



Fayetteville-Manlius

SCHOOL DISTRICT

BUDGET EDITION 2022

Budget proposal maintains all existing programs and services

Tax levy set to increase by 1.8%

Fayetteville-Manlius School District residents will go to the polls May 17 to vote on a proposed \$98.9 million 2022-23 school budget that maintains existing student programming and supports the district's strategic plan.

The district's tax levy, which is the total amount of money the district collects from property owners within the district to support the school budget, comprises 68.25% of the proposal.

The tax levy increase is projected to be 1.8%, which is well below the limit as established under state law. Based upon this increase, the tax rate - which is calculated by dividing the total amount of the tax levy by the total taxable assessed value in a community - is estimated to decrease by a significant margin for most properties because of growth in the tax base,

according to F-M Assistant Superintendent for Business Services William Furlong.

Furlong said the tax levy increase of 1.8% is estimated to result in a tax rate decrease of 11.25% for properties located in the Town of Manlius, which comprises 82% of the district. During a budget proposal presentation on April 18, Furlong used an example estimating a Town of Manlius property assessment increase of 13% to illustrate the levy's taxpayer impact. For a \$100,000 property that has been reassessed to \$113,000, the tax bill is estimated to increase by 0.29% or \$7.26 per \$113,000 of taxable value.

"The tax levy continues to be spread out over an increasing tax base," Furlong said. "This helps to lessen the levy's impact on a resident's

► Please see "Budget" on Page 6

2022-23 Budget at-a-glance

Proposed budget

\$98,930,930

Proposed school tax levy

\$67,521,063

School tax levy increase

\$1,196,799 or 1.8%

Estimated tax rate decrease 11.25%*

*Town of Manlius

Proposed budget increase

\$5,513,293 or 5.9%

Increase from operations
(excludes new debt, capital
transfer and increases in
special education costs):
\$2,306,438 or 3.4%

VOTE

7 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Tuesday, May 17, 2022

Fayetteville
Elementary School

www.fmschools.org

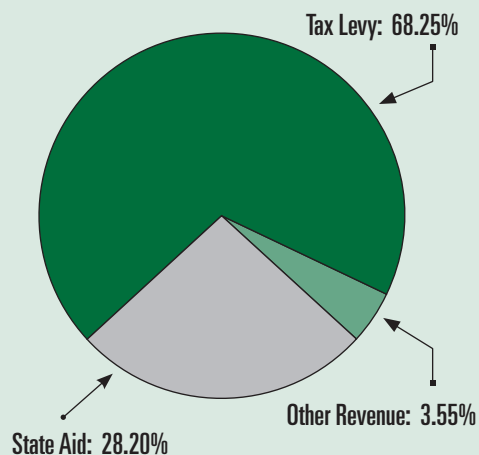


A golden retriever named Laney (pictured) is the newest member of Fayetteville-Manlius School District's therapy dog program. Laney is certified by the American Kennel Club's Canine Good Citizen program and spends most of her time at Wellwood Middle School.

Revenue summary

	2021-22 Budget	2022-23 Proposed	Dollar Change
State Aid Revenue			
Foundation aid	\$11,329,314	\$14,166,508	\$2,837,194
BOCES aid	2,950,431	2,985,562	35,131
High cost aid	480,000	612,500	132,500
Hardware aid	72,099	74,090	1,991
Instructional Materials aid	348,021	353,484	5,463
Transportation aid	4,035,849	4,553,001	517,152
Building aid	5,023,148	5,156,578	133,430
CARES Act	170,890	0	(170,890)
Total State Aid Revenue	\$24,409,752	\$27,901,723	\$3,491,971
Tax Levy	\$66,324,264	\$67,521,063	\$1,196,799
Other Revenue			
Charges for Services	\$101,415	\$145,000	\$43,585
Interest income	70,000	175,474	105,474
Rental/Sale of Surplus Materials	125,000	131,100	6,100
Insurance Claims/Misc. Revenue	100,000	170,000	70,000
Admissions and Fees	175,000	195,000	20,000
County sales tax	125,000	175,000	50,000
Medicare/Medicaid	425,000	565,000	140,000
Prior Year Refunds	465,000	400,000	(65,000)
Pilot Payments	2,001	4,302	2,301
Interest & Penalties	18,379	20,000	1,621
Donations	326,826	365,000	38,174
Use of debt service reserve	0	162,268	162,268
Appropriated fund balance	750,000	1,000,000	250,000
Total Other Revenue	\$2,683,621	\$3,508,144	\$824,523
TOTAL REVENUE	\$93,417,637	\$98,930,930	\$5,513,293

Revenue summary



What are capital transfer funds?

