

# BUDGET NEWSLETTER

A PUBLICATION OF THE OWEGO APALACHIN CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT | *FISCALLY RESPONSIBLE, EDUCATIONALLY SOUND*

**VOTE TUESDAY MAY 21ST VOTING WILL TAKE PLACE AT APALACHIN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL & THE OWEGO APALACHIN MIDDLE SCHOOL, NOON - 8:00PM. PLEASE EMAIL [VOTE@OACSD.ORG](mailto:VOTE@OACSD.ORG) IF YOU NEED TO REQUEST AN ABSENTEE BALLOT. VOTING LOCATION IS BASED ON RESIDENCY**



## 2024-25 PROPOSITIONS

1 - Budget: Shall the Board of Education of the Owego Apalachin Central School District (OACSD) be authorized to expend the sums set forth in the 2024-2025 Annual Budget in the total amount of \$57,879,272, and to levy the necessary tax therefore?

2 - Buses: Shall the Board of Education of the Owego Apalachin Central School District (OACSD) be authorized to purchase school buses (four (4) 70-passenger buses and one (1) 65-passenger W/C accessible), at a maximum estimated cost of \$960,000, and said amount, or so much thereof as may be necessary, shall be raised by the levy of a tax upon the taxable property of said District and collected in annual installments as provided by Section 416 of the Education Law; and, in anticipation of such tax, obligation of said District shall be issued.

3- The Board of Education of the Owego Apalachin Central School District (OACSD), is hereby authorized to construct improvements to and reconstruct School District buildings and related facilities, including reconstruction and improvements of athletic fields (including new parking lots) together with original furnishings, equipment, machinery, apparatus, appurtenances, site improvements, and other incidental improvements and expenses in connection therewith, at a maximum estimated cost not to exceed \$28,500,000, and that \$500,000 of Capital Reserve Fund monies and \$1,600,000 current funds shall be used to pay a portion thereof, and that the remaining \$26,400,000 of said amount, or so much thereof as may be necessary, shall be raised by the levy of a tax upon the taxable property of said School District and collected in annual installments as provided by Section 416 of the Education Law; and, in anticipation of such tax, obligations of said School District shall be issued.

4 - Board Member Election: Seven (7) candidates, Keith Casterline, Nancy Della Pia, John Crawford, Patty Miller, Nora Schumacher, Dan Whippe & Elda Capuni-Lemmon, are running for two (2) Board of Education seats this year. Each seat carries a three-year term.

5 - Library Proposal: Apalachin Public Library and Coburn Free Library have a proposition on the ballot for increased taxpayer funding. (This funding is NOT part of the OACSD budget.)

**PROPOSED BUDGET**  
**\$57,879,272**  
**1.99% TAX LEVY INCREASE**

Dear Owego Apalachin School Community,

At the April 22nd meeting, the Owego Apalachin Central School District Board of Education adopted a proposed \$57,879,272 spending plan for the 2024-2025 school year. The adopted spending plan represents a 1.94% increase over the 2023-2024 budget and will rely on a proposed 1.99% tax levy increase.

We believe that we have prepared a budget that recognizes and addresses the challenges of the current economy for our schools and the community. We are proposing a 1.99% tax levy increase that is substantially lower than our calculated allowable tax levy limit of 5.09%.

Maintaining current programs remains a top priority in our budgetary planning. We recognize the invaluable impact of programs such as smaller class sizes at the elementary levels, which provide personalized attention and foster deeper connections between students and educators. Our dedication to enrichment programs during the school year, as well as the summer provides students with extracurricular activities that encourage creativity, leadership, and personal development. Through these programs, students have additional opportunities to explore their passions, cultivate new talents, and engage with their peers in meaningful ways.

We remain committed to implementing career pathways and service learning opportunities that empower students to connect their academic pursuits with real-world experiences. By expanding co-op and internship programs, as well as offering opportunities to earn college credits while still in high school, we provide our students with pathways to success that extend beyond graduation. Furthermore, we continue to expand and grow our Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs that equip our students with the practical skills and knowledge needed for success in the workforce. These programs not only prepare students for immediate career opportunities but also lay the foundation for lifelong learning and professional growth.

