COPENHAGEN CENTRAL SCHOOL

Home of the Knights

May / June 2025 Newsletter

From The Desk of the Superintendent:
Scott N. Connell

Dear District Residents:

I'd like to share some upcoming events and important information about our school for the months of May and June.

School Budget

Since January, the Board of Education has been meeting twice a month to develop a budget that supports our students while remaining fiscally responsible. I'm grateful for the opportunity to work alongside a group so deeply committed to the future of Copenhagen's students.

At their April 14th meeting, the Board officially adopted the 2025–2026 school budget. As revenues continue to decline, it has become increasingly challenging to maintain both programs and staffing levels.

We will present the adopted budget to the public on Tuesday, May 6th, during the annual budget meeting. The budget vote will take place on Tuesday, May 20th. Please remember to come out and vote.

Teacher and Staff Appreciation

May 5th to May 9th is Teacher Appreciation Week, and each year we take this time to recognize and celebrate the outstanding teachers here at CCS.

At Copenhagen Central School, we are truly fortunate to have a dedicated and passionate teaching staff who rise to every challenge and remain committed to providing a high-quality education for every student who walks through our doors. It is because of their unwavering dedication that our school continues to thrive.

We encourage you to take a moment during this week to say thank you to your child's teacher. A kind word goes a long way.

In addition to our teachers, we are equally grateful for the many other individuals who support our students each day. The transportation department, custodial staff, office professionals, food service team, teaching assistants, and aides all play an essential role in the success of our school community.

Thanks to the commitment of every one of these individuals, CCS remains a school we can all be proud of. It is truly second to none.

Celebrations of Accomplishments

May and June are filled with moments of celebration as we recognize the many accomplishments of our students. We will enjoy performances from our talented student musicians at the Spring Band Concert on May 6th and the Chorus Concert on May 13th. The Academic Awards Ceremony will take place during the afternoon on Friday, May 16th. Prom will be held on Saturday, May 17th. The Athletic Awards Ceremony is scheduled for the evening of Wednesday, June 4th and will honor our student-athletes for their dedication and achievements both on and off the field during the 2024-2025 school year. Many of our BOCES career and technical education (CTE) students will be recognized at a ceremony at South Lewis Central School on Thursday, June 12th. We are looking forward to the Middle School Awards Ceremony on Friday, June 13th and one of the most heartwarming events of the year, Kindergarten Graduation, which will be held in the evening on Tuesday, June 24th. The Alumni Banquet will take place on the evening of Saturday, June 21st. The Copenhagen Central School Class of 2025 Commencement is scheduled for Sunday, June 22nd at 2:00 p.m. in the main gymnasium. At this time, we will proudly celebrate the accomplishments of 24 graduating seniors as they move on to college, technical schools, military service, and careers. I offer my sincere congratulations to each member of the Class of 2025 and wish them all the best as they begin this exciting new chapter.

Congratulations to Our Graduates!

We proudly celebrate the achievements of the CCS Senior Class of 2025 and the Kindergarten Class of 2037. Your journey is just beginning and we're so proud of how far you've come!



As always, thank you for the continued support of our district.

Sincerely,

Scott N. Connell
Superintendent of Schools

George S. O'Brien National Honor Society

COPENHAGEN CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

BOARD OF EDUCATION
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Sarah Potter
6-12 Principal
Pamela Ratliff
UPK-5 Principal
Scot Luther
Business Manager
Logan Spaulding
Athletic Coordinator
Lukas Sullivan
District Clerk

April 2025

Dear District Residents,

The 2025-2026 proposed school budget is $12,679,726, an increase of $311,301, or 2.52%. We are proposing a tax levy increase of 3.00%, or $56,866. We are able to balance the budget by appropriating $752,258 of fund balance and $260,000 of reserves. Please refer to page 12 of this document to view additional details of the budget.

As many of you are aware, the majority of district revenues are from New York State and Federal aid. We continue strategically planning expenditures to prioritize curriculum and programming for our students. In addition to that, we must navigate creative ways to responsibly balance our budget, all while striving to maintain the influx of services and supports to accommodate the needs of our students. In doing so, many of the supports incorporated into our educational process are no longer covered by grant funds and must now be covered by district monies.

