



Budget 2023-2024
marioncs.org

Black Knight Banner

MARION CENTRAL SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

To the Marion Black Knight Learning Community,

As we head into spring I'm always watching for the first robins and violets, listening for the first spring peepers, and thinking about growth. At Marion I'm proud of the responsible, sustainable programming growth we've been able to provide for our students. Our agriculture programming has continued to grow with increasing student course enrollments and our expanding National FFA Organization chapter. We have provided enrichment and intervention opportunities for our Junior-Senior High School students with our mid-day programming. At Marion Elementary School, students have had the chance to explore their interests or try out a new skill through our mini-camp programming. This type of programming growth helps

students explore their interests and find positive connections to school.

While keeping sustainable growth in mind throughout our budget planning process, the Marion Central School District seeks to balance the long term financial security of the district with current financial realities, while still providing the very best programming and educational experiences we can for our students. This year, unlike the rest of the school districts in Wayne County, our foundation aid from New York State has stayed flat at three percent. On the expense side of our budget, inflation, energy costs and health care costs have made a big impact. The 2023-24 school year will be the last year we receive the American Rescue Plan funding from the

federal government. Knowing these constraints, we have developed a fiscally conservative budget that meets the needs of our students and community.

With a tax levy increase of 2.30%, this year's budget is tax cap compliant and all homeowners will remain eligible for the property tax relief checks. We appreciate the Marion community's ongoing support of our students and our goal of sustainable programming for our District. I encourage all of you to exercise your right to vote on May 16.



**With Black Knight Pride,
Dr. Ellen Lloyd**



2023-2024 DISTRICT BUDGET PROPOSAL

The process of developing a budget begins in December each year, and includes input from stakeholders in the school community, as well as members of the Board of Education. The District employs objectives for budget development focused upon supporting Marion's Philosophical Framework, including innovative instructional practices and personalized learning, in a way that is fiscally responsible and sustainable.

Despite next year's 7% increase in health care costs and rising costs due to inflation, the district was able to limit

the overall budget increase less debt service in the proposed 2023-2024 budget to just 0.87%. This was largely accomplished through personnel attrition and a careful analysis of "needs" versus "wants" across all budget line items. The State has increased Foundation aid by 3% which helps mitigate the additional costs due to health care and inflation.

The District's projected tax levy increase to support this proposal is 2.3%. This proposed levy increase is below the Governor's calculated tax cap for the district, making homeowners eligible for their property tax relief checks.



**PROPERTY TAX
RELIEF CHECK
ELIGIBLE**



**NYS TAX CAP
COMPLIANT**

HIGHLIGHTS OF PROPOSED BUDGET

- Maintains all current instructional programs and student services
- Provides increased supports for academic achievement and student wellness
- Continues the District's commitment to 1:1 instructional technology
- Supports a comprehensive platform for delivery of personalized instruction
- Embedded capital outlay project aimed at completing the conversion of HVAC controls from pneumatic to digital

DID YOU KNOW?

- The District continues to offset debt service costs with State Aid, ensuring no local tax burden for the capital component of the budget
- The District has an A+ credit rating assigned by Standard and Poors

BUDGET VOTE

**TUESDAY,
MAY 16, 2023
12:00 - 8:00 P.M.
ELEMENTARY AUDITORIUM**



2023-2024 PROPOSED REVENUE SOURCES

STATE AND FEDERAL AID

62.59%

This category includes NYS foundation (basic) aid, as well as categorical expense based aids to support BOCES services, debt service from capital projects, transportation costs, and instructional materials. The District also receives federal reimbursement for eligible Medicaid services.

REAL PROPERTY TAX

32.41%

This category includes the local property tax levy.