We continue to expand our PK-12 STEAM programs across the district. STEAM is interwoven into many areas of instruction at all levels, whether or not it's implied in the course name. STEAM education integrates science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics into a cohesive learning approach, fostering critical thinking, creativity, problem-solving, and innovation. Project-based learning, collaboration and communication and inquiry-based learning, are all facets of a STEAM curriculum. Students are introduced to these skills beginning in PreK, in both the classroom and in their specials cycle when they visit the STEAM room once every six days. This continues in the middle school with students' 10-week specials, cycling through Technology, Agriculture, Music, Art & Family & Consumer Science courses. Beginning in seventh grade, students have the opportunity to begin taking coding and robotics courses, leading them into the Engineering Pathway. Students interested in the Fine Arts can take advantage of our Art coursework (including both digital and physical art, Music Education Courses, Marketing & Design, Video Production, and many more). Throughout a student's time at OA, skills are continuously built upon, in both the core curriculum and elective courses. (continued on next page)

Equally vital is our commitment to fiscal responsibility. We understand the importance of controlling and reducing costs wherever feasible, ensuring that taxpayer dollars are utilized judiciously. Budgetary decisions are guided by a deep understanding of the values and aspirations of our school district. We seek to strike a balance between meeting essential district needs and honoring the priorities of our community.

In anticipation of future budgeting challenges, both short and long-term, we adopt a forward-thinking approach that emphasizes sustainability and adaptability. Effective management of district resources is paramount to our mission of supporting educational excellence. We are committed to leveraging our resources efficiently and strategically, ensuring that every dollar invested contributes to the holistic development and success of our students. Our focus remains on nurturing an environment where each student is empowered to realize their full potential, whether they choose to pursue higher education, enter the workforce, or serve in the armed forces.

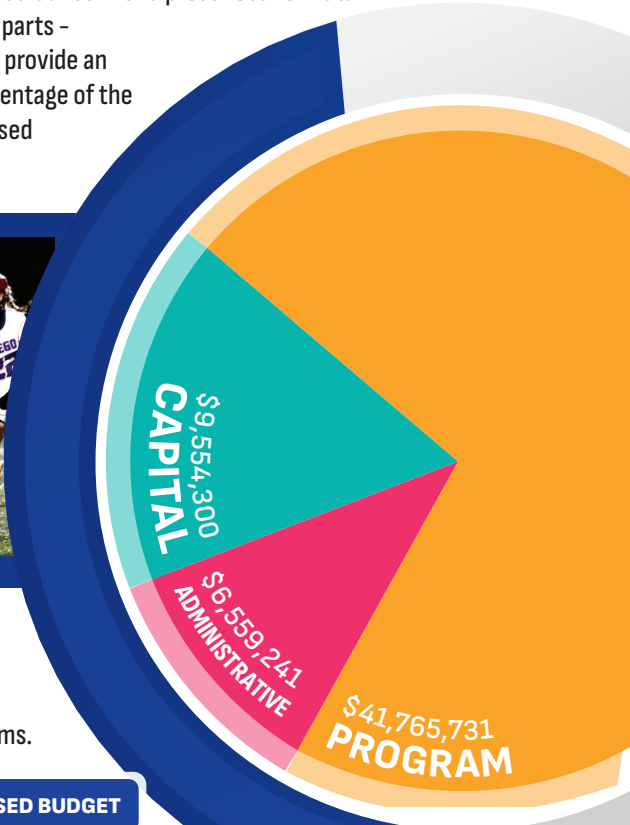
This newsletter provides an overview of the proposed budget on which taxpayers will vote on May 21st, including polling locations, a proposed Capital Project, Board of Education candidates up for election, and more.

Remember, your vote is important and every vote counts. Thank you for your support of our District and your continued partnership as we work together to educate the whole student to become lifelong learners in an ever-changing world.

## THREE-PART PROPOSED BUDGET | PROGRAM • CAPITAL • ADMINISTRATIVE

### PROPOSITION 1

is for the approval of the proposed 2024-25 spending plan in the amount of \$57,879,272. The Commissioner of Education issued Regulation 170.8, which requires all school districts in New York State to present their budget information in accordance with a prescribed format. This newsletter follows that format, showing the total proposed expenditure budget in three parts - Program, Capital and Administrative components. In addition, school districts are required to provide an estimate of debt service payments and an estimate of New York State aid displayed as a percentage of the proposed expenditure budget. On the following pages you will find the school district's proposed 2024-25 expenditure budget presented in accordance with this regulation.



