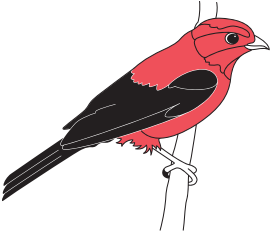


H O M E O F T H E T A N A G E R S



**HARTFORD**

**CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**VOTE**

**Tuesday, May 15, 2018 | 8:30 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.**  
District Library



**2018-2019  
SCHOOL BUDGET**

Proposed spending plan of  
\$12,394,002

**PUBLIC BUDGET HEARING WEDNESDAY, MAY 2, 7:00 P.M.**  
**HARTFORD CENTRAL SCHOOL**

This year's annual budget vote is scheduled to be held on Tuesday, May 15, 2018 in the District's Library. In addition to the proposed budget of \$12,394,002, members of the community will vote on a vehicle purchase proposition to purchase a 66 passenger bus and a 6-8 passenger vehicle to be used for student transportation; and to elect a member of the Board of Education to a five-year term beginning July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2023.

Throughout the budget development process, the members of the Board of Education and district administration work as a team to draft a proposed budget that meets the various needs of our students, while ensuring that the district is a good steward of the community's investment. The proposed budget attempts to provide the best educational experience for our students, while ensuring that spending is purposeful and judicious. When drafting the proposed school budget, the district considered a number of factors, including the required state and federal mandates, the needs of our students (educational, social, and psychological), the tax burden of the community, and the economic circumstances of New York State.

This newsletter contains a great deal of information regarding the proposed budget and the separate vehicle purchase proposition. If you have any questions regarding the proposed budget, please contact the district office at 518-632-5222.

On behalf of the members of the Board of Education, I would like to thank you for your continued support for the district and the students of Hartford.



**VEHICLE  
PURCHASE  
PROPOSITION**

Purchase of a 66-passenger  
bus and a 6-8 passenger  
vehicle

**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. You do not need to be registered or own property to vote in this election.

**ABSENTEE BALLOTS**

Absentee ballots are available to qualified voters. To obtain a ballot contact District Clerk Joann Searles at (518) 632-5931 ext. 508



**ELECTION OF  
BOARD OF  
EDUCATION  
MEMBER**

Ronald Smith

## MESSAGE FROM HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL GEORGE

I hope everyone is enjoying the longer days and hopefully warmer weather is not far behind. While it's been a long winter, our students have been hard at work both inside and outside of the classroom. Throughout the year, our students, faculty and staff have the opportunity to participate in a number of exciting activities including concerts, educational field trips, sporting events, The Stewart's Spud Run, 6th grade pig roast, Turkey Trot, school dances, Organization of American States class trip to Washington D.C., senior class trip to Virginia Beach, talent shows, language fair, and our second Mr. Hartford competition, just to name a few. Needless to say, our students have been extremely busy. Not only have our students participated in countless fundraising and extra-curricular activities, but they have also been busy academically. Below are just some of the many accomplishments by our students during the 2017-2018 school year.

- ▶ Students are enrolled in twelve college and one Advanced Placement Course
- ▶ Two students are enrolled in the Early College Career Academy at SUNY Adirondack. Both students are enrolled in the New Media program and will graduate with over 32 college credits.
- ▶ Over 25% of juniors and seniors are taking at least

one distance learning class. Currently Hartford CSD hosts two distance learning classes and receives six. Classes offered include psychology, ethics of business law, sociology, principles of business, international business, nanotechnology, AP U.S. history, and English 101 & 108.

- ▶ Students can take college courses from SUNY Adirondack, Hudson Valley Community College, Fulton Montgomery Community College, and SUNY Plattsburgh.
- ▶ 68% of our middle school students participated in our February Strive-for-Five academic incentive program.
- ▶ Our varsity golf team and boys' and girls' basketball programs were recognized as "Scholar Athlete Teams" (achieving an overall team GPA of at least 90%).
- ▶ The graduation rate has increased from 74% to 85%.

As educators, we strive to provide our students with every opportunity to become active members in our communities. From looking at just a few of the many accomplishments of our students thus far, I would say we are well on our way to achieving this goal. I am extremely honored to be part of the Hartford Central School District and look forward to a successful rest of the 2017-2018 school year.

