



the
BUDGET
edition

THE MAROON MONTHLY

2025-2026

PROPOSED BUDGET

PUBLIC HEARING

Tuesday, May 13, 2025

7:00 PM, Auburn High School Library

BUDGET VOTE & ELECTIONS

Tuesday, May 20, 2025

7:00 AM TO 9:00 PM

Return Absentee Ballot by 5:00 PM

WHAT TO VOTE ON:

- School Budget Proposition #1
- Capital Improvement Project Proposition #2
- Election of 4 Board Members

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2025-2026 BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

- ✓ Overall budget up 2.8% compared to 2024-25
- ✓ Tax Levy Increase of 3.25%
- ✓ Continuation of Summer School



Casey Park Elementary held a STEM Night that was also a family engagement event where students and their families could do hands on science experiments and learn about community organizations.

MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

Dear Community Members,

We are pleased to share the Auburn Enlarged City School District's proposed 2025–2026 school year budget. Our Board of Education and district administrators have worked thoughtfully and diligently to craft a budget that continues to support high-quality instruction and programs tailored to the diverse needs of our students, while remaining mindful of the financial challenges facing our community.

The proposed budget totals \$107,323,677, an increase of 2.8% from the previous year. This budget includes the addition of 11.5 critical instructional positions—3 Special Education teachers, 3 Teacher Assistants, 5 Teacher Aides, and a part-time Music Teacher. We will continue summer school, which was previously funded through temporary grants. By incorporating these positions into our regular budget, we aim to reduce achievement gaps, support student wellness, and maintain smaller class sizes that promote effective learning.

With the approval of the 24-25 budget, the District created a music production room at Auburn High School. This program introduced a music production course where students can write, compose, and record their own music—an innovative opportunity supporting creativity and engagement. The response to this addition was overwhelmingly positive, and the need for an additional part-time teacher to expand the program to a level 2 course to continue to grow our students' knowledge and expertise is included in the 25-26 budget.

New York State is proposing a net total increase of 1% in State Aid, which still leaves us with a shortfall. To close the budget gap responsibly, we will use \$2 million from our fund balance and an additional \$500,000 from tax certiorari reserves. In 2023-2024, we used similar reserves to implement a districtwide safety notification system, for which we were reimbursed approximately 80% through state aid.

The proposed budget includes a modest 3.25% increase in the tax levy, well below the state tax cap of 3.78%. A home assessed at \$100,000 translates to an estimated annual increase of \$80, or \$6.70 per month.

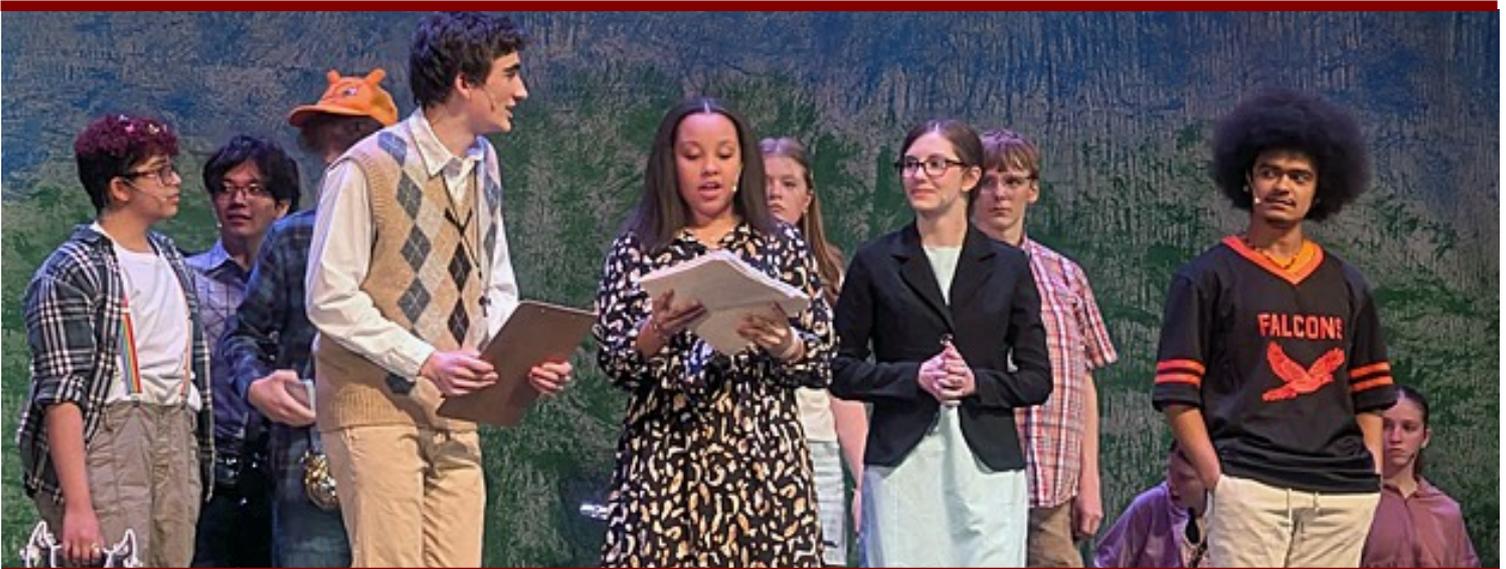
We invite you to learn more about the proposed budget by visiting www.aecsd.education/budget. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact the district office at (315) 255-8822 or email us at budget@aecsd.education.

