

FRONTIER NEWS

Budget Issue 2023

HAMBURG, NY 14075



Ms. Frost's kindergarten crew at Blasdell Elementary School hit the runway for an Alphabet Fashion Show in January, sporting a stylish vest they each created to showcase their specific letter.



Annual School Budget Vote and Board of Education Election



TUESDAY, MAY 16, 2023 • POLLS OPEN 7:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.

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One Polling Site For All Frontier Central Schools

NEW LOCATION:

Frontier Educational Center

5120 Orchard Avenue, Hamburg, NY 14075

Voting to take place in the Board Room of the Frontier Educational Center

Please remember to bring your ID

All residents are asked to show one current proof of residency, which may include a driver's license, a non-driver identification card, a utility bill, or a voter registration card. In addition, all individuals voting will be required to provide his/her signature, printed name and address.

There are 2 Board of Education seats up for election.

Message from the Superintendent

Dear Frontier Central School families,

The final stages of the 2023-24 school budget have been completed. The District, in close partnership with the Frontier School Board, has finalized the 2023-24 school budget proposal. The budget development process begins in January and is consistently reviewed by each department, building and administrative team.

As we prepare for the close of the 2022-23 school year and approach the new fiscal year, Frontier has many successes to celebrate:

- Phase 1 of the SOAR Capital Improvements Project will be wrapping up with major renovations at Blasdel Elementary and Pinehurst Elementary.
- Phase 2 construction work begins at the Middle School.
- Two state-of-the-art athletic complexes for softball and baseball will be complete.
- BIG Picture Academy will begin in September.
- All of our academic, athletic and musical programming will run.

The District looks forward to the new year, with our primary focus set firmly in our ability to continue to maintain our strength of programming that has been the staple to the success of the District and families. We will prioritize balancing the needs for high-quality education, while maintaining a vigilant approach to fiscal responsibility. It is our goal to work with the community to continue to improve our current programs and expand in the areas of academic programming and facilities upgrades.

The District will receive its third and final installment of federal funding from the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRSSA) and the American

Rescue Plan (ARP). We are also looking forward to receiving full state aid from New York. These additional funds will continue to allow us to address the needed support for students, especially those who have realized significant achievement gaps because of the pandemic.

Below you will find the budget summary:

- Recommended budget: \$102,237,308
- Proposed budget increase: \$5,568,985 or 5.76%
- Estimated tax levy increase: 2.81%

More information will be presented at the District's Budget Hearing, scheduled for May 2, 2023 beginning at 7 p.m. in the Frontier Educational Center (FEC) Board Room, located at 5120 Orchard Avenue, Hamburg. This hearing will also be livestreamed to the District's YouTube channel, with a video feed link posted on the homepage of our website.

I would encourage all Frontier Central School families to become informed voters about the 2023-24 school year. Detailed information about the budget is available in this publication or on Frontier's website at frontiercsd.org. You can also receive a hard copy of the budget upon request by contacting our Business Office at 716-926-1717. Please take the time to vote. It is critical that the District and community work hard together to meet the educational needs of our students.

Sincerely,

Christopher J. Swiatek
Superintendent of Schools



Christopher Swiatek
Superintendent of Schools



BIG Picture Academy to Open

Coming in the 2023-2024 school year to Frontier Central School District will be BIG Picture Academy. BIG Picture will be more than a building. It will be a place where learning happens in and with the community as much as in the classroom.

BIG Picture is being created to serve students who would better experience success in a non-traditional high school program. This choice is being offered to incoming Freshman and Sophomore students beginning in the Fall of the 2023-2024 school year. The program is distinguished by its focus on student interest, individualized learning practices, small class advisories and an individualized project-based approach to learning and internship experiences.

Students will earn a NYS Regents diploma. The difference is how credits are earned. The student and their advisor link the goals with the state learning standards and performance indicators. Students are then required to prove learning these standards. Students are assessed by presenting what they learned to a panel and demonstrating growth on their individualized learning plan. Learn more about the national BIG Picture framework at www.bigpicture.org.