### PROGRAM

Provides funds for instructional and educational support, computer assisted instruction, guidance, health, co-curricular, and interscholastic sports programs. Provides funds for the purchase of computers, network upgrades, computer enrichment programs, and music programs.

BUDGET FUNCTION	2023-2024 ADOPTED BUDGET	2024-2025 PROPOSED BUDGET
INSTRUCTIONAL	\$25,085,082	\$26,122,151
TRANSPORTATION	\$2,243,069	\$2,246,752
COMMUNITY RECREATION (POOL)	\$35,000	\$35,000
INTER-FUND TRANSFERS	\$65,000	\$35,000
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	\$13,302,015	\$13,295,328
LEGAL	\$31,500	\$31,500
<b>TOTALS:</b>	<b>\$40,761,666</b>	<b>\$41,765,731</b>



# THREE-PART PROPOSED BUDGET | PROGRAM • CAPITAL • ADMINISTRATIVE

## CAPITAL

Provides funds for the operation and maintenance of the school districts physical plant, including utilities. Also included are debt service payments.

BUDGET FUNCTION	2023-2024 ADOPTED BUDGET	2024-2025 PROPOSED BUDGET
Plant Operations, Maintenance, Security	\$3,244,901	\$3,370,729
Property Tax Refunds	\$5,000	\$5,000
Employee Benefits	\$953,856	\$930,197
Debt Service	\$5,139,135	\$4,848,374
Inter-fund Transfers	\$400,000	\$400,000
<b>TOTALS:</b>	<b>\$9,742,892</b>	<b>\$9,554,300</b>

## ADMINISTRATIVE

Provides funds for general management and support activities, including Board of Education, central and financial administration, staff support, central services, and special items. Also included are instructional administration and curriculum development.

BUDGET FUNCTION	2023-2024 ADOPTED BUDGET	2024-2025 PROPOSED BUDGET
Board of Education <small>(incl. district clerk &amp; district meeting)</small>	\$15,076	\$17,037
Chief School Administrator's Office <small>(incl. clerical salary, supplies, conferences, membership dues)</small>	\$277,416	\$287,087
Business Administration Office <small>(incl. clerical salaries, tax collectors, auditing, legal, PR, supplies, personnel, insurance, dues, transportation)</small>	\$1,583,346	\$1,723,507
Curriculum Development & Support	\$1,773,769	\$1,767,167
Central Data Processing & Services	\$1,068,385	\$1,156,183
Employee Benefits	\$1,553,719	\$1,608,260
<b>TOTALS:</b>	<b>\$6,271,711</b>	<b>\$6,559,241</b>



# SUMMARY OF EXPENDITURES & REVENUE



## SUMMARY OF EXPENDITURES

BUDGET FUNCTION	2023-2024 ADOPTED BUDGET	2024-2025 PROPOSED BUDGET	DIFFERENCE
Program	\$40,761,666	\$41,765,731	\$1,004,065
Capital	\$9,742,892	\$9,554,300	(\$188,592)
Administrative	\$6,271,711	\$6,559,241	\$287,530
<b>TOTALS:</b>	<b>\$56,776,269</b>	<b>\$57,879,272</b>	<b>\$1,103,003</b>

## SUMMARY OF REVENUES

BUDGET FUNCTION	2023-2024 ADOPTED BUDGET	2024-2025 PROPOSED BUDGET
Fund Balance Appropriation	\$1,600,000	\$1,600,000
Real Property Tax (Includes STAR)	\$17,900,212	\$18,256,427
Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT)	\$4,047,264	\$3,879,973
Fund Balance Appropriation - Current Capital Projects	\$300,000	\$400,000
Appropriated Reserves	\$204,707	\$30,000
State Aid	\$31,051,960	\$31,568,630
Other Revenue	\$1,672,126	\$2,144,242
<b>TOTALS:</b>	<b>\$56,776,269</b>	<b>\$57,879,272</b>

