



COOPERATIVE BUSINESS OFFICE
Ogdensburg City School District
1100 State St.
Ogdensburg, NY 13669

Kaleb Bertrand
Business Manager
Phone (315) 393-0900 ext. 40295
kaleb.bertrand@sllboces.org

June 23, 2025

Mr. Kendall and the School Board Commissioners,

Attached is the Fund Balance Projection for June 30, 2025.

Please remember that these numbers can and will change between now and the end of the year. At this point in time our expenses are greater than our revenues by \$759,440. On the expense side we saw a major increase in special education costs due to additional families coming into the district, from \$2,249,973 last year, to \$2,937,103 this year, totaling a \$687,130 increase in services. In addition, we have also seen an increase of \$566,372 in health insurance costs from last year as this is another area that continues to rise. Due to this, in the spring we switched health insurance brokers who have brought to the table a number of cost containment programs and a cheaper stop loss policy. They are positive that they will be able to generate savings in this area for us. Lastly, Mr. Kendall and his administration have found a way to do more with less as they look at current staffing going into the next school year. They have removed 8 positions from next year's budget, through attrition, and with NO loss in academic programs. This lowered a projected 4% increase to the tax levy when we started, down to a 2.49%.

On the revenue side, this is our first year without the ARP "covid" Grant funds, as they have been fully expended and used up. In addition, we saw no increase in foundation aid for 24/25 school year and have not seen an increase in taxes for six years. Due to this, we proposed an increase in the tax levy of 2.49% and are projected to see a 2% increase in foundation aid for the next school year. With the increase in foundation aid, the tax levy increase, and the cutting of costs mentioned above, I'm positive that we will move into the 25/26 school year in a better financial state and our revenues more in line with our expenses.

Please note the format at the bottom portion is dedicated to the projected variances in anticipated revenue and projected expenditures. Significant changes in expenditures, from budget, include: Employee Benefits, Regular & Special Education, and Transportation Expense.

Tax Certiorari Reserves

There is 1 Resolution to establish the 2025-2026 Tax Certiorari Reserve for \$115,282.78 claims received in the 2024-2025 school year. The 2018-2024 will remain on the books and will be approved through the Reserve Plan. The total effect will be a decrease to the Reserves and an increase to the Fund Balance. A spreadsheet of the current claims is attached for your information.

Reserve Plan

There are 6 reserves in this plan and the prior year Tax Certioraris. The reserves carry forward are ERS Retirement, the TRS Retirement, the Unemployment, the Employee Benefit, the Capital Reserve, and the Debt Reserve. There are no new reserves.

There are two resolutions, the first is to decrease the Debt Service Fund, the amount that is moved will be matched to what is needed to balance to the Tax Cap Capital Exclusion. The second is to decrease the Unemployment reserve to align with the district reserve policy.

Budget Transfers over \$5,000

There are 3 transfers included in the board packet for resolutions totaling \$60,000 to be effective June 31st, 2025. A majority of this money pertains to reallocating funds for utilities and building repairs.

Respectfully,
Kaleb