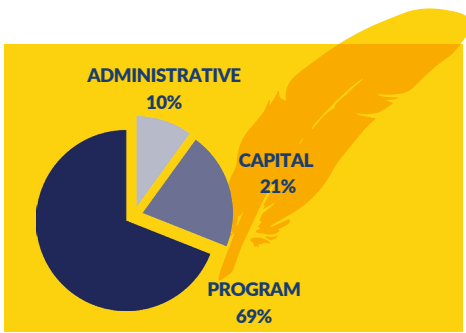
Galway CSD is proposing a budget of \$23,452,247 for the 2021-22 school year. This is an overall budget-to-budget increase of \$503,416 or 2.19%, however, the tax levy increase will be \$81,756 or 0.74%, which is equal to the district's maximum allowable tax levy cap.

District finances are in excellent shape. As you will see on the Revenue Summary on page 3, NYS Aid has been restored. As a result, the district is able to preserve student programs and permanent staff while being less reliant on the Fund Balance. The proposed 2021-22 budget supports all current programming and includes:

- An additional full-day prekindergarten class for a total of two
- Continuation of smaller class sizes at Joseph Henry Elementary School
- Two 72-passenger replacement buses
- Flooring replacement in the Junior/Senior High School science wing that was not included in the previous capital project
- Restroom renovations near the auditorium
- PPE and cleaning supplies related to COVID-19

Residents will also vote on a small Capital Improvement project (please see the information inside this newsletter) and elect two members to the Board of Education.

We encourage you to vote on Tuesday, May 18, 2021 in the Galway Junior/Senior High School gym between the hours of 10 a.m. and 8 p.m. As a reminder, all absentee ballots must be returned to the district by 5 p.m. on Tuesday, May 18, 2021.



Budget Q & A

If the district is keeping programs and permanent staff, why are there decreases in the Administrative portion of the budget?

The budget for the 2020-21 school year was revised during the beginning of the pandemic. At that time, we were anticipating a 20% reduction in State Aid and an increase in costs in response to the pandemic. The 2021-22 budget was updated to more closely match actual expenditures and reappropriate where needed.

Why aren't we using the Bus Reserves for the Bus Purchase?

The district was extremely frugal during the 2020-21 school year. There were many unknowns regarding the pandemic, and we were unsure if State Aid was going to come through. After learning that State Aid was restored and increased, we are able to fund the buses in the budget.

Why is the library debt included on the School District Budget Notice?

The Galway Public Library requested that the levy for the library debt payments be included on the school property tax bills, and Galway Central School District agreed per Education Law Article 5 Section 260 Subdivision 10. As a result, residents will notice on the School District Budget Notice and Property Tax Report Card a tax levy to support library debt in "Row B." The library debt is included in the school district budget total. The funds collected for the library debt directly offset the debt payment the district makes on behalf of the library. The added \$91,337 to cover the library debt brings the total levy to \$11,221,259.

Expenditure Summary

Estimated Expenditures by Function

ADMINISTRATIVE	2020-21	2021-22	Change
Board of Education	\$22,370	\$21,370	(\$1,000)
Central Administration	\$214,844	\$206,900	(\$7,944)
Business/Finance/Audit	\$359,406	\$362,439	\$3,033
Legal Services	\$75,000	\$75,000	\$0
Personnel Services	\$2,850	\$2,850	\$0
Public Information	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$0
Printing/Mailing/Data	\$235,000	\$226,500	(\$8,500)
Unallocated Insurance	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$0
School Association Dues	\$12,000	\$12,000	\$0
BOCES Admin.	\$138,000	\$138,677	\$677
Supervision Regular School	\$466,150	\$420,150	(\$46,000)
Curriculum Development	\$103,050	\$107,050	\$4,000
Planning and Evaluation	\$7,069	\$6,702	(\$367)
Staff Development	\$113,000	\$113,000	\$0
Employee Benefits	\$560,440	\$496,825	(\$63,614)
SUBTOTAL	\$2,459,179	\$2,339,463	(\$119,645)

