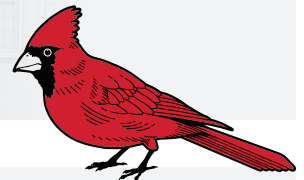


THE CARDINAL CONNECTION

Linking School and Community

Fort Ann Central School District

2022-23 Budget News



The Fort Ann Central School District Board of Education is proposing a budget of \$12,700,000 for the 2022-23 school year.

This is an overall budget-to-budget increase of \$354,322, resulting in an estimated 2.76% increase in the tax levy.

A Quick Look at the Proposed Budget

The District's Board of Education and administration developed a budget for the 2022-2023 school year that promotes academic and social-emotional growth for students, while providing ongoing professional development for teachers and staff. The proposed budget includes a 2.79% increase in expenses, a revenue increase of 4.21%, and a tax levy increase of 2.76% that is within the tax levy cap for the upcoming school year.

***The annual school budget vote will be on
Tuesday, May 17, 2022***

Our district is committed to creating and maintaining educational programs and activities that enhance 21st-century knowledge & skills, social-emotional & physical wellness, and global citizenship while fostering a passion for learning within each student.

The proposed 2022-23 school year budget supports all existing academic programs, including the Pre-Kindergarten and Full-Day Kindergarten programs. Additionally, these funds will fulfill the staffing needs required to help close the academic gap that the COVID-19 pandemic has created for so many students.

The pandemic brought on many challenges for our students. In particular, we have noted students struggling socially since returning to full-time in-person learning. We feel that the district must address this issue and provide additional social-emotional learning programs and staffing to assist our students.

The Fort Ann Central School District Board of Education has approved reallocations across budget lines and applied \$734,067 (\$130,000 more than the current year) in our appropriated fund balance to maintain programs while keeping the tax impact on the community at a minimum.

We thank you for your continued support and for all that you do to help all students reach their full potential as productive global citizens.

Fort Ann Central School
"Quality Education, Every Student, Every Day"

HIGHLIGHTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS



Superintendent Hoskins

Hello, Fort Ann Community! I would like to take this opportunity to formally introduce myself as the new Superintendent of the Fort Ann Central School District.

After serving in the capacity of High School Principal for the past 5 years, I am excited to be working with you as Superintendent of Schools. In this role, I promise to promote excellence and work to grow, improve, and enhance the district so we can continue to be proud to say, “we are the Fort Ann Cardinals!” My mission as superintendent is to improve communications, work with community stakeholders, and ensure that our schools reflect the wants and needs that our community deserves.

Justin Hoskins, Superintendent of Schools

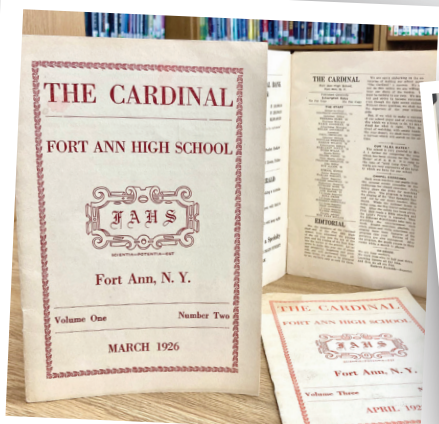
Administrative Changes

Our new Interim Jr./Sr. High School Principal is Nichole Huskie, who previously worked with the district as one of our High School science teachers. Nichole began her role as Interim Principal in January 2022 and has already proven to be an excellent leader of our high school building.

We also welcome Peter Northrup as our newest Head Custodian. Peter has worked with the district for over 20 years and has been an incredible asset to the district.

Looking Back & Moving Forward

It goes without saying, these past few years have been extremely challenging. While our world works to slowly rebuild and return to a sense of “normalcy,” we must reflect and remember how far we’ve come. Recently, we uncovered some district memorabilia—copies of the Cardinal Connection dating back to 1926. Seeing newsletters and photos from almost 100 years ago reminded us that over the years, there have been challenges and changes, but nonetheless, our district has remained strong. We continue to grow and overcome any obstacle thrown our way. Soon, we will be able to put the challenges of COVID-19 in the past, and one day, students 100 years from now will look back and be impressed with all that we were able to achieve during a global pandemic.



2022-23 Budget Priorities



Our highest priority is to ensure that all Fort Ann students succeed in learning, foster independence, and embrace creativity. We provide comprehensive educational experiences and empower students to reach their full potential as productive global citizens.

