



"Go out into the world well prepared"

- Alfred Dolge

A Message to the Dolgeville Central School District Community

The Board of Education would like to extend our sincerest gratitude to the parents, guardians, families, and all other support persons in continuing the education of our students through these unprecedented times in our country. Our educators do a great job of educating our children each and every day of the school year, and under the hybrid model, your support at home is critical in the education process.

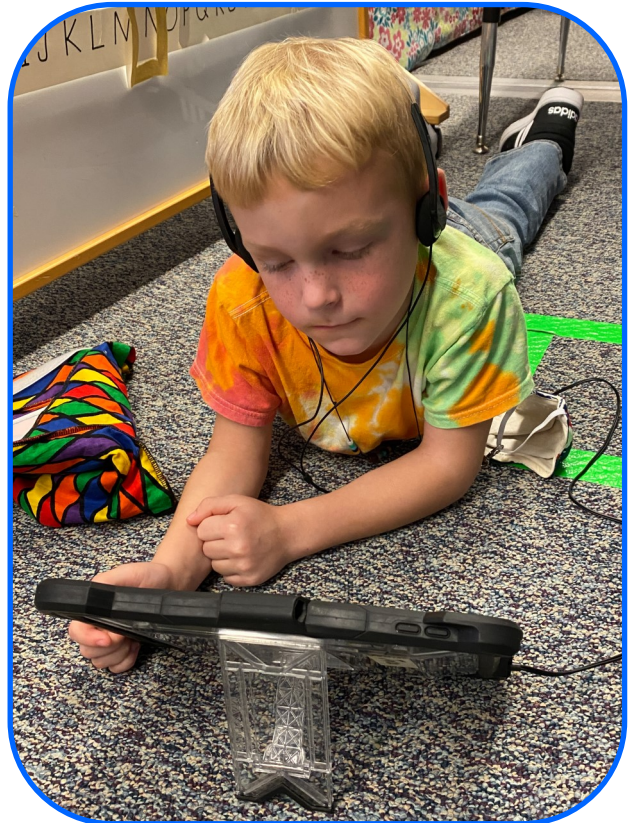
The Board of Education is pleased to provide the following information concerning our budget for the 2021-2022 school year. The budget is outlined in the following pages and organized in the standard three parts: administrative, program, and capital.

This year New York State has returned to funding state aid at its previous levels. The Board of Education and Administration have worked to develop a budget that maintains consistency in programs and services that meet the needs of our students.

- Continued on Page 3 -

21-22 Budget Newsletter

1. Letter from the BOE
2. Where the money comes from and where the money goes
3. Page 1 Letter Continued
4. DCS is the BEST!
5. NYS Required Notice
6. Voting News



One of DCS's main goals in 2020-2021 was our one-to-one student device initiative. Students, Parents and Teachers all adapted to a hybrid model of learning where technology played an intricate part. We can't thank our entire learning community enough for all their hard work during the last school year.

ON THE BALLOT

Community voting will be held on May 18, in the High School Cafeteria. The following proposals will be on the ballot (see page 6 for more information):

- A \$18,967,328 budget that carries NYS's capped tax levy increase for DCS at 3.765%.
- Two Candidates for two seats on the Board of Education.
- To allow the district to expend funds from the 2020 Transportation Vehicle Reserve Fund for the purchase of one 64-passenger bus.
- To allow the district to appoint a student, as established pursuant to law, to serve on the School Board as an ex officio non-voting member.

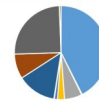
An overview of the 2021-2022 Dolgeville Budget

Where the money comes from:



REVENUES	BUDGETED 2020-21	PROPOSED 2021-22	% Change	\$ Change	% Of Budget
State Aid	\$ 13,115,178	\$ 13,596,326	3.67%	\$ 481,148	71.68%
Property Taxes	\$ 4,908,440	\$ 5,093,163	3.76%	\$ 184,723	26.85%
Other	\$ 59,050	\$ 55,839	-5.44%	\$ (3,211)	0.29%
Fund Balance	\$ 436,000	\$ 222,000	-49.08%	\$ (214,000)	1.17%
Total Revenue	\$ 18,518,668	\$ 18,967,328	2.42%	\$ 448,660	100%

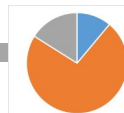
Where the money is spent:



EXPENSES	BUDGETED 2020-21	PROPOSED 2021-22	% Change	\$ Change	% Of Budget
Salaries	\$ 7,729,808	\$ 8,065,303	4.34%	\$ 335,495	42.52%
Equipment	\$ 20,900	\$ 37,479	79.33%	\$ 16,579	0.20%
Contractual	\$ 1,242,785	\$ 1,153,694	-7.17%	\$ (89,091)	6.08%
Supplies	\$ 454,807	\$ 462,781	1.75%	\$ 7,974	2.44%
Tuition	\$ 188,000	\$ 203,000	7.98%	\$ 15,000	1.07%
Textbooks	\$ 16,738	\$ 30,406	81.66%	\$ 13,668	0.16%
BOCES Services	\$ 2,739,889	\$ 2,552,378	-6.84%	\$ (187,511)	13%
Bonds	\$ 1,584,999	\$ 1,624,179	2.47%	\$ 39,180	9%
Benefits	\$ 4,445,742	\$ 4,728,108	6.35%	\$ 282,366	25%
Interfund Transfers	\$ 95,000	\$ 110,000	15.79%	\$ 15,000	1%
Total Expenses	\$ 18,518,668	\$ 18,967,328	2.42%	\$ 448,660	100%

* Employee benefits include Health, Dental, Retirement Incentives, ERS, TRS, Unemployment and Social Security

Three Part Budget:



Type	BUDGETED 2020-21	PROPOSED 2021-22	% Change	\$ Change	% of Budget
Administrative	\$2,164,725	\$2,099,109	-3.03%	\$ (65,617)	11.07%
Program	\$13,323,334	\$13,827,219	3.78%	\$ 503,885	72.90%
Capital	\$3,030,609	\$3,041,000	0.34%	\$ 10,391	16.03%
Total	\$18,518,668	\$18,967,328	2.42%	\$ 448,660	100.00%

Questions about the 2021-22 Budget:

If the proposed budget passes, what will be the effect on my taxes?

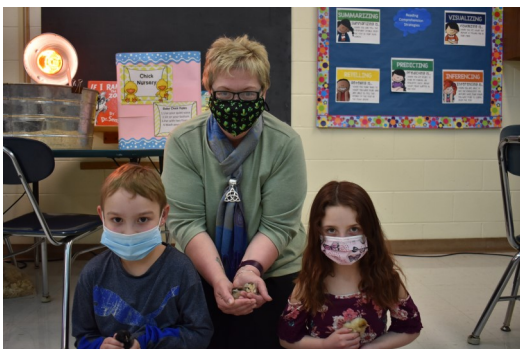
In 2021-22, the tax levy will increase by 3.765 percent. Using the true value tax rate, which equalizes the tax rates in the six towns, the school tax bill on a home with a typical \$50,000 assessment would increase by \$15 per year or \$1.25 per month with savings from the state's basic STAR program.

Does the STAR Program still exist?

Yes. The School Tax Relief Program (STAR), provides a partial exemption from school taxes. Any New York residents who own and live in their home are eligible for a STAR exemption on their primary residence. In 2020, NY State discontinued issuing the STAR relief checks. These checks were only issued when a school district stayed under the tax cap.

Does the proposed budget plan reflect NYS's Property tax cap?

The NYS eight step property tax levy cap formula for DCS yielded a 2021-22 maximum tax levy cap increase of 3.765 percent. The Board of Education developed a budget using the State's tax cap formula.



Mrs. Simpson's third and fourth graders hatched chicks in class to learn about eggs and growth. "Hatching chicks always symbolizes spring, warm weather, and new growth," she said. "After the year we've had, this project was truly uplifting." -Trista Simpson

* Continued from Page 1

While developing the budget, district leaders focused on improving educational programming post-pandemic. They used the current year as a guide and analyzed what students may need once they return to in-person learning.

The proposed 2021-22 budget preserves K-12 instructional programs while keeping the district's tax levy cap under the tax levy limit. As you will read in this newsletter, State Aid accounts for just over 70% of our district's operating budget.

DCS administration is available to answer any questions that you may have about the budget. Contact information is included in this newsletter.

**Sincerely,
Scott Hongo, Board of Education President**



Mrs. Winkler's eighth grade Home & Career's class is learning the importance of budgeting for groceries and cooking healthy meals for their cooking finals.

Why did the Program budget increase by 3.78 percent?

