

2023-24 BUDGET INFORMATION

"We see every child learning every day!"

THE JAMESTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT REPORT • MAY 2023



Message from Superintendent Kevin Whitaker, Ed.D.

On Tuesday, **May 16**, Jamestown residents will have the opportunity to vote on the proposed **2023-24 school budget** and a **capital improvement reserve**.

The 2023-2024 Budget, in the amount of \$101,475,978, includes a **0% increase to the tax levy**. The proposed budget will **add critical positions** that will continue to **directly help our students' and families' social and emotional needs as well as directly address the academic impacts of our COVID shut-downs**, especially in the areas of English/Language Arts, Reading and Literacy, and mathematics through the development of student support centers.

These student support centers will focus on reading and literacy in the elementary schools, and ELA and Math in the middle and high schools, all of which are critical areas of need as determined by our assessments of student knowledge and performance. Rather than as an add-on to their school days, students will be able to access these supports throughout the regular school day both as part of their schedules as well as on a drop-in basis.

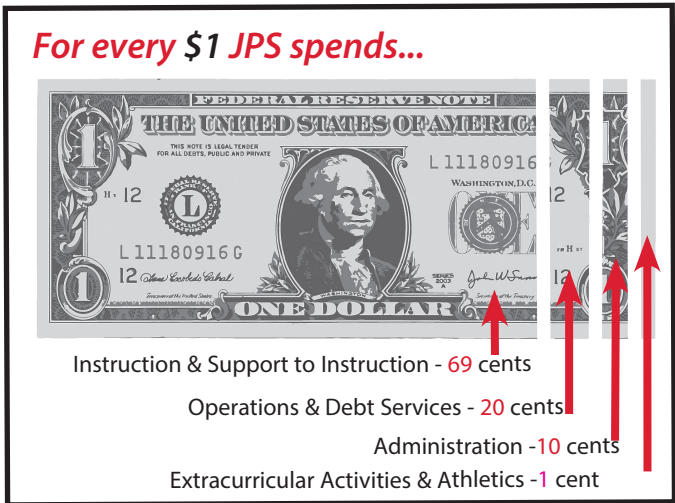
The proposed budget also calls for the addition of **an assistant principal and additional second grade teacher to address the burgeoning class sizes at Fletcher** — the second largest school in our district and larger than all of our middle schools, each of which has an assistant principal for student management and supervision.

Other highlights include **athletic equipment, athletic uniforms, technology equipment, additional academic support centers staffed by specialists in reading and mathematics, and continued investment in our physical plant to com-**

plement our ongoing capital project. At Jefferson, this capital outlay includes a new scoreboard, a new electronic sign, and exterior lighting. We'll also be updating the tracks at Persell and Washington, renovating and relocating the Washington nurse's office for the creation of a school-based health center, and upgrading the heating system at Persell. We are also proposing the **creation of a \$5 million dollar capital reserve fund** that will help us properly plan for future capital projects, and ease future tax burden on our local community when the state inevitably withholds funding from public schools in the future.

Finally, we will be asking you to **vote for three Board of Education members**. There is more information on the candidates added to **www.jpsny.org/BOElections** and in an upcoming postcard mailed to the community.

Our community's input and support is critical to the work that we do — we cannot do it without you. I thank you for taking the time to read this message and your commitment to our community's children. Please remember to take the time to vote on May 16.



Looking for more info?

When and where is the vote?

Polling places will be located at Jefferson, Lincoln & Washington Schools. The polls will be open from noon to 9 p.m. on **May 16**. Please call the District Clerk at the Administration Building (483-4420) with any questions on polling locations, or where you should vote.

How can I vote by absentee ballot?

Registered voters who are not able to vote in person on Election Day may be eligible to vote by absentee ballot. Reasons for voting by absentee ballot include: Absence from county on election day; temporary illness or physical disability; permanent illness or physical disability; duties related to primary care of one or more individuals who are ill or physically disabled; resident or patient of Veterans Health Administration Hospital or detention in jail/prison, awaiting trial, awaiting action by a grand jury, or in prison for conviction of a crime or offense which was not a felony. Applications can be obtained through the District Clerk, in person, by mail, or by phone. (District Offices, 197 Martin Road, Jamestown, NY 483-4420). Those wishing to receive the ballot by mail must apply by **May 9**. Absentee ballots must be received in person, or by mail, by **5 p.m. on May 16**.

Who is eligible to vote?

To be eligible to vote in the JPS Budget/Board of Education Election, an individual must be: at least 18 years of age, a United States citizen, a resident of the Jamestown School District for at least 30 days prior to May 16, and a registered voter. If you have a question regarding voter eligibility, please contact the District Clerk at 483-4420.

