

M A Y

2 0 2 3

Auburn
Enlarged City School District
Home of the Maroons



the BUDGET

THE MAROON MONTHLY

edition

2023-2024

PROPOSED BUDGET

BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING

Tuesday, May 9, 2023

7:00 PM, Auburn High School Library

BUDGET VOTE & ELECTIONS

Tuesday, May 16, 2023

7:00 AM TO 9:00 PM

Return Absentee Ballot by 5:00PM

WHAT TO VOTE ON:

- Budget Proposition
- Election of Board Members



In This Issue . . .

Message from the Superintendent . . .	2
Proposed Budget	4-5
Revenue Budget	6
Property Tax Report Card	7
STAR Program	9
Meet the Candidates.	10
Absentee Voting	11
Sample Ballot	11
How to Vote/Where to Vote.	12
District Budget Notice	16

2023-2024 BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

- ✓ Overall budget up 11.1% compared to 2022-23
- ✓ Tax Levy Increase of 1.99%
- ✓ \$8.1 Million Increase in State Foundation Aid
- ✓ Net Increase of 17 positions



Dress Like a Student/Staff Member Day

Genesee students had Spirit Day in conjunction with our PBIS Assembly On Friday, April 14th. The theme was "Dress Like a Staff Member/Student." We had many students and staff showing off their PRIDE and dressing the part of a selected staff member or student. We ended the day with our PBIS celebration, where our Kindergarteners reviewed what it means to "Show PRIDE in your stride!"

*MaryClaire Pineau,
Assistant Principal,
Genesee Elementary School*

MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

Jeffrey A. Pirozzolo

Dear Community Members,

As another budget season is upon us, our board of education and school district administrators have been working hard to develop a budget for the next school year that continues to provide high-quality curriculum and instruction for 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 \$16,640 per pupil versus the state average of \$23,468 per pupil.

The district's proposed budget expenditures for the 2023-2024 school year are \$100,268,805, which is up 11.1%, or \$10 million, from 2022-2023 due to the addition of two music teachers to restore our fourth-grade music program, a Dean of Students at the junior high to provide more safety and supervision, and a public information assistant to showcase more district events and improve community outreach. In addition, 13 instructional positions that were previously funded with grants will now be moved into this proposed budget as the grants are phased out. Also included in the proposed budget is a campus notification system to enhance safety and security in all of our buildings. The following year, we will receive about 80 percent of the cost back in the form of state aid.

For the 2023-2024 school year, our district will receive \$8.1 million in additional foundation aid from New York State, which is an increase of 22.2%. The district will continue to spend down the fund balance; \$2.5 million of the district's fund balance will be used to balance the budget this year and an additional \$1.1 million of the fund balance will be used to replace two very old boilers at Herman Avenue Elementary School.

The district will also continue to utilize the federal aid we received through the American Rescue Plan. We have 15 months remaining to spend it all. So far, some of the major items we have used the funds for are summer school programming for all grade levels, the new alternative education programs at the high school and elementary level, technology devices and infrastructure, additional reading and math teachers, school counselors, and enhanced professional development opportunities for our staff.

The 2023-2024 proposed budget includes a net increase of 17 staff positions. With the addition of these positions, as well as the federal stimulus monies we are slated to receive, the district will be able to continue to provide additional social and emotional support to our students, continue our strong focus on improving our graduation rate, and provide our students with equitable access to educational opportunities and services.

This proposed budget will include a 1.99 percent increase in the total tax levy, which is below the NYS tax cap of 2.32 percent. On a home assessed at \$100,000, the estimated annual tax increase will be \$33, or \$2.75 per month.

For more information on the proposed budget for the 2023-2024 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 "Spamalot"







