

COPENHAGEN CENTRAL SCHOOL

Home of the Golden Knights

May/June 2026 Newsletter



From The Desk of the Superintendent:
Scott N. Connell



Dear District Residents:

I'd like to share a few updates about our District.

School Budget

Since January, the Board of Education has convened twice monthly to develop a budget that both prioritizes student needs and reflects sound fiscal responsibility. I am grateful for the opportunity to collaborate with a group so deeply committed to the future of Copenhagen's students. The 2026-2027 budget was formally adopted at the April 21 regular meeting. The annual budget vote will take place on Tuesday, May 19, at Copenhagen Central School from 12:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Teacher and Staff Appreciation

May 4 to May 8 marks Teacher Appreciation Week, a time each year dedicated to recognizing the exceptional educators who make a difference in the lives of our students at CCS. At Copenhagen Central School, we are fortunate to have a team of dedicated professionals who consistently rise to meet challenges and remain steadfast in their commitment to providing a high-quality education for every student who walks through our doors. It is through their passion, expertise, and unwavering dedication that our school continues to thrive. I encourage you to take a moment this week to express your appreciation to your child's teacher.

Equally important is the outstanding support staff who contribute daily to the success of our students. Our transportation team, custodial staff, office professionals, food service department, teaching assistants, and aides each play a vital role in creating a safe, supportive, and effective learning environment. Together, their efforts, alongside our teaching staff, make Copenhagen Central School a truly exceptional place for students to learn and grow.

Celebrations of Accomplishments

May and June mark a meaningful season in our school calendar, as we come together to celebrate the many accomplishments of our students.

The Academic and Excellence Awards Banquet, recognizing the outstanding academic achievements of students in Grades 9-12, will be held on Friday, May 15, at 1:30 p.m. We will also honor the dedication and success of our student-athletes at the Athletic Awards Ceremony on Wednesday, June 3, at 5:30 p.m., celebrating their contributions both on and off the field during the 2025-2026 school year.

In addition, many of our BOCES Career and Technical Education students will be recognized for their accomplishments at ceremonies held at South Lewis CSD on June 11 at 9:00 a.m. and at the Watertown Fairgrounds Arena on June 12 at 9:00 a.m.

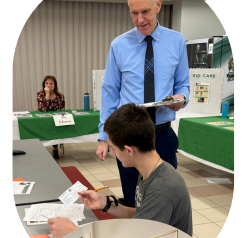
One of the most cherished traditions of the year, Kindergarten Graduation, will take place on June 24 at 6:00 p.m., marking an important milestone for our youngest learners. The Alumni Banquet is scheduled for Saturday, June 27, followed by the Copenhagen Central School Class of 2026 Commencement Exercises at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, June 28, in the main gymnasium.

At that time, we will proudly honor and send off our graduating seniors as they embark on their next journeys—whether to college, technical programs, military service, or the workforce—after 13 years of formal education. I extend my sincere congratulations to each member of the Class of 2026 and wish them continued success as they begin this exciting new chapter in their lives.

As always, thank you for your continued trust and support of our District. We truly appreciate it.

Warm regards,

Scott N. Connell
Superintendent of Schools



COPENHAGEN CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Lynn Murray
President
Alfred Tomaselli
Vice President
Koreen Freeman
James Harter
Keith Lee
Robert Stackel
Gabrielle Thompson

SCOTT N. CONNELL SUPERINTENDENT



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

April 2026

Dear District Residents,

The 2026-2027 proposed school budget is \$12,795,927, an increase of \$116,201, or 0.92%. We are proposing a tax levy increase of 2.00%, or \$39,048. We are able to balance the budget by appropriating \$776,876 of fund balance and \$220,000 of reserves. Please refer to page 11 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 to strategically plan expenditures and 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 required to accommodate the needs of our students.

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 -2.4%, which is less than the 2.00% levy increase that the district has requested voters to approve to support the budget this year.

The 2026-2027 Annual Budget Review meeting is on **May 5, 2026 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 19, 2026 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

CANDIDATES FOR MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

There are two vacancies on the Copenhagen Central School District Board of Education resulting from the expiring terms of Lynn Murray and Robert Stackel. The following individuals have submitted petitions declaring their candidacy for five-year terms as members of the Board of Education.

