

BEAVER RIVER CENTRAL SCHOOL

ANNUAL BUDGET 2026-2027



Experiencing Today,
Preparing for Tomorrow

A MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

At the April 15, 2026 Board of Education meeting, the board set the budget for the 2026-2027 school year at \$23,778,124 which is an increase of 2.25% in appropriations. This increase is mostly based on increases in contracts, fringe benefits, outright purchasing of equipment and transportation, and BOCES purchases, which drives more state aid. The increase along with the projected revenues for the District sets the tax levy increase at 2.00% which is below the allowable tax levy increase of 3.08%.

The budget challenge this year was related to our revenue from state foundation aid. We have had an average of approximately three percent increases in the past few years. However, at the time of this writing the foundation aid that has been provided is only 1.58% which does not come close to the rise in cost side, and appropriated fund balance adjustments to be sure our budget and programs can be maintained. We are very dependent upon state aid to maintain our programming. In essence two-thirds (2/3) of our revenue is from state resources thus lowering our dependence on local school taxes.

The Challenges Ahead

Limited State Revenue, Academic Challenges, Costly Mandates

As you can see above our main source of revenue, foundation aid, is not being increased at the same rate as costs increase. To meet this challenge, we continue to apply for grants and other revenue sources to offset local school taxes. For instance, we have maximized our PreK grant, for our current full day classroom. Next year, due to significant students needs, a third PreK class will be in place to provide special education services to these students. These services are refunded by the state. In addition, through proactive budgeting we are able to provide academic support, adding an instructional coach that will provide training in the Science of Reading (SOR) and other research based instructional practices.

Later in this newsletter you will find information about a major costly mandate, zero-emission vehicles (electric school buses). This mandate is set to be effective starting in July 2027. Many of our board meetings have been discussing this challenge and how the district can address this mandate that in its entirety does not appear to be viable, but at the same time there has been very little, if any, change to the mandate that will hit our district.

Budget Vote

Tuesday, May 19 2026

1:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

BRCS

Auditorium

- Proposed Budget: \$23,778,124
- Tax Levy Increase: \$121,676 (2%)
- Allowable Tax Levy Increase (3.08%)

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BUDGET PRESENTATION

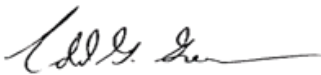
May 11, 2026 @ 6:00 PM
BRCS Auditorium

Streaming: <https://www.youtube.com/@BeaverRiverCSD>

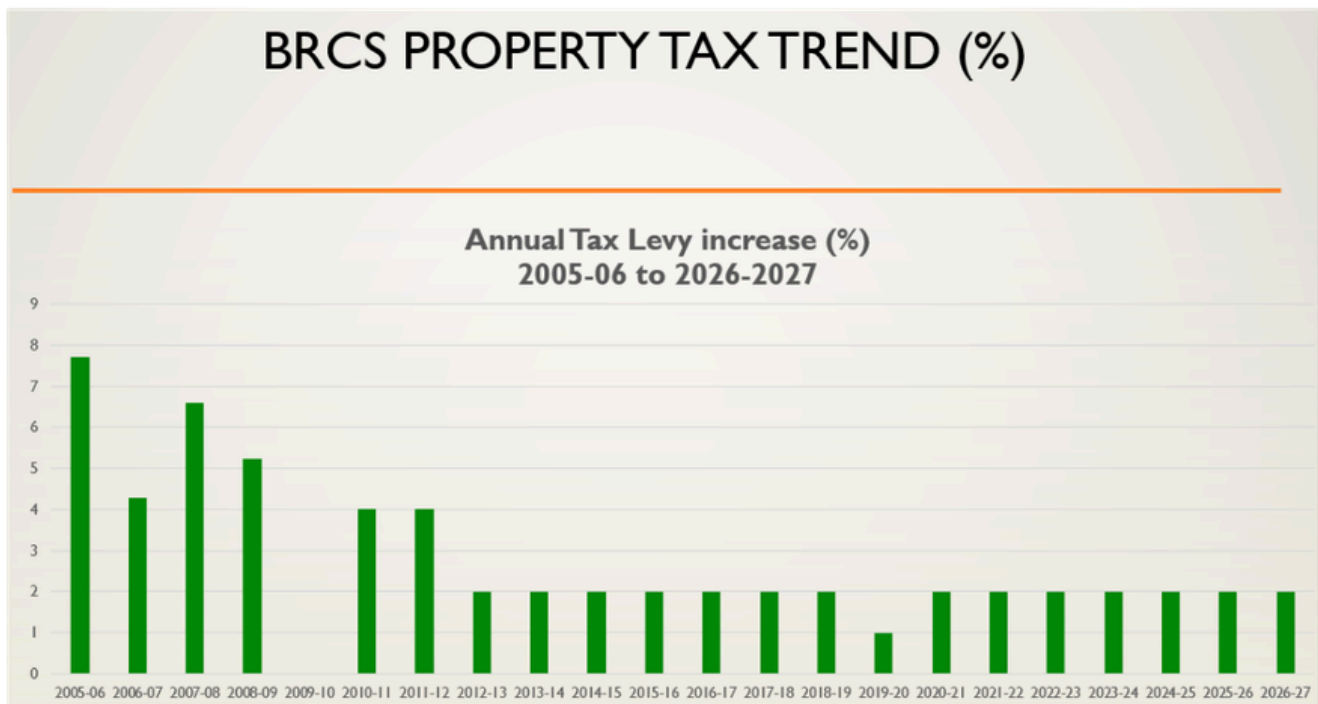
Tax Cap Calculation

The tax cap calculation is determined by multiple factors. Most people understand that the cap is typically 2.0%. This is generally true, but in some cases a municipality such as a school district may find that the calculation is higher or lower due to various factors. Most often, for a school district, the change in the tax cap is related to capital project expenditures, debt payments, and PILOT reimbursements. Our tax cap calculation for the 2026-2027 school year is 3.08%. The board has agreed that keeping the levy at 2.00% made logical sense this year.

We at Beaver River thank you for your support, if you have any further questions, do not hesitate to reach out to me. I look forward to seeing you for the annual budget presentation on May 11, 2026 at 6:00 PM in the auditorium or streaming online at: <https://www.youtube.com/@BeaverRiverCSD> and then the annual budget vote on May 19, 2026 from 1:00-8:00 p.m.



Todd G. Green
Superintendent of Schools



Capital Outlay Project

The 2026-2027 Capital Outlay Project will consist of various work required in the District. The state allows school districts to transfer general funds to the capital fund for building and/or reconstruction projects not to exceed \$100,000.

The projects funded in this manner receive reimbursement from the state the following school year, unlike traditional capital projects, which are reimbursed over time. The work that will be included in our budget will be for safety, security and maintenance.

