



Budget Edition

CENTRAL SCHOOLS

May 2022

# 2022-2023 PROPOSED BUDGET

## BUDGET VOTE:

**Tuesday,  
May 17  
1-9 pm  
Jr/Sr High  
School  
Lobby**

### Voter

#### Qualifications:

Must be a citizen of the United States. Must be eighteen (18) years of age. Must be a resident of the district for a minimum of thirty days prior to May 17, 2022.

### Absentee Ballots

#### Available:

Contact the District Clerk for an application at 315-677-9728.

### Detailed Budget:

A detailed budget may be obtained by any district resident at school district offices beginning April 28, 2022 during weekday hours of 8 am - 4 pm.

*Dear LaFayette Central School District Residents:*

We are pleased to announce that our proposed 2022-2023 school district budget is one that maximizes school district tax dollars for the benefit of our students. Here are a few examples of your past tax dollars at work:

- ◆ 94% graduation for June 2021 graduates
- ◆ Several students in grades 8-12 received awards from the CNY Scholastic Arts Awards
- ◆ The High School Musical in March was a stellar performance that showcased the talent of our students
- ◆ Students participated in STEM robotics competitions
- ◆ Student athletes and fans had the chance to experience a safe return to student athletics in all sports.
- ◆ Increased participation in career and technical education courses at OCM BOCES.
- ◆ Personalized learning and internships for students enrolled at the Big Picture School.
- ◆ A full return to in-person learning at all our schools. The district also partnered with OCM BOCES Virtual Academy to provide online instruction for qualifying students.

As a district, we have used our mission and vision statements and core beliefs to guide our decision-making process. Our district mission is to educate, honor, and develop students who have self-respect, a commitment to the community, and a passion for excellence. Our district vision is to inspire, empower, and prepare all students to achieve excellence. Our tagline captures the distinct identity of our school community aligned to a common goal for our students- "Four Schools, Three Buildings, Two Nations, One Goal: Excellence!" Our strategic plan focuses on improving student attendance, advancing student academic performance, and addressing the social, emotional, and mental health needs of our school community.

To achieve our school improvement efforts, we need your continued engagement and input as a school community. Here are some highlights of our 2022-2023 school district budget:

- ◆ Sustained support of the health and safety needs of our school building occupants
- ◆ Add a social worker at Grimshaw Elementary to support the social, emotional, and mental



health needs of our students

- ◆ Small class sizes
- ◆ Maintain instructional programs
- ◆ Support elective options
- ◆ Continue our 1:1 technology initiative providing all students with an electronic device to support learning
- ◆ Continue our maintenance equipment replacement plan
- ◆ Keep our tax levy under the allowable tax cap
- ◆ Maintain one of the lowest school tax rates in Onondaga County
- ◆ Maintain and improve the financial condition of the district in alignment with our long-term financial plan

Thank you to our Board of Education for their service, leadership, and continued support for our students. I appreciate the continued encouragement from our school community, parents and caregivers, students, and staff. You continue to set a standard of excellence that shines with our Lancer Pride! We look forward to seeing you at the polls for our school district budget vote. The budget vote will be held on Tuesday May 17, 2022, from 1:00-9:00 pm at the LaFayette Jr/ Sr High School Lobby. If you have any questions regarding our proposed budget, please do not hesitate to contact me - [jbelfield@lafayetteschools.org](mailto:jbelfield@lafayetteschools.org) or 315-529-9550 (cell).

*Sincerely,  
Jeremy Belfield, Superintendent of Schools*

## STAR School Tax Exemption

You may be eligible for the following tax exemptions resulting in a reduction of your 2022/23 school tax bill. Contact your Town Assessor's office for more information. Estimates are based on a home assessed at \$100,000.

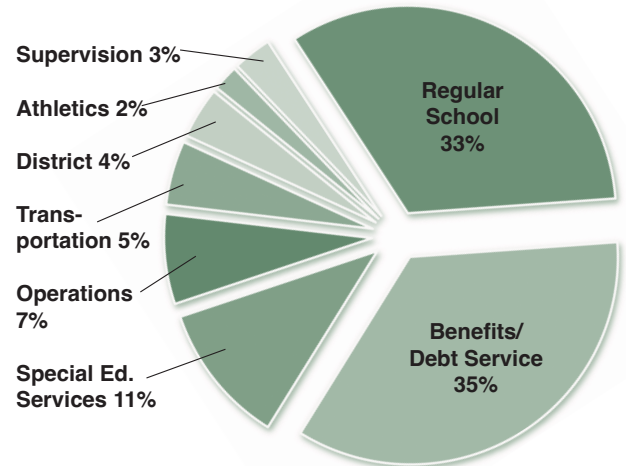
### Basic Exemption: \$556 Est. Tax Savings