## MESSAGE FROM ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PRINCIPAL MANNIX

Happy Spring to all! As students, faculty and staff continue to work hard to meet academic standards, your continued support at home is vital for the success of your child/children. Reading with your child/children is one of the most important activities you can do at home to help support success in school. The only way for students to become better readers is to read more. Just twenty minutes per day of reading outside of school can have a positive impact in the classroom. Working together, we can better prepare students with college and career readiness skills.

At the elementary level, Hartford School has a lot to offer! Clubs and activities include Elementary Student Government, Learning Club, The Hartford Star Newspaper Club, Tanager Voices, after school Enrichment Courses, Battle of the Books, and various intramural activities. I am very proud of our 15 students from grades 4-6 who participated in the Battle of the Books competition at Skidmore College after reading ten books! To date, 54 students have participated in the intramural

program and 75% of our 5th graders are learning to play an instrument this year! We hold monthly Citizens' Assemblies to recognize our elementary students for all of their accomplishments...big and small. In addition, students who complete all of their work and display positive behavior are invited to Tanager Pride Parties after school, held throughout the year. Tanager Pride Party participation averages 75% of our elementary students! Other fun activities include Mystery Reader Day, building Leprechaun Traps, Family Fun Night, PARP (Pick a Reading Partner), field trips, Harvest Fest, Turkey Trot, Spring Fun Run, and of course, Field Day! These enriching activities would not be possible without your support.

Remember, time is the best gift you can give your children. I hope to see you this spring at some of our activities. Together, we can continue to make a difference in the education of Hartford students. Our goal is to provide children with a solid foundation for future success and we strive for that every day!



## EXPENDITURE SUMMARY

- ▶ Administrative expenditures are all the costs associated with district supervision.
- ▶ The Administrative expenses are approximately 8% of the overall budget.

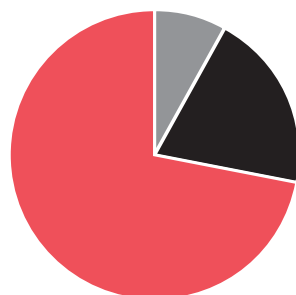
ADMINISTRATIVE	2017-18	2018-19	CHANGE
Board of Education	\$6,360	\$6,960	\$600
Central Administration	\$137,858	\$168,200	\$30,342
Business Administration	\$142,520	\$149,050	\$6,530
Finance	\$22,816	\$23,700	\$884
Legal Fees	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$0
Public Information	\$28,450	\$29,990	\$1,540
Central Services	\$71,480	\$72,800	\$1,320
Unallocated Insurance	\$51,485	\$53,140	\$1,655
BOCES Administration	\$69,100	\$74,098	\$4,998
Supervision: Regular Day	\$252,515	\$275,136	\$22,621
Employee Benefits	\$166,682	\$165,906	(\$776)
<b>Total Administrative</b>	<b>\$969,266</b>	<b>1,038,980</b>	<b>\$69,714</b>

- ▶ Program expenditures are all the costs directly related to student instruction, including instructional salaries and health benefits.
- ▶ The Program expenses are approximately 73% of the overall budget.

PROGRAM	2017-18	2018-19	CHANGE
In-service Training	\$22,956	28,000	\$5,044
Instruction: Regular Ed.	4,267,511	4,233,165	(\$34,346)
Instructional Media	\$443,096	\$467,373	\$24,277
Pupil Personnel	\$343,858	\$338,981	(\$4,877)
Interscholastic and Co-curricular	\$164,943	\$169,313	\$4,370
Transportation Services	\$660,056	\$726,248	\$66,192
Employee Benefits	\$3,024,236	\$3,100,904	\$76,668
<b>Total Program</b>	<b>\$8,926,656</b>	<b>\$9,063,984</b>	<b>\$137,328</b>

- ▶ Capital expenditures are all the costs associated with the maintenance of the district facilities.
- ▶ The Capital expenses are approximately 19% of overall budget.

CAPITAL	2017-18	2018-19	CHANGE
Central Services	\$627,744	\$587,885	(\$39,859)
Employee Benefits	\$132,925	\$109,376	(\$23,549)
Debt Service	\$1,575,409	\$1,593,777	\$18,368
<b>Total Capital</b>	<b>\$2,336,078</b>	<b>\$2,291,038</b>	<b>(\$45,040)</b>



- 73% ■ PROGRAM
- 19% ■ CAPITAL
- 8% ■ ADMINISTRATIVE



# 2018-2019 SCHOOL BUDGET

## TAX LEVY CAP

When the New York State Tax Levy Cap law was signed in 2011, it was the general understanding that 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 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). When developing the 2018-2019 school budget, all school districts used a growth factor of 2%. When factoring in

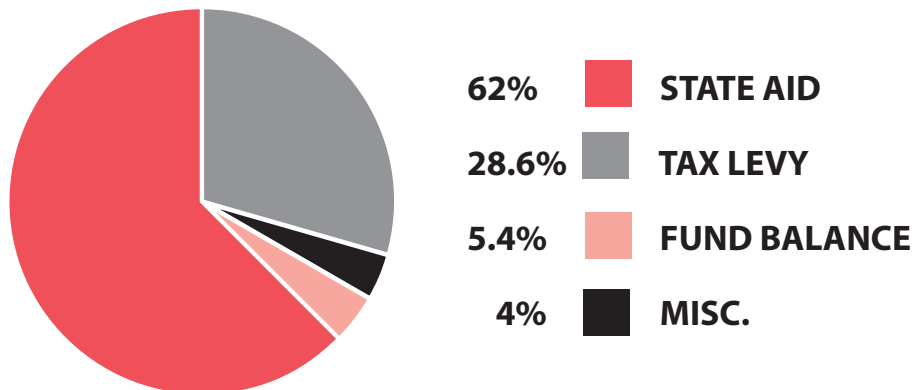
the allowable exceptions to the Tax Cap (i.e. local growth factors and capital exclusions). The Hartford Central School District was determined to have a tax levy cap of 4.3%. The district administration and members of the Board of Education refused to use this figure and have opted to significantly reduce the projected levy to 1.5% or 2.8% below the maximum allowable tax levy. Using actual dollars, New York State would allow the district to increase the tax levy by \$150,826, however the district proposed a more modest increase of \$52,614.

## REVENUE SUMMARY

	2017-2018 BUDGET	2018-2019 BUDGET	DOLLAR CHANGE
State Aid	\$7,573,144	\$7,699,190	\$126,046
Fund Balance	\$663,272	\$684,614	\$21,342
Miscellaneous	\$488,000	\$450,000	(\$38,000)
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>\$8,724,416</b>	<b>\$8,833,804</b>	<b>\$109,388</b>
Tax Levy	\$3,507,584	\$3,560,198	\$52,614
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$12,232,000</b>	<b>\$12,394,002</b>	<b>\$162,002</b>

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 that 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 consist of monies the district will receive through grants, Medicaid reimbursement, etc.



## 2018-2019 SCHOOL BUDGET NOTICE



<b>Overall Budget Proposal</b>	<b>Budget Adopted for the 2017-18 School Year</b>	<b>Budget Proposed for the 2018-19 School Year</b>	<b>Contingency Budget for the 2018-19 School Year*</b>
Total Budgeted Amount, Not included Separate Propositions	\$12,232,000	\$12,394,002	\$12,327,323
Increase/Decrease for the 2018-19 School Year		\$162,002	\$95,323
Percentage Increase/Decrease in Proposed Budget		1.32%	0.78%
Change in the Consumer Price Index		2.13%	
A. Proposed Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount, Net of Reserve	\$3,507,584	\$3,560,198	
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)	\$3,507,584	\$3,560,198	
F. Total Permissible Exclusions	\$205,528	\$268,204	
G. School Tax Levy Limit, <u>Excluding</u> Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$3,302,056	\$3,390,279	
H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, <u>Excluding</u> Levy to Support Library Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions (E - B - F + D)	\$3,302,056	\$3,291,994	
I. Difference: F - H (Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval - See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions) **	\$0	\$98,285	
Administrative Component	\$969,266	\$1,038,980	\$1,030,680
Program Component	\$8,926,656	\$9,063,984	\$9,063,984
Capital Component	\$2,336,078	\$2,291,038	\$2,232,659
* Pursuant to Section 2023 of the Education Law, should the proposed budget be defeated, certain equipment in the capital and program components would be reduced as well as administrative supplies. Separate propositions that are not included in the Total Budgeted Amount: (1) 66-Passenger Bus and (1) 6-8 Passenger Van for a maximum total amount not to exceed \$140,000			

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>Under the Budget Proposed for the 2018-19 School Year</b>
Basic STAR Tax Savings	\$541.00

The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2018-2019 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 15, 2018 between the hours of 8:30am and 8:00pm, prevailing time in the District Library, Hartford Central School(s), at which time the polls will be opened to vote by voting ballot or machine.

