



# SALMON RIVER CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

## 2015-16 Budget Proposal

### Maintaining Excellence

**Proposed budget enhances programs and services, carries a 0% tax levy increase**

On May 19th, Salmon River Central School District residents will go to the polls to vote on a proposed \$28,388,600 budget for the 2015-16 school year. The budget calls for a 0 percent tax levy increase, and not only preserves current programs and services but will allow for the enhancement of Academic Intervention Services; Arts, library & music; College & Career Pathways; Health & Wellness; Home School Coordination; Mohawk Language; Special Education Services; STEM Grades 6-8; Technology; and the Welding Program. Voters will also decide on two additional propositions: one for a non-voting student representative, and another to purchase four 66-passenger school buses (see page 4).

“We have a great opportunity this year that not many districts are getting. We will be able to not only preserve programs and services, but enhance them as well,” said Superintendent Jane Collins. “We have an amazing faculty, staff, and administration here at Salmon River and I’m proud to be able to offer them with the necessary tools and staff to help them better educate our students.”

A change in the way aid is calculated is projected to provide new opportunities in the Salmon River Central School District. The NYS Department of Education has agreed to rectify an error in the way it calculates reimbursements to the district for educating students who live on the St. Regis Mohawk reservation. The correction is expected to provide the district with as much as \$1.5 million annually in additional aid — a large part of which will be used to pay for 13 additional positions.

“Our goals for the 2015-16 budget are to develop an educationally and fiscally responsible budget that adequately provides programs and services for our students, not only for next year, but for future generations as well. We also want to create conditions that inspire students to become college and career ready and to fully implement STEM in the Middle School. The Board and I believe that with the addition of the 13 new positions, we can do just that,” said Superintendent Collins.



“Kaps’ and Kids” Salmon River seventh grade STEM students, Kora McDonald, Libbie Tarbell, and Rylie Gray, recently won a Highest Honors Award and the Best in Franklin County Award at the Ying Tri Region Science & Engineering Fair in Syracuse March 14-15. (Full story page 2)

With a continued commitment to providing students with quality learning opportunities to ensure college and career readiness, the Board of Education adopted five career pathways for the upcoming year. These pathways in business, technology, agriculture, art, and music, will allow students to focus on coursework that is aligned with the pathway of their choice.

Additionally, Project Based Learning, Data Driven Instruction, and steps to adequately transition 8th grade students to the 9th grade, will all aid in the success of pathways implementation.

**BUDGET VOTE & ELECTION**  
Tuesday, May 19, 2015  
12:00-8:00 PM  
High School Auditorium

0%  
Tax Levy  
Increase

15  
New Positions

-3.76%  
Budget Decrease

## Three Part Budget

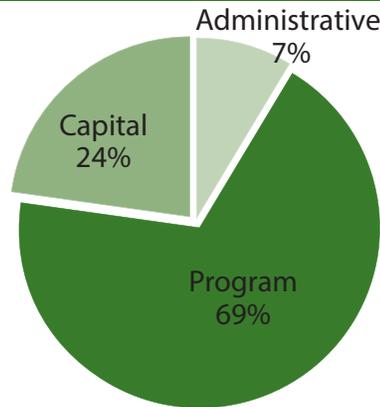
The state requires school districts to present their annual budgets in three parts: administrative, program and capital.

**1** Administrative costs include the salaries and benefits of all certified staff who spend 50% or more of their time in administration, plus the salaries and benefits of clerical staff. Also included are school board costs, curriculum development, tax collection, legal and auditing costs, central printing, central data processing, BOCES administrative costs, research, planning and evaluation.

**2** Program costs include the salaries and benefits of all teachers and staff delivering pupil services (health, guidance, library, and athletics). Also included are textbooks, instructional materials, equipment, extracurricular student activities, BOCES program costs, and all costs of the transportation program except bus purchases

**3** Capital costs include the salaries and benefits of maintenance and custodial staff, plus debt service, bus purchases, utilities, general insurance, tax certiorari and other court-ordered costs.

School districts are required by state law to mail this information to all households within the district. If you would like additional information about the proposed budget, please call the District Office at 358-6608.