Capital transfer funds are to be used for building and/or reconstruction projects of immediate need in any of the district's buildings or grounds. If voters approve the proposed 2022-23 budget, the district would be authorized to spend up to \$1,500,000 for work that would include enhancing security measures at Enders Road and Fayetteville elementary schools and improving ventilation, including installing an air conditioning system, at Fayetteville Elementary.

New York state building aid will cover 81.1% of the cost.

The projects, pending voter and New York State Education Department approval, would not begin until June 2023 and would be expected to be completed in September 2023.



Proposed 2022-23 expenditure summary

Program: 73.9% of proposed budget

Instructional Program	2021-22 Budget	2022-23 Proposed
Professional Development	\$282,157	\$296,800
K-12 Instruction		
Instructional Salaries	24,629,776	25,743,062
Substitute Teaching	795,000	858,500
Non-Instructional Salaries	1,000,219	1,036,277
Equipment	434,483	429,046
Contractual	1,129,156	1,152,575
Materials and Supplies	551,862	546,499
Tuition	155,000	175,000
Textbooks	343,351	353,788
BOCES Services	1,175,049	1,095,491
Subtotal	\$30,496,053	\$31,687,037

Student Support Services

BOCES Career and Technical Education	\$161,298	\$200,419
Special Education	6,349,411	6,950,297
Summer School	198,645	173,110
Instructional Media	3,116,133	3,314,389
Guidance/Health Services/ Social Worker/Psychologist	2,090,400	2,313,476
Co-curricular Activities	299,165	309,165
Athletics	1,515,406	1,589,693
Transportation	4,391,700	4,662,131
Transfer to Special Aid	70,000	70,000
Subtotal	\$48,688,211	\$51,269,717
Benefits Allocation	20,865,369	21,793,958
TOTAL PROGRAM	\$69,553,580	\$73,063,675

Administrative: 8.9% of proposed budget

Administration	2021-22 Budget	2022-23 Proposed
Board of Education/Superintendent	\$396,256	\$403,774
Business office	981,811	1,021,883
Legal fees	140,000	125,000
Personnel	141,360	137,626
Public information & central services	576,454	598,428
Insurance	231,850	223,450
BOCES administration	407,070	432,305
Curriculum development & supervision	3,105,015	3,177,090
Subtotal	\$5,979,816	\$6,119,556
Benefits Allocation	2,731,533	2,683,900
TOTAL ADMINISTRATIVE	\$8,711,349	\$8,803,456

Three-part budget summary

All public schools in New York state are required by law to report their spending in three categories: program, administrative and capital.

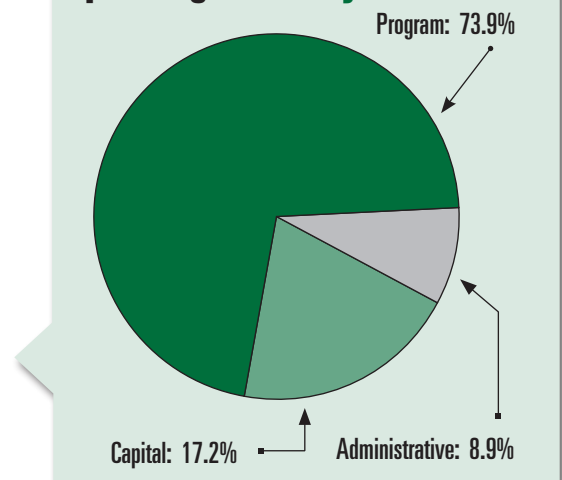
Capital: 17.2% of proposed budget

Capital	2021-22 Budget	2022-23 Proposed
Operations & maintenance	\$6,400,703	\$6,729,966
Long-term debt	3,223,175	5,688,483
Bus bond debt	410,085	565,515
Bus bond anticipation notes	219,620	126,014
Capital bond anticipation notes	1,871,311	0
EPC debt	209,321	209,052
Transfer to capital	450,000	1,500,000
Subtotal	\$12,784,215	\$14,819,030
Benefits Allocation	2,368,493	2,244,769
TOTAL CAPITAL	\$15,152,708	\$17,063,799

TOTAL PROPOSED BUDGET

\$98,930,930

Spending summary



Breakdown of employee benefits

	2021-22 Budget	2022-23 Proposed
Employees Retirement System	\$1,805,565	\$1,384,217
Teachers Retirement System	3,850,134	3,974,719
Social Security	3,366,360	3,521,348
Workers' Compensation/ Unemployment/Disability	777,501	612,689
Health, dental & vision insurance	15,909,435	16,969,654
Retirement incentive/403b	256,400	260,000
Total Employee Benefits	\$25,965,395	\$26,722,627

Benefits Allocation

Program	\$21,793,958
Administrative	2,683,900
Capital	2,244,769
Total Employee Benefits	\$26,722,627

Voters to decide on library propositions

New York state education law allows libraries to place a funding proposition on school district ballots and requires school districts, at the libraries' requests, to levy and collect taxes for libraries.

