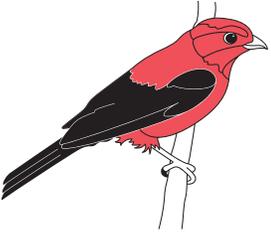


H O M E O F T H E T A N A G E R S



**HARTFORD**

**CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**VOTE**

**Tuesday, May 21, 2024 | 11:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.**

**Middle School/High School**

**2024-2025  
SCHOOL BUDGET**

**Proposed spending plan of  
\$13,373,294**

**PUBLIC BUDGET HEARING MONDAY, MAY 13, 2024**

This year's annual school budget vote and Board of Education election is scheduled to be held on Tuesday, May 21, 2024. In addition to the proposed budget of \$13,373,294, district residents will vote on a vehicle purchase proposition to purchase a 66-passenger bus at a cost not to exceed \$165,000, and to elect one member to the Board of Education to a five-year term beginning July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2029.

Throughout the district's budget development process, the members of the Board of Education and district administration collaborated to develop a proposed budget designed to meet the various needs of our students while being a good steward of the community's investment. The district strives to construct a comprehensive budget that provides our students with the best educational experience possible while ensuring that spending is purposeful, reasonable, and judicious.

On behalf of the faculty, staff, administration, and members of the Board of Education, I would like to thank the community of Hartford for your continued patience and support throughout the 2023-2024 school year. I am extremely grateful for the incredible level of support and engagement from the community.

If you have any questions regarding the proposed budget, please contact the district office at 518-632-5222.

**VEHICLE  
PURCHASE PROPOSITION**

**One (1) 66-passenger bus not  
to exceed \$165,000**

**ELECTION OF  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
MEMBER**

**Janine Thomas**

**WHO CAN VOTE?**

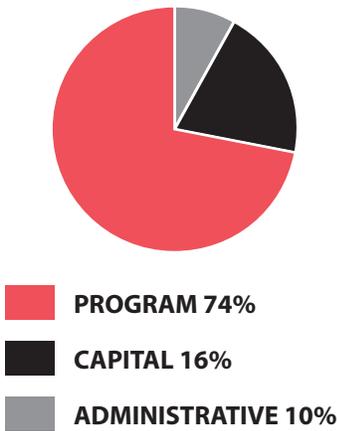
U.S. citizens, age 18 or older on election day, and residing in the Hartford Central School District for 30 days immediately prior to election are eligible to vote. You do not need to be a registered voter or own property to vote in this election.

**ABSENTEE BALLOTS**

Absentee ballots are available to qualified voters. To obtain a ballot contact District Clerk Amanda Howard at (518) 632-5222 ext. 508.

# 2024-2025 SCHOOL BUDGET

- ▶ **Program** expenditures are all the costs directly related to student instruction, including instructional salaries and health benefits.  
The **Program** expenses are approximately 74% of the overall budget.
- ▶ **Capital** expenditures are all the costs associated with the maintenance of the district facilities.  
The **Capital** expenses are approximately 16% of the overall budget.
- ▶ **Administrative** expenditures are all the costs associated with district supervision.  
The **Administrative** expenses are approximately 10% of the overall budget.



School Districts receive revenue through three primary sources:

1. Property Taxes
2. State Aid
3. Miscellaneous Funds

- ▶ State Aid is made up of Foundation Aid and Expense Driven Aid.
- ✓ **Foundation Aid** is an unrestricted aid category provided to all school districts in New York State.
- ✓ **Expense Driven Aid** is monies the district will receive based on our prior year spending. Items that fall within the category of expense driven aid are: textbooks, software, hardware and technology, and library.
- ▶ Miscellaneous Funds consists of monies the district will receive through grants, Medicaid reimbursement, etc.