**Find Out More Information! Ask Questions**

**Upcoming Budget Information Sessions:**  
**May 6th, 2024**  
**6:00 pm**  
*Apalachin Elementary School*

**Official Public Hearing:**  
**May 13th, 2024**  
**6:00pm**  
*Board of Education Room - OA District Office*

# PROPERTY TAX REPORT CARD

2024-2025 Property Tax Report Card

000601 - Owego-Apalachin CSD Contact Person: Mr. Corey Green Telephone Number: 607-687-6224			
	Budgeted 2023-24 (A)	Proposed Budget 2024-25 (B)	Percent Change (C)
Total Budgeted Amount, not Including Separate Propositions	56,776,269	57,879,272	1.94%
A. Proposed Tax Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount <sup>1</sup>	17,900,212	18,256,427	
B. Tax Levy to Support Library Debt, if Applicable	0	0	
C. Tax Levy for Non-Excludable Propositions, if Applicable <sup>2</sup>	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)	17,900,212	18,256,427	1.99%
F. Permissible Exclusions to the School Tax Levy Limit	497,128	509,181	
G. School Tax Levy Limit, Excluding Levy for Permissible Exclusions <sup>3</sup>	18,040,309	18,301,977	
H. Total Proposed Tax Levy for School Purposes, Excluding Permissible Exclusions and Levy for Library Debt, Plus Prior Year Tax Reserve Cap (E - B - F + D)	17,403,084	17,747,246	
I. Difference: (G - H); (negative value requires 80.0% voter approval) <sup>2</sup>	637,225	554,731	
Public School Enrollment	1,902	1,902	0.00%
Consumer Price Index			4.12%

<sup>1</sup> Include any prior year reserve for excess tax levy, including interest.  
<sup>2</sup> Tax levy associated with educational or transportation services propositions are not eligible for exclusion under the School Tax Levy Limit and may affect voter approval requirements.  
<sup>3</sup> For 2024-25, includes any carryover from 2023-24 and excludes any tax levy for library debt or prior year reserve for excess tax levy, including interest.

	Actual 2023-24 (D)	Estimated 2024-2025 (E)
Adjusted Restricted Fund Balance	7,733,296	7,484,406
Assigned Appropriated Fund Balance	1,900,000	2,000,000
Adjusted Unrestricted Fund Balance	2,237,035	2,293,822
Adjusted Unrestricted Fund Balance as a Percent of the Total Budget	3.94%	3.96%

**SPECIFIC BUDGET QUESTIONS?**  
 Email Questions: [OAUpdate@oacsd.org](mailto:OAUpdate@oacsd.org)  
 Use the Let's Talk! QR Code  
 Contact The District Directly:  
 Public Information  
 (607) 687-7307 (ext. 7080)



# SCHOOL BUS PURCHASE

## PROPOSITION 2 –

appearing on the ballot would authorize the Board of Education of the Owego Apalachin Central School District (OACSD) to purchase school buses (four (4) 70-passenger buses and one (1) 65-passenger W/C accessible), at a maximum estimated cost of \$960,000, and said amount, or so much thereof as may be necessary, shall be raised by the levy of a tax upon the taxable property of said District and collected in annual installments as provided by Section 416 of the Education Law; and, in anticipation of such tax, obligations of said District shall be issued.

## OACSD BUS REPLACEMENT PLAN

How the Plan works:

1. With voter approval, new buses are purchased and older buses are removed from regular service.
  - All new buses are equipped with the latest technology and 3-Point seat belts.
  - New buses are more fuel efficient.
2. The district issues bonds (borrows money) to pay for the replacement buses.
3. The bonds are paid back over five years.
4. Each year, the district receives New York State Transportation Aid, which covers about 81% of the debt service on the bonds. That leaves the remaining 19% of the cost to be made up from the district's general fund.
5. At the end of the five-year bond period, the district owns those buses outright.
6. The funds budgeted for those paid-off buses are then available to pay for that year's newly purchased buses. This long-term plan makes sure the district stays on a regular replacement cycle, keeps the bus fleet in good condition, and results in minimal impact on taxpayers and the budget.

**VOTE**  
**5.21.2024**  
**NOON-8PM**



## COMMUNITY LIBRARY PROPOSALS

### Apalachin Library

#### Seeking Additional Taxpayer Funding

One of the proposals on the ballot will ask voters to decide on taxpayer funding for the Apalachin Library. Upon voter approval, the proposition becomes a cumulative annual appropriation for the library.

**The funding is not part of the OACSD budget and is listed on taxpayers' bills as a separate line item.** Those funds go directly to the library. This year the Apalachin Library is seeking an additional \$5,000 in annual taxpayer support. If approved, it will set annual local taxpayer support to \$167,444

### Coburn Free Library

#### Seeking Additional Taxpayer Funding

One of the proposals on the ballot will ask voters to decide on taxpayer funding for the Coburn Free Library. Upon voter approval, the proposition becomes a cumulative annual appropriation for the library.