2022-23 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

1. All Auburn community-based PreK sites have focused on social emotional learning through collaboration with the Syracuse University-based Early Childhood Family and Community Engagement Center, the Gavras Center, and Cayuga-Onondaga BOCES. This has included ongoing professional development throughout the year for the staff that supports students in building resiliency to overcome the impact of trauma on learning.
2. The Auburn literacy and math coaches facilitated multiple professional development sessions last summer and after school to provide our teachers with the knowledge and tools to provide needed supports to our students to address the learning gaps that exist.
3. The Auburn grade level and department teams have continued to utilize a data analysis process to reflect on data-driven instructional practices. The goal is to utilize this knowledge to enhance student achievement and engagement.
4. The Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Task Force has convened throughout the school year and has developed a Diversity, Equity & Inclusion plan that will be publicly shared at the Board of Education meeting on Tuesday, May 23, and at a public forum on Wednesday, June 7 at the Cayuga Museum's Carriage House.
5. Executive Director of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Instruction, Dr. Renee Burgess and Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion consultant, Bill Berry, Jr, met with students at Auburn Junior High School to present on the topic of using hurtful language, as well as The Day You Begin book readings to all five elementary schools.
6. The Auburn Innovation Spaces in the elementary building have welcomed families in their space at multiple Family Engagement Nights. Activities included vinyl cutting with Cricut Makers, 3-D printing, and coding with robots. The Innovation Spaces in grades K-8 have completed over 43 Project Based Learning activities this school year. Although the activities are largely led by our school librarians, classroom teachers are welcome to use these spaces for their instructional goals, as well, and we look forward to expanding the use of the Innovation Labs in the 2023-24 school year.
7. In September, the Auburn IT department distributed and has continued to support over 5,000 Chromebooks for students in all grade levels and buildings.
8. The Auburn technology mentors in each building provided professional development throughout the summer and at the monthly faculty meetings to support teachers and staff with their instructional technology goals. These sessions have been focused on student engagement and the New York State Computer Science and Digital Fluency Learning Standards while leveraging softwares such as: Nearpod, WeVideo, Canva and Typing.com.

HEALTH/PHYSICAL EDUCATION NEWS

- Our elementary schools' district-wide jump rope & cup stacking competitions have returned with great success for all our participants. Special thanks to our H/PE staff preparing our students to do their best to represent their school!
- AJHS P.E. Teacher, Shelly Connors, was named President of the NYS Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance this past November. She will work with professionals across the state to enhance the H/PE experience for students within AECSD and throughout NYS.
- Allison Teachout (Adaptive P.E./Health teacher at AHS/AJHS) received an Amazing People Award (Adaptive Phys.Ed. Section) from NYSAPERD in November.
- Vicky Mazza (Seward) was recognized as the Elementary Phys. Ed. Teacher of the Year and John Oliver (Health/P.E.-AHS) was honored as the Recreation/Adventure Educator of the Year as named by the Central North Zone section of NYSAPERD, at an awards ceremony in April.

2022-23 ATHLETIC HIGHLIGHTS

-  Kyleen Brady (Girls X-Country), Chris Howard (Boys X-Country) and Dustin Howard (Indoor Track & Field) were named Athlete of the Year in their respective sports by the Auburn Citizen.
-  The Auburn Varsity Boys Cross Country Team captured the SCAC League and Section 3 Class A Championship this fall.
-  Kyleen Brady (9th) finished 3rd in the Section 3 Class A Cross Country Championship meet and also advanced to the NYS Indoor Track & Field Championship meet in the 3000 meter race.
-  Brady Maneri (9th-102 lbs.) & Mike Boyhan (10th-126 lbs) advanced all the way to the championship bout of their respective weight classes in the Section 3 Wrestling Championship Tournament, each coming away with a 2nd place finish.
-  Leah Middleton (Sr.- Girls basketball) and DeSean Strachan (Sr.- Boys Basketball) each eclipsed the 1000 point mark this season en route to leading their teams to SCAC League Champion titles. Leah is also a finalist for Large School Girls Basketball Player of the Year (syracuse.com).
-  Dustin Swartwood (12th) placed 2nd in NY State, in two events, at the NYS Indoor Track & Field State Championships in March. (Shot Put: 52'-7.5" and Weight Throw: 67'-3.5")

2023-2024 PROPOSED BUDGET EXPENDITURES

Program Component: 72.84% 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	2022-2023	2023-2024	Increase/(Decrease)
Legal	13,000	13,000	0
Teaching - Regular School	22,406,157	24,652,879	2,246,722
Programs - Students with Disabilities	14,551,429	16,360,359	1,808,930
Occupational Education	2,212,832	2,523,288	310,456
Teaching - Special Schools	322,450	321,806	(644)
School Library & Audiovisual	916,965	946,870	29,905
Computer Assisted Instruction	2,678,736	2,647,509	(31,227)
Guidance	907,458	1,050,762	143,304
Health Services	814,186	896,987	82,801
Co-Curricular Activities	194,283	196,724	2,441
Interscholastic Activities	667,887	730,806	62,919
District Transportation	234,166	322,530	88,364
Contract Transportation	3,229,940	3,436,600	206,660
Public Transportation	50	50	0
BOCES Contract Transportation	41,500	41,500	0
Employee Benefits	18,259,334	18,865,545	606,211
Interfund Transfers	17,500	25,000	7,500
Total Program Expense	\$67,467,873	\$73,032,215	\$5,564,342