## EXPENDITURE SUMMARY

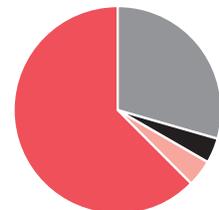
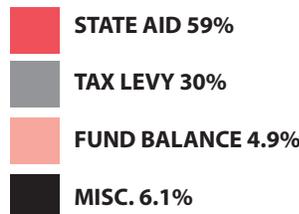
ADMINISTRATIVE	2023-2024	2024-2025	CHANGE
Board of Education	\$1,875	\$315	(\$1,560)
Central Administration	\$175,287	\$177,000	\$1,713
Business Administration	\$155,706	\$160,575	\$4,869
Finance	\$25,300	\$24,630	(\$670)
Legal Fees	\$35,000	\$45,000	\$10,000
Public Information	\$48,625	\$45,050	(\$3,575)
Central Services	\$95,700	\$101,000	\$5,300
Unallocated Insurance	\$59,800	\$63,860	\$4,060
BOCES Administration	\$78,200	\$75,752	(\$2,448)
Supervision: Regular Day	\$309,094	\$323,912	\$14,818
Employee Benefits	\$245,326	\$267,491	\$22,165
Planning/Training	\$53,000	\$53,000	\$0
<b>Total Administrative</b>	<b>\$1,282,913</b>	<b>\$1,337,585</b>	<b>\$54,672</b>

PROGRAM	2023-2024	2024-2025	CHANGE
Instruction: Regular Ed.	\$4,393,923	\$4,810,586	\$416,663
Instructional Media	\$544,125	\$530,089	(\$14,036)
Pupil Personnel	\$431,587	\$395,768	(\$35,819)
Interscholastic and Co-curricular	\$191,165	\$183,350	(\$7,815)
Transportation Services	\$850,827	\$826,545	(\$24,282)
Employee Benefits	\$3,184,223	\$3,187,493	\$3,270
<b>Total Program</b>	<b>\$9,595,850</b>	<b>\$9,933,831</b>	<b>\$337,981</b>

CAPITAL	2023-2024	2024-2025	CHANGE
Operations & Maintenance	\$888,124	\$882,561	(\$5,563)
Property Tax Refunds	\$2,000	\$1,000	(\$1,000)
Employee Benefits	\$160,058	\$174,993	\$14,935
Debt Service	\$2,386,455	\$1,043,324	(\$1,343,131)
<b>Total Capital</b>	<b>\$3,436,637</b>	<b>\$2,101,878</b>	<b>(\$1,334,759)</b>

## REVENUE SUMMARY

CAPITAL	2023-2024	2024-2025	CHANGE
State Aid	\$9,163,754	\$7,915,206	(\$1,248,548)
Fund Balance	\$650,000	\$650,000	\$0
Miscellaneous	\$650,012	\$621,647	(\$28,365)
Capitalized Interest from the Capital Project	\$0	\$200,000	\$200,000
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>\$10,463,766</b>	<b>\$9,386,853</b>	<b>(\$1,076,913)</b>
Tax Levy	\$3,851,634	\$3,986,441	\$134,807
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$14,315,400</b>	<b>\$13,373,294</b>	<b>(\$942,106)</b>



# 2024-2025 SCHOOL BUDGET



When the New York State Tax Levy Cap law was signed in 2011, the general understanding was school districts could not increase their tax levy amount by more than 2% without a “Super majority” of votes – thus the common refrain “2% Tax Cap.” In truth, under the NYS Tax Cap Law, a school district’s allowable growth is determined using a complex, nine-step formula that begins by using the assumption that growth is limited to the lesser of 2% or the Consumer Price Index (CPI).

Working with our financial advisors to complete the tax cap calculations, the district’s allowable levy increase is 4.66%. Throughout the budget development process, the district worked to ensure we remain below our maximum allowance and the members of the Board of Education are proposing a tax increase of 3.5%; which is 1.16% below the allowable limit.

Since the tax cap law was enacted, we are proud to report the district has never once sought to exceed the cap.

