



SALMON RIVER

CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

2024-25 BUDGET NEWSLETTER



BUDGET REFLECTS COMMITMENT TO STUDENTS

On behalf of the Board of Education and myself, I would like to express my sincere appreciation to our dedicated staff, committed parents and supportive community members for your ongoing support. Your commitment to our students' success is truly inspiring and your partnership is invaluable. We look forward to continuing to work together to nurture our students' potential and pave the way for their success.


We are pleased to report that despite the challenges posed by the expiration of federal stimulus funds, our District remains in a healthy financial position. Through prudent financial management and long-range strategic planning over the years, we have been able to build upon our programs and services for our students, as well as improve building facilities and safety and invest in new initiatives such as green energy.

Our school budget is not just a financial document; it reflects our values, mission, and commitment to providing the best possible education while responsibly managing financial resources. We are proud of the budget that has been developed which minimizes the local tax impact, ensures operating expenses are appropriately aligned with sustainable revenues and provides students with the level of support and resources they deserve. We remain committed to making the most of every dollar and finding creative solutions to meet the needs of our students, one budget decision at a time.

Thank you for your continued support. We look forward to another new school year filled with student success at Salmon River!

Sincerely, Dr. Stanley Harper

- **BUDGET:**
\$38,673,194
- **2% TAX LEVY INCREASE**
- **4.84% BUDGET INCREASE**



OVERVIEW OF 2024-2025 BUDGET AND HOW IT ALIGNS WITH OUR GOALS

PERSONNEL & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT:
Committed to recruiting and retaining highly qualified educators and staff members who are dedicated to meeting the diverse needs of our students, including provisions for professional development opportunities to support ongoing growth and learning among our staff.

STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES:
Providing comprehensive support services to meet the diverse needs of our students, including funding for school counselors, mental health services, and other support staff to ensure that students receive the assistance and resources they need to thrive academically, socially, and emotionally.

TECHNOLOGY INTEGRATION:
Including investments in technology infrastructure and resources to support innovative teaching and learning experiences both inside and outside of the classroom, to support today's digital age, and the way technology plays a crucial role in education.

INVESTMENT IN ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE:
Allocating funds to enhance academic programs and enrichment, ensuring that every student receives a targeted high-quality education to prepare them for future success.



THREE PART BUDGET

The state requires school districts to present their annual budgets in three parts: administrative, program and capital. Below is the breakdown of SRCSD's three part budget.

PROGRAM BUDGET

2024-25 \$ 27,210,629 70.36%
 2023-24 \$ 24,307,898 66%

1 Program costs include salaries and benefits for teachers and staff delivering pupil services, i.e. health, guidance, library, and athletics. Also included: textbooks, instructional materials, equipment, extracurricular activities, BOCES program costs, and all transportation costs except bus purchases.

CAPITAL BUDGET

2024-25 \$ 7,954,093 20.57%
 2023-24 \$ 9,394,643 26%

2 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.

ADMINISTRATIVE BUDGET

2024-25 \$ 3,508,472 9.07%
 2023-24 \$ 3,183,546 8%

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

EXPENDITURE SUMMARY

Category	2023-24 Budget	2024-2025 Proposed Budget	Difference
General Support	\$ 4,841,539	\$ 4,848,821	\$ 7,282
Instruction	\$ 14,683,655	\$ 16,386,755	\$ 1,703,100
Transportation	\$ 2,838,500	\$ 3,176,500	\$ 338,000
Community Service	\$ 17,000	\$ 9,000	\$ (8,000)
Employee Benefits	\$ 8,927,000	\$ 9,843,814	\$ 916,814
Debt Service	\$ 5,128,393	\$ 3,908,304	\$ (1,220,089)
Interfund Transfers	\$ 450,000	\$ 500,000	\$ 50,000
Total Expenditures	\$ 36,886,087	\$ 38,673,194	\$ 1,787,107

CLASS OF 2024 VALEDICTORIAN



Aleska Mora-Williams, Valedictorian, finishes her high school career with a weighted GPA of 101.89, earning an Advanced Regents Diploma with Honors and Mastery in Math and Science. Aleska is the daughter of Kelly and Peter Mora-Rosas. Inspired by Patricia Cook, a local Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner, Aleska's career goal is to become a Psychiatrist so she can make mental health care affordable and accessible in the North Country.