FUND BALANCE AND RESERVE

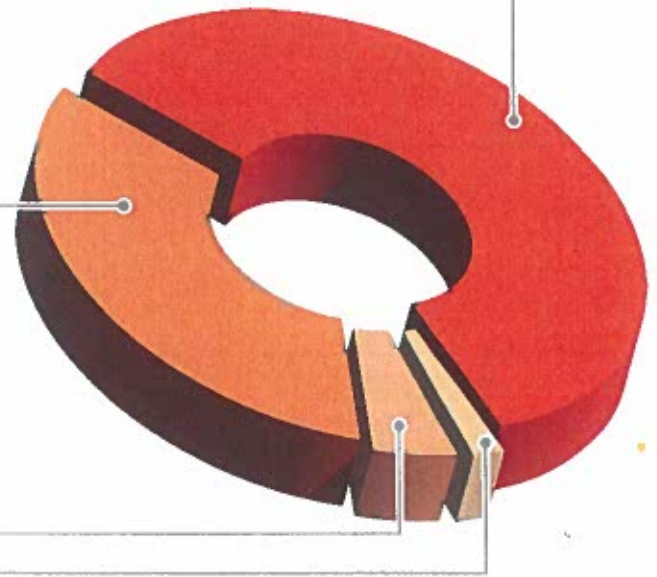
3.32%

This category includes the utilization of surplus funds from the prior year's budget to reduce taxes.

LOCAL SOURCES

1.67%

This category includes Marion's allocated share of sales tax from Wayne County, interest earned on the District reserves and cash on hand, and other miscellaneous refunds and fees for services.



2023-2024 PROPOSED EXPENDITURES

INSTRUCTION

48.38%

This category includes teacher's salaries, student health supports, instructional technology and curriculum coordination, instructional materials, BOCES instructional programs, co-curricular and extra-curricular programs.

EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

25.12%

This category includes the cost of social security, NYS retirement systems, health insurance, worker's compensation and unemployment insurances.

GENERAL SUPPORT

11.45%

This category includes maintenance of buildings, grounds, and infrastructure, utility costs, central administration for human resources and finance, and costs related to legal support, compliance, and governance.

DEBT SERVICE AND INTERFUND TRANSFERS

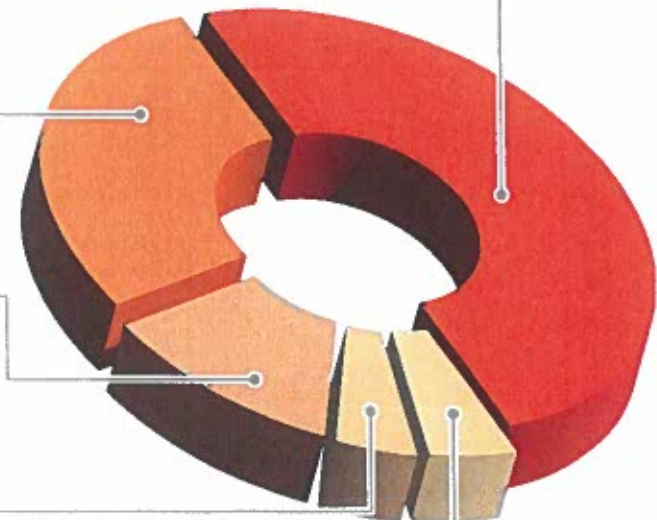
9.87%

This category includes debt service from capital projects, which is supported by associated state building aid, as well as support of the school's food service and special education programs.

TRANSPORTATION

5.19%

This category includes the operational costs for transportation of students to District schools, parochial and private schools, BOCES programs, field trips, and extra-curricular events.





TOTAL BUDGET - \$22,687,300

GENERAL SUPPORT	2022-23	2023-24	Change
Equipment	\$49,000	\$7,500	-84.69%
Salaries	\$920,695	\$941,775	2.29%
Contractual Services	\$706,300	\$761,800	7.86%
Contractual (BOCES)	\$817,490	\$795,830	-2.65%
Supplies	\$84,150	\$87,650	4.16%
Total	\$2,577,635	\$2,594,555	0.66%

TRANSPORTATION	2022-23	2023-24	Change
Equipment	\$25,000	\$25,000	0.00%
Salaries	\$725,340	\$792,340	9.24%
Contractual Services	\$126,300	\$138,450	9.62%
Contractual (BOCES)	\$5,000	\$5,000	0.00%
Supplies	\$144,550	\$216,350	49.67%
Total	\$1,026,190	\$1,177,140	14.71%