Lynn Murray

I am a lifelong resident of the Copenhagen community and a graduate of Copenhagen Central School. I was raised on our family farm and went on to earn a Bachelor of Science degree in Agricultural Economics from Cornell University. After completing my education, I returned home to join my family in a farming partnership. Today, I serve as managing partner of Murcrest Farms LLC, where we are proud to have had five generations actively involved in the family business.

My wife, Peggy, and I have raised four children, all of whom graduated from Copenhagen Central School. Our family's deep roots in this community and school district have given me a strong appreciation for the quality education provided here.

Over the years, one constant has been the excellence of Copenhagen Central. I have had the privilege of serving on the Board of Education and continue to serve as a member of the Board of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES). Through these roles, I have gained valuable insight into both the challenges and opportunities facing our schools today and in the future.

Change is inevitable, but how we respond to it defines our success. I believe that by working together—with our dedicated staff, administration, and community—we can meet these challenges and continue to strengthen the education we provide to our students.

With your support, I look forward to continuing to serve and to being part of a team committed to making thoughtful, responsible decisions for our students and our community.

Robert Stackel

I am a graduate of Copenhagen Central School and the State University of New York at Plattsburgh. I am a Certified Public Accountant and a partner in a public accounting firm in Watertown, New York. My wife, Katherine, and I are proud parents of two children, Asa and Claire, both graduates of C.C.S.

Copenhagen Central School is navigating complex educational and financial challenges. My professional background as a CPA, along with my experience serving as both a school auditor and a Board member, has provided me with a strong foundation in school finance and fiscal responsibility. I understand the importance of developing a budget that supports high-quality educational opportunities while being respectful of our taxpayers. Every dollar must be used wisely to ensure the greatest possible benefit for our students.

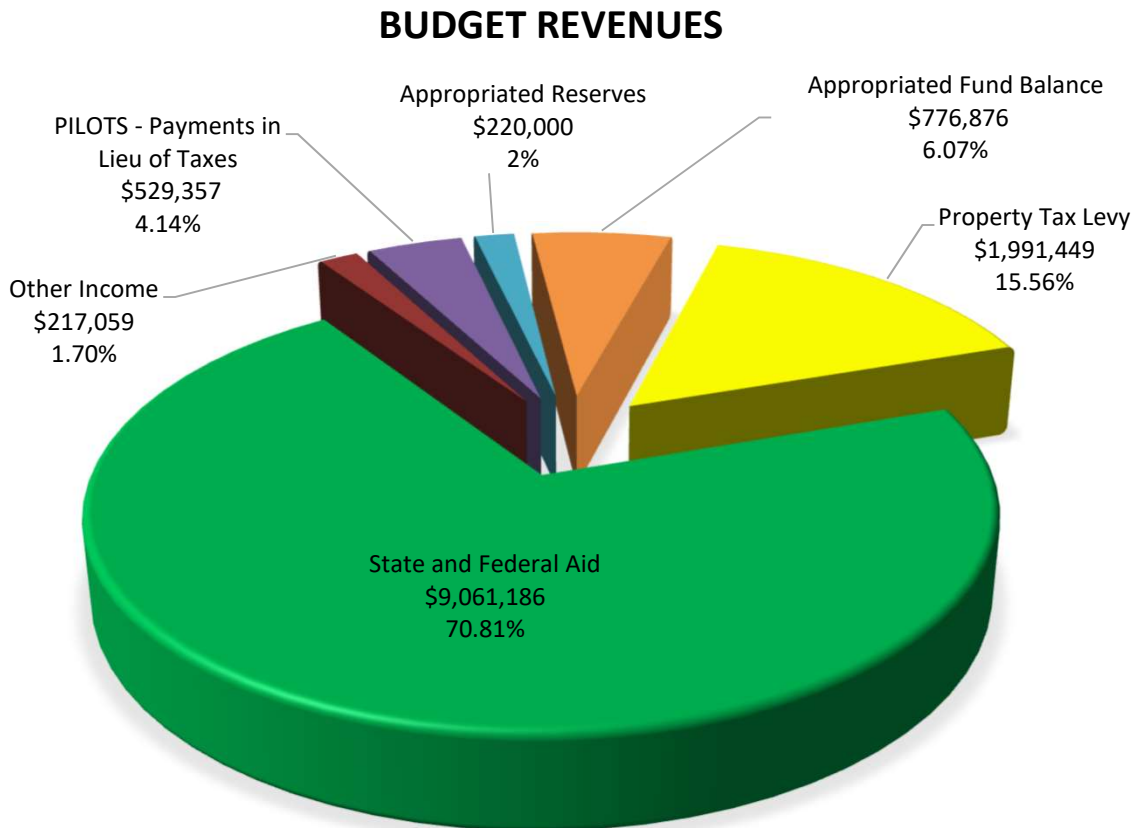
If re-elected, I will continue to approach Board matters with thoughtful consideration and an open mind. While it is important to learn from the past, we must also recognize that today's challenges require current, practical solutions. I am committed to listening carefully, considering diverse perspectives, and working collaboratively to make informed decisions that serve the entire school community. I will not bring personal agendas to the Board, but rather a commitment to fairness and sound judgment.