Aleska has been named to the Principal's list (95+) every quarter of school and has held the highest GPA for her class since 4th grade. Aleska has been awarded the President's Education Award for Academic Excellence, The Daughters of the American Revolution award for the highest school average in US History, the Women in STEM award and the St Lawrence Book Award for fostering inclusivity. She has also been awarded the prestigious Augsburg Scholarship from St. Lawrence University and The Bonnie scholarship award from St. Bonaventure. Aleska is the President of the National Honor Society, Student Council, Spanish Club and the New Visions Law and Government Class. Aleska is the Social Media Director for Sources of Strength, Senior Class Secretary, and a member of NCSTEP.

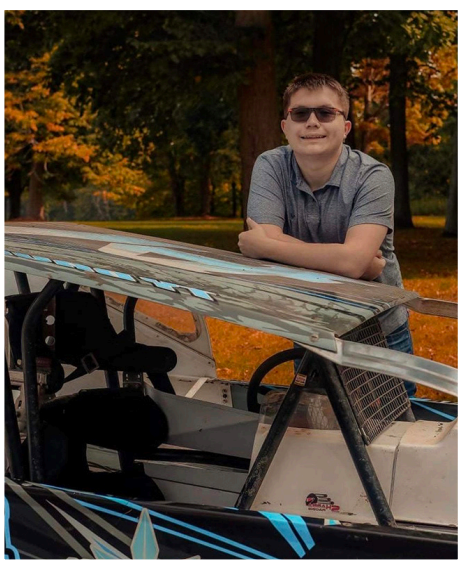
Aleska plays the flute and was selected for Area All State and Area All County in band, also participating in NYSSMA festivals. Aleska also played Varsity soccer in 11th and 12th grade and was awarded NYSPHSAA Athlete of Distinction for Section X.

REVENUE SUMMARY

Category	2023-24 Budget	2024-25 Proposed Budget	Difference
Property Taxes	\$ 1,972,568	\$ 2,011,719	\$ 39,151
Charges for Services	\$ 6,839,140	\$ 7,061,872	\$ 222,732
Use of Money and Property	\$ 185,942	\$ 213,175	\$ 27,233
Miscellaneous	\$ 252,190	\$ 297,190	\$ 45,000
State Aid	\$ 27,075,530	\$ 27,864,292	\$ 788,762
Federal Aid	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Fund Balance	\$ 560,717	\$ 1,224,946	\$ 664,229
Total Revenues	\$36,886,087	\$ 38,673,194	\$ 1,787,107

CLASS OF 2024 SALUTATORIAN

Anthony David has been named the Salutatorian of the Salmon River Central School Class of 2024. He finishes his high school career with a weighted GPA of 100.81 and will be awarded an Advanced



Regents Diploma with Mastery in Science. Ty is the son of Fallon David and Alexander “Dudes” Thompson and the late Mitchell Jock. Ty participates in Sources of Strength, National Honor Society, French Club, Student Government, NCSTEP, Whiz Quiz and Band. He is a talented percussionist and has participated in All County Band and was also excited to be a member of the Whiz Quiz team in 2022 when they came in second. As a leader, he has served as Vice President of his class throughout high school and is currently President of the

senior class, as well as secretary of National Honor Society.

Outside of school he is a member of the Mohawk Youth Health Ambassadors, advocating for cancer research and environmental awareness and improvement. In addition, Ty is an avid race car driver. He began racing go karts at age five and in 2021 moved on to racing in the Sportsman Modified class at both the Cornwall Motor Speedway and the Mohawk International Raceway. He has earned three race wins at Mohawk International and one in Cornwall. During the 2022 and 2023 seasons he was the overall point leader which earned him two championships. Ty plans to attend McGill University in Montreal and major in Atmospheric Science.

SAVE THE DATE!

SHAMROCKIN' AT THE RIVER

Inaugural Shamrock Community Day

- Shamrock Shuffle 5K
- Classes and Activities
- Walk/Run/Shuffle
- Community Resources
- Alumni Baseball Game
- Food Trucks
- Alumni Lacrosse Game
- Movie Under the Stars
- Alumni Softball Game
- Student Performances

**SATURDAY
JUNE 15, 2024**

Salmon River Central School Main Campus

Election Process

In person voting will be held in the Board Room, located at Door 4 in the Elementary school from 12:00 pm to 8:00 pm, Tuesday May 21st.