*Balancing the needs
of a high-quality
education and
maintaining fiscal
responsibility.*

**Total 2023-2024 Budget
\$102,237,308**

\$5,568,985

**Budget
Increase**

\$31.75

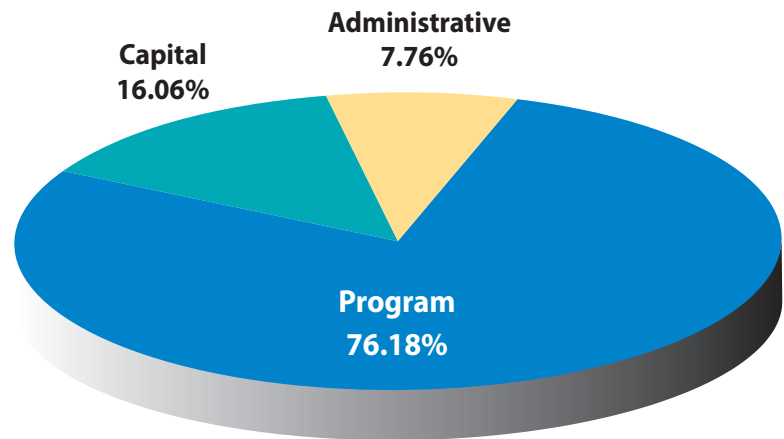
**Estimated
Tax Rate**

2.81%

**Tax Levy
Increase**

*A strong partnership
between families,
school and the
community make
Frontier a place
“Where Falcons
Take Flight!”*

2023-2024 PROPOSED BUDGET EXPENDITURES



7.76%

ADMINISTRATIVE COMPONENT

\$7,933,315

Central Administration, Instructional Administration, Business Administration, Board of Education, All Other Administrative Activities, Administrative Fringe Benefits

76.18%

PROGRAM COMPONENT

\$77,884,307

Regular Instruction, Special Education, Extra-curricular, Summer School, Pupil Transportation, All Other Program Activities, Program Fringe Benefits

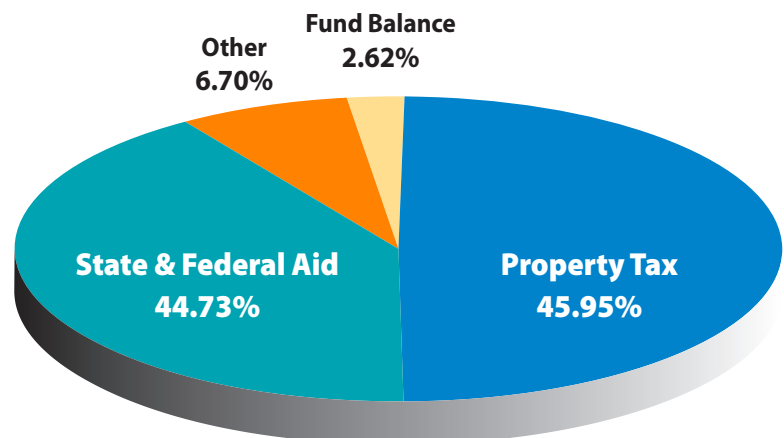
16.06%

CAPITAL COMPONENT

\$16,419,686

Facilities, Grounds & Maintenance, Judgments, Claims & Tax Refunds, Debt Service & Interfund Transfers, Capital Fringe Benefits

2023-2024 PROPOSED BUDGET REVENUES



Town	Home's Assessed Value	Est. School Tax	Increase from 2022-2023
Hamburg	\$100,000	\$3,175	\$86
Eden	\$100,000	\$2,478	(\$20)

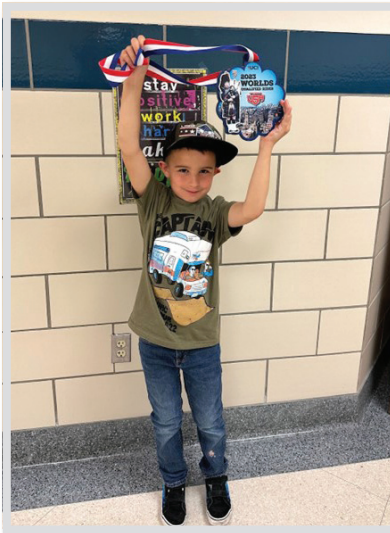
*School tax bills are estimated based on 2022 assessment information and equalization rates.

