

Madrid-Waddington Central School

2024 - 2025 BUDGET NEWSLETTER

Dear District Residents:

As **Proposition I**, The Board of Education submits the 2024-2025 District Expenditures for community approval. The \$20,989,629 proposed expenditure represents an increase of \$261,793 or 1.263% more than last year's budget.

This is a very modest increase as we continuously look for cost containment measures while still providing a robust educational program for our students. Although health insurance costs continue to rise we are very appreciative of the cooperative relationship we have with our unions as we work together on strategies that help mitigate health insurance premium increases.

We did have debt from a past capital project come off the books this year which aided in the low expenditure increase, however State aid for that project also ends so the expenditure/revenue split is essentially a wash.

The largest budget difficulty the district is facing is the method by which foundation aid is being distributed for the 2024-2025 school year. The Governor had initially proposed the elimination of a portion of save harmless for districts across the State including Madrid-Waddington that would have resulted in a loss for our district of \$8,000 from the current year's allocation. The Governor also proposed an inflation factor of 2.4% which is lower than the prescribed 4.1% that should have been used in the foundation aid calculation. When the State budget was passed, save harmless was restored, however the inflation factor was only calculated at 2.8%. Overall this means that Madrid-Waddington's foundation aid for the 2024-2025 school year will remain at the same level as the current school year. The State budget includes language that will task the Rockefeller Institute with a foundation aid study so the future of State aid is very uncertain at this time.

Our district has remained conservative in our spending over the last few years so we are able to balance the budget with a \$1,305,000 fund balance allocation and a comparably moderate tax levy increase of \$137,517 or 2.87% which is well under the district's allowable tax cap of 9.61%. The board is firmly committed to maintaining a thriving education program while minimizing the financial impact on our residents and striking the right balance between the tax burden and district sustainability.

Proposition II is the election of two members to the nine (9) member Board of Education. We are grateful that both incumbents, Bruce Durant and Robert Smith, have chosen to run for re-election, and we extend our thanks to them as they seek voter support to continue serving their community.

Proposition III requests community approval for the purchase of one (1) 72-passenger handicapped bus and one (1) 24-passenger handicapped bus at a cost not to exceed \$350,000. We continue to see inflation heavily influence the prices of these purchases. Thankfully, our voter approved transportation reserve is solid, and given that the State reimburses 90% of our transportation expenses, this proposition will not impact the tax levy.

Proposition IV seeks community endorsement to sustain the ongoing practice of conducting an annual capital outlay/mini-renovation project. In New York State, districts are permitted to carry out yearly capital outlay projects, costing no more than \$100,000, with voter approval. These projects are reimbursed based on our building aid ratio, currently set at 90%, resulting in an approximate net cost to the district of \$10,000. This year's project will continue our schedule for replacing windows in the elementary wing. The reimbursement from last year's project covers 90% of the funding for the new project, with the remaining funds sourced from our building reserve to avoid impacting the tax levy. This is part of a long-range strategy in which the building aid returned in the following year will continue to fund additional mini-renovation projects as a regular part of the district's budget.

Cordially,

Eric Burke
Superintendent of Schools

Madrid-Waddington Central School
May 2024

Proposed Budget for the 2024 - 2025 School Year

BUDGET FACTS:
Proposed Expenditure increase of 1.263% or \$261,793
Proposed increase in tax levy = 2.869%

Public Hearing for Budget	Annual Budget Vote
Tuesday, May 14, 2024 5:00 PM	Tuesday, May 21, 2024 1:00 - 8:00 PM

Absentee ballots are available – please call 315-322-5746, Ext. 35222 for details

- Voter qualifications:**
- **United States citizenship**
 - **At least 18 years of age**
 - **Residence within the district for at least 30 days preceding the vote**

Propositions to be voted on May 21, 2024

PROPOSITION I: BUDGET

Shall the Board of Education of the Madrid-Waddington Central School be authorized to expend the sum of \$20,989,629 for the 2024 -2025 school year and to levy the necessary tax for this purpose.

PROPOSITION II: BOARD OF EDUCATION

- ◆ The election of two (2) members to the nine (9) member Board of Education.
 - ◆ Two (2) five-year terms are open.
 - ◆ Candidates include the following:

Bruce Durant
Robert Smith
- The ballot will be accepting write-in candidates.