2015-16 Three Part Budget		
	2014-15	2015-16
Administrative Component	\$ 2,430,182	\$ 2,446,608
Program Component	\$ 20,629,744	\$ 19,527,533
Capital Component	\$ 6,409,172	\$ 6,414,459

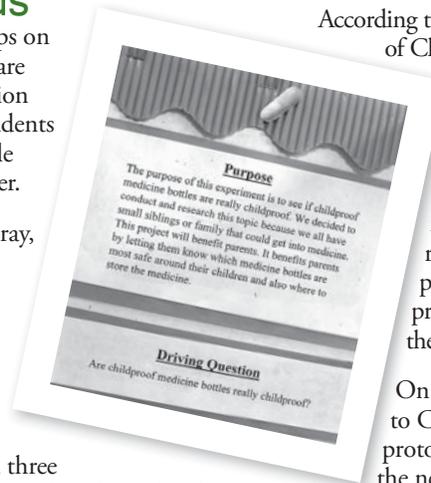
## Kaps for Kids

Whether or not the caps on your medicine bottles are childproof is the question three seventh grade students at Salmon River Middle School set out to answer.

Libbie Tarbell, Rylie Gray, and Kora McDonald not only answered the question, but decided they need to do something about it. In their experiment they asked 20 kindergarten students to try to open three different types of childproof medicine bottles. The kindergartners were allotted a minute and a half; 16 of the 20 students were in fact able to open one or more of the “childproof” caps.

Tarbell, Gray, and McDonald said they predicted that the students would not be able to open the bottles and were surprised when many of them did. After realizing the danger inherent in their conclusion, the three girls set out to do something about it.

With help from the Clarkson Shipley Center of Innovation, the students now have a provisional patent on a newly designed medicine bottle cap.



According to Matt Draper, a representative of Clarkson's Shipley Center for Innovation, Shipley Center helps students commercialize and market inventions and innovations. The center helps would-be young inventors navigate the legal paperwork and research that goes into seeking a patent. The provisional patent will provide 12 months of protection for the design.

On April 30th, the students went to Clarkson University to create the prototype. Their next step is to test the new design with kindergartners as well as the elderly.

The three students and their experiment were among the winners of the Salmon River Middle School Science Fair, and received Best in Franklin County and Highest Honors at the Ying Tri Region Science & Engineering Fair in Syracuse in March.

In the coming month, the seventh-grade inventors will submit their ideas and invention to the Young Mind Awards competition, a global competition showcasing design engineering, research and development excellence.

## District to Introduce Optical Scan Voting Machines



In partnership with the Franklin County Board of Elections, Salmon River CSD will begin the use of optical scan voting machines in the May 19th school budget vote and election.

According to the New York State School Boards Association, Salmon River was among the remaining four percent of school districts in the State who used paper ballots in May 2014. Other districts are using either lever machines or optical scan machines. Due to new State Legislation, all lever voting machines must be replaced with a new digital scanning system that is accessible to all voters including those with disabilities, by the end of 2015. Salmon River has chosen to go to the new technology a year earlier.

## 15 New Positions & Program Enhancements Included in the Proposed 2015-16 Budget

The proposed budget will enhance programs and services by adding 15 new positions district-wide. Take a look below to see what programs will be enhanced by these positions and the move towards College & Career Pathways.

### COLLEGE & CAREER PATHWAYS

In 2015-16, in an effort to inspire students to become college and career ready for their placement in the 21st century workforce, the High School will begin offering courses aligned with the STEM Pathways. In 2015-16, a new college and career semester course will be implemented. In 2016-17, grade 9 teachers will implement the curriculum through an integration across all curriculum method and each year thereafter, the career curriculum will expand to grades 10-12.

The music pathway will require the addition of two classes, Music Theory and Music History. A half-time teacher will be added to achieve this goal.

- Half-time Music Teacher

Project Based Learning will be implemented in grade 9 of the upcoming school year and a Freshmen Seminar will be added as well. Data Driven Instruction will be added across grades 9-12. Two additional teachers will be needed to achieve this goal. To properly transition students from grade 8 to grade 9, Academic Intervention Services will be offered as well as Instructional Support Team services.

### MIDDLE SCHOOL STEM

The Middle School will extend the program to grade 8 in the upcoming school year, and with the current sixth grade being the largest class since the development of the middle school, four core teachers will be added to follow these pupils through grades 7-12.

- ELA Teacher
- Social Studies Teacher
- Science Teacher
- Math Teacher

This staffing will permit the development of two grade seven teams that will continue with Project Based Learning and the implementation of the STEM programming.

### PHYSICAL EDUCATION & HEALTH

Due to the increase in grade seven classes, we will need five more sections of Physical Education. The District will add one dually

certified teacher in PE and Health, giving the HS the benefit of a health teacher. The new teacher will also be knowledgeable in Adaptive PE in order to save money on BOCES services.