The libraries are separate legal entities from the school district, with their own funding and budgets. The amount of the tax levy collected by a school district for a library remains the same each year until the library requests a proposition to change that amount.

The school district does not endorse, control or recommend any aspect of how the libraries spend money.

On May 17, when Fayetteville-Manlius School District residents vote on the proposed 2022-23 school budget, they will also have the opportunity to vote on two library propositions: one to levy and collect a tax in the amount of \$1,959,331 for the Fayetteville Free Library and the other to levy and collect a tax in the amount of \$1,399,741 for the Manlius Library.

If voters approve the propositions, the school district would annually levy and collect taxes in the new amount for the libraries beginning in the 2022-23 fiscal year. The amount authorized for library services is listed as a separate line on residents' tax bills.

Library Budget Information

More information about each library and its budget is available at their respective websites.

Fayetteville Free Library

315-637-6374; extension 307

www.fflib.org

Manlius Library

315-682-6400

www.manliuslibrary.org/about/board-of-trustees/

Absentee ballot applications now available

On May 17, F-M voters will decide on the annual school budget, whether the board will continue the practice of including a non-voting student member, fill three seats on the board of education and weigh in on a school bus proposition.

Qualified voters can file an absentee ballot application if they will not be able to vote in person due to illness or physical disability (including potential for contraction of the COVID-19 virus), hospitalization, incarceration (unless incarcerated for a felony), travel outside the voter's county or city of residence for employment or business reasons, studies or vacation on the day of the election.

Absentee ballots are not automatically mailed to all registered voters.

Individuals are eligible to vote if they are a U.S citizen, at least 18 years old and a resident of the school district for at least 30 days prior to the vote.

Absentee ballot applications are available

online at www.fmschools.org/budget-finance and at the F-M District Office, 8199 E. Seneca Turnpike, Manlius.

Residents can also contact District Clerk Sarah Gridley at sgridley@fmschools.org or by phone 315-692-1200 to request an absentee ballot application. If

requesting by email, please include your name, address and phone number with the request.

Applications must be received at the F-M District Office by 4 p.m. May 10 if the ballot is to be mailed, or 4 p.m. May 16 if the ballot is to be picked up.



Fayetteville-Manlius High School students recently raised \$116,072 for Camp Good Days and Special Times, a not-for-profit organization that provides a summer camp experience to children whose lives have been affected by a cancer diagnosis. For more than 30 years, F-M students have been organizing the months-long fundraising campaign, which culminates in a multi-hour Dance Marathon event.

Q&A Frequently Asked Questions Q&A

What is the difference between the tax levy and tax rate?

The tax levy is the total amount of money a school district raises in taxes each year from all property owners in the district. The tax rate is used to calculate what each property owner actually pays in school taxes.

Tax rates are calculated by dividing the total amount of the levy by the total taxable assessed value in a community.

Tax rates are affected by changes in municipal assessments and state equalization rates, which are finalized in the summer.



What is the tax levy limit, or tax cap?

The tax levy limit is the highest allowable tax levy that a school district can propose as part of its annual budget for which a simple majority of voters (50% + 1) would be required for authorization. Any proposed tax levy amount above this limit would require budget approval by a supermajority (60% or more) of voters.

The tax levy limit sets a threshold requiring districts to obtain a higher level of community support for a proposed tax levy above a certain amount. F-M's tax levy limit for 2022-23 is 2.9%, and the district is proposing a tax levy increase of \$1,196,799, or 1.8%, which is below the district's tax levy limit.

What's driving the tax levy increase?

The tax levy increase is driven by several factors. The tax levy increase is based upon a formula that includes an inflation factor (Consumer Price Index) and growth in the tax base from new construction.

In addition, the tax levy increase can be influenced by voter-approved building projects. The 1.8% tax levy increase includes the tax impact related to building projects at Enders Road Elementary School, Fayetteville-Manlius High School and Wellwood Middle School.

How would the proposed budget affect my taxes?

The proposed tax levy increase of 1.8% is below the district's tax levy limit. While final tax rates cannot be determined until the summer, when assessment and equalization rates become available, the district is conservatively estimating **the tax rate will decrease for most properties.**

What is the impact of new debt on the budget?