**The funding is not part of the OACSD budget and is listed on taxpayers' bills as a separate line item.** Those funds go directly to the library. This year the Coburn Free Library is seeking an additional \$30,000 in annual taxpayer support. If approved, it will set annual local taxpayer support to \$150,000.

# PROPOSED \$28,500,000 CAPITAL PROJECT

# VOTE

# 5.21.2024 NOON-8PM

The Owego Apalachin Central School District, together with the Board of Education are pleased to unveil our 2024 capital project for voter consideration.

The proposal focuses on updating our facilities, expanding student opportunities, and improving the overall efficiency, health, and safety of our buildings. Items included in the proposed capital project are highlighted in the district's Building Condition Survey (BCS). All school districts are required by the New York State Education Department (NYSED) to conduct a building survey every five years. The goal of the five-year plan is to collect information on the district's infrastructure and prioritize facility needs on a district-wide basis. The information collected in the BCS assists the district with itemizing the needs of each building and prioritizing the most essential repairs.

Through careful financial planning, this project is being proposed with **NO ADDITIONAL TAX IMPACT** on our local community. This project will be funded entirely through the combined use of Capital Reserves, District General Fund, and New York State Building Aid and has been strategically designed to maximize resources to enhance student learning space, update existing facilities, and strengthen security.

To learn more about the proposal, we invite you to review this newsletter, visit our website, and attend one of our upcoming public hearings. If you have additional questions, please contact us using Let's Talk! on our website.

## APALACHIN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PROPOSED SCOPE OF WORK



**CURRENT**

### AUDITORIUM/MUSIC

**Potential Upgrades Include:**

- Replace the Existing Stage
- Sound & Lighting Upgrades
- Ceiling Replacement
- Additional Infrastructure



**CURRENT**

### PLAYGROUND

**Potential Upgrades Include:**

- ADA Upgrades
- New Age-Appropriate Equipment
- New Pavilion
- New Blacktop Court



**CURRENT**

### KITCHEN

**Potential Upgrades Include:**

- New Finishes
- New Kitchen Equipment
- Upgrade HVAC



### Additional AES Proposed Scope of Work:

- Replace Portions of Sidewalks
- Replace PTAC Units in Office
- Replace Canopy
- Renovate Cafeteria

# NO ADDITIONAL TAX IMPACT

# CAPITAL PROJECT

# NO ADDITIONAL TAX IMPACT

## OFA/OAMS PROPOSED SCOPE OF WORK

Brick Repointing

Replace Exterior Doors

Repair Cracks in Corridors

Replace the Hot Water System at HS

Replace Lighting

Renovate Community Pool - Potential Upgrades Include:

- New Metal Panel Skin
- New Roof
- New Windows
- Air Conditioning Split Unit for Pool Office

Replace HS/MS Roofs

Replace MS HVAC

Abate and Replace VCT Floors

UV/ Exhaust System Replacement

Replace Terminal Heating Units

Classroom Renovation

Plumbing

Auditorium (Lights and Sound)

Parking Lots

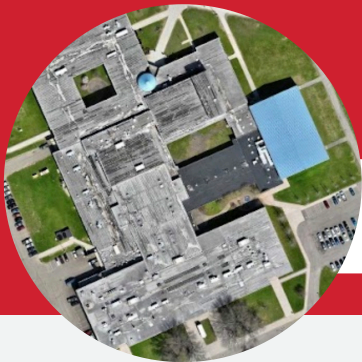
Additional lacrosse/soccer/baseball/softball multi-purpose fields center parking lot *(Alternate option)*

Restroom and Concession Building Near Stadium *(Alternate option)*

Proposed scope of work will be discussed in detail at the Budget Information Session on May 6th, 2024, 6:00 pm at *Apalachin Elementary School* and at the Official Public Hearing May 13th, 2024, 6:00pm at the *Board of Education Room - OA District Office*



FOR MORE INFORMATION & UPDATES SCAN THE QR CODE



**EXISTING OAMS/OFA ROOF**

**BUILDING AID: \$26,400,000**

**CAPITAL RESERVE: \$500,000**

**DISTRICT GENERAL FUND: \$1,600,000**



# NO ADDITIONAL TAX IMPACT

# BOARD OF EDUCATION ELECTION

There are two (2) seats open on the OACSD BOE for three-year terms, and there are seven (7) candidates on the ballot. Candidates appear in the order that they will on the ballot.