For the full presentation on the Proposed 2023-2024 Budget, visit www.frontiercsd.org.

Seen Around Falcon Nation

"Frontier has positioned itself to transition education to meet the needs of the global world. By teaching positive core values and the development of individuals, students are ready to be present locally and interact with billions of people worldwide. Schools will never replace family, but schools can teach good qualities for responsible citizenship. Frontier students are balanced to be competitive, honest, empathetic, optimistic leaders and, overall, better people."

– Dr. Jacqueline Gow, District ELA Teacher on Special Assignment for Curriculum, Instruction and Data



Parker Bucholtz, in Mrs. Cerone's second-grade class at Cloverbank Elementary School, qualified in the 8-year-old challenge at the UCI Worlds Qualifier for the opportunity to represent Team USA in Glasgow, Scotland.



Frontier Music Club presented Disney's "Beauty and the Beast" to packed and appreciative audiences in February.



The Frontier Varsity Cheerleaders took first place and were Grand Champions at the JFK Heartbreaker Challenge in February.



Frontier High School's Mock Trial Team won their case against Mt. Mercy Academy in March, with a fantastic legal argument defending a homeowner accused of taking over supervisory duties from construction workers and therefore being liable for a dangerous worksite.



Egg scavenger hunt winners at Pinehurst Elementary School received an early surprise visit from the Easter Bunny in March.

"As a Frontier parent and an SRO, I've been impressed with the district's efforts to maintain a safe and secure educational environment for our students. It's my privilege to represent the Police Department and work in collaboration with administrators to serve the needs of the Frontier community. It's my focus to build relationships and bridge the gap between the community and the police. One community, forward together!"

– AJ Lahrs, School Resource Officer

Two Frontier Teams Make NASA HUNCH Finals

Frontier High School is proud to have two teams earn a spot in the prestigious NASA HUNCH finals, held in Houston, TX in April. The HUNCH mission empowers and inspires high school students nationwide to design and fabricate real-world products to be used by NASA.

Frontier's all-female team of Mikayla Cross, 17, Chloe Fisher, 17, and Ava Kozak, 17, worked tirelessly since September on their own time on NASA's Biomedical Science challenge. To reduce waste shipping materials and supplies to the International Space Station, a NASA Biomedical Science challenge was to create edible packaging to replace the foam used in the packaging sent. Cross, Fisher and Kozak created edible packing made of a dark chocolate outer layer and nutrient-packed gelatin inner cushiony layer. After testing the weight-bearing capabilities, melting point and microbial growth of their model, the team presented their work to NASA and were accepted into the finals.

"It's been amazing watching the students grow throughout the course of this project," said the team's advisor and science teacher, Michael Delmont. "It didn't always go well and they really struggled in the beginning. However, over the past several months, they've shown incredible perseverance, put in a remarkable amount of work and have made great progress – to the point that our NASA mentor described their growth as 'exponential.' I'm proud of what they've accomplished and am excited to see how they do in Houston!"

"I am involved in this challenge because I saw an opportunity to help our planet and beyond," said Kozak. "Not only were we tasked with making edible packaging, we had to make one that would benefit the health of the astronauts. When we did not have classes during Regents exam week, Mikayla, Chloe and I all went into school to work on our project. We were able to make many models, run temperature tests on those models to conclude our research as successful, start making our website and making our brochure. This presentation means a lot to me because I finally get to share the research and testing that me and my teammates worked on for eight months."



Back row left to right: Michael Delmont, Mikayla Cross, Ava Kozak, Sandra George, Julia Tufan and Daniel Luba. Front row left to right: Chloe Fisher, Madison Osborne and Lillie Bogdan.

