

**Board of Education  
Regular Meeting**

**Minutes February 5, 2025**

**ELMIRA HEIGHTS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
ELMIRA HEIGHTS, NEW YORK**

**Call to Order:** The Regular Meeting of the Board of Education was called to order at 5:30 p.m. on February 5, 2025, by President Joseph Sullivan followed by the pledge of allegiance.

**Members Present:** Jody Buckley, Christopher Callas, John Cole, Dominic Lucarelli, Joseph Sullivan, Mikki Yesesky (6:50)

**Member Absent:** Terry Day

**Others Present:** Michael Gill, Martha Clark, Tom Boyanowski, Andy Billotte, Travis Payne, Jeff Robbins, Sally Dean-Moshier, Robin Ott, Mike Coghlan, Carol Cady

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA/MINUTES**

**Agenda** - A motion was made by Dominic Lucarelli, seconded by Jody Buckley and carried 5-0 to approve the agenda **with additions** of the February 5, 2025 Board of Education Regular meeting.

**Minutes** – A motion was made by John Cole, seconded Christopher Callas and carried 5-0 to approve the minutes of the following Board of Education Meetings:

<u>January 8, 2025</u>	Board of Education Regular Meeting
<u>January 22, 2025</u>	Board of Education Special Meeting

**Order of Business**

A motion was made by Christopher Callas, seconded by Dominic Lucarelli, and carried 5-0 to suspend the regular order of business to accommodate guests, special discussion topics and presentations in an order of business as deemed appropriate.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION** – *moved to end of meeting.*

**COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC AND STAFF**

Michael Gill - Superintendent ♦ Conference days on January 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> were great—lots of good work. ♦ Career Development Council are hosting a Business Roundtable at the end of a month. ♦ Talks of possible dissolve of Department of Education, wait to see how it works out.

Tom Boyanowski – High School Principal ♦ Wrapping up winter 1 sports. ♦ Spring semester started with new classes at TAE. There were 2 graduates in January, expecting 82 graduates in June, including 20+ honor grads. ♦ Spring Play is coming up, set is built and painting is happening. Tickets will be free for students and discounted for seniors. ♦ Board Member Jody Buckley commented on district attendance letter seemed aggressive.

Martha Clark – Business Manager ♦ Saving comments for budget presentation.

Other Staff/Public Comments ♦ Carol Cady inquired about proposal from company seeking to develop two solar farms: one on West Hill Road, and another on Hillcrest Road. In addition to a solar array, plans include a large-scale rechargeable lithium-ion battery storage product. ♦ Superintendent Gill stated that the district is still in discovery mode, he and Superintendent Austin (Elmira City SD) are hoping to meet with people from community group and planning board to find out more.

**PERSONNEL**

A motion was made by Jody Buckley, seconded by Dominic Lucarelli and carried 5-0 to approve the following recommended personnel items F-1 through F-3 with additions, and being further resolved that upon receipt of final clearance from the State Education Department, any conditional appointments shall be changed to regular appointments, reflecting the effective date of said Board meeting.

**F-1 Resignation/Termination/Retirements**

**Resignations**

- a. Joseph Cleveland as Teaching Assistant, his last day with the district is February 14, 2025.

**F-2 Appointments - approved**

Be it further resolved that upon receipt of final clearance from the State Education Department, any conditional appointments shall be changed to regular appointments, reflecting the effective date of said Board meeting.

- a. Non-instructional probationary appointments:

Stevie Vargeson

Position: Food Service Helper

Effective: February 6, 2025

Probationary Period: one (1) year effective February 6, 2025-February 5, 2026 /Civil Service

Total Compensation per EHESSA Contract: \$15.94/hr (Step 1)

Preston Carroll

Position: Cleaner

Effective: February 6, 2025

Probationary Period: one (1) year effective February 6, 2025-February 5, 2026 /Civil Service

Total Compensation per EHESSA Contract: \$15.94/hr (Step 1)

b. APEX Tutoring/Activity appointments

The following staff are appointed for duties they are qualified for as part of the APEX grant program at Cohen Middle School and Thomas Edison High School as noted for the 2024-25 school year:

<b>Tutor rate \$30.00/hour</b>	<b>TA Tutor Rate \$22.50/hour</b>	<b>Activity Coordinator rate \$25.00/hour</b>	
Marcello Perfetti	Brenda Derry	Catrina Arnold	Erika Gould

c. Drama Volunteers

Volunteers approved to work with the TAE drama program for the 2024-25 school year (\*pending background clearance):

Cathy-Jo Bogle	Kate Shilling	Sam Olson
Amanda Baroody	Gavin Michaud*	Dawn Call
Leslie Tremblay	Missy Ripley	Casey Brown*
Bobby Roe	Andrew Timofeeff*	Mary Moore
Daniel Baroody*	Michael Timofeeff	Linda Donley

d. Long-Term Substitute appointment:

Erika Gould

Long Term Substitute: Earth Science (Vacancy)

Effective: January 27, 2025, through June 2025

Certification Area: *pending* Earth Science 7-12

Compensation: \$232.99/day (Step 1) and eligible to receive benefits in accordance with Policy 6221: Part Time and Certified Substitute Teacher Employment.

### F-3 Creation/Elimination/Change of Positions

The following position changes approved:

- a. Eliminate (1) one Food Service Helper 3.50hr/day effective October 17, 2024

### FINANCIAL

#### G-1 Reports - acknowledged

A motion was made by John Cole, seconded by Christopher Callas, and carried 5-0 to acknowledge the following consent financial reports G1a thru G1g.

- Budget Status Report as of January 29, 2025
- Revenue Status Report as of January 29, 2025
- Budget Transfer Report as of January 29, 2025
- Treasurer's Report for December 2024
- Claims Auditor Report for December 2024
- Extra Classroom Report for December 2024

### FACILITIES

The updates below were reviewed by Andy Billotte from Welliver and Jeff Robbins from HUNT Engineers.

**H-1 Capital Project 2021 / Energy Performance Contract (EPC) Update** – Winter break has been productive, painter was in but there's more to do, still monitoring heating and cooling.

**H-2 Capital Project 2024 / Transportation Facility Update** – Jeff Robbins presented a slide show of the scope of work of window and roof replacement and repairs, considered Phase II.

**H-3 2025 Capital Outlay Update** – Jeff Robbins presented a slide show .

### NEW BUSINESS

#### J-1 ATL Proposal – 2024 Capital Project

A motion was made by Christopher Callas, seconded by Dominic Lucarelli, and carried 5-0 to accept the proposal from ATLANTIC TESTING LABORATORIES for Special Inspection and Construction Materials Engineering and Testing Services related to the 2024 Capital Project.

#### J-2 Bid Award – 2024 Capital Project

A motion was made by John Cole, seconded by Christopher Callas, and carried 5-0 to award Edger Enterprises of Elmira, Inc. as the successful contract bidder for the Elmira Heights Central School District's 2024 Capital Project (Phase I) #5015-001 for site and foundation work on the Transportation Facility for a base bid amount of \$2,047,000 plus alternate of \$171,700 for a total bid cost of \$2,218,700 and to authorize the Board President to sign and execute the contract after approval by the District's legal counsel.

### CONSENT

A motion was made by Christopher Callas, seconded by Dominic Lucarelli, and carried 5-0 to approve the following consent agenda items K-1 through K-7.

**K-1 CSE Recommendations – approved**

The Board approved the student placement determinations from the January 6, 10, 13, 15, 22, 23, and 24, 2025, CSE/504 meeting(s) and the funds to support such recommendations.

**K-2 CPSE Recommendations – approved**

The Board approved the student placement determinations from the January 10, 17, and 23, 2025, CPSE meeting(s) and the funds to support such recommendations.

**K-3 Substitute Policy - approved**

The Board accepted the following revised policy as presented at the January 22, 2025 Board of Education meeting:

**6221 Part Time and Certified Substitute Teacher Employment**

**K-4 Health and Welfare Contract – Horseheads CSD**

The Board approved approve the health and welfare services contract with the Horseheads Central School District, having provided services for eighteen (18) Elmira Heights students, attending non-public schools located in the Horseheads Central School District, during the 2024-25 school year, at a rate of \$482.41 per student for a total cost for eighteen (18) students of **\$8,683.38**.

**K-5 Donation – EH All Sports Booster Club**

The Board accepted the donation from Elmira Heights All Sports Booster Club of \$1,300.00 toward the cost of a Junior Hack Attack Baseball Pitching Machine.