Thank you for your continued partnership and support. Together, we are investing in our children's future and the future of our community.

Sincerely,

Dr. Misty Slavic

Superintendent of Schools, Auburn Enlarged City School District



AHS Musical "Band Geeks"

2024-25 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. The departments have also worked on specific department focused curricular items while collaborating with one another to strengthen core instruction in all areas.
2. Some teachers in grades K-5 are participating in **two ELA program pilots** in an effort to select a new ELA program consistent for grades K-5 that is aligned to the science or reading and supports evidence-based instructional practices.
3. Teachers in grades 6-8 are also piloting a resource in an effort to **update their ELA curriculum** to ensure alignment to the Next Generation Learning Standards and meeting individual student needs.
4. Teachers in grades K-12 are working on a project to develop math learning targets that are vertically aligned in order to align instruction to **the Next Generation Learning Standards**, embed evidence-based instructional practices that support higher student achievement and improve the overall coherence of math instruction across all grade levels.
5. During the 2024-2025 school year, PreK teachers gained insight into impactful classroom practices through **monthly professional development**.
 - a. Each monthly faculty meeting focused on **evidence-based practices (EBP)**. Evidence-based practices are educational practices or interventions that are backed by strong evidence of their effectiveness as demonstrated by scientifically based research. EBP include: maximizing classroom structures and routines, modeling positive behavior and building relationships, student engagement, positive reinforcement, and managing challenging behaviors.
 - b. Auburn PreK sites focused on **early predictors of reading ability**, particularly phonological and phonemic awareness, letter-sound knowledge, receptive/expressive vocabulary, and oral listening comprehension. In addition to district run professional development, PreK teachers have been able to participate in regional professional development with CO BOCES and surrounding districts through the Early Learning Collaborative Community.
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 25-26 school year.
7. The district held one Parent/Guardian University this school year focused on ELA, Math, SEL, and STEM instruction.
8. **The Auburn Librarians** have actively engaged students in Project-Based Learning (PBL) throughout the year, focusing on areas such as Manipulative Engineering, Design/Novel Engineering, Coding/Computational Thinking, and Circuitry. The goal is for K-6 students to complete three PBL experiences annually. At the secondary level, the librarians have expanded opportunities by incorporating innovative tools and experiences such as 3D printing, use of Cricut Design space, and sewing.
9. **Teacher Technology mentors** provide daily support for the instructional needs of our teachers and support staff. The Teacher Technology Mentors work closely with the Student Technology Mentors to empower them to assist teachers, substitutes, and fellow students.
10. **The Auburn IT department** works continuously to maintain day-to-day operations and Chromebook health for our students while also providing technical support, maintaining infrastructure, and implementing new technology to support education.
11. **Technology Infrastructure Improvements** - This school year, the Information Technology department has made significant enhancements to the district's technology infrastructure to strengthen security, reliability, and overall operational efficiency. Key upgrades included the installation of a full-room uninterruptible power supply (UPS) system in our primary data center, ensuring continuous uptime during power disruptions. We also upgraded our video surveillance storage and access control systems to improve campus safety and monitoring capabilities. In three of our schools, we completed full network switching upgrades to support faster, more reliable connectivity. Additionally, we finalized the implementation of a district-wide lockdown and mass notification system, greatly enhancing our emergency response readiness.

Amy Mahunik, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction

2025-2026 PROPOSED BUDGET EXPENDITURES

Program Component: 74.59% 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	2024-2025	2025-2026	Increase/(Decrease)
Legal	13,000	10,000	(3,000)
Teaching - Regular School	25,676,307	26,056,839	380,532
Programs - Students with Disabilities	18,507,083	17,732,489	(774,594)
Occupational Education	2,655,911	2,749,966	94,055
Teaching - Special Schools	248,912	233,912	(15,000)
School Library & Audiovisual	1,081,491	986,623	(94,868)
Computer Assisted Instruction	2,686,556	3,103,242	416,686
Guidance	1,276,126	1,510,943	234,817
Health Services	920,961	911,273	(9,688)
Co-Curricular Activities	199,024	219,824	20,800
Interscholastic Activities	787,087	794,900	7,813
District Transportation	337,768	333,781	(3,987)
Contract Transportation	3,722,000	4,140,600	418,600
Public Transportation	50	50	0
BOCES Contract Transportation	46,000	43,000	(3,000)
Employee Benefits	20,862,338	21,225,639	363,301
Interfund Transfers	0	0	0
Total Program Expense	\$79,020,614	\$80,053,081	\$1,032,467