New debt resulting from recently-completed building projects at Enders Road Elementary School, F-M High School and Wellwood Middle School increases the budget by \$655,552.

Since these projects qualify for New York state Building Aid, 81.1% of the cost is offset by additional state aid revenue.

What happens if the budget is defeated?

Under New York state law, if the school budget is defeated, the board of education can either put the same or a modified budget up for another vote, or adopt a contingent budget. If residents defeat the proposed budget during a second vote, the board must adopt a contingent budget.

What is a contingent budget?

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 the free community use of school facilities. The administrative budget would also be subject to certain restrictions. If F-M adopts a contingent budget for 2022-23, it would reduce the budget by \$1,196,799.

IMPACT ON TAX RATES

Estimated taxes per household –	Current	Estimated	Percent
*Town of Manlius	2021-22	2022-23	change
**Tax rate per \$1,000 of assessed value	\$25.25	\$22.41	-11.25%

* The town of Manlius is the largest part of the Fayetteville-Manlius School District and pays 82% of the district's tax levy. Portions of Cazenovia, DeWitt, Fabius, Pompey and Sullivan pay the remaining 18%.

** Dollar figures used here have been rounded. The actual tax rate is calculated out to the sixth decimal place.

Ballot includes school bus purchases proposition

A separate proposition on this year's school budget and board election ballot asks voters to consider the purchase of six school buses as part of the district's long-term replacement plan.

The buses include five 71-passenger school buses and one 71-passenger school bus with a luggage compartment.

The total purchase would not exceed \$886,070. This is not in addition to the proposed budget, as the financing is already factored in.

If voters approve the proposition, the state would reimburse the district over a five-year period for about 74.9% of the cost. Local property taxes would pay the remainder of the cost, which means residents would be responsible for \$46,636 annually for five years beginning in 2023-24.

F-M normally replaces its buses after 10 years, when it is no longer cost effective to make the repairs needed to meet state inspection standards. Maintaining an aging school bus presents potential safety, maintenance and



financial issues for the school district. The replacement plan helps maintain a safe and efficient bus fleet. All school buses in New York state are subject to inspection by New York State Department of Transportation. If a bus does not pass inspection, it cannot be used and the defect must be repaired or the bus replaced.

The district's student transportation fleet includes 60 school buses and three Suburbans. All school buses must pass a rigorous state inspection twice annually. For the 2021-22 school year, F-M buses had a 100% passing rate.

Budget ► continued from page 1

tax bill."

Tax rates will also decrease for properties located within district boundaries in the towns of Cazenovia, DeWitt and Sullivan. Because properties located in the Town of Pompey are not reassessed every year, the tax rate will increase by 1.27% or \$36.03 for \$100,000 of taxable value.

The district also plans to increase the amount of appropriated fund balance by \$250,000. This increase will provide cost savings to taxpayers by keeping the levy down, Furlong said.

The combination of inflation, new debt related to recently-completed building projects at Wellwood Middle School, F-M High School and Enders Road Elementary School, an increase in the budgetary appropriation for capital transfer projects, increasing diesel fuel costs and increasing costs in the area of special education are the main areas driving the 5.9% budget increase for 2023-24. Furlong said that if the driving factors are removed, the district's budget increase is 3.4%.

The district has two primary revenue sources: state aid and the tax levy. Other smaller revenue sources, such as interest income, make up the district's revenue sources.

State aid, which is based upon the recently-enacted New York state budget, makes up 28.2% of the district's 2022-23 proposal. Last year, the state announced it would fully fund Foundation Aid to school districts, which for F-M means an increase of \$2.8 million. Foundation Aid is the primary source of general purpose operating aid.

A portion of the budget proposal seeks to bolster the district's mental health services, including funding for two additional family-school liaison positions and an administrative coordinator that will oversee mental health partnerships that are available for students and staff members, as well as increasing funding for existing programs.

There are no plans to make reductions to any educational programs or activities that we offer to our students, Furlong said.



Fayetteville Elementary School's therapy dog, Piper (pictured), a Cavapoo, has been part of the school community since the start of this school year. She often greets students as they enter school in the morning, spends time with classes during recess and visits classrooms throughout the day.

Seven running for board election; three seats available

On May 17, residents will elect three members to the Fayetteville-Manlius School District Board of Education.

The board is the official policy-making body of the school district. It is responsible for carrying out the laws and regulations pertaining to the education of the community's children. It adopts school district policy, curriculum and programs of study, approves the hiring of all personnel and establishes the conditions of employment.

In addition, the board has the responsibility of maintaining facilities, establishing an annual budget and setting a tax levy. The school board adopts a proposed operating budget each year at a public meeting. Eligible residents then have the opportunity to vote upon the proposal.