Along with regular contractual increases, there are three major increases to the 21-22 budget:

- District Mental Health Professional
- Elementary Special Education Teacher
- District Technology Professional

What happens if the proposed budget is voted down?
According to NYS law, the Board of Education can put the same budget before the voters for a second vote, put a revised budget before the voters or adopt a contingency budget.

What is a contingency budget?
A contingency budget is a budget that includes the minimum funds necessary to operate the buildings and programs, and assure the health and safety of students and staff. Ordinary contingent expenses are determined by the Board of Education and are subject to NYS regulations.

Why is there a Library Tax included on my school tax bill?
Per NYS law, district taxpayers are taxed annually to support two local libraries in the amount last approved by voters. The amounts were approved in 2003. \$20,000 for the Dolgeville Manheim Library and \$7,500 for the Salisbury Kirby Free Library.

DCS ADMINISTRATION INFORMATION

Theodore Kawryga	tkawryga@dolgeville.org
Superintendent	
Jessica Radley	jradley@dolgeville.org
Business Manager	
Michelle Primeau	mprimeau@dolgeville.org
Director of Special Ed.	
Ruth Leavitt	rleavitt@dolgeville.org
7-12 Principal	
Crystal Chrisman	cchrisman@dolgeville.org
PK-6 Principal	

Interfund Transfer

There are two expenses in Interfund Transfer:

- Money to help the School Lunch Fund
- Capital Outlay Project - A capital outlay project produces State Aid. Scope for the 2021 - 2022 project will be to help complete the scheduled work in the current 2021 Unit Ventilator Project.

DID YOU KNOW?

DCS is truly one of the best places for kids, here are a few reasons why:

Teachers in grades K-6 integrated **social and emotional lessons** into weekly instruction in 2020-21 to help cope with challenges associated with the coronavirus epidemic.



DCS started a **1:1 Student Device Initiative** during the 2020-2021 school year.

This allows for every student to have their own learning device.



In 2020-21 **East Canada Connected Community School** continued to grow.

This group provides Mentoring, Advocates, Care Management, Counseling, Crisis Assessments, Legal Aid, Youth Services, and more to our community and all its members.

There are

18 **Extra Curricular clubs** including: Amnesty, Art Club, Student Council, Spanish Club, and Theatre Club.

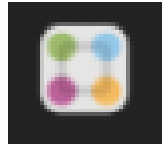


DCS accepted a grant to build new **Softball Dugouts** in 2020-21. Lets go Blue Devils!

In 2020-21 DCS offers 15 Courses through Herkimer County Community College for a total of **50 College Credits!**

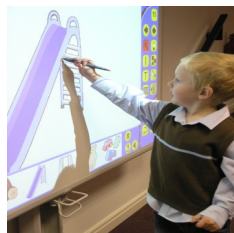
50

In order to maintain communication with parents and families, DCS transitioned to **ParentSquare** to allow teachers to send messages and reminders out to families.



DCS celebrates Veteran's Day every year. In 2020-21 we were not able to hold a ceremony, but we did decorate and give thanks to our Community Veterans! Thank you for your service.

2020-21 was a year of **Technology** at DCS. All classrooms received updated Smartboards to provide the best learning experience.



Seniors in Ms. Gracey's government and economics classes hosted a K-12 mock **election** to learn about how the popular vote affects the electoral college.

Fuccillo Chevrolet nominated DES for five free **puppet shows** in 2020-21.

Students loved watching performances either remotely or in-person.



Music Teachers, Ms. Wolford and Mr. Case traditionally hold a **Band Carol** the day before

Winter Break. This year they held a virtual program that included laughs and fun festivities before the holiday.



DCS students participate in a **School Spirit Week** each year! Students

dress up to show school spirit. Days range from Sports day to Pajama day.

