

ELMIRA EXPRESS NEWSLETTER BUDGET NEWS



ANNUAL BUDGET VOTE AND BUDGET HEARING



May 19, 2026 | 7AM - 8PM

ANNUAL BUDGET VOTE AND
SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION

MAY 11, 2026 | 5PM

BUDGET HEARING

A Letter from our Superintendent | Spring 2026

Dear Friends,

As spring arrives, I'm pleased to introduce the Spring 2026 School Budget Newsletter. This newsletter outlines our proposed 2026–2027 budget and provides important updates about the upcoming school board election.

Once again this year, the **proposed budget includes a 0% increase to the tax levy**—reflecting our commitment to responsible budgeting without compromising student success.

We believe that civic engagement is essential, and your voice makes a difference. Please mark your calendar for Tuesday, May 19, 2026, and make your voice heard. To view full budget details, voter information, and candidate profiles, visit elmiracityschools.com.

Thank you for your continued support of our schools and students.



Hillary J. Austin
Superintendent of Schools
Elmira City School District



VOTER INFORMATION

MAY 19, 2026 | 7:00 A.M. - 8:00 P.M.

ANNUAL BUDGET VOTE AND SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION

Locations: School District voters residing North of the Chemung River (including residents of the Lowman area) vote at Ernie Davis Academy located at 933 Hoffman Street.

Voters residing South of the Chemung River (including residents of the Golden Glow area) vote at Elmira High School located at 777 S. Main Street.

MAY 11, 2026 | 5:00 P.M.

BUDGET HEARING

The Budget Hearing will be held at the District Administration Building, located at 430 W. Washington Ave. in Elmira.

[Budget and Proposition Information on Pages 4-5](#) ▶▶

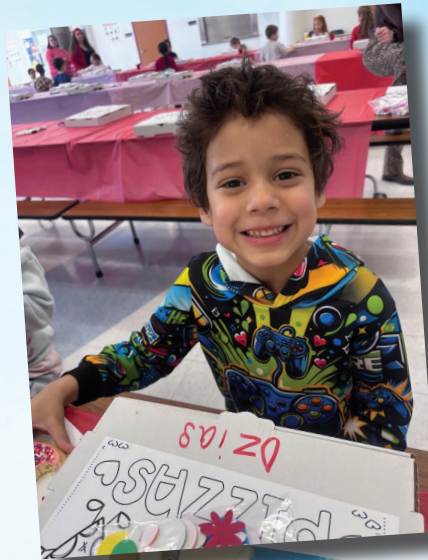
WELCOMING THE CLASS OF 2040!



DO YOU HAVE A CHILD THAT TURNS 4 ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 1?

REGISTER FOR PRE-KINDERGARTEN ONLINE

The Elmira City School District sponsors a Pre-K program for **children who are four years old on or before December 1**. Children who will be five on December 2 are considered to be of school age and are not eligible to attend Pre-K.