Copenhagen is an exceptional district, and I would be honored to continue contributing to its strength and success.

WHERE THE SCHOOL DOLLAR COMES FROM

Revenue Sources	2025-2026	2026-2027	Delta \$	Delta %
Property Tax Levy	\$ 1,952,401	\$ 1,991,449	\$ 39,048	2.00%
State and Federal Aid	\$ 8,989,012	\$ 9,061,186	\$ 72,174	0.80%
Other Income	\$ 206,662	\$ 217,059	\$ 10,397	5.03%
PILOTS - Payments in Lieu of Taxes	\$ 519,393	\$ 529,357	\$ 9,964	1.92%
Appropriated Reserves	\$ 260,000	\$ 220,000	\$ (40,000)	-15.38%
Appropriated Fund Balance	\$ 752,258	\$ 776,876	\$ 24,618	3.27%

Total Budget - Revenues	2025-2026	2026-2027	Delta \$	Delta %
	\$ 12,679,726	\$ 12,795,927	\$ 116,201	0.92%



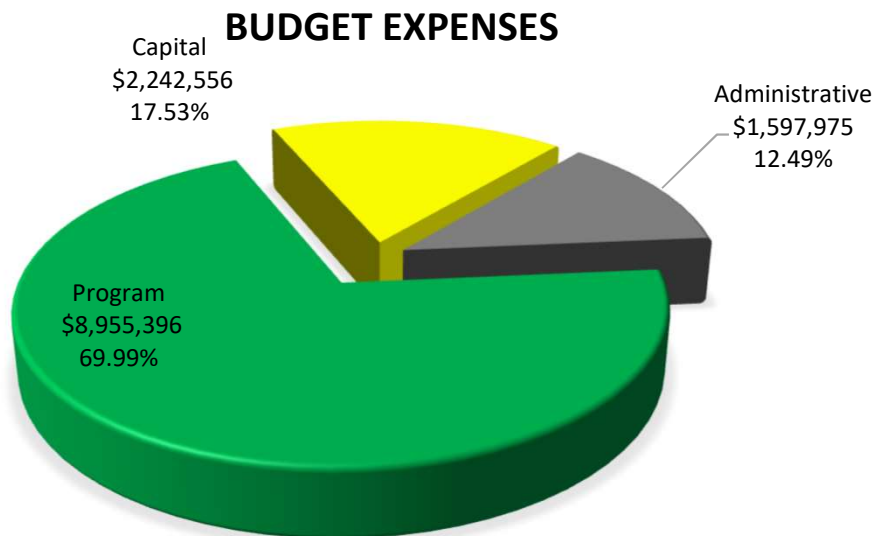
WHERE THE SCHOOL DOLLAR IS SPENT

Administrative	2025-2026	2026-2027	Delta \$	Delta %
Board of Education	\$ 21,148	\$ 23,674	\$ 2,526	11.94%
Central Administration and Finance	\$ 434,573	\$ 445,284	\$ 10,711	2.46%
Curriculum Development and Supervision	\$ 322,373	\$ 335,737	\$ 13,364	4.15%
Legal and Personnel	\$ 90,862	\$ 109,194	\$ 18,332	20.18%
Other Central Services	\$ 221,254	\$ 260,788	\$ 39,534	17.87%
Employee Benefits	\$ 306,391	\$ 423,298	\$ 116,907	38.16%
Total	\$ 1,396,601	\$ 1,597,975	\$ 201,374	14.42%

