



PINE VALLEY CENTRAL SCHOOL District News

Pine Valley Central School District Newsletter

Volume 45, Issue 3 • May 2023

Budget Edition — 2023-2024 Budget Vote & Board of Election **Board of Education Candidates**

Angelica Astry



My name is Angelica Astry, and I am a parent of three boys who attend Pine Valley Central School; Hank (4th grade), Remington (2nd grade), and Colton (UPK). Two years ago, my husband Casey and I purchased our forever home on Cottage Road in the Pine Valley School District, where we also run a small farm, Ace Acres, and we are so excited to have our children back in the district where we were born and raised.

I have been employed by the State University of New York at Fredonia in the Revenue Accountant position since 2010 and hold a Master of Business Administration Degree. I have served on the Board of Directors and the Credit Committee for the SUNY Fredonia Federal Credit Union since 2014. I also serve as the Treasurer on the Pine Valley Longhorns Board of Directors.

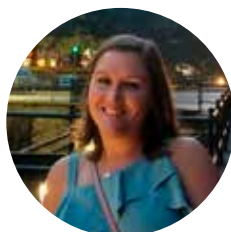
I want to be on the Pine Valley Board of Education because I believe in quality public education for current and future students, and I believe that I am a relatable member of the general Pine Valley community, a working parent of multiple students who attend Pine Valley, a homeowner, and a small business owner. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Jeffrey Chase

Jeff is a lifelong district resident living in Conewango Valley with his wife, Stacy, who has been an employee of the district for the last 14 years. They have three sons, Dylan, Dawson, and Garrett. Jeff's two oldest sons, Dylan and Dawson, graduated from Pine Valley and went on to graduate from the Rochester Institute of Technology with their mathematics degrees. Jeff's youngest son, Garrett, is in the 6th grade at Pine Valley Elementary School. Jeff is an alumnus of Pine Valley and Jamestown Community College. Jeff is a registered nurse, newly working as an RN Case Manager, and previously a Director of Nursing. Jeff is committed to his community and school. Jeff currently serves on the Board of Assessment Review and previously served on the Ellington Town Council. In his spare time, Jeff enjoys being with family, visiting his sons in Rochester, doing outdoor activities, and working on his family's farm in South Dayton. Jeff also enjoys watching Pine Valley sporting and musical events and has always been a proud Pine Valley Panther. Jeff has been a board member for 21 years, serving as vice president for five years and most recently as president (three years).



Kara Frontuto



Kara and her husband, Michael, reside in Conewango Valley with their children Tyler, Evan, and Noah and have been district residents for twelve years. She graduated from Forestville Central School and received her Bachelor's in Social Work from SUNY Fredonia. She is employed by the NYS Department of Labor as a Labor Service Representative. She has been on the school board for the past three years. She enjoys spending time with family, camping, hiking, and watching her sons play soccer.

Christie Lokietek

My name is Christie Lokietek, and I live with my family on Aldrich Hill Road in Cherry Creek. My two children are grown, and I am blessed to have them at home, along with my mom, who also lives with us. My husband Matt and I have been married for 28 years and enjoyed our journey together. I have worked in public schools for over 15 years as a teacher at the elementary, middle, and high school levels. I have also worked in alternative education facilities such as Job Corps and New York State jails. No matter where I teach, they all have the same common thread; students need to know that you care, and they are so much more willing to learn.

I am interested in continuing my time on the Pine Valley Board of Education because I bring a different voice to the table with an academic background. As a parent and teacher, I am very interested in what is happening in school districts around the state, especially our own. Thank you.



Superintendent of Schools 2023-2024 Proposed Budget

Dear Pine Valley Families and Community:

In preparation for the district-wide Budget Vote and Board of Education election on May 16, 2023, we present this year's District Budget Newsletter. In addition to these pages, the full detail of this year's budget, as presented on May 4, 2023, at the Public Hearing, is available on our website at www.pval.org.

This year's budget will allow us to continue to support the ever-changing needs of our students, families, and staff and be responsive to the needs of our students. We will be working to enhance our programming to push student achievement forward. Since the pandemic, we have already seen progress in the areas of English Language Arts and mathematics student achievement. Every line item has been analyzed to ensure fiscal responsibility to you, our taxpayers, long-term sustainability for the district, and student-focused programming. This year we are projecting a tax levy increase of \$101,628.00. We are bringing a 2.98% tax increase at this time. Please note that the school district's aid runs for the upcoming year vary more widely than in previous years. Our aid increase is very modest compared to some. Therefore, you will see much variety across different districts and their proposed tax increases.

