

Fulton City School District

Frequently Asked Questions & Important Information

How much is the budget changing and what is included?

The proposed 2021-2022 budget of \$76,230,000 is \$2,453,000 or 3.3% more than this year's current spending plan. Included in the budget are funds to continue the District's investments in the following:

- Our commitment to the Oswego County Literacy Initiative and belief that all students will read at or above grade level by the end of third grade,
- Our commitment to our digital learning initiative through which all students have Chromebooks and access to internet during remote learning,
- Our commitment to build upon the first year success of drone pilot certification program,
- Our commitment to expand early college high school programs (Information Technologies and Health Careers) plus post-secondary programs,
- Our commitment to deliver a strong instructional program that is responsive to students' post-pandemic needs including mental health supports, and
- Our commitment to maintain and upgrade infrastructure to support technologies.

Additionally, increases for contractual salaries and benefits are included as well as inflationary increases which affect transportation, operations and facilities.

How does this budget affect my taxes?

This proposed budget is built with the same tax levy as this year's budget. The tax rate is based on the overall assessed value of the property in the city and towns and the equalization rate for each specific municipality. Equalization rates are set by the NY Office of Real Property Services and are published in late July or August. An individual property's tax bill will be determined by these factors and may change up or down from the prior year's bill as a result. The District has a zero percent change in the amount it is collecting through the tax levy.

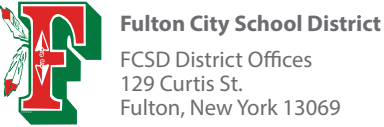
What is the Contingent Budget?

If the voters do not approve this budget on May 18, the District has two options: resubmit the same or modified proposal for a re-vote on June 15, or adopt a contingent budget. If the community votes down the re-submitted budget, then the District MUST adopt a contingent budget. Adopting a contingent budget prohibits a district from spending money in certain areas, such as community use of facilities unless all costs are reimbursed to the district, most equipment purchases, maintenance unless safety is at stake, and certain field trips and educational supplies. The rules for contingent budgets now require a zero percent cap on the tax levy. If it is necessary to go to a contingent budget, the budget would be \$76,080,000 which is a 3.1% increase over the current budget.

How does the Fulton City School District compare to other districts on per pupil expenditures?

	General Education	Special Education
Fulton	\$10,347	\$25,789
Similar Districts	\$12,125	\$32,531
All NYS Schools	\$13,367	\$32,359

The NYS Education Department reports this information on a two-year lag. When you compare Fulton to all schools in the state and to districts like Fulton, you can see that we spend less in both general and special education on a per pupil basis. Not only does Fulton spend less than its counterparts, Fulton has fewer available financial resources available than many other districts. The District works diligently to provide a quality cost-effective education to its students.



Board Members:

Robbin Griffin, *President*
Fallon Cooper, *Vice President*
Brenda Abalgore
David Cordone
Timothy Crandell
Nicholas DeGelorm
Lynn Lyons

Center for Instruction, Technology & Innovation Board Representative

David Cordone

District Administration:

Brian Pulvino, *Superintendent*
Kathy Nichols, *Business Adm.*
Daniel Carroll, *Exec. Dir. of Instruction & Achievement*
Geri Geitner, *Executive Director of Human Resources and Student Services*
Dominick Lisi, *Chief of Operations and Innovation*

Non-Profit Organization
PAID
Fulton, NY 13069
Permit 64

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Fulton City School District Budget Notice

Required Format	Overall Budget Proposal	Budget Adopted for the 2020-21 School Year	Budget Proposed for the 2021-22 School Year	Contingency Budget for the 2021-22 School Year*
Total budgeted amount (not including separate propositions)		\$73,777,000	\$76,230,000	\$76,080,000
Increase/decrease for the 2021-22 school year			\$2,453,000	\$2,303,000
Percentage increase/decrease in proposed budget			3.3 %	3.1%
Change in the Consumer Price Index			1.23%	
A. Proposed tax levy to support the total budgeted amount		\$21,613,305	\$21,613,305	
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)		\$21,613,305	\$21,613,305	\$21,613,305
F. Permissible exclusions to the school tax levy limit		\$4,653	\$223,640	
G. School tax levy limit, excluding levy for permissible exclusions		\$21,609,052	\$22,270,496	
H. Total proposed tax levy for school purposes, excluding permissible exclusions and levy for library debt, plus prior year tax cap reserve (E - B - F + D)		\$21,608,652	\$22,046,856	
I. Difference: (G - H); (Negative value requires 60.0% voter approval) See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions) **		\$400	\$223,640	
Administrative component		\$7,577,368	\$8,055,552	\$7,780,552
Program component		\$55,825,626	\$57,200,463	\$57,325,463
Capital component		\$10,374,006	\$10,973,985	\$10,973,985
In the event of a contingent budget, non-contingent expenses would need to be removed from the budget. Most equipment and some equipment purchases as well as some student supplies and district funded field trips would be eliminated. Some facility maintenance not required for student or staff safety may be postponed. Community use of Facilities would be curtailed unless all costs were recovered from the community group.				



