



# PAW Prints

Menands | UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT

## BUDGET AT A **glance**

**BUDGET 2024**

PROPOSED BUDGET

**\$12,454,645**

TAX LEVY INCREASE

**0.24%**

## VOTING INFORMATION:

**Tuesday, May 21st**

**Menands School  
Noon to 8 p.m.**

19 Wards Lane District Office Entrance

**Absentee and mail ballots  
must be received by 5 p.m.**



## Also on the ballot:

- One candidate for one open board of education seat: Courtney Jaskula
- The Menands Public Library proposed budget of \$268,402
- One candidate for one open library board seat: Tammy McNamara

## What's inside...

- Three-part budget
- Revenue Information
- State Required Budget Notice

## Annual budget vote to be held May 21st

Proposed 2024-2025 budget aligns with the District Strategic Plan; expands special education offerings, enhances programs, and keeps levy within the limit

Menands residents will go to the polls on Tuesday, May 21st to vote on a proposed 12.4 million spending plan for the 2024-25 school year.

Under the proposed plan, spending would increase by \$898,759 (7.78%) over the current year. The increase in expenditures is offset by revenue generated from PILOT payments, interest earnings, local tuitions, and fund balance. The budget carries a tax levy increase of 0.24%, which is within the allowable levy. As a result, a simple majority (50% plus one vote) is needed for approval.

A budget hearing was held on Wednesday, May 8th at Menands School to inform the community of the items included in the budget.

The proposed budget will allow the district to not only maintain, but to increase opportunities for students. It will maintain the recently implemented innovation lab that focuses on developing STEM education for our students beginning in kindergarten. It emphasizes health and safety, including the continued presence of an officer on campus and maintains all extracurricular opportunities. The budget supports the continued implementation of the board adopted five-year strategic plan, which focuses on student achievement, social-emotional learning, diversity, equity, and inclusivity while at the same time remaining fiscally responsible.

## Expanded opportunities

Looking ahead to next school year we will strengthen and enhance the special education continuum available for our students by partnering with three of our neighboring school districts to establish the Riverside Special Education Collaborative. Menands School will host specialized programs for students with developmental disabilities, autism, and complex communication disorders. Our educators will utilize the principles of applied behavioral analysis, and the Autism Curriculum Encyclopedia to grow the skills of some of our youngest learners. Our partner districts will host programs that specialize in social-emotional and academic programs. We are able to expand our programs without impacting taxpayers and the partnership will help reduce out of district tuition costs.

## THE EVENING OF THE ARTS

*Shining a light on the talents of our students*

Join us at 6 p.m. on May 21st for our performing arts show along with a visual art exhibit featuring the work of students in grades kindergarten through eighth.



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## The three-part budget

All public schools in New York State are required to report appropriations in three categories: administrative, program and capital. The following data shows how the Menands School budget breaks down under this formula:

### PROGRAM BUDGET

2024-25	\$9,587,410	76.98%
2023-24	\$8,680,567	75.12%

**The Program Component** of the budget provides funding for all expenditures that directly relate to the students of the Menands School District. Expenditures cover all salary and benefits for all teachers and other professionals that provide direct and indirect instruction and support to students. Tuition, including high school, for any instructional program is covered here along with all transportation expenses for students both in and out of district. Interscholastic and extracurricular programs are included here as well.

### CAPITAL BUDGET

2024-25	\$1,595,239	12.81%
2023-24	\$1,628,538	14.09%

**The Capital Component** of the budget covers all expenditures that relate to the upkeep and maintenance of our building and grounds including the salary and benefits of all the maintenance and custodial staff. Expenditures for debt service and any applicable interfund transfers are included here as well.

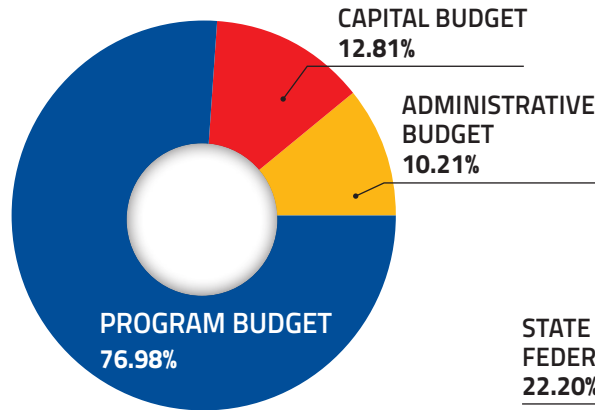
### ADMINISTRATIVE BUDGET

2024-25	\$1,271,996	10.21%
2023-24	\$1,246,781	10.79%

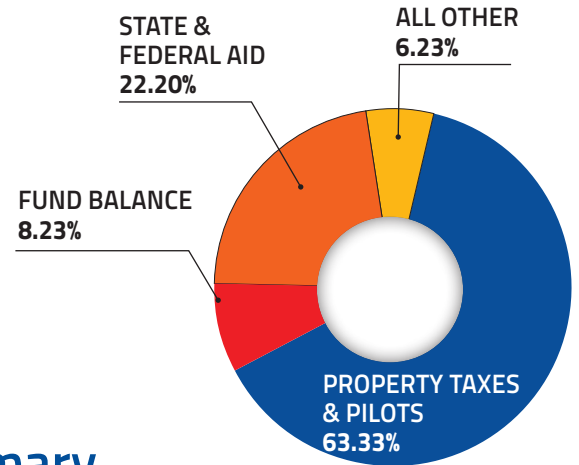
**The Administrative Component** of the budget provides funding for the overall general support and management activities of the district. This includes the salaries and benefits of all professional personnel who spend their time performing administrative, supervision, curriculum or professional development duties. Also included here are the salaries and benefits of the personnel that support the leaders of the school or work in the business office. Other expenditures covered in the administrative component are legal services, auditing services and public information expenses.