Frontier's team of Lillie Bogdan, 16, Daniel Luba, 17, Madison Osborne, 15, and Julia Tufan, 16, worked on NASA's Culinary challenge. NASA and other researchers are interested in watching the life cycle, behaviors and effects of radiation on insects living in a microgravity environment. One of the main benefits of studying insects in space is to determine if they can be a viable food source for astronauts. Bogdan, Luba, Osborne and Tufan designed, built and coded a sustainable habitat for insects that could be remotely monitored from here on Earth. Since crickets are incredibly nutritious, they were the insect chosen, although their proposed NanoLab could be adapted for any insect.

"When I get older, I want to be a nutritionist or physical therapist," said Bogdan. "When I found out this project involved finding the nutritional value of insects and building a box that would keep crickets in both a healthy and sustainable condition, I thought that was really cool. Crickets have more proteins than any other kind of meat. I was in shock! This project has been completely different than any other school activity I've been involved in."

"The students on my team have been extremely excited about getting to work on this project," said the team's advisor and science teacher, Sandra George. "Their passion has been on full display as they've worked on revision after revision. I've been thoroughly impressed with their problem-solving skills."



Seventh and eighth-grade students in the Frontier Middle School Chamber Ensemble performed for the younger fifth-grade students from around the district. Pictured left to right are Chloe Gill, James Connors, Henry LeeKomp, Eric Zheng, Dylan Korczynski, Brianna Haag, Sophia Kaminski, Lydia Salzman and Luke Guishard.

2023-2024 Propositions

Proposition No. 1 2023-24 BUDGET

Shall the following resolution be adopted, to wit:

RESOLVED, that the budget for the Frontier Central School District (the "District") be authorized to expend an amount not to exceed \$102,237,308 for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2023 and ending June 30, 2024, as presented by the Board of Education, is hereby approved and adopted, and the required funds therefore are hereby appropriated, and the necessary real property taxes required shall be raised by a tax on the taxable property in the District to be levied and collected as required by law.

Proposition No. 2 PURCHASE AND FINANCING OF SCHOOL BUSES AND SIMILAR VEHICLES

Shall the following resolution be adopted, to wit:

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Frontier Central School District (the "School District") is hereby authorized to acquire various school buses and similar vehicles for use in the transportation program of the District, at an estimated maximum cost (after the application of a trade-ins credit) of \$765,245 with such amount (plus an amount sufficient to cover interest incurred in the financing of such vehicles), to be raised by the levy of a tax upon the taxable property of the District and collected in annual installments as provided by Section 416 of the Education Law, and in anticipation of such tax, bonds, notes or other obligations of the District (including, without limitation, obligations arising under leases, lease/purchase contracts or installment purchase contracts having a term of not more than five years) shall be issued or entered into in accordance with applicable provisions of New York State law.

Proposition No. 3 ESTABLISHMENT OF CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS RESERVE FUND

Shall the following resolution be adopted, to wit:

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education (the "Board") of the Frontier Central School District, Erie County, New York (the "District") is hereby authorized to establish a new capital improvements reserve fund pursuant to Section 3651 of the Education Law of the State of New York (the "Fund"); that the Fund shall be known as the "Capital Improvements Reserve Fund, 2023" of the District; that the Fund shall be established for the purpose of financing, in whole or in part, the acquisition, construction, reconstruction, expansion, renovation, alteration and improvement of buildings, facilities, sites and real property by the District, or the District's share of the cost of any capital improvements project undertaken by a Board of Cooperative Educational Services ("BOCES") of which the District is (or may become) a component district, including, in all cases, the acquisition of necessary furnishings, equipment, machinery and apparatus; that the ultimate amount of the Fund shall be not greater than \$5,000,000 (plus interest earned thereon); that the probable term of the Fund shall be not longer than ten (10) years; and that the permissible sources from which the Board is authorized to appropriate monies to the Fund from time to time shall be (A) budgetary appropriations of the District; (B) unappropriated fund balance of the District; (C) State aid received as reimbursement for expenditures by the District in connection with District capital improvements (whether or not such improvements were financed in whole or in part from the Fund); (D) the proceeds from the sale of unneeded real or personal property owned by the District; (E) one or more other reserve funds of the District; and/or (F) such other sources as the Board or the voters of the District may direct from time to time, all as may be permitted by law.