The proposed 2023-2024 budget is \$940,083.00 more than last year's budget. Key items included in this coming year's budget include contractual salary increases, the purchase of one electric bus, a new van, our school resource officer, and a health insurance increase of 7%. Please note that in regard to the purchase of an electric bus, currently, the law states schools must prepare to have an entirely electric fleet by 2035. School districts may no longer purchase diesel buses after 2027. In order to be responsive to this law, fiscally responsible to taxpayers, and respectful of our bus rotation schedule, we are proposing the purchase of one bus for the coming year. While we recognize that 2035 is a long way away, we do not want to be unprepared with a district as geographically large as ours. Exhaustive research has been done to prepare for the purchase of one vehicle. This will allow our staff and community exposure to

the technology and any issue that may arise. We will still receive our normal transportation state aid of 90% on this purchase, and this will allow us to move slowly into meeting this legislation.

Most importantly, this budget prioritizes programming for students. Every detail of local, state, and grant allowable expenditures has been scrutinized to maximize the use of these funds and to provide more for our kids. The proposed 2023-2024 budget and the systematic utilization of grant funds will allow for the purchase and implementation of a new English Language Arts program for grades 9-12, which parallels previous years' purchases for 7th and 8th grade. Additionally, our three coach positions which were originally grant-funded in the areas of English Language Arts, Mathematics, and student behavior, will be maintained.

Please know that we take our responsibility to the taxpayers seriously. In the past six years, taxes have only been increased by a combined 3.4%. In every decision, we work hard to balance our responsibility to our taxpayers with our responsibility to provide an excellent education to the children of this community. Thank you for your time.

Respectfully,
Bryna Moritz, Superintendent

And the Pine Valley Board of Education

Angelica Astry
Jeff Chase, President
Kara Frontuto
Joshua Howard, Vice President
Terry Howe
Rose Kruszka
Christie Lokietek
William Pekrul
Larry Zollinger



2023-2024 Budget Propositions

You will be asked to consider the following propositions:

Proposition No. 1: Basic Budget \$18, 547, 777

Shall the following resolutions be adopted?

Shall the budget for the year 2023-2024, as approved by the Board of Education, be adopted, and the required funds, therefore, be raised by a tax on the taxable property of the school district?

Proposition No. 2: Student Representative

Shall the following resolutions be adopted?

Shall a student be selected pursuant to Section 1804(12) of the New York Education Law as an ex officio member of the Board of Education of the Pine Valley Central School District, and that such ex officio member shall be entitled to a) sit with the board members at all public meetings of the board, and b) participate in all board hearings and meetings, but shall not a) have a vote, b) be allowed to attend executive session, or c) be entitled to receive compensation of any form for participating at board meetings, and shall be subject to the further terms and conditions of Section 1804(12) of the Education Law.

Who Can Vote?

You are entitled to vote if you are a U.S. citizen, 18 years or older, and have been a district resident for at least 30 days prior to the vote. No pre-registration is required.

Optical Scan Voting System

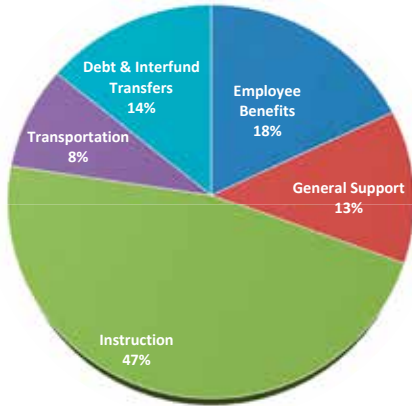
We use the Optical Scan Voting System utilizing the services of the Chautauqua County Board of Elections.

Absentee Voting

You may vote by absentee ballot if you are unable to appear at the polling place on May 16, 2023. To receive an absentee ballot, voters must obtain an application from the district office. The application must be returned to the district office at least seven (7) days before the election if the ballot is to be mailed to the voter, or at least one day before the election if the ballot is to be picked up personally by the voter at the district office from 8:00 am to 3:30 pm. Absentee ballots will be counted only if they are returned no later than 5:00 pm on election day. For more information, call Lindsay Anderson, District Clerk, at 988-3293 ext. 3307.