Voter Qualifications

QUALIFIED VOTERS ARE

- At least 18 years old
- A U.S. citizen
- A District resident at least 30 days prior to the vote

Absentee Ballots

To vote by absentee ballot because you are unable to attend the in-person vote, you must fill out an application. Please contact the District Clerk at 518-358-6614. If you want a ballot mailed to you, your application must be received seven days before the vote. If you plan to pick up your ballot, your application must be received one day prior to vote. Completed absentee ballots must be received by the District Clerk by 5 p.m. on May 21, the day of the vote.

SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET NOTICE	Budget Adopted for 2023-24 School Year	Budget Proposed for 2024-25 School Year	Contingency Budget for 2024-25 School Year*
Total Budgeted Amount, Not Including Separate Propositions	\$ 36,886,087	\$ 38,673,194	\$ 37,776,767
Increase/Decrease from 2023-24 School Year		\$ 1,787,107	\$ 890,680
% Increase/Decrease in Proposed Budget		4.84%	2.41%
Change in Consumer Price Index		4.12%	
A. Proposed Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount	\$ 1,957,568	\$ 1,996,719	
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)	\$ 1,957,568	\$ 1,996,719	\$ 1,957,568
F. Total Permissible Exclusions	\$ 0	\$ 0	
G. School Tax Levy Limit, Excluding Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$ 1,610,987	\$ 2,031,434	
H. Total Proposed Tax Levy, Excluding Levy to Support Library Debt, and/or permissible exclusions (E - B - F +D)	\$ 1,957,568	\$ 1,996,719	
I. Difference: (G - H); (Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval - See Notes Below Regarding Separate Propositions)	\$ (346,581)	\$ 34,715	
Administrative Component	\$ 3,183,546	\$ 3,508,472	\$ 3,508,472
Program Component	\$ 24,307,898	\$ 27,210,629	\$ 26,630,629
Capital Component	\$ 9,394,643	\$ 7,954,093	\$ 7,637,666
*Assumptions have been made in estimating the contingency budget pursuant to section 2024 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		\$ 800,000
Budget Proposed for the 2024-25 School Year			
Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings			\$ 231

The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2024-25 by the qualified voters of the Salmon River Central School District, Franklin and St. Lawrence County, New York, will be held in said district on Tuesday, May 21, 2024 from 12:00 pm - 8:00 pm, prevailing time in the Salmon River Board Room, at which time polls will be opened to vote by voting ballot or machine.

GRADE 8 ENTREPRENEUR FAIR

This fall, eighth graders took part in the district's first-ever Grade 8 Entrepreneur Fair! Students came up with a product to sell that was in some way related to their identity, traditions, customs and beliefs. They developed business plans, marketing materials, and sales pitches. After having just one week to actually make the products in school, students sold them to community members on Nov. 20, 2023. All the proceeds went toward the class trip to Boston later this year.