A budget component that is important to be aware of is New York State's property tax cap law. This is a calculation that establishes a tax levy limit for each school district. The tax levy limit allows school districts to change their property tax levy from one year to the next by two percent, or the rate of inflation, whichever is less. Within the tax cap calculation, the "two percent" may increase or decrease with inclusions and exclusions. If a proposed tax levy change is within the district's calculated limit, a simple majority (50% or more) of voters is needed for budget approval. If a proposed tax levy change exceeds the tax levy limit, a supermajority of voters (60% or more) would be required for budget approval.

The district's calculated tax cap this year is 13.6%, which is significantly higher than the 3.00% levy increase that the district has requested voters to approve to support the budget this year.

The 2025-2026 Annual Budget Review meeting is on **May 6, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.** in the school cafeteria. There will be an opportunity to ask questions during that time. The budget vote and election will take place at school on **Tuesday, May 20, 2025 from 12:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. in the gym foyer**. If you would like an absentee ballot, please notify the District Clerk.

If you have any questions, or would like additional information, please contact the Superintendent's office at 315-688-4411.

Sincerely,

BOARD OF EDUCATION
COPENHAGEN CENTRAL SCHOOL

MEET THE CANDIDATE FOR THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

There is one vacancy on the Copenhagen Central School District Board of Education due to the upcoming expiration of Gabrielle M. Thompson's term. Ms. Thompson is seeking reelection to the Board. She is the only individual who has submitted a petition for candidacy for this five-year term.

Gabrielle M. Thompson

My name is Gabrielle Thompson, and I am proud to be a 1994 graduate of Copenhagen Central School. Following high school, I earned an associate degree in Liberal Arts: Humanities and Social Sciences from Jefferson Community College, a bachelor's degree in History and Secondary Education from SUNY Potsdam, and a Master of Science in Education. I am currently pursuing a Doctorate in Education (EdD) in Higher Education Leadership.

After graduating from SUNY Potsdam, I began my career as a social studies teacher in middle and high schools across northern New York and North Carolina. I returned to the North Country in the fall of 2004 and purchased a home in the Copenhagen Central School District in the spring of 2005. Today, I continue to live in that home in the Town of Rutland with my husband and our daughter, who is currently a sixth-grade student at Copenhagen Central School. Our son and daughter-in-law are both proudly serving on active duty in the United States Air Force.

Since the beginning of my professional career, I have devoted myself to education. I joined Jefferson Community College in 2008 and currently serve as the Associate Vice President of Student Affairs. In this role, I oversee student life and lead efforts to create meaningful and lasting student experiences—ones that support success far beyond graduation. Education has always been a central part of who I am, and I believe deeply in the transformative power of learning and community.

As both an alumna and a lifelong educator, I am passionate about preserving and strengthening the reputation of Copenhagen Central School as a district where families choose to send their children for a high-quality education and where educators are supported in their growth and development. I take seriously the responsibility of representing the voices of taxpayers and community members in every decision made by the Board of Education.

