



A 21st Century Learning Community – Excelling in a complex, interconnected, changing world

2022-23 PROPOSED BUDGET

Alignment of Resources with Our Strategic Plan

The 2022-23 proposed budget aligns resources to focus on student learning from pre-k through grade 12 while supporting all curricular areas. The budget also supports ongoing counseling, social emotional learning and mental health initiatives for our students. These focus areas are intrinsically tied to our vision to be “an exemplary 21st Century learning community whose graduates are prepared to excel in a complex, interconnected, changing world.”

ESM’s current Strategic Plan (2018- 2023) communicates our high expectations for student learning integrated with our core values of educating the whole child and lifelong learning. The plan focuses on five priority areas:

- ◆ Teaching and Learning
- ◆ Technology for Teaching and Learning
- ◆ Communication and Community Engagement
- ◆ Professional Development and Employee Engagement
- ◆ Learning Environment Systems and Structures

Our Strategic Plan guides our work at the district, building, department and individual level. This includes the alignment of our time, resources and energy with the budget to support these priorities.

Our commitment to long-range financial planning and fiscal responsibility remains strong. Among the cost-saving measures in the budget are our energy performance contract, shared services and cooperative purchasing with BOCES, and operational efficiencies in building maintenance, information technology and transportation. Revenue-based measures include investment interest and federal revenue maximization strategies.

The final 2022-23 state budget raised state education aid over 2021-22 levels for all school districts. In doing so, the shift of 4.87% in the overall ESM budget reflects additional Foundation Aid that the district will receive in 2022-23.

Foundation Aid is a formula-driven, unrestricted state aid category created to support general public school district expenditures. The state budget includes funding for a year #2 of a 3-year plan to fully phase-in Foundation Aid, reaching full funding in 2023-24.

ESM’s \$92,300,483 proposed 2022-23 budget adopted by the Board of Education on April 18 reflects careful stewardship and investment of enhanced state resources. This includes a minor \$100,000 capital project to install new flooring in CHS classrooms and hallways.

On a home assessed at \$100,000, the overall tax bill increase for 2022-23 after the Basic STAR exemption would be approximately \$31.30 annually. For senior citizens with Enhanced STAR, the tax bill would increase an estimated \$13.46 for 2022-23. In general, the tax increase equates to approximately 45 cents per \$1,000 of assessed property value annually.

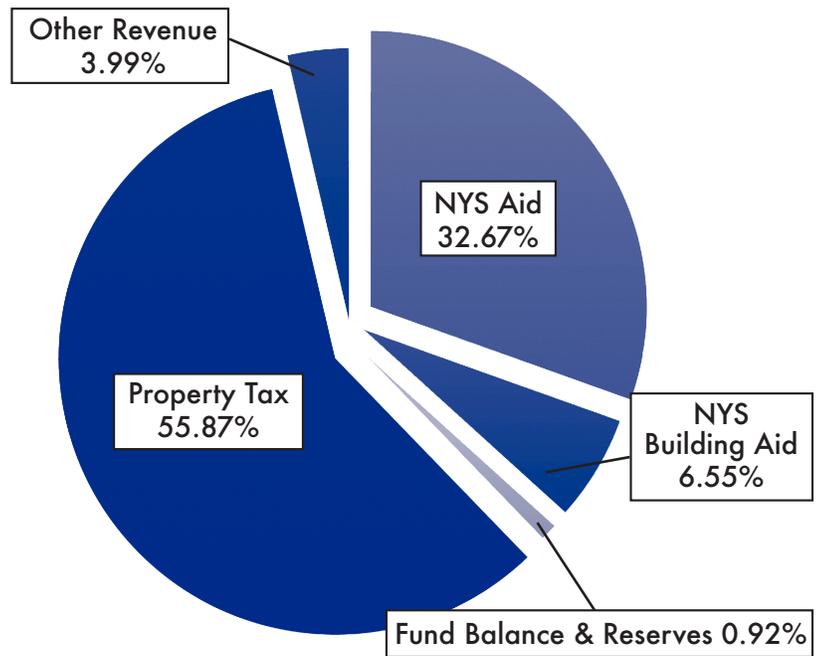
Please remember final assessments and equalization rates are not available until August at which time we will finalize the tax rate. The state calculates a property tax cap for each district. ESM is under its tax cap with an estimated tax levy increase of 2.6%.

A public hearing to learn more about the budget is May 9 at 6 p.m., and will be held at the Central High School Library. We sincerely thank our ESM community for your continued engagement and support for the education of our youth.