Program	2025-2026	2026-2027	Delta \$	Delta %
Interfund Transfers	\$ 175,000	\$ 95,000	\$ (80,000)	-45.71%
Teaching (Regular and Special Education)	\$ 5,497,754	\$ 5,755,004	\$ 257,250	4.68%
Transportation	\$ 718,037	\$ 693,940	\$ (24,097)	-3.36%
Employee Benefits	\$ 2,191,039	\$ 2,411,452	\$ 220,413	10.06%
Total	\$ 8,581,830	\$ 8,955,396	\$ 373,566	4.35%

Capital	2025-2026	2026-2027	Delta \$	Delta %
BOCES Capital Costs	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Debt Service	\$ 1,340,163	\$ 939,728	\$ (400,435)	-29.88%
Interfund Transfers	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000	\$ -	0.00%
Operations and Maintenance	\$ 730,893	\$ 706,062	\$ (24,831)	-3.40%
Transportation Equipment	\$ 328,234	\$ 323,885	\$ (4,349)	-1.32%
Employee Benefits	\$ 202,005	\$ 172,881	\$ (29,124)	-14.42%
Total	\$ 2,701,295	\$ 2,242,556	\$ (458,739)	-16.98%

Total Budget - Expenses	2025-2026	2026-2027	Delta \$	Delta %
	\$ 12,679,726	\$ 12,795,927	\$ 116,201	0.92%



Administrative

Board of Education	2025-2026	2026-2027	Delta \$	Delta %
Salaries	\$ 2,878	\$ 2,964	\$ 86	2.99%
Equipment	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Contractual	\$ 7,000	\$ 8,000	\$ 1,000	14.29%
Materials, Supplies, Parts	\$ 1,520	\$ 2,500	\$ 980	64.47%
BOCES	\$ 9,750	\$ 10,210	\$ 460	4.72%
Other	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Total	\$ 21,148	\$ 23,674	\$ 2,526	11.94%

- 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	2025-2026	2026-2027	Delta \$	Delta %
Salaries	\$ 375,299	\$ 386,402	\$ 11,103	2.96%
Equipment	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Contractual	\$ 42,008	\$ 44,641	\$ 2,633	6.27%
Materials, Supplies, Parts	\$ 2,548	\$ 2,000	\$ (548)	-21.51%
BOCES	\$ 14,718	\$ 12,241	\$ (2,477)	-16.83%
Total	\$ 434,573	\$ 445,284	\$ 10,711	2.46%

- 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	2025-2026	2026-2027	Delta \$	Delta %
Salaries	\$ 288,021	\$ 300,850	\$ 12,829	4.45%
Equipment	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Contractual	\$ 4,000	\$ 2,930	\$ (1,070)	-26.75%
Materials, Supplies, Parts	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ -	0.00%
BOCES	\$ 29,352	\$ 30,957	\$ 1,605	5.47%
Total	\$ 322,373	\$ 335,737	\$ 13,364	4.15%

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

Administrative

Legal and Personnel	2025-2026	2026-2027	Delta \$	Delta %
Salaries	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Equipment	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Contractual	\$ 30,000	\$ 28,000	\$ (2,000)	-6.67%
Materials, Supplies, Parts	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
BOCES	\$ 60,862	\$ 81,194	\$ 20,332	33.41%
Total	\$ 90,862	\$ 109,194	\$ 18,332	20.18%

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

Other Central Services	2025-2026	2026-2027	Delta \$	Delta %
Salaries	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Equipment	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Contractual	\$ 97,500	\$ 127,512	\$ 30,012	30.78%
Materials, Supplies, Parts	\$ 990	\$ 1,000	\$ 10	1.01%
BOCES	\$ 122,764	\$ 132,276	\$ 9,512	7.75%
Total	\$ 221,254	\$ 260,788	\$ 39,534	17.87%