**Keith Casterline**

I am running for the school board because I strongly believe the role of the district is to educate and provide a safe environment for our students and staff. As a proud graduate of the OFA class of 96, I want all students to leave school with the same pride and quality education that I did. I want our staff to know that they are valued and appreciated for their hard work and dedication to our children. I have two daughters that are currently in the district, a senior and a freshman. I have been married to my wife Alison for 24 years who has been a teacher for 25 years. I have been with Lockheed Martin for over 3 years now, previously I was in the medical field for almost 20 years. I am excited to be a part of the Board of Education to help drive the future of our school district.



**Nancy K. Della Pia**

My name is Nancy Della Pia. Our family moved to Owego in 2009 (after moving 10 times) at the end of my husband Max's 30- plus-year Air Force career. Alex, the youngest of our 3 children, graduated from OFA in 2012. I have supported various Booster Clubs and the OFA Post-Prom. I hope to serve on the Board of Education because I recognize the pivotal role a good education plays in the lives of our children, our community, and our economy. I am a product and a proponent of public education. I am a life-long advocate for maternal and child healthcare, child development and access to mental health and counseling services. My BSN is from the University of Wisconsin. I've worked as a Rehabilitation Consultant, a Public Health Nurse, and a School Nurse. I have experience in many school districts in multiple states; in addition, I have served both as a school board member and school board president in New York State. I am motivated to serve the Owego Apalachin Central School District (OACSD) on the Board of Education because of my lifelong advocacy for children/youth. I have a nursing degree from the University of Wisconsin that has a special emphasis on Community Health. My professional work has been in Public Health,

Community based Rehabilitation, and School Nursing. As a school nurse I promoted a healthful atmosphere in school, provided health surveillance, and collaborated with teachers to enhance classroom success. I have volunteered my time in the following areas: Former member and past president of the Burnt Hills-Ballston Lake School Board; Former member and past president of the Parent Teachers' Association in several locations, at the elementary, middle school, and high school level; Member Owego Rotary Club: organized the annual craft fair to raise money to support Polio Plus, a Rotary program working to eradicate polio worldwide; Election worker for the Tioga County Board of Elections; Volunteer at the American Red Cross blood drives held at the Owego Elks Club of which I am a member; I am also a Deacon for the First Presbyterian Union Church.



**John Crawford**

My name is John Crawford and I am a tax-paying parent of two student-athletes. I am seeking a seat on the OA Board of Education because my father was a teacher, my wife currently is, and I understand the importance of well-rounded students. I am an engineer at Lockheed Martin and I am frustrated with the direction the school has taken since my children have been enrolled. OFA used to be considered an institution of competitive learning, focused on the success of the students. Currently, OFA struggles to have a clear vision, a true identity, retain talented and qualified teachers, and has put all of its focus on athletics. There is very limited participation in any STEM activities or mathalon; no science Olympiad, odyssey of the mind, or taking advantage of student-focused engineering or leadership development by local businesses or universities. My goal is to steer OFA back towards an institution of learning intertwined with arts, music and athletics. My contributions to my community include being a volunteer with the Owego Little League for 8 years and I am currently volunteering with the Modified Softball program at Owego.



**Patty Miller**

I'm Patty Miller and asking for your vote to be a voice on the Board of Education. I've been a business owner in the community for 40 years, raised 3 children, 1 of whom is an educator, and have 2 grandchildren in the district. I've decided to get involved in decisions being made for their education. Learning loss is an epidemic education crisis and our children's future is worth fighting for. We must hold academics to higher standards, not lower them. Our children deserve excellence over equity. I strongly believe the parent is the child's first teacher and I stand for parental rights. I will do my best as a board member to make accountability and transparency with taxpayer fund allocations. That includes inappropriate books in our school libraries and strings attached to funding for political agendas from the state. Let's get back to fundamental principles of education, nurturing critical skills and knowledge and sustaining a thriving democracy. Education is the passport to the future for it belongs to those who prepare for it today. If you support these values, I'd appreciate your vote.