OTHER/SUPPORT OF CAPITAL	2022-23	2023-24	Change
Community Service	\$3,000	\$3,000	0.00%
Debt Service	\$813,500	\$2,099,190	158.04%
Interfund Transfers	\$140,000	\$140,000	0.00%
Total	\$956,500	\$2,242,190	134.42%

INSTRUCTION	2022-23	2023-24	change
Equipment	\$78,000	\$78,000	0.00%
Salaries	\$7,013,625	\$7,331,970	4.54%
Contractual Services	\$943,620	\$977,220	3.56%
Contractual (BOCES)	\$2,503,500	\$2,408,000	-3.81%
Supplies	\$174,025	\$180,225	3.56%
Total	\$10,712,770	\$10,975,415	2.45%

EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	2022-23	2023-24	change
Social Security	\$633,000	\$675,000	6.64%
NYS Retirement	\$1,008,000	\$1,008,000	0.00%
Health and Dental	\$3,955,000	\$3,580,000	-9.48%
Other Benefits	\$355,000	\$435,000	22.54%
Total	\$5,951,000	\$5,698,000	-4.25%

This newsletter is a budget summary. Copies of the detailed budget are available on the district website. Attached to the detailed budget, in compliance with the Chapter 474 Laws of 1996, are the school report cards, property tax report card, district's fiscal accountability supplement, exemption reporting for taxing jurisdiction, and salary disclosure statement.

NYS 3- PART BUDGET FORMAT		2022-23 Budget	% of Budget	2023-24 Budget	% of Budget
ADMINISTRATIVE	Regulatory requirements, general administration, and infrastructure support	\$2,164,950	10.20%	\$2,251,785	9.93%
PROGRAM	Curriculum & instruction, counseling, health, transportation, extra-curriculars	\$16,430,510	77.41%	\$16,556,735	72.98%
CAPITAL	Debt associated with building projects, and maintenance costs	\$2,628,635	12.39%	\$3,878,780	17.10%
TOTAL		\$21,224,095		\$22,687,300	6.89%

2023-2024 TRUE VALUE TAX PROJECTION*

2022-23 True Value Tax Rate	2023-24 Projected True Value Tax Rate	% Change	Annual Decrease - \$100,000 Home
\$17.88	\$17.75	-0.70%	\$13

DID YOU KNOW?

- The True Value Tax Rate peaked in 2016 at \$23.96 per \$1000. In 2022, the True Tax Rate was \$17.88. This is a decrease of over \$6 since 2016.
- The projected true value tax rate is \$0.13 lower than the tax rate from last year.
- Property taxes account for 32.4% of Marion's operating revenue, which is in the bottom third of districts in the Finger Lakes.

*Tax rates will vary by town based upon assessment levels – The District does not determine assessment levels.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WILL MY TAX RATE INCREASE BY THE SAME PERCENTAGE AS THE TAX LEVY?

No. The District does not set the tax rate. The District can only set the local tax levy, which is calculated using the NYS tax cap formula. The tax levy is the total amount of taxes a school district raises to help fund its budget and Marion's proposed levy for the annual 2023-24 school budget is \$7,341,759; roughly a third of the total budget. Tax rates are then determined based upon several factors, including each town's assessment values and equalization rates. Tax rates cannot be accurately determined until the summer after the school budget is passed, when assessment values and equalization rates are finalized.

WHAT IS THE EQUALIZATION RATE? DOES THIS IMPACT PROPERTY TAXES?

Equalization Rates indicate the ratio of assessed value to market value in any given municipality. They are designed to ensure that owners of properties with similar market values pay an equivalent amount of taxes, even though their assessed values may differ by township.

The District can only establish the tax levy. Tax rates are subject to a home's assessed value and the town's equalization rate, which is determined by the real property tax office of NYS. A town at 100% equalization will pay the District's true value tax rate, while a town with a rate lower than 100% will pay an incrementally higher tax rate to equalize the amount of taxes paid.

