

Points of Pride

Students are able to earn up to **49** college credit hours through **16** courses offered at LHS.



Chromebook for every Liberty student

We're mobile! Download the free **Liberty Mobile App** at your app store



40 sports teams at the modified through varsity level



Excelling on the stage

From music to drama, Liberty students are top-notch performers



40+

Awards received by Liberty High School art students each year



Partnerships with programs such as **Level Up Village** provide our students global learning opportunities



Named one of the **Best Communities for Music Education** by the **NAMM Foundation**



LIBERTY
CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
115 Buckley Street
Liberty, NY 12754



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SCHOOL BUDGET

VOTE

Tuesday,
May 16

Absentee Ballots

Voter Qualifications

- ★ You must be 18 years old,
- ★ A U.S. citizen and a district resident for at least 30 days, and
- ★ Be registered to vote at your county board of elections, which will automatically register you to vote at the district.
- ★ The last day to register with the district is May 11.

- Qualified voters may request an absentee ballot application by contacting District Clerk Tania DeFrank at tdefrank@libertyk12.org or 845-292-6990.
- May 9 is the last day for absentee ballot applications to be received if you will be mailing your completed ballot.
- May 15 is the last day for absentee ballot applications to be received if you will deliver your completed ballot in person.
- Absentee ballots must be received by the District Clerk by 5 p.m. May 16 in order to be counted.

Produced in cooperation with the Capital Region BOCES Communications Service.

ECRWSS Postal Customer

LIBERTY

CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

www.libertyk12.org



VOTE

Tuesday,
May 16

2023-24 SCHOOL BUDGET VOTE & BOARD OF EDUCATION ELECTION

Polls are open **noon-9 p.m.** at **Liberty High School.**

LIBERTY

CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT



Annual school budget vote is May 16

On Tuesday, May 16, Liberty Central School District residents will vote on a nearly \$66.3 million budget proposal for the 2023-24 school year that enhances curriculum and improves programs while decreasing the tax levy by \$1 million, or 5.33%.

This is the fifth consecutive year there is no proposed tax levy increase. Voters will also elect three board of education candidates.

The proposed \$66,296,362 budget would fund all current student programs and services. It would enhance the nationally recognized social emotional learning program Leader in Me and expand Science 21 and the HMH ELA and mathematics programs, which would help provide a consistent curriculum across grades. The budget also proposes to establish an in-house newcomer program for multi-language learners, add two permanent substitute positions to each school building, an LPN position to be shared across two buildings, bring the IT director position in-house and add vape detectors to the middle and high school bathrooms. The proposal also includes funds to enhance safety and security.

The proposal calls for a \$8,753,105 million increase in spending, or 15.21%. A significant state aid increase would enable the district to cover the growth in contractual and transportation costs, as well as begin to address the state-required mascot change, without any further increase to the proposed tax levy amount. A portion of the increased state aid would also be used to address K-8 learning loss that occurred during the COVID-19 pandemic.

“With this budget, we aim to provide our students a consistent curriculum, needed supports and continued opportunities to empower themselves so that they can contribute and thrive in a diverse community, in alignment with our five-year strategic plan,” Superintendent Dr. Patrick Sullivan said.

Budget Snapshot:

Proposed Budget:
\$66,296,362

Proposed Budget Change:
\$8,753,105 (+15.21%)

Proposed School Tax Levy:
\$17,760,162

School Tax Levy Change:
\$1 million (-5.33%)

For more details on the proposed budget, visit www.libertyk12.org.

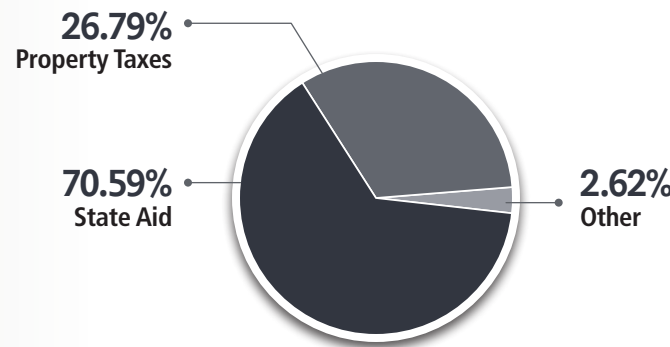
On the ballot:

- ★ Proposition 1: A \$66,296,362 budget proposed for the 2023-24 school year, with a decrease of 5.33% in the tax levy.
- ★ Voters will elect three board of education members. Three candidates submitted nominating petitions and are on the ballot. The candidates, in the order they appear on the ballot, are: Erin Abplanalp, Maureen Stabak and Eugene S. Thalmann. The candidate with the most votes, excluding incumbent, Maureen Stabak, will serve a three-plus year term beginning May 16, 2023, running through June 30, 2026. The next two top vote-getters will serve three-year terms running July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2026.

