

# Central Valley **NEWS**

SCHOOL DISTRICT

SPECIAL BUDGET ⚡ EDITION 2018

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### 2018-19 Budget at-a-Glance

Proposed budget:  
**\$47,500,000**

Tax levy increase:  
**1.94% or  
\$164,000**

Budget-to budget  
increase:  
**5.61% or  
\$2,525,000**

Election to fill  
**two board seats**

Polls are open  
Tuesday, **May 15**  
from noon to 8 p.m.  
at the Central Valley  
Academy small gym

## Keeping a promise tax levy lower than 12-13

On Tuesday, May 15, residents of the Central Valley School District will go to the polls to vote on the district's proposed \$47,500,000 budget for the 2018-19 school year. The proposal would increase spending 5.61 percent or \$2,525,000 more than the current year. This would result in a 1.94 percent or \$164,000 tax levy increase. The proposed levy is less than the district's tax levy limit and will require a simple majority of greater than 50 percent of voters for approval.

The major increase in the budget is due to the start of bond payments for the district's capital project. State building aid will pay for 98 percent of that increase. Other increases, such as salaries and benefits, rose as anticipated.

"The important point when looking at the budget is to understand we are keeping the two main promises made when we merged," said Superintendent Jeremy Rich.

"We are protecting our taxpayers and we have broadened our educational offerings. Our tax levy remains lower than it was in 2012-13, before the merger. At the same time, students have more courses and extracurricular activities and increased access to technology."

### *A solid fiscal plan for the future*

One of the board of education's ongoing

goals is to ensure the district's finances remain strong into the future, protecting programs and taxpayers as merger incentive aid declines.

"We enjoyed the cushion of an extra \$4.4 million in state merger aid for each of the first five years after we merged," said Mr. Rich.



"That aid will now decline by roughly \$440,000 each year until it expires in 2028-29. We have carefully used that money to help fund the capital project and to make one-time purchases. We cannot go forward relying on temporary revenue to pay our regular expenses."

For that reason, Mr. Rich is working with administrators and staff to implement a simple formula. For each dollar spent on new programs or staff, there must be a corresponding one-dollar reduction somewhere else.

"We are in education and there are unlimited places where we could spend more to improve the education we offer our students," he said.

"But we must run our district like we run our homes. We must live within our budget."

# Budget

## Q & A

### Q What exactly am I voting on?

**A** Residents will vote on a proposed \$47,500,000 budget for the 2018-19 school year, which calls for a 1.94 percent tax levy increase compared to 2017-18.

Residents will also vote to fill two seats on the Central Valley School District Board of Education. Jonah Levi, Marguerite Wesolowski and David LiBritz will appear on the ballot in that order.

Additional information about the budget is available on the district's website, [www.cvalleycsd.org](http://www.cvalleycsd.org).

### Q When and where is the vote?

**A** The school budget vote will take place from noon to 8 p.m. on Tuesday, May 15 at the Central Valley Academy small gym.

To be eligible to vote, you must be a US citizen, 18 years of age or older and a district resident for at least 30 days prior to the vote.

### Q Can I vote by absentee ballot?

**A** Yes, if you cannot be present to vote on May 15, you may apply for an absentee ballot at the District Office. Completed ballots must be returned to District Clerk Marsha Griffith at the district office no later than 5 p.m. on Tuesday, May 15.

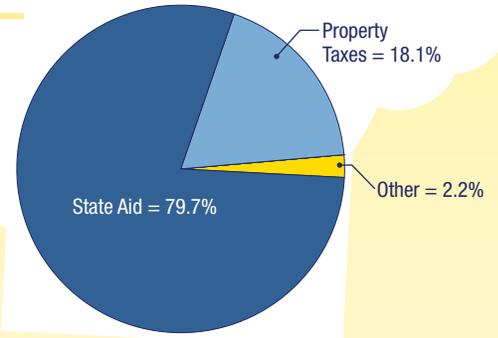
### Q What happens if the budget is voted down?

**A** If voters reject the proposed school budget on May 15, the school board can either put up the same or a revised budget for a revote or go directly to a contingency budget. If residents do not approve a budget on a revote, the board must adopt a contingency budget.

