



Barker Central School District
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 Barker, NY 14012

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BARKER CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
 1628 Quaker Road, Barker, NY 14012



May 9, 2022 - Public Hearing

6:30 p.m., Auditorium - Proposed 2022-2023 budget will be presented.

May 17, 2022 - Annual Meeting & Election

Noon – 8:00 p.m. in Auditorium - Vote on the budget and Board of Education Members



- ✓ If you are unable to attend and would like to vote, please contact the District Office for an absentee ballot application at 716-795-3110.
- ✓ **Please note:** Absentee ballots must be received by the District on or before May 17, 2022 at 5:00 p.m. prevailing time.

A Letter from the Board of Education President, Randall B. Atwater

Dear BCS District Residents:

This mailing about the school budget is something new this year. It is intended to give you an early look at the school board approved budget ahead of the public budget hearing planned for May 9, 2022. There will still be a Banner published in May prior to the budget vote May 17, 2022. That Banner will include additional information on the budget and school activities as has been traditional.



Also new this year has been a Budget Advisory Committee that met five times to review and discuss the budget in detail. This committee included three school board members and four community members. The school board appreciates the commitment of the committee members and our Superintendent, Jacob Reimer, and Business Administrator, Carol Heiligenthaler, for their input in this process.

Your school board and administration have maintained a focus on developing a sustainable budget that will ensure the long-term financial health and preservation of the District. As you know, we have faced serious financial challenges for years due to the scaling back and then closing of the power plant and subsequent loss of tax revenue. This budget for your consideration is an important step in our financial future and it maintains all of the current programs for our students and community.

Projected Tax Levy = Likely Reduction of the Tax Rate vs. 2020-2021

As of the information known to date, for 2022-2023, the District is projecting a tax levy of \$4,953,914. This represents a 3.9% increase which is below the allowable tax levy limit and would only require a simple majority vote to pass. Assuming there are no changes in the values of the towns, worse case, the highest the tax rate would equate to is approximately \$18.75/\$1,000. This rate **is less than the tax rate from 2020-2021** of \$19.11/\$1,000.

Based on \$100,000 home cost in Somerset		
School Year	Rate/\$1,000	Tax Payment
Actual 2020-21	19.11	\$1,911
Actual 2021-22	18.06	\$1,806
Projected 2022-23	18.75	\$1,875

Please note, the Town of Somerset represents the majority of the District's levy; other towns' rates will vary.

Time Sensitive Information - Budget Preparation – How?



This year, the proposed budget was developed by the Board with input from Administration, as well as the **newly created Budget Advisory Committee** which was established by the Board on November 15, 2021. Membership included three Board members: Randall Atwater - Board President, John Sweeney – Vice President, and Virginia Voss, and community members: Jennifer Harris, Ruth King, Tammy Mallon, and Charles Stodolka.

The Committee was charged with providing the Board and Administration input for consideration related to the development of the ensuing year's budget and also being a conduit for information to the general public. The Committee's work was incorporated and reflected in the proposed budget outlined below. To date, the Committee concurred that the budget and the tax levy proposed are appropriate at this time.

Budget Goals

Balanced Budget
Long-term sustainability of District
Best learning opportunity for students



**A LOOK
at the
BUDGET**

Proposed 2022-2023 Barker School Budget

The 2022-2023 proposed budget reflects the roll-over of all items in the 2021-2022 budget. The majority of the increased expenses relate to contractual obligations. The proposed budget will provide the same opportunities for the students as the current year. The social/emotional health teams, student support teaching positions, programs and extra-curricular activities have been maintained for the next year while being supplemented by stimulus dollars as per Education Law.

REVENUES	2022-23	2021-22	\$ CHANGE	% CHANGE
State Aid	10,490,920	9,466,700	1,024,220	10.82%
Tax Levy	4,953,914	4,767,964	185,950	3.90%
Other Property Tax Items	2,003,786	2,630,696	-626,910	-23.83%
Payment in Lieu of Taxes	36,449	35,852	597	1.67%
Other	228,600	328,500	-99,900	-30.41%
Fund Balance	103,865	25,000	78,865	315.46%
TOTAL REVENUES	17,817,534	17,254,712	562,822	3.26%

EXPENDITURES	2022-23	2021-22	\$ CHANGE	% CHANGE
General Support	2,086,994	2,050,087	36,907	1.80%
Instruction	10,080,126	9,697,114	383,012	3.95%
Pupil Transportation	1,430,277	1,466,665	-36,388	-2.48%
Community Service	33,600	33,600	0	0.00%
Undistributed*	4,186,537	4,007,246	179,291	4.47%
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	17,817,534	17,254,712	562,822	3.26%

*Includes the Capital Outlay Project of \$100,000 consisting of door, security, communication and entry enhancements at the Central School Building.

Detailed Explanation of Categories

General Support consists of: Board of Education, Central Administration, Finance, Staff, and Special Items. This also includes Maintenance and Operation of Plant, (including all maintenance and grounds salaries, supplies and materials, and utilities), Central Printing/Mailing, and Central Data Processing.

Instruction consists of: Instructional Administration and Improvement (principal's salary and supplies, curriculum development, research and planning, and professional development for all professional staff), Teaching Regular School (all regular school teaching salaries, supplies and materials, equipment, textbooks, and BOCES services for regular students, including Occupational Education), School Library and Audiovisual, Technology Services, Attendance, Guidance, Health Services, Psychological Services, Extra-classroom Activities, Athletics, and Special Education (special education teacher salaries, supplies and materials, textbooks, CSE and CPSE Committee expenses, contractual costs, private schools tuition, and BOCES special education costs).

Pupil Transportation consists of: All bussing and fuel.

Community Services consists of: Summer School and Adult Education.

Undistributed consists of: Employer contributions to the employees' and the teachers' retirement systems, social security, workers' compensation premiums, unemployment insurance, health insurance, and terminal leave payments. It also includes payments of principal and interest on school bond payments and the capital outlay project.

Long-term Planning

As part of the strategic planning process, the District has consistently been using a long-term planning tool in an effort to bring about a balanced budget to ensure the **sustainability and longevity of the District**, which is one of four District-wide goals of the Board of Education. See the District website homepage for the link to goals or scan the QR code to the right.



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