PROGRAM	2020-21	2021-22	Change
Regular Instruction	\$5,710,571	\$5,911,857	\$201,286
Special Education	\$2,085,990	\$2,103,638	\$17,648
Occupational Education	\$564,944	\$504,387	(\$60,557)
Special School Programs	\$44,000	\$44,500	\$500
Library/Media/Technology	\$965,279	\$974,480	\$9,201
Pupil Services Group	\$538,310	\$547,882	\$9,572
Co-Curricular	\$69,200	\$69,200	\$0
Interscholastic Athletics	\$228,600	\$272,100	\$43,500
Transportation	\$1,082,380	\$1,085,450	\$3,070
Garage	\$214,050	\$214,050	\$0
Contract Transportation	\$0	\$1,930	\$1,930
Employee Benefits	\$4,228,777	\$4,301,175	\$72,398
Other Fund Transfers	\$30,000	\$80,000	\$50,000
SUBTOTAL	\$15,762,101	\$16,110,649	\$348,548

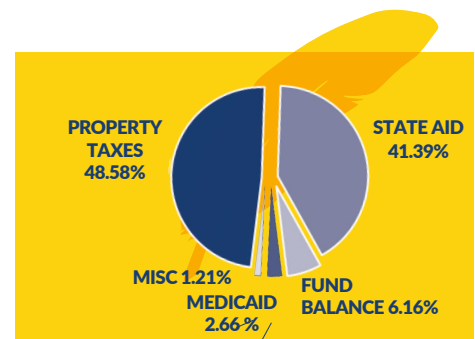
CAPITAL	2020-21	2021-22	Change
Operations and Utilities	\$1,067,950	\$1,090,950	\$23,000
Maintenance	\$453,260	\$520,260	\$67,000
Refund of Taxes	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$0
District Bus Purchase	\$0	\$272,200	\$272,200
Employee Benefits	\$305,695	\$337,912	\$32,216
Debt Service	\$2,799,646	\$2,679,813	(\$119,833)
Transfer to Capital Fund	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$0
SUBTOTAL	\$4,727,551	\$5,002,135	\$274,584
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$22,948,831	\$23,452,247	\$503,416

Revenue Summary

Estimated Revenues

	2020-21	2021-22	Change
Real Property Tax	\$11,104,302	\$11,179,861	\$75,559
State Aid*	\$8,117,839	\$8,620,937	\$503,098
NYS Building Aid	\$2,076,441	\$2,132,063	\$55,622
Miscellaneous	\$275,650	\$196,000	(\$79,650)
Fund Balance Allocation	\$1,374,599	\$1,323,386	(\$51,213)
TOTAL REVENUES	\$22,948,831	\$23,452,247	\$503,416

*Includes Federal CARES Act Stimulus for 2020-21



Propositions

#1: Proposed School Budget

Shall the proposed budget of expenditures for the Galway Central School District for the 2021-22 school year in the amount of \$23,452,247, and for the purposes shown in the statement of estimated expenditures adopted by the Board of Education, be approved and the amount thereof be raised by a levy of a tax upon the taxable property of the school district, after first deducting monies available from State Aid and other sources as provided by law?

#2: Small Capital Project

Shall the Board of Education of the Galway Central School District be authorized to: (1) reconstruct and renovate school buildings, undertake site work, and acquire original furnishings, equipment, machinery, or apparatus required for the purpose for which such buildings are to be used and pay costs incidental thereto, at a maximum cost of \$3,100,000; (2) expend \$100,000 from the Capital Reserve to pay a portion of the costs of such purpose; (3) levy the necessary tax therefore, to be levied and collected in annual installments in such years and in such amounts as may be determined by the Board of Education taking into account state aid and the amounts expended from the Capital Reserve Fund; and (4) in anticipation of the collection of such tax, issue bonds and notes of the School District at one time or from time to time in the principal amount not to exceed \$3,000,000, and the levy of a tax to pay the interest on said obligations when due, be approved?

