

COMMUNITY CONNECTION



A PUBLICATION OF THE CHEEKTOWAGA CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

BUDGET REVOTE ISSUE JULY 2020

Message from the Superintendent

Prior to presenting our original budget in June, we had aggressively trimmed \$2 million in spending to present the most effective staffing and programming available to our students.



Superintendent
Mary Morris

On June 16, 2020, the Cheektowaga Central 2020-2021 school district budget was defeated by 49 votes. Under state law, school districts have the option to either offer a revote once to its community or operate under a contingent budget. The BOE approved the revote during a meeting July 6.

In the June budget and in the budget to be presented for revote on July 28, we eliminated the following to provide a responsible budget that the community could support while providing the least impact on programming:

- Instructional, support staff and administrative positions
- All professional development conferences
- 75% of supplies and materials
- UPK and afterschool busing
- BOCES services
- General education summer school

Without the community support of the proposed budget on July 28, a contingency budget will be required that results in the potential elimination of:

- **High school electives including AP, College level courses, art, music and technology**
- **Mental Health supports (Counselors, Social Workers and Psychologists)**
- **Small class size**
- **District Universal Pre-Kindergarten**
- **Full day Kindergarten**
- **School Resource officers**
- **Interscholastic Athletics**
- **Extracurricular activities (musicals, clubs, intramural sports)**
- **Field trips as well as related transportation**
- **The capital outlay construction funds to repair and replace obsolete HVAC equipment in the MS/HS, specifically the cafeterias**
- **Outside use of facilities by the community**

If the budget is defeated, under the contingency budget guidelines, \$630,000 in spending will be reduced through the elimination of items from the list above, as determined by the Board of Education.

We present this budget to our community with confidence that it contains the elements to meet our mission of inspiring a high level of learning for all students. Now more than ever, our district needs the support of the community so we are able to continue providing quality education to all students.

BUDGET REVOTE

July 28, 2020

On July 3, 2020 Gov. Andrew M. Cuomo issued Executive Order 202.47, which establishes July 28, 2020 as the date when school districts may hold a revote referendum on budgets defeated on June 16, 2020. The district is allowed to conduct the revote referendum in-person. Social distancing protocols will be in place including six-foot distancing guideline and the requirement to wear a mask.

Polls will be open July 28, 2020 from Noon – 9 p.m.
Raymond L. Carr Board Room.

Proposition 1

The Cheektowaga Central School District budget of \$47,272,614 for the 2020-2021 school year.

Message from the Board of Education President

We were very proud of the hard work and dedication we put into developing the 2020-2021 budget. However, our budget was defeated by a slim margin. We have been a district that has always believed in children first. It has been our sole mission to offer the best classes, programs, and extracurriculars while keeping our tax base in the lowest margins in western New York. It is the sincere hope of the Cheektowaga Board of Education that the details presented in this letter allow you to see what we are hopeful for in a budget and to understand what a contingent budget removes from our school community.

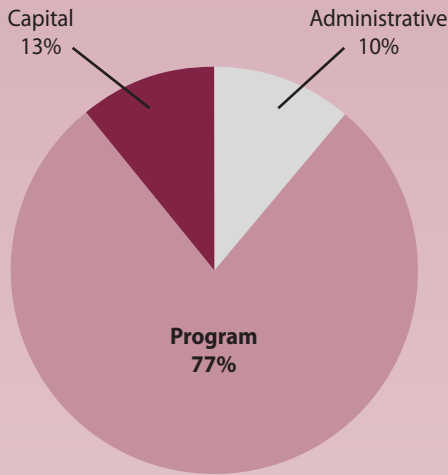


Board of Education
President
Renee M. Wilson

The continued vision of our district is to provide the best possible learning environment for all students in every circumstance. We work to keep education at the forefront, align with our district's mission and goals, to examine all of our needs and operate in a fiscally responsible manner.

Community support of our budget means we can continue offering the best educational programs and services, be accountable to our staff and our community and to look to the future of our district. We must be able to offer our students what they need to become the future leaders of our community and that of the global world. We are in this together for the betterment of our children. Thank you, please stay safe, enjoy the summer and remember to vote July 28.

2020-21 Proposed Expenditures



Absentee Ballots

To apply for an absentee ballot, please call 716-686-3606 for an application or download from the district website, cheektowagak12.org/budget. Voters requesting a ballot via mail must submit their application no later than July 21, 2020 and voters requesting a ballot via personal delivery must submit their application no later than July 27, 2020.