Capital Component: 14.09% 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	2024-2025	2025-2026	Increase/(Decrease)
Operation	3,936,210	4,342,545	406,335
Maintenance	1,618,162	1,691,570	73,408
Employee Benefits	1,719,609	1,762,509	42,900
Debt Service	6,239,900	7,226,077	986,177
Interfund Transfers	100,000	100,000 *	0
Total Capital Expense	\$13,613,881	\$15,122,701	\$1,508,820

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



Perennial Math Tournament 2025

Big Hoot Assembly at Owasco Elementary

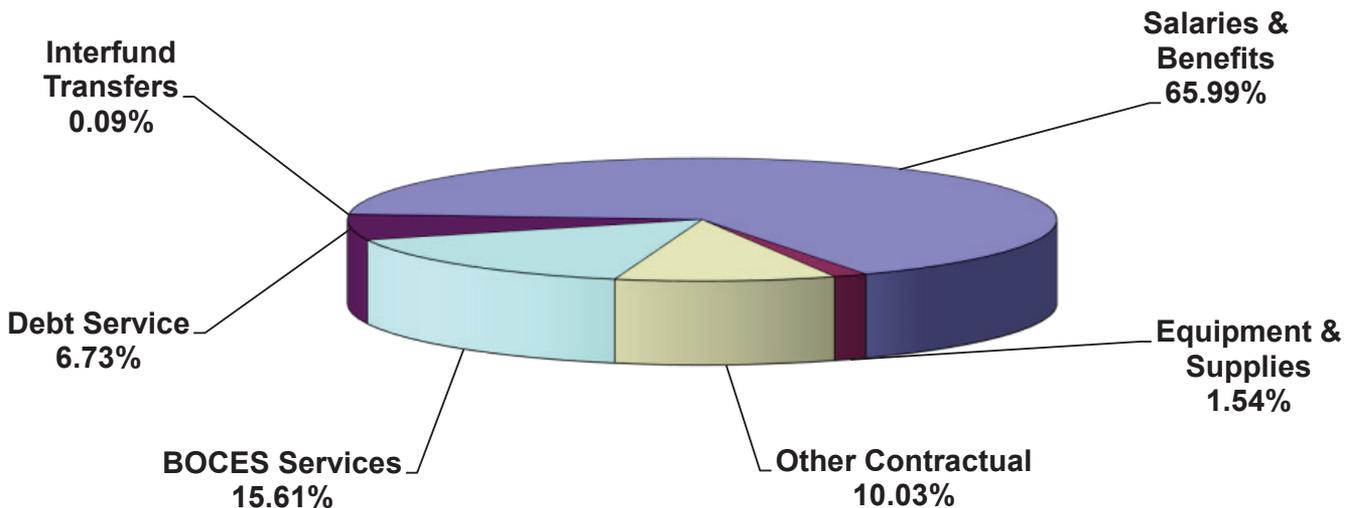
2025-2026 PROPOSED BUDGET EXPENDITURES

Administrative Component: 11.32% 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	2024-2025	2025-2026	Increase/(Decrease)
Board of Education	15,000	18,396	3,396
District Clerk	11,700	12,144	444
District Meeting	12,700	12,700	0
Central Administration	361,303	302,929	(58,374)
Business Administration	270,312	305,880	35,568
Auditing	43,000	43,000	0
Treasurer	129,436	102,381	(27,055)
Tax Collection	11,200	32,200	21,000
Purchasing	11,500	11,500	0
Fiscal Agent Fees	7,500	7,000	(500)
Legal	270,000	256,000	(14,000)
Personnel	1,229,645	1,190,164	(39,481)
Public Information & Service	135,573	113,330	(22,243)
Central Storeroom	46,447	48,529	2,082
Central Printing & Mailing	817,000	590,500	(226,500)
Central Data Processing	456,000	989,600	533,600
Unallocated Insurance	370,000	438,000	68,000
Board Membership Dues	19,100	19,400	300
Assessments on School Property	70,000	80,000	10,000
BOCES Admin. Charges	1,165,000	1,167,679	2,679
Curriculum Development, Supervision	792,260	763,418	(28,842)
Supervision - Reg. School	2,505,202	2,651,149	145,947
Research Planning & Evaluation	129,000	124,000	(5,000)
Inservice Training	167,042	126,219	(40,823)
Programs - Students with Disabilities	466,356	437,276	(29,080)
Health Services	111,327	113,955	2,628
Employee Benefits	2,146,074	2,190,546	44,472
Total Administrative Expense	\$11,769,677	\$12,147,895	\$378,218
Total Budgeted Expenses	\$104,404,172	\$107,323,677	\$2,919,505