## 2024-2025 SCHOOL BUDGET NOTICE

<b>Overall Budget Proposal</b>	<b>Budget Adopted for the 2023-2024 School Year</b>	<b>Budget Proposed for the 2024-2025 School Year</b>	<b>Contingency Budget for the 2024-2025 School Year*</b>
Total Budgeted Amount, Not included Separate Propositions	\$14,315,400	\$13,373,294	\$13,314,832
Increase/Decrease for the 2024-25 School Year		\$942,106	\$1,000,568
Percentage Increase/Decrease in Proposed Budget		(6.58%)	(6.98%)
Change in the Consumer Price Index		4.12%	
<b>Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy</b>	<b>\$3,851,634</b>	<b>\$3,986,441</b>	<b>\$3,851,634</b>
Total Permissible Exclusions	\$287,979	\$331,879	
School Tax Levy Limit, <u>Excluding</u> Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$3,621,802	\$3,699,358	
Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, <u>Excluding</u> Levy to Support Library Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions	\$3,563,655	\$3,654,562	
Difference: (Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval - See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions) **	\$58,147	\$44,796	
Administrative Component	\$1,282,913	\$1,337,585	\$1,319,903
Program Component	\$9,595,850	\$9,933,831	\$9,907,051
Capital Component	\$3,436,637	\$2,101,878	\$2,087,878

\* Pursuant to Section 2023 of the Education Law, should the proposed budget be defeated, areas to be cut would be equipment and non-aligned salary raises.

\*\* Separate propositions that are not included in the total budget amount: (1) 66-passenger bus at \$165,000

## Basic STAR Exemption Impact

Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings based on a home within the Hartford Central School District with a full value of One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000)	<b>Budget Proposed for the 2024-2025 School Year</b>
Basic STAR Tax Savings	\$491

The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2024-2025 by the qualified voters of the Hartford Central School District, Washington County, New York, will be held at Hartford Central School(s) in said district on Tuesday, May 21, 2024 between the hours of 11:00am and 8:00pm, prevailing time in the Middle School/High School at which time the polls will be opened to vote by paper ballot.



## CAPITAL OUTLAY PROJECT

New York State law allows for school districts to complete base year capital projects with costs up to \$100,000 through voter approval of the budget. These projects are referred to as “Capital Outlay” projects and, if approved by the budget vote, are not subject to the lengthy assumed amortization schedule, or an elongated review by the Office of Facilities Planning. These small scale Capital Projects help school districts to undertake minor, but important projects, on a yearly basis without having to combine items for a large scale Capital Project. Typically, Capital Outlay submissions address items eliminated from large scale Capital Projects due to cost, or are areas of need identified in the required Building Condition Survey.

Within the 2024-2025 budget, the Hartford Central School District is proposing to include a Capital Outlay Project line item to update the mechanical systems in the Art Room.

The District’s first Capital Outlay Project was completed in the 2019-2020 school year. Since then, the district has been able to significantly reduce the local share due to our allotment of Building Aid. Currently, the District’s Building Aid rate is 85.4%. This means, the District will be reimbursed up to \$85,400 for each Capital Outlay Project completed. The table below displays the District’s historical Capital Outlay expenditure and revenue projections.

SCHOOL YEAR	EXPENDITURE	REVENUE	NET COST TO THE DISTRICT	CAPITAL OUTLAY PROJECT
2019-2020	\$100,000	\$0	\$100,000	Masonry Work
2020-2021	\$100,000	\$85,400	\$14,600	Roof Recoating
2021-2022	\$100,000	\$85,400	\$14,600	Elementary Sink Replacement
2022-2023	\$100,000	\$85,400	\$14,600	Divide room #410 into two classrooms
2023-2024	\$100,000	\$85,400	\$14,600	Elementary Sink Replacement continued
2024-2025	\$100,000	\$85,400	\$14,600	Updates to the Art Classroom

\*Table is based on a projected maximum expenditure of \$100,000

## CAPITAL OUTLAY PROJECT PROPOSED FOR 2024-25

Within the 2024-2025 budget, the Hartford Central School District is proposing a Capital Outlay Project to complete

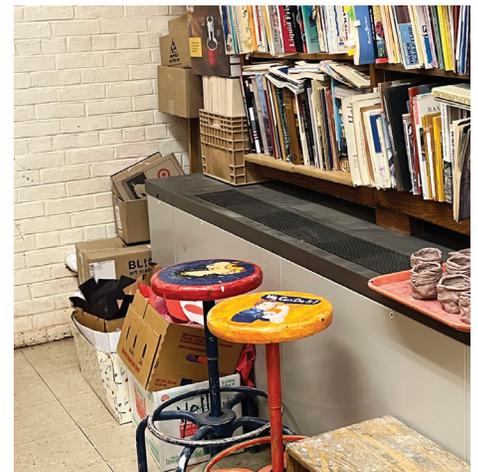
renovations and alterations to the Art Room including electrical, plumbing, and mechanical work.



