

Auburn
Enlarged City School District
Home of the Maroons



the **BUDGET** *edition*

THE MAROON MONTHLY

2024-2025

PROPOSED BUDGET

BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING

Tuesday, May 14, 2024

7:00 PM, Auburn High School Library

BUDGET VOTE & ELECTIONS

Tuesday, May 21, 2024

7:00 AM TO 9:00 PM

Return Absentee Ballot by 5:00PM

WHAT TO VOTE ON:

- Budget Proposition
- Election of Board Members



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2024-2025 BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

- ✓ Overall budget up 4.1% compared to 2023-24
- ✓ Tax Levy Increase of 1.99%
- ✓ Music Production Room

Creative Writing Projects Honored



Auburn Junior High School and elementary school students were recognized for their contributions to the annual The REV Theatre Co Echoes Performance held at Auburn Junior High School on April 29.

MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

Jeffrey A. Pirozzolo

Dear Community Members,

Our board of education and school district administrators have been working diligently to develop a budget for the 2024-2025 school year that continues to provide high-quality curriculum and instruction that meets the unique needs of our students while keeping in mind the limited resources of the community. The Auburn Enlarged City School District continues to be one of the most fiscally efficient and resourceful districts in the state, spending just \$21,263 per pupil versus the state average of \$26,857 per pupil.

The district's proposed budget expenditures for the 2024-2025 school year are \$104,404,172, which is up 4.1%, or \$4.1 million, from 2023-2024. The proposed budget includes 17 instructional positions that were previously funded with grants including school counselors, social workers, additional AIS math and reading teachers, and additional general education teachers that help keep our class sizes lower. By rolling these 17 positions into the general budget, it will help with student achievement gaps to get all students up to grade level and also continue to provide the social and emotional supports for our students.

The 2024-2025 proposed budget also includes a net increase of 13 staff positions including a special education teacher, 2 teacher assistants, and 10 teacher aides. With the addition of these positions, the district will be able to continue to provide our students with equitable access to educational opportunities and services. In addition, the proposed budget includes funds to build a music production room at Auburn High School allowing us to offer a music production class to students where they can learn to write, compose, and record their own music.

The grant funding received from the American Rescue Plan is coming to an end, but fortunately we will be able to use the remainder of those funds through the upcoming summer to fund our summer school initiatives. Some other major items we have used the funds for are technology devices and infrastructure, enhanced professional development opportunities for our staff, additional AIS reading and math teachers, school counselors, and alternative education programs at the high school and elementary levels, which we will continue to run by building them into the regular budget.

For the 2024-2025 school year, our district will receive no additional foundation aid from New York State, so the district will continue to spend down its fund balance; \$3 million of the district's fund balance will be used to balance the budget this year and \$500,000 in tax reserves and ERS reserves will also be used. With last year's budget, we used \$3 million out of reserves to implement a campus notification system to enhance safety and security in all of our buildings, and we received about 80 percent of the cost back in the form of state aid.

This proposed budget will include a 1.99 percent increase in the total tax levy, which is below the NYS tax cap of 2.86 percent. On a home assessed at \$100,000, the estimated annual tax increase will be \$94, or \$7.84 per month.

For more information on the proposed budget for the 2024-2025 school year, please visit www.aecsd.education/budget. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the district office at (315) 255-8822 or budget@aecsd.education.

Thank you for your continued support of the Auburn Enlarged City School District's educational programming. Your continued dedication helps ensure that our students receive the education they deserve.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey A. Pirozzolo

Superintendent of Schools, Auburn Enlarged City School District



AHS Musical "Rock of Ages"

2023-24 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

1. The Auburn grade level and department teams have continued to utilize a data analysis process to reflect on data-driven instructional practices in an effort to utilize this knowledge to enhance student achievement and engagement. Each grade level and department has also worked throughout the year to pull their curricular resources into digital shared folders to support cohesion between each group, which supports equitable access to instruction for all students.
2. Grades Kindergarten through 5 implemented an updated version of the math program, Eureka Math Squared, supported by district Math Instructional Coaches, Stefan Kowalski and Nick Musso.
3. Teachers representing grades kindergarten through 6 convened several times this year to review Social Studies curricular resources in an effort to ensure relevant and current programming.
4. Auburn PreK sites focused on the important role of play in student learning. 3PK and UPK teachers took part in a monthly book study led by AECSD PreK Coaches around the text “Purposeful Play”, by Kristine Mraz, Alison Porcelli, and Cheryl Tyler. In addition to discussion around the text, teachers shared what this looks like in their classrooms and ideas for more intentional play activities for students.
5. This school year, PreK teachers gained insight into impactful classroom practices through monthly professional development. In addition to play, topics included Speech Therapy milestones for preschoolers, led by retired AECSD Speech Pathologist, Ken Sargent; an overview of the NYS Early Literacy briefs, led by CO BOCES Professional Development Specialist, Jodi Burnash; and the importance of self-care for caring adults, by the Gavras Center’s Josephine Emilio.
6. The Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Task Force met bi-monthly to conduct a continuous assessment of the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Plan, as well as made minor revisions to the plan for the 24-25 school year. The DEI Task Force in collaboration with community members had input on the My Brother’s Community Action Plan that was submitted to the state in March.
7. The district held two Parent/Guardians Universities this school year. Between both of these events, the district focused on ELA, Math, SEL, Special Education, and Media Misinformation.
8. Dr. Reneé Burgess, Executive Director of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Instruction and Jodi Burnash, Curriculum Coordinator from Cayuga-Onondaga BOCES held monthly coaches academies for our twelve instructional coaches in the district. During these academies coaches read and participated in reflective activities on The Art of Coaching, as well focused on coaching cycles with educators.
9. The Auburn Innovation Spaces in the elementary building have continued to welcome families in their space at multiple Family Engagement Nights. Activities included using the Cricut Makers, 3-D printing, button making, and coding with robots. The Innovation Spaces in grades K-6 have completed over 80 project based learning activities this school year. Auburn Junior High has been leveraging their innovation space for students during their lunch groups using both the Circuit Makers and 3-D printing. Auburn High School has hosted two Innovation Events. The students were able to make their own ornaments in December using the Cricut Maker, and in March, they were able to design and decorate sketchbooks in conjunction with the guest author. Nearly 100 students participated in each event. We look forward to continuing with these innovative activities in the 2024 -2025 school year.
10. The Auburn IT department has installed and upgraded over 30 network switches to improve security and access. They have also improved the server disaster recovery process, installed new Internet Service Provider district wide (faster speeds/true redundant connectivity), and implemented new cloud based network image deployment and windows patching solution.
11. The Auburn technology mentors have begun a Student Technology Mentor Program. In this program the Technology Mentors trained student volunteers on basic troubleshooting for Chromebooks, Promethean panels and projection needs. The Student Technology Mentors attend to introductory technology needs of other staff members, substitute teachers and their peers. This program involves student volunteers from all buildings between grades 5 - 12 .
12. In September, the Auburn IT department distributed and has continued to support over 5,000 Chromebooks for students in all grade levels and buildings.