2023-2024 Proposed Budget



	22-23 Adopted Budget	23-24 Proposed Budget	Dollar Change	% of Change
Instruction	\$8,518,359	\$8,671,561	\$153,202	1.80%
Transportation	\$1,297,005	\$1,578,724	\$281,719	21.72%
General Support	\$2,052,296	\$2,348,339	\$296,043	14.42%
Employee Benefits	\$3,213,511	\$3,333,103	\$119,592	3.72%
Debt & Interfund Transfers	\$2,526,523	\$2,616,050	\$89,527	3.54%
Total Expenditures	\$17,607,694	\$18,547,777	\$940,083	5.34%

Instruction

The Instructional Program is the largest budget category and the focal point of our educational system. All services that provide or directly affect instruction of students are budgeted in this area. The following are included in this category: regular school, special education, summer school, school libraries, health, psychological and social work services, curriculum coordination and supervision, curriculum development, BOCES instructional programs, interscholastic athletics, and co-curricular activities.

Transportation

Includes transportation services to students for regular transportation within and outside of district boundaries for instructional purposes, co-curricular, and interscholastic athletic activities.

General Support

The General Support section of the budget covers the areas that support the educational program through central administration, business operations, human resources, community relations, maintenance and repair of all district grounds and facilities, printing, mailing, district meetings, Board of Education, and legal services.

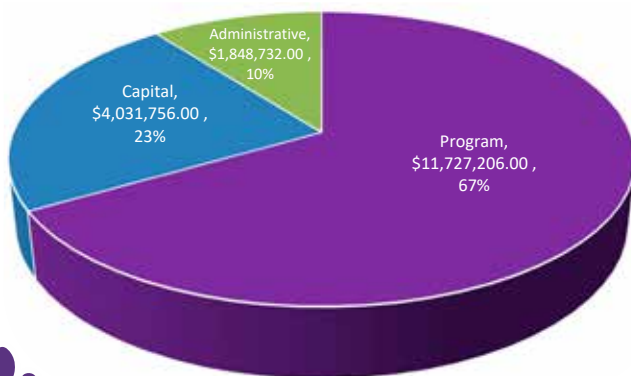
Employee Benefits

This category consists of various employee benefits, including contributions to the New York State Teachers' Retirement System, New York State Employee Retirement System, Social Security, Workers' Compensation, Unemployment Insurance, and Health Insurance benefits.

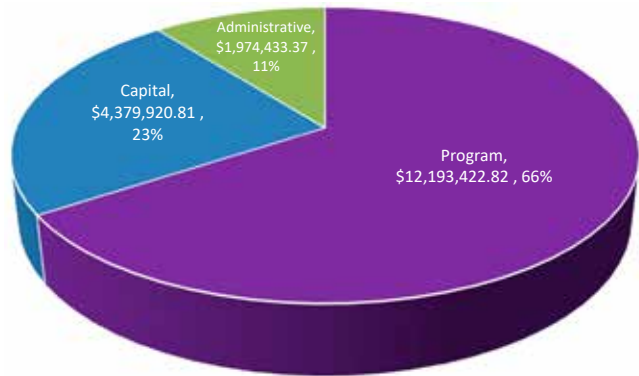
Debt & Interfund Transfers

This category includes short and long term debt payments (funded by Building Aid) and transfers to other funds.

2022-23
Adopted Budget



2023-24
Proposed Budget



Pine Valley Central School District 2023-2024 Component Budget

Program Component: Provides funding for instruction and educational support services for the district's students including athletics, co-curricular, and student transportation.

	<u>2023-24</u> <u>Proposed Budget</u>	<u>2022-23</u> <u>Adopted Budget</u>	<u>\$ Change</u>	<u>% Change</u>
Instructional Media	\$640,079.00	\$1,059,009.00	-\$418,930.00	-39.56%
Pupil Personnel Services	\$710,731.00	\$608,902.00	\$101,829.00	16.72%
Teaching	\$6,874,938.00	\$6,413,996.00	\$460,942.00	7.19%
Training	\$70,088.00	\$67,199.00	\$2,889.00	4.30%
Transfer to School Lunch	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00	\$0.00	0.00%
Transfer to Special Aid	\$17,000.00	\$17,000.00	\$0.00	0.00%
Transportation	\$1,103,724.00	\$924,807.00	\$178,917.00	19.35%
Employee Benefits	\$2,751,862.82	\$2,611,293.00	\$140,569.82	5.38%
Total Program Budget	\$12,193,422.82	\$11,727,206.00	\$466,216.82	3.98%

Capital Component: Includes debt service for all facilities financed by bonds and notes of the district as well as all expenses associated with building custodial and maintenance, utilities, and the School Resource Officer.