PROPOSITION III: BUS PURCHASE

Resolved that the Board of Education of the Madrid-Waddington Central School District be authorized and directed to purchase one (1) 72-passenger handicapped bus and one (1) 24-passenger handicapped bus to expend therefore an aggregate sum, not to exceed \$350,000; which sum shall be raised by tax on the taxable property of the District; and That the Board of Education be authorized to expend funds from the existing Transportation and Equipment Capital Reserve Fund to fund the cost of the buses and vehicles in whole or part; and That the Board of Education be authorized in accordance with the provisions of the Education and Local Finance Law to borrow on the credit of the District a sum, not to exceed \$350,000, to fund the cost of the buses and to issue obligations of the District not to exceed that amount to finance the purchase of the buses and vehicles in whole or part.

PROPOSITION IV: CAPITAL OUTLAY

Resolved that the Board of Education of the Madrid-Waddington Central School District be authorized and directed to expend up to \$100,000 from the Building Reserve in part or whole which includes the removal of windows in select classrooms and offices and installation of new thermally broken, aluminum double hung windows with insulated glass. The size and color of the new windows will match the existing windows. Work will also include painting the existing steel lintels above the windows and sealing the perimeter of the window units.

Congratulations to our Class of 2024 Honor Graduates

The Class of 2024 Honor Graduates will be recognized at the June 18, 2024 Honors Banquet, to be held at 6:00 pm, Madrid-Waddington Central School.

Summa Cum Laude

Erica Bates
Alan Boswell
Hunter Bowman
Nicholas Moquin
Elliott Woodward

Magna Cum Laude

Kyle Murphy
Aaron Putman
Lillan Todd

Cum Laude

Larry Blakemore
Zoey French
Bailey Giorgi
Connor Schneider

These three levels of distinction recognizing academic excellence are:
Summa Cum Laude (GPA of 95 or above); Magna Cum Laude (GPA of 93 or above); Cum Laude (GPA of 90 or above)

***INTRODUCTION OF TWO CANDIDATES WHO ARE
RUNNING FOR BOARD OF EDUCATION SEATS***

Bruce Durant...I have been a lifelong member of the Madrid-Waddington Central School District. I grew up on a family farm in West Potsdam and attended Madrid Elementary School. Then, I graduated from Madrid-Waddington in 1996. Now, my wife and I raise our three children, Logan, Corbin, and Reese in the Town of Madrid. My son Logan has gone on and now attends SUNY Canton and has been successful due to the support of our school district. We can proudly say we are happy we chose Madrid-Waddington Central School for our children. The positive experience our children have had is a testament to the hard work that is put into their education.

I started my educational journey in Syracuse where I worked at Syracuse Academy of Science for 3 years. I have had the pleasure to work for the last 18 years as a Spanish Teacher at Heuvelton Central School. Madrid-Waddington Central School has always been my home. I have always strived to stay connected and give back to such a great community. I have had the honor of two of my six years as board president on the Madrid-Waddington Board of Education. I have been involved in the Madrid Fire Department, where I have been Vice President of the Board of Directors as well as a trustee at the Madrid United Methodist Church. I have coached basketball, baseball, and soccer at various levels for the school district. I have also served on the Madrid Planning board for the past 8 years.

I would like to ask you for your support as I am running for the Board of Education at Madrid-Waddington for a second term. The Board of Education, administration, faculty, and staff are some of the greatest in the county and provide educational excellence for our students. Personally, I feel that with my experience in the education field, together we can continue to serve the Madrid-Waddington school district and provide educational excellence for our students. Thank you for the opportunity and support to make Madrid-Waddington Central School the best we can be.

Robert Smith....My name is Robert Smith, and I am running for a seat on the Madrid-Waddington School Board for a second term. I attended Norwood-Norfolk Central where I graduated in 2002. I earned my Associates degree in Air-Conditioning Engineering Technology from SUNY Canton and graduated in 2004, after which I started working at Alcoa in Massena NY in 2005 and earned my Electrician Journeyman certificate in 2012. In 2013, I became the Union President and Business agent for the United Steelworkers and continued that job until 2017 when I joined the New York State United Teachers as a Labor Relations Specialist. When I am not carting the kids to practice's, recitals, or other after school functions, I enjoy spending my time hunting, fishing, snowmobiling, hiking, working on old cars, and vacationing with my family.