PRE-K REGISTRATION IN ELMIRA, NY

elmiracityschools.com/register

PROPOSED BUDGET SUMMARY

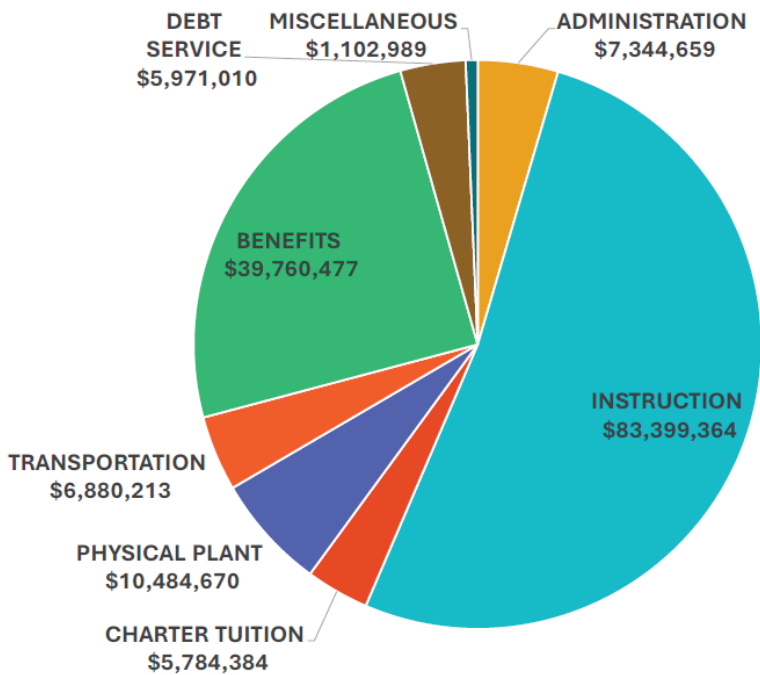
ANTICIPATED REVENUES

	2025-2026	2026-2027
State Aid	\$114,395,171	\$119,990,068
Property Taxes	\$35,472,148	\$35,588,498
Federal Aid	\$405,588	\$425,000
Transfers/Reserves	-	-
Misc	\$5,072,000	\$4,724,200
TOTAL	\$155,344,907	\$160,727,766

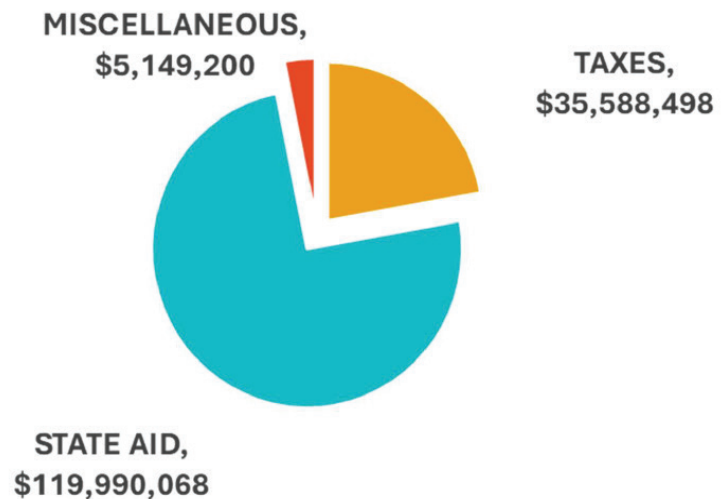
PROPOSED EXPENDITURES

	2025-2026	2026-2027
Administration	\$7,574,330	\$7,344,659
Instruction	\$79,128,675	\$83,399,364
Charter Tuition	\$5,411,000	\$5,784,384
Physical Plant	\$10,255,297	\$10,484,670
Transportation	\$6,990,210	\$6,880,213
Benefits	\$38,085,064	\$39,760,477
Debt Service	\$6,487,879	\$5,971,010
Community Schools and Transfers	\$1,412,452	\$1,102,989
TOTAL	\$155,344,907	\$160,727,766

EXPENSES



REVENUE



WHAT'S ON THE BALLOT?

PROPOSITION 1 | APPROVAL OF BUDGET

Shall the following resolution be adopted?

RESOLVED, that the proposed \$160,727,766 General Fund Budget of the Elmira City School District, Chemung County, New York for 2026-2027 be approved in accordance with Section 2022 of the Education Law and that the balance of said budget, after applying public monies thereto, be raised by a tax upon the taxable property of said district.

BOARD MEMBER ELECTION

A total of (3) seats are to be filled at the election on May 19, 2026. Three seats are for three-year terms, which will run from July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2029.

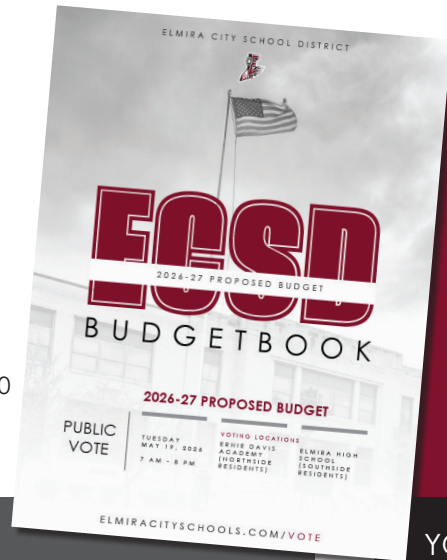
2026-2027 BUDGET BOOK

The 2026-2027 Proposed Budget Book with extensive details about the budget is available at

elmiracityschools.com

Questions?

