

 *News from the Odessa-Montour Central School District*

OMCS Budget News

Re-Vote Edition

June 2026

A letter from your Board President

Dear Residents of the Odessa-Montour School District,

The 2026-27 budget approved by the Board of Education in March called for total budgeted expenditures of \$23,390,156. The anticipated tax levy associated with this budget was \$6,402,930, which was an increase of approximately 13 percent over the 2025-26 tax levy. Because this increase in the levy exceeded the District's "tax cap," the budget required approval by 60 percent of the votes cast at the annual district meeting. The budget received approval from approximately 57 percent of the votes cast, and as such was not passed.

State law provides that when a budget is defeated, the school board has three options:

1. Present the same budget for approval again
2. Present a different budget for approval
3. Adopt a contingency budget.

The Board has elected option 2, and has approved a revised budget in the amount of \$23,150,708. This is an increase of \$588,142 over the 2025-26 budget (approximately 2.61 percent), and a decrease of \$239,448 from the 2026-27 budget originally proposed. The revised budget cuts approximately \$119,000 from expenditures originally proposed, and, due to a recent increase in the Universal PreK grant the District received after the original budget was approved, moves approximately \$120,000 of additional expenses out of the general fund into the UPK grant. On the revenue side, in the revised budget the District has moved \$147,366 out of the debt service reserve to put toward debt service in 2026-27. This combination of spending reductions and use of reserves reduces the proposed 2026-27 tax levy from \$6,402,930 to \$6,016,116.

The percentage increase in the levy under the revised 2026-27 budget is 6.2 percent. Because this increase is higher than the 3.12 percent tax cap, the revised budget will again require the approval of sixty percent of the qualified voters present and voting. If the revised budget does not receive sixty percent approval, the District will

automatically go to a contingency budget. Under a contingency budget, the levy will be frozen at the same amount as 2025-26 (\$5,664,809), and the District will need to make cuts in an amount sufficient to accommodate this level of revenue. These cuts will include elimination of school-sponsored summer programs and student supply and equipment purchases, cuts to sports and other extracurricular activities, and the layoff of three to five teachers, among other cuts.

This newsletter provides greater details of the revised budget. I encourage all District residents and taxpayers to review this information and contact the superintendent or a member of the Board with any questions. As outlined in my letter introducing the original 2026-27 budget, the challenges imposed on small rural upstate New York school districts like OMCS by New York State and a combination of other factors are serious, and all stakeholders should be engaged to prepare to meet these challenges.

District Superintendent James Nolan will present the revised budget at a hearing on June 8, 2026 at 5:30 p.m. The vote on the revised budget will be held on June 16, 2026 from 12:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Sincerely,

Robert Halpin

President
Odessa-Montour Board of Education



***Budget
Hearing***

***Monday,
June 8***

5:30 p.m.

***District
Conference
Room (305)***

***Vote
Tuesday,
June 16***

***Noon –
8:00 p.m.***

***District
Conference
Room (305)***

**** We ask all
voters to
please use
the Triple
Doors to
enter***

Proposed Budget for 2026-27

Administrative Component

<i>Budget Function</i>	<i>2025-26</i>	<i>2026-27</i>	<i>Change</i>
Board of Education	\$23,135	\$23,135	\$0
BOCES Administration	229,390	258,508	29,118
BOCES Capital	115,840	116,112	272
Central Administration	238,553	245,598	7,045
Finance	495,114	539,661	44,547
Legal	20,700	20,000	-700
Personnel	19,612	25,183	5,571
Public Information	20,810	24,704	3,894
Printing/Mailing	140,618	149,701	9,083
Central Data Processing	691,415	753,883	62,468
Insurance	84,000	96,000	12,000
Curriculum Development	54,338	93,837	39,499
Supervision/Regular School	683,414	704,099	20,685
Planning/Evaluation	117,691	102,614	-15,077
Employee Benefits	465,622	522,081	56,459
TOTAL	\$3,400,252	\$3,675,116	\$274,864