2025-2026 PROPOSED BUDGET



2025-2026 PROJECTED REVENUES

State Aid	2024-2025	2025-2026	Increase/Decrease
Operating State Aid	56,896,985	60,385,720	3,488,735
Building Aid	4,410,249	4,082,610	(327,639)
Total State Aid	\$61,307,234	\$64,468,330	3,161,096

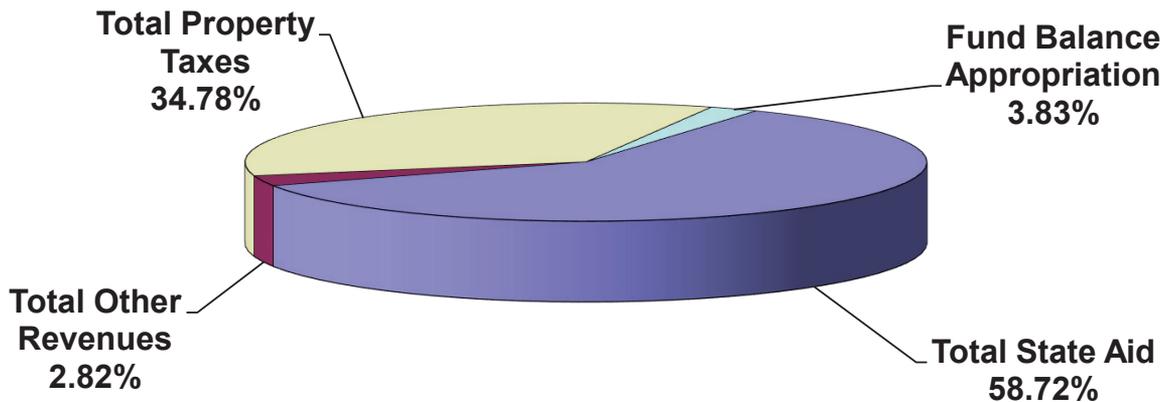
Other Revenues	2024-2025	2025-2026	Increase/Decrease
Tuition	50,000	50,000	0
Interest	482,694	567,958	85,264
Miscellaneous Revenues	736,000	746,000	10,000
Prior Year Refunds	1,300,000	1,300,000	0
Property Rental	12,000	12,000	0
Medicaid Reimbursement	350,000	350,000	0
Transfers From Other Funds	0	0	0
Total Other Revenues	\$2,930,694	\$3,025,958	95,264

Property Taxes	2024-2025	2025-2026	Increase/Decrease
Tax Levy	35,644,998	36,803,460	1,158,462
Payments in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT)	521,246	525,929	4,683
Total Property Taxes	\$36,166,244	\$37,329,389	1,163,145

Appropriated Fund Balance	2024-2025	2025-2026	Increase/Decrease
Fund Balance/Reserve Appropriation	4,000,000	2,500,000	(1,500,000)

Total Projected Revenues	\$104,404,172	\$107,323,677	2,919,505
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2025-2026 PROJECTED REVENUES



2022-23 NYS Transparency Report for the Auburn School District

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

2025-2026 Property Tax Report Card

050100 - Auburn Enlarged City School District
 Contact Person: Tessa Crawford
 Telephone Number: 315-255-8808

	Budgeted 2024-2025 (A)	Proposed Budget 2025-2026 (B)
Total Budgeted Amount, not Including Separate Propositions	104,404,172	107,323,677
A. Proposed Tax Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount	35,644,998	36,803,460
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)	35,644,998	36,803,460
F. Permissible Exclusions to the School Tax Levy Limit	1,470,411	1,868,878
G. School Tax Levy Limit, <u>Excluding</u> Levy for Permissible Exclusions	34,174,587	34,934,582
H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, <u>Excluding</u> Levy to Support Library Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions (E - B - F + D)	34,174,587	34,934,582
I. Difference: (G - H); (negative value requires 60.0% voter approval)	0	0
Public School Enrollment	3,780	3,750
Consumer Price Index		2.95%
	Actual 2024-2025 (D)	Estimated 2025-2026 (E)
Adjusted Restricted Fund Balance	9,794,969	12,940,000
Assigned Appropriated Fund Balance	4,500,000	2,500,000
Adjusted Unrestricted Fund Balance	10,738,204	7,883,255
Adjusted Unrestricted Fund Balance as a Percent of the Total Budget	10.32%	7.35%