Available on all owner occupied primary residences; No age or income requirements; Must have applied to Town Assessor (One time only; renewal is automatic)

### Enhanced Senior Exemption: \$1,202 Est. Tax Savings

- Available on primary residence for 65+ years of age
- Household income of less than \$92,000 per year
- All Enhanced STAR recipients are required to participate in the Enhanced STAR Income Verification Program (IVP). In the first year that you apply for the Enhanced STAR exemption, your assessor will verify your eligibility based on the income information you provide. In the following years, NYS will verify your income eligibility. You will not need to reapply for the exemption or provide copies of your tax returns to your local assessor

## Where the Money Goes



## Budget Analysis

SCHOOL YEAR	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	PROJECTED 2022-23
Budget Appropriations	\$17,042,640	\$18,162,146	\$18,735,315	\$18,964,918	\$19,567,132	\$20,324,251	\$20,631,885	\$21,389,579
\$ Budget Increase	\$198,284	\$1,119,506	\$573,169	\$229,603	\$602,214	\$757,119	\$307,634	\$757,694
% Budget Increase	1.18%	6.57%	3.16%	1.23%	3.18%	3.87%	1.51%	3.67%
Budgeted State Aid	\$8,359,529	\$9,475,896	\$9,672,816	\$9,448,217	\$9,510,217	\$9,656,458	\$9,751,904	\$10,392,042
\$ State Aid Increase	\$142,464	\$1,116,367	\$196,920	(\$224,599)	\$62,000	\$146,241	\$95,446	\$640,139
% State Aid Increase	1.73%	13.35%	2.08%	(2.32%)*	0.66%	1.54%	0.99%	6.56%
Tax Levy	\$5,729,535	\$5,736,320	\$5,849,176	\$5,994,765	\$6,145,312	\$6,327,190	\$6,466,481	\$6,595,164
\$ Tax Levy Increase	\$55,820	\$6,785	\$112,856	\$145,589	\$150,547	\$181,878	\$139,291	\$128,683
% Tax Levy Increase	0.98%	0.12%	1.97%	2.49%	2.51%	2.96%	2.20%	1.99%

## LCS ACHIEVEMENTS • LCS ACHIEVEMENTS • LCS ACHIEVEMENTS

### GRIMSHAW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS

- ◆ Grimshaw and ONS are busy this year implementing the new ELA curriculum, EL Education. This new curriculum is designed to engage students in reading, thinking, talking, and writing about engaging grade level texts on meaningful topics.
- ◆ We have continued the All School Reads this year. This year's books were Restart by Gordon Korman for Grades 5th and 6th and Poppy, by Avi for Grades PreK through 4. Each of the books included daily trivia questions and prizes for the students.
- ◆ Battle of the Books is popular again this year. This is where Grades 3-4 and 5-6 took part in the competition. Each grade had to read 10 different book titles and be quizzed against other schools in the County about those books.





## Board of Education Candidate

The terms of office for current board members, Amy Roe-Ryan and Matthew Walker will expire on June 30, 2022. There will be two 3 year terms (7/1/22-6/30/25). The two candidates receiving the most votes will be elected to the 3 year terms.

### AMY ROE-RYAN



I grew up in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan, in Sault Ste. Marie, where I graduated from Sault Area High School and Lake Superior State University, with a Bachelors of Science degree in Biology. I earned my MS and PHD from Clemson University, S.C., in Environmental Toxicology with a focus on Wildlife Toxicology. After graduate school, my husband and I moved to central New York in 2004 and we have lived in LaFayette for 17 years. In my spare time, I like to read, garden, hike, and kayak with my family.

I love my job as a habitat restoration biologist with the US Fish and Wildlife Service, but now that I am a parent with 4th and 6th graders, what really inspires me is giving presentations to school age children about our natural resources: fish and wildlife and their habitats. Through my work as a biologist, I participate annually in the Cortland County Conservation Field Days and Envirothon, hosted by the Cortland County Soil and Water Conservation District. These outreach events expose 5th and 6th graders and high school students, respectively, to natural resource related topics. In my personal time, I am a member of the LaFayette Advisory Conservation Commission. I have also worked with my children's teachers and the LaFayette After School Program Director, Mrs Oliver, to give presentations to students on erosion, bird migration, habitat requirements of New York State wildlife, and chatted with Big Picture students about a career as a biologist. I am a current member of the Grimshaw Association of Parents and Staff and the District Comprehensive Improvement Plan committee.