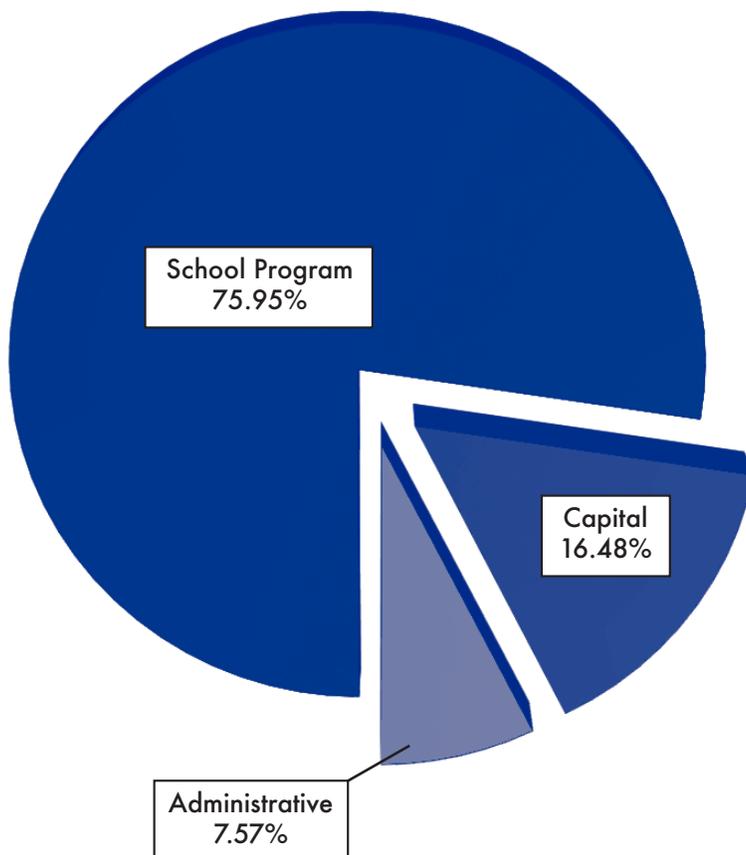
2022-2023 BUDGET INFORMATION

Where does the School Budget money come from?

<u>2022-23 Revenue</u>	<u>\$ Amount</u>
New York State Aid	\$30,152,625
New York State Building Aid	\$6,049,007
Property Tax	\$51,564,175
Other Revenue	\$3,684,676
Fund Balance and Reserves	\$850,000
Total	\$92,300,483



Three-Part Budget Summary



Program Component: At 75.95% of the total budget, it includes regular instruction, special education, occupational education, curriculum and staff development and summer school as well as pupil services such as health, guidance, library, co-curricular activities, athletics and transportation.

Capital Component: This represents 16.48% of the total budget, including expenses for the operation and maintenance of district facilities, building renovation costs, property tax refunds and employee benefits attributable to salaries for these functions.

Administrative Component: This represents 7.57% of the total budget, including expenses for instructional supervision, curriculum development, the Board of Education, school information officer, central administration, director of facilities, transportation supervisor, legal services, central data processing, printing, mailing and employee benefits attributable to salaries for these functions.

2022-2023 BUDGET INFORMATION

Propositions on the Ballot

Proposition #1:

Proposed School Budget \$92,300,483.

Proposition #2:

Purchase of School Buses not to exceed \$860,843.

Proposition #3:

Increase Minoa Library levy from \$235,000 to \$239,700.

School Board Member Seats:

Voters will choose three candidates for three open School Board seats. The three candidates with the most votes will be elected to a four-year term.

Bus Purchase Proposition:

The district is proposing to spend \$860,843 to purchase six 66-passenger buses, one Suburban, and one used mini bus. The new student transportation vehicles would ensure vehicle safety and replace the oldest and most expensive vehicles to maintain/repair. The District will use proceeds from the sale of Bond Anticipation Notes or Bonds to finance the bus purchases.

Public Library Proposition:

By law, the public libraries in East Syracuse and Minoa can request that the District conduct a budget vote and collect funds for the public libraries. Public Library budget requests are not part of ESM's school budget. This year, the Minoa Library submitted a request for a \$4,700 increase that would result in a \$239,700 annual budget. Questions about this proposition should be directed to public library officials.

Capital Outlay Project:

Under current law, capital outlay projects with a cost of no more than \$100,000 are eligible for Building Aid. ESM's budget proposal includes \$100,000 to complete additional flooring replacement in classrooms and hallways at the high school.

How Can I Learn More?

The public hearing on the budget is May 9 at 6 p.m. The hearing will be held at the Central High School Library, 6400 Fremont Road. Questions and comments may also be directed to Katherine Skahen, Executive Director of School Business Administration, by e-mailing kskahen@esmschools.org or calling 315-434-3004.

When and Where is the Vote?

The ESM Board of Education will hold its budget and school board member election on May 17 from noon to 9 p.m. in the ESM Central High School small gym, 6400 Fremont Road, East Syracuse. In-person voting will be conducted in a manner consistent with NYS Department of Health Guidelines.

Who Can Vote?