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	3/31/25 Actual Balance	6/30/25 Estimated Ending Balance	Intended Use of the Reserve in the 2025-2026 School Year
Capital	2018 Capital Reserve Fund	To pay the cost of any object or purpose for which bonds may be issued.	454,524	1,000,000	Emergency Project
Capital	2018 Turf Capital Reserve Fund	To pay the cost of replacing the athletic field turf, for which bonds may be issued.	266,548	270,000	None
Unemployment Insurance	Unemployment Insurance Reserve	To pay the cost of reimbursement to the State Unemployment Insurance Fund.	159,246	160,000	None
Insurance	Insurance Reserve Fund	To pay liability, casualty, and other types of uninsured losses.	1,485,264	1,490,000	None
Liability	Liability Reserve Fund	To establish and maintain a program of reserves to cover liability claims incurred.	530,509	535,000	None
Tax Certiorari	Tax Certiorari Reserve	To establish a reserve fund for tax certiorari settlements	2,092,255	1,600,000	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.	424,390	430,000	None
Workers' Comp	Worker's Comp Reserve	To pay compensation, benefits and medical expenses authorized under the Workers' Compensation Law	877,412	890,000	None
Retirement Contribution Sub-Fund	Retirement Contribution Reserve Sub-Fund (TRS)	To fund employer retirement contributions to the State and Local Teachers' Retirement System	2,973,567	2,980,000	None
Retirement Contribution	Retirement Contribution Reserve Fund	To fund employer retirement contributions to the State and Local Employees' Retirement System	2,034,589	2,035,000	Use \$500,000 to pay portion of ERS invoice
Health Insurance	Health Insurance Reserve Fund	For any loss, claim, action, or judgement for accident and health insurance	1,500,000	1,550,000	None

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 2025-2026
Basic STAR tax savings	\$469

For ALL Owner-occupied Residences:

All taxpayers are eligible for a Basic STAR exemption for owner-occupied, primary residences. For 2025-2026 the STAR program continues to provide qualifying households with a \$30,000 exemption on the full value of their property.

For a home with a full value of \$100,000, qualifying residents will realize an estimated \$469 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, 2025, with income not exceeding \$107,300.

STAR provides qualifying households with up to a \$86,100 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 2025-2026.

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

Basic STAR	\$80
Enhanced STAR	\$57

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.

Current AECSD Board Members/Term Expires:

Matteo Bartolotta	2027
CJ Calarco	2026
Melissa Deyneka	2027
Eli Hernandez, P	2026
Daniel Lovell	2025
Noel Romeo	2027
Jim VanArsdale	2025
Danielle Wood, VP	2025



FOR ANY FOUR 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. Three of the four positions are for three-year terms and one position for a partial term of office expiring on June 30, 2026.

Please remember to vote. Polls are open from 7:00AM to 9:00PM, on Tuesday, May 20, 2025.



Seward Stinger Third Grader Zaniyah Murray worked on her very own original story *The Easter Bunny*, both at school and after school at the BTW Program! When the book was completed, it was laminated and then ready for sharing with friends. Zaniyah thinks that adding a shiny golden egg to the cover really adds sparkle to her book! Great job, Zaniyah! Your Seward Family is very proud of your hard work and authorship!

Colleen Miles Ed. D. Elementary Educator

MEET THE 2025-2026 SCHOOL BOARD CANDIDATES



Daniel Lovell is a life resident of Cayuga County and an Auburn High graduate. An information technology professional and small business owner who has worked primarily with government, small business and nonprofits, Dan is running for reelection after serving his first term on the Auburn school board. He currently serves as secretary of the Auburn Industrial Development Authority and is a member of the facilities and communications committees for the Auburn Enlarged City School District. He is proud of the board's work during his first term, including hiring a new superintendent, renovations and new furniture for the high school library, providing new instruments for the music program and offering music lessons to fourth graders. He lives in Auburn with his wife Claire and their children, all of whom attended Auburn schools.



Frederick Cornelius is a retired professional police officer with 27 years of experience with the Cayuga County Sheriff's Office. He held the rank of Detective Lieutenant when he retired in 2022. Since that time he has been a Licensed Private Investigator and founded Curiosity Investigations LLC specializing in criminal defense investigations. Prior to his time with the Sheriff's Office he proudly served his country for 6 years in the United States Air Force serving as a Non-commissioned Officer in the USAF Security Police. He has four adult children and eight grandchildren, six of which are students of the Auburn School District. He was elected to the Auburn Board of Education in 2006. He again joined the Auburn Board of Education in 2015 when he was appointed to fill a vacancy. He was elected in 2016 and served on the board for an additional 3 years. He has been an Adjunct Professor of Criminal Justice at Cayuga Community College since 2015 and currently serves as President of the Part Time Faculty Association of CCC which represents the Adjunct Faculty and other part-time employees of the College.



