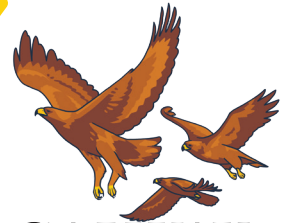


# EAGLE SPOTLIGHT

GALWAY CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWS

BUDGET 2023-24



**GALWAY**  
Central School District

## Budget Hearing

Thursday, May 4, 2023  
6:30 p.m., High School Library

## Voting Day

Tuesday, May 16, 2023  
10 a.m. - 8 p.m.

- Proposed School Budget
- Land Purchase
- 2 School Board Positions

## Eligibility to Vote

- Citizen of the United States
- 18 years of age or older on the day of the vote
- Resident within the district for a period of 30 days prior to the vote
- Registered to vote

## Register to Vote

If you are registered to vote in the general election, then you are registered to vote in the school election. If you are unsure if you are registered to vote, please call the Board of Elections Office for the county in which you reside.

## Absentee Ballots

Absentee ballots are available to registered voters of the Galway Central School District who will not be able to vote on Election Day. The ballot application, with instructions, is available at [www.galwaycsd.org](http://www.galwaycsd.org) or by contacting the District Clerk, Linda Dumblewski, at 518-882-1033 Ext. 3224.

## Vote Tuesday, May 16, 2023

Galway Central School District is proposing a fiscally responsible budget of \$25,049,449 for the 2023-24 school year. This is an overall budget-to-budget increase of \$833,622, which will be offset by an increase in State Aid of the same amount. The tax levy increase will be \$11,750,000 or 3.07%, which is below the district's maximum allowable tax levy cap of 3.6%.

When developing the budget, the Board's goals were to:

1. Create well-rounded students by maintaining, expanding, and adding new core programs
2. Build programs around student and staff wants and needs to provide individual student success each academic year
3. Create safe, open, attractive facilities for students, staff, and the community

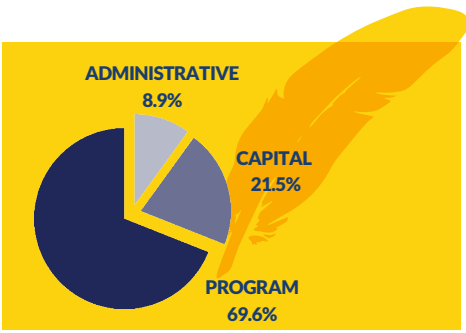
Consistent with years past, the Board prioritized fiscal stability and sustainability when creating the budget, along with the health and safety of students and staff. The proposed 2023-24 budget supports all current programming and includes:

- A new English language arts curriculum for K-5
- Continuation of the district's strong academic programs and pathways to graduation
- \$360,000 for bus purchases (this cost will be reimbursed in the form of NYS Transportation Aid the following fiscal year)
- A \$100,000 capital outlay project to install door alarms district-wide (this cost will be reimbursed in the form of NYS Building Aid the following fiscal year)

The district is in excellent shape academically and financially. As a result, the Board is looking ahead to protect the community's investment in the school and prepare for generations to come. The Board is proposing to purchase three parcels of unimproved real property located across the street from the school (on both sides of the medical center) totaling approximately 10.64 acres. These parcels will be used for overflow parking for school events. This would create a safer alternative to cars parking on Sacandaga Road, especially for sporting events. The district would also work with NYS to add an additional crosswalk to connect the additional parking to the school.

In addition to voting on the annual school budget and land purchase proposition, residents will elect two members to the Board of Education.

We encourage you to vote on Tuesday, May 16, 2023 in the Galway Junior/Senior High School gym between the hours of 10 a.m. and 8 p.m. As a reminder, all absentee ballots must be returned to the district by 5 p.m. on Tuesday, May 16, 2023.



