

Berlin Central School District

2024-2025 Budget Development Presentation

3/19/2024

District Vision & Mission

Vision

All Berlin Central School District students will graduate with an excellent education and experiences that prepare them to become productive members of society. Our students will be ready to assume responsibility for their own success in the workforce, college, the community, and life.

Mission

The mission of the Berlin Central School District is to maximize the diverse talents and aspirations of its students. Our students will be prepared to assume responsibility for their own success in the workforce, college, the community, and life.

Our Pillars Will Shape Our Process

Our priority is to engage, equip, and empower each Mountaineer student to achieve their chosen pathway.

Effective Communication

Student Achievement

Create an environment where students reach their full potential in their chosen pathway through rigorous, student-centered teaching and learning.

Engaged Mountaineers

Build an inclusive culture where students, employees, parents and the community belong and demonstrate trust and pride in our schools.

Community Partnerships

Support student success through collaboration and communication with families and the community.

Facility & Fiscal Responsibility

Establish transparent facility plans and fiscal processes that align to the needs of students and support staff in meeting these needs.

Budget Discussion Ground Rules

- **We will budget from the perspective of what we know to be true at this moment in time.**
- **Recognize this will change as we move throughout the budget process.**
- **We will adjust accordingly as new and different information becomes available.**
- **We will take care to implement our Core Values.**

Mountaineer Core Values

WITH A STRONG COMMITMENT TO OUR STUDENTS AND COMMUNITY, BERLIN CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT OPERATES FROM THESE CORE VALUES



EMPATHY: Acting with compassion to build relationships and foster community.



PERSEVERANCE: Understanding that excellence requires hard work, patience, and persistence.



INTEGRITY: Acting with honesty, respect, trust, and transparency.



TEAMWORK: Working collaboratively to achieve a common goal.



PRIDE: Demonstrating a strong connection to our school, district, and community.



GROWTH MINDSET: Modeling a love for life-long learning.

The Executive Budget Proposal

- Significant reduction in Foundation Aid
- Fifty percent reduction in Save Harmless for 2024-25
- Inflation Factor Calculation
- No proposed changes to Expense Based Aids
- Dismantle Smart Schools Bond Act Review Committee

Berlin CSD School Aid Proposal



2024-25 Executive Budget School Aid Proposal

District: BERLIN CSD

County: Rensselaer

Aid Categories	2023-24	2024-25	Change	% Change
Foundation Aid	8,670,583	7,482,119	(1,188,464)	-13.7%
Charter School Transition Aid	-	-	-	NA
High Tax Aid	168,884	168,884	-	0.0%
Summer Transportation Aid	13,881	17,334	3,453	24.9%
Transportation Aid w/o Summer	1,306,165	1,270,766	(35,399)	-2.7%
Building Aid	1,413,372	1,421,125	7,753	0.5%
Building Reorganization Aid	-	-	-	NA
Operating Reorganization Incentive Aid	-	-	-	NA
Non-BOCES Computer Administration Aid	-	-	-	NA
Non-BOCES Career Education Aid	-	-	-	NA
Non-BOCES Academic Improvement Aid	-	-	-	NA
BOCES AID	743,441	710,576	(32,865)	-4.4%
Public Excess Cost High Cost Aid	277,072	285,755	8,683	3.1%
Private Excess Cost Aid	122,121	141,755	19,634	16.1%
Software Aid	9,648	9,542	(106)	-1.1%
Library Materials Aid	4,025	3,981	(44)	-1.1%
Textbook Aid	39,727	39,261	(466)	-1.2%
Hardware and Technology Aid	8,868	8,278	(590)	-6.7%
Full-Day Kindergarten Conversion Aid	-	-	-	NA
Universal Prekindergarten Aid	198,151	214,663	16,512	8.3%
Supplemental Public Excess Cost Aid	-	-	-	NA
Academic Enhancement Aid	-	-	-	NA
Total Aid	12,975,938	11,774,039	(1,201,899)	-9.3%
Total Aid excluding Building Aids	11,562,566	10,352,914	(1,209,652)	-10.5%