The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2021-22 by the qualified voters of the Fulton City School District, Oswego County, New York, will be held on Tuesday, May 18 from 9 a.m. - 9 p.m.

Registered voters can cast their ballot at the following location:

The Fulton War Memorial
609 West Broadway
Fulton, NY 13069

Basic STAR Exemption Impact
*Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings: Budget Proposed for the 2021-2022 School Year Basic STAR Tax Savings: \$806.00
<small>¹ The basic school tax relief (STAR) exemption is authorized by section 425 of the Real Property Tax Law</small>



Dear FCSD Community Members,

I hope this correspondence finds you and your family well. The past year has been one like no other we have experienced. I want to express my heartfelt thanks to our students, families, faculty, staff, administrators, agency partners, and our entire community for your flexibility and support during these truly fluid times. I am pleased to share the 2021-22 budget adopted by the Fulton City School District Board of Education. On Tuesday, May 18, 2021, district residents will have the opportunity to vote on the budget for the 2021-22 school year. I encourage all registered voters in our school district community to participate in this important process.

Propositions to be voted upon include:

- Authorization for school budget of \$76,230,000
- Authorization for the purchase of one (1) wheelchair bus for transportation
- Two members to the Board of Education
- Authorization of a \$447,384 library tax proposition
- Two members to the Fulton Public Library Board

This budget was developed with input gathered through presentations at Board of Education meetings and workshops, feedback from a FCSD stakeholder budget committee, updates with and feedback from each school's site-based, decision-making team, updates/reports in BoardDocs, located in the Board of Education section of the district website, and on a dedicated "Budget" section of the website.

The proposed budget of \$76,230,000 was adopted by the Board of Education on April 20, 2021. It includes a spending increase of 3.3% or \$2,453,000 over the current year's budget. The FCSD 2021-22 balanced budget has been designed based on a 7.35% increase in total state aid of which there was an increase in NYS Foundation Aid of \$1,426,043 (4%). A \$356,874 planned use of FCSD reserves has been applied with the result being a 0% change in the FCSD tax levy which is the total amount of revenue that is raised through taxation from all property owners in the district to fund the school budget. Therefore, the overall total tax revenue collected will remain unchanged at \$21,613,705. If approved by voters, the budget would result in a 0% increase in the tax levy.

The 2021-22 budget aligns with and supports the FCSD's Five-Year Strategic Coherence Plan which clearly outlines our district's goals and strategies to achieve our vision and mission and to ensure coherence in everything we do. The framework of the plan directs us toward focusing the direction of the district, developing a collaborative culture, deepening our learning, and

securing accountability in all aspects of the organization. Areas of concentration in the plan are leadership, literacy, instruction, social-emotional developmental health, family engagement and innovation. In December 2020, the Board of Education identified specific parameters in each area as part of the budget design process and they are available on the district website. I encourage all community members to review the Strategic Coherence Plan and become familiar with the focus areas within the plan. Throughout the year, and in future years, we will provide updates on our journey.

The proposed budget maintains and ensures high-quality instructional programs, student support services, and extra-curricular opportunities that will position students to be prepared for a complex and ever-changing world. Student and staff safety continues to be one of our highest priorities and work on our capital improvement projects are providing upgrades at each of our schools. We also continue to explore ways to utilize the benefits of being a part of the BOCES through purchasing and leasing which results in maximizing dollars and available resources.

The proposed 2021-22 budget directs 75% of funds to student instruction, services and programs. The capital and debt portion of the budget makes up 14.4% while administration comprises the remaining 10.6%. State aid will provide 68.5% of the revenue, with the local tax levy providing 28.4%, planned use of reserves and assigned fund balance and other revenues contributing 3.1% of support.

What is the impact of Federal Stimulus Funds on the FCSD?
The Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSA) coupled with the American Rescue Plan (ARP) provide a combined one-time allocation of \$14,453,105 that is considered "special aid" and supplemental in nature. Allowable uses of these funds are defined and there is an associated application process for acquisition. Upon receipt of the applications and associated parameters, FCSD will design the required plan with stakeholder input and feedback. There are requirements for a minimum of 20% of the funds to be targeted to address learning loss through use of evidence-based interventions and that those interventions respond to students' social, emotional, and academic needs for all students and their unique individual needs. We will be sharing information as it is received and I look forward to your insights and feedback.