# Expenditure Summary

## Estimated Expenditures by Function

### Propositions

#### #1: Proposed School Budget

Shall the proposed budget of expenditures for the Galway Central School District for the 2023-24 school year in the amount of \$25,049,449 and for the purposes shown in the statement of estimated expenditures adopted by the Board of Education, be approved and the amount thereof be raised by a levy of a tax upon the taxable property of the school district, after first deducting monies available from State Aid and other sources as provided by law?

#### #2: Land Purchase

Shall the Board of Education of the Galway Central School District be authorized to purchase 6.58 +/- acres of vacant real property located on Sacandaga Road, across from the Joseph Henry Elementary School, Galway, NY, at a cost of \$99,900 and 4.05 +/- acres of vacant real property located on Sacandaga Road, across from the Galway Junior/Senior High School, Galway, NY, at a cost of \$50,000, plus reasonable and customary closing fees? The district proposes using unassigned fund balance for the purchase of these parcels. This purchase would not increase taxes.

### A Note About Buses

#### Why aren't we using the Bus Reserves for the Bus Purchase?

The district was frugal during the 2022-23 school year, so we are able to fund the buses in the general budget. We plan to use the Bus Reserves if/when NYS moves forward with an electric bus mandate because those vehicles will be more expensive.

ADMINISTRATIVE	2022-23	2023-24	Change
Board of Education	\$21,370	\$22,770	\$1,400
Central Administration	\$207,700	\$216,000	\$8,300
Business/Finance/Audit	\$352,200	\$362,150	\$9,950
Legal Services	\$75,000	\$80,000	\$5,000
Personnel Services	\$7,000	\$7,000	\$0
Public Information	\$50,000	\$92,000	\$42,000
Printing/Mailing/Data	\$246,500	\$268,000	\$21,500
Unallocated Insurance	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$0
School Association Dues	\$12,000	\$12,000	\$0
BOCES Admin.	\$151,000	\$157,000	\$6,000
Supervision Regular School	\$389,500	\$370,500	(\$19,000)
Curriculum Development	\$118,500	\$116,000	(\$2,500)
Planning and Evaluation	\$57,483	\$63,000	\$5,517
Staff Development	\$115,000	\$58,000	(\$57,000)
Employee Benefits	\$531,603	\$301,082	(\$230,521)
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>\$2,434,856</b>	<b>\$2,225,502</b>	<b>(\$209,354)</b>

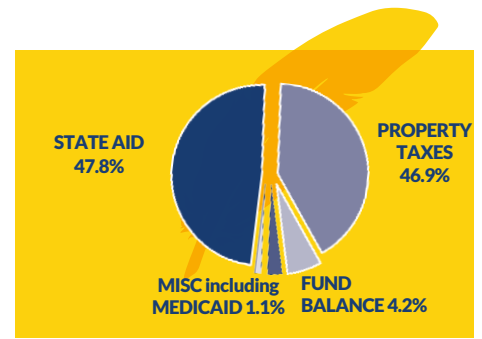
PROGRAM	2022-23	2023-24	Change
Regular Instruction	\$6,048,070	\$5,924,510	(\$123,560)
Special Education	\$2,268,700	\$2,365,880	\$97,180
Occupational Education	\$520,387	\$648,442	\$128,055
Special School Programs	\$57,500	\$57,500	\$0
Library/Media/Technology	\$981,380	\$968,280	(\$13,100)
Pupil Services Group	\$544,000	\$615,950	\$71,950
Co-Curricular	\$27,700	\$201,200	\$173,500
Interscholastic Athletics	\$259,100	\$267,100	\$8,000
Transportation	\$1,106,000	\$1,111,500	\$5,500
Garage	\$218,900	\$258,900	\$40,000
Contract Transportation	\$1,930	\$0	(\$1,930)
Employee Benefits	\$4,615,432	\$4,933,695	\$318,263
Other Fund Transfers	\$110,000	\$80,000	(\$30,000)
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>\$16,759,099</b>	<b>\$17,432,957</b>	<b>\$673,858</b>