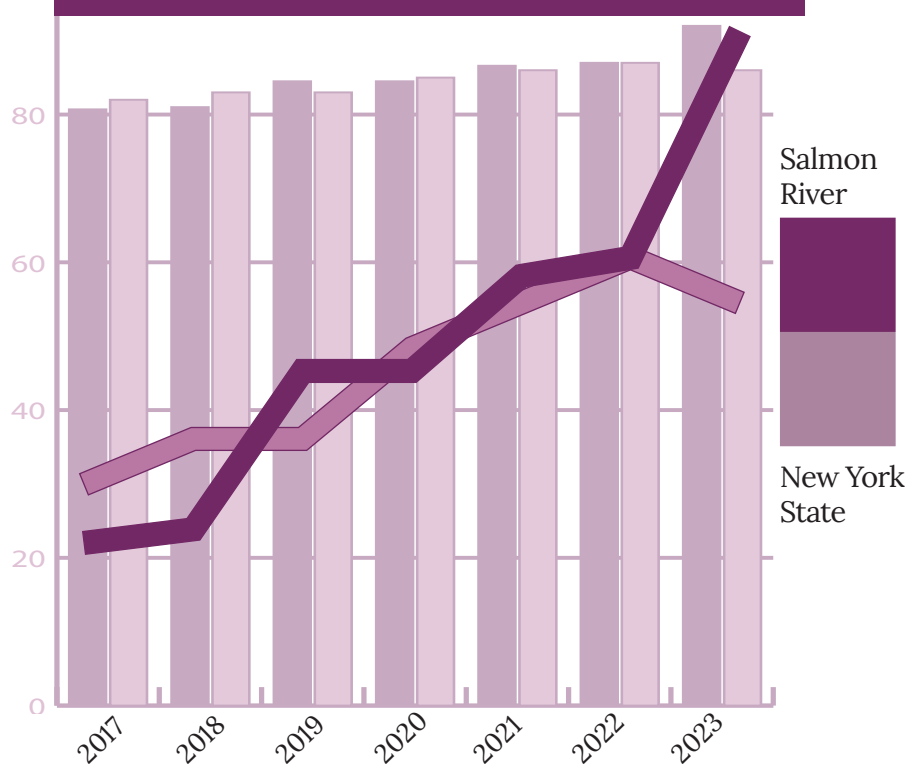


ORANGE SHIRT DAY

Residential Boarding School Awareness Day, also known as Orange Shirt Day, was held on September 30th. Salmon River students and staff chose to wear orange to make a statement "in support of reconciliation and commit to the enduring truth that EVERY CHILD MATTERS". Wearing orange symbolizes resiliency and honors all those who have felt the long-standing impacts of residential boarding schools. Many thanks to the St. Regis Mohawk Tribe's Mental Health Department for providing everyone with orange shirts!



GRADUATION RATES RISE AGAIN!



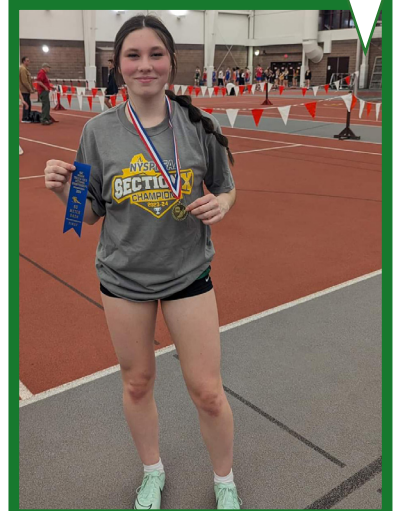
HARVEST OF THE MONTH MENU SPOTLIGHT!

As part of the Farm to School program, SRCSD supports local producers as those producers help to provide students with fresh food and other products. This year, Salmon River food service workers showcased breakfast sausage from *Pat and April's Pork* and maple syrup from *Winters Harvest Sugar Shack* in support of this effort. Based on the smiling faces, you can tell it was a success!



CHAMPION

Salmon River's Makenna Manson was the section X Class B Champion in Indoor Track this winter winning the 60 yard and 300 yard dash.



FOOD SERVICES

As always, the food service staff continues to do an extraordinary job taking care of district students.

Pictured left, St. Regis Mohawk School food service staff served students green eggs and ham to celebrate Dr. Seuss Day.



RECORD BREAKERS

Three students in the HVAC program set a new record in the shop - all of them earning their universal EPA 608 certifications on their first try. Way to go! From left to right: Brody Conners, Cruz Gibson, and Karter Lyons.

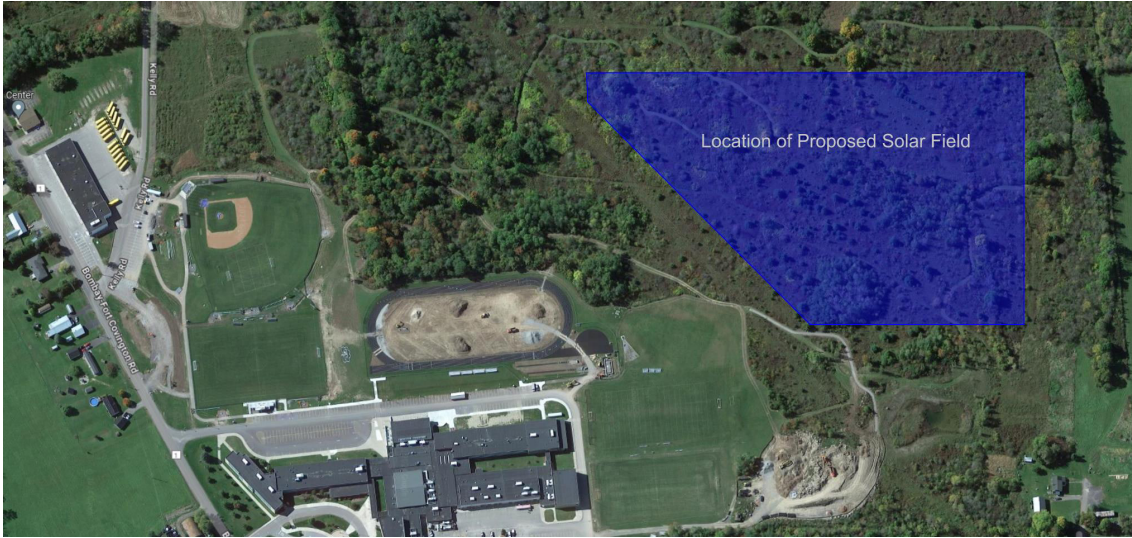


TIME FOR A TASTE TEST!