- School insurance, school dues, postage expenses

- BOCES provided services for data processing and administration, student management services

Employee Benefits	2025-2026	2026-2027	Delta \$	Delta %
Employee Benefits	\$ 306,391	\$ 423,298	\$ 116,907	38.16%
Total	\$ 306,391	\$ 423,298	\$ 116,907	38.16%

- 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	2025-2026	2026-2027	Delta \$	Delta %
Transfer to School Lunch Fund	\$ 75,000	\$ 50,000	\$ (25,000)	-33.33%
Transfer to Special Aid Fund	\$ 100,000	\$ 45,000	\$ (55,000)	-55.00%
Total	\$ 175,000	\$ 95,000	\$ (80,000)	-45.71%
- Interfund transfers to other funds				

Teaching (Regular and Special Education)	2025-2026	2026-2027	Delta \$	Delta %
Salaries	\$ 3,773,625	\$ 3,993,636	\$ 220,011	5.83%
Equipment	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000	\$ -	0.00%
Contractual	\$ 184,182	\$ 166,473	\$ (17,709)	-9.61%
Materials, Supplies, Parts	\$ 133,824	\$ 122,238	\$ (11,586)	-8.66%
Textbooks	\$ 31,533	\$ 47,272	\$ 15,739	49.91%
BOCES	\$ 1,359,590	\$ 1,410,385	\$ 50,795	3.74%
Total	\$ 5,497,754	\$ 5,755,004	\$ 257,250	4.68%
- 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	2025-2026	2026-2027	Delta \$	Delta %
Salaries	\$ 476,679	\$ 465,814	\$ (10,865)	-2.28%
Equipment	\$ 5,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 10,000	200.00%
Contractual	\$ 113,490	\$ 100,428	\$ (13,062)	-11.51%
Materials, Supplies, Parts	\$ 103,418	\$ 109,248	\$ 5,830	5.64%
BOCES	\$ 19,450	\$ 3,450	\$ (16,000)	-82.26%
Total	\$ 718,037	\$ 693,940	\$ (24,097)	-3.36%
- 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	2025-2026	2026-2027	Delta \$	Delta %
Employee Benefits	\$ 2,191,039	\$ 2,411,452	\$ 220,413	10.06%
Total	\$ 2,191,039	\$ 2,411,452	\$ 220,413	10.06%
- 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	2025-2026	2026-2027	Delta \$	Delta %
Transfer to Capital Fund	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000	\$ -	0.00%
Total	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000	\$ -	0.00%
- Continue our Annual Capital Outlay Exception Project Program				

Debt Service	2025-2026	2026-2027	Delta \$	Delta %
Principal - Bond	\$ 1,130,000	\$ 725,000	\$ (405,000)	-35.84%
Interest - Bond	\$ 210,163	\$ 176,519	\$ (33,644)	-16.01%
Principal - Bond Anticipation Note BAN	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Interest - Bond Anticipation Note BAN	\$ -	\$ 38,209	\$ 38,209	
Total	\$ 1,340,163	\$ 939,728	\$ (400,435)	-29.88%
- School bond principal and interest payments				

Operations and Maintenance	2025-2026	2026-2027	Delta \$	Delta %
Salaries	\$ 300,801	\$ 316,141	\$ 15,340	5.10%
Equipment	\$ 30,000	\$ 40,000	\$ 10,000	33.33%
Contractual	\$ 286,100	\$ 256,640	\$ (29,460)	-10.30%
Materials, Supplies, Parts	\$ 99,000	\$ 77,000	\$ (22,000)	-22.22%
BOCES	\$ 14,992	\$ 16,281	\$ 1,289	8.60%
Total	\$ 730,893	\$ 706,062	\$ (24,831)	-3.40%
- Salaries for supervisor of buildings and grounds and custodial staff - Services and supplies to support the operation and maintenance of the facility				

Transportation Equipment	2025-2026	2026-2027	Delta \$	Delta %
Equipment	\$ 328,234	\$ 323,885	\$ (4,349)	-1.32%
Total	\$ 328,234	\$ 323,885	\$ (4,349)	-1.32%
- Purchase of two diesel buses.				