*\*This bio has been updated from printed version due to editing error\**



**Nora Schumacher**

As a lifelong resident of the Owego Apalachin Central School District, I graduated from the District, as did my two grown children. Two of my grandchildren are currently students at Apalachin Elementary School. Upon graduating from college, I worked for Tioga County in Human Services for several years, and was the first County Youth Bureau Director. I returned to college to obtain my teaching certification, and retired from the District in 2011 after 20 years in the classroom. During this time, I also coached the Modified and Varsity Tennis Teams. I am currently a Board Member of the Owego Gymnastics and Activity Center. I also served as the Volunteer Coordinator for the Tioga County Fair for several years. I believe my work history and life experience will benefit the Board of Education. The School District plays a vital role in our community. When working together, the school administration, parents, teachers, and community can maximize effective use of taxpayer dollars to provide a quality educational experience for its students.



**Dan Whippo**

My name is Dan Whippo. I am running for a third term as an Owego Apalachin Central School District Board of Education Member. I am a retired teacher from Owego School District. During my career at Owego, I taught at Owego Elementary School and Owego Middle School. I coached a variety of sports including track, cross country, tennis, and volleyball. In addition to these positions, I was the president of the Owego Apalachin Teachers Association for eight years. It was in this capacity that I gained a solid understanding of the operations of the school district. As the association president, I met biweekly with the superintendent of schools, attended school board meetings, dealt with personnel matters, and gained a good understanding of the district's budget process. These experiences and the experience I've gained as a six-year Board of Education Member have prepared me to serve our community as an effective school board member. Over the last several years, while serving on the board of education, we have accomplished much! Just to name a few:

**Improved Student Achievement:** Test scores have moved to where we have become one of the top districts academically in the region. A large increase in college and AP courses and dual credit programs. (Families & students save thousands on academic costs). **STEAM Programs:** Including robotics K-12. **Career Center:** Implemented a comprehensive Career Center. No one has anything like ours. Internships. Cooperative partnerships with Lockheed Martin. **Career and Technical Education Programs:** Added multiple CTE programs for students on our campus. Agriculture. Animal Science. Building Trades. Heavy Equipment. Electrical. **Low Taxes. Zero percent tax levies for three years in a row** and overall low, at or under the cap for several years. We have done more with less.

As a board member I support our students' activities by attending programs and sports events. I try to attend as many home sports events as possible and I rarely miss a music performance.

The years of my employment with the Owego School District were the best years of my life, and I have thoroughly enjoyed my time serving on the board of education. I love this community and its residents. It would be my privilege and honor to continue serving on the Owego Apalachin Board of Education. My priorities as a board member are to ensure that our students receive the best education possible, while demonstrating responsible stewardship to the residents of our school community.



**Elda Capuni-Lemmon**

My name is Elda Capuni-Lemmon and I am running for the school board in the OA district. I have been a resident of Apalachin, NY since 03/2003. I have three children who attend OFA and OAMS. I hold an MA in Economics and an MA in Italian, both from Binghamton University. I have worked as a financial analyst, an economics and Italian Instructor at BU during my studies, a substitute teacher in the Owego Apalachin school district from 2005-2006, and as an Italian adjunct instructor at SUNY Broome. Having spent most of my career in education, I value it not only for the opportunities it provides, but also for the impact it has in forming the new citizens of a nation. I grew up in a communist, atheist country for the first 13 years of my life, and for the next 5 years I lived under the chaos of a country trying to rebuild from the ashes. I moved to the USA, reluctantly at first, when I was 18. I soon came to love this country for its openness, freedom, friendliness, and opportunities it has afforded to many immigrants like me. I try to instill the same sentiments and appreciation to my children and teach them why America is unique. I am unapologetically anti-communist, pro-American and pro-God.

I appreciate the support and positive feedback I received from the community on my run last year. I am running again because I want to represent families that, like me, want to promote a strong academic and patriotic education. Having grown up being fed official narratives in communism, I want the young generation to grow up with a healthy dose of skepticism and learn to analyze and discern data for themselves. No country can survive with self-hate, just like no person can thrive with self-hate. I am running because I want to promote an education that teaches love of country, its faults notwithstanding. Our country's founding values are the best defense against evil regimes such as those created by communism throughout the world. I am also running because I want to make sure that parents always have a say in their children's education, unlike parents in my native country, Albania, where under communism children were trained to turn against their parents, and many did! I want to make sure that our local community, not some distant politician, has the last say in our children's education. Thank you for your support and I hope to have your vote for the OA school board.