The state will reimburse Beaver River for approximately 82% of the project.

Budget Summary

2026-2027 Budget

New York State law requires all school districts to present their budgets divided into three expenditure categories: program, administrative and capital.

Administrative

The Administrative component of the budget includes salaries and benefits for all certified school administrators, expenditures associated with the district's central administrative offices, including the school board, superintendent, school business office, as well as all other administrative activities.

2026-2027 Proposed Administrative Budget

BOARD OF EDUCATION		\$	31,860
CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION		\$	238,562
FINANCE		\$	403,461
LEGAL SERVICES		\$	25,000
PERSONNEL		\$	104,118
RECORDS MANAGEMENT		\$	150
PUBLIC INFORMATION		\$	6,500
OTHER CENTRAL SERVICES		\$	515,388
SPECIAL ITEMS		\$	443,772
SUPERVISION OF REGULAR SCHOOL		\$	517,882
SUPERVISION OF SPECIAL SCHOOL		\$	-
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS		\$	499,305
TOTAL ADMINISTRATIVE BUDGET	(11.72%)	\$	2,785,998
<i>Total 2025-26 Administrative Budget</i>		\$	<i>2,704,182</i>

Program

This component of the budget includes salaries and benefits of teachers, supervisors who spend a majority of their time performing teaching duties as well as operating expenses for the instructional and transportation programs.

2026-2027 Proposed Program Budget

LEGAL SERVICES		\$	-
INSTRUCTION DISTRICT		\$	11,099,060
TRANSPORTATION		\$	1,504,744
BUS GARAGE		\$	48,900
CONTRACT TRANSPORTATION		\$	-
COMMUNITY SERVICES		\$	-
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS		\$	4,667,865
OTHER TRANSFERS		\$	75,000
TOTAL PROGRAM BUDGET	(73.16%)	\$	17,395,569
<i>Total 2025-26 Program Budget</i>		\$	<i>16,721,820</i>

Capital

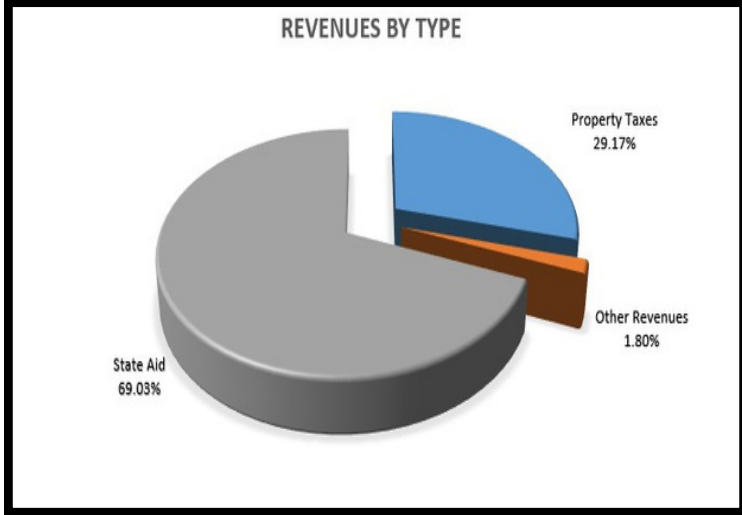
This component of the budget includes funds for the principal and interest payments on debt service, and all operational, cleaning and maintenance costs for district facilities including salaries and benefits, service contracts, supplies and utility costs.

2026-2027 Proposed Capital Budget

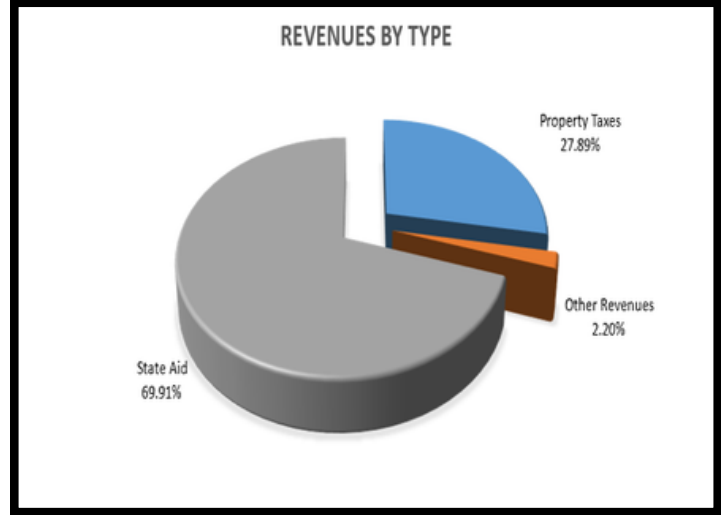
OPERATION OF PLANT		\$	1,216,242
MAINTENANCE OF PLANT		\$	244,701
REFUND OF TAXES		\$	5,000
PURCHASE OF BUSES		\$	-
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS		\$	354,251
DEBT SERVICE		\$	1,676,363
BOCES CAPITAL PROJECT		\$	-
TRANSFER TO CAPITAL FUND		\$	100,000
TOTAL CAPITAL BUDGET	(15.13%)	\$	3,596,557
<i>Total 2025-26 Capital Budget</i>		\$	<i>3,829,697</i>