Capital Component

<i>Budget Function</i>	<i>2025-26</i>	<i>2026-27</i>	<i>Change</i>
Operation of Plant	\$1,200,872	\$1,208,164	\$7,292
Maintenance of Plant	289,723	256,213	-33,510
Refund of Property Taxes	10,000	10,000	0
Employee Benefits	384,797	429,522	44,725
Debt Service	2,889,300	2,070,125	-819,175
Capital Construction	100,000	100,000	0
TOTAL	\$4,874,692	\$4,074,024	\$-800,668

Program Component

<i>Budget Function</i>	<i>2025-26</i>	<i>2026-27</i>	<i>Change</i>
Teaching – Regular School	\$4,798,078	\$5,043,049	\$244,971
Special Education	2,585,646	2,675,091	89,445
Occupational Education	720,885	923,195	202,310
Legal	48,300	52,271	3,971
Library	98,173	101,096	2,923
Computer-Assisted Instruction	226,293	240,802	14,509
Guidance	294,686	329,304	34,618
Health Services	405,297	409,305	4,008
Co-Curricular Activities	56,498	57,500	1,002
Interscholastic Athletics	277,815	294,397	16,582
Employee Benefits	3,805,799	4,248,415	442,616
Transportation	948,152	1,005,143	56,991
Transfers to Other Funds	22,000	22,000	0
TOTAL	\$14,287,622	\$15,401,568	\$1,113,946

***Budget
Hearing***

***Monday,
June 8***

5:30 p.m.

***District
Conference
Room (305)***

***Vote
Tuesday,
June 16***

***Noon –
8:00 p.m.***

***District
Conference
Room (305)***

Odessa-Montour School District Budget Notice

Overall Budget Proposal	Budget Adopted for the 2025-26 School Year	Budget Proposed for the 2026-27 School Year	Contingency Budget for the 2026-27 School Year *
Total Budgeted Amount, Not Including Separate Propositions	\$ 22,562,566	\$ 23,150,708	\$ 22,961,092
Increase/Decrease for the 2026-27 School Year		\$ 588,142.00	\$ 398,526.00
Percentage Increase/Decrease in Proposed Budget		2.61%	1.77%
Change in the Consumer Price Index		2.63%	
A. Proposed Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount	\$ 5,664,809	\$ 6,016,156	
B. Levy to Support Library Debt, if Applicable	\$ -	\$ -	
C. Levy for Non-Excludable Propositions, if Applicable **	\$ -	\$ -	
D. Total Tax Cap Reserve Amount Used to Reduce Current Year Levy	\$ -	\$ -	
E. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy (A + B + C - D)	\$ 5,664,809	\$ 6,016,156	\$ 5,664,809
F. Total Permissible Exclusions	\$ -	\$ -	
G. School Tax Levy Limit, Excluding Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$ 5,664,809	\$ 5,841,645	
H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, Excluding Levy to Support Library Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions (E - B - F + D)	\$ 5,664,809	\$ 6,016,156	
I. Difference: G - H (Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval - See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions) **	\$ -	\$ (174,511)	
Administrative Component	\$ 3,400,252	\$ 3,675,117	\$ 3,669,616.00
Program Component	\$ 14,287,622	\$ 15,401,568	\$ 15,334,918.00
Capital Component	\$ 4,874,692	\$ 4,074,023	\$ 3,956,558.00
<p>* Should the proposed budget be defeated pursuant to Section 2023 of the Education Law and the District adopt a contingency budget, the following items will be excluded from a contingency budget: student supplies, non-essential maintenance work, purchase of equipment for buildings, grounds, athletics and security upgrades. There will be no salary increases for non-contractual employees. There would be no use of school facilities by community groups without a fee to cover all necessary expenses incurred including maintenance, supervision and utilities. In addition, a contingency budget would necessitate staffing cuts resulting in program reductions.</p>			



NOTE: Please submit an electronic version (Word or PDF) of this completed form to: emscmgts@nysed.gov