# OWEGO APALACHIN CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT BY THE NUMBERS



## COLLEGE & CAREER READY



COLLEGE CREDITS EARNED

3,565



DOLLAR AMOUNT OF LOCAL SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED

161,875



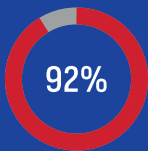
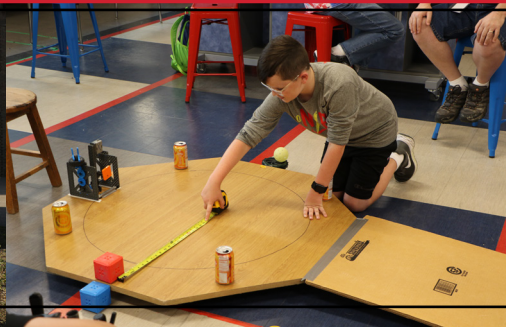
COLLEGE COURSES OFFERED

37

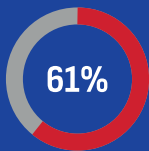


STUDENTS IN CAREER & TECH EDUCATION

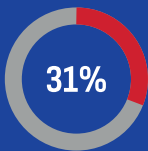
93



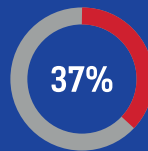
GRADUATION RATE



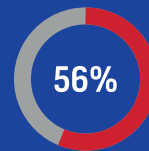
12TH GRADE ATTENDING COLLEGE



ADVANCED REGENTS DIPLOMAS EARNED



12TH GRADE ENTERING THE WORKFORCE



12TH GRADE STUDENTS TAKING 1 OR MORE COLLEGE COURSES



# FINE & PERFORMING ARTS



STUDENTS IN  
DRAMA  
PRODUCTION

**48**

VISUAL ARTS  
STUDENTS

**132**

EXTRA  
CIRRICULAR  
CLUBS

**16**

**MUSIC ACCOLADES**

AREA ALL STATE SELECTIONS 2

BINGHAMTON YOUTH SYMPHONY SELECTIONS 2

NYSSMA SOLO FEST PERFORMERS 148

NYSSMA MAJORS GROUPS 9



**OWEGO APALACHIN CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
Outstanding Support of Music Education Enriching the Lives of Children  
and Advancing Student Achievement for the 6th year in a row



# ATHLETICS

SPORTS

**22**

SCHOLAR  
ATHLETE TEAMS

**21**

ATHLETIC  
TEAMS

**50**

**CHAMPIONSHIPS**

DIVISION 7 STAC 2 SECTIONAL 13



**EACH STUDENT**

**THEIR FUTURE**



# Owego Apalachin Central School District

5 Sheldon Guile Boulevard, Owego New York 13827

## Board Members

Gene Cvik, *President*

Linda Gretz, *Vice President*

Michael Aubel

Jason Luke

Joseph Palladino

Michael Phelps

Jessica Silvanic

## Superintendent of Schools

Dr. Corey A. Green

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## WHO CAN VOTE?

You can vote on the school district budget if you are: Eighteen (18) years of age on the voting date, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of the school district for 30 days prior to the voting date.

You do not need to be a property owner in order to vote, but you must live in the district. You do not need to be registered with the board of elections, but must show a valid photo ID.

To request an absentee ballot, please contact the District Clerk or her designee by emailing [vote@oacsd.org](mailto:vote@oacsd.org). All ballots must be received at the district office no later than 5pm on May 21st, 2024.

For questions about voting and registration, call the District Clerk at 687-6215 or send an email to [vote@oacsd.org](mailto:vote@oacsd.org).

## OWEGO APALACHIN CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

### School Budget Vote

May 21st, 2024

Noon - 8:00 PM

### 2 Polling Locations

Based on Residency

#### Apalachin Elementary School

405 Pennsylvania Avenue, Apalachin  
&

#### Owego Apalachin Middle School

3 Sheldon Guile Boulevard, Owego

### School Budget

#### Official Public Hearing

May 13th, 2024 | 6:00 P.M.

Board of Education Room, OA District Office  
5 Sheldon Guile Boulevard, Owego

#### SPECIFIC BUDGET QUESTIONS?

Email Questions:  
[OAUpdate@oacsd.org](mailto:OAUpdate@oacsd.org)

Use the Let's Talk! QR Code

Contact The District Directly:  
Public Information  
(607) 687-7307 (ext. 7080)