Revenues

2025-2026 Revenues

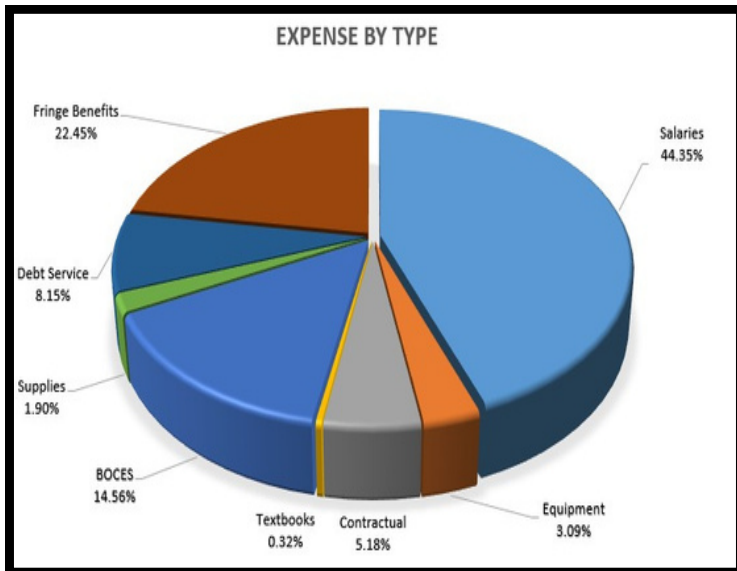


2026-2027 Revenues

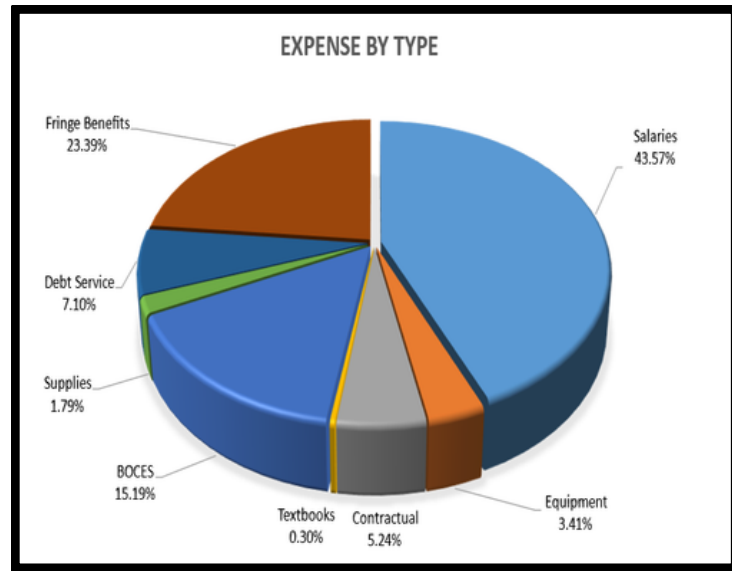


Expenses

2025-2026 Expenses



2026-2027 Expenses



**BEAVER RIVER CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
ANNUAL VOTE**

May 19, 2026

PROPOSITION 1: BUDGET RESOLUTION FOR THE 2026-2027 SCHOOL YEAR

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of Beaver River Central School District at Beaver Falls, County of Lewis, is hereby authorized to expend the sums set forth in the amount of \$23,778,124 for the 2026-2027 school year, is hereby approved and adopted, and the required funds therefore are hereby appropriated, and the necessary real property taxes required shall be raised by a tax on the taxable property in the District to be levied and collected as required by law?

YES

NO

PROPOSITION 2: THREE DIESEL BUSES (OPTION 1) OR TWO DIESEL BUSES AND ONE ELECTRIC BUS (OPTION 2)

VOTE FOR ONE OPTION

OPTION 1: Shall the Board of Education purchase and, at the option of the Board, finance three (3) student transportation vehicles at an estimated cost not to exceed \$523,266, including necessary furnishings, fixtures and equipment and all other costs incidental thereto and to expend a total sum not to exceed \$523,266, which is estimated to be the total maximum cost thereof, and levy a tax which is hereby voted foregoing in the amount of \$523,266, which shall be levied and collected in annual installments in such years and in such amounts as may be determined by the Board of Education and in anticipation of the collection of such tax, bonds and notes or installment purchase contracts are hereby authorized to be issued or executed at one time, or from time to time, in the principal amount not to exceed \$523,266, and a tax is hereby voted to pay the interest on said obligations when due.

OR:

OPTION 2: Shall the Board of Education purchase and, at the option of the Board, finance two (2) 66 passenger diesel-powered school buses and one (1) zero-emission (electric) school bus at an estimated cost not to exceed \$571,361, including necessary charging infrastructure, furnishings, and equipment and all other costs incidental thereto and to expend a total sum not to exceed \$571,361 which is estimated to be the total maximum cost thereof, and levy a tax which is hereby voted foregoing in the amount of \$571,361, which shall be levied and collected in annual installments in such years and in such amounts as may be determined by the Board of Education and in anticipation of the collection of such tax, bonds and notes or installment purchase contracts are hereby authorized to be issued or executed at one time, or from time to time, in the principal amount not to exceed \$571,361. The District is further authorized to apply for and receive any available State or Federal grants (including NYSBIP or EPA Clean School Bus funds) to offset the cost of the zero-emission vehicle and infrastructure, with any such funds received used to reduce the amount of debt issued.

YES to Option 1

YES to Option 2

PROPOSITION 3: CROGHAN LIBRARY

Shall the appropriation for the Croghan Free Library within the Beaver River Central School District be increased to \$60,000 (which is a \$5,000 increase from the \$55,000 levy currently in existence), which shall be raised by a tax upon the taxable property of the School District in accordance with Education Law

YES

NO

VOTE FOR THREE (3) TRUSTEES FOR VACANT BOARD "AT LARGE" SEATS

Three Year Term:

Place an "X" next to THREE candidates

	Holly Aucter			
	Amy Baker			
	Amanda Mattimore			
	Travis Moser			

OR

Write-in the name of a person in the space provided

Voting instructions:

1. Mark the ballot provided.
2. To vote "YES" or "NO" place a single (X) in pen or pencil in the square next to your choice.
3. To vote for a Trustee, place a single (X) in the square next to your choice. If you choose to write-in a person not listed, print name in the space provided. PLEASE NOTE: NO OTHER MARKS WILL BE ACCEPTED AND MAY INVALIDATE YOUR BALLOT.
4. Fold and insert the completed ballot in the WHITE envelope, and seal the envelope.
5. Complete the front of the WHITE envelope
6. Read the "STATEMENT OF EARLY MAIL AND ABSENTEE VOTER", on the reverse side of the WHITE envelope and sign and date the envelope in the spaces indicated.
7. Ensure that the voter information is correct on the front of the envelope. Make corrections if needed.
8. Then place the white envelope in the pre-addressed, self-stamped envelope provided.
9. This envelope may be hand delivered to the drop box at the Main Entrance, at Beaver River Central School, Artz Rd. Beaver Falls, New York or may be mailed.

Note:

All early mail and absentee ballots must be received in the Office of the District Clerk at Beaver River Central School, Artz Rd. Beaver Falls, New York, not later than 5:00 pm, prevailing time, on TUESDAY, MAY 19, 2026.



**BUDGET
PRESENTATION**

*May 11, 2026 @ 6:00 PM
BRCSA Auditorium*

Streaming: <https://www.youtube.com/@BeaverRiverCSD>

BUDGET VOTE

*May 19, 2026 1:00-8:00 PM
BRCSA Auditorium*

An Explanation of the Propositions

Proposition 1: Budget

This proposition is for the full district budget. The increase in the budget from last year is 2.25% and is the maximum amount of funds that may be spent for all programs and operations for the 2026-2027 school year.

Proposition 2: Three Buses

Option 1: Three Diesel Buses

OR

Option 2: Two Diesel Buses and One Electric Bus

This proposition would allow the district to purchase a total of three buses. The district has budgeted in its general fund for three buses. Whichever option receives the most votes, that option will be implemented. A voter is to select either option 1 **or** option 2.