Call the District Clerk at 607.735.3010



0%
INCREASE TO TAX LEVY

PROPERTY TAX INFORMATION

A proposed 0% tax levy increase is included in this year's budget due to the appropriation of revenue from the Reserve For Tax Reduction and the due diligence of Elmira City School District. This proposed tax levy is under the calculated tax levy limit of 1.98%.

YOU ARE ELIGIBLE TO VOTE IF YOU ARE:

- Registered to vote in general elections
- A resident of the District for at least 30 days preceding the election
- At least 18 years old on the date of the election
- A U.S. Citizen

ABSENTEE BALLOTS | DUE BY 5 P.M. ON MAY 19, 2026

The ECSD mails absentee ballots to voters listed as 'permanently disabled' by the Chemung County Board of Elections. Other registered voters who cannot get to the polls on May 19, 2026 may also be eligible to vote by using an absentee ballot.

ABSENTEE BALLOT APPLICATION PROCESS

Voters wishing to vote by Absentee Ballot must complete an Absentee Ballot application. Absentee Ballot applications can be picked up from the District Clerk at the District Administration Offices located at 430 W. Washington Ave, Elmira NY.

Applications must be received by the School District Clerk by May 12, 2026 for the Ballot to be mailed to the voter (7 days prior).

VOTING BY ABSENTEE BALLOT PROCESS

Voters who have completed and returned an application in exchange for an Absentee Ballot are required to return the completed ballot back by **5 p.m. on May 19, 2026.**

Returning by Mail: Ballots should be mailed back to District Administration Offices by 5 p.m. on May 19, 2026. Absentee ballots mailed to voters include a prepaid return envelope.

Returning In-Person: Voters can drop-off their ballots in-person by 5 p.m. on May 19, 2026 to the District Administration Offices located at 430 W. Washington St. There is a drop-box at the main office entrance.

2026-2027 PROPERTY TAX REPORT CARD

070600 - ELMIRA CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Contact Person:	Lindsey Tice	Budgeted 2025-26 (A)	Proposed Budget 2026-27 (B)
Telephone Number:	607-735-3000		
Total Budgeted Amount, not Including Separate Propositions		155,344,907	160,727,766
A. Proposed Tax Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount ¹		34,849,948	34,849,948
B. Tax Levy to Support Library Debt, if Applicable			
C. Tax Levy for Non-Excludable Propositions, if Applicable ²			
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)		34,849,948	34,849,948
F. Permissible Exclusions to the School Tax Levy Limit		1,896,291	1,934,310
G. School Tax Levy Limit, <u>Excluding</u> Levy for Permissible Exclusions ³		33,159,962	33,605,894
H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, <u>Excluding</u> Levy to Support Library Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions (E - B - F + D)		32,953,657	32,915,638
I. Difference: (G - H); (negative value requires 60.0% voter approval) ²		206,305	690,256
Public School Enrollment		5,764	5,651
Consumer Price Index		2.95%	2.63%

¹ Include any prior year reserve for excess tax levy, including interest.

² 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.

³ For 2026-27, include any carryover from 2025-26 and exclude any tax levy for library debt or prior year reserve for excess tax levy, including interest.