CAPITAL	2022-23	2023-24	Change
Operations and Utilities	\$1,181,000	\$1,253,000	\$72,000
Maintenance	\$574,500	\$684,500	\$110,000
Refund of Taxes	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$0
District Bus Purchase	\$295,000	\$360,000	\$65,000
Employee Benefits	\$361,566	\$460,840	\$99,274
Debt Service	\$2,508,806	\$2,531,650	\$22,844
Transfer to Capital Fund	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$0
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>\$5,021,872</b>	<b>\$5,390,990</b>	<b>\$369,118</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$24,215,827</b>	<b>\$25,049,449</b>	<b>\$833,622</b>

# Revenue Summary

## Estimated Revenues

	2022-23	2023-24	Change
Real Property Tax	\$11,400,000	\$11,750,000	\$350,000
State Aid	\$11,136,266	\$11,969,888	\$833,622
Miscellaneous	\$279,561	\$279,561	\$0
Fund Balance Allocation	\$1,400,000	\$1,050,000	(\$350,000)
<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>	<b>\$24,215,827</b>	<b>\$25,049,449</b>	<b>\$833,622</b>



## Board Candidates

There are two vacancies on the Galway CSD Board of Education. The vacancies is for two four-year terms of office effective July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2027. The seats are currently held by Linda Jackowski and Dennis Schaperjahn. Candidates are listed below in alphabetical order:

### Linda Jackowski

Mrs. Jackowski is a retired school administrator who has been serving on the Galway Board of Education since 2015. She and her husband, James, live in Amsterdam and have two daughters who graduated from Galway High School and six grandchildren who attend Galway CSD.

### Krystal Pashley

Mrs. Pashley has been an elementary teacher in the Schenectady City School District since 2006. She graduated from Galway High School and lives in Middle Grove with her husband, Rhys, and their two children who both attend JHE.

### Dennis Schaperjahn

Mr. Schaperjahn is a U.S. Air Force veteran and retired teacher who has been serving on the Galway Board of Education since 2011. He grew up in Galway and graduated from Galway High School, as did his father and his two sons.

### Jeremy Sowle

Mr. Sowle has been employed by Trane Technologies since 2004. He graduated from Galway High School and lives in Galway with his wife, Gabrielle, and their two children who both attend JHE.

Read more about the Board candidates on the district website.

## School District Budget Notice

Overall Budget Proposal	Budget Adopted for 2022-23 School Year	Budget Proposed for 2023-24 School Year	Contingency Budget 2023-24 School Year*
Total Budgeted Amount, Not Including Separate Propositions	\$24,215,827	\$25,049,449	\$24,406,449
Increase for the 2023-24 School Year		\$833,622	\$190,622
Percentage Increase in Proposed Budget		3%	0.79%
Change in the Consumer Price Index (CPI)		8%	
A. Proposed Tax Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount	\$11,400,000	\$11,750,000	
B. Levy to Support Library Debt, if Applicable	\$84,000	\$87,000	
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)	\$11,484,000	\$11,837,000	\$11,484,000
F. Permissible Exclusions to the School Tax Levy Limit	\$635,350	\$736,415	
G. School Tax Levy Limit, Excluding Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$10,837,144	\$11,073,967	
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)	\$10,764,650	\$11,013,585	
I. Difference: (G - H); (Negative Value Requires 60% Voter Approval - See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions)**	\$72,494	\$60,382	
Administrative component	\$2,434,856	\$2,225,502	\$2,213,502
Program component	\$16,759,099	\$17,432,957	\$17,367,957
Capital component	\$5,021,872	\$5,390,990	\$4,824,990

\* Pursuant to Section 2023 of the Education Law, should the proposed budget be defeated, certain equipment in the capital and program components and certain contractual and supplies in the administrative component would be reduced.

\*\*Separate propositions that are not included in the Total Budgeted Amount: Proposition (1) Purchase of real property at a total cost not to exceed \$149,900.