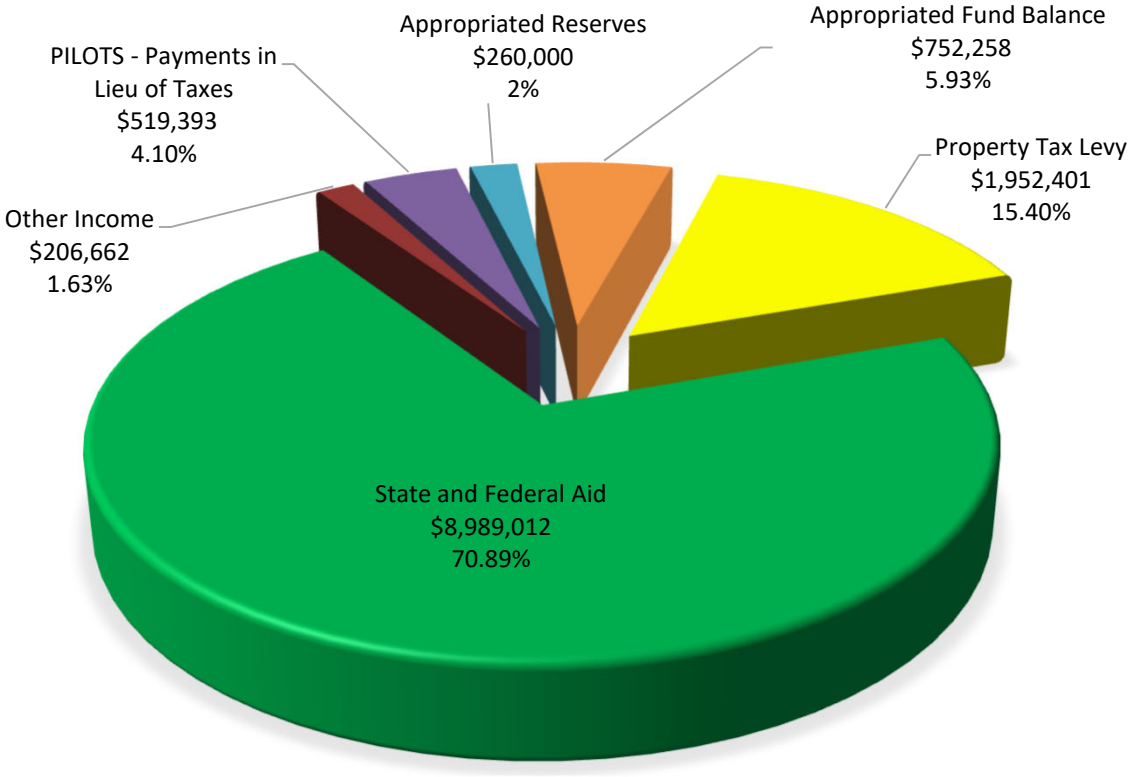
My goal is simple: to ensure that every decision made by the Board, the district, and the school community is centered on what is best for our students. I would be honored to serve and ask for your support and your vote.

WHERE THE SCHOOL DOLLAR COMES FROM

Revenue Sources	2024-2025	2025-2026	Difference
Property Tax Levy	$ 1,895,535	$ 1,952,401	$ 56,866
State and Federal Aid	$ 8,967,971	$ 8,989,012	$ 21,041
Other Income	$ 173,981	$ 206,662	$ 32,681
PILOTS - Payments in Lieu of Taxes	$ 532,747	$ 519,393	$ (13,354)
Appropriated Reserves	$ 150,000	$ 260,000	$ 110,000
Appropriated Fund Balance	$ 648,191	$ 752,258	$ 104,067

Total Budget - Revenues	2024-2025	2025-2026	Difference
	$ 12,368,425	**$ 12,679,726**	**$ 311,301**