### Q What is a contingency budget?

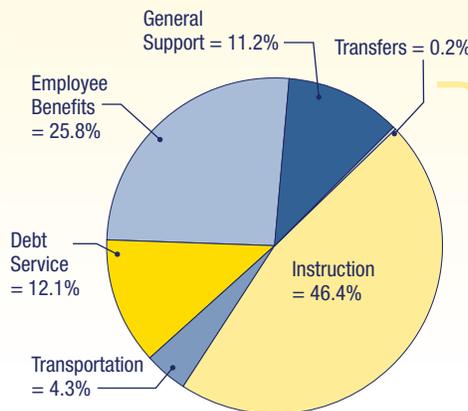
**A** State law mandates that under a contingency budget a school district must adopt a budget with no tax levy increase and eliminate all non-contingent expenses such as certain student supplies, certain equipment purchases and the free community use of school facilities (the district must charge a fee). The administrative budget would also be subject to certain restrictions.

## Where the money comes from...



### Projected Revenues

Revenues	Approved 2017-18	Proposed 2018-19	\$ Change	% Change
State Aid	\$35,932,745	\$37,856,159	\$1,923,414	5.35%
Property Tax	\$8,436,000	\$8,600,000	\$164,000	1.94%
Fund Balance	\$0	\$0	\$0	0%
Other	\$606,255	\$1,043,841	\$437,586	72.18%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$44,975,000</b>	<b>\$47,500,000</b>	<b>\$2,525,000</b>	<b>5.61%</b>



## ...and where it is spent

### Projected Expenditures

Expenditures	Approved 2017-18	Proposed 2018-19	\$ Change	% Change
General Support	\$5,263,717	\$5,321,537	\$57,820	1.10%
Instruction	\$21,264,245	\$22,022,698	\$758,453	3.57%
Pupil Transportation	\$2,087,944	\$2,059,785	-\$28,159	-1.35%
Debt Service	\$4,248,712	\$5,724,744	\$1,476,032	34.74%
Employee Benefits	\$11,740,382	\$12,251,236	\$510,854	4.35%
Interfund Transfers	\$370,000	\$120,000	-\$250,000	-67.57%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$44,975,000</b>	<b>\$47,500,000</b>	<b>\$2,525,000</b>	<b>5.61%</b>

Looking for more **Budget Information?**

This newsletter offers an overview of the proposed 2018-19 school budget. More details are available online at [www.cvalleycsd.org](http://www.cvalleycsd.org), in each school office and the district office.

# School District Budget Notice

Overall Budget Proposal	Budget Adopted for the 2017-18 School Year	Budget Proposed for the 2018-19 School Year	Contingency Budget for the 2018-19 School Year*
Total Budgeted Amount, Not Including Separate Propositions	\$44,975,000	\$47,500,000	\$47,022,500
Increase/Decrease for the 2018-19 School Year		\$2,525,000	\$2,047,500
Percentage Increase/Decrease in Proposed Budget		5.61%	4.77%
Change in the Consumer Price Index		2.13%	
<b>A. Proposed Tax Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount, Net of Reserve</b>			
	\$8,436,000	\$8,600,000	
<b>B. Levy to Support Library Debt, if Applicable</b>			
	\$0	\$0	
<b>C. Levy for Non-Excludable Propositions, if Applicable **</b>			
	\$0	\$0	
<b>D. Total Tax Cap Reserve Amount Used to Reduce Current Year Levy</b>			
	\$0	\$0	
<b>E. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy (A + B + C - D)</b>			
	\$8,436,000	\$8,600,000	\$8,436,000
<b>F. Total Permissible Exclusions</b>			
	\$0	\$0	
<b>G. School Tax Levy Limit, Excluding Levy for Permissible Exclusions</b>			
	\$8,941,421	\$9,032,555	
<b>H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, Excluding Levy to Support Library Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions (E - B - F + D)</b>			
	\$8,436,000	\$8,600,000	
<b>I. Difference: G - H; (Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval – See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions)</b>			
	\$505,421	\$432,555	
<b>Administrative Component</b>			
	\$5,158,461	\$5,240,312	\$5,223,012
<b>Program Component</b>			
	\$31,358,158	\$32,509,389	\$32,508,189
<b>Capital Component</b>			
	\$8,458,381	\$9,750,299	\$9,291,299