Public Hearing

A public hearing is scheduled for Tuesday, July 14 at 7 p.m. The hearing will be available to view in the Cheektowaga High School auditorium. Social distancing will be enforced with selected seats made available. Anyone attending is asked to wear a face mask. Any change to the public meeting in the auditorium based on updated guidelines issued by the Erie County Department of Health for public gatherings will be posted on the website prior to the scheduled meeting. The hearing will also be streamed via Youtube. The presentation link will be available on the website, cheektowagak12.org/budget.

Voter Eligibility

To qualify as a voter, a person must be:

- eighteen (18) years of age,
- a citizen of the United States,
- a resident (not necessarily a homeowner) of the district for at least thirty (30) days preceding the election

2020-21 Proposed Expenditures

Three-Part Components	2020-21	2019-20	Change
Administrative	4,651,938	4,429,220	222,718
Program	36,604,159	35,807,071	797,088
Capital	6,016,517	5,644,251	372,266
TOTAL	\$47,272,614	\$45,880,542	\$1,392,072

Administrative Expenses

Account	2020-21	2019-20	Change
Board of Education	21,647	19,788	1,859
Central Administration	246,346	245,380	966
Finance	331,143	308,908	22,235
Staff	326,758	194,809	131,949
Central Services	422,929	432,702	(9,773)
Special Items	402,164	392,025	10,139
Administration & Improvement	1,782,983	1,750,382	32,601
Employee Benefits	1,117,968	1,085,226	32,742
TOTAL	\$4,651,938	\$4,429,220	\$222,718

Program Expenses

Account	2020-21	2019-20	Change
Administration & Improvement	31,534	50,327	(18,793)
Teaching - Regular School	12,472,922	12,446,456	26,466
Program for Students with Disabilities	5,527,356	5,550,490	(23,134)
Occupational Education	1,011,513	1,204,834	(193,321)
Teaching - Special Schools	5,000	66,875	(61,875)
Instructional Media	1,269,684	1,254,274	15,410
Pupil Personnel Services	2,073,082	2,135,353	(62,271)
Pupil Transportation	6,168,926	4,958,158	1,210,768
Employee Benefits	7,944,142	7,965,304	(21,162)
Interfund Transfers - to Special Aid	100,000	175,000	(75,000)
TOTAL	\$36,604,159	\$35,807,071	\$797,088

Capital Expenses

Account	2020-21	2019-20	Change
Central Services	2,147,226	2,049,381	97,845
Special Items	361,561	56,804	304,757
Employee Benefits	699,437	639,739	59,698
Debt Service	2,708,293	2,798,327	(90,034)
Interfund Transfers - to Capital	100,000	100,000	-
TOTAL	\$6,016,517	\$5,644,251	\$372,266

TOTAL	\$47,272,614	\$45,880,542	\$1,392,072
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2020-21 Estimated Revenue

Account	2020 -21	2019-20	Change
Real Property Tax Items	26,043,556	25,571,876	471,680
Non-property Tax Distribution by County	2,401,878	2,651,878	(250,000)
Charges for Services	140,000	177,124	(37,124)
Use of Money and Property	497,130	476,277	20,853
Sale of Property	500	1,500	(1,000)
Miscellaneous Revenue	204,907	204,907	-
Total, Local Sources	\$29,287,971	\$29,083,562	\$204,409

Basic Formula Aid	9,338,031	9,606,067	(268,036)
Basic Formula Aid - Excess Cost	2,395,851	2,395,851	-
Lottery Aid	2,539,076	2,539,076	-
BOCES Aid	1,430,018	1,164,827	265,191
Textbook Aid	153,061	147,653	5,408
Software/Hardware Aid	65,502	63,269	2,233
Library Materials Aid	13,094	13,094	-
Other State Aid (Charter Tuition)	74,010	152,143	(78,133)
Total, State Aid	\$16,008,643	\$16,081,980	\$(73,337)

Medicaid Assistance	300,000	150,000	150,000
Interfund Transfers, Special Aid	10,000	15,000	(5,000)
Use of Reserves	-	50,000	(50,000)
Use of Appropriated Fund Balance	1,666,000	500,000	1,166,000
Total, Other Sources	\$1,976,000	\$715,000	\$1,261,000