Amy Mahunik, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction

2024-2025 PROPOSED BUDGET EXPENDITURES

Program Component: 75.69% of Budget

The Program component provides funding for the instruction of and educational support services of district students, including regular, special, and occupational education, guidance and health services, and cocurricular and interscholastic activities. Also included are the costs of transporting students to and from the five elementary, one junior high, and one high school.

Program	2023-2024	2024-2025	Increase/(Decrease)
Legal	13,000	13,000	0
Teaching - Regular School	24,652,879	25,676,307	1,023,428
Programs - Students with Disabilities	16,360,359	18,507,083	2,146,724
Occupational Education	2,523,288	2,655,911	132,623
Teaching - Special Schools	321,806	248,912	(72,894)
School Library & Audiovisual	946,870	1,081,491	134,621
Computer Assisted Instruction	2,647,509	2,686,556	39,047
Guidance	1,050,762	1,276,126	225,364
Health Services	896,987	920,961	23,974
Co-Curricular Activities	196,724	199,024	2,300
Interscholastic Activities	730,806	787,087	56,281
District Transportation	322,530	337,768	15,238
Contract Transportation	3,436,600	3,722,000	285,400
Public Transportation	50	50	0
BOCES Contract Transportation	41,500	46,000	4,500
Employee Benefits	18,865,545	20,862,338	1,996,793
Interfund Transfers	25,000	0	(25,000)
Total Program Expense	\$73,032,215	\$79,020,614	\$5,988,399

Capital Component: 13.04% of Budget

The Capital component provides funding for the operation and maintenance of the district's buildings and grounds, as well as for the costs of natural gas and electricity, water, sewer, and telephone services. Also included is funding for debt service - principal and interest payments on capital projects, installment purchases, leases, and interfund transfers.

Capital	2023-2024	2024-2025	Increase/(Decrease)
Operation	6,550,460	3,936,210	(2,614,250)
Maintenance	1,267,939	1,618,162	350,223
Employee Benefits	1,600,877	1,719,609	118,732
Debt Service	6,528,163	6,239,900	(288,263)
Interfund Transfers	100,000	100,000 *	0
Total Capital Expense	\$16,047,439	\$13,613,881	-\$2,433,558

* For Capital Project not to exceed \$100,000



Herman Ave Blues

Herman Ave staff and students wore blue to show support for all police officers serving and protecting and to pay tribute to fallen police officers, Lt. Michael Hoosock and Officer Michael Jensen on Thursday, April 18th.



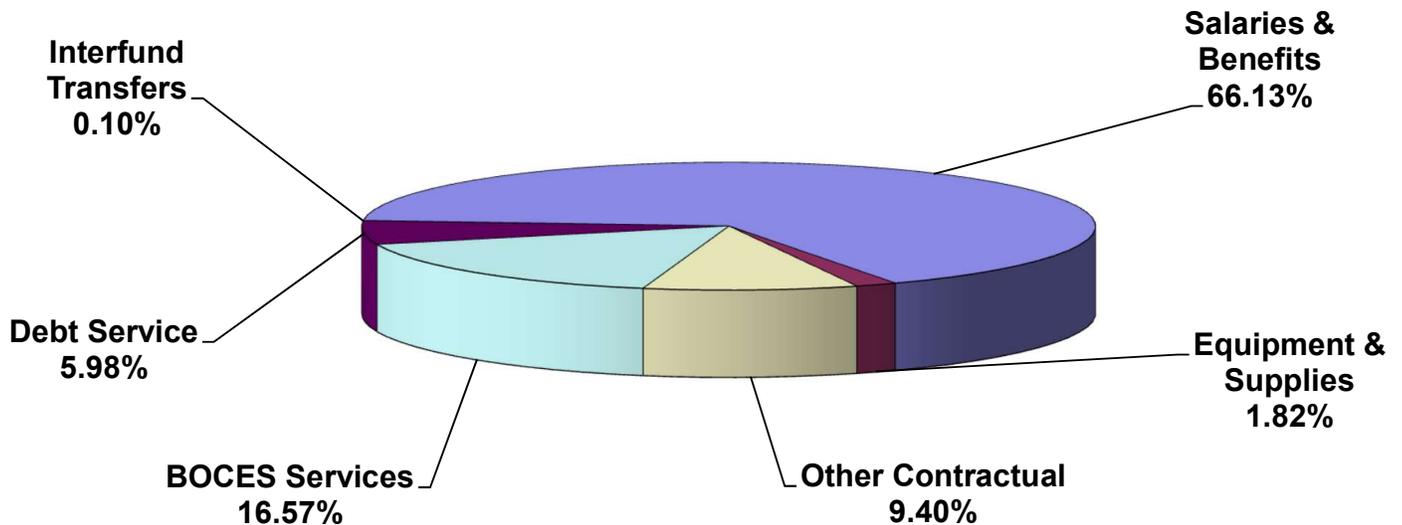
2024-2025 PROPOSED BUDGET EXPENDITURES

Administrative Component 11.27% of Budget

The administrative component provides funding for general support and management activities, including central administration and business office operations such as payroll, auditing, tax collection and purchasing, as well as legal and personnel functions. Also included in this component are the costs for administration and supervision at each of the district's schools.