**K-6 Donation – Community Foundation**

The Board accepted the donation from Community Foundation of Elmira Corning and the Finger Lakes, Inc. of \$350.00 for Cohen Middle School student transportation.

**K-7 Donation – Patrick Welch**

The Board accepted the donation from Patrick Welch of \$75.00 for general support of the Elmira Heights CSD through his employer match incentive program.

**DISCUSSION TOPICS –**

**N-1 Career Development Council presentation –** Sally Deane-Moshier/Robin Ott (BOCES) shared a presentation of opportunities that are offered through the council and what activities Edison students have participated in already.

**N-2 BOCES Board Member Nominations**

Eligibility information was given to board members and noted that if there is anyone they wish to nominate, please advise for the March 5 meeting agenda.

**N-3 Preliminary Budget Information**

Superintendent Gill and Business Manager Martha Clark did a preliminary presentation on the 2025-26 budget – highlighting areas where the Board may need to make some decisions later in the process when revenue budget has been determined.

**N-4 Internal Audit Topic – Payroll/Personnel**

The Board agreed the internal audit topic for 2024-25 will focus on Payroll and Personnel.

**N-5 Recognition/Memorial –** Alumni (Class of '84) Michael Coghlan notified the Board that there will be a celebration of life/Memorial for former Edison coach, Chuck Brady this July 2025.

**NEXT MEETING**

Wednesday February 26, 2025	Regular BOE Meeting (if needed)	7:00 pm	Comm Rm
Wednesday March 5, 2025	Regular BOE Meeting	7:00 pm	Comm Rm

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

At 7:09pm a motion was made by Jody Buckley, seconded by Dominic Lucarelli and carried 6-0 to enter executive session to discuss particular personnel employment histories and negotiations.

**ADJOURN EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

At 10:20pm a motion was made by Jody Buckley, seconded by Mikki Yesesky, and carried 6-0 to adjourn executive session.

**ADJOURNMENT** – At 10:21pm motion was made by John Cole, seconded by Dominic Lucarelli, and carried 6-0 to adjourn the meeting.

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Clerk



HUNT E|A|S



# Elmira Heights Central School District

## **Proposed Capital Project Board of Education Meeting**

February 5, 2025

# Capital Project Proposed Scope

## Cohen Elementary/Middle School

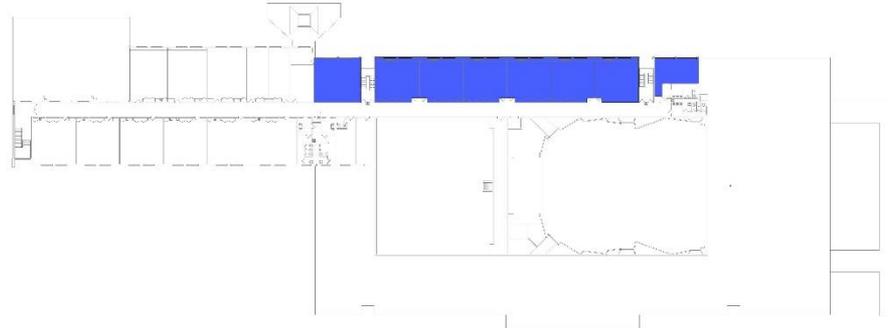
- Select Window/Door Replacements (Original portion of the building)

## Thomas A. Edison High School

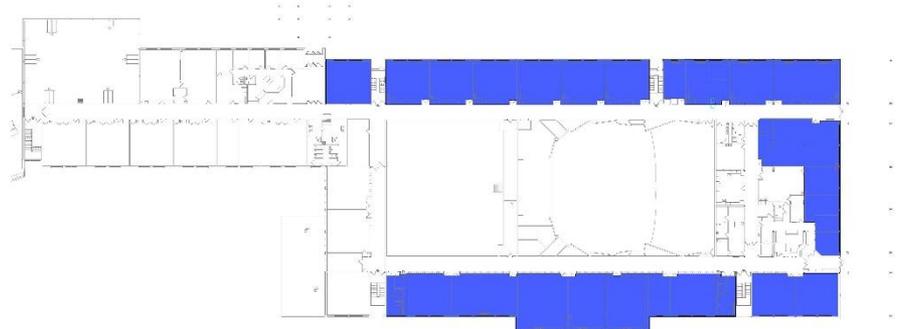
- Select Window/Door Replacements
- Resurface Facade Stucco Panels
- Select Roof Replacements Currently Out of Warranty