\* If the proposed budget is defeated and a contingency budget is adopted, certain non-contingent items must be removed. Among those items are salary increases for non-instructional employees without a bargaining unit, all equipment purchases and any non-essential maintenance costs. All capital expenditures, except in emergencies, must also be removed. Certain field trips and student supplies must be eliminated and all community use of the school facilities must cease unless the costs of that use are fully reimbursed.

\*\* Separate Propositions that are not included in the Total Budgeted Amount

Description	Amount
N/A	N/A

Under the Budget Proposal for the 2018-19 School Year

Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings <sup>1</sup>	\$641
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The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2018-2019 by the qualified voters of the Central Valley Central School District, Herkimer County, New York, will be held at the Central Valley Academy small gym in said district on Tuesday, May 15, 2018 between the hours of noon and 8 p.m., prevailing time, at which time the polls will be opened to vote by voting ballot or machine.

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

## How would the proposed budget affect taxes?

Actual tax rates are set in August and are based on final assessment figures as provided by the county, and equalization rates for each municipality as provided by the state Office of Real Property Services.

The chart, right, estimates 2018-19 tax bills based on 2017-18 tax bills.

### Effect on Tax Bills<sup>1</sup>

	\$500	\$1,000	\$1,500	\$2,000
2017-18 school taxes paid	\$500	\$1,000	\$1,500	\$2,000
Estimated 18-19 school tax	\$10	\$1,019	\$1,529	\$2,039
Estimated increase	\$10	\$19	\$29	\$39

<sup>1</sup>Does not include changes in tax rolls, equalization rates or STAR program.

## Board of Education

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Travis Costin  
Matt Darrow  
Daniel LaLonde  
Jane North  
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Jeremy Rich,  
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# Central Valley

SCHOOL DISTRICT

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## 4 ⚡ Special Budget Edition 2018

# Building Hope

in our communities

## Small towns offer opportunity and a great place to grow, work, and live

“It’s time for a change in attitude,” said Central Valley Superintendent Jeremy Rich.

“While true the Mohawk Valley has its struggles, we cannot lose sight of the wonderful opportunities it offers. We need to embrace all we have, take pride in it, and build upon it.”

The benefits of small communities has been Mr. Rich’s constant theme since becoming assistant superintendent and then superintendent.

Drawing on his personal life, growing up in tiny Mayfield, NY, he is quick to point out the many positives of close-knit communities. In his speech at March’s Hall of Fame luncheon, he joked, “In a small town, everyone knows everyone—and their brother and their great uncle twice removed.

“This proves to be both a blessing and a curse. Word travels so fast from one side of town to the other that people tend to know what’s going on in your life before you do.”

The true meaning of that closeness became evident when he left home for college. There he realized that people become involved in your life because they care.

“I want our residents to see all the promise and opportunity I see,” he said.

“That doesn’t mean we ignore the challenges we face—and there are many. Instead, it means we use those positives to change how we look at and tackle those challenges.”

One of his first actions was to begin sharing his daily Inspirational Morning Coffee via email with district employees and then with the

public on the district Facebook page. Each post is a quote, photo, video or story meant to inspire the visitor to stand back and look at life through a different lens. Some are funny, some are painfully truthful, but all offer a simple message to reorient a person’s focus.

Mr. Rich’s efforts are not fluff. They reflect his belief that without a positive view of our community, the people around us, and ourselves, we cannot solve the big problems ahead.

“Children who lack hope cannot learn,” he said.

“The promise of a brighter future is empty if all they see is disappointment and despair in the adults around them. Changing our outlook will go a long way toward changing theirs.”

He said that the Hall of Fame inductees are proof that great people—people who change the world—come from the Central Valley community.

“Our past success points to our future possibilities—endless possibilities,” he said.