NYS REQUIRED BUDGET NOTICE

Overall Budget Proposal	Budget Adopted for the 2022-2023 School Year	Budget Proposed for the 2023-2024 School Year	Contingency Budget for the 2023-2024 School Year*
Total Budgeted Amount, Not Including Separate Propositions	\$ 21,224,095	\$ 22,687,300	\$ 22,519,300
Increase/Decrease for the 2023-24 School Year		\$ 1,463,205	+\$1,295,205
Percentage Increase/Decrease in Proposed Budget		6.89 %	+6.10%
Change in the Consumer Price Index		8.00 %	
A. Proposed Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount	\$ 7,176,358	\$ 7,341,759	
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)	\$ 7,176,358	\$ 7,341,759	\$7,176,358
F. Total Permissible Exclusions	0	0	
G. School Tax Levy Limit, Excluding Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$	\$	
H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, Excluding Levy to Support Library Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions (E - B - F + D)	\$ 7,176,358	\$ 7,341,759	
I. Difference: G - H (Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval - See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions) **	\$0	\$0	
Administrative Component	\$ 2,164,950	\$ 2,251,785	\$2,123,135
Program Component	\$ 16,430,510	\$ 16,556,735	\$16,607,935
Capital Component	\$ 2,628,635	\$ 3,878,780	\$3,788,630
* The contingency budget removes certain equipment and capital related expenses should the proposed budget be defeated, pursuant to Section 2023 of the Education Law. ** Bus Purchase Proposition			
	Description	Amount	
	Withdrawal from Bus Purchase Reserve	\$ 400,000	
Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings Under the Budget Proposed for the 2023-24 School Year			\$ 640



VOTER INFORMATION

BUDGET HEARING

Tuesday, May 2, 2023
at 6:00 P.M.

Elementary Auditorium

BUDGET VOTE

TUESDAY,
MAY 16, 2023

Voting in Elementary
Auditorium from 12 - 8 P.M.

TO BE A QUALIFIED VOTER, AN INDIVIDUAL MUST BE:

- A U.S. Citizen
- At least 18 years of age
- A district resident for at least 30 days prior to the vote

VOTING PROCEDURE

The Budget Vote will be conducted in person. If you do not feel comfortable voting in person due to COVID, you may request an Absentee Ballot Application from Nadine Mitchell at (315) 926-2300 or nmitchell@marioncs.org. All absentee ballots must be returned to the District Office (by mail or in person) no later than 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, May 16, 2023.

BOARD OF EDUCATION CANDIDATES

Two board members will be elected for a term of three years to succeed Robert Marshall and Amber Taber, whose terms expire on June 30, 2023. The new term of office will be July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2026. The election of board members is at large. The candidates receiving the greatest number of votes cast will be elected.



CHRISTOPHER MCKECHNEY

5110 Williamson Road, Marion, NY 14505

Chris is the Chief Technology Officer for Wilbert's Enterprises and is married with five adult children.

He has been active with the Marion Soccer Club, having coached teams for many years.

"My wife and I have lived in Marion for over 30 years. All five of our children are Marion graduates and we currently have three grandchildren attending Marion Elementary School."



AMBER TABER (INCUMBENT)

3983 Warner Road, Marion, NY 14505

Amber is self-employed at Taber Acres Homestead. She is a single parent with two children in the Elementary School.

She has served on the Marion School Board for three years, has been a member of the policy committee, and has served as our District Representative on the Four County Board of Directors and as the Four County Legislative Committee Delegate.

"As a Black Knight alumni, I have enjoyed my time in service to the Marion learning community and it has been an honor getting to know the community in my capacity as a School Board member. My time in the U.S. Army prepared me to be a public servant and I hope to continue the work for our students, families and community."



ROBERT MARSHALL (INCUMBENT)

4341 Witherden Road, Marion, NY 14505

Rob is a Senior Electrical Engineer, Senior Associate at Erdman Anthony. He is married with three children in the Junior-Senior High School.

He has served on the Marion School Board for nine years and has been a member of the audit, budget, facilities and safety committees. Mr. Marshall is the Treasurer at Grace Ridge Church, the Technical Director for The Gatesinger Company and is on the College Scholarship Committee for Monroe Professional Engineering Society.

"In my professional career, I am a Professional Engineer (PE), licensed in eight states. I am held to the standard of always putting the public's health and safety above all else. I have strived to do the same with the focus on our students. My goal has, and will always be, to make decisions that will benefit all students, to be forthcoming and transparent with the decision making process, and to be an approachable and reasonable public servant. I look forward to continuing to improve the Marion School District."