To be eligible to vote in the school election, you must be: a citizen of the United States, 18 years of age or older and an ESM district resident for at least 30 days. No prior registration is required.

Can I Get an Absentee Ballot?

Applications for absentee ballots for qualified voters may be obtained at the office of the School District Clerk at 407 Fremont Road, East Syracuse, NY, or by contacting the District Clerk's office at 315-434-3004. Any such applications must be received by the District Clerk at least seven days before the date of the vote and election if the ballot is to be mailed to the voter, or the day before the vote and election if the ballot is to be delivered personally to the voter. Absentee ballots must be received at the District Office by 5:00 PM on May 17, 2022.

For Additional Information:

A copy of the full budget is available at the ESM District Administrative Office, 407 Fremont Rd., East Syracuse. Visit www.esmschools.org/budget for a full budget packet.

2022-2023 BUDGET INFORMATION

Incumbents Running for 3 Board of Education Seats

Voters will elect three candidates to four-year terms on the Board of Education. Elections will be held during the budget vote on May 17 from noon to 9 p.m. in the ESM High School gymnasium lobby.

The candidates, in order of how they will appear on the ballot, are Tracy Callahan, Leah Cushing, and Deborah Kolod. Biographical information and a statement of each candidate's philosophy of education follow in order of how they will appear on the ballot.



Tracy Callahan lives in Minoa with her husband John. They have five children; Claire, Jack and Eric are ESM graduates while Henry is in ESM Central High School and Kate is at Pine Grove.

Mrs. Callahan has a bachelor's degree in accounting and a Master of Business

Administration (MBA) from Le Moyne College and is also an ESM alum. She has served one term (4 years) on the ESM Board of Education. She is on the Board of the ESM Education Foundation and serves on the committee for their annual Dinner Dance.

Mrs. Callahan obtained her Realtor License in 2020 and is a Referring Agent with Berkshire Hathaway in Fayetteville. Tracy also enjoys running, volunteering and traveling to see her children.

Philosophy of Education: My education philosophy is that all students can learn and our job is to provide a safe and positive environment for students to achieve their highest potential. Teachers and staff have a responsibility to provide all students with challenging work in order to grow their minds. I believe in open communication between the district and the students, families, business and community members. We as a district have to be forward thinking and give our students the best foundation to lead them into the future.



Leah Cushing and her husband, Robert, live in Kirksville. They have three children who are ESM graduates.

Mrs. Cushing is the postmaster in Minoa for the U.S. Postal Service and is also an ESM graduate. She has a bachelor of arts in psychology from Syracuse University. She has served three terms (12 years) on the ESM Board of Education.

Philosophy of Education: My philosophy is exemplified in ESM's Vision and Mission of ensuring our graduates are prepared to excel in whatever path they choose—college, technical school, military or career. It is imperative we provide a quality education that recognizes different interests, skills and abilities, for every child.

I am proud to serve a district that is always looking forward to provide a curriculum that recognizes the changing world and the skills that will be most valuable to our students in the future. I believe offering vocational classes, art, music and athletics, along with our core curriculum, assists in keeping our students engaged and well rounded.

I am conscious of my duty to see the educational needs of our students, as well as the fiscal responsibility to the community. I believe a good school district is essential to a community as it attracts new residents and encourages graduates to return with their families. As ESM graduates, my husband and I chose to raise our children here. Our community will continue to benefit from continued excellence in education at ESM.

2022-2023 BUDGET INFORMATION



Deborah Kolod

is a lifelong resident of the district, currently residing in East Syracuse. She and her husband, Chris, have three children who are ESM graduates.

Mrs. Kolod works for Jamesville-DeWitt School District as an Administrative Aide. She has an associate's degree from

SUNY Empire State College and is also an ESM graduate. She has served 4 terms (16 years) on the ESM Board of Education. She is also on the ESM Education Foundation Board and Onondaga-Madison School Board of Directors.

Philosophy of Education: Quality education is a fundamental investment we as a country must bestow upon our children. Education in the 21st century needs to reflect the importance of academic skills while promoting the enhancement of skills that are acquired through engagement and application. Collaboration, communication and problem solving are essential in producing qualified young adults for future educational and professional experiences.

Boards of Education have a fiscal responsibility to the development and implementation of innovative ways of learning to provide students with real life opportunities so they can be prepared for future endeavors. It is essential we find the balance between maintaining high quality, relevant educational programming with fiscal responsibility. We continually seek unique revenue sources to deliver educational experiences for students, and professional development for staff.

ESM takes pride in their ability to sustain these expanded program options for students to enhance their educational experiences. As a result of our shared vision and mission, ESM is recognized as a national model of 21st Century Learning where our students are engaged in a safe, meaningful, rigorous learning environment every day.

BUDGET VOTE

**NOON – 9 p.m. , MAY 17
CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL**