



PROGRAMS, INITIATIVES & ACHIEVEMENTS

Golden Hill Elementary

- Increased the number of pre-K Slots.
- Offered a variety of enrichment programs to our students, including Mathematical Mindset, Trep\$, American Sign Language, and many more.
- Started 2024 by participating in Picking a Reading Partner by having two well-known authors and an illustrator come in and speak to the Golden Hill students.
- Provided more opportunities to our primary grades in the performing arts, including the performance of "Kitty Cat Capers."
- Two fifth-grade students selected for All-County chorus.
- Supported PBIS initiatives through Student of the Month, Bus of the Month, and Spartan Cash.
- Staff and the ELA Curriculum Committee will choose an ELA curriculum for kindergarten through 5th grade.

S.S. Seward Institute

- Increased course offerings for middle school students, including computer science, music, and information skills at every grade level.
- Increased opportunities for students through Distance Learning.
- Celebrated continued success in fine and performing arts through our Art/Music Student of the Month, six students selected for All-County performances, student artwork showcased at the Galleria Mall and the Spartan Theatre Players production of "You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown."
- Established Safe School Ambassadors program to equip students with skills to combat negative school climate factors like bullying, substance abuse, and other negative behaviors.
- Most of our graduating seniors took at least one of our college offerings, and the class of 2023 earned a total of 546 college credits before graduation.
- Established criteria for future graduates to be recognized with the Seal of Civic Readiness on their diplomas.
- Over 80% of graduates enrolled in two or four-year colleges.

Districtwide

- Developed District Mission, Vision, and Core Values.
- Collaborated on district strategic blueprint to monitor progress.
- Maximized fiscal efficiency through successful grant acquisition.
- Organized engaging community and school events to foster connections, promote involvement, and enrich the educational experience.
- Elevated instructional practices and student performance, fostering student growth through comprehensive iReady diagnostic testing.
- Took steps to enhance and strengthen the district's cybersecurity posture.
- Implemented strategic upgrades to modernize technology infrastructure.
- Enhanced health and safety protocols both internally and externally.
- Paved walkway to the playground at Golden Hill with projected playground equipment improvements.
- Collaborated to develop an updated multi-tiered system of support plan.

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Florida, NY

FLORIDA
UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT

51 North Main Street
P.O. Drawer 757
Florida, NY 10921-0757

VOTER INFORMATION *Who can vote?*

You are eligible to vote if you are a U.S. citizen, 18 years or older, a district resident for at least 30 days prior to the vote, and registered. If you are registered to vote in general elections, you are automatically eligible to vote in school elections.

Don't forget to
VOTE
Budget Vote
TUESDAY, MAY 21
6 a.m. to 9 p.m.
S.S. SEWARD
MEMORIAL BUILDING
51 NORTH MAIN ST.

You may register 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. any day the district office is open. The last day to register is May 16, 2024. Alternatively, you may register with the Orange County Board of Elections.

ABSENTEE BALLOTS & EARLY MAIL BALLOTS

Applications for absentee ballots and early mail ballots may be obtained at the Office of the District Clerk. Any such application must be received by the District Clerk no more than thirty (30) days and at least seven (7) days before the date of the aforesaid election if the ballot is to be mailed to the voter, or the day before the election if the ballot is to be picked up by the voter or the voter's designated agent set forth in the application at the Office of the District Clerk. Absentee and Early Mail ballots must be received by the Office of the District Clerk no later than 5 p.m. Tuesday, May 21.

Postal Patron

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FLORIDA
UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT

SCHOOL BUDGET VOTE
2024-2025

» Tuesday, May 21, 2024



Board of Education

- Rob Andrade, President
- Robert J. Scheuermann, Vice President
- Stephen Caldwell
- Lori Gorcsos
- John T. Redman II



FLORIDA
UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT
www.floridaufsd.org

EMPOWER OUR FUTURE: Your Support for Community

Voters to decide on \$26,255,573 proposed school budget

We stand firm on our pledge to uphold fiscal responsibility, which has guided our actions for years. For the past eight years, our district has diligently adhered to or even surpassed the standards set by the tax cap, demonstrating our unwavering commitment to financial prudence and accountability.

