

# **Berlin Central School District**

**2024-2025 Budget Hearing**

**5/7/2024**

# 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.

# 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.

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

## Final State Aid

- **Restoration of Foundation Aid to 23-24 levels**
- **Does not include 3% minimum increase as proposed by Senate and Assembly One-house Budget Proposals**
- **No known changes to expense based aids**
- **Berlin CSD Total State Aid increases by \$1,246,161 from the original Executive Budget Proposal**

# Budget Recap

<b>Budget Summary</b>	<b>2024-25 Budget Development</b>
Total Revenues Draft 1	\$23,003,700
Total Expenses Draft 1	\$28,443,706
<b>Budget Gap Draft 1</b>	<b>(\$5,440,006)</b>
Expense Reductions Draft 2	(\$2,753,517)
Revenue Increases Draft 2	\$1,100,131
<b>Budget Gap Draft 2</b>	<b>(\$1,586,358)</b>
Expense Reductions Adopted Budget	(\$163,112)
Revenue Increases Adopted Budget	\$1,423,246
<b>Budget Gap Adopted</b>	<b>\$0</b>

# Adopted Budget Summary

<b>REVENUES</b>	<b>2023-24 Budget</b>	<b>2024-25 Adopted Budget</b>	<b>\$ Change</b>	<b>% Change</b>
State Aid	\$12,352,498	\$12,805,537	\$453,039	3.67%
Real Property Taxes	\$10,151,095	\$10,506,381	\$355,286	3.50%
Miscellaneous/ Federal	\$1,456,651	\$690,339	(\$766,312)	(52.61%)
Reserves (ERS, TRS)	\$1,512,709	\$524,820	(\$987,889)	(65.31%)
Fund Balance	\$800,000	\$1,000,000	\$200,000	25.00%
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$26,272,953</b>	<b>\$25,527,077</b>	<b>(\$745,876)</b>	<b>(2.84%)</b>



## Adopted Budget Summary

EXPENSES	2023-2024 Budget	2024-2025 Adopted Budget	\$ Change	% Change
Instructional Salaries	\$7,569,292	\$8,280,056	\$710,764	9.39%
Non-instructional Salaries	\$3,998,392	\$3,433,750	(\$564,642)	(14.12%)
Employee Benefits	\$7,257,035	\$6,123,161	(\$1,133,874)	(15.62%)
Equipment/Supplies/Contractual	\$2,456,117	\$2,551,823	\$95,706	3.89%
BOCES	\$3,040,475	\$3,144,018	\$103,543	3.40%
Debt Service	\$1,886,642	\$1,971,269	\$84,627	4.48%
Interfund Transfers	\$65,000	\$23,000	(\$42,000)	(64.61%)
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$26,272,953</b>	<b>\$25,527,077</b>	<b>(\$745,876)</b>	<b>(2.84%)</b>

## 3-Part Budget Summary

Budget Component	2023-2024 Budget	2024-2025 Budget	\$ Change	% Change
<b>PROGRAM BUDGET</b>	\$19,288,740	\$18,220,923	(\$1,067,817)	(5.54%)
<b>ADMINISTRATIVE BUDGET</b>	\$3,080,204	\$3,371,745	\$291,541	9.46%
<b>CAPITAL BUDGET</b>	\$3,904,009	\$3,934,409	\$30,400	0.78%
<b>TOTAL BUDGET</b>	<b>\$26,272,953</b>	<b>\$25,527,077</b>	<b>(\$745,876)</b>	<b>(2.84%)</b>
<b>Program % of Budget</b>	<b>73.42%</b>	<b>71.38%</b>		
<b>Administrative % of Budget</b>	<b>11.72%</b>	<b>13.21%</b>		
<b>Capital % of Budget</b>	<b>14.86%</b>	<b>15.41%</b>		

## 3-Part Budget - Program Budget

Expense Category	2023-2024 Program Budget	2024-2025 Program Budget	\$ Change	% Change
Regular Education	\$5,296,518	\$5,303,021	\$6,503	0.12%
Special Education	\$3,838,681	\$3,973,048	\$134,367	3.50%
Occupational Education	\$565,076	\$618,950	\$53,874	9.53%
Continuing Ed./Driver Ed.	\$25,000	\$11,000	(\$14,000)	(56.00%)
Library/Technology	\$635,912	\$658,068	\$22,156	3.48%
Guidance	\$443,572	\$369,632	(\$73,940)	(16.67%)
Health/Psychological Services	\$335,441	\$318,796	(\$16,645)	(4.96%)
Co-Curricular/Sports	\$387,133	\$379,690	(\$7,443)	(1.92%)
Transportation	\$1,723,971	\$1,625,628	(\$98,343)	(5.70)%
Employee Benefits	\$6,037,436	\$4,963,090	(\$1,074,346)	(17.79%)
<b>Total Program Budget</b>	<b>\$19,288,740</b>	<b>\$18,220,923</b>	<b>(\$1,067,817)</b>	<b>(5.54%)</b>

## 3-Part Budget - Administrative Budget

Expense Category	2023-2024 Administrative Budget	2024-2025 Administrative Budget	\$ Change	% Change
Board of Education	\$21,250	\$29,078	\$7,828	36.84%
Central Administration	\$245,358	\$322,059	\$76,701	31.26%
Finance	\$483,943	\$497,248	\$13,305	2.75%
Legal/Personnel/Public Info./Records	\$175,440	\$224,248	\$48,808	27.82%
Central Printing/Mailing/Data Processing	\$327,902	\$232,077	(\$95,825)	(29.22%)
Insurance/Dues	\$77,405	\$84,500	\$7,095	9.16%
School & Dept. Supervision/Security	\$689,477	\$881,535	\$192,058	27.85%
Curriculum & In-service	\$109,612	\$138,061	\$28,449	25.95%
BOCES Administration Expenses	\$181,462	\$186,908	\$5,446	3.00%
Employee Benefits	\$768,355	\$776,031	\$7,676	0.99%
<b>Total Administrative Budget</b>	<b>\$3,080,204</b>	<b>\$3,371,745</b>	<b>\$291,541</b>	<b>9.46%</b>