Employee Benefits	2025-2026	2026-2027	Delta \$	Delta %
Employee Benefits	\$ 202,005	\$ 172,881	\$ (29,124)	-14.42%
Total	\$ 202,005	\$ 172,881	\$ (29,124)	-14.42%
- 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				

2026-2027 Property Tax Report Card

230201 - Copenhagen Central School District	Budgeted 2025-2026 (A)	Proposed Budget 2026-2027 (B)
Contact Person - Scot Luther Telephone Number - 315-688-4411		
Total Budgeted Amount, not Including Separate Propositions	12,679,726	12,795,927
A. Proposed Tax Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount *1	1,952,401	1,991,449
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)	1,952,401	1,991,449
F. Permissible Exclusions to the School Tax Levy Limit	343,610	231,733
G. School Tax Levy Limit , Excluding Levy for Permissible Exclusions *3	1,809,961	1,673,724
H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, Excluding Levy to Support Library Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions (E - B - F + D)	1,608,791	1,759,716
I. Difference: (G - H); (negative value requires 60.0% voter approval) *2	201,170	-85,992
Public School Enrollment	478	480
Consumer Price Index		2.63%

*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 2026-2027, include any carryover from 2025-2026 and exclude any tax levy for library debt or prior year reserve for excess tax levy, including interest.

	Actual 2025-2026 (D)	Estimated 2026-2027 (E)
Adjusted Restricted Fund Balance	1,951,321	1,835,321
Assigned Appropriated Fund Balance	768,861	781,876
Adjusted Unrestricted Fund Balance	508,072	511,773
Adjusted Unrestricted Fund Balance as a Percent of the Total Budget	4.01%	4.00%

Schedule of Reserve Funds

Reserve Type	Reserve Description	3/31/2026 Actual Balance	6/30/2026 Estimated Ending Balance	Intended Use of the Reserve in the 2026-2027 School Year
Capital Project 2024	To pay the cost of any object or purpose for which bonds may be issued.	704,123	713,123	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.	64,637	54,637	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.	51,540	51,540	No current planned use for next FY, but available when needed.
EBALR – Employee Benefit Accrued Liability	For the payment of accrued 'employee benefits' due to employees upon termination of service.	23,099	23,099	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	481,033	391,033	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)	418,707	393,707	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	208,183	208,183	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.			

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

Year	Budget Delta	Levy Delta
2026-2024	\$ 116,201	\$ 39,048
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



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, replacement of fuel storage tanks and replacement of heating equipment. 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 2026 - 2027 School District Budget on **Tuesday, May 5, 2026, at 6:00 PM** in the School Cafeteria. An overview of the budget to be voted on May 19, 2026, will be provided at the meeting.

The following resolutions to be voted on are as follows:

- 2026-2027 Proposed Budget Appropriations
- Transportation of Head Start Pupils for 2026-2027
- Election of two (2) School Board Members

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 5, 2026, at 6:00 PM** in the School Cafeteria. Voting will take place on the statewide voting day, **Tuesday, May 19, 2026**, 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 2025-2026 and 2026-2027 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 19, 2026, 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.



**COPENHAGEN
CENTRAL
SCHOOL DISTRICT**
Volume 61, Issue 4

3020 Mechanic Street
Copenhagen, NY 13626
Phone: 315-688-4411
Fax: 315-688-2001
www.ccsknights.org

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

**U.S. POSTAGE PAID
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PERMIT NO. 2
COPENHAGEN, NY 13626**

BUDGET VOTE 2026 – 2027 INFORMATION

BUDGET HEARING: Tuesday, May 5, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.
School Cafeteria

BUDGET VOTE: Tuesday, May 19, 2026 – 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 2026-2027 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 2026 – 2027 Budget of \$12,795,927.00 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: Terms of Office, July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2031

- Five year term to replace term of Lynn Murray
- Five year term to replace term of Robert Stackel

Please Vote for Two

_____ Lynn Murray
 _____ Robert Stackel
 _____ Write in candidate