Administrative	2023-2024	2024-2025	Increase/(Decrease)
Board of Education	20,000	15,000	(5,000)
District Clerk	14,250	11,700	(2,550)
District Meeting	18,200	12,700	(5,500)
Central Administration	283,092	361,303	78,211
Business Administration	460,809	270,312	(190,497)
Auditing	42,000	43,000	1,000
Treasurer	135,614	129,436	(6,178)
Tax Collection	11,200	11,200	0
Purchasing	11,000	11,500	500
Fiscal Agent Fees	7,500	7,500	0
Legal	260,000	270,000	10,000
Personnel	1,124,269	1,229,645	105,376
Public Information & Service	129,135	135,573	6,438
Central Storeroom	44,710	46,447	1,737
Central Printing & Mailing	691,500	817,000	125,500
Central Data Processing	482,000	456,000	(26,000)
Unallocated Insurance	315,000	370,000	55,000
Board Membership Dues	30,100	19,100	(11,000)
Assessments on School Property	60,000	70,000	10,000
BOCES Admin. Charges	1,083,551	1,165,000	81,449
Curriculum Development, Supervision	847,013	792,260	(54,753)
Supervision - Reg. School	2,386,121	2,505,202	119,081
Research Planning & Evaluation	196,000	129,000	(67,000)
Inservice Training	99,905	167,042	67,137
Programs - Students with Disabilities	452,841	466,356	13,515
Health Services	108,763	111,327	2,564
Employee Benefits	1,874,578	2,146,074	271,496
Total Administrative Expense	\$11,189,151	\$11,769,677	\$580,526
Total Budgeted Expenses	\$100,268,805	\$104,404,172	\$4,135,367

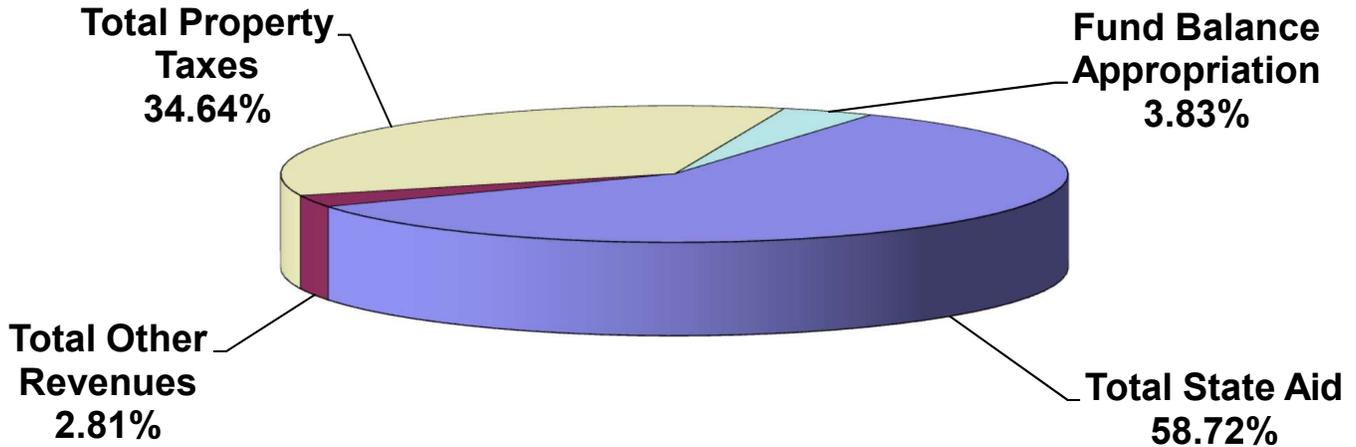
2024-2025 PROPOSED BUDGET



2024-2025 PROJECTED REVENUES

State Aid	2023-2024	2024-2025	Increase/Decrease
Operating State Aid	54,908,228	56,896,985	1,988,757
Building Aid	4,382,677	4,410,249	27,572
Total State Aid	\$59,290,905	\$61,307,234	2,016,329
Other Revenues	2023-2024	2024-2025	Increase/Decrease
Tuition	85,000	50,000	(35,000)
Interest	90,000	482,694	392,694
Miscellaneous Revenues	764,300	736,000	(28,300)
Prior Year Refunds	1,300,000	1,300,000	0
Property Rental	12,000	12,000	0
Medicaid Reimbursement	350,000	350,000	0
Transfers From Other Funds	275,000	0	(275,000)
Total Other Revenues	\$2,876,300	\$2,930,694	54,394
Property Taxes	2023-2024	2024-2025	Increase/Decrease
Tax Levy	34,949,503	35,644,998	695,495
Payments in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT)	652,097	521,246	(130,851)
Total Property Taxes	\$35,601,600	\$36,166,244	564,644
Appropriated Fund Balance	2023-2024	2024-2025	Increase/Decrease
Fund Balance/Reserve Appropriation	2,500,000	4,000,000	1,500,000
Total Projected Revenues	\$100,268,805	\$104,404,172	4,135,367

2024-25 PROJECTED REVENUES



AHS Musical "Rock of Ages"

2023-24 ATHLETIC HIGHLIGHTS

Fall Season

- **Girls Volleyball** clinched the Salt City Athletic Conference (SCAC) Pascale Division Championship, were recognized as a NYS Scholar Athlete Team and Head Coach Kim Doan was named Division Coach of the Year
- **The Girls Cross Country Team** placed 2nd in the SCAC Metro Division Championship this fall, followed up by a 5th place finish in the Section III Class A Championships, with Ali Pineau placing 4th overall for Auburn.
- **The Boys Cross Country Team** delivered a memorable fall season, clinching the SCAC Metro Division Championship, securing their 2nd consecutive Section III Class A Championship, followed by a 3rd place team finish, in the NYS X-C Championship meet. Finally, boys team members qualified for and competed in the Nike X-C National Championships in Portland, Oregon.
- **Varsity Field Hockey** displayed consistency and skill by reaching the championship game of the Cayuga County Field Hockey tournament for the third consecutive year.
- **Varsity Football** exhibited resilience and determination, finishing the regular season with a 4-4 record, including three consecutive victories and securing a Homecoming weekend win over Henninger.
- **Varsity Girls Soccer** celebrated eight athletes receiving league postseason honors, recognizing their contributions to the team's success.
- **Varsity Girls Tennis** once again dominated league play with a flawless 14-0 record, securing another SCAC, Empire Division Championship, and NYS Scholar Athlete Team recognition.
- **Varsity Boys Golf** concluded the season with an 11-5 record and an impressive 3rd place finish in league play.
- **Varsity Boys Soccer** laid the foundation for future success in the Class AA soccer landscape, highlighted by Senior - Osvaldo Chum-Domingo, earning SCAC, Central Division, 1st Team honors as goalkeeper.
- **The Varsity Cheerleading team** contributed to the excitement of the fall season; participating in cheer competitions across CNY. Additionally, they played a crucial role, alongside The Vanguard and drum corps, in the success of Auburn's edition of "Friday Morning Lights" newscast, hosted and televised by WSYR 9 in September of 2023.

