

CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

# Hornell

BUDGET EDITION

# 2024

# HIGHLIGHTS



2024-25 SCHOOL  
BUDGET VOTE &  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
ELECTION

Tuesday,  
May 21, 2024  
Noon to 9 p.m.

AT HORNELL HIGH SCHOOL  
134 SENECA ROAD  
HORNELL, NY 14843

## BUDGET AT A GLANCE

2024-25 Budget  
(Proposed)

**\$44,458,794**

2023-24 Budget

**\$41,093,309**

Spending Increase

**\$3,365,485**

8.19%

Tax Levy Increase  
(Proposed)

**2.56%**

MAXIMUM ALLOWABLE  
TAX LEVY INCREASE = 3.62%

## A message from the Superintendent

Dear Families and Community Members,

As we navigate the challenges faced by many districts this budget season, I'm pleased to share our commitment to maintaining stability and fostering a thriving learning environment for all students in Hornell City School District.

Hornell City School District is dedicated to preserving our comprehensive curricular and extracurricular programs. This includes a focus on core academics, alongside valuable enrichment activities that enhance student development. We will continue programs previously funded through federal grants, ensuring continued access to these valuable resources.

We recognize the importance of individualized attention. In the upcoming year, we will be repurposing space at the North Hornell School to create two appropriately-sized classrooms for primary level students. By adding sections in certain elementary grade levels, we're aiming to continue class sizes to 20 students or fewer. This will allow for a more focused learning experience and greater support for all students. This project will be funded within the 2024-25 general fund budget through revenue generated from past capital outlay projects, demonstrating our commitment to utilizing resources efficiently.

Our commitment to student success extends to all. We will continue to



The Hornell PTO Family Camp Out Night at North Hornell brought families together with activities and more.

offer targeted programs for students with special needs, ensuring they receive the support they need to succeed. Additionally, enrichment programs will continue to support a well-rounded educational experience.

We deeply value the partnership between our schools and families. The increased enrollment is a testament to the success of our initiatives. We're committed to building on this momentum by:

- **Maintaining Open Communication:** All schools will remain open for parent/guardian and family engagement through programs and family events.
- **Expanding Volunteer Opportunities:** We aim to incorporate parent/guardian volunteers directly within the instructional space.

We're excited about the future of our schools. Through continued investment in our programs, facilities, and partnerships, we remain dedicated to providing a safe, supportive, and enriching learning environment for all students.

Sincerely,

Jeremy Palotti  
Superintendent



Grandparents, parents, and special individuals celebrate "Grand Week" at Hornell Intermediate School.

# 'Matilda Jr.' receives resounding community support

In the halls of Hornell Intermediate School, there was much excitement as auditions for the school's production of "Matilda Jr." approached. From singing to acting, the students poured their hearts into their auditions, hoping for a chance to be part of the magical tale.

A cast of 48 students and four crew members assembled, each ready to bring the beloved characters to life. Among them was Connor Hall, a third grader who couldn't contain his excitement when he landed the role of Bruce Bogtrotter.

"I was really shocked and excited," Connor said.

The show was a resounding success, with over 1,000 tickets sold across the three performances, showcasing an importance of family engagement and involvement. With the Hornell City School District opening its doors to families and the community, students are able to showcase their talents, and families and community members

are given a window into the schools. Maintaining open communication and expanding upon volunteer opportunities for families makes programs, like the intermediate drama production, possible for Hornell students.

"We are proud of all of our students, both cast and crew, who put in many hours of practice to put on a terrific show," said Intermediate School Principal

Julie Smith. "Our community has such a history of supporting the arts and our students. The number of parent volunteers is amazing. I don't think the public realizes that parents build many of the sets, props, and help with all the make-up and costuming, and put together all the choreography. A show of this caliber simply cannot happen without the help of parents and support from the community."



Cast of "Matilda Jr." performs for over 1,000.

## TAX IMPACT

### Projected tax rate impact of 2.56% tax levy increase\*

A home with a fair market value of \$100,000 would have a projected total dollar increase of \$38.59 for 2024-25.

\* TAX RATE INCREASE IS A PROJECTION BASED ON CURRENT EQUALIZATION RATES AND ASSESSMENTS AVAILABLE AT THIS TIME.



Intermediate School students learning about local government at Hornell City Hall.

## THREE-PART SUMMARY

New York law requires school districts to present their budgets divided into three expenditure categories—program, administrative and capital—and compare them to the previous year's costs. Hornell's three-part budget is as follows:

CATEGORY	2023-24 BUDGETED*	2024-25 PROJECTED
<b>Program</b> Includes salaries and benefits of all teachers and staff who deliver pupil services (guidance, health, library/media, etc.), textbooks, equipment, co-curricular activities, athletics, and transportation costs (excludes bus purchases).	<b>\$26,547,578</b> 64.60% OF BUDGET	<b>\$28,493,533</b> 64.09% OF BUDGET
<b>Administrative</b> Includes salaries and benefits of administrators, supervisors, and administrative clerical staff, public information, printing, curriculum and staff development, school board costs, general insurance and professional fees.	<b>\$4,998,456</b> 12.16% OF BUDGET	<b>\$5,494,971</b> 12.36% OF BUDGET
<b>Capital</b> Includes salaries and benefits of maintenance and custodial staff, debt service on buildings and school bus purchases, utilities, tax certiorari and court-ordered costs.	<b>\$9,547,275</b> 23.23% OF BUDGET	<b>\$10,470,290</b> 23.55% OF BUDGET
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$41,093,309</b>	<b>\$44,458,794</b>

\*Percentages do not add up to 100% due to rounding.