I have been filling in on the LaFayette Central School District Board of Education since February 2021, filling in for a mid-term vacancy. I was a candidate for a School Board position in May 2021, and I was appointed to a 1-year term to complete the mid-term vacancy. My goal in serving on the board is to advocate for our children. I believe that everyone can be at their best when they are treated with dignity and respect and are given the proper resources. The holistic education of our children will allow them to succeed academically, athletically, socially, and emotionally in whichever endeavor they choose. Our children's opportunities can be limitless with a solid educational foundation. I understand the need for a cost effective approach to efficiently run a school district and I do not take the duties of appointment as a board member lightly. My overall plan is to be an advocate for a solid educational foundation for all our children. My plan to support and advocate for our students is to listen and learn from current board members, our Superintendent, Principals, Teachers, Staff, Parents, and Students. I want the best for each child, from pre-Kindergarten to High School Senior, and to nurture, challenge and inspire. I will listen to understand with an open mind set, as each child is important.

LaFayette is a wonderful community and it is an honor to work alongside so many dedicated community members in a volunteer capacity.



## Program Component

This budget category is the largest of the three budget components, representing 71.2% of the total components. It includes all expenditures directly related to the student educational program. Included are monies for all instructional personnel and programs including regular instruction, occupational education, special education, technology, staff development and summer school. Also included are student services such as health, guidance, library, co-curricular, athletics, transportation, census and the employee benefits for those programs.

	2021/22 Adopted Budget	2022/23 Proposed Budget	\$ Change
<b>Regular Instruction K-12</b> Salaries, textbooks, supplies, equipment, BOCES, tuition, contractual expense, occ ed	\$5,541,301	\$5,621,470	\$80,169
<b>Special Education</b> Salaries, supplies, equipment, textbooks, tuition, contractual services, BOCES	\$2,168,373	\$2,274,738	\$106,365
<b>Technology</b> Staff stipends, computer equipment, BOCES support, software	\$507,183	\$524,602	\$17,419
<b>Prevention</b> Summer School, BOCES Services	\$50,000	\$50,000	-----
<b>Student Support Services</b> Books, BOCES, computer equipment, contractual services, periodicals, salaries, software, and supplies	\$702,538	\$865,492	\$162,954
<b>Co-Curricular</b> Advisors, supplies, equipment	\$91,499	\$94,597	\$3,098
<b>Athletics</b> Coaches, equipment, officials, uniforms	\$344,087	\$361,383	\$17,296
<b>Pupil Transportation</b> Salaries, bus maintenance, supplies, repairs, fuel	\$1,082,803	\$1,120,314	\$37,511
<b>Employee Benefits</b> NYS Retirement, Health/Dental Insurance, FICA, Unemployment, Worker's Comp	\$4,132,302	\$4,314,784	\$182,482
<b>TOTAL PROGRAM COMPONENT</b>	<b>\$14,620,086</b>	<b>\$15,227,380</b>	<b>\$607,294</b>

## LCS ACHIEVEMENTS • LCS ACHIEVEMENTS • LCS ACHIEVEMENTS

### BIG PICTURE SCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS

- ◆ Kyler Potak has been crowned the King of Syrup as he bottled over 50 bottles of Maple Syrup! Kyler led the Maple Syrup project from finishing the Sugar Shack build, completing the evaporator, tapping trees, collecting sap and boiling it down. Kyler grew as a leader and was successful in collaborating with many students to make this project a huge success.
- ◆ 7 Big Picture students successfully completed classes on the OCC campus this fall. Currently 5 students are enrolled in Early College at OCC this spring.
- ◆ Nine Big Picture students are taking a Global Cuisine college class at SUNY Morrisville this semester.
- ◆ As of the start of April, Big Picture students have logged 4032 hours of real world learning experiences





## Administrative Component

As defined by NYS Education Department, this budget category includes monies for the majority of the instruction support services in the District. It is comprised of a general support section, an instructional supervision section and a section for employee benefits for personnel in associated areas. This component represents 9.1% of the components. The categories marked with \* and \*\* represent 78% and 65%, respectively, of the amount needed to operate these services; the balance is charged to the State for administering and maintaining financial records for the Onondaga Nation School.