When I was a kid, I couldn't wait for school to end for the summer. My grandfather would take us to our camp on the Ruddy Road where I learned how to fish, swim, play volleyball, and yes – rake and mow the lawn. My grandfather sold the camp in 2004. My wife (and love of my life since 2001) Mindy and I purchased a lot on the Ruddy Road in 2009. Our dream was to build a home to raise our kids. In 2015, we finished that dream and hopefully will spend many more years there. We did this so our kids could have the same opportunities as we had. The biggest difference between my kids and me when I was young is - they actually enjoy going to school, are involved with many school activities such as Baseball, Softball, Basketball, Jr. Honor Society and many others. This difference in approach to school is why I am running for reelection on the Board. My kids have shown me this and I am very proud of them. I believe if we can continue to encourage our students to do more than the minimum requirements and push themselves to their full potential, we can truly achieve a better future for all. If you share in my belief, please vote Robert Smith on May 21st, 2024.

Spring Musical 2024: *Shrek*



Front row (l. to r.): Makenzie Stebbins, Abigail Burwell, Hailey Harvey, Lilly Burwell, Audrey Baxter, Zander LaBarge, Savannah Tracy, Raine Stebbins, Maiya Amo, Declan Coakley, Aidan Bennett, Karson Averill. Middle row (l. to r.): Mrs. Perrine, Ms. Baxter, Hope Dykes, Francesca Ashley, Quinn Sabre, Maddy Losey, Lydia Baxter, Mrs. Burke, Katie Boswell, Phebe Grandy, Sophia Rogers, Aubrey Polniak, Eddie Miller, Kolby Todd, Cole Smith, Jaden Ashley, Mackenzie Wiggins. Back row (l. to r.): Austin Sullivan, Grant Hayes, Kyle Murphy, Brycen Hitsman, Hayden Amo, Grace Mayette, Ben Weaver, Elliott Woodward, Hunter Bowman, Violet Foster, Larry Blakemore, Danika Sheffield, Zoey French, Calie Keegan, Abby Froats, Ashlan Foster, Faith Schulz, Lillian Todd, Carlyle Jimenez, William Moots, Kayden Merrick, Reece Belmore, Adam Sabatini, Tyree Hawkins, Murphy Burke, Mr. Frenyea. Top row (l. to r.): Harlie George, Alan Boswell, Aoife Burke

M-W Drone Soccer Team Places 6th in National Competition



The M-W Drone Soccer team placed 6th in the nation for the second year in a row at the US Drone Soccer National Championship. There were 16 national teams who competed in Virginia Saturday, April 27, 2024 including the national winning team from Istanbul, Turkey. In the double elimination tournament, M-W lost its first match of the day to a team from Long Beach, California who placed first in the Nation at the Championship. The Jackets then went on to beat teams from Virginia, North Carolina, and Istanbul, Turkey. The elimination match for the Yellow Jackets was versus the team they beat last month at Regionals from Mohonasen, NY. It was a great representation from our very small district that would not have been possible without the support of the school community.

**Madrid-Waddington Central School District
3 Part Budget for 2024-2025**

3 components of Total Budget

FUNCTION	2024-25 Budget	Administrative	Program	Capital
Board of Education	\$ 132,144	\$ 132,144		
Central Administration	\$ 178,469	\$ 178,469		
Finance	\$ 233,735	\$ 233,735		
Legal Services	\$ 25,000	\$ 12,500	\$ 12,500	
Personnel/Staff	\$ 25,360	\$ 25,360		
Operation of Plant	\$ 694,178			\$ 694,178
Maintenance of Plant	\$ 555,377			\$ 555,377
Other Central Services	\$ 464,901	\$ 464,901		
Other Special Items	\$ 717,341	\$ 518,969		\$ 198,372
Curr. Dev. & Supervision	\$ 35,000	\$ 35,000		
Supervision Reg. School	\$ 312,345	\$ 312,345		
Research & Planning	\$ 21,000	\$ 21,000		
Instruction	\$ 8,913,531		\$ 8,913,531	
Other District Transp.	\$ 1,121,546	\$ 93,449	\$ 1,028,097	
Garage Building	\$ 85,930		\$ 85,930	
Contract Transportation	\$ 15,000		\$ 15,000	
Community Service	\$ 42,038		\$ 42,038	
Employee Benefits	\$ 5,780,506	\$ 122,993	\$ 5,336,079	\$ 321,434
Debt Service	\$ 1,061,228			\$ 1,061,228
Other Transfers	\$ 575,000		\$ 125,000	\$ 450,000
	<u>\$ 20,989,629</u>	<u>\$ 2,150,865</u>	<u>\$ 15,558,175</u>	<u>\$ 3,280,589</u>
% of Total	100.00%	10.25%	74.12%	15.63%