With this in mind, we have thoughtfully created a school budget that has a conservative approach but also allows us to meet district needs.

To maintain the Fort Ann community's investment in our schools, the District is planning to:

Maximize educational opportunities for all students

Maintain our Pre-Kindergarten program (partially funded via grant)

Maintain our Full-Day Kindergarten

Maintain current enrichment programs (digital subscriptions, Too Good for Drugs, Arts in Education)

Increase support for student social and emotional wellness

Improve classroom technology

Provide comprehensive professional development for teachers

On The Ballot

Proposition 1: 2022-2023 School Year Budget:

SHALL the Board of Education of the Fort Ann Central School District, Washington County, New York, be authorized to expend the sums set forth in the budget in the total amount of \$12,700,000 and to levy the necessary tax therefore?

Proposition 2: 2022-2023 Bus Proposition:

SHALL the Board of Education of the Fort Ann Central School District be authorized to: (1) acquire school buses at an estimated maximum cost of approximately \$213,000; (2) expend such sum for such purpose; (3) levy the necessary tax therefore, to be levied and collected in annual installments in such years and in such amounts as may be determined by the Board of Education in accordance with Section 416 of the Education Law, taking into account state aid; and (4) in anticipation of the collection of such tax, issue bonds, notes and/or installment purchase contracts of the District at one time or from time to time in the principal amount not to exceed \$213,000, and levy a tax to pay the interest on said obligations when due?

Board Member Elections

At Large Election – To elect two (2) members of the Board of Education, each to a three (3) year term commencing on July 1, 2022 and expiring on June 30, 2025, to fill seats currently held by Paul Greene and James Seeley.

Candidate: Paul Greene

Write-in Candidates – Education Law requires schools to provide residents with an opportunity to write an individual's name for each vacancy on the Board. You may vote for a candidate who submitted a nominating petition, or you may write-in a person's name. Please note that if you wish to vote for a write-in candidate, you can only vote for that person once. You may ask the poll clerks for assistance if you have any questions.

Expenditure Summary

EXPENDITURE SUMMARY

ADMINISTRATIVE	Budget 2021-22	Proposed 2022-23	\$ Change
Board of Education	\$6,309	\$ 6,309	\$0
Central Administration	\$248,162	\$195,655	(\$52,507)
Finance	\$235,875	\$266,948	\$31,073
Legal	\$53,550	\$43,550	(\$10,000)
Public Information	\$24,000	\$24,000	\$0
Maintenance of Plant	\$0	\$0	\$0
Central Services	\$62,319	\$64,330	\$2,011
Special Items	\$146,184	\$154,041	\$7,857
Instruction	\$444,143	\$358,032	(\$86,111)
Employee Benefits	\$481,769	\$453,312	(\$28,457)
Subtotal	\$1,702,310	\$1,566,177	(\$136,133)
PROGRAM	2021-22	2022-23	\$ Change
Curriculum & Development	\$62,800	\$63,112	\$312
Teaching	\$4,973,704	\$4,920,782	(\$52,922)
Instructional Media	\$462,616	\$470,134	\$7,518
Pupil Services	\$529,972	\$602,492	\$72,520
Pupil Transportation	\$717,245	\$794,907	\$77,662
Culture and Recreation	\$0	\$0	\$0
Community Service	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$0
Employee Benefits	\$2,523,287	\$2,788,940	\$265,653
Interfund Transfers	\$23,000	\$23,000	\$0
Subtotal	\$9,294,624	\$9,665,366	\$370,742
CAPITAL	2021-22	2022-23	\$ Change
Plant Operations	\$528,193	\$579,110	\$50,917
Plant Maintenance	\$123,000	\$132,000	\$9,000
Employee Benefits	\$104,665	\$152,810	\$48,145
Debt Service	\$492,886	\$504,538	\$11,652
Transfer to Other Funds	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$0
Subtotal	\$1,348,744	\$1,468,457	\$ 119,713
Total Expenditures	\$12,345,678	\$12,700,000	\$354,322

State law requires school districts to present their budgets in three component parts; Administrative, Program and Capital. As with any budget, the District has revenues and expenditures. Here's a summary of our proposed expenditures for the 2022-23 school year:

Administrative Expenditures cover expenses related to district management and central services including legal audits and BOCES administration. Administrative expenses are **12.3 percent of the overall budget**.