### TANAGERS CELEBRATING CREATIVE ARTS

On Tuesday, May 15 beginning at 5:30 p.m., Elementary and Middle/High School students will be performing various vocal and instrumental ensembles throughout the building. Art students will also have original works on display.



## 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, 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, the district tries to replace a bus once it reaches twelve (12) years of service. Historically, it has been discovered that once a bus reaches these milestones 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 \$118,000. Using this figure, the district would only be responsible for \$11,800 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 purchasing a new bus replaces the existing debt without negatively 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.

In addition to purchasing a 66-passenger bus, the district would like to purchase a 6-8 passenger vehicle to transport students. Every day, the district transports students to various programs throughout Warren, Washington, and Saratoga counties using district owned vans or SUVs. Just like the buses, in order to maintain student safety and avoid costly repair and maintenance costs, the district needs to continually update its fleet with newer vehicles. Financially, the district is only responsible for 10% of the total cost of the vehicle. If this proposition is successful, it will have no impact on the tax levy. The table below contains the vehicle number, purchase date, year, make, and mileage for each district owned vehicle.

### STATE OF THE FLEET

NUMBER	PURCHASE DATE	YEAR	MAKE	*CURRENT MILEAGE*	MILEAGE INCREASE
610 (Van)	7-1-2006	2007	Chevy	151,518	11,199
611 (Van)	7-1-2008	2009	Ford	114,832	11,362
612 (Van)	7-1-2011	2011	Ford	100,504	21,790
613 (Van)	7-17-2013	2013	Dodge	59,488	18,214
614 (Van)	10-11-2016	2017	Chevy	25,732	22,109
615 (Van)	8-28-2017	2017	Dodge	5,623	-
68	7-19-2005	2006	IC	107,657	6,822
70	7-7-2006	2007	IC	121,416	2,159
71	8-17-2007	2008	IC	86,788	8,373
72	8-17-2007	2008	IC	90,143	6,983
73	7-1-2008	2009	IC	94,109	8,483
74	10-1-2009	2010	IC	87,323	10,978
75	8-16-2010	2011	IC	65,666	8,342
76	12-19-2012	2013	IC	56,241	11,206
77	11-1-2013	2014	IC	41,525	11,240
78	11-24-2014	2015	IC	31,063	11,236
79	11-23-2015	2016	IC	23,604	10,195
80	11-21-2016	2017	IC	17,122	14,599
81	11-27-2017	2018	IC	3,370	-
TRUCK		1986	Chevy		
TRUCK	11-1-2015	2015	Chevy		

\*Mileage numbers are as of January 2018

## ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT - MR. ANDY JESSEN



Mr. Andy Jessen is a class of 1999 graduate. Upon graduating from the Hartford Central School District, he attended St. Lawrence University where he earned his bachelor of arts in government, and minored in psychology. He then attended the University of Maine where he earned his law degree. Andy currently resides in Eagle, Colorado with his wife, Amanda, their dog, Sugar, and two cats Andre and Simon. He is one of the founders and owner-operators of Bonfire Brewing, producing craft beer at two facilities since 2010. The story of how Bonfire Brewing was established is one of friendship, innovation, and necessity. When Andy moved to Eagle in 2007 he soon learned it came with a very high cost of living. He worked for the Eagle County Government, enforcing their land use regulations, and did odd jobs to make ends meet. He also had two roommates to contribute to the mortgage. In the summer of 2008, one of his roommates, Matt, started making beer in the garage upon receiving a beer-making kit for his birthday. One weekend Andy arrived home from visiting his then girlfriend (now wife, Amanda) in Denver, to discover Matt had installed a kegerator, complete with taps on the wall in the dining room. When one of the roommates moved out, Andy and Matt expanded their operation from a hobby to a business, and were able to pay their mortgage without seeking another roommate. Amanda has a background in graphic design and marketing, and quickly put together a logo that is still in use today, along with a website. That was May 2010, and by November of that year, just before Andy's 30th birthday, they opened the doors at Bonfire Brewing. Andy's initial role was to keep the books and tend bar a few times per week. Within about 18 months, the business had grown to the point where it needed Andy's full attention. Financially, the business could also now support its operating expenses, in addition to both owners' living expenses. Bonfire Brewing has since grown to 14 full-time employees and is in the top 15% of craft breweries by volume in Colorado.