Capital Component: 16.00% 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	2022-2023	2023-2024	Increase/(Decrease)
Operation	3,274,315	6,550,460	3,276,145
Maintenance	1,196,211	1,267,939	71,728
Employee Benefits	1,651,906	1,600,877	(51,029)
Debt Service	6,503,584	6,528,163	24,579
Interfund Transfers	100,000	100,000 *	0
Total Capital Expense	\$12,726,016	\$16,047,439	\$3,321,423

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

Special Research Projects

First grade students Lilyahna Lovell and Parker Nolan display their animal research shadow boxes. First grade researchers from Ms. Miles' room used Pebble Go, an online research tool, to write reports about animal habitats, diets, ranges, and fun facts. Then they created shadow boxes that incorporated all of their new learning. The research projects are in the front display case in the main hallway for everyone to see!

Mrs. Miles, 1st Grade Teacher at Herman Avenue Elementary School



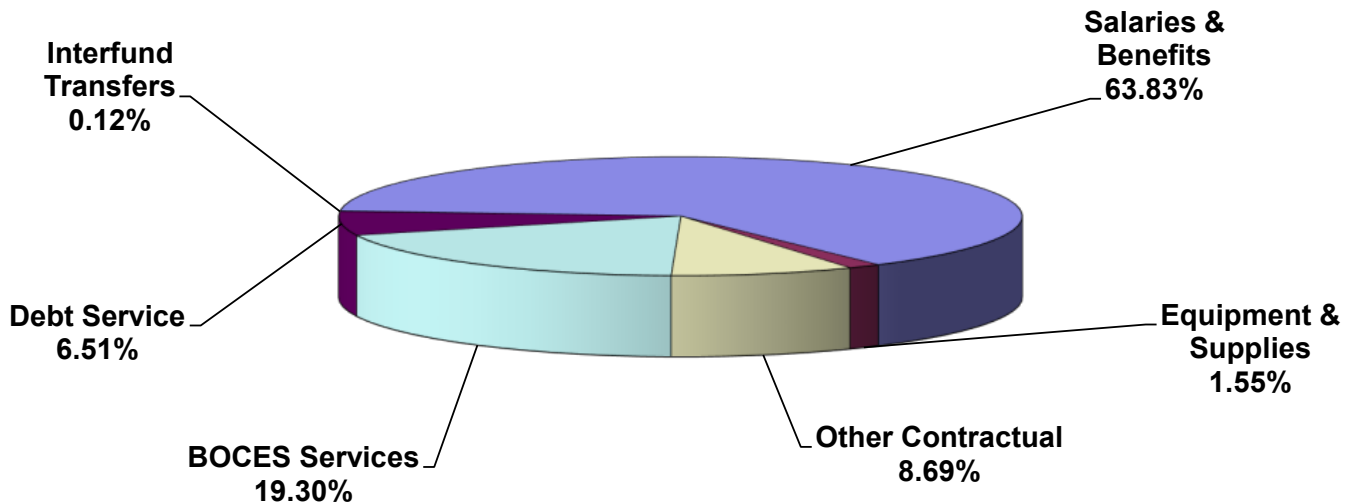
2023-2024 PROPOSED BUDGET EXPENDITURES

Administrative Component 11.16% 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	2022-2023	2023-2024	Increase/(Decrease)
Board of Education	20,600	20,000	(600)
District Clerk	11,700	14,250	2,550
District Meeting	12,700	18,200	5,500
Central Administration	274,991	283,092	8,101
Business Administration	367,755	460,809	93,054
Auditing	38,000	42,000	4,000
Treasurer	157,067	135,614	(21,453)
Tax Collection	11,200	11,200	0
Purchasing	11,000	11,000	0
Fiscal Agent Fees	7,500	7,500	0
Legal	170,000	260,000	90,000
Personnel	968,284	1,124,269	155,985
Public Information & Service	73,395	129,135	55,740
Central Storeroom	43,182	44,710	1,528
Central Printing & Mailing	635,500	691,500	56,000
Central Data Processing	463,000	482,000	19,000
Unallocated Insurance	305,000	315,000	10,000
Board Membership Dues	30,000	30,100	100
Assessments on School Property	60,000	60,000	0
BOCES Admin. Charges	978,500	1,083,551	105,051
Curriculum Development, Supervision	710,652	847,013	136,361
Supervision - Reg. School	2,326,049	2,386,121	60,072
Research Planning & Evaluation	196,000	196,000	0
Inservice Training	41,000	99,905	58,905
Programs - Students with Disabilities	329,820	452,841	123,021
Health Services	106,210	108,763	2,553
Employee Benefits	1,743,538	1,874,578	131,040
Total Administrative Expense	\$10,092,643	\$11,189,151	\$1,096,508
Total Budgeted Expenses	\$90,286,532	\$100,268,805	\$9,982,273