Administrative	\$ 2,150,865
Program	\$ 15,558,175
Capital	\$ 3,280,589
TOTAL	\$ 20,989,629

The proposed educational spending plan for the upcoming school year at Madrid-Waddington represents a spending increase of 1.263% or \$261,793. Our operation will require a tax rate of 2.869%, less than the maximum allowable tax levy increase of 9.61%.

The budget is organized into three sections: **Administrative, Program and Capital.** The **Administrative Budget** includes all expenses for managing and organizing the affairs of our school system. Examples of administrative expenses include administrator and secretary salaries, attorney and payroll service fees, professional development activities, copying costs and benefits.

Program Budget is the most comprehensive element of our financial plan. Program includes all expenses associated with providing an education to the children and young people of our community. Examples of program expenses include classroom instruction, field trips, special education services for disabled children, textbooks, computer technology, art, music and athletics.

The **Capital Budget** includes all expenses required to maintain a safe facility. Bond payments are also part of this category. Examples of capital expenses include bus driver training, bus maintenance, building safety inspections, fire prevention, maintenance and custodial salaries & benefits, fuel, power and water.

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	\$ 20,727,836	\$ 20,989,629	\$ 20,852,112
Increase/Decrease for the 2024-25 School Year		\$ 261,793	\$ 124,276
Percentage Increase/Decrease in Proposed Budget		1.26 %	.60%
Change in the Consumer Price Index		1.02%	
A. Proposed Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount	\$ 4,793,758	\$ 4,931,275	
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)	\$ 4,793,758	\$ 4,931,275	\$ 4,793,758
F. Total Permissible Exclusions	\$0	\$243,149	
G. School Tax Levy Limit, <u>Excluding</u> Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$ 4,857,900	\$ 5,211,742	
H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, <u>Excluding</u> Levy to Support Library Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions (E – B – F + D)	\$ 4,793,758	\$ 4,688,126	
I. Difference: G – H (Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval – See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions) **	\$ 64,142	\$ 280,467	
Administrative Component	\$ 2,109,046	\$ 2,150,864	\$ 2,146,958
Program Component	\$15,055,723	\$15,558,176	\$15,424,564
Capital Component	\$ 3,563,068	\$ 3,280,589	\$ 3,280,589

* Provide a statement of assumptions made in projecting a contingency budget for the 2024-25 school year, should the proposed budget be defeated pursuant to Section 2023 of the Education Law.

Certain equipment, employment, and extra-curricular/athletic programs will be either downsized or eliminated.

** 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
Purchase of 2 Buses	\$ 350,000
Capital Outlay Project	\$100,000

NOTE: Please submit an electronic version (Word or PDF) of this completed form to: emscmgt@nysed.gov

Under the Budget Proposed for the 2024-25 School Year

Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings ¹	\$439
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The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2024-25 by the qualified voters of the Madrid-Waddington Central School District, St Lawrence County, New York, will be held at Madrid-Waddington Central School on Tuesday, May 21, 2024 between 1:00 pm and 8:00 pm, prevailing time in the Madrid-Waddington Central School, at which time the polls will be opened to vote by voting ballot.

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

MADRID-WADDINGTON CENTRAL SCHOOL

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Madrid, New York 13660

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A LOOK
at the
BUDGET

Detailed copies of the proposed 2024-2025 Budget are available on the District website at www.mwcsk12.org.

The District School Report Card, Property Tax Exemption Report and Superintendent's Salary can be obtained there.