The F-M Board of Education is comprised of nine school district residents who are elected by voters to three-year terms in an annual election. Terms are staggered so that three members are elected each year. Board members are not compensated for their work.

In addition to the elected members, the board includes a non-voting student member selected each year by the administration to serve a one-year term. The student, who must be a senior at F-M High School, will attend all public meetings and is encouraged to participate in all public discussions.

Seven candidates filed nominating petitions for the three available seats:

Joseph Dunaway
Forrest D. Heaney
Elena A. Romano
Christopher P. McKee
Cynthia Hefti
Sarah Fitzgerald
Daryll Fitch Wheeler

(Candidates' names are listed in ballot order.)

The available seats are for three-year terms, beginning July 1, 2022.

Photos and candidate profiles that were submitted to the district are available on the district website, www.fmschools.org.

When are board meetings and what happens at them?

Board of education meetings are open to the public. They are typically held at 6 p.m. Meeting dates, locations, agendas and livestream information for public viewing online is published on the district website, www.fmschools.org and also may be obtained by calling the school district at 315-692-1234.

School district business is discussed only in public meetings. However, state law provides for the use of executive or exempt (private) sessions on matters that may involve personnel and legal issues. The student board member does not attend executive or exempt sessions. All official board action is taken only in the public portion of the board meetings. A typical meeting includes the approval of minutes from previous meetings and committee, president and superintendent reports.

Voters to decide on student board member position

Fayetteville-Manlius School District voters will decide whether the F-M Board of Education will continue the practice of including a non-voting student member.

The board approved a policy in 2015 that allows the board to add a student member, pending voter approval. In 2016, voters approved the proposition, and five students, including the 2021-22 school year member, have held the position.

Voters must reauthorize the measure every two years.

There is no financial compensation for any board member, including a student member, for serving on the board of education. The student member attends all public board meetings and is allowed to participate in all public discussions and voice their opinions.

The student member is not allowed to attend executive or exempt sessions, which are portions of the meeting in which the law allows board members to privately discuss such matters as proposed, pending or current litigation.

If voters approve the proposition, the board would appoint an F-M High School senior who has attended the school for at least two years prior to the appointment for the 2022-23 school year.



During Enders Road Elementary School's "Wellness Day," which was held in January, students participated in various activities such as yoga, gym games, sledding, nature walks, puzzles, coloring, crafting and more. Wellness Day is designed to give students a break from their regular academic routines and a chance to reset, relax and connect with their teachers and peers.



Community Newsletter
Fayetteville-Manlius Schools
Manlius, NY 13104

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8

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F - M NEWS ■ BUDGET EDITION 2022

Please Vote!

Tuesday, May 17, 2022

7 a.m. to 9 p.m.

**Fayetteville
Elementary School**

Need a ballot?

Absentee ballot applications are available online at
www.fmschools.org or by calling
315-692-1200.

Applications must be received at the F-M District
Office by 4 p.m. May 10 if the ballot is to be mailed
or 4 p.m. May 17 if the ballot is to be picked up.

Budget public hearing

Monday, May 9, 2022

6 p.m.

The budget public hearing will be livestreamed
on the district's YouTube channel:

[www.youtube.com/
FayettevilleManliusSchoolDistrict](http://www.youtube.com/FayettevilleManliusSchoolDistrict)

More budget information

The district's proposed budget is available in
the district office. Contact Assistant Superintendent
Furlong (wfurlong@fmschools.org) or District
Clerk Gridley (sgridley@fmschools.org)
to request a copy.



Live Performances Return: Eagle Hill and Wellwood middle schools' drama clubs each presented spring musicals this year. Eagle Hill students performed Disney's *Beauty and the Beast, Jr.*, and Wellwood Middle School students presented *Wizard of Oz* (pictured above).

Budget Questions? Let's Talk!

The district encourages residents to use
Fayetteville-Manlius School District's Let's Talk!
online platform to submit questions and comments
about the 2022-23 budget proposal.

What is Let's Talk?

Let's Talk! is a web-based, two-way
communications tool that allows anyone to share
concerns or questions with district administrators
at any time. Let's Talk! is available for community
members to utilize throughout the year. In addition to
sharing questions and comments about the proposed

budget, individuals can also use the online platform
to submit general feedback, ask questions, share
concerns and to report anonymous tips.

Submissions, which can be sent anonymously or
with the sender's contact information, will be reviewed
and responded to within two business days (if the
sender requests a response).

Let's Talk! is accessible via the district website, or by
entering the following URL into a web browser:

www.fmschools.org/lets-talk

Follow F-M on Social Media