REVENUES:

Where the money comes from

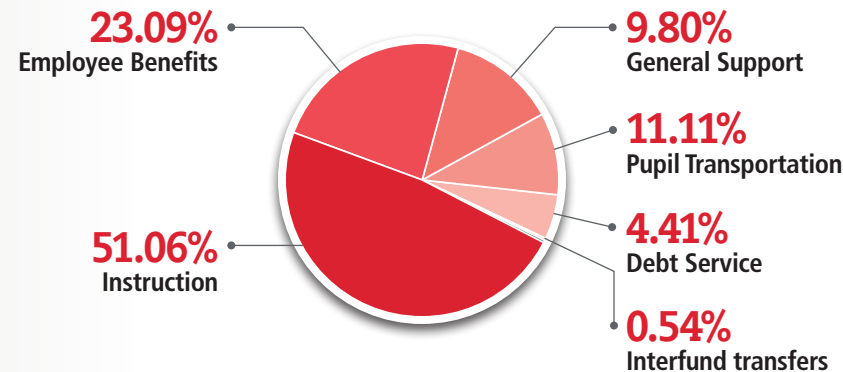
| CATEGORY | 2022-23 BUDGET | 2023-24 PROPOSED BUDGET | PERCENT CHANGE |
|----------------|---------------------|-------------------------|----------------|
| Property Taxes | \$18,760,162 | \$17,760,162 | -5.33% |
| State Aid | \$37,032,594 | \$46,800,000 | 26.38% |
| Fund Balance | \$0 | \$0 | 0% |
| Reserves | \$0 | \$0 | 0% |
| Other | \$1,750,501 | \$1,736,200 | -0.82% |
| TOTAL | \$57,543,257 | \$66,296,362 | 15.21% |



EXPENDITURES:

Where the money goes

| CATEGORY | 2022-23 BUDGET | 2023-24 PROPOSED BUDGET | PERCENT CHANGE |
|----------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|----------------|
| General Support | \$5,246,936 | \$6,496,344 | 23.81% |
| Instruction | \$30,059,061 | \$33,847,916 | 12.60% |
| Pupil Transportation | \$5,435,138 | \$7,364,374 | 35.50% |
| Employee Benefits | \$13,448,491 | \$15,304,528 | 13.80% |
| Debt Service | \$3,118,631 | \$2,923,200 | -6.27% |
| Interfund Transfers | \$235,000 | \$360,000 | 53.19% |
| TOTAL | \$57,543,257 | \$66,296,362 | 15.21% |



*numbers don't equal 100% because of rounding.

School District Budget Notice

| Overall Budget Proposal | Budget Adopted for the 2022-23 School Year | Budget Proposed for the 2023-24 School Year | Contingency Budget for the 2023-24 School Year * |
|--|--|---|--|
| Total Budgeted Amount, Not Including Separate Propositions | \$57,543,257 | \$66,296,362 | \$65,959,462 |
| Increase/Decrease for the 2023-24 School Year | | \$8,753,105 | \$8,416,205 |
| Percentage Increase/Decrease in Proposed Budget | | 15.21% | 14.63% |
| Change in the Consumer Price Index | | 8.0% | |
| A. Proposed Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount | \$18,760,162 | \$17,760,162 | |
| B. Levy to Support Library Debt, if Applicable | \$154,200 | \$154,200 | |
| 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) | \$18,914,362 | \$17,914,362 | \$17,914,362 |
| F. Total Permissible Exclusions | \$0 | \$0 | |
| G. School Tax Levy Limit, Excluding Levy for Permissible Exclusions | \$19,869,859 | \$18,671,096 | |
| H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, Excluding Levy to Support Library Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions (E - B - F + D) | \$18,760,162 | \$17,760,162 | |
| I. Difference: G - H (Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval) | \$1,109,697 | \$910,934 | |
| Administrative Component | \$5,375,024 | \$6,769,810 | \$6,757,550 |
| Program Component | \$45,199,068 | \$51,677,444 | \$51,580,895 |
| Capital Component | \$6,969,165 | \$7,849,108 | \$7,621,017 |

Should the proposed budget be defeated pursuant to Section 2023 of the Education Law and a contingent budget be required for the 2023-2024 school year, the proposed budget would be reduced by \$336,900 by eliminating equipment expenses and other program areas as identified by the Board of Education.

Under the Budget Proposed for the 2023-24 School Year

| | |
|---|-------|
| Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings ¹ | \$736 |
|---|-------|

The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2023-24 by the qualified voters of the Liberty Central School District, Sullivan County, New York, will be held at Liberty High School in said district on Tuesday, May 16, 2023, between the hours of 12:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m., prevailing time, at which time the polls will be opened to vote by voting machine.

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

| TAX RATE BY TOWN | 2022-23 TAX RATE PER \$1,000 | 2023-24 ESTIMATED TAX RATE PER \$1,000 | 2023-24 ESTIMATED TAXES BY TOWN | % CHANGE* |
|------------------|------------------------------|--|---------------------------------|-----------|
| Bethel | \$42.86 | \$40.58 | \$2,262,451.84 | -5.33% |
| Fallsburg | \$48.31 | \$45.74 | \$516,788.53 | -5.33% |
| Liberty | \$34.06 | \$32.24 | \$14,602,274.42 | -5.33% |
| Neversink | \$718.58 | \$680.28 | \$147,800.17 | -5.33% |
| Rockland | \$41.06 | \$38.87 | \$132,044.39 | -5.33% |
| Thompson | \$34.77 | \$32.92 | \$98,802.65 | -5.33% |

Final rates for 2023-24 cannot be determined until final assessments and equalization rates become available, typically in the summer, therefore, these are anticipated tax rates (per \$1,000 of assessed value). The district estimates that there will be a decrease for district taxpayers.

*Note: Tax rate changes don't equal -5.33% in each case because of rounding.