Chiavetta's Chicken BBQ

May 16, 2:15-6:30 PM • Drive-Thru Only

Frontier Central High School • 4432 Bayview Road, Hamburg

Cost: \$15 at the door • Presale: \$14

Pre-sale dinners must be picked up before 6 PM
and can be ordered by emailing msnyder@frontiercsd.org.

Make checks payable to FRONTIER HIGH SCHOOL and return to: Mary Frances Snyder at Frontier High School, 4432 Bayview Road, Hamburg NY 14075. You will receive an e-mail confirmation.

Proceeds benefit both the Frontier High School Sophomore and Junior Classes.



Board of Education Election

There are two vacant Board of Education seats this year. The two candidates with the most votes will be elected to a four-year term: July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2027. Candidates running for election are below. Please note that each statement provided by a candidate has been printed as submitted and was not edited in any manner.



John Kilcoyne

I have been a homeowner and resident of Lake View since 2009. My wife, Shannon, is a Blasdell Elementary Special Education Teacher. We have three boys: Brennen, Evan and Liam.

I am a strong believer in a well-rounded education that includes a combination of academics, athletics, community involvement and the arts.

I have been active in the community spending nine years coaching at Hamburg Little Loop, six years coaching baseball at both Lake Shore and Lake View, and helped found the Frontier Black & Blue Booster Club where I left as president for the Board. I have a degree in Business from Cornell University and am a Director of Sales Operations.

I ran for the Board with the belief that it was "Time4Change!" Maximizing opportunities for students to learn and grow must be the focus and measuring stick for school board activity. I ran with the belief that we must "ACT" (Advocacy, Collaboration and Transparency) now! I am running for re-election as I am not done advocating for what additional changes are needed. I have been successful in helping create a culture of collaboration and communication and have successfully increased Board transparency by deploying our video system for our meetings.



Tiffany (Lock) Tangel

Wife, Mother of 3, Education Advocate, PTA Leader, Project Manager

I am a Frontier graduate and currently have two children attending Blasdell Elementary. I have a vested interest in our school district and this community. I have a track record of supporting education while asking the tough questions and holding leadership accountable. I am passionate about ALL students receiving a quality education for their individual needs. Each child deserves to be on a path to not just graduating but having the ability to lead a quality and successful life.

To accomplish this, it starts with support for our school employees. Working on acquiring the best available candidates, retaining them, and providing quality continued education and curriculums.

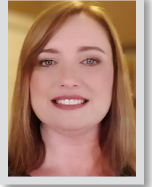
We need to emphasize student/staff safety, discipline, and mental health.

I will listen, encourage, respect and value every parent, student, and community members involvement. I will be transparent and honest while working together to ensure responsible and strategic use of fiscal and human resources.

My skills, experience and empathy for each child are needed to support our district through these tough times of working together to close the learning gaps.

I would very much appreciate your support.

Erin Oliver



My husband and I chose to build our home in Hamburg to raise our children in a safe and friendly community, with a good education system. And now that my children have graduated, I want to ensure the next generation receives the same great education. As a resident, taxpayer, and mom, I know I can make a positive impact on our district.

If elected, I would support a high-quality education in a safe and nurturing environment, with a focus on physical safety, mental wellness, and overall well-being. Also, as an educator's wife, I understand the demands placed on teachers, especially in today's environment. It's important to support and retain our talented teachers and staff, address burnout, and hire highly qualified candidates for open positions. Furthermore, I look forward to carefully reviewing the budget and making responsible decisions without compromising quality or resources.