Proposition 3: Croghan Library

The Croghan Library has requested an increase of \$5,000 (total to be \$55,000) in their budget to maintain programming. Beaver River collects the funds for the library and passes them directly through.

BOE Candidates

Vote for Three Candidates:

The top three will fill the three available seats.

Holly Aucler
Amy Baker
Amanda Mattimore
Travis Moser

**BUDGET
PRESENTATION**

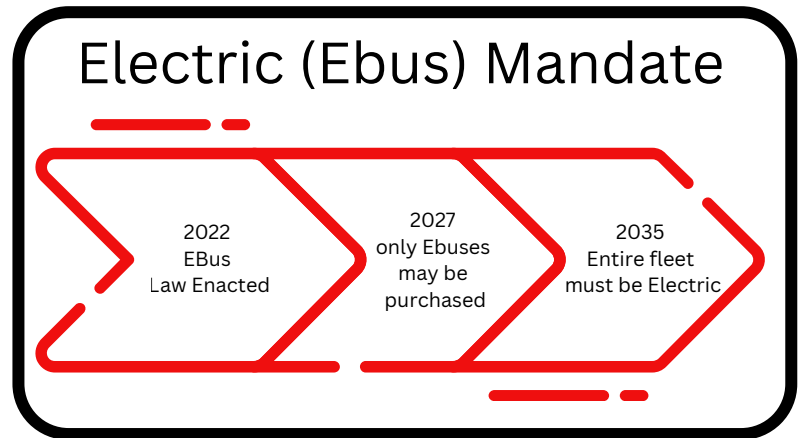
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Electric School Bus Information

Over the past few years school districts have been wrestling with the NYS mandate which states that as of 2027 all new school bus purchases must be electric, and the entire fleet must be transitioned to electric by 2035. For reference, the 2027 mandate begins in July of 2027. The feasibility of implementing an entire electric bus fleet by the 2035 deadline has raised significant concerns for our school district and many others. Multiple concerns have repeatedly been raised by board members, and administration to our local legislators and others. However, this has only resulted in a very minimal adjustment to the mandate.

The only change the state has made to the mandate is to allow school districts the ability to apply for a waiver. While the waiver delays beginning the implementation of the electric school buses until 2029, it does not extend the 2035 end date. In essence the waiver actually compresses the timeline to transition to a full fleet of buses.



Electric Bus Waiver

The chart below details the criteria schools must meet in order to apply for a waiver to delay electric bus purchases until 2029. This does not change the mandated deadline that the entire fleet to be electric in 2035.

Reason for Waiver	Description	BRCS D Status
Voter Proposition Fails	The district presented a voter proposition to borrow funds or expend reserves to support the purchase of zero-emission buses or related infrastructure within the past year that did not receive voter support	The district has not voted on electric buses yet. A vote will be brought to the community in May of 2026
Denial of Funding	The district applied for and was denied state or federal grant funds for Zero-Emission busing.	The district has been approved funding to reduce the price of an electric bus to be similar to a diesel bus, and fund a charging unit.
Electrification Plan	The District is waiting for its formal NYSERDA Fleet Electrification Plan (FEP) to be completed, OR a completed formal (FEP) indicates that no bus or route electrification is currently possible at the district. The district must show that they are working with NYSERDA towards transition in an effort to justify the extension.	The district has completed an electrification plan. Currently the plan shows that some bus routes are feasible. (Example: The district has 3 routes that are less than 15 miles each)
Required Utility Upgrades	The District has obtained formal, written confirmation from its electric utility that overall needs cannot be met without major upgrades that require capital project development and approval.	For full implementation upgrades will be needed, but the infrastructure can handle the load for the first few years of implementation.
Electric Bus or Equipment Supply Chain Delay	The district is willing and able to purchase zero-emission buses and related equipment but will not receive necessary items in a timely manner due to supply chain delays	The current time from order to delivery is approximately under one year
Operational Changes Needed	The district's current operations require significant changes to meet mandate (e.g., employee training, technical assistance). The district must describe in detail how it will not be able to support the Operational Changes in an effort to justify the need for the extension.	For initial implementation operational changes are not needed, but as the district is required to move to a full implementation, routes may need to be adjusted.

Electric School Bus Information

Why is the district looking to purchase one electric bus?

Over the past year, the district has many discussions about how to address the NYS electric bus mandate, and the next steps required for a potential transition to electric buses. By bringing this proposition to the voters this year, the district will be able to proactively determine if there is or is not community support for an electric bus. With voter support, we would move forward utilizing grant funding to purchase one electric bus. Without voter support, we would likely apply for an extension and wait to see if further changes to the mandate materialize.

- **Timing:**

- Even after hearing multiple concerns from many districts, the state has not made any significant changes to the mandate.
- The district is already asking for voter approval to purchase a total of three buses this year to maintain our current bus replacement cycle.
- The mandate goes into effect July 2027, with an extension it would go into effect in 2029.

- **Funding:**

- The cost of an electric bus is \$479,767. For reference the cost of diesel bus is \$222,517.
- The district has secured approval for grant funding of one electric bus.
- This grant funding would apply \$257,250 towards an electric bus and an electric charger. the district would then be responsible for \$222,517.
- This funding may not be available once the mandate starts and all districts will be applying for this the same pool of funds.

- **Feasibility/Preparation:**

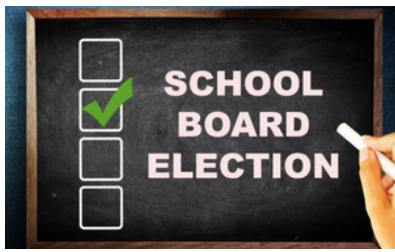
- The full implementation of a full fleet of electric buses is not feasible at this time.
- The district has already completed the required studies and plans needed to determine where potential problems will arise. (Charging schedule, cold weather adjustments, longer runs, etc.)These challenges cannot be tested and adjusted without real world experience.
- Using one electric bus for our shortest runs (less than 15 miles) would allow the district to work through the challenges associated with this type of vehicle.

- **Transparency to the Community:**

- By bringing this decision to the voter prior to the mandate being in full effect, this year we are able to assess community support, or the lack thereof, which will help us determine how to move forward.
- This time next year as the law states now, we will be required to purchase three electric buses.

- **Spares:**

- We currently have five spare buses. These five spare buses are used when there are NYSDOT inspections, trips when regular runs take place, and for other reasons. If we waited until the mandate kicks in, the district will be required to purchase three electric buses
- Purchasing one electric bus helps the district make organization and scheduling changes in preparation for more buses that will be mandated at a later date.