BUDGET REVENUES



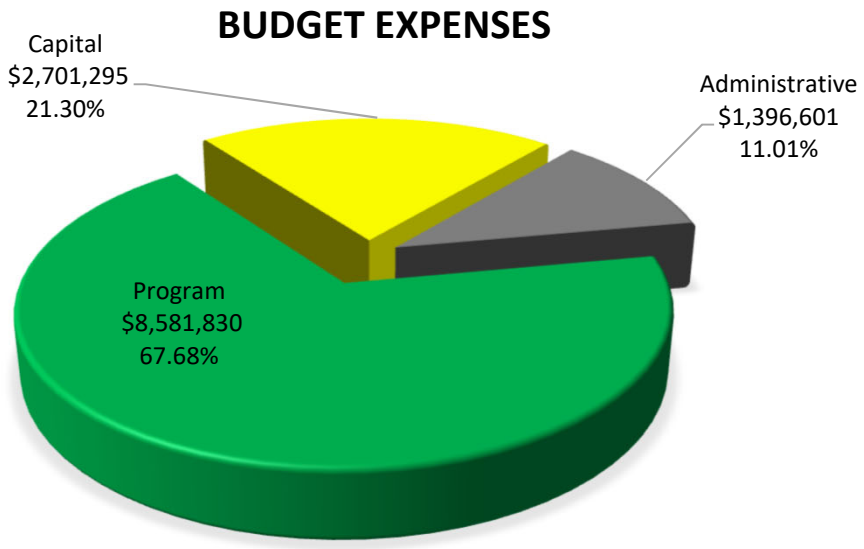
WHERE THE SCHOOL DOLLAR IS SPENT

Administrative	2024-2025	2025-2026	Difference
Board of Education	$ 18,587	$ 21,148	$ 2,561
Central Administration and Finance	$ 427,801	$ 434,573	$ 6,772
Curriculum Development and Supervision	$ 337,548	$ 322,373	$ (15,175)
Legal and Personnel	$ 93,161	$ 90,862	$ (2,299)
Other Central Services	$ 192,509	$ 221,254	$ 28,745
Employee Benefits	$ 313,918	$ 306,391	$ (7,527)
Total	**$ 1,383,524**	**$ 1,396,601**	**$ 13,077**

Program	2024-2025	2025-2026	Difference
Interfund Transfers	$ 75,000	$ 175,000	$ 100,000
Teaching (Regular and Special Education)	$ 5,427,486	$ 5,497,754	$ 70,268
Transportation	$ 689,157	$ 718,037	$ 28,880
Employee Benefits	$ 2,153,464	$ 2,191,039	$ 37,575
Total	**$ 8,345,107**	**$ 8,581,830**	**$ 236,723**

Capital	2024-2025	2025-2026	Difference
BOCES Capital Costs	$ -	$ -	$ -
Debt Service	$ 1,346,238	$ 1,340,163	$ (6,075)
Interfund Transfers	$ -	$ 100,000	$ 100,000
Operations and Maintenance	$ 783,716	$ 730,893	$ (52,823)
Transportation Equipment	$ 327,135	$ 328,234	$ 1,099
Employee Benefits	$ 182,705	$ 202,005	$ 19,300
Total	**$ 2,639,794**	**$ 2,701,295**	**$ 61,501**

Total Budget - Expenses	2024-2025	2025-2026	Difference
	$ 12,368,425	**$ 12,679,726**	**$ 311,301**



Administrative

Board of Education	2024-2025	2025-2026	Difference
Salaries	$ 2,837	$ 2,878	$ 41
Equipment	$ -	$ -	$ -
Contractual	$ 5,500	$ 7,000	$ 1,500
Materials, Supplies, Parts	$ 1,250	$ 1,520	$ 270
BOCES	$ 9,000	$ 9,750	$ 750
Other	$ -	$ -	$ -
Total	**$ 18,587**	**$ 21,148**	**$ 2,561**

- Portion of a salary for a District Clerk
- Board policy update management via BOCES
- Annual meeting and vote, BOCES workshops, legal notices

Central Administration and Finance	2024-2025	2025-2026	Difference
Salaries	$ 363,707	$ 375,299	$ 11,592
Equipment	$ -	$ -	$ -
Contractual	$ 45,500	$ 42,008	$ (3,492)
Materials, Supplies, Parts	$ 2,500	$ 2,548	$ 48
BOCES	$ 16,094	$ 14,718	$ (1,376)
Total	**$ 427,801**	**$ 434,573**	**$ 6,772**

- Salaries for Superintendent Office, Business Office, portion of Secretary to Superintendent, Tax Collector
- Independent Financial Audit, State Aid Planning, Cooperative Purchasing (BOCES)

Curriculum Development and Supervision	2024-2025	2025-2026	Difference
Salaries	$ 305,341	$ 288,021	$ (17,320)
Equipment	$ -	$ -	$ -
Contractual	$ 3,500	$ 4,000	$ 500
Materials, Supplies, Parts	$ 500	$ 1,000	$ 500
BOCES	$ 28,207	$ 29,352	$ 1,145
Total	**$ 337,548**	**$ 322,373**	**$ (15,175)**

- Salaries for principals, secretaries to principals
- Professional memberships, supplies to operate the school offices