Program Expenditures include items directly related to instruction. These include salaries, benefits, and transportation. The program budget is proposed to be **76.1 percent of the total budget**.

Capital Expenditures in this category are associated with the operation and maintenance of the physical property of the school district and all debt service. The capital expenses are **11.6 percent of the total budget**.

Revenue Summary

According to state law, the public may vote on a school budget only twice in any given year. In the event the proposed budget is defeated there are three options:

- Put the same budget before the voters a second time.
- Put a revised (and typically lower) budget before the voters.
- Adopt a contingent budget.

After a second defeat, the board has no choice, but to adopt a contingent budget.

With the tax cap regulation, if the proposed budget is defeated twice, there can be no increase in the contingent budget.

The contingent budget would be \$12,610,000. Under a contingency budget, certain equipment and pupil supplies would be eliminated, and the community would have to pay to use the buildings and grounds as required by state regulations. This would have a negative long-term effect on the district.

REVENUE SUMMARY

ESTIMATED REVENUES	Budget 2021-22	Proposed 2022-23	\$ Change
Real Property Taxes	\$5,347,993	\$5,495,767	\$147,774
Payments in Lieu of Taxes	\$29,621	\$30,048	\$427
Miscellaneous Revenues	\$153,264	\$132,356	(\$20,908)
State Aid	\$6,244,334	\$6,421,829	\$240,791
Federal–Medicaid	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$0
Revenue Subtotal	\$11,611,611	\$12,100,000	\$488,389
Appropriated Fund Balance	\$734,067	\$600,000	(\$134,067)
Total Revenues	\$12,345,678	\$12,700,000	\$354,322

Where Does the Revenue Come From?

School districts receive revenue from two principal sources: New York State Aid and local property taxes. New York State Aid includes Foundation Aid, Building Aid, Transportation Aid, and other categories determined by the State budget. The local tax revenue comes from property taxes and the (NY State-funded) STAR program. Schools can also collect revenues from tuition-paying students, sales of school buses, and interest.

As a whole, schools do not determine the total costs of local property taxes. Schools can only propose a property tax levy based on the tax cap calculation. The tax levy is the amount split to taxpayers based on assessed property value.

In 2020, the Fort Ann Central School District received \$1.2 million from the American Rescue Plan. These funds come from a federal stimulus package given state-wide to NYS schools and were to be spent over three school years. On July 1, 2021, the District was granted the ability to allocate these funds. The District will receive funds intermittently and will continually submit grant applications.

Property Tax Report Card

PROPERTY TAX REPORT CARD

	2021-22 Budget	2022-23 Budget	Percent Change
Total Budgeted Amount, not including Separate Propositions	\$12,345,678	\$12,700,000	0%
A. Proposed Tax Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount	\$5,347,993	\$5,495,767	
B. Tax Levy to Support Library Debt, if Applicable	\$0	\$0	
C. Tax Levy for Non-Excludable Propositions, if Applicable	\$0	\$0	
D. Total Tax Cap Reserve Amount Used to Reduce Current Year Levy, if Applicable	\$0	\$0	
E. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy (A + B + C - D)	\$5,347,993	\$5,495,767	
F. Permissible Exclusions to the School Tax Levy Limit	\$255,868	\$248,721	
G. School Tax Levy Limit, <u>Excluding</u> Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$5,092,125	\$5,247,046	
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)	\$5,092,125	\$5,247,046	
I. Difference (G - H); (negative value requires 60% voter approval)	\$0	\$0	
Public School Enrollment	489	480	
Consumer Price Index		1.81%	
Adjusted Restricted Fund Balance	\$1,275,000	\$1,375,000	
Assigned Appropriated Fund Balance	\$753,008	\$600,000	
Adjusted Unrestricted Fund Balance	\$1,218,845	\$1,253,385	
Adjusted Unrestricted Fund Balance as a Percent of the Total Budget	5.06%	9.87%	

Voter Qualifications

A person shall be entitled to vote at the Annual School District Meeting and the Annual School Election who is: a citizen of the United States; eighteen years of age; and a resident within the District for a period of thirty days preceding the next meeting at which they offer to vote.

Absentee Ballots

District residents may apply for absentee ballots at the Office of the Clerk at the District Offices located at One Catherine Street, Fort Ann. The District Clerk must receive the completed application for review at least seven (7) days before the election if the ballot is to be mailed to the voter; OR prior to 3:00 p.m. on the day before the election if the ballot is to be personally delivered to the District Clerk. A list of all persons to whom absentee ballots have been issued is available to the public up to the day of the election during regular office hours in the district office.