Now, let's delve into what this proposed budget entails:

- Proposed budget: \$26,255,573
- Year-to-year spending increase: \$927,059
- Proposed tax levy increase: 1.50% percent

The proposed 1.5% increase in the tax levy (the total amount of money to be raised through property taxes) is within the district's maximum allowable tax levy limit of 2.58% as defined by state law. What does this mean? See the chart below to determine the monthly and yearly estimated school tax rates with a tax levy increase of 1.5%:

MY HOUSE'S MARKET VALUE IS:	INCREASE PER MONTH	INCREASE PER YEAR
\$200,000	\$4.56	\$54.76
\$300,000	\$6.84	\$82.14

Final increase would depend upon STAR, tax assessment and equalization rates.

The 2024-25 proposed budget aligns with the district's mission to uphold student opportunities. It expands academic programs and prioritizes resources to foster a safe and enriching learning environment for all students. Proposed spending increases are attributed to:

- Curriculum instruction and assessment to enhance educational quality and ensure continuous improvement in student learning outcomes.
- Continuous investment in professional development tailored to support and advance the district's mission and vision ensures ongoing excellence in teaching and learning.
- Contractual salaries and employee health benefits, prioritizing the well-being and stability of our valued staff members.
- Promote positive district messaging to highlight our commitment to excellence and community engagement.
- Improve district communication via ParentSquare, newsletters, and websites to facilitate two-way interaction.
- Advance district strategic plan development and monitor success metrics to ensure continued progress and accountability toward our educational goals.
- \$100,000 Capital Outlay Project (district to receive aid following year) to upgrade generator for Golden Hill Elementary.

Votes will be cast in-person in the Seward Memorial Building or by absentee or early mail ballot. Absentee and early mail ballots may be obtained at the Office of the District Clerk. Voters will also elect two members to the Board of Education. Polls will be open from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m.

On the Ballot

\$26,255,573 budget proposal for the 2024-25 school year

Polls Open

Tuesday, May 21
6 a.m. - 9 p.m.

www.floridaufsd.org

Where to Vote

S. S. Seward Memorial Building, 51 North Main St., Florida, New York

More information

For more details on the proposed budget, visit www.floridaufsd.org. The full text of the budget is also available for review during normal business hours in the S.S. Seward Memorial Building, 51 North Main Street, Florida, New York.

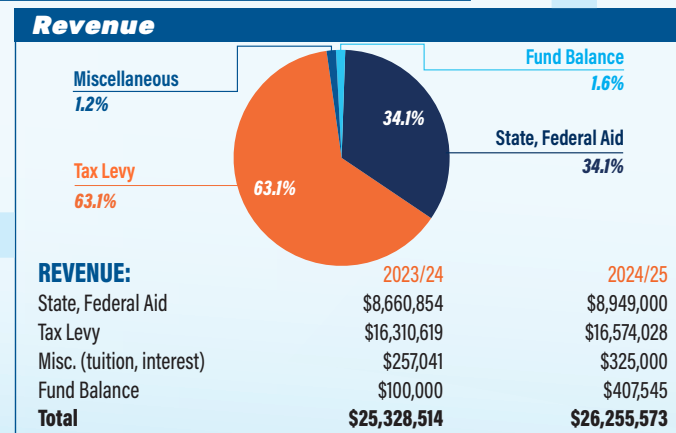
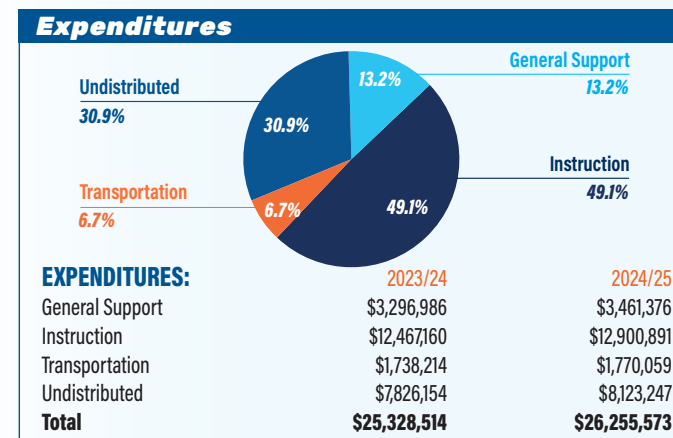
THREE-PART BUDGET

