



DRYDEN

#LionPride

A LETTER FROM YOUR SUPERINTENDENT

Dear Community Members,

We are excited to share with you that all residents in the Dryden Central School District will have the opportunity to vote on the proposed budget for the 2023–2024 school year on Tuesday, May 16, 2023. Residents can vote from 7:00 AM to 9:00 PM in the MS/HS Auditorium located at 118 Freeville Rd, Dryden, NY 13053. Voters should look for signage directing them to the location.

We cultivate resilience and build strength of character.

These past few school years have presented many challenges for our District as we have navigated the pandemic. While the worst of the pandemic is behind us, the District finds itself in recovery mode like every other school district in the United States.

As mental health and community resources across our nation are overtaxed, school districts continue to look for ways to fill gaps in services to support students, families, and staff well-being.

If students do not feel safe, are hungry, have unaddressed trauma or unstable housing they cannot learn. If we want our staff and students to be successful, it is imperative that we address these needs.

To that end, the District has chosen to prioritize well-being in our 2023–2027 Strategic Plan. This work is being done in a variety of ways, but most noticeably we will be adding an additional social worker at Dryden Middle School. In addition, we will continue to invest in a behavioral interventionist at the PK–5 level as well as continued professional development and programming to support the well-being of students PK–12.

We believe that positive relationships and partnerships are essential.

As you may recall, three years ago at the onset of the pandemic, the District did not raise the tax levy. As we know, many families and businesses were hit hard in the early days of the pandemic.

While our state aid has increased slightly, it does not match the inflation that we are all experiencing. Over the last 12 months, almost all items have risen in cost.

This affects everyday life from purchasing diesel fuel, health insurance, or even new pens and pencils for learning.

The District is working hard to balance its needs so that we are able to continue to offer our students a robust program to prepare them for life; all the while, being fiscally responsible to our taxpayers and community members.

We act with integrity and accountability.

This year, the Board of Education has adopted a \$46,827,740 spending plan, representing a 3.35% increase over the 2022–2023 budget. This is less of an increase than we saw last year. The 3.35% increase is related to costs such as contractual and salary increases, BOCES services, and legally obligated contributions to NYS Retirement Systems. Inflation related to commodities as mentioned above is contributing to the rise in the budget as well. So, despite exercising fiscal responsibility, there is a gap between revenues and expenses. The District will be closing that gap using unassigned fund balance and reserve money.

For all of these reasons, the District has calculated a 3.10% tax levy increase for the 2023–2024 budget. The tax levy was calculated in alignment with all laws and regulations. This does not mean a business' or household's school taxes will be going up 3.10%. This is the percentage increase that the District can place on the revenues collected through taxes. This tax levy increase is in line with the rest of the school districts in Tompkins County. Again, three years ago the District put forth a budget for community approval with a 0% tax levy increase.

We have always been grateful for the support that we have received from our community. This budget has been developed in good faith. The District has tried to weigh the perspectives of the taxpayer, the staff, and our students. This budget does not eliminate critical programming the District needs to fulfill our mission or our obligations to students and staff. The budget expands support for student and staff well-being, while continuing to "tighten our belts."

We are proud of our community, our District and our #LionPride. Please take care of yourself, each other, and always...

#LionPride

Joshua I. Bacigalupi
Superintendent



PROPOSITIONS AS THEY APPEAR ON THE BALLOT

PROPOSITION 1:

2023–2024 SPENDING PLAN

Shall the following resolution be adopted, to wit:

RESOLVED: That the Dryden Central School District, as recommended by the Board of Education, adopt a spending plan for the 2023–2024 school year in the amount of \$46,827,740 and to levy the necessary tax therefor?

PROPOSITION 2:

SCHOOL BUS BOND PROPOSITION

Shall the Bus Bond Proposition set forth in the legal notice of this meeting authorizing the purchase of school buses and other transportation vehicles at a maximum cost of \$495,000 and providing that such sum shall be raised by a tax collectable in annual installments with District obligations to be issued in anticipation thereof, be approved?

PROPOSITION 3:

ALTERATIONS & IMPROVEMENTS AT FREEVILLE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CAPITAL PROJECT PROPOSITION

Shall the proposition set forth in the legal notice of this meeting authorizing expending up to \$100,000 for alterations to the building's domestic water system and building security improvements at the Freeville Elementary School, with up to \$20,000 of such cost to be expended from the existing building capital reserve fund and the balance of such cost, or so much thereof as may be necessary, to be funded by state aid available, all as more fully described in said notice, be approved?

Board of Education Candidates

(Vote for up to three including any write-ins)

There are three vacancies on the Board of Education. All three are three-year terms commencing on July 1, 2023 and expiring on June 30, 2026. The vacancies will be filled by plurality vote.

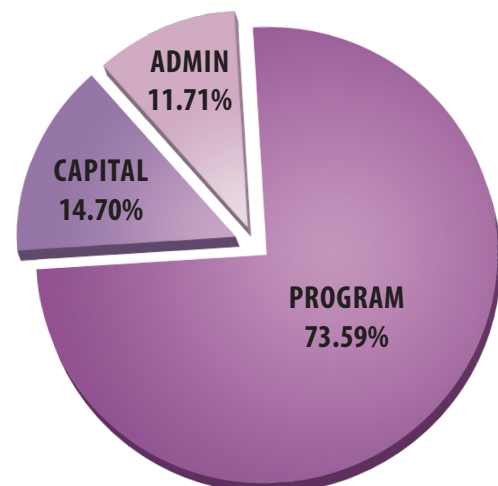


PROPOSED REVENUE

REVENUE	2022-2023	2023-2024
State Aid	\$21,878,702	\$22,732,092
Local Non-Tax/Misc.	\$1,338,100	\$1,236,000
Tax Levy	\$19,784,587	\$20,397,856
Transfer from Debt Service	\$750,000	\$800,000
Appropriated Reserves	\$800,000	\$850,000
Fund Balance	\$760,517	\$811,792
TOTAL BUDGET	\$45,311,906	\$46,827,740

BUDGET COMPONENTS

BUDGET COMPONENTS	2022–2023	2023–2024	% OF TOTAL BUDGET
Program	\$33,756,051	\$34,460,474	73.59%
Capital	\$6,847,301	\$6,885,042	14.70%
Administration	\$4,708,554	\$5,482,224	11.71%
TOTAL BUDGET	\$45,311,906	\$46,827,740	100%





DRYDEN CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET

PROGRAM COMPONENT	DESCRIPTION	2022-2023	2023-2024
Curriculum, Administration & Planning	Includes all costs associated with staff development and costs directly associated with instruction	\$265,703	\$237,555
Regular School	All costs associated with Instruction, Library & Media, and Computer Technologies	\$12,109,671	\$12,436,977
Special Education Programming	All costs associated with the education of students with disabilities/handicapping conditions	\$7,297,228	\$8,026,861
Special Schools	All costs associated with BOCES Occupational Education and Summer School	\$1,393,726	\$1,113,883
Student Services	All costs associated with Guidance Services, Co-Curricular Activities, Interscholastic Sports, Transportation and Census	\$3,209,756	\$3,386,832
Interfund Transfer	Interfund transfer to support Pre-K/Special Ed Summer School/Food Service	\$360,000	\$360,000
Employee Benefits	All employee benefit costs associated with above program component salaries	\$9,119,967	\$8,898,366
TOTAL PROGRAM		\$33,756,051	\$34,460,474

CAPITAL COMPONENT	DESCRIPTION	2022-2023	2023-2024
Special Item	Refunds of Real Property Taxes - Prior Years	\$20,000	\$20,000
Operation of Plant	All costs associated with operating district buildings, including cleaning and utilities costs	\$1,804,159	\$1,873,616
Maintenance of Plant	All costs associated with maintaining district buildings and property	\$584,488	\$605,988
Debt Service	Includes the principal and interest cost for the past capital project debt and fiscal agent fees	\$3,777,151	\$3,709,985
Employee Benefits	All employees benefit costs associated with above capital component salaries	\$661,503	\$675,453
TOTAL CAPITAL		\$6,847,301	\$6,885,042