	Actual 2025-26 (D)	Estimated 2026-27 (E)
Adjusted Restricted Fund Balance	59,863,213	45,531,777
Assigned Appropriated Fund Balance	4,976,897	5,558,601
Adjusted Unrestricted Fund Balance	6,028,649	6,213,796
Adjusted Unrestricted Fund Balance as a Percent of the Total Budget	4.00%	4.00%

SCHEDULE OF RESERVE FUNDS

Schedule of Reserve Funds

Reserve Type	Reserve Name	Reserve Description *	3/31/26 Actual Balance	6/30/26 Estimated Ending Balance	Intended Use of the Reserve in the 2026-27 School Year
Capital	CAPITAL RESERVE - 2022	To pay the cost of any object or purpose for which bonds may be issued.	\$ 14,133,204	\$ 14,208,204	To be used during the next capital project & for the purchases of required transportation equipment to include buses & Zero Emissions Buses
Capital	CAPITAL RESERVE - 2019	To pay the cost of any object or purpose for which bonds may be issued.	\$ -	\$ -	Reserve was fully appropriated in the 2025-2026 school year for the current Capital Project, no further activity
Workers' Compensation	WORKERS' COMPENSATION RESERVE	To pay for Workers Compensation and benefits.	\$ 2,799,330	\$ 2,810,130	Pay for benefits, medical & administrative costs for our Self-Insured Workers' Compensation Plan
Unemployment Insurance	UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE RESERVE	To pay the cost of reimbursement to the State Unemployment Insurance Fund.	\$ 1,735,088	\$ 1,741,988	Offset unemployment costs throughout the year as needed
Reserve for Tax Reduction	RESERVE FOR TAX REDUCTION	For the gradual use of the proceeds of the sale of school district real property.	\$ 93,547	\$ 103,226	No planned usage for the 2026-2027 school year
Insurance	INSURANCE RESERVE	To pay liability, casualty, and other types of uninsured losses.	\$ 5,003,662	\$ 5,023,342	To fund certain uninsured losses exceeding \$25,000
Liability	RESERVE FOR LIABILITY	To establish and maintain a program of reserves to cover liability claims incurred.	\$ 3,636,597	\$ 3,650,997	Pay for liability claims
Tax Certiorari	TAX CERTIORARI RESERVE	To establish a reserve fund for tax certiorari settlements	\$ 1,328,008	\$ 1,331,008	Pay for judgement claims arising out of tax certiorari proceedings
EBALR – Employee Benefit Accrued Liability	EMPLOYEE BENEFITS ACCRUED LIABILITY RESERVE	For the payment of accrued 'employee benefits' due to employees upon termination of service.	\$ 2,058,568	\$ 2,066,668	Employee reimbursement for unused sick, vacation and personal leave at time of retirement
Retirement Contribution	RETIREMENT CONTRIBUTION RESERVE	To fund employer retirement contributions to the State and Local Employees' Retirement System	\$ 11,167,048	\$ 11,210,998	Offset retirement expenditures as necessary
Other Reserve	TEACHERS' RETIREMENT RESERVE	To fund employer retirement contributions to the New York State Teachers' Retirement System (TRS)	\$ 3,474,643	\$ 3,488,443	Offset retirement expenditures as necessary



ELMIRA HIGH SCHOOL

CLASS OF 2026

FUTURE FORWARD ▶▶

Dear Seniors,

As your principal, I want to congratulate you on reaching this incredible milestone. You've grown into young adults ready to take on new challenges with strength and purpose. Never forget the impact you've made on our school community. As you move forward, carry your confidence, kindness, and curiosity with you. We are proud of you and excited to see all you will accomplish. The future is yours—go make it remarkable. Go Express!

Mr. Chris Reger, Principal, Elmira High School

Jeremonie Abrams
 Lauryn Adams
 Aleida Agosto
 Lucas Alo
 Jasper Anderson
 Zayne Appleby
 Austin Arnold
 Reese Arnold
 Marley Badger
 Camryn Bailey
 Braden Baldwin
 Malaki Banks
 Jaden Bard
 Enaiah Barner
 Maurice Barner
 Jace-Thomas Barr
 Madaly Barr
 Braylynn Barron
 Dalton Barron
 Ava Batrowny
 Emerson Baugher
 Paige Beach
 Tahliah Beard
 Ti'rell Beard
 Zharielle Beard
 Lexie Bellinger
 MacKenzie Bellinger
 Julianna Bello
 Travis Benjamin
 Joseph Berich
 Michael Berry
 Isabelle Biggs
 Joseph Bixby III
 Damion Blackman
 Russell Blackman Jr
 Kaya Blaney
 Jordan Bonham
 Hadleigh Bower
 Gavin Bowlden
 Kerianna Bowman
 Arius Bradbury
 Kaelan Brenen-Buseck
 Miah Bridges
 Alana Brink
 Zyanna Brockenberry
 Javien Brome
 Jaxon Brooks
 Armani Brown
 Jack Brown
 Savannah Brown