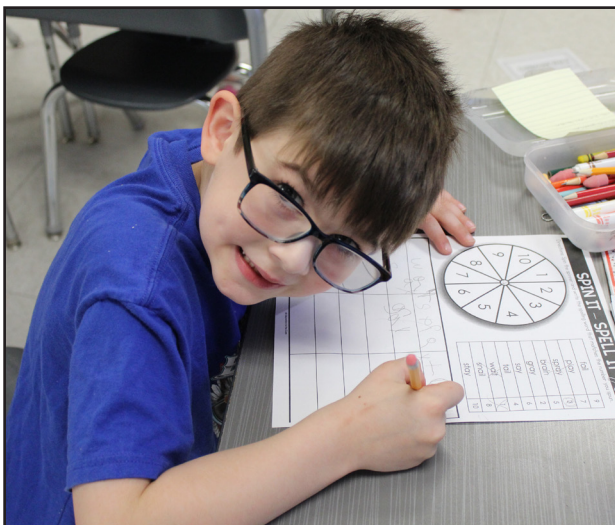
Under the Budget Proposal for the 2026-27 School Year

Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings¹

\$306.90

The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2026-27 by the qualified voters of the Odessa-Montour Central School District, Schuylar County, New York, will be held at District Conference Room in said district on Tuesday, June 16, 2026 between the hours of 12:00 pm and 8:00 pm, prevailing time, at which time the polls will be open to vote by voting machine.

¹ The basic school tax relief (STAR) exemption is authorized by section 425 of the Real Property Tax Law.



Odessa-Montour Central School District

300 College Ave.
Odessa, NY 14869
(607) 594-3341

Board of Education

Robert Halpin, President
Jennifer Mosher, Vice President
Sidney Pike, Student Member
Jason Dechow
Dana Sgrecci
Will Shrout
David Stigers
Kyle VanGalder

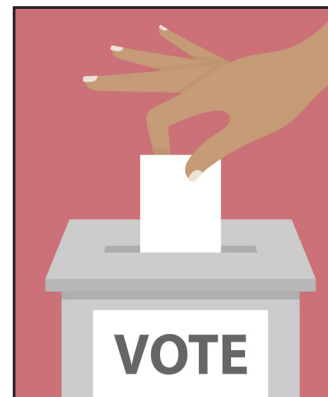
Superintendent

James Nolan

NON-Profit
US postage
PAID
Permit #6
Watkins Glen, NY
14891

Am I eligible to vote?

To be eligible to vote on the school budget and election, you must be a citizen of the United States who is 18 years of age or older and a legal resident of the Odessa-Montour Central School District for at least 30 days prior to the vote. No prior registration is required.

**Post Office or
Box Holder****Absentee/military/
early mail ballots**

Applications for absentee ballots are available for residents unable to vote in person on June 16. Early mail ballots have been approved to be used in schools for New York State. Unlike absentee ballots, residents can request an early mail ballot without having a reason such as illness or being out of town. To obtain either application, call the District Office. All ballots are due in the District Office by 5:00 p.m. on June 16.

**2026-2027 REVISED
BUDGET AT A GLANCE**

Total Budget	Tax Levy	Taxpayer Impact
\$23.15M Reduced from \$23.39M Budget to Budget 2.61%	6.2% Down from 13.3%	+\$42/yr per \$100,000 with STAR (\$3.50/mo)
Reductions \$239K in Savings <ul style="list-style-type: none">Increase in UPK Grant on 5/20/26<ul style="list-style-type: none">Staff costs shifted to grantReduced supplies & services	Revenue +\$147K in Added Revenue From District Reserves	Result Tax Levy Cut by More Than Half → 6.2% vs. 13.03%
Readiness Funding reallocation for School Resource Officer 		
Budget Hearing June 8 5:30 PM 300 College Avenue, Odessa, NY District Conference Room (305) 	Contingency If this budget fails: <ul style="list-style-type: none">No summer learning or recreational programsNo School Resource Officer fundingNo student supplies/equipment purchasesFees for community facility useReduction in staffReductions to sports and extracurricularsAdditional cuts as determined by the Board	
Budget Vote June 16 12:00-8:00 PM 300 College Avenue, Odessa, NY District Conference Room (305) 		



Budget Hearing
Monday, June 8 • 5:30 p.m.
District Conference Room (305)



Vote
Tuesday, June 16 • Noon-8:00 p.m.
District Conference Room (305)