More info at www.jpsny.org/budget

Public Hearing May 9 at Jefferson Middle School at 6 p.m.
Vote on the Budget & BOE election on **May 16**

JPS BUDGET

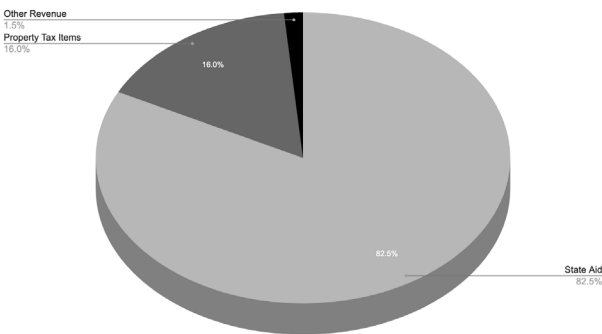
JAMESTOWN BOARD OF EDUCATION
197 MARTIN ROAD
JAMESTOWN, NY 14701
716-483-4350
WWW.JPSNY.ORG

*****ECRWSS*****
POSTAL CUSTOMER
JAMESTOWN NY 14701

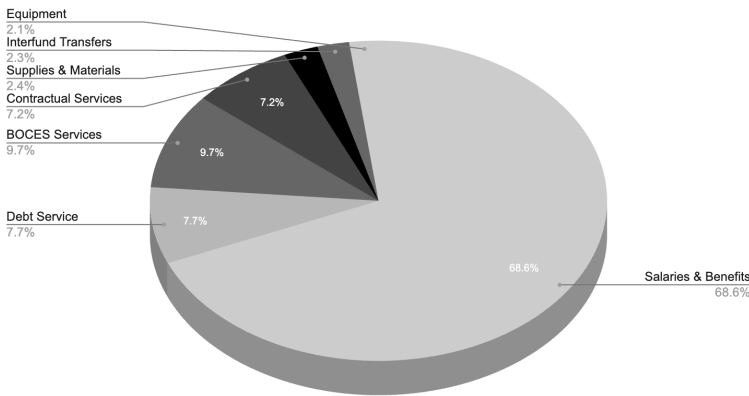
Non-Profit Org.
U.S.Postage
PAID
Jamestown, NY
14701
Permit No. 695

2023-24 Budget Information

2023-24 Revenues Where General Fund Dollars Come From



2023-24 Expenses Where General Fund Dollars are Spent



	2023-24 Proposed Budget	% of Budget		2023-24 Proposed Budget	% of Budget
Operating Revenues			Operating Expenses		
State Aid	\$ 83,706,514	82.49%	Salaries & Benefits	\$ 69,647,625	68.63%
Property Tax Items	\$ 16,277,931	16.04%	Debt Service	\$ 7,838,349	7.72%
Other Revenue	\$ 1,491,533	1.47%	BOCES Services	\$ 9,843,369	9.70%
TOTAL	\$ 101,475,978	100.00%	Contractual Services	\$ 7,313,802	7.21%
			Supplies & Materials	\$ 2,452,505	2.42%
			Interfund Transfers	\$ 2,290,000	2.26%
			Equipment	\$ 2,090,328	2.06%
			TOTAL	\$101,475,978	100.00%

Jamestown Public Schools
Superintendent of Schools
Kevin Whitaker, Ed.D.
Board of Education 2022-23
Paul Abbott, President,
Patrick Slagle, Vice President
Frank Galeazzo, Nina Karbacka,
Shelly Leathers, Joseph Pawelski,
Christine Schnars

Celebrating just a few of our many JPS Achievements...

- JHS Battle of the Classes returned to its traditional format at McElrath Gymnasium as students raised \$6,936.57 for the Mental Health Association in Chautauqua County in March 2023.
- 25 JHS students were named All-Western New York Scholar Athletes winners and honorable mentions for the fall athletic season by Section VI. Winners were Aric Bloomquist, football; Trey Drake, football; Kylie O'Brien, volleyball; Jacob Smeraldo, boys cross country; and Lindsey Spitz, girls swim team.
- 48 JHS students completed their high school diploma requirements early in January 2023.
- JHS senior Rhonda-Sue Leonard placed first in the the Erie 2-Chautauqua Cattaraugus BOCES Animal Careers regional competition at Alfred State University in March 2023.
- JHS students raised \$5,525.97 for JHS English teacher Desaree Hannon as part of the 2022 Penny Wars fundraiser.
- Jamestown Public Schools launched a Say Something Anonymous Reporting System in partnership with Sandy Hook Promise and Erie 2-Chautauqua Cattaraugus BOCES.
- The Lexy Hugan Sunshine Fund was established for the JHS Attending Counseling Center.
- JHS sophomore Conner Dean broke JHS records in the 200 and 500 freestyle previously set by Neil Conner in 1997 and 1999, qualifying for the NYSPHSAA Swimming & Diving Championships in March 2023.
- JHS junior Abbie Derby became the first member of the girls bowling team to qualify for the NYSPHSAA Championships, earning a state title as part of the Section VI composite team in March 2023.
- JHS senior Madeline DeJoy was selected to attend the New York State School Music Association's Conference All-State festival in December 2022. A French horn student, DeJoy performed with the festival's Symphony Orchestra. DeJoy and eight other JHS music students were also selected to attend the NYSSMA Area All-State Festival at SUNY Fredonia in November 2022: Olivia Beach, Olivia Kubera (treble chorus), Elsa Lumia (symphony orchestra), McKenna Schneider, Anne Conroe (band), Liam Conroe (band), Brighton Lumia (symphony orchestra), and Greta Nordwall (band).
- Hermoine Santiago Cruz and Madeline DeJoy were named Outstanding Delegates at the Puerto Rican Hispanic Youth Leadership Institute in Albany in March 2023.