When asked to reflect on his fondest memory of Hartford CSD, Andy stated, "It's tough to name just one. English classes with Mr. Rowe and Ms. Friday; making dozens of our own t-shirt designs, including 'Hartford Soccer Rules' and 'Fosco Rules' shirts in art with Mrs. Thomas; marching up Main Street for marching band practice; playing taps at the Memorial Day parades; being part of successful soccer and basketball teams with Coach Thomas; the mentoring and support offered by all of the staff at HCS; creating awkward warm-up tapes for home basketball games; and trips to Canada with Madame Byrne, to name a few. Andy also stated knowing almost everyone in town as a great memory and asset. "I've found that a strong community is one of the most crucial elements for a happy life. Connecting with people, talking to your neighbors, being involved in local government, supporting your local businesses and organizations. Growing up in Hartford gave me the foundation for being open to all of those things, because you could (or sometimes had to) participate in almost everything - sports, clubs, band, student government, etc. I'd encourage students to take advantage of that. The ability to work together with other individuals toward a common goal is a skill largely missing from much of the workforce today."

When Andy is not working he enjoys skiing in the winter, and hiking, camping, biking, and rafting in the summer. He is active in several recreational sports including soccer, basketball, softball, and bowling. He also serves on the Town of Eagle's Board of Trustees. Andy is the son of Marion and Phil Jessen, who still proudly reside in Hartford. His sister Jennifer Foose, also a graduate of HCS, resides in Rockaway, NJ, with her husband, Bill, and daughter, Eliza.

You can learn more about Bonfire Brewing's story by visiting [bonfirebrewing.com](http://bonfirebrewing.com), or on Facebook, at [facebook.com/bonfirebrewing](https://facebook.com/bonfirebrewing).



**The Bonfire Block Party has grown into a major community event, hosting nationwide acts and attracting between 7,000 -10,000 people to town over the course of the weekend.**

# HARTFORD

## CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

4704 State Route 149, Hartford, NY 12838  
 518-632-5222 • www.hartfordcsd.org  
 @HartfordCSD

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
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 Glens Falls, NY 12801  
 PERMIT #511

### Administration

Andrew Cook, Superintendent  
 Brian George, Middle/High School Principal  
 Bethellen Mannix, Elementary Principal

### Board of Education

Brian Getty, President  
 Janine Thomas, Vice-President  
 Adam Fish  
 Philip Jessen  
 Ron Smith

## \*\*\*ECRWSS\*\*\* POSTAL CUSTOMER

Produced in cooperation with WSWHE BOCES Communication Services

2018-19 PROPERTY TAX REPORT CARD			
	Budgeted 2017-18 (A)	Proposed 2018-19 (B)	Percent Change (C)
Total Budgeted Amount, not Including Separate Propositions	\$12,232,000	\$12,394,002	1.32%
A. Proposed Tax Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount	\$3,507,584	\$3,560,198	
B. Tax Levy to Support Library Debt, If Applicable			
C. Tax Levy for Non-Excludable Propositions, If Applicable			
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)	\$3,507,584	\$3,560,198	1.50%
F. Permissible Exclusions to the School Tax Levy Limit	\$205,528	\$268,204	
G. School Tax Levy Limit, <u>Excluding</u> Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$3,302,056	\$3,390,279	
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)	\$3,302,056	\$3,291,994	
I. Difference: (F - H); (negative value requires 60.0% voter approval)	\$0	\$98,285	
Public School Enrollment	435	440	1.15%
Consumer Price Index			2.13%

	Actual 2017-18 (D)	Estimated 2018-19 (E)
Adjusted Restricted Fund Balance	\$200,789	\$200,800
Adjusted Appropriated Fund Balance	\$456,232	\$684,614
Adjusted Unrestricted Fund Balance	\$651,217	\$624,000
Adjusted Unrestricted Fund Balance as a Percent of the Total Budget	5.32%	5.03%