

Auburn

Enlarged City School District
2024 - 2025 BUDGET



**DATE: TUESDAY, MAY 21, 2024
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://www.aecsd.org/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 21st.
- 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 14, 2024

2024-25 Budget is \$104,404,172

- Budget is up 4.1% (or \$4.1 million) from 2023-2024
- NYS Foundation Aid remained the same
- Use of \$3 million of fund balance and \$1 million of reserves in this Budget

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

- +1 Special Ed Teacher
- +2 Teacher Assistants
- +10 Teacher Aides
- +17 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
 - Build a Music Production Room
 - Provide more opportunities for students to participate in local competitions to support music and arts
 - 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:

- \$94/year (or \$7.84/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 2024-25 is 2.86%. 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 \$695,495 in property tax revenue would have to be cut from the budget, as well as \$200,000 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 2022-2023 NYS Fiscal Transparency Report)	\$21,263	\$26,857
Visit the NYS Property Tax Report Card at https://data.nysed.gov		
District Enrollment (2023-2024)	3,780	
Students Qualifying for Free or Reduced-Priced Meals (2023-2024)	60%	
Number of Employees (General Fund budget only)		<u>2024-25</u>
	Faculty	418 60.1%
	Support staff	248 35.7%
	Admin/Supervisors	<u>29</u> 4.2%
	Total	695
Number of Buildings	7 school buildings, 1 administration building	



Vote *Tuesday, May 21, 2024*