	2021/22 Adopted Budget	2022/23 Proposed Budget	\$ Change
<b>Board of Education*</b>			
Membership, District Clerk, district meetings	\$23,899	\$24,108	\$209
<b>Central Administration*</b>	\$168,526	\$177,839	\$9,313
Chief school administration, salaries, supplies, contractual services			
<b>Finance**</b> Salaries - payroll, accounts payable, tax collection, auditing, purchasing, business administration, supplies, contractual services	\$256,827	\$284,421	\$27,594
<b>Legal / Personnel / Public Information*</b>	\$87,648	\$89,919	\$2,271
Contractual services, negotiations, employee assistance program, public information			
<b>Central Services</b>	\$70,000	\$71,738	\$1,738
Paper, copying supplies, contractual services			
<b>Special Items</b>	\$143,264	\$156,197	\$12,933
Insurance, appraisals, BOCES administrative charges			
<b>Curriculum Development / Planning</b>	\$134,596	\$138,926	\$4,330
Staff stipends, supplies, BOCES, contractual services			
<b>Supervision of Instruction</b>	\$549,753	\$562,470	\$12,717
Salaries, supplies, equipment, materials			
<b>Employee Benefits</b>	\$393,554	\$432,837	\$39,283
NYS Retirement, Health/Dental Insurance, FICA, Unemployment, Worker's Comp.			
<b>TOTAL ADMINISTRATION COMPONENT</b>	<b>\$1,828,067</b>	<b>\$1,938,455</b>	<b>\$110,388</b>

## LCS ACHIEVEMENTS • LCS ACHIEVEMENTS • LCS ACHIEVEMENTS

### JUNIOR/SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS

- ◆ Purchased the Hudl sports streaming service
- ◆ Students participated in NYSPHSAA Student Leadership Conference
- ◆ Teachers focused on providing student feedback that is timely, specific and actionable
- ◆ Cianna Papineau scored her 1,000th point in basketball
- ◆ Ellie McElhannon's photography project was chosen to be displayed at the Everson Museum of Art
- ◆ Students participated in a Long Ball tournament



## Capital Component

The Capital budget category, as defined by NYS Education Department, consists primarily of monies for the operation and maintenance of district facilities. Also included are related employee benefits, refund of property taxes and debt services payments on long-term obligations. This component represents approximately 19.7% of the components.

	2021/22 Adopted Budget	2022/23 Proposed Budget	\$ Change
<b>Operation of Plant</b> (Custodial) Salaries, supplies, equipment, utilities, contractual services	\$1,056,031	\$1,082,697	\$26,666
<b>Maintenance of Plant</b> (Buildings) Salaries, supplies, equipment, repairs, contractual services, special projects	\$409,444	\$420,617	\$11,173
<b>Refund of Real Property Taxes</b>	---	---	---
<b>Employee Benefits</b> NYS Retirement, Health/Dental Insurance, FICA, Unemployment, Worker's Comp.	\$393,552	\$416,962	\$23,410
<b>Debt Service</b> Bonds & Notes, Principal and Interest, Bus Debt	\$2,324,705	\$2,303,468	\$(21,237)
<b>TOTAL CAPITAL COMPONENT</b>	<b>\$4,183,732</b>	<b>\$4,223,744</b>	<b>\$40,012</b>

**TOTAL: THREE PART COMPONENT BUDGET**      \$20,631,885    \$21,389,579    \$757,694

## LCS ACHIEVEMENTS • LCS ACHIEVEMENTS • LCS ACHIEVEMENTS

### JUNIOR/SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS

- ◆ National Honor Society held an American Red Cross blood drive. Students and staff donated a total of 31 units of blood
- ◆ LaFayette ECOS club held a fundraiser through Treeplenish selling saplings to help offset the building paper usage
- ◆ Our Robotics team competed at several different competitions throughout the county.
- ◆ Our band and chorus students greeted their peers with music as they entered the building during Spirit Week
- ◆ Varsity basketball teams delivered presents to Golisanos Children's Hospital
- ◆ Students participated in the OCC Advantage program – a unique college-readiness and scholarship program that gives students the opportunity to attend OCC tuition-free



## 2022/2023 Propositions

### Proposition I - Budget

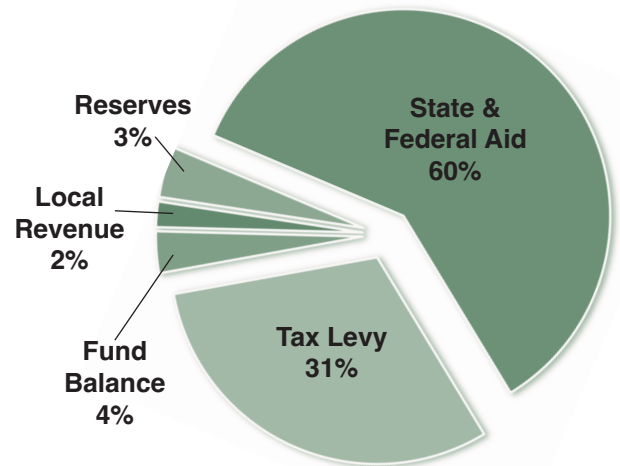
Shall the proposed budget of \$21,389,579 for the LaFayette Central School District as recommended by the Board of Education for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2022, be adopted and shall the Board of Education be authorized to levy the necessary taxes therefor?