Administrative

Legal and Personnel	2024-2025	2025-2026	Difference
Salaries	$ -	$ -	$ -
Equipment	$ -	$ -	$ -
Contractual	$ 30,000	$ 30,000	$ -
Materials, Supplies, Parts	$ -	$ -	$ -
BOCES	$ 63,161	$ 60,862	$ (2,299)
Total	**$ 93,161**	**$ 90,862**	**$ (2,299)**

- Expenses related to personnel record retention, legal fees related to personnel, access to legal counsel from BOCES

Other Central Services	2024-2025	2025-2026	Difference
Salaries	$ -	$ -	$ -
Equipment	$ -	$ -	$ -
Contractual	$ 78,500	$ 97,500	$ 19,000
Materials, Supplies, Parts	$ 1,000	$ 990	$ (10)
BOCES	$ 113,009	$ 122,764	$ 9,755
Total	**$ 192,509**	**$ 221,254**	**$ 28,745**

- School insurance, school dues, postage expenses
- BOCES provided services for data processing and administration, student management services

Employee Benefits	2024-2025	2025-2026	Difference
Employee Benefits	$ 313,918	$ 306,391	$ (7,527)
Total	**$ 313,918**	**$ 306,391**	**$ (7,527)**

- For all employees listed in this section, costs for Employee Retirement System, Teacher Retirement System, Social Security, Medicare, Worker's Compensation, Unemployment Insurance, Health Insurance, Dental Insurance

Program

Interfund Transfers	2024-2025	2025-2026	Difference
Transfer to School Lunch Fund	$ 25,000	$ 75,000	$ 50,000
Transfer to Special Aid Fund	$ 50,000	$ 100,000	$ 50,000
Total	**$ 75,000**	**$ 175,000**	**$ 100,000**

- Interfund transfers to other funds

Teaching (Regular and Special Education)	2024-2025	2025-2026	Difference
Salaries	$ 3,753,890	$ 3,773,625	$ 19,735
Equipment	$ 10,000	$ 15,000	$ 5,000
Contractual	$ 190,018	$ 184,182	$ (5,836)
Materials, Supplies, Parts	$ 131,307	$ 133,824	$ 2,517
Textbooks	$ 77,000	$ 31,533	$ (45,467)
BOCES	$ 1,265,271	$ 1,359,590	$ 94,319
Total	**$ 5,427,486**	**$ 5,497,754**	**$ 70,268**

- Salaries for all instructional and non-instructional employees, including teachers, aides, assistants, substitutes, health services and counselors, advisors, coaches, chaperones, tutors
- Instructional equipment and hardware, service and maintenance contracts, medical services, dues, fees, subscriptions, field trips, conferences, employee professional development
- Textbooks, library books, materials and supplies for instruction, leveraging the cooperative purchasing via BOCES to eliminate family contributions for supplies
- Students attending BOCES programs, health, medical, special education services, technology support

Transportation	2024-2025	2025-2026	Difference
Salaries	$ 460,257	$ 476,679	$ 16,422
Equipment	$ -	$ 5,000	$ 5,000
Contractual	$ 86,500	$ 113,490	$ 26,990
Materials, Supplies, Parts	$ 124,000	$ 103,418	$ (20,582)
BOCES	$ 18,400	$ 19,450	$ 1,050
Total	**$ 689,157**	**$ 718,037**	**$ 28,880**

- Salaries for transportation director and all transportation related employees
- Services and supplies to support the operation and maintenance of the transportation department and related equipment

Employee Benefits	2024-2025	2025-2026	Difference
Employee Benefits	$ 2,153,464	$ 2,191,039	$ 37,575
Total	**$ 2,153,464**	**$ 2,191,039**	**$ 37,575**

- For all employees listed in this section, costs for Employee Retirement System, Teacher Retirement System, Social Security, Medicare, Worker's Compensation, Unemployment Insurance, Health Insurance, Dental Insurance

Capital

Interfund Transfers	2024-2025	2025-2026	Difference
Transfer to Capital Fund	$ -	$ 100,000	$ 100,000
Total	**$ -**	**$ 100,000**	**$ 100,000**