Winter Season

- **Winter Varsity Cheerleading team**, placed the highest in recent history, in the Section III Winter Team Cheerleading Championships in February.
- **Girls Varsity Basketball** boasted both individual accomplishments (Peyton Maneri eclipsing the 1000 point milestone) and the Maroons cagers advanced to the Section III Class AA Championship vs. Central Square.
- **The Varsity Wrestling team** was acknowledged by the Syracuse Wrestling Officials Association (SWOA) as the 2023-24 recipient of John Arcaro Memorial Sportsmanship Award. Individually: Colton Hai (Jr.-215 lbs.) 4th Place, Sec.3 Class A; Brady Maneri (So -101 lbs.) and Mike Boyhan (Jr.-131 lbs.) were crowned Sec.3 Class A Champions. Boyhan placed 3rd in Sec.3 Div. 1, missing a trip to the NYS championship tournament by 1 point. Maneri was crowned Champion of Sec.3 Div. I in the 101 lb. weight class, enroute to a 6th place finish at the NYSPHSAA Wrestling Championships in Albany.
- **Varsity Boys Basketball** hosted a fundraising basketball tournament in the first week of December to benefit Upstate Golisano Children's Hospital and Upstate Cancer Center, raising nearly \$2k with contributions from the Auburn Basketball Community and the other participating teams.
- The **Winter Swim team** boasted Riley Fitzgerald (Sr.) posting two 5th place finishes at the Section III Class A Swimming Championships in the 200 and 500 Freestyle, while the Maroons squad had three different relay events place in the top 10.
- **Rylee Catalfano, Samantha Catalfano, Finley Hogan and Makenna Komanecky** tasted the success of a Section III Championship as members of the Skaneateles Girls Ice Hockey team. They advanced out of the section to participate in the NYS Girls Ice Hockey Final Four weekend.
- **Varsity Boys Ice Hockey** had a rebound season tallying 4 more victories than the previous season, including a home game sectional playoff victory over Cortland-Homer.
- **Varsity Boys and Girls Bowling** displayed another one-two punch in league standings. The girls team placed 2nd in the SCAC Empire Division while the boys team posted a nearly perfect 15-1 record enroute to the championship in their division. Eric Barski qualified for the Section III composite team and led the Section III team in the state meet with a 210 average across 6 games.
- **Varsity Indoor Track & Field** once again had an impressive culmination to the season. The girls team placed 2nd overall at the Section III championships, their highest finish for indoor track & field to date, Sectional champions included Kyleen Brady, Abigail Ringwood, Nora Burroughs and Ali Pineau. The boys squad clinched Auburn's first ever indoor track & field team Sectional Title, champions for the boys included Keegan Brady, Owen Gasper, Chris Howard and Austin Ferrin. Twelve total Maroon's athletes went on to compete in the NYS championships in Staten Island.

Christian Maher, Director of Health, P.E. and Athletics

2022-23 NYS Transparency Report for the Auburn School District

	Auburn	All Public Schools NYS
Total Expenditures per Pupil	\$21,263	\$26,857

2024-25 Property Tax Report Card

050100 - Auburn Enlarged City School District		
Contact Person: Tessa Crawford	Budgeted	Proposed Budget
Telephone Number: 315-255-8808	2023-24	2024-25
	(A)	(B)
Total Budgeted Amount, not including Separate Propositions	100,268,805	104,088,172
A. Proposed Tax Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount	34,949,503	35,644,998
B. Tax Levy to Support Library Debt, if Applicable		
C. Tax Levy for Non-Excludable Propositions, if Applicable		
D. Total Tax Cap Reserve Amount Used to Reduce Current Year Levy, if Applicable		
E. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy (A + B + C - D)	34,949,503	35,644,998
F. Permissible Exclusions to the School Tax Levy Limit	1,450,843	1,470,411
G. School Tax Levy Limit, <u>Excluding</u> Levy for Permissible Exclusions	33,498,660	34,174,587
H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, <u>Excluding</u> Levy to Support Library Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions (E - B - F + D)	33,498,660	34,174,587
I. Difference: (G - H); (negative value requires 60.0% voter approval)	0	0
Public School Enrollment	3,789	3,780
Consumer Price Index		4.12%
	Actual	Estimated
	2023-24	2024-25
	(D)	(E)
Adjusted Restricted Fund Balance	10,480,552	9,794,969
Assigned Appropriated Fund Balance	2,969,876	4,500,000
Adjusted Unrestricted Fund Balance	13,738,204	10,738,204
Adjusted Unrestricted Fund Balance as a Percent of the Total Budget	13.70%	10.32%

WEBSITE

The NYS Report Card and the Financial Transparency Report:

<https://data.nysed.gov>

For information about the performance of each public school in the district and across New York State, download The NYS Report Card, The NYS Assessment Data, and The Financial Transparency Report that are located at this website.

Schedule of Reserve Funds

Reserve Type	Reserve Name	Reserve Description	3/31/24 Actual Balance	6/30/24 Estimated Ending Balance	Intended Use of the Reserve in the 2023-2024 School Year
Capital	2018 Capital Reserve Fund	To pay the cost of any object or purpose for which bonds may be issued.	1,004,403	1,034,535	None
Capital	2018 Turf Capital Reserve Fund	To pay the cost of replacing the athletic field turf, for which bonds may be issued.	256,837	264,542	None
Unemployment Insurance	Unemployment Insurance Reserve	To pay the cost of reimbursement to the State Unemployment Insurance Fund.	153,236	157,833	None
Insurance	Insurance Reserve Fund	To pay liability, casualty, and other types of uninsured losses.	466,948	480,956	None
Liability	Liability Reserve Fund	To establish and maintain a program of reserves to cover liability claims incurred.	510,490	525,805	None
Tax Certiorari	Tax Certiorari Reserve	To establish a reserve fund for tax certiorari settlements	2,690,383	2,271,094	Use \$500,000 to reflect actual liability and pay Tax Certiorari Settlements as appropriate
Employee Benefit Accrued Liability	Employee Benefit Accrued Liability Reserve (EBALR) Fund	For the payment of accrued employee benefits due to employees upon termination of service.	215,922	222,400	To pay Accrued Benefits as appropriate
Workers' Comp	Worker's Comp Reserve	To pay compensation, benefits and medical expenses authorized under the Workers' Compensation Law	844,301	869,630	None
Retirement Contribution Sub-Fund	Retirement Contribution Reserve Sub-Fund (TRS)	To fund employer retirement contributions to the State and Local Teachers' Retirement System	2,380,222	2,451,629	None
Retirement Contribution	Retirement Contribution Reserve Fund	To fund employer retirement contributions to the State and Local Employees' Retirement System	1,957,810	1,516,544	Use \$500,000 to pay portion of ERS invoice