## 3-Part Budget - Capital Budget

Expense Category	2023-2024 Capital Budget	2024-2025 Capital Budget	\$ Change	% Change
Operations & Maintenance	\$1,501,123	\$1,556,100	\$54,977	3.66%
Debt Service	\$1,886,642	\$1,971,269	\$84,627	4.48%
Transfer to Other Funds	\$65,000	\$23,000	(\$42,000)	(64.61%)
Employee Benefits	\$451,244	\$384,040	(\$67,204)	(14.89%)
<b>Total Capital Budget</b>	<b>\$3,904,009</b>	<b>\$3,934,409</b>	<b>\$30,400</b>	<b>0.78%</b>

# Tax Cap Calculation

<b>Tax Levy Limit (Cap) Before Exclusions:</b>	<b>2022-23</b>	<b>2023-24 (Revised)</b>	<b>2024-25 (Revised with State Budget)</b>
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
<b>Total Levy Limit Before Exclusions</b>	<b>9,764,500</b>	<b>9,968,290</b>	<b>10,129,218</b>
Capital Tax Levy Exclusion for Current Year	343,414	293,577	383,422
ERS Pension Exclusion	0	0	3,867
<b>Total Exclusions</b>	<b>343,414</b>	<b>293,577</b>	<b>387,289</b>
<b>Total Tax Levy Limit, Adjusted for Exclusions</b>	<b>10,107,914</b>	<b>10,261,867</b>	10,516,507
<b>Proposed Tax Levy</b>	<b>10,060,913</b>	<b>10,151,549</b>	<b>10,506,381</b>
<b>Proposed Increase (2024-25 TBD)</b>	<b>1.99%</b>	<b>0.90%</b>	<b>3.6% Max</b>



# Adopted Budget Projected Tax Impact

**\*Based on 2023-24 Equalization Rates and Assessed Values**

<b>Market Value</b>	<b>\$150,000 Market Value</b>	<b>\$200,000 Market Value</b>	<b>\$250,000 Market Value</b>	<b>\$300,000 Market Value</b>
<b>Annual Cost</b>	<b>\$67.16/yr.</b>	<b>\$89.55/yr.</b>	<b>\$111.94/yr.</b>	<b>\$134.33/yr.</b>
<b>Cost/Month</b>	<b>\$5.60/mo.</b>	<b>\$7.46/mo.</b>	<b>\$9.33/mo.</b>	<b>\$11.19/mo.</b>
<b>Assessed Value*</b>	Assessed Value By Town	Assessed Value By Town	Assessed Value By Town	Assessed Value By Town
Berlin	\$30,225	\$40,300	\$50,375	\$60,450
Grafton	\$112,050	\$149,400	\$186,750	\$224,100
Petersburgh	\$75,000	\$100,000	\$125,000	\$150,000
Poestenkill	\$26,580	\$35,440	\$44,300	\$53,160
Stephentown	\$129,000	\$172,000	\$215,000	\$258,000

# 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
<b>Total Reserves</b>	<b>\$4,616,522</b>	<b>\$4,617,382</b>	<b>\$4,561,134</b>	<b>\$4,674,738</b>
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	\$1,000,000



## Also on the Ballot

### 2024-25 School Bus Proposition

- **\$295,000 estimated maximum cost**
  - **(2) 30-passenger school buses \$165,000**
  - **(2) 7-passenger vehicles \$130,000**
- **Vehicles to be financed over 5 years through BANs (Bond Anticipation Notes)**
- **First payment would begin in 2025-26 school year**
- **Debt Service payments are Transportation Aidable at 65.9% aid ratio**

## Board of Education Candidates - 2 Open Seats

- **Katie Snyder**
- **Penni Eggsware**

## What is a contingent budget?

- When the voters reject a school budget, the Board of Education has three options under the NYS law:
  - 1) submit the same budget for a second vote;
  - 2) submit a revised budget for a second vote; or
  - 3) adopt a contingent (or contingency) budget
- When the voters of a NYS school district fail to approve a school budget the second time, the district is required by law to operate under a contingent budget.

## Contingent Budget

### What happens when a contingent budget must be adopted?

- State law mandates that under a contingent budget, a school district must adopt a budget with no tax levy increase and eliminate all non-contingent expenses, such as certain student supplies, certain equipment purchases and community use of school facilities that results in a district expense.
- The administrative budget would also be subject to certain restrictions.

## Contingent Budget

### What would a contingent budget mean for Berlin?

- If operating under a contingent budget, the tax levy can be no greater than the prior year tax levy (zero percent increase).
- Based on the Adopted Budget, the tax levy would need to be reduced from \$10,506,381 to \$10,151,095, a decrease of \$355,286. Therefore, additional budget cuts of \$355,286 would be needed to reach a zero percent tax levy increase.
- The district would also have to adhere to an administrative cap which limits the percentage growth in the administrative component of the budget. This would result in further budget cuts of \$209,410.

**May 21st Budget Vote, Bus Proposition and  
Board Member Election**

**Noon - 9:00 PM**

**Berlin Elementary School**

**For more information on the proposed budget, go to:**

**<https://berlincentral.org/district/budget-information/>**

**Questions/Comments**

**Thank you for attending this year's School Budget Hearing.**



# Driving Factors