- Continue our Annual Capital Outlay Exception Project Program

Debt Service	2024-2025	2025-2026	Difference
Principal - Bond	$ 1,100,000	$ 1,130,000	$ 30,000
Interest - Bond	$ 246,238	$ 210,163	$ (36,075)
Principal - Bond Anticipation Note BAN	$ -	$ -	$ -
Interest - Bond Anticipation Note BAN	$ -	$ -	$ -
Total	**$ 1,346,238**	**$ 1,340,163**	**$ (6,075)**

- School bond principal and interest payments

Operations and Maintenance	2024-2025	2025-2026	Difference
Salaries	$ 320,219	$ 300,801	$ (19,418)
Equipment	$ 30,000	$ 30,000	$ -
Contractual	$ 309,000	$ 286,100	$ (22,900)
Materials, Supplies, Parts	$ 110,000	$ 99,000	$ (11,000)
BOCES	$ 14,497	$ 14,992	$ 495
Total	**$ 783,716**	**$ 730,893**	**$ (52,823)**

- Salaries for supervisor of buildings and grounds and custodial staff
- Services and supplies to support the operation and maintenance of the facility

Transportation Equipment	2024-2025	2025-2026	Difference
Equipment	$ 327,135	$ 328,234	$ 1,099
Total	**$ 327,135**	**$ 328,234**	**$ 1,099**

- Purchase of two diesel buses.

Employee Benefits	2024-2025	2025-2026	Difference
Employee Benefits	$ 182,705	$ 202,005	$ 19,300
Total	**$ 182,705**	**$ 202,005**	**$ 19,300**

- For all employees listed in this section, costs for Employee Retirement System, Teacher Retirement System, Social Security, Medicare, Worker's Compensation, Unemployment Insurance, Health Insurance, Dental Insurance

2025-2026 Property Tax Report Card

230201 - Copenhagen Central School District Contact Person: Scot Luther Telephone Number: 315-688-4033	Budgeted 2024-2025 (A)	Proposed Budget 2025-2026 (B)
Total Budgeted Amount, not Including Separate Propositions	12,368,425	12,679,726
A. Proposed Tax Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount *1	1,895,535	1,952,401
B. Tax Levy to Support Library Debt, if Applicable	0	0
C. Tax Levy for Non-Excludable Propositions, if Applicable *2	0	0
D. Total Tax Cap Reserve Amount Used to Reduce Current Year Levy, if Applicable	0	0
E. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy (A + B + C - D)	1,895,535	1,952,401
F. Permissible Exclusions to the School Tax Levy Limit	164,985	343,610
G. School Tax Levy Limit , Excluding Levy for Permissible Exclusions *3	1,730,550	1,809,961
H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, Excluding Levy to Support Library Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions (E - B - F + D)	1,730,550	1,608,791
I. Difference: (G - H); (negative value requires 60.0% voter approval) *2	0	201,170
Public School Enrollment	482	485
Consumer Price Index		2.95%

*1 Include any prior year reserve for excess tax levy, including interest.

*2 Tax levy associated with educational or transportation services propositions are not eligible for exclusion under the School Tax Levy Limit and may affect voter approval requirements.

*3 For 2025-2026, include any carryover from 2024-2025 and exclude any tax levy for library debt or prior year reserve for excess tax levy, including interest.

	Actual 2024-2025 (D)	Estimated 2025-2026 (E)
Adjusted Restricted Fund Balance	1,188,634	1,555,715
Assigned Appropriated Fund Balance	802,191	1,022,258
Adjusted Unrestricted Fund Balance	836,338	505,558
Adjusted Unrestricted Fund Balance as a Percent of the Total Budget	6.76%	3.99%