Deteriorated flooring in the Art Room.



Deteriorated flooring by the Art Room entrance from the back parking lot.



Furniture in need of repair/replacement in the Art Room and mechanical vents on the floor, which may be moved to the ceiling to create more floor space.

## VEHICLE PURCHASE PROPOSITION



Throughout the course of the school year, district vehicles, on average, travel over 12,000 miles transporting students from home to school, to alternative education placements, to the Early College Career Academy programs, WSWHE BOCES Career and Technical Education placements, work study programs, private schools, field trips, sports trips, late runs, and a variety of other educationally related opportunities. Due to the high miles traveled, the district has a schedule to replace a bus once it reaches twelve (12) years of service. Historically, it has been discovered that once a bus reaches this milestone the repair and maintenance costs required to keep the bus on the road far exceed the cost to replace the bus.

Although bus purchases appear to be expensive, the district is only responsible for 10% of the overall cost. Depending on

features (i.e. security cameras, storage compartments, etc.), a new bus can cost upwards of \$165,000. Using this figure, the district would only be responsible for \$16,500 of the total cost. This cost is then spread out over five years and leaves the district with a very small payment each year, thereby making the purchase relatively inexpensive. Furthermore, if the bus replacement plan is maintained, each year the district will have the debt of a previous bus purchase come off the books and the new bus purchase will replace the existing debt without increasing the total spending. Since the district is reimbursed such a large portion of the costs, if the district does not elect to purchase a bus in order to replace the existing debt, a gap will be created in the revenue stream and the district will actually lose money in future years and leave the district at risk for expensive repairs on older buses.

## 2024-2025 BUDGET VOTE & BOARD OF EDUCATION BALLOT SAMPLE



This year's vote will be executed with paper ballots only. Below is a sample of what the in-person paper ballot will look like. Please do not use this as an absentee ballot.

**HARTFORD CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**School Budget Vote and Board of Education Election: Absentee Ballot**  
**Hartford, NY**  
**May 21, 2024**

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### 2024 - 2025 DISTRICT BUDGET

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Hartford Central School District be and is hereby authorized to expend for school purposes during the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2024, General Fund appropriations of \$13,373,294 and to levy the necessary tax therefore.

YES      NO

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### VEHICLE PURCHASE PROPOSITION

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Hartford Central School District is hereby authorized to purchase one (1) 66 passenger bus at a total cost not to exceed \$165,000 and that the sum of \$165,000 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 the Education Law and the Local Finance Law, and in anticipation of such tax, obligations of said School District shall be issued.

YES      NO

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### BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBER

The Hartford Central School District Board of Education is comprised of five members. There is one expired term, with one Board member to be elected for a term commencing July 1, 2024.

*VOTE FOR ONE (1) ONLY*

JANINE THOMAS

WRITE-IN CANDIDATE: \_\_\_\_\_

## CONSTRUCTION UPDATES - CAPITAL PROJECT

The members of the Board of Education and district administration are continually seeking ways to enhance the educational experience of our students and maintain a safe and healthy learning environment. One way to accomplish this goal is through frequent construction projects designed to improve infrastructure, expand learning opportunities, and heighten safety and security measures.

### 2022 CAPITAL PROJECT

On May 17, 2022, district residents overwhelmingly approved a \$9 million Capital Project which included the following scope of work:

- Removing the stage from the cafetorium
- Renovating and modernizing the cafeteria
- Relocating the stage to the existing music classrooms
- Renovating the courtyard and a small section of the library to a multipurpose room/auditorium
- Converting the girls' locker room to the high school music classroom
- Building a new elementary music classroom
- Building a new girls' locker room
- Replacing the original gymnasium flooring

Provided below are pictures showing the construction progress.



