

# MORAVIA

## CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

BUDGET EDITION ► SPRING 2024

### BUDGET FACTS

Proposed Budget

\$27,766,482

Spending Decrease

(\$909,862) (or 3.17%)

Estimated Tax Levy Increase

\$226,022 (or 2.50%)



### RESIDENTS TO VOTE MAY 21<sup>ST</sup> ON 2024-25 BUDGET

#### *Dear District Residents,*

The details of the proposed 2024-2025 school budget are included in this newsletter. The total budget of \$27,766,482 represents a decrease of 3.17% over the 2023-24 budget, equating to an overall 2.50% local tax levy increase.

The greatest challenge within this year's budget development process was the Governor's decision to arbitrarily lower one of the variables used to calculate our state aid (inflation factor reduced from 4.1 % to 2.8%) and the overall negative impact that had on what we were anticipating in our 24-25 state aid allocation. Careful long-range fiscal planning and adequately funded reserves has positioned us in the best possible solution to "weather" this loss in state aid over the next several years. Similar to your own family's budget, tighter financial times also forces you to more critically evaluate your spending and make proactive reductions where possible without compromising on those things that you hold most important: for your home it's your kids and for us as a district it is our students!

During this year's budget development process, the administrative team and Board of Education continued to base all decisions on the priorities developed during this year's strategic planning process (Moravia's Blueprint for Success) including our mission "to ensure individuals explore their passions, engage with purpose, and achieve academic excellence." To that end, this year's proposed budget includes: additional opportunities for our youngest learners including a third section of Universal Pre-Kindergarten (UPK), continued support of our award-winning Project-Based Learning in our Middle School and an expansion of our Career and Technical Education (CTE) opportunities at the High School. In addition, we stand committed to the diverse offerings in extracurricular, the arts and athletics that are second to none for a district of our size. We believe it is often these experiences and opportunities for our students that help us towards our vision to be a "world class community school that is a district of choice for all students and staff." Thank you for supporting this vision from the stands and auditorium seats in what has been a truly historic year for the Blue Devil Nation!

Along with the budget, there is a proposition to purchase three 66-passenger school buses. The purchase of these buses allows the district to continue the 8-year replacement plan that was designed to be both safe and cost-effective. Residents will also elect two members of the Board of Education.

We believe that this budget represents a balance between educational opportunities for our students as well as continued fiscal stewardship for our taxpayers. Please review the enclosed information and feel free to ask for any necessary clarification. John Birmingham, our Superintendent of Schools; Jeff Lawrence, our School Business Administrator; or any Board of Education member will be happy to answer any questions or address any concerns that you may have. The school budget presentation will be on Tuesday, May 7, 2024 at 7:00 PM in the Middle/High School Cafeteria. More importantly, the budget vote and election will be held on Tuesday, May 21, 2024 between 7:00 AM and 9:00 PM in the MSHS North Foyer.

We would like to take this opportunity to again thank you the residents of the Moravia Central School District for your continued support in helping us provide world-class opportunities for our students.

Mr. Neil Stevens, Board of Education President

Mr. John Birmingham, Superintendent of Schools

#### ► 2024-2025 School Budget

#### ► Budget Hearing:

May 8, 2024

7PM, MS/HS Café

#### ► Budget Vote:

Tuesday, May 21, 2024

7AM - 9PM

High School North Foyer

68 S. Main St.

Moravia, NY 13118

## PLEASE REMEMBER TO VOTE!

For more information,  
including full budget  
information, visit the  
school website.

## A LOOK INSIDE THE PROPOSED BUDGET

### ADMINISTRATIVE BUDGET COMPONENT

	2023-2024 ADOPTED	2024-2025 PROPOSED	CHANGE	% CHANGE
Board of Education	\$38,284	\$38,651	\$367	1%
Central Administration	\$254,321	\$265,269	\$10,948	4%
Finance	\$546,510	\$560,238	\$13,728	3%
Legal Service	\$10,442	\$10,635	\$193	2%
Personnel	\$63,882	\$66,551	\$2,669	4%
Public Information	\$113,541	\$111,473	(\$2,068)	(2%)
Other Central Services	\$819,637	\$863,494	\$43,857	5%
Insurance	\$70,000	\$70,000	\$0	0%
Curriculum Development	\$111,874	\$110,730	(\$1,144)	(1%)
Supervision Regular School	\$447,473	\$444,369	(\$3,104)	(1%)
Research/Planning/Development	\$168,550	\$110,960	(\$57,590)	(34%)
Employee Benefits	\$549,115	\$585,875	\$36,760	7%
<b>Total Administrative Component</b>	<b>\$3,193,629</b>	<b>\$3,238,246</b>	<b>\$44,617</b>	<b>1.40%</b>