Schedule of Reserve Funds

Reserve Type	Reserve Description	3/31/2025 Actual Balance	6/30/2025 Estimated Ending Balance	Intended Use of the Reserve in the 2025-2026 School Year
Capital Project 2024	To pay the cost of any object or purpose for which bonds may be issued.	231,764	631,764	Referendum planned for December 2028 or 2029 with intentions of utilizing all of the reserve to support a capital improvement project.
Workers' Compensation	To pay for Workers Compensation and benefits.	56,972	56,972	Appropriate a portion of this reserve to support anticipated expenses in the next FY.
Unemployment Insurance	To pay the cost of reimbursement to the State Unemployment Insurance Fund.	25,354	15,354	Appropriate a portion of this reserve to support anticipated expenses in the next FY.
EBALR – Employee Benefit Accrued Liability	For the payment of accrued 'employee benefits' due to employees upon termination of service.	143,895	143,895	Pay for liabilities at termination of service of employees.
Retirement Contribution - ERS	To fund employer retirement contributions to the State and Local Employees' Retirement System	150,000	229,000	Appropriate a portion of this reserve to support anticipated expenses in the next FY.
Single Other Reserve - TRS	To fund employer retirement contributions to the New York State Teachers' Retirement System (TRS.)	390,444	279,444	Appropriate a portion of this reserve to support anticipated expenses in the next FY.
Single Other Reserve - Other Restricted Fund Balance - Wind Energy Systems Tax Stabilization Reserve Fund	Offset impact of PILOTs decreasing or terminating - To lessen or prevent increases in the school district's real property tax levy resulting from decreases in revenue due to changes in the amount of, or termination of, the payments in lieu of taxes receivable by the school district	190,205	199,286	No current planned use for next FY, but available when needed.
Repair	To pay the cost of repairs to capital improvements or equipment.			
Reserve for Tax Reduction	For the gradual use of the proceeds of the sale of school district real property.			
Mandatory Reserve for Debt Service	To cover debt service payments on outstanding obligations (bonds, BANS) after the sale of district capital assets or improvements.			
Insurance	To pay liability, casualty, and other types of uninsured losses.			
Property Loss	To establish and maintain a program of reserves to cover property loss.			
Liability	To establish and maintain a program of reserves to cover liability claims incurred.			
Tax Certiorari	To establish a reserve fund for tax certiorari settlements			
Reserve for Insurance Recoveries	To account for unexpended proceeds of insurance recoveries at the fiscal year end.			
Reserve for Insurance Recoveries	To account for unexpended proceeds of insurance recoveries at the fiscal year end.			

FIFTEEN-YEAR COMPARISON OF TAX LEVY CHANGES
ACTUAL DOLLAR INCREASES (DECREASES)

Year	Budget Delta	Levy Delta
2025-2026	$ 311,301	$ 56,866
2024-2025	$ 342,001	$ 53,062
2023-2024	$ 40,901	$ 36,127
2022-2023	$ 310,601	$ 17,884
2021-2022	$ 467,301	$ 17,708
2020-2021	$ 210,935	$ 34,721
2019-2020	$ 521,281	$ (17,536)
2018-2019	$ 116,969	$ 34,384
2017-2018	$ 98,115	$ 33,709
2016-2017	$ (224,490)	$ 33,048
2015-2016	$ 10,710	$ 32,400
2014-2015	$ 241,109	$ 45,657
2013-2014	$ 67,045	$ 44,370
2012-2013	$ 1,184,003	$ 43,120
2011-2012	$ 111,187	$ 29,155



CAPITAL OUTLAY
(Mini-Renovation Project)

The District is planning to continue its annual capital outlay (mini-renovation project) program authorized by Education Law §3602 and the Office of Facilities Planning at the New York State Education Department.

This fiscal year the District plans to complete a mini-renovation project that includes, but is not limited to, door and frame replacements, door hardware replacements, and/or floor restoration and replacements. Due to the maximum amount of $100,000 that is allowed to be utilized for this type of mini-renovation, the District will maximize as many of the aforementioned items with the funding available, and defer any items that could not be completed to the following fiscal year project. The proposed $100,000 spent on the mini-renovation project is expected to generate $92,600 in building aid, which will be used to fund the mini-renovation project the following year.



Copenhagen Central School District Annual Budget Meeting and Vote

The Copenhagen Central School District Board of Education will hold a Public Meeting on the proposed 2025 - 2026 School District Budget on **Tuesday, May 6, 2025, at 6:00 PM** in the School Cafeteria. An overview of the budget to be voted on May 20, 2025, will be provided at the meeting.