	<u>2023-24</u> <u>Proposed Budget</u>	<u>2022-23</u> <u>Adopted Budget</u>	<u>\$ Change</u>	<u>% Change</u>
Bus Purchases	\$475,000.00	\$372,198.00	\$102,802.00	27.62%
Central Services	\$1,073,633.00	\$957,472.00	\$116,161.00	12.13%
Debt Services	\$2,474,050.00	\$2,384,523.00	\$89,527.00	3.75%
Transfer to Capital	\$100,000.00	\$100,000.00	\$0.00	0.00%
Employee Benefits	\$257,237.81	\$217,563.00	\$39,674.81	18.24%
Total Capital Budget	\$4,379,920.81	\$4,031,756.00	\$348,164.81	8.64%

Administrative Component: Provides funding for overall general support and management activities, including business office operations, payroll, purchasing, general administration, personnel, legal and auditing services.

	<u>2023-24</u> <u>Proposed Budget</u>	<u>2022-23</u> <u>Adopted Budget</u>	<u>\$ Change</u>	<u>% Change</u>
Board of Education	\$25,326.00	\$25,326.00	\$0.00	0.00%
Central Administration	\$218,260.00	\$213,621.00	\$4,639.00	2.17%
Central Services	\$331,500.00	\$100,285.00	\$231,215.00	230.56%
Curriculum Development	\$32,885.00	\$31,700.00	\$1,185.00	3.74%
Finance	\$268,674.00	\$249,254.00	\$19,420.00	7.79%
Special Items	\$184,524.00	\$163,178.00	\$21,346.00	13.08%
Staff	\$246,422.00	\$343,160.00	-\$96,738.00	-28.19%
Supervision	\$342,840.00	\$337,553.00	\$5,287.00	1.57%
Employee Benefits	\$324,002.37	\$384,655.00	-\$60,652.63	-15.77%
Total Administrative Budget	\$1,974,433.37	\$1,848,732.00	\$125,701.37	6.80%
Total Budget	\$18,547,777.00	\$17,607,694.00	\$940,083.00	5.34%



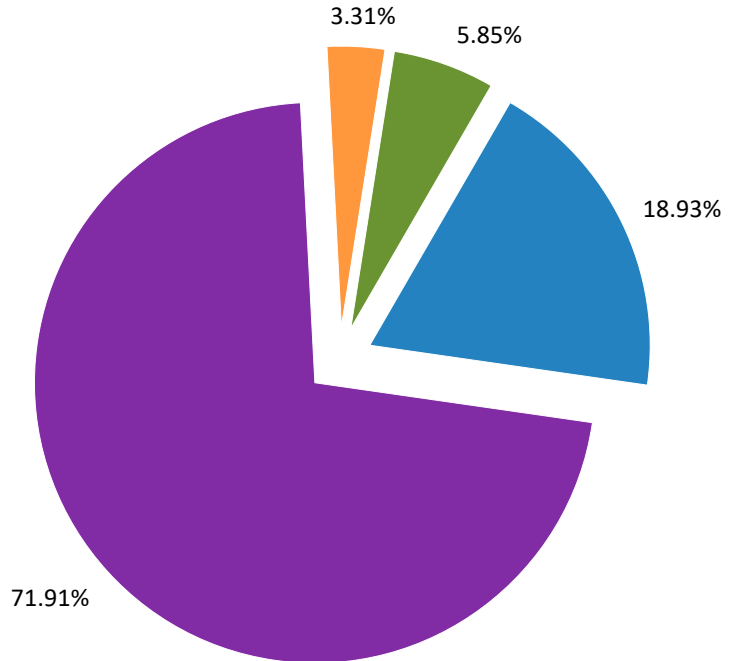
2023-2024 Estimated Revenue

■ Tax Levy \$3,511,972

■ State/Federal Aid \$13,337,998

■ Other Revenue \$613,151

■ Fund Balance \$1,084,656



VOTE!