Board of Education Candidates

Mrs. Holly Aucter, Mrs. Amy Baker, Mrs. Amanda Mattimore, and
Mr. Travis Moser

Mrs. Holly Aucter, is a registered dental hygienist and a lifelong member of the community where she lives with her husband and two children who attend Beaver River. Holly has served on the board of education for the last 3 years. She is a former secretary for the Croghan Fire Auxiliary and she is an active member of her church, serving as a youth group co-leader and VBS co-coordinator. Holly is blessed to call Beaver River her home, her alma mater and her community and cares deeply about the strength and future of the district.

“Remaining focused on maintaining high academic standards and supporting student learning and achievement is a top priority. Like many other districts, we also face upcoming changes to NYS graduation requirements, continued shortages of qualified teaching applicants, the implementation of safety guardrails for the use of AI, as well as ongoing safety concerns. However, the biggest challenge on the horizon currently is financial. State aid is ever changing and unpredictable. Energy costs are rapidly rising. Health insurance expenses have increased by 20%. Special education needs and costs continue to grow. The looming potential impact of an electric bus mandate remains also. These factors will require responsible, resourceful budgeting and long-term planning. Remaining committed to being fiscally responsible and utilizing our current resources to their fullest potential is essential.

I have considered it an honor to have served on the Board of Education. While I have learned a great deal about many things over the past three years, I recognize just how much more there is to learn and how much work there is to do. This experience has given me a deep appreciation for the time, research, and care that go into the decision making processes that guide our district forward. What happens here matters. It matters that our students are supported, challenged, and encouraged every day. It matters that each one graduates with the academic and life skills needed to become respectful, kind, independent, and well-rounded citizens.”

Mrs. Amy Baker, is employed at Jeff-Lewis BOCES as a work-based learning coordinator and Dean of Students and is a graduate of Beaver River where she resides with her husband, Tim and their daughters, Lauren (8th grade) and Morgan (5th grade). Amy has spent the past 17 years in education as a teacher. Her professional background includes previously operating her own business, as well as assisting with office tasks for her husband’s paving company. She currently serves as Vice President of the Croghan American Legion Auxiliary where she is chairman of the Children’s Youth Activities and the Americanism Departments and a member of the NYSCREA. She also is an alumni member and contest chair for Skills USA.

“One of the biggest issues I see currently is making sure students see the connection between what they’re learning and what they can do with it after graduation. When learning feels relevant, students are more engaged and better prepared for whatever path they choose; whether that’s college or career, relocating or staying and building a life here in our community. I would like to see expanded course offerings for career exploration, more hands-on experiences, and additional extracurricular opportunities so students can find their path and make informed decisions. I also believe in the importance of accountability and building real-world skills. Students should graduate not only with knowledge, but with confidence, a strong work ethic, responsibility, communication skills, and the ability to adapt. These are the skills that students will need to be successful and remain competitive in today’s world. I am running for the school board because I feel I can bring a unique perspective and skill set that can help develop thoughtful solutions in the district, while also valuing informed and responsible decision-making. As a parent of two children in the district entering important learning years, I see how important it is that our school continues to grow and adapt while holding onto the values that make our small school community wonderful and strong.”



Board of Education Candidates

Mrs. Holly Aucter, Mrs. Amy Baker, Mrs. Amanda Mattimore, and Mr. Travis Moser

Mrs. Amanda Mattimore, is a real estate broker who resides in the district with her husband and three daughters, Lilie(BRCS Alumni), Madilyn(12th grade), and Kaylee (8th grade). She is a 2025 Lewis County Leadership Academy graduate and also a director on the Jefferson Lewis Board of Realtors.

“One of the most significant challenges facing our school district is finding the right balance between supporting student success, meeting state requirements, and maintaining an affordable tax burden for our community. Students need access to strong educational programs, resources, and opportunities in order to thrive, but many of these come with financial implications. At the same time, the district must comply with state mandates that can place additional strain on the budget. I believe it is essential to approach these decisions thoughtfully by prioritizing what is best for students while remaining mindful of the impact on taxpayers. As a board member, I would focus on listening to students, families, and staff to better understand their needs, and I would advocate for solutions that support student growth without necessarily increasing the financial burden on our community.”

Mr. Travis Moser, is proud to be a candidate for the Beaver River BOE. “My wife, Alayne, and I are deeply rooted in this community. We have three young children, two of whom currently attend BRCS, Aleya (4th grade), Zayden (2nd grade), and Asher (at home). Alayne graduated from BRCS in 2010, and I graduated from Copenhagen Central in 2007 before earning my Bachelor’s degree in Civil Engineering from Clarkson University in 2011. I currently serve as a Production Manager at Viking-Cives. I also am a sunday school teacher, sunday school superintendent, and a Naumburg youth group sponsor.

Our family is actively involved in the community through Naumburg Mennonite Church, where we have participated in various committees and served in multiple roles. We also enjoy supporting BRCS events, including musicals, concerts, and high school athletics, because we believe a strong school community extends far beyond the classroom.

I believe the most important issues facing BRCS center on preparing our students for the future - not only academically, but also by helping them develop strong moral character and a solid work ethic. It is equally important that students have opportunities to engage with and contribute to their community. Providing a wide range of opportunities in arts, music, sports, and BOCES programs allows every student to explore their interests and build a path toward their future. I also believe in recognizing and upholding the values and traditions that have long been part of our community.

As a board member, I will help to ensure BRCS remains a safe, supportive, and exceptional place for our children, making it a priority to keep the best interests of our students at the forefront of every decision.”

2026-2027 Budget Information

Beaver River Central School Annual Budget Vote



The annual buget vote for the fical year 2026-2027 by the qualified voters of the Beaver River Central School District, Lewis County, New York, will be held at said district on Tuesday, May 19, 2026 between the hours of 1:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m., prevailing time in the school auditorium, at which time the polls will be opened to vote by voting ballot machine.

Voter Requirements:

To be eligible to vote on May 19th for the Beaver River Central School Budget, you must meet the following criteria:

- You must be 18 years old
- You must be a US Citizen
- You must be a resident of the Beaver River Central Scool District for the past 30 days

Budget Hearing:	Budget Vote:
May 11, 2026 6:00 p.m.	May 19, 2026 1-8 p.m.
BRCS Auditorium	

Absentee Ballotts:

All absentee ballots must be received in the Office of the District Clerk at Beaver River Central School, Artz Road, Beaver Falls, New York no later than 5:00 p.m. prevailing time on Tuesday, May 19, 2026

A MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD OF EDUCATION



Throughout this school year, individual members of the Board of Education have taken turns writing for this section of the newsletter. Our goal is to strengthen communication with the community by providing a bit of insight into current Board activities.

Last year the Board worked to develop district goals as well as specific goals for the board itself.

We have been steadily working to improve our Board governance and operations. We have developed a BRCSD New Board Member Onboarding Resource which outlines and details the duties, responsibilities and expectations of new board members. With the recent change from five year to three years terms of service, there is the potential for more frequent board member turnover. Assigning new board members a mentor and the utilization of this Onboarding Resource will be instrumental in facilitating smooth transitions onto the board.