Work being completed for the new music rooms.

Currently, the district is engaged in a number of construction projects that include:

- 2022 Capital Project
- SmartSchools Bond Act Project
- 2023-2024 Capital Outlay
- ESSER III Funds (outdoor physical education space)
- 2024-2025 Capital Outlay



Overhead view of the construction for the new Large-Group Instruction Space/Auditorium.



Overhead view of the construction for the new Large-Group Instruction Space/Auditorium.

## CONSTRUCTION UPDATES CONTINUED

### SMARTSCHOOLS BOND ACT

Originally enacted in 2014-2015, the SmartsSchools Bond Act authorized the issuance of \$2 billion of general obligation funds to finance improved educational technology and infrastructure to improve learning opportunities and increase safety and security in school districts throughout New York State. Since its inception, the District has completed three SmartSchools and is the process of a fourth project. The latest project focused on safety and security and includes: the installation of a new server dedicated to security, replacing 44 existing security cameras, adding 13 new cameras, and purchasing an updated software system. The total cost of the project was \$158,000 and was completely funded through the SmartSchools Bond Act, which means there was no local contribution.

The work to install the new cameras, server, and software began in the Fall and will be completed by early Spring.

### OUTDOOR PHYSICAL EDUCATION SPACE

In early March 2023, the district submitted a construction application to NYSED for the purposes of constructing an exterior physical education space comprised of two basketball courts, with pickleball lines overlaid, and a new batting cage for the softball and baseball programs. Construction began in early Fall 2023 and it is anticipated the project will conclude in late Spring once the weather is conducive to paving the courts.

The District is funding the project through a portion of allocated ESSER III grant funds, which means there is no local contribution of funds or impact on the tax levy.

The basketball courts are considered “full size” for exterior courts and will be open for public use during non-school hours.



The image shows the outline of the batting cage and courts. The area is being prepared for the asphalt.

## SENIOR SPOTLIGHT



### FISKE EARNS COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

Congratulations to Nathan Fiske for earning the Adirondack Area School Boards Association Student Community Service Award for Graduating Seniors. Throughout his high school career, Nathan volunteered his time with the NYS Student Mentoring Program, Hartford Historical Society, Hartford Youth Commission, Argyle Youth Commission, Argyle Food Pantry, Argyle F.E.A.S.T. Thanksgiving Dinner, the Hartford Backpack Program, Haynes House of Hope, and Argyle Fire Department. He is a member of Key Club, Young Life, National Honor Society, National Technical Honor Society, Student Government, Yearbook Club, Trap Club, Band, SkillsUSA, and is a WSWHE BOCES Student Leader.

In addition to volunteering, Nathan is a three-sport athlete competing in varsity soccer, basketball, baseball and on the Northern United Soccer team. He was the Adirondack League MVP in soccer, was recognized by Section 2 as Hartford’s Male Basketball Scholar Athlete, and earned the NYSPHSAA Scholar-Athlete Award. Nathan received many awards including the Hartford Daughters of the American Revolution (D.A.R.) Good Citizen Award, Citizenship Award, and History Achievement Award.





## BUDGET Q&A

**Q** If the proposed budget is less than the prior year, why is there an increase in the tax levy?

**A** The district is scheduled to receive significantly less aid from New York State than in prior years. In order to maintain programs and services to students, an increase in the tax levy was necessary.

**Q** Could the district have used some of the money earmarked for the various construction projects for instructional programs; including using the money to maintain instructional positions?

**A** No, the funds the district receives from the state for construction-related expenses are categorized as “Building Aid” and can only be used for school construction projects.

**Q** Why is the district reducing a number of teaching positions?

**A** Due to significant increases in the cost of health insurance and debt service and additional students enrolling in Career and Technical Education, the district had a projected budget deficit of \$800,000 (expenditures vs revenues). In order to balance the budget, the district had to significantly reduce spending, and although line item expenditures were reduced where possible, the district still had a significant gap. The only way to close the gap was to eliminate positions.