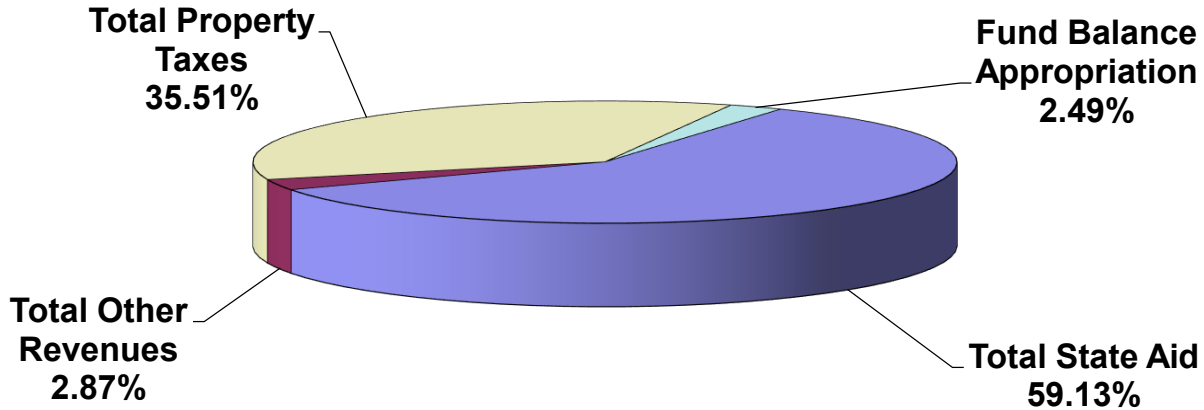
2023-2024 PROPOSED BUDGET



2023-2024 PROJECTED REVENUES

State Aid	2022-2023	2023-2024	Increase/Decrease
Operating State Aid	46,003,192	54,908,228	8,905,036
Building Aid	4,425,295	4,382,677	(42,618)
Total State Aid	\$50,428,487	\$59,290,905	8,862,418
Other Revenues	2022-2023	2023-2024	Increase/Decrease
Tuition	75,000	85,000	10,000
Interest	60,000	90,000	30,000
Miscellaneous Revenues	714,600	764,300	49,700
Prior Year Refunds	1,000,000	1,300,000	300,000
Property Rental	12,500	12,000	(500)
Medicaid Reimbursement	300,000	350,000	50,000
Transfers From Other Funds	250,000	275,000	25,000
Total Other Revenues	\$2,412,100	\$2,876,300	464,200
Property Taxes	2022-2023	2023-2024	Increase/Decrease
Tax Levy	34,267,578	34,949,503	681,925
Payments in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT)	657,823	652,097	(5,726)
Total Property Taxes	\$34,925,401	\$35,601,600	676,199
Appropriated Fund Balance	2022-2023	2023-2024	Increase/Decrease
Fund Balance Appropriation	2,520,544	2,500,000	(20,544)
Total Projected Revenues	\$90,286,532	\$100,268,805	9,982,273

2023-24 PROJECTED REVENUES



Kindergarten Students Have Reading Buddies

Throughout the month of March, Mrs. Gremlin's Kindergarten class at Herman Ave had buddy readers from different classrooms throughout the building! Classes that joined us included Mrs. Tabone & Mrs. Bragg's 3rd grade class, Mrs. Messina's 4th grade class, Mr. Drogo's 6th grade class, Ms. Martens 5th grade class, and Mr. Falzarano's 4th grade class. All the students enjoyed reading and listening to stories together! Thanks to all the classes that joined us!



2021-22 NYS Transparency Report for the Auburn School District

	Auburn	All Public Schools NYS
Total Expenditures per Pupil	\$16,640	\$23,468

2023-24 Property Tax Report Card		
050100 - Auburn Enlarged City School District		
Contact Person: Lisa Green	Budgeted	Proposed Budget
Telephone Number: 315-255-8808	2022-23	2023-24
	(A)	(B)
Total Budgeted Amount, not including Separate Propositions	90,286,532	100,268,805
A. Proposed Tax Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount	34,267,578	34,949,503
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)	34,267,578	34,949,503
F. Permissible Exclusions to the School Tax Levy Limit	1,422,908	1,450,843
G. School Tax Levy Limit, <u>Excluding</u> Levy for Permissible Exclusions	32,844,670	33,498,660
H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, <u>Excluding</u> Levy to Support Library Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions (E - B - F + D)	32,844,670	33,498,660
I. Difference: (G - H); (negative value requires 60.0% voter approval)	0	0
Public School Enrollment	3,840	3,789
Consumer Price Index		8.00%
	Actual	Estimated
	2022-23	2023-24
	(D)	(E)
Adjusted Restricted Fund Balance	9,761,253	10,320,550
Assigned Appropriated Fund Balance	3,102,225	3,080,000
Adjusted Unrestricted Fund Balance	11,423,795	7,823,795
Adjusted Unrestricted Fund Balance as a Percent of the Total Budget	12.65%	7.80%