Voting will take place Tuesday, May 18, from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., at the Fulton War Memorial, 609 West Broadway. Mask wearing and social distancing will be required. Please remember to vote. Your voice matters!

Brian T. Pulvino
Superintendent of Schools

100 Days to Graduation Celebration

G. Ray Bodley High School's Class of 2021 in March celebrated the countdown to its greatest milestone with food, fun and music as part of the 100 Days to Graduation Celebration. Seniors were treated by district staff to breakfast, trivia, bingo and other games inside the school's gymnasium. Food donations included donuts and coffee from Dunkin', Hudson's Dairy provided milk and juice, Walmart donated cupcakes, and pizza and muffins were provided by the school.

Fulton City School District		
Year-to-Year Comparison ~ Expenditures		
How is the money invested?	Enacted Budget 2020-2021	Proposed Budget 2021-2022
PROGRAM BUDGET <i>Addresses the Instructional requirements plus various Support and Extra-Curricular needs of all our students</i>		
REGULAR SCHOOL Instruction, Computer, Library and Media Services	\$21,529,758	\$21,986,542
SPECIAL EDUCATION Instruction for Students with Disabilities	\$9,257,255	\$9,574,703
SPECIAL SCHOOLS Regular Summer School, Occupational Education	\$1,795,605	\$1,803,832
STUDENT SERVICES & EXTRA-CURRICULAR Guidance, Health, Sports & Co-curricular Activities, Transportation	\$7,380,927	\$7,429,139
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS Benefit Costs for Program Employees	\$15,742,081	\$16,296,247
INTERFUND TRANSFER TO SPECIAL PROGRAMS Local share of State and Federal programs and grants	\$120,000	\$110,000
TOTAL PROGRAM BUDGET	\$55,825,626	\$57,200,463
CAPITAL BUDGET <i>Encompasses operation and maintenance of all district facilities, capital outlay, and includes principal and interest payments of debt associated with capital improvements and construction projects</i>		
OPERATION OF PLANT Utilities, cleaning and other costs of operating district property	\$3,698,141	\$3,817,341
MAINTENANCE OF PLANT Maintenance and repairs of buildings and grounds	\$1,224,175	\$1,288,611
DEBT SERVICE Principal & Interest payments	\$4,114,575	\$4,483,243
INTERFUND TRANSFERS TO CAPITAL	\$0	\$0
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS Benefit costs for Capital employees	\$1,337,115	\$1,384,790
TOTAL CAPITAL BUDGET	\$10,374,006	\$10,973,985
ADMINISTRATIVE BUDGET <i>Provides for the full spectrum of services necessary to support the Program and Capital components</i>		
BOARD OF EDUCATION Board of Education, District Clerk, Elections, School Dues	\$49,700	\$50,300
CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION Superintendent's Office	\$271,799	\$281,061
SCHOOL SUPERVISION / CURRICULUM Building Principals and Clerical Staff; Directors of Curriculum, Special Education, Technology and Athletics	\$2,812,775	\$2,912,239
FINANCE Business Office, Auditing, Tax Collection, Insurance	\$853,346	\$851,003
PERSONNEL Personnel Office, Legal Services, and Civil Service	\$383,294	\$398,374
BOCES ADMINISTRATIVE & OTHER District's component share of Oswego County BOCES Administrative Budget and Data Processing Support Services	\$2,272,000	\$2,511,163
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS Benefit costs for Administration Employees	\$934,454	\$1,051,412
TOTAL ADMINISTRATIVE BUDGET Admin to Admin Plus Program	\$7,577,368 11.95%	\$8,055,552 12.34%
TOTAL THREE-PART BUDGET (PROGRAM, CAPITAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE)	\$73,777,000	\$76,230,000
The Fulton School Community will empower students to develop the knowledge and skills to become respectful, responsible, productive citizens who are committed to lifelong learning.		