## Basic STAR Exemption Impact

The Estimated Basic STAR exemption savings is based on a hypothetical home within the school district with a full value of one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000). The basic school tax relief (STAR) exemption is authorized by section 425 of the Real Property Tax Law.	Budget Proposed for the 2023-24 School Year
Basic STAR tax savings	\$516



Galway Central School District  
5317 Sacandaga Road  
Galway, New York 12074-0223

**Board of Education**

Jay Anderson, President  
Linda Jackowski, Vice President  
Michelle Bombard  
Stacey Caruso-Sharpe  
Karen English  
David Page  
Dennis Schaperjahn

**Superintendent of Schools**

Brita Donovan, Ed.D.

**\*\*\* ECRWSS \*\*\*  
POSTAL CUSTOMER**

*Produced in cooperation with WSWHE BOCES Communication Services*

NON-PROFIT ORG  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
ALBANY, NY  
PERMIT #203

**Property Tax Report Card**

	2022-23 Budget	2023-24 Budget	Percent Change
Total Budgeted Amount, not including Separate Propositions	\$24,215,827	\$25,049,449	3.44%
A. Proposed Tax Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount	\$11,400,000	\$11,750,000	
B. Tax Levy to Support Library Debt, if Applicable	\$84,000	\$87,000	
C. Tax Levy for Non-Excludable Propositions, if Applicable	\$0	\$0	
D. Total Tax Cap Reserve Amount Used to Reduce Current Year Levy, if Applicable	\$0	\$0	
E. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy (A + B + C - D)	\$11,484,000	\$11,837,000	3.07%
F. Permissible Exclusions to the School Tax Levy Limit	\$635,350	\$736,415	
G. School Tax Levy Limit, <u>Excluding</u> Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$10,837,144	\$11,073,967	
H. Total Proposed Tax Levy for School Purposes, <u>Excluding</u> Permissible Exclusions and Levy for Library Debt, Plus Prior Year Tax Cap Reserve (E - B - F + D)	\$10,764,650	\$11,013,585	
I. Difference (G - H); (negative value requires 60% voter approval)	\$72,494	\$60,382	
Public School Enrollment	832	818	(1.68%)
Consumer Price Index			8%
	<b>2022-23 Actual</b>	<b>2023-24 Estimated</b>	
Adjusted Restricted Fund Balance	\$4,830,622	\$5,594,939	
Assigned Appropriated Fund Balance	\$1,407,321	\$1,050,000	
Adjusted Unrestricted Fund Balance	\$3,520,032	\$3,815,714	
Adjusted Unrestricted Fund Balance as a Percent of the Total Budget	14.54%	15.23%	

\*Please note that this Property Tax Report Card presentation is in accordance with NYS Education Law sections 1608, 1716(7) and 2601-a(3).

**Rocket Day!**



**June 3, 2023  
Dockstader Park**

Rocket Building Workshop at 10 a.m.  
Rockets launch at noon!

Please join us for the 12th Annual Galway Community Rocket Day!

*"You build it, and we'll launch it!"*

For information on how to build your own bottle rocket, visit us online ~ [naturalphilosophers.org/rocketday](http://naturalphilosophers.org/rocketday)

**Register for School**

If you have a child who will be four years old on or before December 1, 2023, he/she is eligible to attend our Pre-Kindergarten class at JHE for the 2023-24 school year. Our 2023-24 Pre-Kindergarten class is a full-day program with transportation provided. There is no cost to attend this program.

Similarly, if you have a child who will be five years old on or before December 1, 2023, he/she is eligible to attend Kindergarten.

To begin the registration process, all paperwork must be completed and uploaded online prior to June 1, 2023. We will have an open house prior to school beginning in the Fall. Please contact Brittany Keller at 518-882-1033 ext. 4240 or [Bkeller@galwaycsd.org](mailto:Bkeller@galwaycsd.org)