The following resolutions to be voted on are as follows:

- 2025-2026 Proposed Budget Appropriations
- Transportation of Head Start Pupils for 2025-2026
- Election of one (1) School Board Member



QUALIFICATIONS OF VOTERS

Individuals eligible to vote at the Annual District Vote are those who possess all of the following qualifications:

- A citizen of the United States
- At least eighteen (18) years of age
- A resident within the Copenhagen Central School District for a period of at least thirty (30) days preceding the date of the vote

* Note that no previous voter registration is necessary and according to state law, property ownership cannot be required as a qualification for voting.

Six-Day Budget Notice

State law requires school districts to send to district residents a Six-Day Budget Notice. This notice will be sent following the district's budget hearing and at least six days prior to the district vote. The Copenhagen Central School District Budget Hearing will be held on **Tuesday, May 6, 2025, at 6:00 PM** in the School Cafeteria. Voting will take place on the statewide voting day, **Tuesday, May 20, 2025,** in the gymnasium foyer from **12:00 PM (noon) to 8:00 PM**.



The Six Day Budget Notice will contain the following information:

- A comparison of budget appropriations for the 2024-2025 and 2025-2026 school years
- Percent of change between budgets
- Percent of change in Consumer Price Index (CPI)
- Basic STAR Savings

Absentee and Early Mail Ballots

Absentee and early mail ballots for the annual budget vote and school board election will be available for eligible voters. A qualified voter is eligible when they are:

- Absent from the district when polls are open due to business, occupation or studies
- Confined in a hospital or jail
- Chronically ill or has a physical disability
- Absent due to vacation, whether actively working or retired



Qualified voters desiring an absentee or early mail ballot will need to complete an application. Applications are available in the District Office at Copenhagen Central School and may be obtained by contacting Lukas Sullivan, District Clerk, at 315-688-4411 or at lsullivan@ccsknights.org.

- Absentee and early mail ballot applications must be received by the District Clerk at least seven (7) days before the election if the ballot is to be mailed to the voter, or the day before the election if the ballot is to be issued in person to the voter.
- Absentee and early mail ballots must be returned to the District Clerk by 5:00 PM on Tuesday, May 20, 2025, for the ballot to be counted.
- Qualified voters with disabilities and military absentee ballots who are named on the county list, will automatically be sent an absentee ballot.

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PERMIT NO. 2
COPENHAGEN, NY 13626

COPENHAGEN CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
Volume 60, Issue 5

3020 Mechanic Street
Copenhagen, NY 13626
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Board of Education

Lynn Murray
President

Alfred Tomaselli
Vice President

Koreen Freeman

James Harter

Keith Lee

Robert Stackel

Gabrielle Thompson

Administration

Scott Connell
Superintendent

Sarah Potter
6-12 Principal

Pamela Ratliff
UPK-5 Principal

Scot Luther
Business Manager

BUDGET VOTE 2025 – 2026 INFORMATION

BUDGET HEARING: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.
School Cafeteria

BUDGET VOTE: Tuesday, May 20, 2025 – 12:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Gym Foyer

WHAT DOES THE BALLOT LOOK LIKE?:

PROPOSITION 1:

Resolved that the Board of Education of the Copenhagen Central School District, be hereby authorized to expend the sums set forth in the proposed budget for the fiscal year 2025-2026 and to levy the necessary tax for the requisite portion thereof to be raised by taxation on the taxable property of the District.

Shall the voters approve the 2025 – 2026 Budget of $12,679,726.00 as presented by the Board of Education?

PROPOSITION 2:

Shall the District be authorized to provide transportation of Head Start children from Copenhagen Central School to Lowville Head Start and return on an existing BOCES bus route? Shall the District be authorized to provide transportation of Head Start children from Copenhagen Central School to their homes in the afternoon on an existing p.m. bus route? This will demand no additional costs to the District.

BOARD OF EDUCATION: Term of Office, July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2030

- Five year term to replace term of Gabrielle M. Thompson

Please Vote for One

_____ Gabrielle M. Thompson

_____ Write in candidate