- Physical Education/Health Teacher

### 21ST CENTURY TECHNOLOGY SKILLS

Students must graduate with the knowledge and skills to successfully function and operate in a technological environment within an educational and career setting. The STEM initiative in the Middle School will require that all students obtain a solid foundation in Microsoft Office and internet and web-based skills in order to be prepared for high school.

- Computer Technology Teacher

### MOHAWK LANGUAGE UPDATE

Salmon River is committed to providing 200% education to the St. Regis Mohawk Tribe: 100% of the NYS curriculum, and 100% of the Mohawk Language and Culture education for Mohawk students.

With the addition of another seventh grade team, the District will need additional sections of Mohawk Language classes in order to keep class sizes reasonable.

- Mohawk Language Teacher
- Half-time Mohawk Language Teacher

### HOME SCHOOL COORDINATION

Title VII recommends that the Home School Coordinator position become full-time in the secondary level, and that greater emphasis be placed on college and career readiness, attendance of at-risk pupils, and focus on supporting long range career plans with college and prep school visitations.

The Home School Coordinator will also oversee census work, Title VII 506 identification of pupils, work with the Director of Instruction on DDI focusing on post secondary College and Career placement for all pupils, and focus on at-risk student populations in conjunction with Title I parent programs.

### SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES

Salmon River has a complete continuum of services for students with special needs, with a plethora of program offerings. With a large 12:1 student population in the High School, an additional special education teacher will be needed.

- Special Education Teacher

## Salmon River Attendance Information

- Legal absences are still counted toward overall attendance; absences from class instruction is detrimental regardless if it is a legal or illegal absence.
- Students should be in attendance for the entire school day, 8:00-2:30 or 8:00-3:15 when required; frequent tardiness to school affects academic performance.
- Late entrance to school (tardy) and early pick-ups are counted against overall attendance.
- Contact the school when your child is absent or late to school.
- Excessive attendance issues could result in a report to Child Protective Services for Educational Neglect.
- All Salmon River schools offer attendance incentives and awards for exceptional attendance.

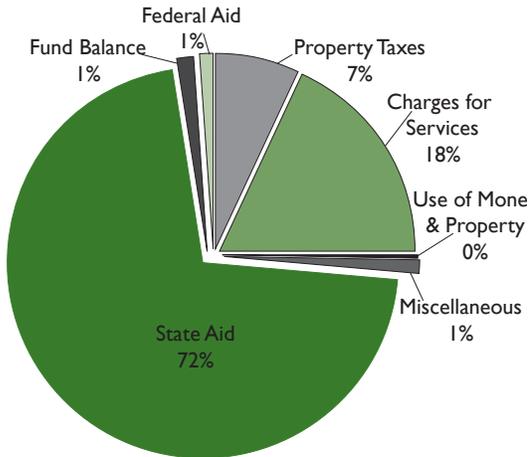
Education is important for your child's success in life. Regular attendance ensures that your child gets all the benefits school can offer. When children are missing school, they're missing out on those benefits.

When children are excessively absent, the law holds parents/guardians accountable. Attendance may be the single most important factor in school success because:

- Children do best in school when they are in class every day. The U.S. Department of Education reports that for every missed day of school, it takes a student two days to catch up.
- In addition to academics, children learn valuable lessons about personal responsibility and commitment.
- Children keep up with their peers and have stronger bonds with the school and community.
- Annually, students who graduate from high school will earn 30% more than those who don't complete high school.



## Revenues 2015-16



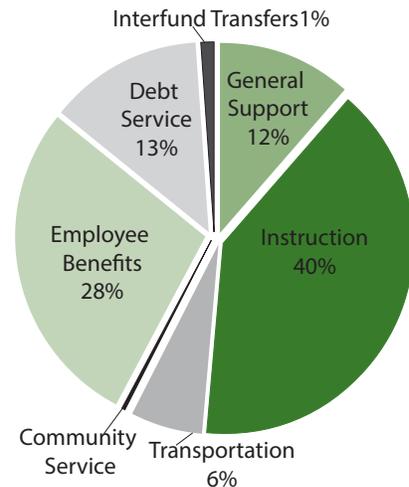
## Revenue Comparison

Category	2014-15 Budget	Proposed 2015-16 Budget	Difference
Property Taxes	\$ 2,004,899	\$ 2,004,899	\$ -
Charges for Services	\$ 2,129,100	\$ 5,126,733	\$ 2,997,633
Use of Money and Property	\$ 84,000	\$ 84,000	\$ -
Miscellaneous	\$ 290,500	\$ 290,500	\$ -
State Aid	\$ 24,293,618	\$ 20,224,330	\$ (4,069,288)
Federal Aid	\$ 383,330	\$ 355,768	\$ (27,562)
Fund Balance	\$ 283,651	\$ 302,370	\$ 18,719
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$ 29,469,098</b>	<b>\$ 28,388,600</b>	<b>\$ (1,080,498)</b>