Danielle Wood I feel fortunate to have been afforded the opportunity to serve on the Board of Education for the last six years. Throughout my tenure, I have continued being committed to ensuring all students have the tools they need to be successful learners and contribute to our community into adulthood. I am proud that we have made gains in our efforts for proper state funding. The addition and maintenance of positions that ensure proper student supported safety has been impactful in our buildings. Advocating for both staff and students while promoting a positive, nurturing getting for all will always remain a top priority. Over the last ten years, volunteer efforts district-wide, at Herman Ave Elementary, and the YMCA, have provided me with ample insight and experience to continue serving our district. I have a small business and am employed as a Preschool Assistant at the YMCA. An Auburn graduate, I have three children, Kellan (12), Ailey (10), and Marlowe (8).



Jason Horbal I am a proud graduate of Auburn High School Class of 2002. I reside in Auburn with my wife Kate and 2 children, Jaynie (9) and Max (6) who are both enrolled at Herman Ave Elementary School. Over the past 5 years I have been involved in coaching youth soccer and baseball along with being an active constituent of the Parent District Council Meetings held within the school district. Being an active member of the community and the district I understand the challenges the school faces and will strive for academic excellence of all students. My main priorities include supporting teachers and staff with the resources they need to be successful educators and mentors, being an advocate for transparency and open communication between the Board of Education and the community, promoting equal opportunities for all students regardless of their background or their ability, and being an advocate for responsible spending of tax payers money. I do believe if the parents, staff, educators, and community members work together we can create a safe and educational environment that will allow all of our students succeed and receive a quality education. I am running to be your voice on the school board and to help guide our schools to a brighter and sustainable future.



Jim Van Arsdale It is a mix of life and professional experiences that give me the desire to serve as a board member in the Auburn Enlarged School District. I have been committed to doing my best in our community to help provide as many positive and uplifting experiences for all our youth. My wife Lisa and I are blessed with 2 daughters, Jennifer and Nicole, both Auburn graduates. I believe our school system plays a vital role in creating these opportunities. Our schools are the community's biggest financial and human investment we make together. I would like to be part of the team that moves education forward in Auburn. With that as my purpose, I ask for your vote for the school board this May.



Hannah van der Werff I'm a proud mom of two wonderful girls in the Auburn Enlarged City School District. For the past 20 years, my family and I have called this community home – and I care deeply about the future of our schools. I currently serve as a Senior Clerk for Cayuga County, where I've built a career grounded in responsibility, service, and attention to detail. I love helping clients in the community as much as I can. As a parent, a public servant, and a long-time resident, I understand the importance of strong schools, supportive teachers, and making sure every child has the opportunity to succeed. I'm running for the school board because I want to give back to the district that's given so much to my children. I believe in listening, working together, and always putting students first. I would be honored to earn your support. Together, let's build a stronger future for our children.

Board Candidates continued on next page...

Board Candidates continued from page 9...



Bill Andre resides in the city of Auburn with his wife Christine. He has 4 grown children who all graduated from Auburn High School and 2 step children. He is a high school graduate, attended Cayuga Community College and has certificates from the National Labor College, He is also Auburn's board member for Cayuga Onondaga BOCES, a member of Auburn Industrial Development Authority, Cayuga Cortland Workforce Investment board, President of the Cayuga Labor Council, Vice President of the CNY Area Labor Federation, and a board member of the Rochester Genesee Valley Labor Federation. He has previously served the Auburn School Board for 21 years and has attended many training's, while also serving on numerous other board committees.

INFORMATION ON VOTING/SAMPLE BALLOT

School Board Member

VOTE FOR UP TO ANY FOUR: (1) Vote for up to four (4) 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 four (4) 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.

	<input type="radio"/> Daniel Lovell	MEMBER OF SCHOOL BOARD CANDIDATES VOTE FOR ANY FOUR
	<input type="radio"/> Frederick Cornelius	
	<input type="radio"/> Danielle Wood	
	<input type="radio"/> Jason Horbal	
	<input type="radio"/> James Van Arsdale	
	<input type="radio"/> Hannah van der Werff	
	<input type="radio"/> William Andre	
	<input type="radio"/>	

PROPOSITION #1
2025-2026 School Budget

RESOLVED, that the proposed budget of expenditures of the Auburn Enlarged City School District for the 2025-2026 school year be and the same hereby is approved in an amount not to exceed **\$107,323,677.00** 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
Capital Improvement Project

Shall the following proposition be approved:

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Auburn Enlarged City School District is hereby authorized to undertake certain capital improvements consisting of reconstruction of school buildings and facilities, including, without limitation, mechanical systems replacement in Casey Park Elementary, Genesee Elementary, Herman Avenue Elementary, and Owasco Elementary and the acquisition of certain equipment and apparatus and other incidental improvements required in connection therewith for such construction, school use, and compliance with all applicable policies and procedures, all at an estimated maximum aggregate cost of \$7,200,000 and to appropriate and expend from the existing capital reserve fund \$3,600,000 for such costs, and that the balance of such cost, or so much thereof as may be necessary, shall be appropriated and expended from Unassigned Fund Balance or other available District funds?