# Hornell Public Library Budget Proposition

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. Libraries are separate legal entities from the school district, with their own funding and budgets. The school district does not endorse, control or recommend any aspect of how the libraries spend money.

If voters approve the library proposition on the ballot, the school district would annually levy and collect taxes in the new amount for the library beginning in the 2024-25 fiscal year. The amount authorized for library services is listed as a separate line on residents' tax bills.



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@hornellcsd  
#RedRaiderStrong

## WE ARE RED RAIDER STRONG

Students participate in **2,200+ hours of community service** each year.

**117 students** attend the GST BOCES Wildwood Campus for career and technical education.

**88 students** in grades 9-12 take college-level courses.

The Hornell CSD has a **graduation rate of 87%**.

The Intermediate School book giveaways have added **18 books to each student's at-home library**.

In the fall and winter seasons all varsity athletic teams were named Scholar-Athlete Teams: **8 Fall Teams & 9 Winter Teams**.

Students who maintain an average of 90% or higher are named Scholar-Athletes. This year, HHS athletes have received **131 individual awards**.

**4 athletes** have broken school records in 2023-24.

Pre-K 3 & 4 students have spent **40+ hours in Forest School**.

## REQUIRED SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET NOTICE

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	\$41,093,309	\$44,458,794	\$44,225,644
Increase/Decrease for the 2024-25 School Year		\$3,365,485	\$3,132,335
Percentage Increase/Decrease in Proposed Budget		8.19%	7.62%
Change in the Consumer Price Index		4.12%	
A. Proposed Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount	\$7,468,746	\$7,660,117	
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)	\$7,468,746	\$7,660,117	\$7,468,746
F. Total Permissible Exclusions	\$0	\$0	
G. School Tax Levy Limit, Excluding Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$7,478,523	\$7,738,926	
H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, Excluding Levy to Support Library Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions (E - B - F + D)	\$7,468,746	\$7,660,117	
I. Difference: G - H (Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval -See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions)**	\$9,777	\$78,809	
Administrative Component	\$4,998,456	\$5,494,971	\$5,357,221
Program Component	\$26,547,578	\$28,493,533	\$28,454,133
Capital Component	\$9,547,275	\$10,470,290	\$10,414,290

\*Pursuant to Section 2023 of the Education Law, should the proposed budget be defeated, all equipment and non-contingency items would be removed and the district would maintain a level tax levy.

Description	Amount
N/A	\$
	\$
	\$
Under the Budget Proposed for the 2024-25 School Year	
Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings <sup>1</sup>	\$480

The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2024-25 by the qualified voters of the Hornell City School District, Steuben County, New York, will be held at the Hornell High School in said district on Tuesday, May 21, 2024 between the hours of 12:00 pm (noon) and 9:00 p.m., prevailing time in the Hornell High 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.



**BOARD OF EDUCATION**

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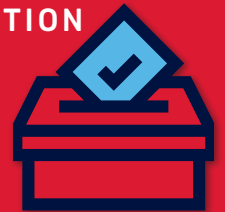


**2024-25 SCHOOL BUDGET VOTE &  
BOARD OF EDUCATION ELECTION**

**Tuesday, May 21, 2024  
Noon to 9 p.m.**

AT HORSELL HIGH SCHOOL  
134 SENECA ROAD, HORSELL, NY 14843

*Left: Students from Hornell High School being formally inducted into the Hornell Chapter of the National Honor Society.*



**VOTER INFORMATION**

**Who may vote?**

You may vote if you are 18 years old or older, a U.S. citizen, a district resident for at least 30 days, and a registered voter for either a general election or a school board election.

**How do I register?**

If you are registered to vote for the general election through the county, you are also registered for school votes. If you are not registered for the general election through the county or have any questions, please contact the district clerk at (607) 324-1302 ext. 1450.

**Absentee ballots and early mail ballots**

Absentee ballot voting is available. The new Early Mail Voter Act effective Jan. 1, 2024, also allows for early voting via mail without any reasons needed for voting early. You must fill out an application to vote by early voting or absentee ballot, and while there are separate applications for each, the application process and deadlines are the same. To receive an absentee ballot or early mail ballot by mail, voters must submit the required application to the district clerk by May 14, 2024. Applications can be requested by contacting the district clerk or obtained in person at the district office. Voters who choose to pick up the application at the district office have until one day (May 20, 5 p.m.) before the election to submit it in person to the district clerk. Pursuant to election law, persons designated by the Steuben County Board of Elections as "permanently disabled" will automatically receive an absentee ballot. All absentee ballots must be returned to the district clerk by 5 p.m. on the day of the vote, May 21, 2024. The district office is located at 120 Raider Rd., Hornell, NY.

**On the ballot**

**Proposition #1**

The general fund budget of the Hornell City School District of \$44,458,794 for the 2024-25 school year.

**Proposition #2**

Expenditure from School Bus Reserve Fund for student transportation vehicles.

**Proposition #3**

Authorization to establish a Transportation Reserve fund.

**Hornell Public Library Budget Proposition**

Hornell Public Library is proposing a budget in the amount of \$370,955 to the voters for approval.

**Board of Education Election**

Voters will elect one candidate to serve a five-year term on the Board of Education. The term will begin on July 1, 2024, and will expire June 30, 2029.

**For more budget information, visit the district website at [www.hornellcityschools.com](http://www.hornellcityschools.com).**