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	3/31/23 Actual Balance	6/30/23 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.	1,003,445	1,004,000	None
Capital	2018 Turf Capital Reserve Fund	To pay the cost of replacing the athletic field turf, for which bonds may be issued.	251,315	251,550	None
Unemployment Insurance	Unemployment Insurance Reserve	To pay the cost of reimbursement to the State Unemployment Insurance Fund.	151,066	151,400	None
Insurance	Insurance Reserve Fund	To pay liability, casualty, and other types of uninsured losses.	460,335	461,400	None
Liability	Liability Reserve Fund	To establish and maintain a program of reserves to cover liability claims incurred.	503,260	504,400	None
Tax Certiorari	Tax Certiorari Reserve	To establish a reserve fund for tax certiorari settlements	2,651,437	2,657,800	To 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.	212,864	213,350	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	832,343	833,850	None
Retirement Contribution Sub-Fund	Retirement Contribution Reserve Sub-Fund (TRS)	To fund employer retirement contributions to the State and Local Teachers' Retirement System	1,705,717	2,308,300	None
Retirement Contribution	Retirement Contribution Reserve Fund	To fund employer retirement contributions to the State and Local Employees' Retirement System	1,930,082	1,934,500	None

May 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																											
	1 District Parent Council Mtg. 6:30PM @ Tubman <i>May Artwork</i> Abby Carbonaro, Gr. 9	2  Teacher Appreciation Day	3 Bike to School Day (4th-6th Grade only) NYSSMA Solo Festival-hosted at AJHS AJHS PTO Mtg. 6:00PM	4 AHS Band Concert 7:00pm @ Auburn High School	5 FULL Cinco de Mayo Flower Moon	6  SAT Exam AHS 7:45AM																																																																																											
7	8 Teacher Appreciation Week Book Fair Week @ AJHS Library	9 GPTP 5:00pm Public Hearing on 2023-24 Budget 7:00PM before BOE Meeting at AHS Board of Education Mtg. AHS Library @ 7:00PM	10 School Nurse Appreciation Day Casey Park Concert 6:00pm @ Auburn Junior High School AHS End Marking Period 5	11  AHS Orchestra Senior Concert 7:00pm @ AHS Marking Period 6 Begins AHS	12 LAST  AHS Junior Prom Emerson Pavilion 7-11PM	13 																																																																																											
14  Mother's Day	15 Kindergarten Registration Seward	16 Genesee Concert 6:00PM @ Genesee Kindergarten Registration Genesee  School Board Election & Budget Vote 7AM-9PM	17 Kindergarten Registration Herman Board of Education Mtg. Tubman @ 5:15PM AJHS Band Concert 7:00PM	18 Kindergarten Registration Casey Park AJHS Chorus Concert 7:00PM	19 NEW Kindergarten Registration Owasco AHS Report Cards	20 Armed Forces Day																																																																																											
21 Asian American Heritage Month	22 Seward Spring Concert @ AJHS Auditorium, 6:00PM	23 Herman Ave Spring Concert @ AJHS Auditorium, 6:00PM Board of Education Mtg. AHS Library @ 6:00PM	24 Owasco Spring Concert @ AJHS Auditorium, 6:00PM	25 AHS Choral Concert 7:00PM	26 FIRST	27 																																																																																											
28 National Physical Fitness and Sports Month	29 AHS/AJHS Bands @ Memorial Day Parade NO SCHOOL Memorial Day	30	31 AJHS Orchestra Concert 7:00pm	For updated events please check the online calendar at our website: www.aecsd.education	<p>April 2023</p> <table border="1"> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td></tr> <tr><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td></tr> <tr><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td></tr> <tr><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td></tr> <tr><td>30</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>	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							<p>June 2023</p> <table border="1"> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1 2 3</td></tr> <tr><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td></tr> <tr><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td></tr> <tr><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td></tr> <tr><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td></td></tr> </table>	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	
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																																																																																																	
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

- Dr. Renee Burgess and Bill Berry brought closure to their elementary school-wide reading tour centering on the book, "The Day You Begin" with a final series of readings at Owasco Elementary on May 1. This reading tour encouraged students to see themselves as unique, special individuals who have the opportunity to share who they are with classmates and teachers and embrace the things they have in common.
- Fourth grade students across our five elementary schools will participate in the resurgence of the city-wide cultural institutions' Passport Program. With their passport in hand, students and their families will receive free access to eight 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 National Historical Park and Home, Auburn Memorial City Hall, and Willard Chapel. Fourth grade students will visit most of these sites during a school field trip.
- On April 14, Renee and Bill visited Ms. Wood's Auburn Junior High School class, where students ran the morning Coffee Cart. The visit supported this student-operated initiative and engaged students and staff in conversation while enjoying coffee and pastries.

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 2023-2024
Basic STAR tax savings	\$555.00

For ALL Owner-occupied Residences:

All taxpayers are eligible for a Basic STAR exemption for owner-occupied, primary residences. For 2023-2024 the STAR program continues to provide qualifying households with a \$33,950 exemption on the full value of their property.

For a home with a full value of \$100,000, qualifying residents will realize an estimated \$555 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, 2023, with income not exceeding \$93,200.

STAR provides qualifying households with up to a \$84,750 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 2023-2024.

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

Basic STAR	\$33
Enhanced STAR	\$33

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.

Follow us on Twitter!



- District: @AuburnECSD
- AHS: @auburn_ahs
- AJHS: @auburn_jrhigh
- Casey: @auburn_casey
- Genesee: @auburn_genesee
- Herman: @auburn_herman
- Owasco: @auburn_owasco
- Seward: @auburn_seward

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
2022-223 School Year:**

AHS Senior Prom

**Friday, June 9: 7:00-11:00PM
The Lodge, Skaneateles**

**June 7: Last full day of classes for
Auburn High School Students**

**Friday, June 16: Half Day for
Elementary only**

**Monday, June 19: No School
All schools closed for Juneteenth Day**

**Tuesday, June 20: Half Day for
Elementary and AJHS**

**Wednesday, June 21: Half Day for
Elementary and AJHS**

**AHS Graduation Ceremony 6:00PM
Friday, June 23 @ Holland Stadium**

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 2023-2024 SCHOOL BOARD CANDIDATES

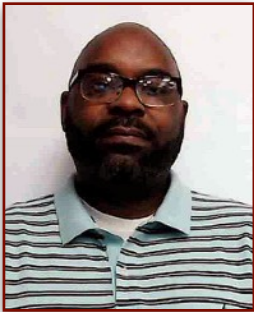


Francis (CJ) Calarco My name is CJ Calarco. I have lived in Auburn for most of my life aside from going away for undergraduate work at Iona College. I returned to Auburn and worked on my Graduate Degree in education at Le Moyne College. I have since been teaching math at the High School level since 2012, and have coached several sports at different levels. I'm running for reelection to continue to give back to the community that gave me the opportunities to be where I am today, with the experience of a tenured classroom teacher and coach. My goal as a board member is to maintain a common-sense perspective on the education we offer to the kids in our district to be sure they all get the types of opportunities that the community has afforded me.



Eliezer (Eli) Hernández Eliezer (Eli) Hernández is a career educator with experience as a teacher, mentor teacher, teacher-leader, assistant principal, principal, and district leader. For the past 23 years, Eli has dedicated himself to education. As a Spanish teacher, he created a chapter of the National Spanish Honor Society (Sociedad Honoraria Hispánica) and organized international educational trips for his students at Auburn High School. Eli was elected to the AECSD Board of Education in 2011. During his tenure on the board, he actively participated in two superintendent searches, passed eleven school budgets and two capital projects, and served on the Long-Range Planning, Audit, and Policy Committees. Additionally, Eli served as Vice President of the Board of Education for two years. Eli is a member of the Board of Directors for the National Math Foundation. He is the secretary, Spanish Language delegate, and on the New York State Association for Bilingual Education Board of Directors. Dr.

Hernández's vast professional experiences have contributed to the school board. He believes he can continue to impact as a board member positively.



Freddie Wilson III My name is Freddie Wilson III, I have been a resident of Auburn, NY, for most of my life. I am married and a proud parent of two daughters, one graduated from Auburn High School in 2021, and my youngest will be a senior in the fall of 2023.

I have a Bachelor's degree in Community and Human Services and an Associate's degree in Criminal Justice: Police Science. By profession I am currently a Restorative Case Manager at Cayuga Centers for at-risk youth in our community.

Over the last decade, I have volunteered and served on several boards: NAACP, Auburn Sports Boosters, Human Rights Commission, Booker T. Washington Community Center, and the YMCA. I am currently a member of the HELPRA Board of Directors, Helping Empower Local People Recovery Associates.