Isaiah Brown-Williams
 Joseph Brusso
 Conner Buck
 ZyAsiha Cade
 Noah Cain
 Myles Caperelli
 Luca Capilli
 Logan Card
 Meganlynn Carrigan
 Alexis Carrion
 Endia Carter
 Ariahna Castle
 Rhakya Castle
 Jackson Cavalier
 Madelyn Cavalier
 A'iyhone Cayne
 De'Shon Cayne
 Aden Chace
 Brice Chaffee
 Liam Chaffee
 Francisco Charriez
 Atlantis Cherry
 Logan Church
 Cali Clark
 Deonte Clark
 William Clark
 Aundrell Clark
 Jeremy Clark-Rose
 Brennen Cleary
 Lukas Cole
 Piper Cole
 Carter Coleman
 Aiden Coleman-Spencer
 James Collier II
 Julian Colon
 Zachary Conklin
 Jordyn Conner
 Markez Cook
 Lillian Cook
 Riley Court
 Lillian Cowan
 Jasiah Cross
 Luis Cruz Jr
 Kiersity Cuesta
 Sarah Cunningham
 Luca Currin
 Zachary Daugherty
 Justin Daum
 Lacey Daum
 Benjamin Davis

Jade Davis
 Taylor Davis
 Naquan Dawson-Walker
 Nasier DeAnda
 Aubrianna Decker
 Benjamin Decker
 Eryn Decker
 Alexis Delossantos
 Logan DeMember
 Dominic DePrimo
 Moses DeRamus
 Marisha Diaz-Lopez
 Daniel Dinehart
 Benjamin Disbrow
 Melanie Dobbs
 Makenna Donahue
 Makia Donaldson
 Ryan Drum
 Mercedes Drummond
 Alaina Dunbar-Lahnum
 Jacob Dutton
 Traden Dyke
 Lillian Eck
 Logan Elder
 Cameron Elliott
 Lexie Ervin
 Connor Evans
 Rebecca Evans
 Johanna Evans
 McKenna Everett
 Grace Everett
 Johnathon Fair
 Scott Fairbanks
 Hailey Farnham
 Destinee Fields
 Hope Finnerty
 Persayius Fisher
 Kyle Ford
 Hannah Fowler
 Kaydon Frey
 Troy Fuller
 Blake Fusare
 Nicholai Galeano
 Luketman Galpin
 Isaiah Garcia
 Adelle Gardner
 Makayla Garvin
 Kailey Gee
 Lavontae Gibbons
 Rone' Gilliam

Raven Gleason
 Kyree Goodwin
 Jaidyn Gorham
 James Gorham
 Zaeon Graham
 John Grantham Jr
 Carter Green
 Ari Green-Mullen
 Kyliah Gross
 Skylar Grover
 Alexander Gublo
 Jordan Gublo
 Madison Guido
 Bridget Hagan
 Brody Hamilton
 Matthew Hamilton Jr
 Quinn Hanrahan
 Sean Hanrahan
 Baylen Hardwick
 Niyonah Hardy
 Daeshaun Harris
 Zhamir Harris
 Tae'Quan Harris
 Ziyanna Hazel
 Alana Heath
 Ava Herrick
 Jude Herrick
 Izabella Hill
 Lucas Hills
 Riley Honeycutt
 Tiffiney Horsey
 Brody Hotaling
 Jhaliyah Howard
 Izzybelia Hubschmitt
 Aidan Hughes
 Elizabeth Hunter
 Semaj Jaber
 Tyler Jackman
 Aubrey Jackson
 Ta'Mikus Jackson
 Ian Jessup
 McKenzie Joe
 Lydia Johns
 Abrey Johnson
 Jeramyah Johnson
 Miley Johnson
 Payton Johnson
 Xavien Johnson
 George Johnson
 Dakhali Jones