We have also worked to develop a Board Of Education Operating Procedure document. This outlines and details the various responsibilities delegated to the Board. The idea again is to provide a template to allow for smooth and consistent Board Operations. Board members continue work on various matters in committees (Personnel, Policy, Facilities, Curriculum and Instruction, Finance and Audit, Safety) and give reports to update the board as a whole at each meeting. As a reminder, meeting agendas and minutes are accessible to the public through the school website, under the District tab.

I recently attended an interesting and informative JLSBA meeting about AI in schools. The general consensus was that while AI is part of our students' future, much like the calculator was for generations past, it is also widely acknowledged that critical thinking skills must not be allowed to falter. There are sure to be many more discussions regarding the necessary guidelines and guardrails needed to ensure safe implementation of AI technology.

The month of May brings with it Teacher and Staff appreciation week. Thank you to each and every one for doing their part to make our district thrive.

Having the opportunity to learn and work alongside our administrators, teachers, and staff at Beaver River has reinforced my gratitude for this district. While we are not immune to the problems, concerns and difficulties that most districts face, we are very fortunate to have a solid foundation of leadership and an incredible staff that genuinely cares about our students and community. The Beaver River family is truly something special.

ELEMENTARY NEWS

From the desk of Dr. Kimberly Lyman-Wright, Elementary Principal and Mrs. Mackenzie Ritz, Elementary Assistant Principal

Hello Parents and Guardians,

Teacher Appreciation Week is MAY 4-8, 2026. We appreciate all that our Beaver River teachers, teaching assistants, and teacher aides do every day. I also would like to recognize everyone who makes school a safe place, including bus drivers, cafeteria workers, cafeteria monitors, playground monitors, secretaries, school nurses, school counselors, school social workers, our safety officer and our home school coordinator.

Home and School will sponsor a Scholastic Book Fair from May 12-15, 2026. More information about the special sale for this book fair will be coming home.

Pre-Kindergarten Registration will be held at the bus garage on May 20 and May 21. If you have not received a Pre-Kindergarten registration packet from the Elementary Office, please contact Mrs. Neddo at 315-346-1211 ext. 510.

NYS Math Tests are scheduled for the following

Grade 4 April 30 and May 1

Grade 5 May 5 and 6

IMPORTANT DATES



Field trips are being scheduled and classroom teachers will contact you for permission soon. Please, if you are chaperoning, we strongly encourage you not to bring younger siblings so that you can enjoy the time with the child you are attending with.

Finally, as the school year ends, classroom placement for next year will begin. Parents are not allowed to request specific teachers; however, if you as a parent have a concern about your child or information that you need the principal to be aware of, feel free to send a parent square message or call the elementary office to set up an appointment. Many steps go into making decisions, including academics, behavioral, AIS, special education services, and counseling. The process begins with a team of teachers and myself. Mr. Green reviews the class lists before they are finalized per BOE Policy #8100.1. If you have any questions, please call 315-346-1211 ext. 510.

Thank you for a great school year.

Sincerely,

Dr. Lyman-Wright

Mrs. Ritz





KINDERGARTEN NEWSLETTER



The Kindergarten classrooms have been filled with curiosity and excitement. The Kindergarten students are taking their first big steps into the world of reading, writing, and scientific discovery. These early learning experiences are more than just lessons - they are the foundation for a lifelong love of learning.

One of the most important milestones in kindergarten is learning letters and how they form the building blocks of reading. Students begin by recognizing and naming both uppercase and lowercase letters. Through songs, games, and hands-on activities, they explore letter sounds and practice connecting those sounds to words. This process, known as phonics, helps children understand how written language works. As their confidence grows, students start blending sounds together, opening the door to reading simple words and sentences. Watching a child read their first book is a magical moment that reflects both hard work and growing independence.

The Kindergarteners are also exploring the natural world through lessons about plants and habitats. In science activities, students learn that plants need sunlight, water, air, and soil to grow. They recently planted seeds and they will observe changes over time, developing an understanding of how living things grow and change. These hands-on experiences make learning both meaningful and memorable.

In addition to plants, students are introduced to habitats - the natural homes of animals and plants. They discover how different environments, such as forests, oceans, deserts, and wetlands, support different kinds of life. Through stories, pictures, and discussions, children begin to understand how living things depend on their surroundings to survive.

What makes kindergarten especially special is how these subjects often connect. A story about a garden can reinforce reading skills while also teaching about plant growth. A lesson about animals in a habitat can introduce new vocabulary words and encourage early reading practice. This integrated approach helps students build knowledge while strengthening their literacy skills.

As kindergarten students continue their journey, they are not only learning how to read and understand the world around them - they are also developing curiosity, confidence, and a sense of wonder. These early experiences set the stage for future success, nurturing young learners who are eager to explore, discover, and grow.



MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL NEWS

From the desk of the Middle/High School Assistant and Principal

Dear Parents,

Below are some recent highlights and upcoming events that we want you to be aware of.

BOCES Students of the Quarter

Congratulations to our BOCES Students of the Quarter for the third marking period:

Hannah Moser
Payton McIntyre
Emalynne Hewitt
Lachlyn LaParr
Greta Kuhl

Regents Exams June 2026

High School students will be completing their New York State Regents exams in June. Please see the Regents schedule below. More information will be sent as the dates approach.

June 9 - ELA, 8:30 AM
June 10 - Algebra II, 8:30 AM
June 17 - Algebra I, 8:15 AM
June 17 - Global History, 12:00 PM
June 18 - Biology, 8:15 AM
June 18 - Earth and Space Sciences, 12:00 PM
June 23 - US History, 8:15 AM
June 23 - Geometry, 12:00 PM
June 24 - Chemistry, 8:15 AM
June 25 - Physics, 8:15 AM



Upcoming Awards Ceremonies, Baccalaureate, and Graduation

Our Character and Quality Awards and Honors Convocation ceremonies will be held in the evening of Thursday, May 14. The Middle School Awards Ceremony will be held in early June (more details to come). Baccalaureate will be on Sunday, June 21 at 2:00 p.m. Finally, the Class of 2026 Commencement Ceremony will be held on Friday, June 26 at 6:30 p.m.

Thank you for your continued support of our students and school community.

Daniel Rains, MS/HS Principal

Thomas Dunckel, MS/HS Assistant Principal

Middle School and High School Achievement, Honor, & High Honor Roll

Honor Roll

Quarter 3

.....