I believe that the position of a school board member is very valuable in making decisions for the betterment of our community by helping and equipping our current students to prepare for the rest of their future and looking forward to the students yet to come. I believe we have the best administrators, teachers, and students in our community and I desire to be part of being a voice to continue that tradition here in Auburn.

Current AECSD Board Members/Term Expires:

Matteo Bartolotta	2024
CJ Calarco	2023
Sam Giangreco	2024
Eli Hernandez, VP	2023
Daniel Lovell	2025
Ian Phillips, P	2024
Jim VanArsdale	2025
Rhoda Overstreet-Wilson	2023
Danielle Wood	2025

VOTE FOR ANY THREE CANDIDATES

Candidates for the Board of Education had until April 26th 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 16, 2023.



Seymour Library is celebrating 120 years in the historic Case Memorial Building located at 176-178 Genesee Street in Auburn. The Library thanks you for your continued support and is now offering in-person programming with lectures, workshops, and much more. Please visit www.seymourlibrary.org for further details or call the library at 315-252-2571.

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

OFFICE	Member of School Board (Vote for any (3) three)	
<input type="radio"/>	Freddie Wilson III	MEMBER OF SCHOOL BOARD CANDIDATES VOTE FOR ANY THREE
<input type="radio"/>	Francis (CJ) Calarco	
<input type="radio"/>	Eliezer Hernández	
<input type="radio"/>	Write-in	
<input type="radio"/>		

At this year's school election the District will be using the optical scan voting machines used by the Cayuga County Board of Elections for the past several years during their primary and general elections. The ballot is two-sided with the Proposed Budget for 2023-2024 on one side and the School Board Candidates on the reverse side.

PROPOSITION #1 PROPOSED BUDGET 2023-2024

RESOLVED, that the proposed budget of expenditures of the Auburn Enlarged City School District for the 2023-2024 school year be and the same hereby is approved in an amount not to exceed \$100,268,805.00 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

#FixAndFundIt

The Advocacy Ad Hoc Committee has put this website together as a way to get information out to the community regarding the Foundation Aid issues affecting the district. For more information please visit: fixandfundit.org

ABSENTEE VOTING

Qualified school district voters who are unable to vote in person on Tuesday, May 16, 2023, 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 16, 2023.

**School Board Election and Budget Vote to be held:
Tuesday, May 16, 2023. 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 16th.

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 the 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 start when they enter kindergarten.
- A** Auburn Education Foundation (AEF) is a major supporter of innovative projects in the District. This past school year the AEF sponsored the purchase of Root Coding Robots for all five elementary schools' Innovation Labs to support the integration of Computer Science and Digital Fluency standards in the area of coding.
- A** New in the 2022-23 school year, Auburn High School has collaborated with the United Way to form the first Student United Way group. The group, under the advisement of Kathryn Dennis, Executive Director of the United Way of Cayuga County, Dr. Renee Burgess and Bill Berry, Jr., implemented its first service project by acquiring and dispersing personal hygiene and care items in offices at the high school to be available for all Auburn High School students.
- 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. This six year program provides eligible high school students an opportunity to complete classes at CCC and earn an Associate's Degree in Mechanical or Electrical Technologies.





Casey Park Innovation Lab

Students learned much and had fun using LEGO Spike Prime. They built “hopper,” tested, modified, and tested some more before racing their robots. The challenge included lots of teamwork, creativity, and problem-solving. *Penny Pitman, Librarian*

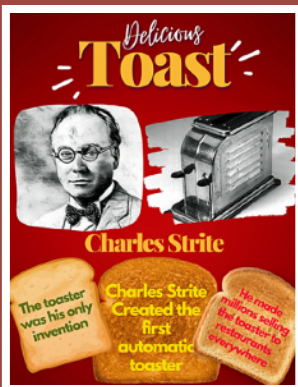
AJHS National Junior Honor Society Induction Ceremony



Auburn Junior High School Principal David Oliver (left), and Vice Principal Jared Tabone (right) congratulate AHS Senior Caleb Riley on being the 2023 Valedictorian. Riley, a former math student of Tabone's, was the guest speaker at the induction ceremony of the National Junior Honor Society in April. About 100 students were inducted this year. Riley spoke to the students about the importance of “academic excellence, and trying your best in everything you do”. The highlights of his speech included “I personally believe that persistence is an excellent quality to possess, no matter the situation. You may not succeed at first, but success is in your future if you keep trying and make small improvements as a result of your efforts. I find personal motivation to be just as important, as it gives you the power to achieve your goals and make positive changes in your life. You will develop skills that remain with you throughout your life such as time management, diligence and problem solving.”