YES

NO

**School Board Election and Budget Vote to be held:
Tuesday, May 20, 2025. 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 20.

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

WHERE TO VOTE IN SCHOOL ELECTIONS

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.

ABSENTEE VOTING

Qualified school district voters who are unable to vote in person on Tuesday, May 20, 2025, 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.

May 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	 May Artwork Bentley Cardinale, Gr. 5 Casey Park	April 2025 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	June 2025 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	1	2 AHS End Marking Period 5	3  SAT Exam AHS 7:45AM
 4 	5 Teacher Appreciation Week Cinco de Mayo Teacher Appreciation Day District Parent Council Mtg. 6:30PM @ Tubman	6 AJHS Title One Mtg 5:30pm AJHS PTO Mtg. 6:00PM Seward Spring Concert @ AHS Auditorium, 6:00PM	7 School Nurse Appreciation Day Herman Ave Spring Concert @ AJHS Auditorium, 6:00PM	8  Genesee Concert 6:00PM @ AJHS Owasco Family Night 5:30-7:00PM Marking Period 6 Begins AHS	9  AHS Junior Prom Emerson Pavilion 6:30PM AHS Report Cards	10
11  Mother's Day	12  Kindergarten Registration Owasco Flower Moon	13 Kindergarten Registration Casey Park Public Budget Hearing Board of Education Mtg. AHS Library @ 7:00PM	14 Kindergarten Registration Herman AHS Orchestra Concert @ 7:00PM	15 Kindergarten Registration Genesee AJHS Band Concert @ 7:00PM	16 Kindergarten Registration Seward	17 Armed Forces Day
18 Asian American Heritage Month	19 AHS Chous Concert @ 7:00PM National Volunteers Week	20  Owasco Spring Concert @ AHS Auditorium, 6:00PM  School Board Election & Budget Vote 7AM-9PM	21 Board of Education Mtg. Tubman @ TBD Casey Park Spring Concert @ AJHS, 6:00PM	22 AHS Band Concert @ 7:00PM	23	24 
25 National Physical Fitness and Sports Month	26  AHS/AJHS Bands @ Memorial Day Parade NO SCHOOL Memorial Day	27 Board of Education Mtg. AHS Library @ 6:00PM	28 AJHS Orchestra Concert @ 7:00PM	29 AHS Senior Recital @ 7:00PM	30	31

END OF YEAR SCHEDULE

For Students in the AECSD
2024-2025 School Year:

June 6: Last full day of classes for Auburn
High School Students

Friday, June 13: AHS Senior Prom
7:00-11:00PM, The Lodge, Skaneateles

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

Friday, June 20: Half Day for Elementary

AHS Graduation Ceremony 6:00PM

Friday, June 20 @ Holland Stadium

Monday, June 23: Last full day Elementary

Half Day 7th grade, No School 8th grade Trip

Tuesday, June 24: Half Day Elementary
Half Day AJHS

Wednesday, June 25: Half Day Elementary
No School 7th grade, 8th grade

Follow us on Facebook!

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

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

<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>



Band students from Casey Park, Herman Ave and Seward Elementary performed with students across Cayuga County in the CCMEA Spring All County Music Festival in April. Students prepared for many weeks at their home buildings and then practiced many hours with students in order to perform in an amazing concert for their families at Port Byron Junior & Senior High School. Students were selected to attend based upon teacher recommendations on playing ability, sight reading ability and character.



The Iron Giraffe Project

Eighth grade students at AJHS participated in the Iron Giraffe Walk-A-Thon at Holland Stadium in October. Leading up to that day, students raised \$1,304 for the Iron Giraffe project, which helps provide fresh water to South Sudan. The organization has been keeping students updated on how their donations have been put to use by providing water and teaching personal hygiene, safe water practices, food safety, and safe disposal of waste.



DEI Notes

Auburn schools observed Autism Awareness Month in multiple ways.

- Herman Avenue Elementary School featured information during the morning announcements.
- Auburn High School, there were activities for special education students. They created a display showcase in the front of the school. The students made blue flowers to pin on the showcase board, decorated the outside of their classroom door with historical figures with Autism, and created gift bags for some of their Autism Allies in the building.

The high school's SADD Club had an Autism Awareness table in front of the library with resources and support awareness pins for students. Child psychology and development classes learned about typical behaviors and warning signs that a child may have autism. They also learned about how to support students with autism.

Auburn Junior High School displayed banners in the hallways for Native American Heritage Month.

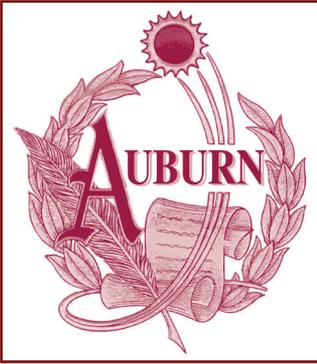
Auburn High School students participated in the annual World Language Day at Cayuga-Onondaga BOCES.

At Seward Elementary School, posters were put up for Earth Day, and students created world maps that show where their friends live.

Genesee Elementary School has a display for Native American Heritage Month.

Casey Park Elementary School has its Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month display up.

Owasco Elementary School fourth-grade students learned about Seoul, South Korea, by putting together posts for their blog. There was also a display in the hallway for Neurodiversity Acceptance Month, which raises awareness about and celebrates the diversity of human brains and how they function.



Auburn Education Foundation Auburn Alumni Hall of Distinction Class of 2025

Ceremony on Friday, May 16 @ Hilton Garden Inn honoring:

Melody Brooks	Class of 1976
Bernie Simmons	Class of 1976
John D. Bisognano, M.D.	Class of 1977
Gina Gera	Class of 1988
Nicole N. Murley	Class of 1997

Go to auburnedfoundation.org and find "Events" not later than May 14th!
\$35 each Light hors d'oeuvres and desserts served

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.

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, 2025?
- 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 neighborhood school.

Monday, May 12	Owasco Elementary 66 Letchworth St. (315) 255-8721	9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. If your child's last name begins with A-L
Tuesday, May 13	Casey Park Elementary 101 Pulaski St (315) 255-8798	1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. If your child's last name begins with M-Z
Wednesday, May 14	Herman Ave Elementary 2 N. Herman Ave (315) 255-8718	Questions? Please call the applicable Elementary school for more information Registration and screening will take approximately <u>one hour</u> . Be sure you have already submitted your completed registration packet to the AECSD at 78 Thornton Avenue <u>at least one week</u> prior to this visit.
Thursday, May 15	Genesee Elementary 244 Genesee St (315) 255-8678	
Friday, May 16	Seward Elementary 52 Metcalf Drive (315) 255-8638	
Wednesday, May 28	Genesee Elementary Make-up Session 5-6:30 p.m.	

Open Enrollment for Auburn Enlarged City School District’s 2025-2026 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, 2025. 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	315-253-5304

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

The 3PK and UPK 2025-2026 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 2025-2026 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 Mary White 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. This May, spring into connection, creativity, and community at the Family Space –whether you're looking to bond over a book, explore hands-on activities, or simply enjoy time together. The Library provides a variety of programs, including family-friendly storytimes and clubs. 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

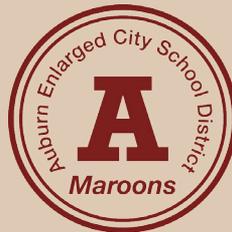
Overall Budget Proposal	Budget Adopted 2024-2025 School Year	Budget Proposed 2025-2026 School Year	Contingency Budget 2025-2026 School Year *
Total Budgeted Amount	\$104,404,172	\$107,323,677	\$106,165,215
Increase/Decrease for the 2024-2025 School Year		\$2,919,505	\$1,761,043
Percentage increase (decrease) in Proposed Budget		2.80%	1.69%
Change in the Consumer Price Index		2.95%	
A. Proposed Tax Levy to Support Total Budgeted Amount	\$35,644,998	\$36,803,460	
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)	\$35,644,998	\$36,803,460	\$35,644,998
F. Total Permissible Exclusions	\$1,470,411	\$1,868,878	
G. School Tax Levy Limit, Excluding Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$34,174,587	\$34,934,582	
H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, Excluding Levy to Support Library Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions (E-B-F+D)	\$34,174,587	\$34,934,582	
I. Difference: (G-H); Negative Value Requires 60% Voter Approval	\$0	\$0	
Administrative Component	\$11,769,677	\$12,147,895	
Program Component	\$79,020,614	\$80,053,081	
Capital Component	\$13,613,881	\$15,122,701	
* The following assumptions were made in projecting the Contingency Budget:			
- No purchase of new equipment in excess of categorical aid			 VOTE
- No tax levy amount in excess of 2024-2025 tax levy; reduction of \$1,158,462 in property tax revenue			
- Administrative component subject to cap			
- Implementation of fee for community use of school facilities			
		Under the Budget Proposed for the 2025-2026 School Year	
Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings (1)		\$496.00	
The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2025-2026 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 20, 2025, 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 2025 DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

Official Publication of the
AUBURN ENLARGED CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

www.aecsd.education

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