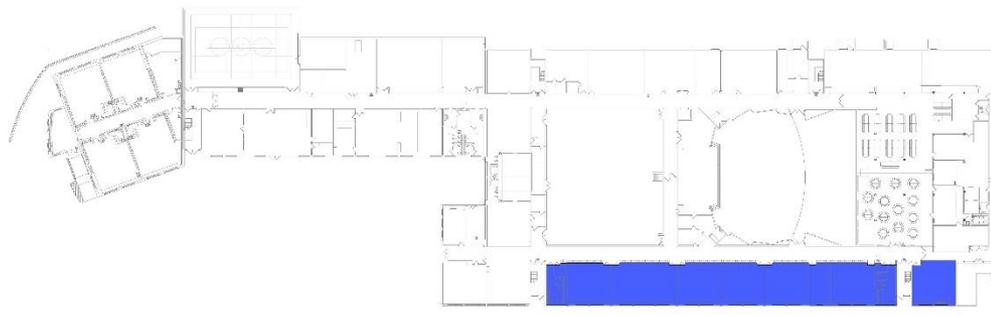
# Proposed Window Replacements Cohen Elementary/Middle



THIRD FLOOR



SECOND FLOOR

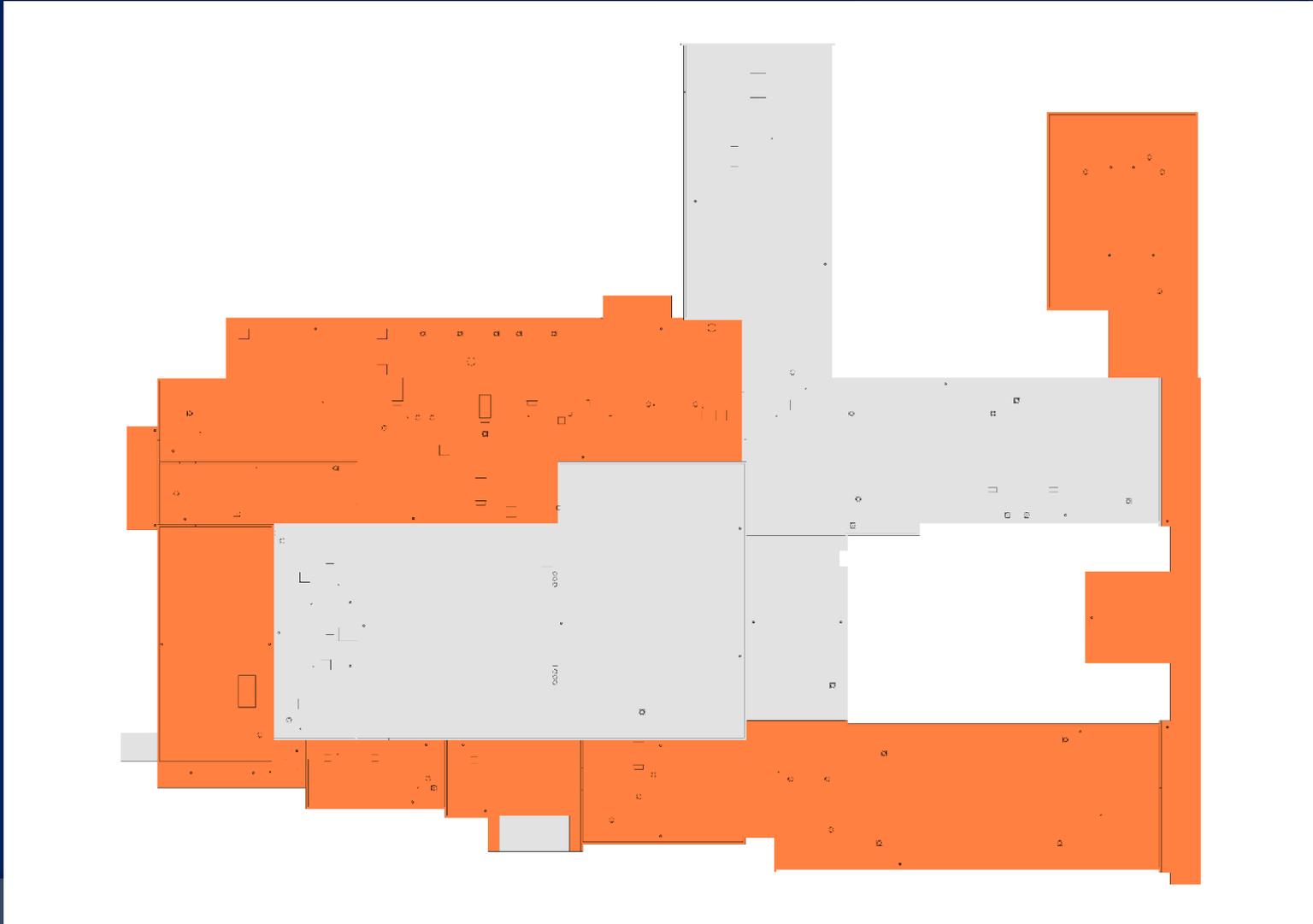


FIRST FLOOR

# Proposed Window Replacements Thomas A. Edison



# Proposed Roof Replacements Thomas A. Edison





# Capital Project Cost Summary

HUNT E|A|S



Construction Cost.....	\$3,341,354
General Conditions 1.5%.....	\$50,120
Design Contingency +/- 8%.....	\$277,723
Construction Contingency 10%.....	\$334,135
TOTAL Construction Cost.....	\$4,003,332
Incidental Cost 12%+/-.....	\$451,068
TOTAL REFERNDUM PROJECT COST.....	<u>\$4,454,400</u>



# Capital Project Schedule



Task Name	Duration	Start	Finish
Present BOE Project Scope / Financials	1 Days	2/5/25	
BOE SEQR Determination – Type II/ Referendum	1 Day	3/5/25	
Public Notice for Referendum (Min 45 Days from Legal Advertisement)	75 Days	3/5/25	5/20/25
Legal Advertisement (1 <sup>st</sup> Ad Min 45 Days Before Vote – total 4 times)	4 Times	3/5/25	5/19/25
Referendum Vote	1 Day	5/20/25	
<b>To Be Included With Phase II – Building Design Package (Transportation Facility)</b>			
Construction	406 Days	6/26/25	8/6/26
Project Closeout	111 Days	9/7/26	12/27/26



# Next Steps

HUNT E|A|S



- Present Preliminary Project Scope & Financials Board of Education Meeting – February 5<sup>th</sup>
- Adopt SEQR Resolution and Vote Proposition (March 5<sup>th</sup> Board of Education Meeting)
- Follow Referendum Legal Requirements per Draft Schedule Slide
- Referendum Vote May 20, 2025

# Empowering Futures Together: Career Development Council

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## Elmira Heights CSD

### Collaboration Overview 2024-2025

Sally Deane-Moshier- Executive Director

Robin Ott- Career Program Specialist