### Proposition II - Transportation

Shall the Board of Education be authorized to purchase two (2) replacement student transportation vehicles, one (1) mini payloader and one (1) pickup truck (the "Vehicles"), including related furnishings and equipment incidental thereto, expend therefore a total sum not to exceed \$449,300 which is estimated to be the total maximum cost thereof, and pay for such Vehicles by the levy of a tax which is hereby voted and approved in the amount of \$449,300 which shall be levied and collected in annual installments in such years and in such amounts as may be determined by the Board of Education and in anticipation of the collection of such tax, bonds and notes of the District are hereby authorized to be issued at one time, or from time to time, in the principal amount not to exceed \$449,300, and a tax is hereby voted to pay the interest on said obligations when due.

## PLEASE VOTE

## Where the Money Comes From



## How is the Budget Funded?

### 2022/23 Proposed

#### Summary of State & Federal Aid

New York State Aid	\$10,392,042
Other State Aid	\$2,395,000
Medicaid Reimbursement	\$30,000

<b>TOTAL AID</b>	<b>\$12,817,042</b>
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#### Local Sources

County Sales Tax	\$26,000
Interest & Earnings	\$30,000
Other Local Revenues	\$361,500

<b>TOTAL LOCAL SOURCES</b>	<b>\$417,500</b>
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#### Use of Reserves

Debt Service Reserve	
Retirement Reserve	\$442,500
Unemployment Reserve	\$25,000
Employee Benefit Accrued Liability Reserve	\$253,500

<b>TOTAL RESERVES</b>	<b>\$721,000</b>
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#### APPROPRIATED FUND BALANCE

Offset Tax Levy	\$838,873
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<b>TOTAL BEFORE TAXES</b>	<b>\$14,794,415</b>
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<b>PROPERTY TAXES</b>	<b>\$6,595,164</b>
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<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>	<b>\$21,389,579</b>
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### Capital Outlay

Capital outlay projects are currently allowed for just one building each year up to \$100,000. All of the proper paperwork must be filed with the State Education Department in advance and be approved before the work can be done. The advantage is that the aid is received in full for this project in the following year, whereas with all other capital projects, the project aid is spread out over 15, 20 or 30 years depending upon the type of construction involved.

This year's capital outlay project will consist of converting the remainder of the lighting at the Jr/Sr High School to LED. This will provide cost savings as well as enhancing the lighting within the school. This project will complete the LED lighting conversion at the Jr/Sr High School.



# LaFayette CENTRAL SCHOOLS

5955 Route 20, West  
LaFayette, NY 13084

Non-Profit Organization  
US Postage Paid  
PERMIT NO. 4238  
Syracuse, NY

OCCUPANT  
Rural Route/Boxholder  
LaFayette, NY 13084

## Overall School District Budget Proposal

	Budget Adopted for the 2021/22 School Year	Budget Proposed for the 2022/23 School Year	Dollar Change	Percent Change
<b>Total Budget Amount</b>	\$ 20,631,885	\$21,389,579	\$757,694	3.7%
Administrative Component	\$1,828,067	\$1,938,455	\$110,388	6.0%
Program Component	\$14,620,086	\$15,227,380	\$607,294	4.2%
Capital Component	\$4,183,732	\$4,223,744	\$40,012	1.0%
	<b>Actual Beginning Balance 2021/22</b>	<b>Estimated Beginning Balance 2022/23</b>		
Restricted Fund Balance	\$5,499,656	\$5,499,656		
Assigned Fund Balance	\$554,328	\$838,873		
Unrestricted Fund Balance	\$825,275	\$855,583		
Unrestricted Fund Balance as a Percent of Total Budget**	4.0%	4.0%		
Change in Consumer Price Index	4.70%			

\*\*Legal limit for 2022/23 is 4%

The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2022/23 by the qualified voters of the LaFayette Central School District, Onondaga County, New York, will be held at LaFayette JR/SR High School in said district on May 17, 2022 between the hours of 1:00 p.m. and 9 p.m.

Proposed Tax Rate per \$1,000 Assessed Value		
Current 2021/22	Est. Proposed 2022/23	Est. Annual Change
\$17.50	\$17.85	\$0.35