Fulton City School District		
Year-to-Year Comparison ~ Revenues		
Where does the money come from?	Enacted Budget 2020-2021	Proposed Budget 2021-2022
STATE AID PER STATE BUDGET:		
<i>Foundation Aid</i>	\$35,318,059	\$36,744,102
<i>Public Excess High Cost Aid</i>	\$1,884,898	\$2,135,079
<i>BOCES Aid</i>	\$5,202,606	\$5,501,896
<i>Transportation Aid</i>	\$3,804,148	\$3,863,495
<i>Building Aid</i>	\$3,752,853	\$3,659,503
<i>Textbook, Library, Software & Hardware Aid</i>	\$326,608	\$320,846
TOTAL STATE AID	\$50,289,172	\$52,224,921
TAX LEVY	\$21,613,305	\$21,613,305
RESERVES OR DESIGNATED FUND BALANCE	\$0	\$356,874
OTHER REVENUES & USE OF RESERVES <i>(PILOTS, Interest, Refunds, Rent, Fees, Donations, Medicaid, etc.)</i>	\$1,874,523	\$2,034,900
Total Revenues to Support the Budget	\$ 73,777,000	\$76,230,000
<div><div><div>BUDGET PERCENTAGES</div><div><div>75% Program</div><div>10.6% Admin</div><div>14.4% Capital & Debt</div></div></div><div><div>REVENUE PERCENTAGES</div><div><div>68.5% State Aid</div><div>28.4% Tax Levy</div><div>3.1% Other</div></div></div></div>		
If you have questions about the budget, please contact Brian Pulvino, Superintendent of Schools at 315-593-5511 or Kathy Nichols, Business Administrator at 315- 593-5505.		
Information on the budget can be found at www.fultoncsd.org .		
Nondiscrimination notice: It is the policy of the district not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, national origin, political affiliation, sex, sexual orientation, age, marital status, military status or disability in its educational programs, activities or employment, in accordance with Title IX of the 1972 Educational Amendments and Section 504 of the Rehabilitative Act of 1973. Any person who believes their rights have been violated should contact the district's Title IX Coordinator, Geri Geitner, at 315.593.5538.		

Fulton City School District	
Propositions	
PROPOSITION NO. 1: BUDGET PROPOSITION	
Shall the Fulton City District Board of Education be authorized to expend the sum of \$76,230,000 as a general fund appropriation for the 2021-2022 school year and to levy the necessary tax therefore?	
PROPOSITION NO. 2: STUDENT TRANSPORTATION VEHICLES	
Shall the Bond Resolution adopted by the Board of Education authorizing the purchase of one (1) wheel chair bus for school transportation, including related furnishings and equipment incidental thereto, at a total estimated cost not to exceed \$79,500 and the payment of the costs of the Project by the levy of a tax upon all the taxable real property of the District in the amount of \$79,500 which tax shall be levied and collected in annual installments in such years and in such amounts as may be determined by the Board of Education and, if necessary, in anticipation of such tax the issuance of bonds and bond anticipation notes in the principal amount not to exceed \$79,500 and the levy of a tax to pay the interest on said obligations, be approved?	
PROPOSITION NO. 3: LIBRARY TAX PROPOSITION	
Shall the Fulton Public Library Board of Trustees be authorized to levy and collect an annual tax, separate and apart from the annual school district budget, in the amount of \$447,384 for the continuing support and maintenance of the Fulton Public Library, with this appropriated amount to be the annual appropriation until thereafter modified by a future vote by the taxpayers of the Fulton City School District?	
PROPOSITION NO. 4: BOARD OF EDUCATION CANDIDATES (vote for two)	
1. Nicholas DeGelorm 2. Fallon Cooper 3. Jessica Pappalardo 4. Jennifer Mainville	
PROPOSITION NO. 5: PUBLIC LIBRARY CANDIDATES (vote for two)	
1. Ellen Himes 2. Meagan Overton	
QUALIFIED VOTERS FOR DISTRICT VOTES MUST POSSESS THE FOLLOWING QUALIFICATIONS:	
• Be a registered voter • Be a citizen of the United States • Be at least eighteen (18) years of age • Be a resident of the District for a period of at least 30 days prior to the day of the vote • Who is not otherwise ineligible to vote under the provisions of section 5-106 of the Election Law	
<div><div></div><div>Fulton City School District's G. Ray Bodley High School is the latest in Oswego County to join the national High School Esports League, offering students an alternative to traditional team athletics in a rapidly growing industry.</div><div><div>include communication, collaboration, and learning how to work effectively with others. We are also excited to engage students in possibilities associated with coding, digital production and design." HSEL offers GRB</div></div></div>	
students the opportunity to engage in interscholastic competitions with other high school league members across the country, including local districts such as Altmar-Parish-Williamstown Junior-Senior High School and Oswego High School. The league offers student athletes popular games like Hearthstone, NBA 2K21, Minecraft: Survival Games and Super Smash Bros: Ultimate. "The esports industry surpassed \$1 billion in revenue with many local and regional colleges offering adopting teams," Mr. Pulvino said. "We expect our district's esports league will allow our students to experience a seamless transition to collegiate leagues after graduation." While a team coach has yet to be determined, the district's first esports offerings are being scheduled for this summer.	
<div><div></div><div>High School Esports League</div></div>	