# Career Development Council **IS...**

## Preparing

Preparing Learners by helping students transition to the workforce.

## Connecting

Connecting Schools and Businesses by building partnerships for success.

## Inspiring

Inspiring Readiness by giving our community students the tools to explore for their future careers.

**Our goal is to inspire the workforce of tomorrow!**



**Career Development Council**

# **Mission**

**To prepare learners for transition to employment by connecting the education and business sectors to deliver career development services that promote career awareness, exploration and choices.**

# District Specific Services

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**Onsite CDC school representative to meet with students, teachers, and counselors for requested career programming which may include a variation of the following:**



**Career Development Council**

- **Career/Classroom Speakers**
- **Job Shadows – individuals/small group, for students (primarily juniors & seniors)**
- **Career-related Field Trips including tours of businesses and industry sites**
- **Career Day (typically elementary/middle school)**
- **Mock Interviews**
- **Career-related Student Workshops**
- **Student data tracking – customized district reports of all activities – BEDS data for student/educator/business involvement**



**Career Development Council**

**2024-2025**

**MID-YEAR REPORT**

**ELMIRA HEIGHTS SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Career Program Specialist-Robin Ott

# Partner with Us to Shape Students' Futures

## Support career readiness by:

- **Presenting in Schools** – Inspire students with your expertise.
- **Hosting Job Shadows** – Provide real-world insights.
- **Welcoming On-Site Visits** – Showcase your organization.
- **Joining Virtual Events** – Engage with students anywhere.