Elizabeth Jones
 Marisol Jones
 Crystal Jones
 Cayla Jones
 Mark Jones III
 Charlotte Juliano
 Angelina Kane
 Aylia Kenerson
 Jeremiah Ketchum
 Julian Kinkade
 Benjamin Kinner
 Cadance Kipferl
 K'Von Kirk
 Evan Kirsch
 Ava Kitching
 Skylar Klein
 Christian Knox
 Catherine Koski
 Xayn Kurta
 Zachary Labuski
 Rose Lafritz
 Jacob Lagonegro
 Alexandria Laing
 Coltin Lambert
 Connar Lambert
 Paris Lewis
 Rose Lewis
 Kaleab Livermore
 Damion Locke
 Kathryn Longwell
 Emilee Lowman
 Isabelle Lyon
 Jesse Magee
 Maddyson Magno
 Logan Manchester
 Sayde Marcoccia
 Anthony Martin
 Aubree Martin
 Jacob Marvin-Wright
 Ryan Mathews
 Hannah Matthews
 Dezeray Matthews
 Katie May
 Cori Mayhew
 Allison Maynard
 Ryan Maynard
 Trevion McGowan
 Josiah McGuire
 Trenton McKaig
 Avery McQuaid
 Max McQuaid
 Justin Medina
 Jaylin Menefee
 Kade Mickinkle
 Gavin Mickson
 Triniti Miley
 Ryan Miller
 Carter Mitchell
 James Mitchell
 Jaydin Mitchell
 Emma Moffett
 Emily Moldt
 Presleigh Morton
 Molly Moshier
 Sloane Moss

Amanda Mott
 Zachariah Mott
 Julius Mulligan
 Raul Muniz
 Nickolas Munoz
 Elektra Musselwhite
 Brian Myers Jr
 Samya Negron
 Thao Nguyen
 Madison Nicely
 Jordyn Nichols
 Joseph Nichols
 Josef Nichols-Phillips
 David Noonan
 Maren Novotny
 Sir Sakhile Ntombela
 Juan Ocasio
 Riley O'Herron
 Sarah Olson
 Audrey O'Neill
 Quintin Orme
 Bryce Osterhout
 Isabelle Pack
 Aedan Palmer
 Logan Palmer
 Kevin Parham, Jr
 Diamond Parsons
 MacKenna Payne
 Jaydalyn Perez
 Alivia Perez-Fulmer
 Myla Perry
 Blair Phillips
 Glenn Pierce
 Joseph Pino-Kerr
 Hunter Pokorney
 Izayah Porter
 Louella Povadora
 Annabella Prins
 Lacy Pronti
 Saawariya Rahman
 Steven Recore, Jr
 Natalie Reese
 Julianna Reid
 Jason Resavage
 Lily Rivers
 Jeremy Roberson Jr
 Nelayna Robinson
 Liam Rockwell
 Isabella Rodriguez
 Jaxon Rolls
 Alexander Roman
 Ava Romanick-Heath
 Kaysaan Rondon
 Javon Roney
 Nathan Rose
 Kenneth Ross
 Aniyah Ross
 Jordon Rozell
 Peyton Rozell
 Bonnie Russell
 Ronald Russell
 Cyniah Ruth
 Brianna Ryan
 Brianna Ryan
 Khamaria Sapp

ShaKayla Sapp
 Ava Savino
 Saw Lin Htet Saw
 James Schamel
 Phoenix Schreckendgust
 Eli Schuyler
 Camille Sconiers
 Jaikob Scribner
 Peyton Seeley
 Kyler Senay-Johnson
 Jeremy Shazer
 Patrick Sheen, Jr
 David Shepler
 Cayla Sherman
 Kasin Shoemaker
 Grace Shumaker
 Aaron Shuster
 Grace Simpson
 Noelani Smallwood
 Anne Smith
 Madison Smith
 Vayden Smith
 Autryoniah Smith-Mack
 Seth Soto
 Brooklynn Spencer
 Brendan Stage
 Jairus Stedge
 Clayton Stephens Jr
 Julian Strait
 Connor Sullivan
 Jozelyn Sutton
 Lazeria Sutton
 Anthony Sykora
 Koby Taft
 Julisa Tapia
 Aiden Taylor
 Clifford Tennant IV
 Bradley Terwilliger
 Cole Thomas
 Timothy Thompson III
 Victoria Tillinghast
 Jayelle Tomisman
 Demetrick Tomlin
 Kaylynn Tomlinson-Brill
 Khi'Zhere Torres
 Jordan Townson
 Spencer Trumbull
 Aiden Tulachanh
 Sean Turco
 Levi Utter
 Jaden Valentin
 Nevae Valentin
 Morgan Vankirk
 Aiyanna VanSkiver
 Alexander Vaughan
 Nolan Voorhees
 Miley Walborn
 Ruoyao Wang
 Amilliona Waples-Jordan
 Austin Ward
 Zayne Waring-Wright
 Madyson Wasicki
 Genevieve Watkins
 Chloe Weed
 Skylar Weston

Aubrey Wheeler
 Paul White
 Aaliyah Wiesner
 Juliana Wilbur
 Alize Wilcox
 Ashanti Williams
 Canique Williams
 Collin Williams
 Joseph Williams
 Maddison Williams
 Muhniya Williams
 Terrell Williams
 Zhalia Williams
 Dante Wilson
 Mariah Wise
 Karim Woodard
 Sebbriina Woodson
 Cayden Wright
 Ze'Kyiah Wright
 Sydney Zakresky
 Salamatu Zeba
 Kasandra Zuniga



Note: This list reflects the Elmira High School Senior Class as of April 2026 and is subject to change. This list does not include students that plan to graduate early.

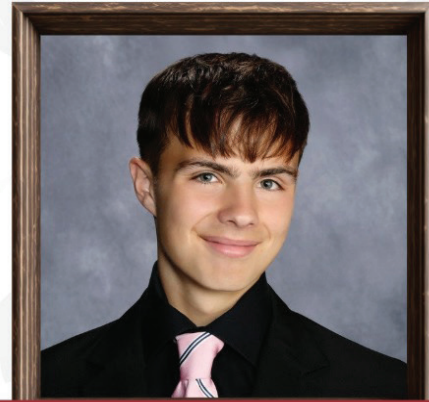


CONGRATULATIONS
TO OUR ELMIRA
HIGH SCHOOL'S
VALEDICTORIAN
AND SALUTATORIAN



ELMIRA HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS OF 2026

VALEDICTORIAN



BRODY HAMILTON



ELMIRA HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS OF 2026

SALUTATORIAN



MOLLY MOSHIER

ICYMI You Tell Us IN CASE YOU MISSED IT



Elmira City School District ...

April 22, 2026 at 8:42 AM |

We're listening. Please connect with us on social media and share your positive stories about the Elmira City School District. Use #GoExpress when posting!

@ECSD_Schools on Twitter, or Elmira City School District on Facebook.



WELCOMING THE CLASS OF 2040

Pre-Kindergarten Registration is now open!

Do you have a student who will be four years of age before December 1?

The educational experience in Elmira begins the minute you register! We are thrilled to welcome new students to our District and have provided helpful steps below to begin your registration process.

Registration is now available through a secure online portal!

elmiracityschools.com/registration



This year, Parley Coburn launched Pause Time—a restorative, relationship-based program helping students start their day with reflection, connection, and support.

Through check-ins, journaling, and meaningful conversations, students are building skills, setting goals, and growing with confidence. The program now serves nearly 50 students—and continues to grow!



We're already seeing powerful results, especially for students navigating trauma, anxiety, and behavioral challenges. Programs like this strengthen relationships, improve school connection, and support student success.



STAY CONNECTED



@ElmiraCitySchoolDistrict #GOEXPRESS

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ELMIRA CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
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Elmira, NY 14901

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