High Honor Roll: (95.00-100.00)

6th grade: Declyn Brown, Zane Buckingham III, Leighton Buell, Caden Campeau, Elodie Clemons, Lilyanna Clemons, Kynzlee Lyndaker, Emelyn Roes, Makenna Roes, Kendae Scott, Kyrsten Scott, Emily Wagschal, Aniyah Zehr

7th grade: Adalyn Edick, Ellen Edick, Natasha Farney, Alexis Grunert, Peyton Kloster, Kaylan Ritz, Drew Zehr

8th grade: Jonah Aucter, Kaina Boliver, Jensen Freed, Araya Grau, Bennett Graves, Gia Hoxie, Karol Lyndaker, Breiah Martin, Kaylee Mattimore, Geneva Olmstead, Reid Petzoldt, Brianna Roggie

9th grade: Kelsey Aucter, Jemma Clemons, Emma Fredenburg, Jonathan Hewitt, Greta Murphy, Madelyn Planck, Abigail Roggie, Lydia Stevens, Ella Virkler, Adria Zehr

10th grade: Andrew Boliver, Lucas Edick, Audrey Largett, Leah Mast, Blake Meyer, Leila Monnat, Courtney Pate, Henry Roes, Natalie Roggie, Aaliyah Virkler, Gabrielle Waugh

11th grade: Kaley Brown, Galen Johnson, Reyna Lyndaker, Natalie Moshier, Kyra Olmstead, Quinlyn Pominville

12th grade: Eleanor Ball, McKinley Becker, Aylea Bennett, Ashlyn Boliver, Kaelyn Boliver, Kylee Grau, Christian Kirch, Aubrin Lee, Natalie Mast, Madilyn Mattimore, Allison Meyer, Hannah Moser, Tessa Murphy, Addison Nortz, Olivia Roes, Hannah Roggie, Ella St. Croix, Isaiah Virkler, Nathan Virkler, Logan Walseman, Lacey Wilton

Honor Roll: (90.00 - 94.99)

6th grade: William Albertson, Alexander Amelio, Henry Beiler, Jacob Chartrand, Kynlee Dusharm, Lincoln Eaton, Denim Gage, Mayliana Graves, Riley Keefer, Hayden Kirch, Colton Lyndaker, Madeline Lyndaker, Meghan MacCue, Brynleigh Meyer, Grant Moshier, Jase Platt, Kaitlyn Ridner, Lane Steele, Braelyn Walseman

7th grade: Jax Albertson, Kade Flynn, Claire Greaud, Destiny LaVancha, Clint Lehman, Raeleigh Loomis, Blake Lyndaker, Adahlyne Tabolt, Elise Zehr, Jacob Zehr

8th grade: Lauren Baker, Miles Beiler, Dax Beller, Adah Boliver, Faith Boliver, Landry Brown, Hailey Buckingham, Robert Buckley, Brayden Clemons, Destin Deitrich, Adrien Dix, Tanner Grunert, Jaidyn Lyndaker, Henry Mantooth, Marcus Noftsier, Ayden Scott, Rylee Shinnick, Raegan Terrillion

9th grade: Jackson Flynn, Ellie Herzig, Raegan Kampnich, Ryan Pellam, Maddox Platt, Willard Spencer, Jordyn Telford, Rowan Zehr

10th grade: Cassidy Albertson, Ty Beller, Arianna Boliver, Amelia Kloster, Reese Lehman, Hannah Lyndaker, Emily Martinez, Ryan Metzler, Callyn Nortz, Raynan Petzoldt, Emma Riccio, Zeanna Rice, Bella Rizza, Joseph Waite, Alexis Walseman, Ava Widrick, Zoey Widrick, Hailey Zehr

Middle School and High School Achievement, Honor, & High Honor Roll

Quarter 3

.....

Honor Roll: (90.00 - 94.99) - continued

11th grade: Chase Ames, Aiden Cherry, Hailey-Kaylyn Gardner, Greta Kuhl, Hunter Monnat, Ely St. Croix, Jack Stevens, Adelaide Thisse, Marilla Watkins

12th grade: Zane Barker, Allison Branagan, Keyanna Diaz, Carter Edick, Mason Farney, Connor Finster, Ava Fleming, Malorie Hawn, Izabela Lehman, Kathryn Lyman, Carson Lyndaker, Ethan Marolf, Payton McIntyre, Konor Moore, Matthew Moore, Shae Moshier, Peter Noftsier, Camden Olmstead, Annabel Pelo, Austin Sauer, Emma Simpson, Jayden Turck, Mason Zehr, Tyler Zehr

Achievement Roll: (85.00 - 89.99)

6th grade: Greyson Arndt, Martina Delong, Adelyn Haas, Annabelle Johnson, Taylor Johnson, Carter Jones, Nevaeh Jones, Hunter Kampney, Riekyn Martin, Jaxon Monnat, Raylan Nortz, Kennedy O'Dell, Jack Pellam, Norah Planty, Ty Roggie, Vera Spencer, Jameson Terrillion, Lincoln Walseman, Evelyn Yousey

7th grade: Anderson Bush, Caleb Meyer, Hudson Pate

8th grade: Brennan Amelio, Porter Churchill, Olivia Dufrene, Maya Gates, Hayden Hoch, Jaymes Jones, Parker Kloster, Zionah Kumah, Mason Marolf, Addison Monego, Colten Monnat, Corrine Pate, Riley Spies, Cale Widrick

9th grade: Collin Clemons, Payton Gaba, Mikaedyn Graves, Jaxon Greaud, Colton Kloster, Lane Kloster, Tayden Lashbrooks, Kenidee Locy, Trenton Loomis, Easton Monego, BrookLyn Monnat, Bentley Nortz, James Rice, Adriana Shaw, Ryder Walseman

10th grade: Jackson Ayers, Cade Getman, Audrey Hazard, Connor Kampnich, Ryker Kloster, Travis Kolyer, Silas Miner, Matthew Monnat, Justyce Shinnick, Caleb Wilton

11th grade: Madison Abbott, Mason Boliver, Damon Bush, Gabrielle Davis, Cassidy Dekin, Kennley Fayle, Emalynne Hewitt, Dakota Jones, Julie Kaputa, Ian Kirch, Karter Kloster, Kayne Lyndaker, Samuel Miller, Landon Murphy, Niles Peters, Jenna Reed, Claire Roggie, Lillian Spies, Kelcee Steele, Jacqui Stoffle, Natalie Widrick, Lucas Wilmot, Laney Wolff

12th grade: Jazzmyn Babcock, Malachi Brandt, Ethan Clemons, Sawyer Davoy, Dakota Hickox, Zayia LaPlante, Jonas Largett, Leah Lyndaker, Ace Martin, Daniel Noftsier, Remington Rupert



Congratulations



Faith Boliver, 8th grade, placed 3rd in the Greater Thousand Island Literacy Council 2026 Writing Contest. Faith, her family and English teacher were invited to a reception for all winners at Carthage High School on April 1st. The theme of this year's contest was "Dream Job". Faith wrote about wanting to work in healthcare due to liking to help people. There were many entries from 13 different local school districts in Lewis and Jefferson counties in the contest.