Save Harmless Summary

Save-Harmless Summary



District: Berlin CSD

County: Rensselaer

2023-24 Foundation Aid	8,670,583
<u>Proposed 2024-25 Foundation Aid</u>	<u>7,482,119</u>
Change	(1,188,464)
% Change	-13.7%
Save-Harmless Amount, if any	2,376,929
Reduction in Save-Harmless	(1,188,464)
% Reduction in Save-Harmless	-50.0%
2023-24 Total General Fund Expenditures	24,253,112
TGFE Reduction Needed to Offset Cut	-4.9%
2023-24 Tax Levy	10,151,095
Tax Levy Increase Needed to Offset Cut	11.7%



What to Expect This Evening

- **Factors Influencing Budget Development**
- **State Aid Update**
- **Recap of Draft 1 Budget**
- **Review of Tax Cap Calculation**
- **Fund Balance and Reserves Summary**
- **Overview of Budget Options for Draft 2**

- **Allowable Tax Cap**
- **State Aid**
- **Structural revenue deficit going into 2024-25**
- **Expiration of COVID-related funding & grants**
- **Fund Balance and Reserves**

State Aid Update

- **State Budget Negotiations are ongoing**
 - **Senate and Assembly have released their one-house budgets**
 - **Both houses reject the Governor's proposed reductions and propose a guaranteed minimum 3% increase in Foundation Aid**
 - **For Berlin CSD:**
 - **Full restoration of Foundation Aid +\$1,188,464**
 - **Guaranteed minimum 3% increase +\$1,448,581**

What was included in Draft 1?

- **Continuation of all current programs & positions**
 - **Includes staff positions funded with COVID monies**
- **Known increases to meet contractual obligations**
- **Support for curriculum development and instruction**

Draft 1 Budget Summary

REVENUES	2023-24 Budget	2024-25 Draft 1 Budget
State Aid	\$12,352,498	\$11,559,376
Real Property Taxes	\$10,151,095	\$10,234,124
Miscellaneous/Federal	\$1,456,651	\$410,200
Reserves	\$1,512,709	\$0
Fund Balance	\$800,000	\$800,000
Total Revenues	\$26,272,953	\$23,003,700

Draft 1 Budget Summary

EXPENSES	2023-24 Original Budget	2024-25 Draft 1 Budget
Instructional Salaries	\$7,569,292	\$9,094,611
Non-instructional Salaries	\$3,998,392	\$3,867,497
Benefits	\$7,257,035	\$7,486,705
Equipment/Supplies/Contractual	\$2,456,117	\$2,656,157
BOCES	\$3,040,475	\$3,299,467
Debt Service	\$1,886,642	\$1,971,269
Interfund Transfers	\$65,000	\$68,000
Total Expenses	\$26,272,953	\$28,443,706

Draft 1 Budget Summary

Budget Summary	2024-25 Draft 1 Budget
Total Revenues	\$23,003,700
Total Expenses	\$28,443,706
Budget Gap	(\$5,440,006)

Tax Cap Calculation

Tax Levy Limit (Cap) Before Exclusions:	2022-23	2023-24 (Revised)	2024-25
Tax Levy Prior Year	9,864,340	10,060,913	10,151,095
Tax Base Growth Factor	1.0041	1.0055	1.0072
Capital Tax Levy for Prior Year	336,079	343,414	293,577
Allowable Levy Growth Factor	1.02	1.02	1.02
Available Carryover from Prior Year	4,421	0	0
Total Levy Limit Before Exclusions	9,764,500	9,968,290	10,129,218
Capital Tax Levy Exclusion for Current Year	343,414	293,577	455,787
ERS Pension Exclusion	0	0	3,867
Total Exclusions	343,414	293,577	459,654
Total Tax Levy Limit, Adjusted for Exclusions	10,107,914	10,261,867	10,588,872
Proposed Tax Levy	10,060,913	10,151,549	10,588,872
Proposed Increase (2024-25 TBD)	1.99%	0.90%	4.3% Max

