

# Auburn

Enlarged City School District  
**2023 - 2024 BUDGET**



**DATE: TUESDAY, MAY 16, 2023  
7:00 AM TO 9:00 PM**

## PLEASE VOTE

- 4 voting sites: Auburn Junior High School, Casey Park, Owasco and Seward Elementary Schools. Your polling location may have changed. Please visit [AECSD.education/budget](https://aecsd.education/budget) for more information.
- In order to vote: you do not need to be a registered voter; you must be a citizen of the United States; you must be at least 18 years old; and a resident of the district for at least 30 days prior to May 16<sup>th</sup>.
- Absentee ballots are available at the Harriet Tubman Administration Building at 78 Thornton Avenue. (must be returned by 5:00 pm on election day).
- Public hearing at the Auburn High School Library at 7:00 pm on Tuesday, May 9, 2023

## 2023-24 Budget is \$100,268,805

- Budget is up 11.1% (or \$10 million) from 2022-2023
- NYS Foundation Aid is increased by \$8.1 million (22.2%)
- Use of \$2.5 million of fund balance in this Budget

## Staffing Changes in this Budget (Net Increase of 17 Positions)

- +5 Elementary STEM Teachers (reassigned classroom teachers)
- +2 Music Teachers
- +1 Dean of Students at Auburn Junior High School
- +1 Assistant Public Relations Specialist
- +13 Instructional Positions Previously Funded by Grants



## Educational Programming/Services

- With the addition of the above positions as well as federal stimulus monies we are continuing to receive, we will be able to:
  - Provide more focused attention to hands-on science and technology instruction and enrichment opportunities for elementary students
  - Restore the instrumental program at the 4<sup>th</sup> grade level
  - Provide more supervision and safety at the Junior High School
  - Showcase more district events and improve community outreach
  - Provide alternative educational programming at both the high school and elementary level
  - Provide more social emotional/mental health resources and support to our students
  - Focus more intensely on improving our graduation rate and lowering our dropout rate
  - Provide our students with equitable access to educational opportunities and services
  - Better ensure that our students are performing at grade-level in both Reading & Math
  - Provide summer programming to address disrupted learning
  - Provide increased professional learning opportunities for staff

## Tax Levy Increase of 1.99% (Below NYS-mandated tax cap)

- Average Increase in Taxes, from last year, on a \$100,000 home:
- \$33/year (or \$2.75/month)



## **Frequently Asked Questions**

### ***What is the “Tax Levy Limit” and why are taxes going up by less than 2%?***

- NYS adopted a tax levy limit commonly referred to as “the 2% tax cap”. Each district must calculate their individual tax levy limit by using a formula defined by NYS. Auburn’s tax levy limit for 2023-24 is 2.32%. Districts are authorized to exceed the tax levy limit, but in order to do so, 60% of the voters must approve the budget (instead of a simple majority).

### ***Is the District exceeding the tax cap?***

- No; the proposed budget includes a 1.99% tax levy increase, which is below the tax cap limit set by New York State, thus not requiring a super majority for approval.

### ***What happens if we go to a Contingency Budget?***

- If the proposed budget is voted down, the Board of Education will decide whether to have a second vote on the same budget or a revised budget. If defeated a second time, NYS requires that the district adopt a Contingency Budget. If that happens, the proposed budget would be reduced by eliminating all unaided equipment expenditures (for example: plows, trucks, lawnmowers, athletic equipment, office computers), and fees for community use of buildings would be implemented. Additionally, there can be no increase in the district’s tax levy from the prior year. That means \$681,925 in property tax revenue would have to be cut from the budget, as well as \$415,000 in non-aided equipment purchases.

## **Key Statistics**

The Auburn Enlarged City School District does its best to ensure that it provides high-quality curriculum and instruction that meets the unique needs of each student while not overspending. The comparison below illustrates that:

	<u>Auburn</u>	<u>NYS Average</u>
Total Expenditures per Pupil (per 2020-21 NYS Fiscal Transparency Report)	\$16,640	\$23,468

Visit the NYS Property Tax Report Card at <https://data.nysed.gov>

District Enrollment (2022-23) 3,789

Students Receiving Free or  
Reduced-Priced Meals (2022-23) 59%

Number of Employees (General Fund budget only)	<u>2023-24</u>	
	Faculty	392 61.5%
	Support staff	215 33.8%
	Admin/Supervisors	<u>30</u> 4.7%
	Total	637

Number of Buildings 7 school buildings, 1 administration building



**Vote** Tuesday, May 16, 2023