**Q** Could the district have increased the use of FUND Balance to maintain the instructional positions?

**A** Long-term fiscal planning would advise against increasing the use of FUND Balance unless the expenditure was a non-recurring (i.e. one-time) cost. Using FUND balance monies for recurring costs will create large budget gaps in the future and reduce the ability of the district to address any emergency financial situations that may arise.

**Q** Will the reductions in instructional positions have an impact on the students’ experience?

**A** The recommended reductions are based on enrollment and what would be the least disruptive to the student experience. The district is now working with the Hartford Faculty Association to determine the best utilization of our instructional resources to ensure the students’ experience is not diminished.

**Q** Is the reduction in State Aid a one-time issue or will this be a concern moving forward?

**A** As part of the enacted State Budget, NYS will be using the Rockefeller Center to study how state aid is allocated to the school districts and if modifications are required. Based on Governor Hochul’s proposed budget and her public comments about school funding, it is widely assumed changes will be made to the Foundation Aid formula in the future. How this impacts Hartford is yet to be determined.

**Q** Why are the positions being eliminated only at the Elementary level?

**A** Enrollment in the Elementary School has declined in the past few years. In reviewing programs and offerings for students, it was determined that reductions in the Elementary building would be the least disruptive to the students’ experience.



*Superintendent Cook presented at the annual WSWHE BOCES Legislative Breakfast.*

## ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT - BRANDON HARRINGTON

We are pleased to feature Brandon Harrington, Class of 2020 as our featured alumnus. Brandon's story is a combination of personal ambition and family tradition. As a third generation firefighter, Brandon knew from a young age that fighting fires was his calling. He just needed to decide at which capacity – either as a career or as a volunteer.

Brandon spent the majority of his junior year of high school volunteering for the Hartford Volunteer Fire Company under a probationary status. Volunteers under 18 years of age are restricted from certain activities such as driving the fire trucks and entering interior fires. His commitment entailed attending weekly training sessions that included extractions, proper fire extinguisher use, extinguishing car fires, first aid, and other fire-related training. Once he turned 18 years of age, he was voted in as a full member of the department. During his senior year, Brandon spoke about this achievement, noting his sense of responsibility to give back to the community. He also stated his goal to attend SUNY Onondaga to pursue a career as a professional firefighter.

Upon graduating from Hartford High School, Brandon enrolled at SUNY Onondaga, where he earned an Associate's



*Firefighting is in the family! Pictured l-r. are Raymond Harrington, Jason Harrington, and our featured alumnus, Brandon Harrington.*

Degree in fire protection technology. Brandon made the decision to take his skills, experience, and education to the City of Myrtle Beach Fire Department, where he began his career as a firefighter/EMT. His training and certifications include: Nationally Registered, New York State and South Carolina State EMT; Nationally Certified in Firefighter 1 & 2; and Hazardous Materials Technician.

Though it has only been a few years since Brandon walked the halls of Hartford, he said he misses the packed gym on a Friday night for home basketball games. He still plays recreationally and enjoys spending time with his friends and family. Family members include his mother, Wendy

Harrington; his father, Jason Harrington; his sister, Caitlyn Harrington; his brother, Raymond Harrington; and his girlfriend, Jade Crockwell.

Brandon encourages Hartford students to embrace the friends and memories being made during their school days. He also advises setting goals early, sticking with them, and not letting anyone discourage you from pursuing what you truly believe in. There are opportunities as long as you put forth the effort.



*Over the past few years, Lucas Casey (l.) and Brandon Harrington (r.) returned to their alma mater during National Fire Prevention Week to present fire safety to elementary students.*



*In January 2024, Brandon's family joined him in Myrtle Beach to attend his graduation ceremony from the Myrtle Beach Fire Department Academy and celebrate his new endeavor.*

## MESSAGE FROM PRINCIPAL MANNIX

Dear Parents, Guardians and Community Members,

I hope this newsletter finds you well and filled with the excitement of spring! This is a perfect time to celebrate the wonderful achievements and activities happening at Floyd Harwood Elementary School.