School District Budget Notice

Overall Budget Proposal	Budget Adopted for 2020-21 School Year	Budget Proposed for 2021-22 School Year	Contingency Budget 2021-22 School Year*
Total Budgeted Amount, Not Including Separate Propositions	\$22,948,831	\$23,452,247	\$ 23,044,047
Increase for the 2021-22 School Year		\$503,416	\$ 95,216
Percentage Increase in Proposed Budget		2.19%	0.41%
Change in the Consumer Price Index (CPI)		1.23%	
A. Proposed Tax Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount	\$11,048,166	\$11,129,922	
B. Levy to Support Library Debt, if Applicable	\$0	\$91,337	
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)	\$11,048,166	\$11,221,259	\$ 11,048,166
F. Permissible Exclusions to the School Tax Levy Limit	\$695,174	\$578,535	
G. School Tax Levy Limit, Excluding Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$10,593,505	\$10,557,702	
H. Total Proposed Tax Levy for School Purposes, Excluding Permissible Exclusions and Levy for Library Debt, Plus Prior Year Tax Cap Reserve (E - B - F + D)	\$10,352,992	\$10,551,387	
I. Difference: (G - H); (Negative Value Requires 60% Voter Approval - See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions)**	\$240,513	\$6,315	
Administrative component	\$2,236,060	\$2,339,463	\$ 2,329,463
Program component	\$16,085,220	\$16,110,649	\$16,047,649
Capital component	\$4,627,551	\$5,002,135	\$4,666,935

* Pursuant to Section 2023 of the Education Law, should the proposed budget be defeated, certain equipment in the capital and program components and certain contractual and supplies in the administrative component would be reduced.

** Separate propositions that are not included in the Total Budgeted Amount: Capital Project Referendum \$3,100,000

Basic STAR Exemption Impact

The Estimated Basic STAR exemption savings is based on a hypothetical home within the school district with a full value of one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000). The basic school tax relief (STAR) exemption is authorized by section 425 of the Real Property Tax Law.	Budget Proposed for the 2021-22 School Year
Basic STAR tax savings	\$516

CAPITAL PROJECT

GALWAY CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

PROPOSED MAY 18, 2021



GALWAY
Central School District

Small Capital Improvement Project 2021

The Galway Board of Education Facilities Committee is charged with overseeing the regular operation of the school district's physical plant. In carrying out this responsibility, the Facilities Committee develops and implements a comprehensive long-range facilities development plan that is re-evaluated at least annually, along with a five-year capital facilities plan that is based on the Building Condition Survey (BCS) that NYS requires districts to complete every five years.

"The Facilities Committee is always looking ahead and planning for the repair or replacement of major items that are above and beyond the scope of the annual school budget," said Superintendent Brita Donovan. "The Committee keeps track of the age, capacity, use, and size of each building and the useful life of infrastructure."

District Architects CSArch completed a BCS at the end of 2020. The next step is the development of the five-year capital facilities plan. There are however several items that have been characterized as immediate needs that should be addressed as soon as possible.

"Although we recently completed a capital improvement project that touched nearly every corner of the school, there are items that are urgently needed at the Bus Garage," said Dr. Donovan.

"Our most recent annual inspection from the Department of Environmental Conservation found 29 violations due in large part to aging underground fuel tanks and fueling island," said Galway Business Administrator Jacqlene McAllister. "We can't get insurance on the underground tanks right now because they are over 20 years old."

The Facilities Committee plans Capital Projects to coincide with retiring debt. "This helps the district maintain a tax levy that is stable and predictable while keeping our buildings and grounds in optimal condition," said Mrs. McAllister. "The district will have approximately \$375,000 in retiring debt over the next four years."

The improvements proposed in the \$3.1 million Capital Project will assist Galway's excellent Mechanics Scott Holbrook and Denis Ryder in their efforts to keep our fleet, drivers, and students safe.

To put into perspective what Mr. Holbrook and Mr. Ryder accomplish using aging and cumbersome lifts – each year the New York State Department of Transportation (DOT) conducts at least two safety inspections on every school bus in the district's fleet. DOT tracks the results of these inspections, and at the conclusion of each year, they publish a carrier profile. Galway

Central School is rated as Preferred Carrier. Last year, Galway's fleet of 36 units scored 100% on 77 out of 78 inspections, ending the year with a 98.72% pass rate.

The proposed project will contain minor renovations to areas that were not touched in the 2016 Capital Project but also need immediate improvement. These include restrooms near offices and flooring by the entrance to the auditorium and gymnasium. This helps the district maximize State Aid while addressing needs inside the building.

The five-year capital facilities plan will be completed by the end of the year. Future items to be addressed may include: replacement of HVAC, floors, ceilings, and lighting inside the Bus Garage; renovation of maintenance office and shop in the Junior/Senior High School; replacement of the district's well; and replacement of the track. These items would be put to voters in 2026.