Tax Levy

The 2022-2023 levy limit is a 2.76% (\$147,774) increase from the current school year. The Town of Fort Ann Estimates are as follows: ***On a home value assessed at \$100k, residents can expect a tax increase of \$12.47.***

School District Budget Notice

Overall Budget Proposal	Budget Adopted for 2021-22 School Year	Budget Proposed for 2022-23 School Year	Contingency Budget 2022-23 School Year*
Total Budgeted Amount, Not Including Separate Propositions	\$12,345,678	\$12,700,000	\$12,610,000
Increase/Decrease for the 2022-23 School Year		\$354,322	\$264,322
Percentage Increase/Decrease in Proposed Budget		2.87%	2.14%
Change in the Consumer Price Index (CPI)		4.70%	
A. Proposed Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount, net of reserve	\$5,347,993	\$5,495,767	
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	\$0	\$0	
E. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy (A + B + C - D)	\$5,347,993	\$5,495,767	\$5,347,993
F. Total Permissible Exclusions	\$255,868	\$248,721	
G. School Tax Levy Limit, <u>Excluding</u> Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$5,092,125	\$5,247,046	
H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, <u>Excluding</u> Levy for Library to Support Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions (E - B - F + D)	\$5,092,125	\$5,247,046	
I. Difference: (G - H); (Negative Value Requires 60% Voter Approval - See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions)**	\$-	\$-	
Administrative component	\$1,702,310	\$1,559,501	\$1,549,501
Program component	\$9,294,623	\$9,674,293	\$9,624,293
Capital component	\$1,348,745	\$1,466,207	\$1,436,207
<p>* 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.</p> <p>**Separate proposition that is not included in the Total Budgeted Amount: Purchase of two school buses at a total not to exceed \$213,000.</p>			

	Under the Budget Proposed for the 2022-2023 School Year
Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings ¹	\$400

The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2022-2023 by the qualified voters of the Fort Ann Central School District, Washington County, New York, will be held in the gymnasium of the school on Tuesday, May 17, 2022, between the hours of 12:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m., at which time the polls will be opened to vote by voting ballot. (1) The basic school tax relief (STAR) exemption is authorized by section 425 of the Real Property Tax Law.

Fort Ann Budget Vote
Tuesday, May 17, 2022 • Noon - 8 P.M.

FORT ANN CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

One Catherine Street
Fort Ann, NY 12827
www.fortannschool.org

Superintendent of Schools

Justin Hoskins

Business Official

Alexander V. Bodensieck, CPA

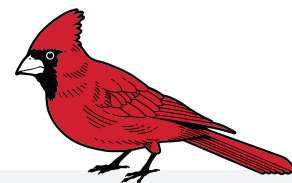
Board of Education

James Seeley, President
Pamela White, Vice President
James Allen
Cathy Graham
Paul Greene
Alison West
Richard Winchell

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"Battle of the Books" Competition

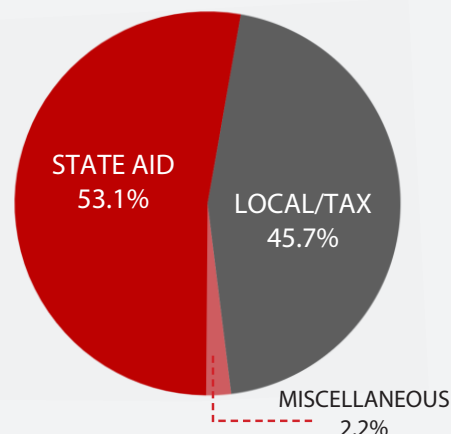
Congratulations are in order for our Grade 5 WSWHE BOCES Virtual "Battle of the Books" team! These students placed third out of thirteen schools competing in their grade level. For months leading up to this day, this group read and studied ten pre-selected books in preparation to battle it out with competing schools.

The teams tested themselves on every kind of book detail imaginable, from the plot to the dedication. During the competition, they had a set time to answer a recall question, responding in the form of author and title. This is the first year that Fort Ann has placed in the top 3 teams. Team Leader: Mrs. Hamm (School Librarian), Liam Crandell, Elijah Decker, Isabella Gadway, Madelyn Gordon, Aiden Mulvey, Michael Sexton.



The Budget at a Glance

REVENUE SUMMARY



EXPENDITURE SUMMARY