Required NYS School District Budget Notice

Overall Budget Proposal	Budget Adopted for the 2020-21 School Year	Budget Proposed for the 2021-22 School Year	Contingency Budget for the 2021-22 School Year *
Total Budgeted Amount, Not Including Separate Propositions	\$18,518,668	\$18,967,328	\$18,518,668
Increase/Decrease for the 2021-22 School Year		\$448,660	-\$448,660
Percentage Increase/Decrease in Proposed Budget		2.4%	0.0%
A. Proposed Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount	\$4,908,440	\$5,093,163	
B. Levy to Support Library Debt, if Applicable	\$27,500	\$27,500	
C. Levy for Non-Excludable Propositions, if Applicable **			
D. Total Tax Cap Reserve Amount Used to Reduce Current Year Levy			
E. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy (A + B + C - D)	\$4,935,940	\$5,120,663	\$4,935,940
F. Total Permissible Exclusions	\$153,444	\$263,788	
G. School Tax Levy Limit, <u>Excluding</u> Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$4,754,898	\$4,829,375	
H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, <u>Excluding</u> Levy to Support Library Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions (E - B - F + D)	\$4,754,898	\$4,829,375	
I. Difference: G - H (Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval - See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions) **	\$0	\$0	
Administrative Component	\$2,164,725	\$2,099,109	\$2,164,725
Program Component	\$13,323,334	\$13,827,219	\$13,323,334
Capital Component	\$3,030,609	\$3,041,000	\$3,030,609

* Provide a statement of assumptions made in projecting a contingency budget for the 2021-22 school year, should the proposed budget be defeated pursuant to Section 2023 of the Education Law.

If the budget were defeated and a contingency budget were adopted, the Board of Education would need to use more fund balance to support expenses. The Board would also have to continue to charge for building use, out of district tuition and cut equipment purchases.

Description	Amount
** 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)	

	Under the Budget Proposed for the 2021-22 School Year
Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings*	\$411

The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2021-22 by the qualified voters of the Dolgeville Central School District, Herkimer & Fulton County, New York, will be held at Dolgeville Central School in said district on Tuesday, May 18, 2021.

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

Board of Education

Scott Hongo II, **President**
Jennifer Williams, **Vice President**
Robert Maxwell
Marie Huddleston
James Schmid
Julie Izzo
Craig Spofford

Dolgeville Central School
38 Slawson Street | Dolgeville NY 13329

Non Profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Utica, New York
Permit No. 566

Local Postal Customer

Produced by:
Dolgeville Central School District
Jessica Radley, **Business Manager**,
with help from Mr. Brian Wilcox

More Budget News

Voter qualifications

To be eligible to vote, a resident must have lived in the school district for at least 30 days prior to the vote date of May 18, 2021, be at least 18 years of age and be a U.S. Citizen.

Voter registration

Voter registration is not required. DCS conducts its voting using a Poll List.

Voting location

Dolgeville Central School, High School Cafeteria, 38 Slawson Street, Dolgeville NY 13329.

Absentee ballot information

Applications for the Annual Budget Vote/School Board Election for qualified voters may be obtained through the District Clerk at the James A. Green School in said district (except Saturday and Sunday) between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.

Budget hearing information

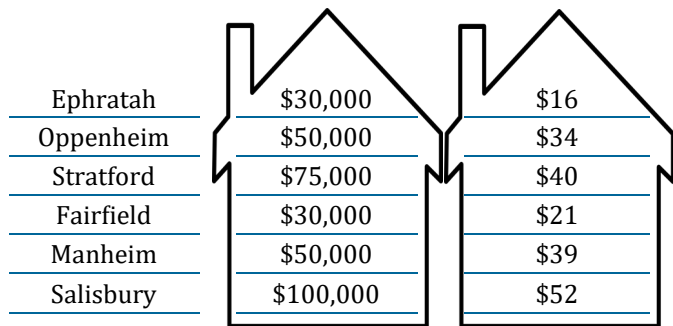
Attend the Annual Public Budget Hearing on Tuesday, May 11, 2021 at 6:00 PM in the School's auditorium, 38 Slawson Street, Dolgeville NY 13329.

BALLOT PROPOSALS

In addition to the \$18.9 million budget, community members will be asked to consider these proposals:

- Allow the district to purchase one 64-passenger bus using the established 2020 Transportation Vehicle Reserve Fund.
- Select two Board of Education candidates for two seats. Each seat carries a five-year term. The candidates on the ballot are:
 - Scott Hongo II
 - Carolyn A. Williams
- Allow the district to appoint a student, as established pursuant to law, to serve on the School Board as an ex officio non-voting member.

2021 ESTMATED TAX INCREASE PER TOWN BY ASSESSMENT VALUE



Understanding this infographic: If your home is in Ephratah and last September's tax bill shows its full total assessment value was \$30,000, your school tax bill could increase by \$16 in September. This is the best estimate the school district can make given existing data. Calculations will change when ORPS announces new equalization rates in August. **Additionally, the estimated figures are BEFORE factoring in any exemptions including STAR.**