May 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	 May Artwork Alex Sadusky, Gr. 8	April 2024 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	 LAST 1 Bike to School Day (4th-6th Grade only) NYSSMA Solo Festival @ AJHS AJHS PTO Mtg. 6:00PM	2 AECSD JOB FAIR! Auburn High School 5:00-7:00PM	3 Elementary Report Cards AHS End Marking Period 5 NYSSMA Solo Festival @ AJHS	 4 SAT Exam AHS 7:45AM NYSSMA Solo Festival @ AJHS
5  Teacher Appreciation Week Cinco de Mayo	6 HS Marking Period 6 Begins District Parent Council Mtg. 6:30PM @ Tubman	7 Teacher Appreciation Day	 NEW 8 School Nurse Appreciation Day AHS Band Concert 7:00pm @ Auburn High School	9 Family Engagement Nights: Herman Ave 5:30-7PM Genesee 4:30-6:30PM Seward Spring Fling 5-7PM @ Seward Gym Casey Park Concert 6:00pm @ AJHS	 10 AHS Junior Prom Emerson Pavilion 6:30-10:30PM AHS Report Cards	11 
12  Mother's Day	13 Kindergarten Registration Seward Herman Ave Spring Concert @ AJHS Auditorium, 6:00PM	GPTP 5:00pm 14 Kindergarten Registration Genesee Genesee Concert 6PM @ AJHS Public Hearing on 2024-25 Budget followed by Board of Education Mtg. AHS Library @ 7:00PM	 FIRST 15 Kindergarten Registration Herman AHS Orchestra Senior Concert 7:00pm @ AHS	16 Kindergarten Registration Casey Park AJHS Band Concert 7:00PM	17 Kindergarten Registration Owasco Auburn Alumni Hall Of Distinction Ceremony Auburn Education Foundation	18 Armed Forces Day
19 Asian American Heritage Month	20  AHS Choral Concert 7:00PM	21 Seward Spring Concert @ AHS Auditorium, 6:00PM  School Board Election & Budget Vote 7AM-9PM	22 Owasco Spring Concert @ AJHS Auditorium, 6:00PM Board of Education Mtg. Tubman @ 5:15PM	 FULL 23 Flower Moon	24 NO SCHOOL Memorial Day Weekend	25 
26 National Physical Fitness and Sports Month	27 AHS/AJHS Bands @ Memorial Day Parade NO SCHOOL Memorial Day	28 AHS Mod.Sports Physicals, Girls 1-3PM Board of Education Mtg. AHS Library @ 6:00PM	29 AHS Mod.Sports Physicals, Boys 1-3PM AJHS Orchestra Concert 7:00pm	 LAST 30  AHS Senior Recital 7:00PM	31 For updated events please check the online calendar at our website: www.aecsd.education	June 2024 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30

DIVERSITY, EQUITY & INCLUSION

- On April 9, Dr. Reneé Burgess, Executive Director of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Instruction attended a Connecting Bridges meeting at City Hall to discuss strengthening partnerships within the community.
- On April 10, Nick Esposito, the Senior Design Principal from Education Elements and Reneé visited all of our Personalized Learning Fellows classrooms, as well as met with them after school for our monthly personalized learning fellowship meeting. The Fellows will showcase their Capstone Projects in May.
- On April 16, eight high school seniors participated in the Seal Of Biliteracy at the third annual World Languages Day at Cayuga-Onondaga BOCES.
- On April 17, members of the Student United Way met at AHS. Students worked to complete their end-of-year essays.
- On April 29, Reneé conducted a walk-throughs in each of our seven school buildings to assess Priority #3 in the DEI Strategic Plan.
- Starting in May, fourth grade students across our five elementary schools will participate in the city-wide cultural institutions' Passport to History Program. With their passport in hand, students and their families will receive free access to nine historic sites within History's Hometown. Partner sites include the Seward House Museum, the Cayuga Museum of History and Art, the Schweinfurth Art Center, the Equal Rights Heritage Center, Seymour Library, the Harriet Tubman Home, Inc., The Harriet Tubman National Historical Site, Auburn Memorial City Hall, and Willard Memorial Chapel. Fourth grade students will visit most of these sites during a school field trip. Parents and Guardians, we encourage you to help support your child(ren) in completing their passport(s).

Dr. Renee Burgess, DEI Executive Director

NYS SCHOOL TAX RELIEF PROGRAM (STAR)

Basic STAR Exemption Impact

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)

	Proposed Budget 2024-2025
Basic STAR tax savings	\$492

For ALL Owner-occupied Residences:

All taxpayers are eligible for a Basic STAR exemption for owner-occupied, primary residences. For 2024-2025 the STAR program continues to provide qualifying households with a \$28,800 exemption on the full value of their property.

For a home with a full value of \$100,000, qualifying residents will realize an estimated \$492 in Basic STAR tax savings.

For Senior Citizens:

The Enhanced STAR program for senior citizens provides eligible seniors an exemption from school property taxes for owner-occupied, primary residences. To be eligible for this exemption, a property owner must be 65 years of age or older on December 31, 2024, with income not exceeding \$98,700.

STAR provides qualifying households with up to a \$80,640 exemption on the full value of their property. Qualifying residents owning a home with a full value of \$100,000 will recognize an estimated \$1,181 in Enhanced STAR tax savings in 2024-2025.

Projected Total Tax Increase for a \$100,000 full value house with:

Basic STAR	\$94
Enhanced STAR	\$31

ESTIMATED SCHOOL TAX IMPACT:

Projections for the tax rates on each of the four towns and city comprising the Auburn Enlarged City School District are dependent upon the assessed value of the District, NYS equalization rates for each municipality and the local tax levy amount. Property assessments are still subject to change and equalization rates are not completed by the State until summer.

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<https://www.facebook.com/caseyparkelementary>

<https://www.facebook.com/geneseeschool>

<https://www.facebook.com/OwascoElementary>

<https://www.facebook.com/HermanAveElementary>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/sewardelementary>

ATTENTION:

All events and activities are subject to change. Please check the website for the latest updates: www.aecsd.education

END OF YEAR SCHEDULE

**For Students in the AECSD
2023-2024 School Year:**

AHS Senior Prom

Friday, June 14, 7:00-11:00PM

The Lodge, Skaneateles

June 12: Last full day of classes for Auburn High School Students

Wednesday, June 19: No School in observance of Juneteenth Day

Friday, June 21: Half Day for Elementary

AHS Graduation Ceremony 6:00PM

Friday, June 21 @ Holland Stadium

Monday, June 24: Last full day Elementary Half day AJHS

Tuesday, June 25: Half Day Elementary Half Day AJHS

Wednesday, June 26: Half Day Elementary No School 7th grade, 8th grade Trip

For information on Foundation Aid issues affecting the district please visit: fixandfundit.org

NEW YORK STATE SEX OFFENDER REGISTRY:

You can go online to find out if any sexual offenders live near you. The New York State Sex Offender Registry is available at www.criminaljustice.ny.gov/nsor/index.htm whereby you can search for Level 2 and Level 3 sex offenders.

MEET THE 2024-2025 SCHOOL BOARD CANDIDATES



Melissa Deyneka I have lived in the Auburn area my entire life. A 1993 graduate from Auburn High School and a 1995 graduate from Cayuga Community College with a degree in Business Administration. I have 2 children, Madison, 21, a 2021 graduate from Auburn High School, who currently attends the University of Buffalo; Mason, 18, who is a current Senior at Auburn High School.

I was a stay-at-home mom while my children were young. I started volunteering at Owasco Elementary School when the kids were in elementary and was the PTO President for Owasco Elementary for 8 years. While on the PTO I was also a member of various school committees: District Parent Council, Advocacy Committee, Sustainability Committee, Wellness Committee as well as a handful of interview committees for Principals and Superintendents throughout the years. I am currently the President of the COAEO (Cayuga Onondaga Association of Educational Office Professionals) through Cayuga Onondaga BOCES, where I currently work. I am also a member of the Parish Council through the Catholic Community of Holy Family, Sacred Heart, St. Alphonsus, and St. Ann's.



Noel Romeo Noel Romeo is a dedicated community member and educator who has called Auburn home for the past 23 years. She fell in love with the vibrant community and has been actively involved in various aspects of community life. As a mother of 11 children spanning different educational levels - from college to elementary school - Noel brings a unique perspective and insight into the diverse needs of students and families in the school district.

With her experience as the director of a Montessori school and a teacher, Noel has a deep understanding of educational practices and the importance of fostering a nurturing learning environment for all students. Her passion for education and commitment to the well-being of students make her a strong advocate for academic excellence and student success.

Noel's leadership skills, combined with her experience in education and her deep roots in the Auburn community, uniquely qualify her to serve on the school board. She is dedicated to fostering a supportive and inclusive educational environment that caters to the diverse needs of students and empowers them to reach their full potential. Noel Romeo is committed to advocating for the best interests of students, families, and educators in the Auburn school district.

Current AECSD Board Members/Term Expires:

Matteo Bartolotta	2024
CJ Calarco	2026
Sam Giangreco	2024
Eli Hernandez,	2026
Daniel Lovell	2025
Ian Phillips, Pres	2024
Jim VanArsdale	2025
Freddie Wilson III	2026
Danielle Wood, VP	2025

VOTE FOR ANY THREE CANDIDATES

Candidates for the Board of Education had until May 1st to announce their candidacy for the Board. These photographs and biographies were the only ones provided by potential or verified candidates at the time of publication. The three positions are for three-year terms.

Please remember to vote. Polls are open from 7:00AM to 9:00PM, on Tuesday, May 21, 2024.

DISTRICT GOALS

High Quality Curriculum and Instruction The Auburn Enlarged City School District will develop a framework and implement high quality curriculum, instruction, and balanced assessment model for all students. All staff will implement evidence-based practices including high yield instructional strategies that increase higher order thinking, collaboration and creativity, and student engagement.

Leadership and Innovation All members of the Auburn Enlarged City School District and community are valued and seen as contributors to the goals of the district. Allocation of resources will support job-embedded professional development dedicated to promoting creative problem solving and critical thinking. We will seek to leverage emergent ideas and insights to realize measurable achievement gains for educators and students.

Systems Thinking The Auburn Enlarged City School District will continually create benchmarks for success that align targeted resources to evaluate and enrich the quality of our instructional programs. Each student will be provided equitable access to meet and exceed the standards for college and career readiness.

INFORMATION ON VOTING/SAMPLE BALLOT
School Board Member

VOTE FOR UP TO ANY THREE: (1) Vote for up to three (3) candidates. (2) You may vote for a person whose name is not printed on this ballot by writing his/her name in the blank space provided. (3) If you mark more than three (3) names or if for any reason it is impossible to determine your choice of candidate for an office, your vote shall not be counted for such office but shall be returned as a blank vote thereon

	O	Melissa Deyneka		
	O	Noel Romeo		
				
		Write In	Write In	Write In

PROPOSITION #1

2024-2025 School Budget

Write-in

RESOLVED, that the proposed budget of expenditures of the Auburn Enlarged City School District for the 2024-2025 school year be and the same hereby is approved in an amount not to exceed **\$104,404,172.00** and the amount thereof shall be raised by a levy of tax upon the taxable property of the School District, after first deducting the monies available from state aid and other sources as provided by law.

YES

NO

PROPOSITION #2

Student Board Member

RESOLVED, “Should a high school senior student be designated to serve as an ex officio member of the Board of Education, and thereby be entitled to sit with Board Members at all its public meetings, and participate therein, but without the authority to vote on matters before the Board or to attend executive sessions?”

YES

NO

ABSENTEE VOTING

Qualified school district voters who are unable to vote in person on Tuesday, May 21, 2024, may vote in the Annual School District Election and Budget Vote by absentee ballot. Those who are ill, hospitalized, physically disabled, away on business or vacation, or who are detained in jail, awaiting action by a grand jury, awaiting trial or confined for an offense other than a felony or concerned about exposure to Covid-19 may use an absentee ballot to vote. Registered sex offenders must use an absentee ballot to vote.

To receive an absentee ballot, individuals must first fill out an application for the ballot. If you are unable to personally vote at your polling location, applications are available in the district office and on our website and may be filed up to one day before the date of the vote. Applications for absentee ballots may be requested from: Michelle Major, District Clerk, Auburn Enlarged City School District, 78 Thornton Avenue, Auburn, NY. Telephone: 315-255-8850.

Absentee ballots must be received by 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, May 21 2024.

School Board Election and Budget Vote to be held: Tuesday, May 21, 2024. Polls are open 7:00AM to 9:00PM

HOW TO VOTE IN SCHOOL ELECTIONS

Qualified voters must be a U.S. citizen, at least 18 years old, and a resident of the school district for at least 30 days prior to the date of the vote. You do not need to be a registered voter. All absentee ballots must be received by the district no later than 5:00 p.m. on May 21st.

For more information on voting in school elections, call (315) 255-8850.

WHERE TO VOTE IN SCHOOL ELECTIONS

There are NEW legislative and election districts this year, so your polling location may have changed! Where you live determines where you vote in school elections. The chart below shows the general area for each election district and the polling place for each election district. For more information on voting in school elections, please visit www.aecsd.education/budget or call 315-255-8850.

District	Area	Polling Place
1	Legislative District 8	Casey Park Elementary School
2	Legislative District 9 and portions of Sennett	Auburn Junior High School
3	Legislative District 10-1 and portions of Owasco	Owasco Elementary School
4	Legislative Districts 10-2, 10-3, & 11 and portions of Fleming	Seward Elementary School

COMMUNITY COLLABORATIONS

The Auburn School District is fortunate to receive support from a variety of local sources, including businesses and community organizations.

- A** The District collaborates with Cayuga Community College, Cayuga-Onondaga BOCES, Early Childhood Center, Auburn YMCA, Headstart, Cayuga Seneca Community Action Agency, Montessori School of the Finger Lakes, and John E. Gavras Center to provide Prekindergarten programming for 3 and 4 year old children in Auburn. These programs prepare our students for a strong academic foundation for when they enter kindergarten.
- A** The Auburn Education Foundation (AEF) is a major supporter of innovative projects in the District. This past school year, the AEF has supported projects in the area of literacy, social emotional learning, science and technology.
- A** The school district partners with Cayuga Community College (CCC) and the Manufacturer's Association of Central New York (MACNY) to support the Pathways in Technology Early college High school (P-TECH) program and other opportunities for our students to explore careers in the manufacturing industry.



As part of National Volunteer Month and in celebration of Earth Day on April 22nd, some of Herman Avenue's Kindness Ambassadors stayed after school on Friday, April 19th to clean up around the outside of the building. Thank you for helping to keep our environment clean!

Auburn Education Foundation proudly announces members of the Auburn Alumni Hall of Distinction Class of 2024



Major General James Rafferty (retired), East High 1969- completed 40 years of service to Nation, retiring in 2011 as a Major General; held leadership positions at all levels; led over 24,000 civilian, military, and contractors across a 9-state region, training and equipping units deploying in support of global operations in Iraq and Afghanistan

Karen Macier, Auburn High 1972- recently retired from her position as Executive Director of Cayuga County United Way; tireless community leader serving on the boards of several charitable organizations; served in the Women's Army Corps, active duty (1974-1980) and in the Army Reserves (1980-1995)

Sean and Beth Lattimore, Auburn High 1986 – owners of the historic Springside Inn; worked tirelessly to update the entire property both inside and throughout the grounds, keeping its historic character while running a full-service banquet facility, restaurant, and inn; generously supported community organizations through donations of time and space

Marc Petrosino, Auburn High 1993 – Emmy-nominated designer, puppeteer, builder, and co-founder of Monkey Boys Productions, a multi-medium production company; his creations have appeared on *Saturday Night Live!* (NBC), *Sesame Street* (PBS), *Helpsters* (Apple TV), *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* (Broadway) just to name a few

Gary Mann, Auburn High 1999 – program manager for the Auburn Rescue Mission which provides case management and support to help families transition out of homelessness; recipient of awards for work with the homeless; accomplished musician who has released three albums and toured nationally

Eric Emanuel, Auburn High 2008 – graduate of Fashion Institute of Technology; creator and designer of NYC based street wear sportswear with his iconic EE logo; opened his first brick and mortar store in Soho in 2021 and a second in Miami in 2022; partnered with adidas, designing McDonalds All Star High School Basketball gear

The Alumni Hall of Distinction was established to recognize, honor, and celebrate graduates who have distinguished themselves through outstanding academic, professional, personal, and/or civic achievements and to inspire students to pursue a path toward personal success.

These seven distinguished alumni will be honored for their achievements and inducted into the Auburn Alumni Hall of Distinction:

Friday, May 17, 2024

Hilton Garden Inn @ 7:00 PM

Hors d'oeuvres & dessert reception

Tickets are \$35 on our website:

<https://auburneducationfoundation.org>

or mail check to AEF, PO Box 592,

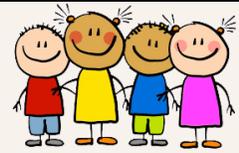
Auburn, NY 13021

Auburn Education foundation would

like to thank our major sponsors:

SWBR and Hilton Garden Inn

Kindergarten Registration - Part 2



- Do you reside in the Auburn Enlarged City School District (AECSD)?
- Will your child be five years old on or before December 1, 2024?
- Have you completed Part I of the Kindergarten Registration process by submitting your registration packet to the AECSD?
- Yes? Then you and your soon-to-be Kindergartener are ready for the next step in the registration process - a visit to your child's new school! See below for the dates and times for your

Monday, May 13

Seward Elementary

52 Metcalf Drive (315) 255-8638

9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

If your child's last name begins with A-L

Tuesday, May 14

Genesee Elementary

244 Genesee St (315) 255-8678

1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

If your child's last name begins with M-Z

Wednesday, May 15

Herman Ave Elementary

2 N. Herman Ave (315) 255-8718

Questions? Please call the applicable Elementary school for more information

Thursday, May 16

Casey Park Elementary

101 Pulaski St (315) 255-8798

Registration and screening will take approximately one hour. Be sure you

Friday, May 17

Owasco Elementary

66 Letchworth St. (315) 255-8721

have already submitted your completed registration packet to the AECSD at 78

Wednesday, May 29

Genesee Elementary

Make-Up Session 5:00-6:30pm

Thornton Avenue at least one week

prior to this visit.