"Knowing that we expect to have enough work for another capital project within the next 4-5 years, we didn't want to use all the funds in the Capital Reserve Fund for this \$3.1 million project," said Mrs. McAllister. "The Board is very conservative in planning, and they are good stewards of the community's investment in the school."

The \$3.1 million Capital Project Will Include



Replace underground gas and diesel tanks, along with fuel oil heating tanks, at bus garage (installed in 2000) with above ground storage tanks.



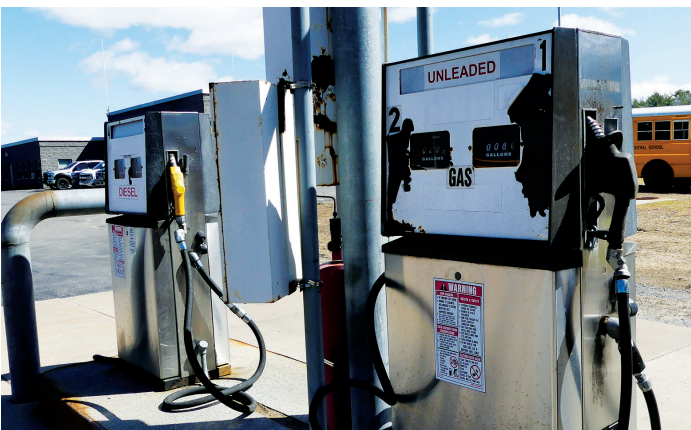
Replace two vehicle lifts at bus garage, repair concrete floors in service bays, and provide epoxy floor in service bays and parts room.



There is no evidence of soil contamination but the project includes contingency funds should we need to do any remediation.



Reconstruct pavement at bus garage with heavy duty asphalt at various locations.



Replace fuel dispensing system at bus garage with a modern system that will help with fuel use and efficiency.



Replace the oil/water separator at the bus garage that is too small and not functioning well. This tank removes oil and grease from wastewater in order to protect groundwater.



The Capital Project Will Also Include

The proposed 2021 Capital Project includes the replacement of the pavilion at the track that collapsed in June 2020. The pavilion will be the same size, but it may shift location in order to incorporate the addition of restrooms. The pavilion may also include a sink and storage for future concessions, along with a custodial closet.

The project will replace an underground fuel tank in front of the Junior/Senior High School that was installed in 1988, and replace the storage shed near the track with a larger building that can accommodate storage for athletic equipment.

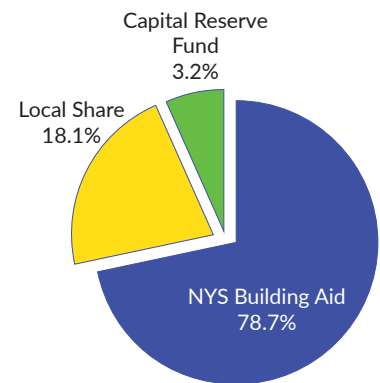
Minor renovations will also be done in the following areas that were not touched in the 2016 Capital Project:

- Restrooms near offices
- Flooring near the entrance to the auditorium and gymnasium

Funding for the Capital Project

The full project cost will be \$3.1 million. The district will utilize \$100,000 from the Capital Reserve, which results in \$3 million bonded over 15 years. New York State Building Aid will reimburse 78.7% of the aidable portion of the proposed Capital Improvement Project. After subtracting funds from the Capital Reserve, along with NYS Building Aid, the net local share will be approximately \$65,000/year beginning in 2022-23. For example, this will result in an estimated 0.28% increase, which is equivalent to \$8.48 annually on a home assessed at \$100,000 in the Town of Galway. Estimates are based on 2020-21 assessments, apportionments, and equalization rates.

Est. Funding Sources



Timetable if Approved

Design and Construction Documents	Fall 2021
Approval by the NYS Education Department.....	Winter 2021-22
Bidding Process.....	Winter 2022
Construction.....	Spring/Summer 2022
Estimated Tax Impact	2022-23 School Year

Facilities Committee

Jay Anderson
 Dennis Schaperjahn
 Brita Donovan
 Jacqlene McAllister
 Christopher Cook
 Kathleen Wardell
 Jonathan Taggart

What We Did on Our Spring Break



Following the completion of our 2016 Capital Improvement Project, we designed, printed, and installed custom signage for the entrances to match our beautiful, newly renovated building.