Finally, I would foster positive relationships with parents, students, teachers, staff, and the community to ensure their voice is heard when making policies and budgetary decisions or working with local and state leaders to advocate for legislation, policies, financial aid, and resources to meet the district's needs.

Thank you and I look forward to serving our community!

Jim Voto



As a candidate for membership on the Frontier Board of Education, I am pleased to share some facts about myself and what I stand for in education.

I have been a member of the Frontier Community for over 25 years, during which I served as a teacher, parent and taxpayer in the district. Having been an educator, it is only natural that in my retirement I choose to remain involved.

As a music educator, I taught hundreds of students. Those years provided an opportunity to develop relationships in the community where I became a member of the Frontier Family, a unique blend of people joining together to educate kids.

While education is designed for all, it was my goal to provide special, rigorous opportunities for student achievement. A Frontier education focuses on critical thinking skills and promotes a healthy school culture where academics coexist with sports, music, art, theater, and club experiences.

If elected to the Frontier BOE, I will work to provide opportunities for student achievement while respecting the community and its tax dollars. I am ready to take the next step in the Frontier Family and respectfully ask for your vote on May 16th.

Responsibilities of a Board Member

As a member of the Frontier Central School District Board of Education, you are:

- A representative of the entire community
- A steward of the district's resources
- A leader of the district, and
- An advocate for public education



Frontier Central District News

Published by the

Board of Education

Frontier Central Schools

5120 Orchard Avenue, Hamburg, NY 14075

Superintendent of Schools

Christopher Swiatek

2022-23 Board of Education

Dr. Mary Ann Costello, President

John Cordier, Vice President

Laura Errington, VP Pro Tempore

Patrick T. Boyle

Daniel Diplock

John Kilcoyne Jr.

Davis Podkulski

(Non-Profit Organization)

U.S. Postage

PAID

Hamburg, NY

Permit No. 92

District Resident

SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET NOTICE

Overall Budget Proposal	Budget Adopted for the 2022-23 School Year	Budget Proposed for the 2023-24 School Year	Contingency Budget for the 2023-24 School Year*
Total Budgeted Amount, Not Including Separate Propositions	\$96,668,323	\$102,237,308	\$100,980,042
Increase/Decrease for the 2023-24 School Year		\$5,568,985	\$4,311,719
Percentage Increase/Decrease in Proposed Budget		5.76%	4.46%
Change in the Consumer Price Index		8.0%	
A. Proposed Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount	\$44,808,332	\$46,065,598	
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)	\$44,808,332	\$46,065,598	\$44,808,332
F. Total Permissible Exclusions	\$1,345,829	\$1,345,637	
G. School Tax Levy Limit, <u>Excluding</u> Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$43,462,503	\$44,719,961	
H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, <u>Excluding</u> Levy to Support Library Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions (E - B - F + D)	\$43,462,503	\$44,719,651	
I. Difference: G - H (Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval - See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions **)	\$0	\$0	
Administrative Component	\$7,119,625	\$7,933,315	\$7,585,315
Program Component	\$74,133,418	\$77,884,307	\$77,295,041
Capital Component	\$15,415,281	\$16,419,686	\$16,099,686
Should the 2023-2024 budget be defeated, pursuant to Section 2023 of Education Law, the 2023-2024 Contingent Budget reflects the following preliminary assumptions:			
1. Equipment appropriations will be eliminated except for State Aided Hardware, students with Special Needs equipment and equipment essential to maintain educational programs.			
2. Costs for use of buildings by certain outside groups will be required to be offset by revenue charged to these groups.			
3. The Tax Levy will remain flat at the 2022-2023 year level as required by 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	
	Proposition 2	\$765,245	

Under the Budget Proposed for the 2023-24 School Year

Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings ¹	\$ 352.43
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The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2023-24 by the qualified voters of the Frontier School District, Erie County, New York, will be held at the Frontier Educational Center, 5120 Orchard Ave., Hamburg, NY in said district on Tuesday, May 16, 2023 between the hours of 7:00 am and 9:00 pm, 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.