### **Celebrating Student Achievements:**

We take pride in recognizing and celebrating the accomplishments of our students each month at Citizens' Assemblies. Whether it's academic achievements, acts of kindness, or extracurricular successes, we believe in applauding their efforts and encouraging them to reach for the stars. Keep an eye out for announcements and updates on student achievements on our school's social media platforms.

### **Attendance Matters:**

I cannot emphasize enough the importance of regular attendance. Attending school regularly not only helps students academically, but also fosters a sense of belonging and routine. Please ensure that your child is present and on time each day, ready to engage in learning and grow alongside their peers.

### **Reading Together:**

Reading with your child is one of the most valuable activities you can do together. It not only strengthens literacy skills, but also creates precious bonding moments. Take time each day to read with your child, whether it's a bedtime story, a trip to the library, or exploring new books together. Your involvement in your child's reading journey makes a world of difference.

### **Home-School Collaboration:**

Collaboration between home and school is essential for the success of our students. We encourage open communication

and active involvement from parents and guardians in their child's education. Together, we can provide the support and guidance needed to help every child thrive academically, socially, and emotionally.

### **Upcoming Events:**

Between now and June, we have many fun, educational events and activities planned to finish the year strong! Students will participate in field trips, a Bike Rodeo, Moving Up Ceremonies, UPK Graduation, Spring Fun Run, Flag Day Celebration, Grandparents' Breakfast, Tanager Voices Concert, and Night of the Arts, just to name a few.

May is PARP (Pick a Reading Partner) month. "Reading is Magical" with a Harry Potter theme. Students will participate in Wear-it Wednesdays, have Mystery Readers and enjoy decorated hallways. PARP will finish with a party and recognition for students who participate all four weeks. I hope all elementary students will participate! As I previously mentioned, continue to encourage your child/children to read regularly, it is the single most important skill for academic success.

Thank you for your ongoing support and partnership in your child's education. Together, we can create a nurturing and enriching environment where every child can thrive. Always remember, time is the best gift you can give your children.

*Mrs. Bethellen C. Mannix*  
Elementary Principal/CSE Chair  
bmannix@hartfordcsd.org  
518-632-5222 ext. 120



*A little recognition goes a long way. We enjoy recognizing our students at our monthly Citizens' Assemblies for being Safe Bus Riders, Bucket Fillers, Soaring Tanagers, having their written work published in The Chronicle, celebrating a birthday, and more!*

## MESSAGE FROM PRINCIPAL DUPUIS

Dear Parents, Guardians and Community Members,

I always love the opportunity to share what our amazing students and staff are doing here at HCS. On a daily basis our students are engaged in academics, clubs, sports, and the arts. I am extremely proud of the accomplishments of our students and staff.

### Congratulations...

- To the newest members of the National Junior Honor Society and National Honor Society. Inductions ceremonies were held on March 12, 2024, and 10 new members were inducted into each society.
  - National Junior Honor Society New Inductees:** Nicholas Abbott, Alexander Amato, Miles Anderson, Fraiya Dalaba, Hanna Gibson, Dylan Happy, Hunter Jensen, Rowan LeBlanc, Brody Martin, and Kianna Wertheim. Advisor: Mrs. Trisha Shaw
  - National Honor Society New Inductees:** Trevor Baker, Spencer Fehl, Lily Galietta, Reagan Gebob, Joshua Hernandez, Logan Jensen, Olivia Lindridge, Bryton Mandigo, Stephen Mercure, and Lily Stokowski. Advisor: Mrs. Wendy Harrington
- Mia Amato was recognized as a commended student in the 2024 National Merit Scholarship Program. Mia placed among the top 50,000 students who took the 2022 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT).
- Nathan Fiske was selected as the recipient of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) Good Citizen Award. He was nominated by faculty and voted by his classmates as best exemplifying the characteristics of dependability, service, leadership, and patriotism.
- Lily Galietta's artwork and original poetry was selected and will be published in the 2024 Talent Unlimited publication. Lily will be recognized on May 7, 2024 at a ceremony at WSWHE BOCES.
- Varsity Boys Basketball team recognized as a Scholar Athlete Team.
- Spencer Fehl represented the Adirondack League at the New York State Public High School Athletic Association Student Leadership Conference.
- The following students were selected for the 2024 All-County Band Festival, which was held April 19 and 20 at Greenwich CSD:
  - Elementary Band: Aubree Purdy (clarinet) and Abigale Murat-Hinton (flute)
  - Senior High Band: Mia Amato (horn), Spencer Granger (alto saxophone), Jacob Narkiewicz (trombone), and Gabriel Stokowski (percussion)