MAY 16, 2023



14-year Comparison of Tax Levy Change

School Year	Tax Levy	\$ Change	% Change
2010-11	3,141,825	-	0.00%
2011-12	3,141,825	-	0.00%
2012-13	3,141,825	-	0.00%
2013-14	3,236,080	94,255	3.00%
2014-15	3,292,848	56,768	1.75%
2015-16	3,242,848	(50,000)	-1.52%
2016-17	3,296,932	54,084	1.67%
2017-18	3,343,147	46,215	1.40%
2018-19	3,343,148	1	0.00%
2019-20	3,343,147	(1)	0.00%
2020-21	3,376,578	33,431	1.00%
2021-22	3,410,344	33,766	1.00%
2022-23	3,410,344	-	0.00%
2023-24	3,511,972	101,628	2.98%

A modest property tax increase of 2.98% is included in the proposed budget. This equates to an approximate tax increase of \$28.34/yr for a homeowner receiving a basic STAR exemption and property with a taxable assessed value of \$100,000. The proposed increase is well below the allowable calculated tax cap of 6.3%.

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	\$ 17,607,694	\$ 18,547,777	\$ 17,838,569
Increase/Decrease for the 2023-24 School Year		\$ 940,083	\$ 230,875
Percentage Increase/Decrease in Proposed Budget		5.34%	1.31%
Change in the Consumer Price Index		8.0%	
A. Proposed Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount	\$ 3,410,344	\$ 3,511,972	
B. Levy to Support Library Debt, if Applicable	\$ -	\$ -	
C. Levy for Non-Excludable Propositions, if Applicable **	\$ -	\$ -	
D. Total Tax Cap Reserve Amount Used to Reduce Current Year Levy	\$ -	\$ -	
E. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy (A + B + C - D)	\$ 3,410,344	\$ 3,511,972	\$ 3,410,344
F. Total Permissible Exclusions	\$ 150,202	\$ 272,475	
G. School Tax Levy Limit, <u>Excluding</u> Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$ 3,288,710	\$ 3,353,916	
H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, <u>Excluding</u> Levy to Support Library Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions (E – B – F + D)	\$ 3,260,142	\$ 3,239,497	
I. Difference: G – H (Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval – See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions) **	\$ 28,568	\$ 114,419	
Administrative Component	\$ 1,848,732	\$ 1,974,433	\$ 1,955,982
Program Component	\$ 11,727,206	\$ 12,193,423	\$ 12,079,932
Capital Component	\$ 4,031,756	\$ 4,379,921	\$ 3,802,655
The contingent budget includes legal obligation expenditures specifically authorized by statute, and other items necessary to maintain educational programs, preserve property, and ensure the health and safety of the students and staff. The contingent budget does not include the purchase of new equipment, including the purchase of school buses, public use of school building and and/or grounds, and nonessential maintenance.			
** 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
			\$
			\$
			\$
			\$

*NOTE TO SCHOOL DISTRICT BUSINESS OFFICIALS: Please submit an electronic version (Word or PDF) of this completed form to: emscmts@nysed.gov

Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings ¹	\$ 445
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The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2023-24 by the qualified voters of the Pine Valley Central School District, Chautauqua County, New York, will be held at the Pine Valley High School in said district on Tuesday, May 16, 2023, between the hours of 12:00 pm and 9:00 pm, prevailing time in the Pine Valley High School, at which time the polls will be opened to vote by voting ballot or machine.

Districts should include information according to Executive Orders and as advised by legal counsel.

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



Pine Valley Central School District

South Dayton, NY 14138

PV Junior/ Senior High School: 988-3276, PV Elementary: 988-3291

Website: www.pval.org/

Non-Profit Organization

U.S. Postage

PAID

Permit No.. 83

Fredonia, NY

ADMINISTRATION

Ms. Bryna Moritz, *Superintendent*

Ms. Carrie Davenport, *Director of Sp. Ed. and Curriculum*

Ms. Nicole VerHagen, *Business Executive*

Mrs. Kourtney Almeida, *Jr./Sr. High School Principal*

Mrs. Brandi Meacham, *Elementary Principal*

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Mrs. Angelica Astry

Mr. Jeffrey Chase, *President*

Ms. Kara Frontuto

Mr. Josh Howard, *Vice President*

Mr. Terry Howe

Mrs. Rose Kruszka

Ms. Christie Lokietek

Mr. William Pekrul

Mr. Lawrence Zollinger

BOXHOLDER

Cherry Creek, NY 14723

BOXHOLDER

Conewango Valley, NY 14726

BOXHOLDER

South Dayton, NY 14138



BUDGET VOTE & BOARD OF ELECTIONS
Tuesday, May 16, 2023

12:00 noon to 9:00 p.m.
Junior/Senior High School
New Gym Foyer

Pine Valley Central School, 7755 NY-83, South Dayton, NY 14138