He ended the speech with how he viewed school, “Many see school as just something you need to surpass to get to college or start your career. However, I prefer to see it as a means of self-improvement and discovery, a place to learn more about yourself and figure out what you are truly capable of....school is about pushing ourselves to be better people, form new habits to stay on the trajectory of success.” *Linda Linn, NJHS Advisor*

Students in Mrs. Eardley’s 7th grade computer literacy class at AJHS used Canva to create posters introducing designers, inventors and innovators that have made lasting impacts.



Logan DeForrest



McKenzie Paul



Gabrielle Agee



Kailey Cooper

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, 2023?
- 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 15	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 16	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 17	Herman Ave Elementary 2 N. Herman Ave (315) 255-8718	Questions? Please call the applicable Elementary school for more information
Thursday, May 18	Casey Park Elementary 101 Pulaski St (315) 255-8798	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.
Friday, May 19	Owasco Elementary 66 Letchworth St. (315) 255-8721	
Tuesday, May 23	District Office 78 Thornton Ave (315) 255-8825	



Auburn Education Foundation proudly announces members of the Auburn Alumni Hall of Distinction Class of 2023



Carmen Cosentino, East High 1950 – owner of Cosentino’s Florist for over 60 years; winner of Teleflora’s prestigious Tom Butler Award; floral advice columnist for The Citizen and internationally recognized speaker

Patricia Ryder, AHS 1974 – retired special education teacher and advocate for people with disabilities; 35 year director of Camp Columbus; organizer of exchange programs between Auburn and Russian students

Dr. Joseph Freeman, AHS 1977 – first Black electee to the physician coroner position in the state of Louisiana; physician and medical director for Veteran’s Hospitals, Correctional Facilities, Federal Health Centers and Indian Reservations; established clinics to aid hurricane Katrina evacuees

Neil Salvage, Jr., AHS 1991 – retired president of Lending Tree; former executive vice president of City Search and president of digital sales for CBS; participant on several boards in the online media industry; major fundraiser for cancer related causes and Alzheimer’s Association

Phillip Gregory Burke, AHS 2002 – activist, actor, and playwright, appeared in “One Life to Live” and in commercials for Tyson Foods, Nike, and others; recognized for his award-winning ten cycle play which he is developing into a series for television.

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

Friday, May 19, 2023

Hilton Garden Inn @ 7:00 PM

Hors d’oeuvres and 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, The Citizen, and Hilton Garden Inn

Open Enrollment for Auburn Enlarged City School District's 2023-2024 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, 2023. 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 AECS D 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.AECS D.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 Heather McNabb at 315-255-8825 or Michelle Kolceski at 315-255-8613.



Genesee Students Reached their Goal of reading OVER 1,000 books in March!

All of our students worked so hard, so we decided to treat them! Several students were selected randomly at each grade level to enjoy a limo ride, donated by Big D's Limousine, and ice cream, donated by Classic Cones! Thank you to all our students for going above and beyond and showing PRIDE in learning!





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 2022-2023 School Year	Budget Proposed 2023-2024 School Year	Contingency Budget 2023-2024 School Year *
Total Budgeted Amount	\$90,286,532	\$100,268,805	\$99,586,880
Increase/Decrease for the 2023-2024 School Year		\$9,982,273	\$9,300,348
Percentage increase (decrease) in Proposed Budget		11.06%	10.30%
Change in the Consumer Price Index		8.00%	
A. Proposed Tax Levy to Support Total Budgeted Amount	\$34,267,578	\$34,949,503	
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)	\$34,267,578	\$34,949,503	\$34,267,578
F. Total Permissible Exclusions	\$1,422,908	\$1,450,843	
G. School Tax Levy Limit, <u>Excluding</u> Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$32,844,670	\$33,498,660	
H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, <u>Excluding</u> Levy to Support Library Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions (E-B-F+D)	\$32,844,670	\$33,498,660	
I. Difference: (G-H); Negative Value Requires 60% Voter Approval	\$0	\$0	
Administrative Component	\$10,092,643	\$11,189,151	\$10,910,026
Program Component	\$67,467,873	\$73,032,215	\$72,929,415
Capital Component	\$12,726,016	\$16,047,439	\$15,747,439
* 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 2022-2023 tax levy; reduction of \$681,925 in property tax revenue			
- Administrative component subject to cap			
- Implementation of fee for community use of school facilities			
		Under the Budget Proposed for the 2023-2024 School Year	
Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings (1)		\$555.00	
The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2023-2024 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 16, 2023, 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 2023 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, Rhoda Overstreet-Wilson,
 and Jim Van Arsdale



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](#)