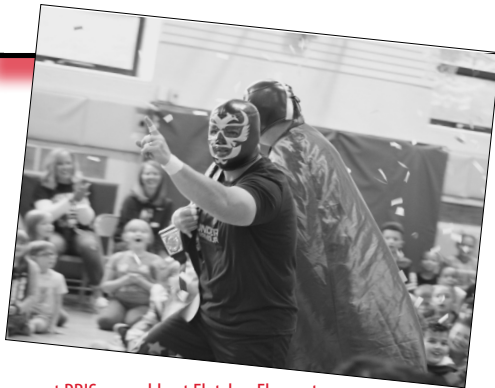
The JHS Student Organization presents a \$5,525.97 check for the 2022 Penny Wars fundraiser. Proceeds went to JHS English teacher Desaree Hannon and her newborn child.



The JHS football team clinched its 14th Section VI championship at Highmark Stadium in Orchard Park in a 34-0 victory over Williamsville North in November.



Members of the JHS Class of 2026 applaud during the 2023 Battle of the Classes — the first at McElrath Gymnasium since 2019.



Chris Collins (center) donned a wrestling suit during a recent PBIS assembly at Fletcher Elementary School and awarded a "belt of responsibility" to the school's most responsible class



Love School fourth grade students and Lake View Cemetery general manager Hugh Golden look at Lucille Ball's burial site at the cemetery.



From left to right, Jefferson Middle School seventh graders Desiree Batchelor, Kat Lundmark, and Lyla Hamilton smile with the colonial brochures they made for Jamie Sharpe's social studies class.



Bush teacher Philip Cammarata points to a photo taken by a member of his first grade class during a presentation to third graders at Positivo International School in Curitiba, Brazil held via Zoom.



Twenty Bush Elementary students had the chance to participate in an elementary STEM Wars event, hosted by Southwestern Elementary School, at Northwest Arena on March 28.

JPS Budget & BOE Election Questions & Answers...

Q. What items will I be voting on May 16?

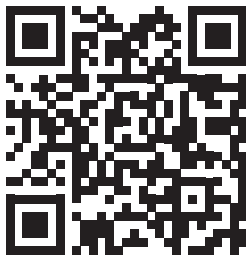
A. The community will be voting on three items on the ballot: the 2023-24 School Budget, a proposition to approve a Capital Reserve Fund, and three Board of Education seats, each for three-year terms, beginning in July 2023.

Q. How will the proposed 2023-24 JPS Budget affect my taxes?

A. There is **no increase in the School Tax Levy**. In fact, the levy is at the same level as it was in 2010-11, which means that JPS has been able to continue the trend of our local school taxes not going up for the past 14 years.

Q. What are the highlights of the budget?

A. There are a number of highlights in the proposed 2023-24 budget. Mainly, the district is proposing the addition of critical positions that will help us continue to address the learning loss that took place due to the pandemic all at a zero percent increase in our tax levy. These positions include an assistant principal and additional second grade teacher at Fletcher Elementary School as well as staff Student Support Centers that will focus on reading and literacy in the elementary schools, and ELA and Math in the middle and high schools. The other highlight of the budget is the continued investment in our physical plant by updating the tracks at Persell and Washington, relocating and renovating the nurse's office at Washington to help create a school-based health center, as well as athletic equipment, athletic uniforms, and technology equipment.



SCAN to find more information on the proposed budget & Board of Education Election or visit jpsny.org/budget

Q. Why is the district adding an assistant principal and second grade teacher at Fletcher Elementary School?

A. Fletcher Elementary School has the second largest student population in the district behind Jamestown High School and is larger than any of the district's three middle schools. Specifically, Fletcher's second grade student population is expected to be 40% larger than the populations at the four other elementary schools. The addition of an assistant principal and second grade teacher will best help support our Fletcher students both academically and emotionally.

Q. Why do we need a proposition to establish a new capital reserve fund?

A. As in the case of your home when you save for a new roof, or you when you plan for the future need to put new tires on your car, the district also needs to save for potential capital projects. While our reimbursement for capital projects is at 98 percent, we are responsible for 2% locally. Rather than go to taxpayers for that amount, we can draw from monies set aside for this purpose in a capital reserve in order to complete the project without any additional tax burden to our community.

JPS is proposing establishing this capital reserve fund for this purpose. This will enable us to ensure that we can maintain our facilities well into the future without having to draw from our local taxpayer base for capital improvements and will allow us to continue our plan to maintain a flat tax rate impact into the future.

JHS business teacher Amy Schultze (right), accompanied by 2014 JHS graduate and Shults Nissan Subaru business manager Austin Harmon (left), goes over the process of buying a car with her class during a field trip to the dealership.



Allison Morganti overlooks as students in her fifth grade accelerated math intervention group lead instruction.



Lincoln teacher Kaidynce Walker goes over a worksheet with a student in her second grade class.