## Expenditures



## Revenues



## Revenue Summary

	2023-24 Budget	2024-25 Proposed	Dollar Increase/Decrease	% of Change
Real Property Taxes	\$7,631,281	\$7,649,284	\$18,003	0.24%
Other Payments In Lieu of taxes (PILOTS)	\$33,800	\$238,655	\$204,855	606.08%
Interest/Earnings	\$5,000	\$55,000	\$50,000	1000.00%
Commissions	\$500	\$500	\$-	0.00%
Refund prior year	\$68,000	\$68,000	\$-	0.00%
Tuition Other Schools	\$-	\$650,000	\$650,000	100.00%
Misc- Gifts & Donations- Erate	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$-	0.00%
State and BOCES Aid	\$2,844,305	\$2,734,734	\$(109,571)	-3.85%
Medicaid	\$20,000	\$30,000	\$10,000	50.00%
Debt Service Transfer	\$-	\$125,472	\$125,472	100.00%
Fund Balance and Reserves	\$950,000	\$900,000	\$(50,000)	-5.56%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$11,555,886</b>	<b>\$12,454,645</b>	<b>\$898,759</b>	<b>7.78%</b>

\* A portion of the tax levy will be paid by the state under the School Tax Relief (STAR) program.

A report of tax exemptions, showing how much of the total assessed value on the final assessment roll or rolls used in the budgetary process is exempt from taxation, is included with the budget document, which is available at Menands School, 19 Wards Lane, Menands, NY 12204 or [www.menands.org](http://www.menands.org).

Overall Budget Proposal	Budget Adopted for the 2023-24 School Year	Budget Proposed for the 2024-25 School Year	Contingency Budget for the 2024-25 School Year *
Total Budgeted Amount, Not Including Separate Propositions	\$11,555,886	\$12,454,645	\$12,396,945
Increase/Decrease for the 2024-25 School Year		\$898,759	\$841,059
Percentage Increase/Decrease in Proposed Budget		7.78%	7.28%
Change in the Consumer Price Index		4.12%	
A. Proposed Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount	\$7,631,281	\$7,649,284	
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)	\$7,631,281	\$7,649,284	\$7,631,281
F. Total Permissible Exclusions	\$330,375	\$344,268	
G. School Tax Levy Limit, <u>Excluding</u> Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$7,300,906	\$7,305,016	
H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, <u>Excluding</u> Levy to Support Library Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions (E - B - F + D)	\$7,300,906	\$7,305,016	
I. Difference: G - H (Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval - See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions) **	\$0	\$0	
Administrative Component	\$1,246,781	\$1,271,996	\$1,268,996
Program Component	\$8,680,567	\$9,587,410	\$9,541,210
Capital Component	\$1,628,538	\$1,595,239	\$1,586,739

\* In the event of a defeated budget, the 2024-25 tax levy may not increase beyond the 2023-24 tax levy. Under a contingency budget the District may not purchase any equipment, various materials & supplies, including planned technology upgrades, or provide salary increases to non-contractual personnel.

Description	Amount
None	\$0
	\$
	\$

Under the Budget Proposed for the 2024-25 School Year

Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings <sup>1</sup>	\$510
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The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2024-25 by the qualified voters of the Menands Union Free School District, Albany County, New York, will be held at Menands Union Free School in said district on Tuesday, May 21, 2024 between the hours of 12 p.m. and 8 p.m., prevailing time in the Menands Union Free School, at which time the polls will be opened to vote by voting ballot or machine.

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



Unique approach to combine literacy skills with STEAM.



Girls work to advance healthy lifestyle choices.



Providing opportunities outside of the school day to develop well rounded students.



19 Wards Lane  
Menands, New York 12204

EDDM  
NON-PROFIT  
PAID  
Albany, NY  
Permit #F421

**Superintendent**

Mrs. Jennifer Cannavo

**Principal**

Mrs. Kathleen Wylie

**Board of Education**

Courtney Jaskula, *President*

Bill Nevins, *Vice President*

Charles Luke

Elangovan Raman

Mashal Shaikh

*Produced in cooperation with the  
Capital Region BOCES Communications Service.*

**Residential Customer  
Menands, NY 12204**

**Voter Eligibility**

- You are eligible to vote if you are a U.S. citizen, 18 or older and a resident of the school district for at least 30 days prior to the vote.

**Absentee and Mail Ballots**

- Absentee or mail in ballots are available to residents. To request an application for an absentee or mail in ballot, please contact Trisha O’Connell in the district office at 518-465-4561 ext. 101 or at [toconnell@menands.org](mailto:toconnell@menands.org) by May 14th if the ballot is to be mailed to the voter or by May 20th, if the ballot is to be delivered in person by the voter. All ballots must be received by the district office no later than 5 pm on May 21st.

**Questions**

- Contact our board clerk, Trisha O’Connell at 518-465-4561 ext. 101 or email [toconnell@menands.org](mailto:toconnell@menands.org).



**PAWPrints**

**BUDGET 2024**

Menands | UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT

**Annual Evening of the Arts  
Tuesday, May 21, 2024**

**ART EXHIBIT / 6 PM**

**SPRING CONCERT / 6:30 PM**

**Menands School**

Come and enjoy the special talents of our Menands students after you visit the polls during the annual budget vote!



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