Your involvement helps students explore careers, build skills, and plan for success.

**Get Involved Today!**

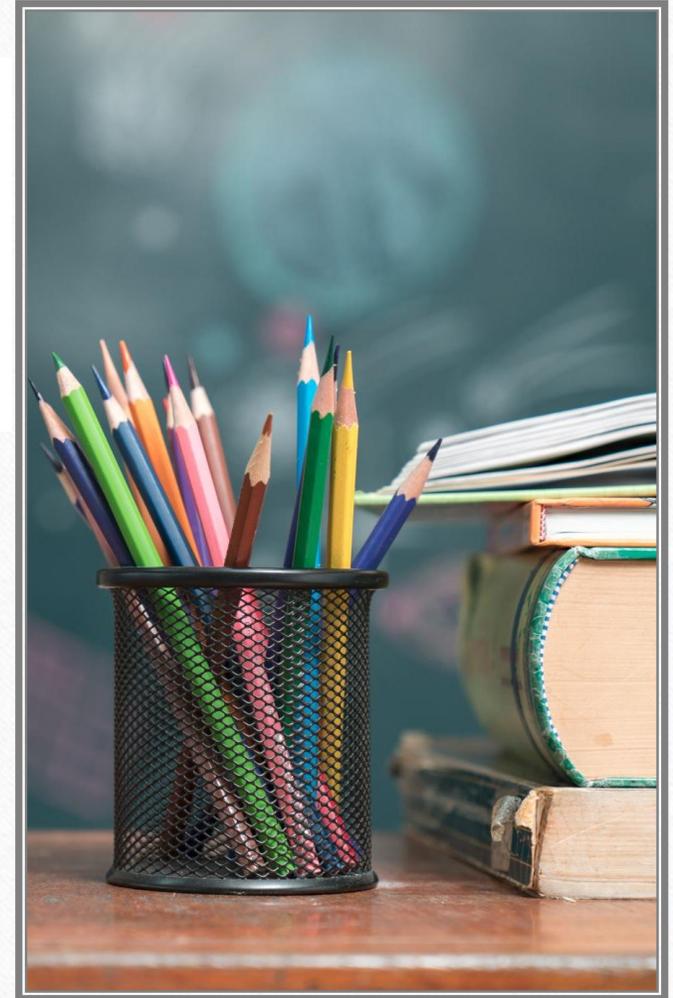


# Preliminary Budget Information

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February 5, 2025



# Budget Assumptions

- Maintain current academic and extracurricular programming
- Maintain current staffing levels
- On-going Professional Development – PLC and specific association conferences
- School Bus Replacement Schedule – Purchase of 2 Type C – 65 passenger buses
- Equipment Replacement Schedule – Purchase of replacement for John Deere Tractor
- Athletics – Addition of Varsity Soccer and Winter Tack

# Budget Assumptions

- Contractual Salary Increases – From 4 % to 4.75%
- GST BOCES – Initial budget presentation on 2/12/25
- TRS Employer Contribution Rate – Decrease from 10.11% to 9.59% ( estimate)
- ERS Employer Contribution Rate – Increase from 15.20% to 16.50%
- Health Insurance - ?????

# Executive Budget Proposals

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- Foundation Aid Changes –

Current law changes CPI increase to 3.1%

Rockefeller Institute Recommendations- Replace 2000 Census with Small Area Income & Poverty Estimates ( SAIPE)

Replace Free & Reduced Price Lunch with Economically Disadvantaged Youth

State Sharing Ratio Tier 2 slight increase maximum % increase from 91% to 93%

Minimum increase for all Districts of 2%

# Executive Budget Proposals

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- Districted Free Learning – State mandated local policy prohibiting all internet-enabled devices used by students beginning August 1, 2025
- Dual Enrollment – Directs SED to create a statewide dual enrollment policy.
- Universal Meals – subsidy for students/schools not currently eligible
- School Aid Database Freeze – frozen at certain date with no adjustments
- STAR Program Changes- age eligibility, and set 7/1 residency date

**2025-26 Executive Budget Estimates of General Support for Public Schools for the  
Elmira Heights Central School District**