CASEY STEINER NAMED PRINCIPAL AT MARION ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Throughout her career as an educator, Casey Steiner has asked herself one question while making daily decisions: "Am I making things better for kids?"

With a core belief that "students are at the heart of what we do," the Marion Central School District is proud to announce that Steiner has been named the new Principal of Marion Elementary School, effective Tuesday, March 14.

Steiner's appointment was approved by the Marion Central School District's Board of Education at their regular meeting on Monday, March 13. Steiner succeeds Dr. Ellen Lloyd, who was named Superintendent of Schools on Feb. 1.

"I recognize the magnitude of this position and am eager to rise to the challenge," said Steiner, who has served as Interim Principal at MES since Feb. 1. "Families put their trust in the school to do right by their children and that is a huge responsibility."

Steiner came to Marion as an Assistant Principal for grades Pre-K through 12 in July 2021, and has worked closely with Lloyd over the past 20 months.

"Casey is thoughtful and reflective and centers her decisions based on what is right for students," Lloyd said. "She has high integrity. She is honest and direct but is also very caring and wants MES to be the best school and learning environment that it can be."

Steiner said that one thing has stood out during her time at MES.

"The people," she said. "Our students are incredible and resilient and just amazing to work with and their families are incredible. The staff is so student-centered and is willing to go the extra mile on everything all of the time."

One of her priorities is to help MES "grow with its needs" and she plans to spend time observing and investigating certain aspects that may need improvement. She is also fully committed to preserving the after-school mini-camp program that is already in place.

"Mini-camps provide an opportunity for kids to build their social competencies and to connect with adults while doing something that they enjoy," Steiner said. "It gives them time to build skills, have fun and be pro-social when they could be at home playing video games."

Prior to coming to Marion, Steiner served as the Multi-Tiered Systems of Support Coordinator for Lyons Central School from 2015-2021. She holds a Master of Science in school psychology from Roberts Wesleyan College and a Certificate of Advanced Study in Educational Leadership from the University of Rochester.

Steiner resides in Phelps with her husband and two children. She is a graduate of Midlakes High School and her hobbies include gardening, cooking and watching football.

She is eager to get started in her new role and the opportunities that lie ahead.

"I am most excited about seeing where we can go," Steiner said. "The staff is so committed to the students and I just want to see what we can do for the students and the community."



**"OUR STUDENTS ARE
INCREDIBLE AND RESILIENT
AND JUST AMAZING TO WORK
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AND IS WILLING TO GO THE
EXTRA MILE ON EVERYTHING
ALL OF THE TIME."**



ON THE BALLOT • TUESDAY, MAY 16

PROPOSITION #1: BUDGET

WHAT: The ballot will appear as: Be it resolved, that the Board of Education of Marion Central School District, County of Wayne, New York, is hereby authorized to expend the amount of \$22,687,300 for the 2023-2024 school year and to levy the necessary taxes thereof.

WHY: This proposition approves the district's proposed operating budget for the 2023-2024 school year. The budget is tax cap compliant and will generate a property tax relief check for eligible homeowners.

PROPOSITION #2: BUS PURCHASE

- NO TAX IMPACT -

WHAT: The ballot will appear as: Be it resolved, that the Board of Education of Marion Central School District, County of Wayne, New York, is hereby authorized to use up to an estimated aggregate cost of \$400,000 of the 2010 and 2019 Bus Purchase Capital Reserve to fund any portion of the purchase of two (2) full size passenger school buses and one (1) small passenger school bus.

WHY: The District has a five-year bus purchase plan. Buses purchased by the District are aided by the state over a 5 year period, and the District will recover over 85% of the initial purchase price of each bus. Buses also carry a warranty period of 5 years. As a result of this plan, the purchase of all buses operated by the District will be supported by state aid revenue while the vehicle is also covered by warranty.

PROPOSITION #3: STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE ON BOE

WHAT: The ballot will appear as: Be it resolved, that the Board of Education of Marion Central School District, County of Wayne, New York, is hereby authorized to allow a student to serve on the Board as an ex officio, non-voting member.



Marion Central School District
Board of Education
4034 Warner Road
Marion, NY 14505

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