Open Enrollment for Auburn Enlarged City School District’s 2024-2025 Universal Pre-Kindergarten Program Continues After Initial Registration

The Universal Pre-Kindergarten Program is an integral component of our district and includes a UPK program for our 4-year-old learners and a 3PK program for 3-year-olds. Together, these programs offer comprehensive educational services to **Auburn School District residents** who will be 3 or 4 years of age on or before December 1, 2024. There are a limited number of slots available at **no cost** for eligible children. Initial registration began February 1 and a few slots remain for on-going registration.



A list of our Universal Pre-Kindergarten program locations (sites) below contains information regarding which sites offer 3PK and/or UPK and which sites provide full-day and/or half-day programs. Parents/guardians are welcome and encouraged to visit any of these participating sites before completing your child’s registration. Kindly contact the site to arrange a visit.

Site	Program	Full/Half Day	Contact
Cayuga Community College-81 Wall Street	3PK and UPK	Full-day	315-294-8603
Cayuga Onondaga BOCES-1879 W. Genesee St. Rd.	3PK and UPK	Full-day	315-255-0075
Cayuga Seneca Community Action Agency-89 York St. and sites at several AECSD schools	3PK and UPK	Full-day	315-252-0038
Early Childhood Center-1110 Corporate Dr.	3PK and UPK	Full-day	315-255-0233
E. John Gavras Center-182 North St.	3PK and UPK	Full-day	315-255-2746
Montessori School of the Finger Lakes-6734 Pine Ridge Rd.	3PK and UPK	Full-day	315-252-2225
YMCA- 27 William St.	3PK and UPK	Full-day & Half-day 3PK Full-day UPK	315-253-5304

Parents/guardians can register their child online and upload the supporting documentation.

The 3PK and UPK 2023-2024 online student registration is now open. Please register your student using the online enrollment form located at the link on the Auburn Enlarged City School District website, www.AECSD.education under Student Registration.

Parents/guardians who prefer to submit their student’s registration in person may pick up a 2023-2024 registration packet at any Auburn Elementary School or at our Administrative Offices. **Completed paper applications should be submitted to the Harriet Tubman Administrative Offices at 78 Thornton Avenue.**

Need more information about 2023-2024 Universal Pre-Kindergarten? Please contact Jenna Stevens at 315-255-8825 or Michelle Kolceski at 315-255-8613.

Seymour Library

Seymour Library | 176 Genesee Street | Auburn, NY | 315.252.2571

Seymour Library and its staff thank our friends and families for your continued support, which helps us make a difference in our community! Libraries are more than books, offering a wide range of resources and services. Seymour Library invites you to enjoy the Family Space, the beautiful library gardens ready to bloom, and to take advantage of the new Digital Memories Lab in our History Discovery Center. The Library provides a variety of programs, including family-friendly storytimes and clubs. Want to discover more? Please visit www.seymourlibrary.org to explore our calendar of events, new additions to our collections, and access to our growing digital library.



Auburn Enlarged City School District
Harriet Tubman Administration Building
78 Thornton Avenue
Auburn, NY 13021

NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
AUBURN, NY 13021
PERMIT NUMBER 42
ECRWSS

POSTAL CUSTOMER/BOX HOLDER

Overall Budget Proposal	Budget Adopted 2023-2024 School Year	Budget Proposed 2024-2025 School Year	Contingency Budget 2024-2025 School Year *
Total Budgeted Amount	\$100,268,805	\$104,404,172	\$103,708,677
Increase/Decrease for the 2024-2025 School Year		\$4,135,367	\$3,439,872
Percentage increase (decrease) in Proposed Budget		4.12%	3.43%
Change in the Consumer Price Index		4.12%	
A. Proposed Tax Levy to Support Total Budgeted Amount	\$34,949,503	\$35,644,998	
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)	\$34,949,503	\$35,644,998	\$34,949,503
F. Total Permissible Exclusions	\$1,481,643	\$1,470,411	
G. School Tax Levy Limit, <u>Excluding</u> Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$33,467,860	\$34,174,587	
H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, Excluding Levy to Support Library Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions (E-B-F+D)	\$33,467,860	\$34,174,587	
I. Difference: (G-H); Negative Value Requires 60% Voter Approval	\$0	\$0	
Administrative Component	\$11,189,151	\$11,769,677	\$11,718,781
Program Component	\$73,032,215	\$79,020,614	\$78,676,015
Capital Component	\$16,047,439	\$13,613,881	\$13,313,881
* The following assumptions were made in projecting the Contingency Budget:			
- No purchase of new equipment in excess of categorical aid			
- No tax levy amount in excess of 2023-2024 tax levy; reduction of \$695,495 in property tax revenue			
- Administrative component subject to cap			
- Implementation of fee for community use of school facilities			
		Under the Budget Proposed for the 2024-2025 School Year	
Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings (1)		\$492.00	
The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2024-2025 by the qualified voters of the Auburn Enlarged City School District, Cayuga County, New York, will be held at Auburn Junior High, Casey Park Elementary, Owasco Elementary and Seward Elementary in said district on Tuesday, May 21, 2024, between the hours of 7:00 am and 9:00 pm, prevailing time, 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.			

May 2024 DISTRICT NEWSLETTER
 Official Publication of the
AUBURN ENLARGED CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
www.aecsd.education

BOARD OF EDUCATION
 Ian Phillips, President
 Danielle Wood, Vice-President
 Matteo Bartolotta, CJ Calarco,
 Sam Giangreco, Eli Hernandez,
 Daniel Lovell, Jim Van Arsdale
 and Freddie Wilson III



SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS
 Jeffrey A. Pirozzolo
SCHOOL DISTRICT CLERK
 Michelle Major
DISTRICT NEWSLETTER
 Deborah J. Leone

You can access current and past issues of The Maroon Monthly District Newsletter online: [AECSD Newsletters](#)