Many thanks to our buildings and grounds team who painted all the walls a consistent color and facilitated the installation of signage throughout the buildings. Visitors will see wall decals in both the Junior/Senior High School and Joseph Henry Elementary School. There are also team banners in the High School gymnasium that exemplify the pride we have in our school and motivate young athletes to perform at high levels.



Our School Nurses Go Above & Beyond



(L.-R.) Galway Superintendent Dr. Donovan, School Nurse Mrs. Horne, and Junior/Senior High School Principal Mr. Miller.

We would like to acknowledge the dedication of our own Galway Central School Nurse (7-12) Mrs. Susan Horne RN – who helped vaccinate Saratoga County educators over the last two months. Nearly every Friday from January 29 until April 16, Mrs. Horne and more than 50 school nurses in Saratoga County administered between 150-400 doses of the COVID-19 vaccine depending on availability. Mrs. Horne and her colleagues went to the Points of Dispensing (PODs) after a full day of work that has been compounded by COVID.

When Saratoga County and school administrators talked about holding PODs as a way to get district staff vaccinated, our school nurses were the first to volunteer. Many returned week after week to help their colleagues, showing the tremendous grace and composure that our country's health heroes have displayed throughout the course of this pandemic.

In total, Saratoga County school nurses vaccinated 1,540 education staff from 24 Saratoga County public and private schools, including WSWHE BOCES and Capital Region BOCES. This represents about 30% of all the education staff in the county.

The efforts of our unique partnership between Saratoga County Public Health Services, Saratoga County schools, and WSWHE BOCES resulted in 90% of all Saratoga County teachers and school staff having received the vaccine.

On behalf of 24 Saratoga County public and private schools, and BOCES, we thank our nurses for their gentle touch, cheerful energy, and willingness to go the extra mile over the past few months and every day!!!



Galway Central School District
5317 Sacandaga Road
Galway, New York 12074-0223

Board of Education

Linda Jackowski, President
Jay Anderson, Vice President
Michelle Bombard
Stacey Caruso-Sharpe
Karen English
Dennis Schaperjahn
Joan Slagle

Superintendent of Schools

Brita Donovan, Ed.D.

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Property Tax Report Card

	2020-21 Budget	2021-22 Budget	Percent Change
Total Budgeted Amount, not including Separate Propositions	\$22,948,831	\$23,452,247	2.19%
A. Proposed Tax Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount	\$11,048,166	\$11,129,922	
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E. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy (A + B + C - D)	\$11,048,166	\$11,221,259	1.57%
F. Permissible Exclusions to the School Tax Levy Limit	\$695,174	\$578,535	
G. School Tax Levy Limit, Excluding Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$10,593,505	\$10,557,702	
H. Total Proposed Tax Levy for School Purposes, Excluding Permissible Exclusions and Levy for Library Debt, Plus Prior Year Tax Cap Reserve (E - B - F + D)	\$10,352,992	\$10,551,387	
I. Difference (G - H); (negative value requires 60% voter approval)	\$240,513	\$6,315	
Public School Enrollment	837	816	(2.51%)
Consumer Price Index			1.23%
	2020-21 Actual	2021-22 Estimated	
Adjusted Restricted Fund Balance	\$4,274,561	\$4,694,561	
Assigned Appropriated Fund Balance	\$1,825,000	\$1,523,386	
Adjusted Unrestricted Fund Balance	\$1,841,062	\$2,337,176	
Adjusted Unrestricted Fund Balance as a Percent of the Total Budget	8.02%	9.97%	
*Please note that this Property Tax Report Card presentation is in accordance with NYS Education Law sections 1608, 1716(7) and 2601-a(3).			

Meet the Candidates

There are two vacancies on the Galway CSD Board of Education. The vacancies are for four-year terms of office that are effective July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2025. These seats are currently held by Jay Anderson and Stacey Caruso-Sharpe, who are both seeking reelection.

The candidates are listed in order on the ballot per a random drawing of names:

Stacey Caruso-Sharpe



Jay Anderson