	2023-2024	2024-2025	\$ CHANGE	FACTORS IMPACTING CHANGE
PROGRAM	\$17,387,488	\$18,037,212	\$649,724	teacher salaries; curriculum chromebook refresh
ADMIN.	\$4,092,079	\$4,164,006	\$71,927	retiree health insurance; contractual salary increases;
CAPITAL	\$3,848,947	\$4,054,355	\$205,408	contractual services; equipment lease
TOTAL	\$25,328,514	\$26,255,573	\$927,059	

PROGRAM BUDGET COMPONENT (68.7%): This crucial component of our budget allocation is dedicated to ensuring the vitality of our educational programs. It encompasses salaries and benefits for our esteemed certified teachers, supervisors, teacher aides, monitors, and nurses. Additionally, it covers essential resources such as in-service training, library expenses, instructional supplies, equipment, and textbooks, all fundamental to fostering a rich learning environment. Co-curricular activities and interscholastic athletics are integral parts of educational programs. Moreover, staff development and transportation operating costs are addressed here, ensuring the continuous improvement of our educators and the seamless functioning of our transportation services.

ADMINISTRATIVE COMPONENT (15.9%): The administrative component of our budget is designed to facilitate the efficient management and operation of our educational institution. It encompasses expenses related to office and administrative functions, including salaries and benefits for certified school administrators who dedicate a significant portion of their time to supervisory duties in finance and supervision. Furthermore, it covers vital areas such as data processing, public information dissemination, legal services, property insurance, and school board expenses. This segment ensures that the administrative infrastructure supporting our educational mission remains robust and capable of meeting the needs of our community.

CAPITAL BUDGET COMPONENT (15.4%): The capital budget component addresses our school district's long-term infrastructure and facility needs. It encompasses many expenses, including debt service on buildings. Additionally, it covers all aspects of facility management, including salaries and benefits for custodial staff, service contracts, maintenance supplies, equipment, and utilities. Moreover, this segment includes operations, security, and budgeted capital project provisions. Investing in our capital infrastructure ensures the safety, functionality, and sustainability of our educational facilities for generations to come.



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	\$ 25,328,514	\$ 26,255,573	\$ 26,010,914
Increase/Decrease for the 2024-25 School Year		\$ 927,059	\$ 682,400
Percentage Increase/Decrease in Proposed Budget		3.66 %	2.69 %
Change in the Consumer Price Index		4.12%	
A. Proposed Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount	\$ 16,310,619	\$ 16,555,278	
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)	\$ 16,310,619	\$ 16,555,278	\$ 16,310,619
F. Total Permissible Exclusions	\$ 578,516	\$ 677,012	
G. School Tax Levy Limit, <u>Excluding</u> Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$ 16,055,385	\$ 16,054,614	
H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, <u>Excluding</u> Levy to Support Library Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions (E - B - F + D)	\$ 15,732,103	\$ 15,878,266	
I. Difference: G - H (Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval - See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions) **	\$ 323,282	\$ 176,348	
Administrative Component	\$ 4,092,079	\$ 4,164,006	\$ 4,128,043
Program Component	\$ 17,387,488	\$ 18,037,212	\$ 17,960,016
Capital Component	\$ 3,848,947	\$ 4,054,355	\$ 3,922,855

* 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.

The Board of Education will review the expenditure budget and make decisions on those items to be included based on Education Law Section 2023.

The tax levy increase would be \$0 and non-contingent items such as equipment and capital transfers would be removed in accordance with New York State Law.

** 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
NONE	\$
	\$
	\$
	\$

Under the Budget Proposed for the 2024-25 School Year

Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings ¹	Goshen / \$801 Warwick / \$803
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The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2024-25 by the qualified voters of the Florida Union Free school district, Orange County, New York, will be held at the Memorial Building in said district on Tuesday, May 21, 2024 between the hours of 6:00am and 9:00pm, prevailing time, at which time the polls will be opened to vote by voting ballot or machine.

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

SCHOOL BOARD CANDIDATES

On May 21st, residents will vote to fill two Board of Education seats. The candidates, in the order they will appear on the ballot, are:

- John T. Redman II (incumbent)
- Robert J. Scheuermann (incumbent)
- Virginia Moore-Stam



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