Fund Balance & Reserves Summary

Reserve Accounts	6/30/21	6/30/22	6/30/23	6/30/24 Projection
Capital	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,024,906
Debt	\$86,302	\$87,162	\$30,914	\$31,684
Employee Benefits Accr. Liab.	\$137,220	\$137,220	\$137,220	\$140,638
ERS Retirement	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000	\$2,049,814
Tax Certiorari	\$33,000	\$33,000	\$33,000	\$33,822
TRS Retirement	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$204,982
Unemployment	\$560,000	\$560,000	\$560,000	\$573,948
Workers' Compensation	\$600,000	\$600,000	\$600,000	\$614,944
Total Reserves	\$4,616,522	\$4,617,382	\$4,561,134	\$4,674,738
Unreserved Fund Balance	\$1,025,560	\$1,220,385	\$1,004,626	\$1,100,000
Appropriated Fund Balance (next year's budget)	\$700,000	\$800,000	\$800,000	\$800,000

Budget Options

Budget Options	Staffing Reductions	\$ Amount
Administration	2.0 FTE	\$176,401
K-6 Instruction	6.5 FTE	\$452,766
7-12 Instruction	5.0 FTE	\$370,945
Library Services	1.0 FTE	\$87,358
Counseling Services	1.0 FTE	\$84,278
Total	15.5 FTE	\$1,171,748

Budget Options

Budget Options	Other Reductions	\$ Amount
Safety/Mental Health Services	SRO, MH Specialist	\$143,950
BOCES Services	DL, IT, PR	\$112,769
Reduce Equipment by 15%	Specific Areas TBD	\$24,000
Move GF Costs to ESSER Grants	Specific Areas TBD	\$300,000
Total		\$580,719

Budget Options

Budget Options	Revenue Increases	\$ Amount
Assume Increase in State Aid from Governor's Proposal	Full Restoration of Foundation Aid	\$1,188,464 (\$1,448,581 with 3% Incr.)
Increase Tax Levy from + 0.81%	+ 2.0% - + 4.3% Cap	\$203,022 - \$437,777
Appropriate Fund Balance beyond \$800,000 included in Draft 1 Budget	Additional Use of Fund Balance	\$200,000
Utilize Reserve Funds	WC, ERS, TRS	\$500,000
Total		\$2,091,486 - \$2,326,241

Budget Summary

Budget Summary	2024-25 Draft 1 Budget
Total Revenues	\$23,003,700
Total Expenses	\$28,443,706
Budget Gap	(\$5,440,006)
Staffing Reductions	(\$1,171,748)
Other Reductions	(\$580,719)
Revenue Increases	(\$2,091,486)
Remaining Budget Gap	(\$1,596,053)

- **Vision & Mission**
- **Pillars of the Strategic Plan**
- **Mandates**
- **Student, Staff, Facility and Community Needs**

Driving Factors



Our Efforts to Date

- **Communication with elected officials & All constituent groups**
- **Participated in various opportunities to “unpack” the information to date**
 - **NYSCOSS Overview of the proposed budget**
 - **QUESTAR & State Aid Planning Meeting & Overview**
 - **Attended relevant NYSCOSS Winter Institute Sessions:**
 - **[Post Pandemic Rural School Challenges](#)**
 - **Executive Budget Discussion (NYSCOSS & Governor's Office)**
- **Developing opportunities to advocate on behalf of BCSD**
- **Enacted a spending freeze***

What to Expect at the Next Presentation

- **Any updated information out of the Capital/Governor's Office**
- **Review of State & Federal Grants**
- **Additional Reductions**
- **Draft 2 Budget**

Questions & Discussion

Budget Forums or Town Halls

Tentatively 4/8 - 4/18

Next Budget Development Presentation

April 4, 2024