## Expenditure Comparison

Category	2014-15 Budget	Proposed 2015-16 Budget	Difference
General Support	\$ 3,251,427	\$ 3,295,669	\$ 44,242
Instruction	\$ 11,232,011	\$ 11,368,008	\$ 135,997
Transportation	\$ 1,627,446	\$ 1,723,602	\$ 96,156
Community Service	\$ 21,600	\$ 21,772	\$ 172
Employee Benefits	\$ 9,467,385	\$ 8,028,745	\$ (1,438,640)
Debt Service	\$ 3,649,229	\$ 3,680,804	\$ 31,575
Interfund Transfers	\$ 220,000	\$ 270,000	\$ 50,000
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$ 29,469,098</b>	<b>\$ 28,388,600</b>	<b>\$ (1,080,498)</b>

## Expenditures 2015-16



## Bus Purchase on Ballot

A proposition on May 19th will ask voters to approve the purchase of four 66-passenger school buses at a cost not to exceed \$450,000, in a 5-year plan that would ask voters to approve four new buses each year instead of two. The 5-year plan will double the yearly budget for new buses, with the net cost increasing to \$42,000. The state reimburses the District for 90% of bus purchases, therefore the local taxpayers' share of the total would be an average less than \$9,000 for the next five years.

**Why move to a 5-year replacement plan?** The Salmon River Central School buses travel an average of 375,000 miles each year and carry 1,500 students daily. The District's 10-year bus replacement plan had an average bus age of 12 years with 125,000 miles. These older buses were more costly to repair and in the end were sold for scrap metal netting approximately \$2,000. With the 5-year plan, the average age of each bus will be 7 years and 80,000 miles. The newer buses will have a 5-year warranty and a trade in value of \$20,000. Older engines can average only about six miles per gallon; new buses should average about nine miles per gallon. That difference can add up to considerable savings given the number of miles our school buses travel each year. Additionally, savings will also be seen because buses with less mileage on them don't require as much maintenance - parts, testing, and overtime for mechanics. The bus replacement plan ensures that Salmon River will have a fleet of buses that meet all New York State standards, safety regulations, and laws.



## How is the Tax Rate Set?

School districts establish the tax levy, the total amount of money raised by local taxes to fund the school budget, but do not determine what portion of the tax burden is placed on any one town or property owner. Each year the actual tax rate increase/decrease varies from town to town due to changes in the assessed values and equalization rate, which are set by the Office of Real Property Services, and are not finalized until August.

### How do I estimate my school taxes for 2015-16?

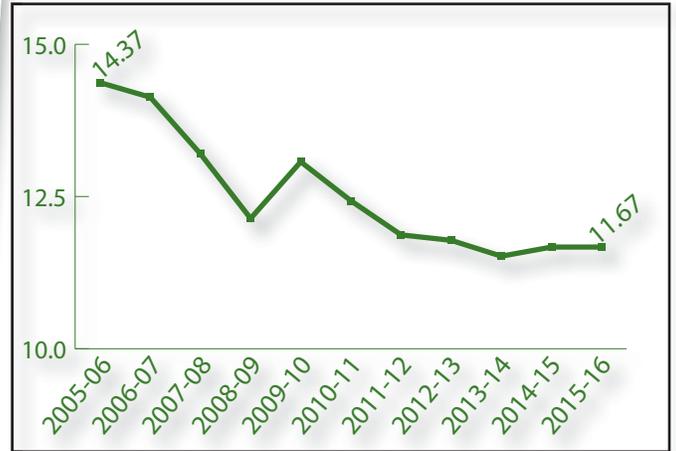
The amount of taxes collected by the District will not change. Using the formula below, you will be able to calculate your estimated school tax.