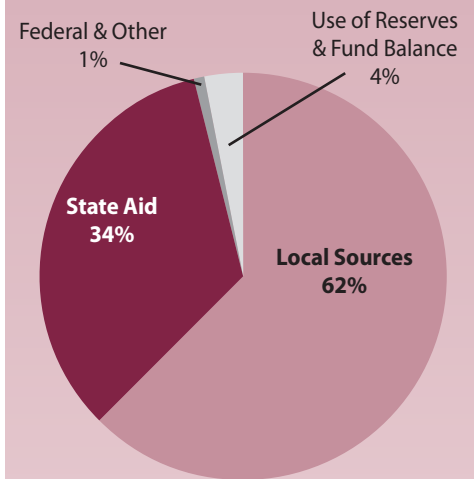
TOTAL	\$47,272,614	\$45,880,542	\$1,392,072
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2020-21 Estimated School Tax Bill

assumes STAR property tax exemption applied

Property Assessed Value	2019-20 Estimate	2020-21 Actual	Change
\$100,000	\$1,807	\$1,853	\$46
\$150,000	\$2,711	\$2,779	\$68
\$200,000	\$3,615	\$3,705	\$90

2020-21 Estimated Revenues



Your Voice, Your Vote

If the budget is defeated, under the contingency budget guidelines, \$630,000 in spending will be reduced through the elimination of items from the list below as determined by the Board of Education:

- HS Electives
- Mental Health Supports
- Small Class Size
- District UPK
- Full Day Kindergarten
- School Resource Officers
- Interscholastic Athletics
- Extracurricular Activities
- Field Trips
- HVAC Repairs and Replacement

Stay informed, visit the 2020-21 Budget webpage, cheektowagak12.org/budget.

Board of Education

Renee M. Wilson, *President*
 Heather E. DuBard, *Vice President*
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 Kevin Leary, *Trustee*
 Thomas Raczka, *Trustee*
 Edward W. Schaefer, *Trustee*
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Superintendent of Schools

Mary Morris
 MMorris@ccsd-k12.net

Newsletter Editors

Mary Morris, *Superintendent of Schools*
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www.cheektowagak12.org



District Offices

3600 Union Road
 Cheektowaga, NY 14225
 716.686.3606

Registration Office

716.686.3665
 sweinholtz@ccsd-k12.net

School Board meetings are generally held the second Tuesday of the month at the District Office, 3600 Union Road, Cheektowaga, at 7 p.m. Those planning on attending are encouraged to verify meeting date and time by calling 686-3606.

CHEEKTOWAGA CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT3600 Union Road
Cheektowaga, NY 14225**Postmaster:
Please Deliver by July 11-13**Non-Profit
U.S. Postage
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Buffalo, NY**School District Budget Notice**

Overall Budget Proposal Cheektowaga Central School District 140701	Budget Adopted for the 2019-20 School Year	Budget Proposed for the 2020-21 School Year	Contingency Budget for the 2020-21 School Year *
Total Budgeted Amount, Not Including Separate Propositions	\$45,880,542	\$47,272,614	\$46,643,515
Increase/Decrease for the 2020-21 School Year		\$1,392,072	\$762,973
Percentage Increase/Decrease in Proposed Budget		3.03%	1.66%
Change in the Consumer Price Index		1.81%	
A. Proposed Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount	\$25,152,787	\$25,753,775	
B. Levy to Support Library Debt, if Applicable	\$0	\$0	
C. Levy for Non-Excludable Propositions, if Applicable **	\$0	\$0	
D. Total Tax Cap Reserve Amount Used to Reduce Current Year Levy	\$28,111	\$0	
E. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy (A + B + C - D)	\$25,124,676	\$25,753,775	
F. Total Permissible Exclusions	\$844,645	\$910,076	
G. School Tax Levy Limit, Excluding Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$24,308,142	\$24,843,699	
H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, Excluding Levy to Support Library Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions (E - B - F + D)	\$24,308,142	\$24,843,699	
I. Difference: G - H (Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval - See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions) **	\$0	\$0	
Administrative Component	\$4,429,220	\$4,651,938	\$4,546,938
Program Component	\$35,807,071	\$36,604,159	\$36,230,060
Capital Component	\$5,644,251	\$6,016,517	\$5,866,517
*A defeat of the proposed budget and adoption of a contingency budget would mean a decrease of approximately \$629,000. First to be removed are non-contingent expenses. This includes most equipment, certain student supplies, new and multi-year contractual arrangements, and salary increases for non-instructional confidential management. After non-contingent expenses are removed ordinary contingent expenses are removed. This includes reduction in non-mandated programming, interscholastic athletics, extracurricular activities, summer school programs, field trips and related transportation, additional materials and supplies, and professional development.			

Estimated Basic STAR Tax Saving¹	Under the Budget Proposed for the 2020-2021 School Year
	\$ 519

The budget revote for the fiscal year 2020-2021 by the qualified voters of the Cheektowaga Central School District, Erie County, New York, will be held at Cheektowaga Central School District in said district on Tuesday, July 28, 2020 between the hours of 12 p.m. and 9 p.m., prevailing time in the Cheektowaga Central School District, at which time the polls will be opened to vote by voting ballot or machine.

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