ADMINISTRATIVE COMPONENT	DESCRIPTION	2022-2023	2023-2024
Board of Education	All costs associated with the Board of Education, District Clerk, Elections, and School Association Dues	\$45,190	\$45,618
Central Administration	All costs associated with the Superintendents Office	\$227,846	\$248,312
Regular School Supervision	All costs associated with the Supervision of Curriculum, Principals, and Computer Instruction	\$2,112,723	\$2,269,384
Finance	All costs associated with the Business Office, Auditing, District Treasurer, Tax Collection, and Liability Insurance	\$567,308	\$632,403
Legal	All costs associated with legal matters	\$105,000	\$105,000
Human Resources/Public Relations	All costs associated with Personnel and Public Information Services	\$376,568	\$342,740
BOCES Administrative Costs	BOCES administrative and capital budgets, printing and planning	\$605,100	\$687,297
Employee Benefits	All employee benefit costs associated with above program component salaries	\$668,819	\$1,151,470
TOTAL ADMINISTRATIVE		\$4,708,554	\$5,482,224



SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET NOTICE

Overall Budget Proposal	Budget Adopted for the 2022-23 School Year	Budget Proposed for the 2023-24 School Year	Contingency Budget for the 2023-24 School Year*
Total Budgeted Amount, Not Including Separate Propositions	\$45,311,906	\$46,827,740	\$46,214,471
Increase/Decrease for the 2023-24 School Year		\$1,515,834	\$902,565
Percentage Increase/Decrease in Proposed Budget		3.35%	1.99%
Change in the Consumer Price Index		8.0%	
A. Proposed Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount	\$19,784,587	\$20,397,856	
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)	\$19,784,587	\$20,397,856	\$19,784,587
F. Total Permissible Exclusions	\$0	\$0	
G. School Tax Levy Limit, Excluding Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$19,784,587	\$20,397,856	
H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, Excluding Levy to Support Library Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions (E - B - F + D)	\$19,784,587	\$20,397,856	
I. Difference: G - H (Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval - See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions) **	\$0	\$0	
Administrative Component	\$4,708,554	\$5,482,224	\$5,411,715
Program Component	\$33,756,051	\$34,460,474	\$34,009,229
Capital Component	\$6,847,301	\$6,885,042	\$6,793,527
* Provide a statement of assumptions made in projecting a contingency budget for the 2023-24 school year, should the proposed budget be defeated pursuant to Section 2023 of the Education Law. Assuming the total proposed budget is reduced by the proposed increase to the tax levy of \$613,269, all non-contingent items and non-contractual salary increases are to be eliminated. The reduction is allocated across all three components as required by law, and as needed, to reach the total contingency budget amount.			
** List Separate Propositions that are not included in the Total Budgeted Amount: (Tax Levy associated with educational or transportation services propositions are not eligible for exclusion and may affect voter approval requirements)	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT	
	Proposition #2 - Authorization to purchase Transportation vehicles	\$495,000	
	Proposition #3 - Authorization of the 2023-24 annual \$100K project	\$20,000	

HOW HAS YOUR TAX BILL CHANGED OVER TIME?

Based on a \$100,000 assessed home value...

YEAR	NO STAR	ENHANCED STAR	BASIC STAR	TAX RATE
2014	\$2,308.26	\$943.26	\$1,627.26	\$23.082600
2015	\$2,278.70	\$886.69	\$1,595.08	\$22.787000
2016	\$2,240.80	\$820.80	\$1,568.57	\$22.408000
2017	\$2,243.06	\$795.06	\$1,565.66	\$22.430596
2018	\$2,261.09	\$784.09	\$1,573.04	\$22.610936
2019	\$2,218.76	\$741.76	\$1,553.13	\$22.187586
2020	\$2,151.96	\$674.96	\$1,505.73	\$21.519615
2021	\$2,171.80	\$694.80	\$1,525.80	\$21.717993
2022	\$2,117.32	\$640.32	\$1,471.32	\$21.173236

*All years listed are since the 2% Tax Cap calculation took effect
Dryden has never exceeded what is allowed in the Tax Cap calculation*



FOUR CANDIDATES SEEK THREE BOARD OF EDUCATION SEATS



Heather Williams

ADDRESS: McLean, NY 13102

EMAIL: hwillia1@dryden.k12.ny.us

NUMBER OF CHILDREN: 1

EDUCATION:

BS Education MS Curriculum Design and Instruction; CAS District Level Leadership

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE: teacher DCSD 23 years, Instructional Technology Specialist BOCES and ICSD, Instructional Coach, Instructor at TC3, professional tutor, MS Dean of Students & Coordinator of Facilities at ICSD

CIVIC, COMMUNITY ACTIVITY: volunteer coach, Dryden CSD BOE member, member and former trustee, St. Paul's UMC, Ithaca

WHY I WOULD LIKE TO BE CONSIDERED FOR THE SCHOOL BOARD

IN DRYDEN: I would like the honor of continuing to serve on the Dryden BOE for several reasons:

- Shae Beach, my daughter. She is my #1 reason. I want to surround her and EVERY Dryden student with the best we have to offer from personnel to playground equipment.
- I am a longtime resident, and my child attends DMS. I want to assist the district in moving academic and social-emotional learning forward through attention to policy and spending.
- I want to finish what I started. I committed to service on the BOE in order to honor my commitment to education and community, and most of all, members of the DCSD organization from bottom to top!
- I bring a deep knowledge of research based practices and curriculum design to the table. I ask difficult questions, and am comfortable taking a deep dive on the data to look for the story it tells.
- I enjoy the camaraderie of being a board member. Even when we disagree, it is with deep respect. #BOEpartyof9



David Peck

ADDRESS: Dryden, NY 13053

EMAIL: davidapeck2@gmail.com

NUMBER OF CHILDREN: 2

EDUCATION:

B.A. Secondary Education (History)
Roberts Wesleyan College, Rochester, NY

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE: After college, I spent some time working in an early dropout prevention program for elementary and middle school students before working a couple of years as a substitute teacher and part-time library director. In the summer of 1999, I started working in the computer department at the Cornell University bookstore as a temporary employee for the back to school rush. What was supposed to be a summer gig became a full-time job and eventually a career as a retail buyer managing the product mix and inventory for the multi-million dollar technology department. I have spent a lot of that career building relationships with colleagues from other schools and advocating for campus technology retailers with vendors and within the campus store industry.

CIVIC, COMMUNITY ACTIVITY:

Dryden Recreation and Youth Commission, (2013-present, current chair)
Dryden Community Baseball, board member (2015-present)
Host Parent for Rotary Youth Exchange (2019-20 and 2022-23)
Dryden Community Center Cafe, volunteer
Youth Leader, Covenant Love Community Church (1997-2018, ordained in 2008)
Youth Baseball Coach (Kiwanis, Dryden Recreation, Dryden Babe Ruth)
Youth Basketball Coach (Dryden Recreation)
Youth Soccer Coach (Sertoma)

WHY I WOULD LIKE TO BE CONSIDERED FOR THE SCHOOL BOARD

IN DRYDEN:

I love our Dryden community. Twenty-five years ago, we made the choice to make Dryden home. I know how much this community and school have given to us as a family. So many teachers and staff helped my kids; encouraged them, challenged them, gave them opportunities, and set them up to keep growing. I want the same thing for every other student in our district. Every student deserves respect and a place to be safe, accepted, and challenged to grow beyond themselves, and I want to make sure that they have the support and tools they need to find success and fulfillment in whatever they do.

What I bring to the table is my love for this community, an open mind, critical thinking, and a desire to work together to do the best for our students and our community.



FOUR CANDIDATES SEEK THREE BOARD OF EDUCATION SEATS



Daniel Mulligan

ADDRESS: Dryden, NY 13053

EMAIL: dmulligan29@gmail.com

NUMBER OF CHILDREN: 2

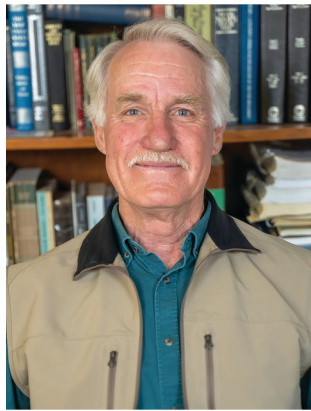
EDUCATION: B.A. Criminal Justice/
Psychology State University of New
York College at Plattsburgh

BUSINESS EXPERIENCE: Sole proprietor - Owner/operator Daniel Mulligan
Landscaping

CIVIC, COMMUNITY ACTIVITY: Member- DCSD Safety Committee

WHY I WOULD LIKE TO BE CONSIDERED FOR THE SCHOOL BOARD

IN DRYDEN: Both of my children attend Dryden Elementary School. For this reason, I would like to be involved, at any level that is useful, in decisions made by the school district that effect district policy, academic standards, curriculum choices and culture.