St. Regis Mohawk School students sampled a new dessert recipe featuring local beets. Yes, these brownies have *beets* in them! Thank you to the Franklin County Cornell Cooperative Extension for partnering with the Salmon River Food Services department for this ongoing Farm to School initiative.



Solar Energy Initiative



FINANCIAL SAVINGS: Using solar energy will lead to significant cost savings for the District by eliminating all electricity expenses. Combined with available Federal and State aid, the project will be paid for in less than 1 year.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT: Demonstrating a commitment to community engagement and collaboration and serving as a tangible example of how public institutions can lead by example in promoting sustainability.

"We're excited about setting an example for green technology and the educational opportunity for students to learn about renewable energy," noted Superintendent Dr. Stanley Harper. "By embracing solar energy, we are not only investing in a sustainable future, but also in significant cost savings, ensuring that precious resources will continue to be directed towards the education and well-being of our students."

The upcoming capital project aims to take another major step forward in its commitment to sustainability with a new solar energy project, a direct reflection of the District's dedication to reducing its carbon footprint while providing valuable educational opportunities. The \$16 million solar project involves the installation of a 5-megawatt solar array on approximately 16 acres of unused wooded land located behind the track. These solar panels will harness the abundant renewable energy provided by the sun, offsetting the District's electricity consumption.

Key highlights of the initiative include:

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT: Harnessing solar energy will eliminate reliance on traditional energy sources, resulting in a reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and other pollutants.

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES: The installation of solar panels will serve as a hands-on-educational tool for students, providing valuable learning opportunities about renewable energy, sustainability, and environmental conservation.



LITTLE MERMAID

The Salmon River Drama Club presented their performance of Disney's "The Little Mermaid Jr." on Friday, March 15 and Saturday, March 16. There were 32 students involved in the cast and crew, with students ranging in age from grades 6-12. Ariel, pictured right, was played by ninth grader Raeya Bryant. Ursula, left, was played by seventh grader, Kenzie Hart, accompanied by Khloe Jock as Flotsam.





637 COUNTY ROUTE 1
FORT COVINGTON, NEW YORK 12937
(518) 358- 6600

BULK RATE
ECRWSS
US POSTAGE
PAID

Fort Covington, NY 12937
PERMIT NO. 6

Superintendent of Schools,
Dr. Stanley Harper
Assistant Superintendent,
Angela Robert
School Business Executive,
Natascha Jock

**RURAL ROUTE
OR
BOX HOLDER**

BOARD OF EDUCATION
Emily Lauzon, President
Jason Brockway, Vice President
Agnes (Sweets) Jacobs, Member
Christine Jacobs-Cook, Member
Craig Jock, Member
Jordan Lauzon, Member
Shawn McMahon, Member
Scott Premo, Member

ON THE BALLOT MAY 21st 12PM - 8PM

Budget: Shall the annual school budget, in the amount of \$38,673,194 for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024, and ending June 30, 2025, as prepared by the Board of Education and filed at its office, be adopted and the requisite portion thereof be raised by taxation on the taxable property of the district?

YES NO

Proposition No. 1: RESOLVED, that the Salmon River Central School District is hereby authorized to purchase and finance student transport vehicles, and expend a total sum not to exceed \$800,000, which is estimated to be the total maximum cost thereof.

YES NO

Proposition No. 3: RESOLVED, Shall the Board of Education undertake a project consisting of the construction and installation of an approximately 16 acre, 5 megawatt solar array at a total maximum estimated cost of \$16,000,000

YES NO

Board of Education Election: Elect three members to five-year terms commencing on July 1, 2024 and expiring on June 30, 2029

VOTE FOR ONE

(Last-Elected Incumbent, Agnes (Sweets) Jacobs)

Agnes (Sweets) Jacobs

VOTE FOR ONE

(Last-Elected Incumbent, Christine Jacobs)

Shelley Jacobs

VOTE FOR ONE

(Last-Appointed Incumbent, Scott Premo)

Write In

SHAMROCK PRIDE

PEOPLE

RESPECTING

**INDIVIDUALITY,
DIVERSITY &**

EDUCATIONAL ACHIEVEMENT