Congratulations again to Faith and her great writing!

Class of 2026 News...

From the Advisors of the Class of 2026...

In the coming weeks, the Class of 2026 will be taking part in some final high school experiences, the first being their Senior Prom on May 16th.

Due to their amazing fundraising efforts over the past four years, a majority of the Seniors will be enjoying a trip to Boston during the weekend of June 5th to the 7th. The students are looking forward to visiting Six Flags New England, Hampton Beach, New Hampshire, taking part in a 3-hour DJ dinner cruise in Boston Harbor, Boston Aquarium, and Quincy Market.

The students are also looking forward to a “Beach Day” at Southwick’s State Park and, along with their parents, will be taking part in a Senior Sunset. This will be a barbeque to celebrate the end of their Senior year and all of their accomplishments.

Finally, please help to congratulate the Class of 2026 on their Graduation on June 26, 2026. Along with our seniors, we would like to extend our gratitude to parents, staff and community members for all of the support.

As their advisors, we are so incredibly proud of this class and are honored to have spent the last four years planning with them.

Best of luck for the remainder of the year and in the future!

Mrs. Sitko-Farney and Mrs. Moore
Class Advisors

Wordsmiths Quill

Wordsmiths is proud to announce that two of its members have had their poetry selected for the 2026 Wild Words Teen Anthology sponsored by the Adirondack Center for Writing!

Aaliyah Virkler and Isaiah Virkler will travel to Saranac Lake for the book launch on May 16th.

Recently, Isaiah was featured as a WWNY Arts All-Star selected for his writing. Check out the link:

[Arts All Star](#)

Congratulations Aaliyah and Isaiah! Please enjoy their selected works!

Where the Fire Sparks Fly

Aaliyah Virkler

Smile filled faces
All of us joined together
While the night is still young
While the fire light is still burning
While there is the cool crispness of the fress, woodsy air
And there is the warmth that draws us all in together
I say you running
It was almost a dance
You shouted my name
Piercing it through the newborn spring air
And I join you in your celebration
In your child like mystery and charm
A warm ripple of laughter floated through the air
Hanging tightly onto it
As we chase
As we smile
As we dream
As we leap towards the bits of flying fire
As wonder fills your bright and eager eyes
We enjoy this moment together
And a thought washes over me
Drowning me in the realization that these are the best moments in life
This is as good as it gets on our time here on Earth
In these moments that we are together
With faces full of bright, warm smiles of love and friendship
And there is the musky smell of burning wood masking the air
While we are together
Not a single care in the world
As the warmth draws us in
As light brilliantly shines through your eyes
As we enjoy each other
As we make memories
Where the fire sparks fly

Wordsmiths Quill continued...

Boxes

Aaliyah Virkler

I'm told to think "outside the box"
When I am literally being graded inside a box
That direction is in a box.
I'm told to be creative
As a set rule among other rules
Having to follow proper grammar
I'm told my best effort
The best I can bring forward
Isn't enough
I need to be more than I can be
As I'm getting an "effort grade"
Am I the only one who has ever noticed how
upside down the world seems
How trapped in boxes we really are.
Here
In my poetry
This is where I find my freedom
Where I can be outside the boxes of life
And here is the place that I am also mocked
I am told that this is invalid
That all this is stupid
And yet I am so alive in this
And the more I write
The more I let myself be free in my poetry
In my words
In my expression
The more the other words
The weeds meant to choke and kill
Fall away
And my flowers meant to change the world
Become my new voice
And I know that outside of my boxes, freedom is
found
I am found
Life is found
And the other cluttering words
Are snipped away
By the true creativity of my mind.

Another Day, Death:

Isaiah Virkler

As I stand on top of all I have done,
I see Death climbing up towards me.
I have no cares, no worries, not one,
and afraid of Him, I will not be.

But as He sneers, claws outstretched,
patience I have not, for this old wretch.
Today, I think, I'll kick Him down,
and further stretch His icy frown.

Back He goes, head over toe,
hurt not in the fall, this I know.
Determined He is, and wants me still,
and so, once more, He must climb this hill.

The hill grows steeper, day by day,
as to my deeds, now add I may.
I hear Death wheeze as He makes His way,
He will not steal my breath today.

Health News

The Benefits of **Outdoor Free Play** on Children's Development

Mental Health

Better moods
Decrease in hyperactivity
Decreases in symptoms related to anxiety and depression

Physical Health

More opportunities for movement
Decrease in the likelihood of developing obesity or diseases
Development of fine and gross motor skills

Cognitive Health

More opportunities to make decisions and problem-solve
Increases in creative thinking
Children use higher levels of sequencing, planning, organizing

Emotional Health

Development of empathy
Increases in self-esteem
Development of emotional intelligence

Social Skills

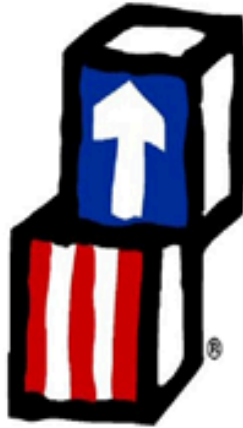
Increased social interactions
Higher levels of sharing, cooperation, helping
Decreases in solitary play

Play Skills

Increased creativity
Development of higher play skills and play types
More opportunities for imagination and engagement



COMMUNITY NEWS.....



Lewis County Head Start
 Early Head Start
 Applications for Pre-School
 Happening Now
 Pregnant Women and Children
 Birth Through Age 5



<u><i>Children Services</i></u>	<u><i>Family Services</i></u>
Fun and Engaging Learning Activities	Parent and Family Activities
Structured Schedules	Community Resources
Nutritious Meals and Nutrition Activities	Parent Education and Parenting Curriculum
Health Screenings	Prenatal Services

If interested in this free Pre-school opportunity, please contact
 Lewis County Head Start/Early Head Start

Lowville Center

2 Classrooms
 7673 No. State St
 Lowville, NY 13367
 315 376-7531, Option 4 & 5

Beaver Falls Center

9601 Mira Lane
 Beaver Falls, NY 13305
 315 376-7531 Option 3

Lyons Falls Center

6819 McAlpine St
 Lyons Falls, NY 13368
 315 376-7531 Option 7

BOCES Classroom

5836 NY-12
 Glenfield, NY 13343
 315 376-7531 Option 6

Early Head Start, Call 315 376-7531 option 4 or 7

Beaver River Central School District
PO Box 179
9508 Artz Road
Beaver Falls, NY 13305

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