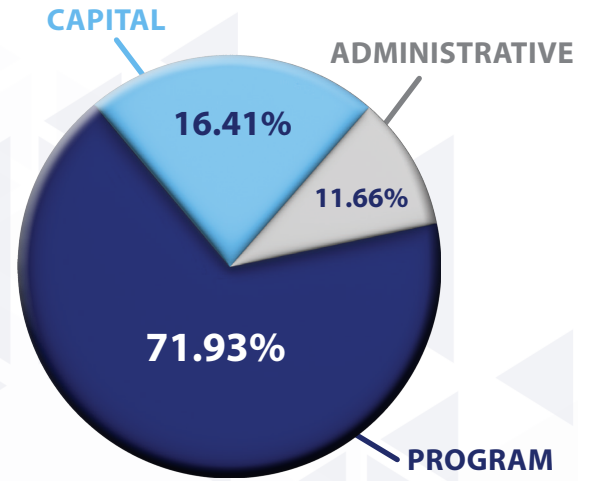
### PROGRAM BUDGET COMPONENT

	2023-2024 ADOPTED	2024-2025 PROPOSED	CHANGE	% CHANGE
Legal Service	\$53,173	\$60,263	\$1,090	2%
In-service Training	\$39,410	\$27,448	(\$11,962)	(30%)
Teaching Regular School	\$5,616,118	\$5,801,209	\$185,091	3%
Special Education Program	\$4,222,372	\$4,115,995	(\$106,377)	(3%)
Occupation Education	\$1,156,588	\$1,186,021	\$29,433	3%
Teaching Special Schools	\$113,775	\$103,775	(\$10,000)	(9%)
School Library/Audio Visual	\$219,940	\$219,013	(\$927)	0%
Computer Assisted Instruction	\$952,314	\$940,290	(\$12,024)	(1%)
Guidance/Attendance	\$336,850	\$351,552	\$14,702	4%
Health Services	\$219,347	\$218,588	(\$759)	0%
Co-Curricular Activities	\$266,843	\$278,214	\$11,371	4%
Interscholastic Athletics	\$590,877	\$612,252	\$21,375	4%
Transportation/Bus Garage	\$1,686,241	\$1,737,565	\$51,324	3%
Community Relations	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$0	0%
Employee Benefits	\$3,972,499	\$4,238,431	\$265,932	7%
School Lunch Transfer	\$25,000	\$50,000	\$25,000	100%
Special Aid Transfer	\$30,000	\$30,000	\$0	0%
<b>Total Program Component</b>	<b>\$19,508,847</b>	<b>\$19,972,116</b>	<b>\$463,269</b>	<b>2.37%</b>

### CAPITAL BUDGET COMPONENT

	2023-2024 ADOPTED	2024-2025 PROPOSED	CHANGE	% CHANGE
Operation of the Plant	\$1,254,907	\$1,270,009	\$15,102	1%
Maintenance of the Plant	\$445,431	\$452,087	\$6,656	1%
Refund of Taxes	\$4,500	\$4,500	\$0	0%
Employee Benefits	\$316,407	\$337,588	\$21,181	7%
Debt Services	\$3,852,623	\$2,391,936	(\$1,460,687)	(38%)
Capital Outlay	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$0	0%
<b>Total Capital Budget:</b>	<b>\$5,973,868</b>	<b>\$4,556,120</b>	<b>(\$1,417,748)</b>	<b>(23.73%)</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES:</b>	<b>\$28,676,344</b>	<b>\$27,766,482</b>	<b>(\$909,862)</b>	<b>(3.17%)</b>

## THREE-PART BUDGET



### ADMINISTRATIVE

Salaries and benefits, as well as all other costs to operate the district office and each school's main office and cover Board of Education expenses.

### PROGRAM

Funding for all K-12 educational programs, including teacher and support staff salaries and benefits, BOCES special education and instructional services, interscholastic athletics and transportation.

### CAPITAL

Cleaning and maintaining district facilities, including salaries, benefits, service contracts, utilities, materials and supplies, capital outlay projects and debt service.

### PROPOSITION 1: 2024-2025 Budget

That the amount of \$27,766,482 be approved for the 2024-2025 school year and the Board of Education of the Moravia Central School District be authorized to levy the necessary tax on real property of the district.

### PROPOSITION 2: Bus Purchase

RESOLVED, that the Moravia Central School District is hereby authorized to purchase and finance student transport vehicles, including necessary furnishings, fixtures and equipment and all other costs and incidental thereto, and expend a total sum not to exceed \$418,000, which is estimated to be the total maximum cost thereof, and said amount, or so much thereof as may be necessary, shall be raised by the levy of a tax upon the taxable property of said School District and collected in annual installments as provided by Section 416 of the Education Law; and in anticipation of such tax, obligations of said School District, in the principal amount not to exceed \$418,000, shall be issued.

### PROPOSITION 4: Powers Library

RESOLVED, that pursuant to Education Law, Section 259, the Board of Education of the Moravia Central School District is authorized to levy and collect an annual tax, year after year, separate and apart from the annual school district budget, in the amount of \$1,890.00, in addition to the current appropriation of \$94,500.00 for a total of \$96,390.00 annually, which shall be paid to the Powers Library and for the support and maintenance of the library; with this appropriated amount to be the annual appropriation until thereafter modified by a future vote of the electors of the Moravia Central School District.