Assessed Value	÷ 1,000	X Tax Rate	- STAR =	School Tax
Example				
\$50,000	÷ 1,000	X \$11.67	- \$356 =	\$227.00
\$50,000 (Senior Citizen)	÷ 1,000	X \$11.67	- \$751 =	\$0.00
\$100,000	÷ 1,000	X \$11.67	- \$356 =	\$811.00
\$100,000 (Senior Citizen)	÷ 1,000	X \$11.67	- \$751 =	\$416.00

In late August, the District uses the total taxable assessed value of properties in each of its towns and the state equalization rates to calculate each town's portion of the school tax levy. The portion of the tax levy is then divided by the total assessed value of property in each town to determine the school tax rate per \$1,000 of assessed value by town. Individual tax bills are printed and mailed to property owners on September 1st.



## True Tax Rate 2005-2016



Salmon River Title VII students and Santa Fe Indian School students participated in a cultural exchange this spring. Above, students and teachers are shown at Ohkay Owingeh in New Mexico.



As part of the Travel Club's trip to Europe, students visited Stonehenge in Wiltshire, England. Pictured: Christina Roberts, Caroline Russell, Marisa Jock, Breanna Jock, Carly LaFrance, Krista Walrath, Molly McDonald, Tekaronhiakwas McDonald, Sequoya Chubb, Jenna French, Elizabeth Fleming, Alison Harvey, John Harvey, Zach Smith, Colin Benedict, Taylor Shoen, Connor Walrath, and Kurt Leroux.



**32** The number of scholar athletes who earned an 88 cumulative average or above for fall & winter sports

**53** The number of art students who had their work selected to appear in various, highly competitive regional art shows this year

**33** The number of students who participated either on stage or back stage in this year's musical, *Into the Woods*

**12** The number of music students who were selected to perform in prestigious county and state music festivals

**9** The number of college-credit earning courses offered at Salmon River High School. This includes Advanced Placement courses

**88** percent of seniors graduate with a Regents diploma or better

Produced in cooperation with the St. Lawrence-Lewis BOCES Communications Service  
Molly Ladouceur, Editor

## 2015 Valedictorian

Salmon River High School is pleased to announce the Valedictorian for the class of 2015, Breana Griffin, daughter of Ronald and Carmelita Griffin of Constable.

Breana was the winner of an Augsbury Scholarship and will attend St. Lawrence University in the fall. She will be exploring a major in the area of science and plans to minor in music and theater.

Breana has been an active member of the Salmon River community. She has been a member of band and chorus throughout high school and has been a member of select chorus since 10th grade. She has also performed at the All County and Area All State level in both instrumental and vocal performing groups.



A member of the drama club, her performances on stage have included roles as Connie Boylan in *Annie*; Liesel Von Trapp in *The Sound of Music*; Lucy in *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown*; and most recently, the Witch in *Into the Woods*.

Breana has also been a strong leader. She is currently Yearbook Editor, President of the French Club, President of National Honor Society where she has been a member since 10th grade, President of the Health Club, and serves as the

student representative to the Board of Education.

## 2015 Salutatorian

Salmon River High School is pleased to announce the Salutatorian of the class of 2015, Ciera Jock, daughter of Cherie and Christopher Jock of Bombay.

Ciera plans to attend SUNY Potsdam and major in English and Creative Writing. She has also been an involved member of the Salmon River school community, specifically the music department. Ciera has been a member of band, chorus, and select chorus throughout high school, and this year participated in pep band. Ciera has participated in All County vocal performances and was in the Area All State Concert band this year playing the French Horn.



Also a member of the Drama Club, Ciera was a member of the ensemble in *Little Shop of Horrors* and *The Wizard of Oz*; a Boylan Sister in *Annie*; Mother Abbess in *The Sound of Music*; and the Baker's Wife in *Into the Woods*.

Ciera has been a member of National Honor Society since 10th grade where she has served as secretary and is currently the treasurer. She has participated in Health Club, French Club, and Student Council where she is currently the secretary, and this year

served as secretary of the yearbook staff.

## SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET NOTICE

	BUDGET ADOPTED FOR THE 2014-15 SCHOOL YEAR	BUDGET PROPOSED FOR THE 2015-16 SCHOOL YEAR	CONTINGENCY BUDGET FOR 2015-16 SCHOOL YEAR*
Total Budgeted Amount, Not Including Separate Propositions	\$ 29,469,098	\$ 28,388,600	\$ 27,986,230
Increase/Decrease from the 2014-15 school year		\$ (1,080,498)	\$ (1,482,868)
Percentage Increase/Decrease in Proposed Budget		-3.67%	-5.03%
Change in Consumer Price Index		1.62%	
Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy	\$ 1,989,899	\$ 1,989,899	\$ 1,989,899
A. Proposed Tax Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount	\$ 1,989,899	\$ 1,989,899	
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 Limit	\$ 1,989,899	\$ 1,989,899	
F. Permissible Exclusions to the School Tax Levy Limit	\$ -	\$ -	
G. School Tax Levy Limit, Excluding Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$ 2,052,800	\$ 2,008,229	
H. Total Proposed Tax Levy for School Purposes, Excluding Permissible Exclusions and Levy for Library Debt, Plus Prior Year Tax Cap Reserve (E - B - F +D)	\$ 1,989,899	\$ 1,989,899	
I. Difference: (G - H); (Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval - See Notes Below Regarding Separate Propositions)	\$ 62,901	\$ 18,330	
Administrative Component	\$ 2,430,182	\$ 2,446,608	\$ 2,429,608
Program Component	\$ 20,629,744	\$ 19,527,533	\$ 19,347,163
Capital Component	\$ 6,409,172	\$ 6,414,459	\$ 6,209,459

\*Assumptions have been made in estimating the contingency budget pursuant to section 2023 of Education Law. Changes made from the proposed budget are in compliance with this law, should the proposed budget be defeated.

List Separate Propositions that are not included in the Total Budgeted Amount: (Tax Levy associated with propositions not eligible for exclusions may affect property tax levy limit and voter approval requirements)	Description	Amount
	Bus Proposition	\$ 450,000

### BUDGET PROPOSED FOR THE 2015-16 SCHOOL YEAR

Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings	\$ 356
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The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2015-2016 by the qualified voters of the Salmon River School District, Franklin and St. Lawrence Counties, New York, will be held at the Salmon River High School in said district on Tuesday, May 19, 2015, between the hours of 12:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m., prevailing time in the Salmon River High School Auditorium at which time polls will be opened to vote by ballot.

## Our Mission

Salmon River Central School District values academic achievement, cultural diversity, and celebrates individuality within a safe, supportive learning environment.



# Don't Forget To Vote

## Tuesday, May 19, 2015

### 12:00 PM - 8:00 PM • HS Auditorium

ANNUAL BUDGET: School Budget Total \$28,388,600

- PROPOSITION #1: Bus Purchase Total \$450,000
- PROPOSITION #2: Non-Voting Student Representative

#### BOARD VACANCIES:

- 5 Year Term, last-elected incumbent, Emily Lauzon  
Vote for One (1)  
Emily Lauzon  
Stephen M. Barse
- 5 Year Term, last-elected incumbent, Jason McDonald  
Vote for One (1)  
Jayne Cooke  
Jason McDonald

**Our Vision**  
People  
Respecting  
Individuality,  
Diversity  
& Educational Achievement

## Qualifications of Voters

To be eligible to vote, a person must be a citizen of the United States, at least eighteen years old, a resident of the school district for at least 30 days, and must not be prohibited from voting under the provisions of section 5-106 of the Election Law.

## Absentee Ballot

Qualified District residents who are unable to go to the polls on May 19th can cast their votes by absentee ballot.

Absentee ballots are available if you are:

- Unable to vote in person because of illness
- Planning to be out of the area on vacation or business
- Confined to prison due to conviction of an offense other than a felony
- Accompanying a spouse, parent or child of the same residence who cannot come to the polls for one of the above reasons

To receive an application for an absentee ballot you may download and print it at [www.srk12.org/budget](http://www.srk12.org/budget); you may call the District Clerk at 358-6608 and ask to have it mailed to you; or you may visit the District Clerk to fill it out in person at the Salmon River Campus School, 637 County Route 1, Fort Covington.

Applications must be received in the District Clerk's office at least seven days prior to election (by May 12, 2015) for ballot mailing. All completed ballots must be received by the District Clerk no later than 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, May 19, 2015.

## BOARD OF EDUCATION

Matthew Mainville, President, June 2017

Emily Lauzon, V. President, June 2015

Michael Connors, Jr., June 2019

Linda Durant, June 2017

Peter Ghostlaw, June 2018

Roger Lapage, June 2018

Sheila Marshall, June 2019

Jason McDonald, June 2015

Michael Sisto, June 2016

## DISTRICT OFFICIALS

Jane Collins, Superintendent

Natascha Jock, School Business Executive

Angela Robert, Director of Instruction

Allen Gravell, Director of Special Ed

Michael Warden, HS Principal

Tammy Russell, MS Principal

Kevin Walbridge, Elementary Principal

Sharlee Thomas, St. Regis Mohawk Principal



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TO: BOX HOLDER

For more information, visit <http://www.srk12.org/budget>