	<u>2024-25</u>	<u>2025-26</u>	<u>Change</u>	<u>%</u>
<b>Foundation Aid</b>	<b>\$13,915,012</b>	<b>\$14,193,312</b>	<b>\$278,300</b>	<b>2.00%</b>
<b>Expense-based Aids</b>				
Building Aid	\$1,198,807	\$1,258,972	\$60,165	5.02%
Transportation Aid*	\$658,126	\$775,902	\$117,776	17.90%
BOCES Aid	\$2,419,878	\$2,740,478	\$320,600	13.25%
Public High Cost Excess Cost Aid	\$573,193	\$350,454	(\$222,739)	-38.86%
Private Excess Cost Aid	\$43,049	\$42,475	(\$574)	-1.33%
Special Services Aid	\$0	\$0	\$0	N/A
<b>Instructional Materials Aids</b>				
Software Aid	\$9,468	\$15,429	\$5,961	62.96%
Hardware & Technology Aid	\$21,020	\$20,340	(\$680)	-3.24%
Textbook Aid	\$60,289	\$58,658	(\$1,631)	-2.71%
Library Materials Aid	\$6,446	\$6,438	(\$8)	-0.12%
<b>Other Operating Aids</b>				
Academic Enhancement Aid	\$0	\$0	\$0	N/A
Charter School Transitional Aid	\$0	\$0	\$0	N/A
High Tax Aid	\$0	\$0	\$0	N/A
Supplemental Public Excess Cost Aid	\$0	\$0	\$0	N/A
<b>Aid for Recent Consolidations</b>				
Operating Reorganization Incentive Aid	\$0	\$0	\$0	N/A
Building Reorganization Incentive Aid	\$0	\$0	\$0	N/A
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$18,905,288</b>	<b>\$19,462,458</b>	<b>\$557,170</b>	<b>2.95%</b>
<b>Aid for Early Childhood Education</b>				
Full Day Kindergarten Conversion Aid	\$0	\$0	\$0	N/A
Universal Prekindergarten Aid**	\$340,155	\$340,155	\$0	0.00%
<b>Total School Aid</b>	<b>\$19,245,443</b>	<b>\$19,802,613</b>	<b>\$557,170</b>	<b>2.90%</b>

\*Includes Summer Transportation

\*\*Increases represent actual claims in 2024-25 returning to the maximum grant allocation, and may not reflect actual increase in funds.

# Preliminary Tax Cap

## Elmira Heights Central School District Tax Levy Limit Determination (Chapter 97 of the Laws of 2011) 2025-2026 Fiscal Year

Tax Levy Cap - Calculations and Totals	
<b>Tax Levy Limit (Cap) Before Exclusions</b>	
Tax Levy Fiscal Year Ending (FYE) 06/30/2025	\$8,562,053
Total Tax Cap Reserve Amount from FYE 06/30/2025	\$0
Tax Base Growth Factor**	1.0040
PILOTS receivable FYE 06/30/2025	\$90,398
Capital Tax Levy for FYE 06/30/2025	231,910
Allowable levy growth factor***	1.0200
PILOTS receivable FYE 06/30/2026	\$90,398
Available Carryover from FYE 06/30/2025	\$0
<b>Total Levy Limit Before Exclusions</b>	<b>\$8,533,490</b>
** As determined by the NYS Office of Real Property Tax Services (ORPTS)	
*** As determined by the NYS Office of the State Comptroller	

# Preliminary Tax Cap Cont'd

<b>Exclusions</b>	
Tax levy necessary for expenditures resulting from tort orders/judgments over 5% FYE 06/30/2025 tax levy	\$0
Capital Tax Levy for FYE 06/30/2026	\$607,696
Tax levy necessary for pension contribution expenditures caused by growth in ERS	\$0
TRS	\$0
<b>Total Exclusions</b>	<b>\$ 607,696</b>
<b>Tax Levy Limit, Plus Exclusions</b>	<b>\$ 9,141,186</b>
<b>Tax Levy Limit, Plus Exclusions %</b>	<b>6.76%</b>
<b>Proposed Levy for FYE 06/30/2026</b>	<b>\$8,733,297</b>
<b>Difference Between Tax Levy Limit Plus Exclusions and Proposed Levy</b>	<b>(\$407,889)</b>
<b>Do you plan to override the cap in 2025?</b>	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No



**Questions??**