### POWERS LIBRARY VOTE

Public Libraries within New York State have the right to place their levy proposition on the Board of Education's ballot for submission to the voters. Powers Library serves the entire community of the Moravia Central School District and can levy taxes to the community it serves. The amount levied by the library is separate and apart from the school district levy, however the funds are collected and held by the school district until the funds are submitted to the library. Libraries are only required to have a proposition on the ballot when they are increasing their annual levy. If a vote on an increase were to be defeated, the funding for the library reverts to the previous amount approved by the voters.

## THREE CANDIDATES SEEK TWO SEATS ON BOARD OF EDUCATION

Moravia residents will elect two members of the Board of Education to each serve a three-year term beginning July 1, 2024, and ending June 30, 2027. Candidates names were drawn by lot and will appear on the May 21 ballot in the following order:



To view full candidate bios, please visit our website at [www.moraviaschool.org/BOECandidates](http://www.moraviaschool.org/BOECandidates) or use the QR code above!



**NEIL STEVENS**

Neil, who has lived in Moravia for more than nine years, is currently employed by the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation as Captain of Region 7, Division of Law Enforcement. Neil, who has a Bachelor of Science in Natural Resources from Cornell University, has four children who attend Moravia CSD.



**JODY MARNELL**

Jody, who has lived in Moravia for 14 years, is currently employed at Cornell University as an Associate Director of Retail Services. Jody, who is a graduate of C.W. Baker High School in Baldwinsville, NY, has three children currently enrolled at Moravia CSD, as well as one graduate of the district.



**KIRA MINNOE**

Kira, who has lived in Moravia for 12 years, co-owns a construction company with her husband, Mark. Kira, who graduated from Southern Cayuga CSD and also completed the prerequisites for TC3's Nursing program, has two children currently enrolled at Moravia CSD.



# MORAVIA

CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

68 S. Main St.  
PO Box 1189  
Moravia, NY 13118

Non-Profit  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Moravia, NY  
Permit #4

## Board of Education

- Neil Stevens, President
- Shawn Becker, Vice President
- Jennifer Bilinski
- Heidi McNall
- Emily Palmer
- Diana Plue
- Jackie Schnurr
- Jodie Rusaw, District Clerk

## Superintendent of Schools

John Birmingham

Carrier Route Presort  
Local Box Holder  
OR  
Rural Patron



## VOTER QUALIFICATIONS

To be eligible to vote on the school budget and election, you must be a citizen of the United States who is 18 years of age or older and a legal resident of the Moravia Central School District for at least 30 days prior to the vote.

No prior registration is required. Voter qualifications are mandated in accordance with New York State Education Law.

NOTE: Voting inspectors reserve the right to check the driver's license of any voter to verify residency.

## ABSENTEE VOTER AND EARLY MAIL VOTER BALLOTS

Absentee Voter and Early Mail Voter applications are available in the District Office between the hours of 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. To be counted, all ballots must be received by 5 p.m. on the day of the election May 21, 2024.

Call District Clerk Jodie Rusaw at 315-497-2670 for more information.

### School District Budget Notice

Overall Budget Proposal	Budget Adopted 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	\$ 28,676,344	\$27,766,482	\$27,540,460
Increase/Decrease for the 2024-25 School Year		(\$909,862)	(\$1,135,884)
Percentage Increase/Decrease in Proposed Budget		(3.17)%	(3.96)%
Change in the Consumer Price Index		4.12%	
A. Proposed Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount	\$9,041,469	\$9,267,491	
B. Levy to Support Library Debt, if Applicable	\$	\$	
C. Levy for Non-Excludable Propositions, if Applicable **	\$	\$	
D. Total Tax Cap Reserve Amount Used to Reduce Current Year Levy	\$	\$	
E. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy (A + B + C - D)	\$9,041,469	\$9,267,491	\$9,041,469
F. Total Permissible Exclusions	\$601,301	\$645,022	
G. School Tax Levy Limit, <u>Excluding</u> Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$8,444,021	\$8,622,469	
H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, <u>Excluding</u> Levy to Support Library Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions (E - B - F + D)	\$8,440,168	\$8,622,469	
I. Difference: G - H (Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval - See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions) **	\$3,853	\$0	
Administrative Component	\$3,193,629	\$3,238,246	\$3,211,123
Program Component	\$19,508,847	\$19,972,116	\$19,813,901
Capital Component	\$5,973,868	\$4,556,120	\$4,515,436

If a contingency budget for the 2024-25 school year is adopted, all equipment purchases and conference expenses would be eliminated. In addition, the \$100,000 Capital Outlay project would be eliminated.

\*\* 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 of three full-size 66 passenger buses.	\$418,000
	\$
	\$
	\$

\*NOTE TO SCHOOL DISTRICT BUSINESS OFFICIALS: Please submit an electronic version (Word or PDF) of this completed form to: [smsemqts@nysed.gov](mailto:smsemqts@nysed.gov)

Under the Budget Proposed for the 2024-25 School Year

Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings<sup>1</sup>

\$429

The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2024-25 by the qualified voters of the Moravia Central School District, Cayuga County, New York, will be held at Moravia HS (North Foyer) school(s) in said district on Tuesday, May 21, 2024 at between the hours of 7:00am and 9:00pm, prevailing time in the Moravia HS (North Foyer) school(s), 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.