### Upcoming Musical Concerts:

Junior and Senior High Choruses – May 23, 2024

Junior and Senior High Bands – June 4, 2024

### Club News:

- The FFA hosted a Farmer Appreciation Dinner on April 20 at HCS. Thank you to our local farmers for having a positive influence in our community.
- Coach Breault and Miss Studenroth continue to oversee our Student Mentor Program. Trained juniors and seniors serve as mentors and role models to elementary students. The group participates in two eight week sessions. On Tuesdays, you can find this group engaged in team group activities and team building projects.
- The National Honor Society is currently planning and preparing for our first annual Day of Service on June 7. Students in grades 9-12 will spend the day volunteering and giving back to their school and community.
- Key Club hosted a Blood Drive on May 2 in the Ella Colvin Gymnasium.

I appreciate your continued support of our students and school programs. I look forward to celebrating our student accomplishments on June 13 during our academic awards ceremonies and at Graduation on June 28.

*Mrs. Shelley Dupuis*

Middle/High School Principal

[sdupuis@hartfordcsd.org](mailto:sdupuis@hartfordcsd.org)

518-632-5222 ext. 307



*Congratulations to the newest members of the National Honor Society and National Junior Honor Society who were inducted in March 2024.*

# HARTFORD

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## Administration

Andrew Cook, Superintendent  
Shelley Dupuis, Middle/High School Principal  
Bethellen Mannix, Elementary Principal

## Board of Education

Philip Jessen, President  
Janine Thomas, Vice-President  
Adam Fish  
Ron Smith  
Ashley Happy

Produced in cooperation with WSWHE BOCES Communication Services

# VOTE

**Tuesday, May 21, 2024 | 11:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.**  
**Middle School/High School**

## 2024-25 PROPERTY TAX REPORT CARD

	Budgeted 2023-2024	Proposed 2024-2025	Percent Change (C)
Total Budgeted Amount, not Including Separate Propositions	\$14,315,400	\$13,373,294	(6.6%)
A. Proposed Tax Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount	\$3,851,634	\$3,986,441	
B. Tax Levy to Support Library Debt, If Applicable	N/A	N/A	
C. Tax Levy for Non-Excludable Propositions, If Applicable	N/A	N/A	
D. Total Tax Cap Reserve Amount Used to Reduce Current Year Levy, If Applicable	N/A	N/A	
E. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy (A + B + C - D)	\$3,851,634	\$3,986,441	3.5%
F. Permissible Exclusions to the School Tax Levy Limit	\$287,979	\$331,879	
G. School Tax Levy Limit, <u>Excluding</u> Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$3,621,802	\$3,699,358	
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)	\$3,563,655	\$3,654,562	
I. Difference: (F - H); (negative value requires 60.0% voter approval)	\$58,147	\$44,796	
Public School Enrollment	369	364	(1.4%)
Consumer Price Index			4.12%
	Actual 2023-2024 (D)	Estimated 2024-2025 (E)	
Adjusted Restricted Fund Balance	\$361,072	\$394,327	
Adjusted Appropriated Fund Balance	\$650,000	\$650,000	
Adjusted Unrestricted Fund Balance	\$1,973,400	\$750,000	
Adjusted Unrestricted Fund Balance as a Percent of the Total Budget	13.8%	5.61%	