Lawrence Lyon

ADDRESS: Dryden, NY 13053

EMAIL: lawrencelyon@live.com

NUMBER OF CHILDREN: 4

EDUCATION: Master of Divinity,
Missions/Intercultural Studies, Talbot
Theological Seminary

CIVIC, COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES: 12 years school board member; 30 years Christ Chapel, Ithaca (nursing home ministry, ESL and SS class teaching); enthusiastic supporter of Southworth Library; 11 years Board of Directors, Central New York School Boards Association

WHY I WOULD LIKE TO BE CONSIDERED FOR THE SCHOOL BOARD IN

DRYDEN: Our Dryden public school students suffered a significant setback in their education as the District responded to the COVID-19 threat. The NYS Board of Regents and Education Department were not helpful. The Dryden community, on the other hand, is fully up to the task of preparing our youth for their futures in this world. This is accomplished significantly by providing the NYS Constitutional guarantee of a sound basic education.

What does this look like? It means building, without distraction, a fund of knowledge in the basic subject areas. It means building discernment and thinking skills into our students. It means building an appreciation of the skilled trades, and giving opportunities to pursue them. These, combined, prepare our graduates for their roles in American society. How to think, not primarily what to think, is key.

Let's return to robust local governance of our children's education. This is the job of the Board of Education, and we can do it.

Graduate work, Geophysics, Cornell University

B.A. in Physics, California State University Fullerton

High School Diploma, Christian Academy in Japan

BUSINESS EXPERIENCE: Waste tire hauling; Physics teaching and English as a Second Language teaching; contracts administration; electro-mechanical and electro-optical engineering; warehousing

#LionPride

DRYDEN



Annual Vote

Tuesday • May 16, 2023
7:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

DRYDEN

Middle School/ High School Auditorium

BOARD OF EDUCATION CANDIDATES

Heather Williams

David Peck

Daniel Mulligan

Lawrence Lyon

DRYDEN CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

P.O. Box 88
Dryden, New York 13053

District Office | 607-844-5361
Schools | 607-844-8694

www.dryden.k12.ny.us

2022–2023

Board of Education Members

HEATHER WILLIAMS

President | 2020-2023

RHONDA KOWALSKI

Vice President | 2020-2023

NANCY CRAWFORD

Board Member | 2021-2023

BEVERLY DODICI

Board Member | 2022-2025

BRIDGET FLANIGAN

Board Member | 2021-2024

PEACHES GILLETTE

Board Member | 2022-2025

ANDRÉA LAMB

Board Member | 2022-2025

JUSTIN ST. JULIANA

Board Member | 2021-2024

RON SZYMANSKI

Board Member | 2021-2024

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA!

FB: @DrydenLionPride
Twitter: @DrydenLionPride
Instagram: @DrydenLionPride



ABSENTEE BALLOTS WILL BE AVAILABLE

If you are eligible to use an Absentee Ballot because of physical disability, or legitimate absence from the District (business purposes, vacation, or studies) and are a qualified voter of the District, you may obtain an absentee ballot application by contacting Carrie Merriman, District Clerk, Dryden Central School, P.O. Box 88, Dryden, NY 13053, phone number 607-844-5361, ext. 1. Applications will be available between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Any such application must be received by the District Clerk at least seven days before the date of the aforesaid annual district meeting (May 9, 2023) if the ballot is to be mailed to the voter, or the day before such annual district meeting (May 15, 2023) if the ballot is to be delivered personally to the voter. A list of all persons to whom absentee ballots shall have been issued shall be available for public inspection in the office of the District Clerk during regular office hours on each of the five days prior to the day of the vote (excluding Saturday and Sunday). Absentee ballots must be received in the office of the District Clerk not later than 5:00 p.m. prevailing time, on Tuesday, May 16, 2023.



DRYDEN
CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT