

CATO-MERIDIAN CENTRAL SCHOOL

ANNUAL DISTRICT BUDGET INFORMATION April 2017

38th Annual Central New York Science & Engineering Fair

Students from Cato-Meridian High school participated in the 38th Annual Central New York Science and Engineering Fair at Onondaga Community College SRC Arena on March 26th, 2017. This event is an outreach program of the Museum of Science and Technology in Syracuse. There were 206 competitors total in the junior and senior divisions and 76 total in the senior division. The science department is so proud of all our participants' work. Advisors: Mrs. Bertram, Mrs. Kolodziejczyk, Mr. Trendowski **Students from left to right:** Taylor Charbonneau, Emma Greene, Jacey Phillips, Abigail Cox, Taylor Herne, Jay Hunter, Kyler Grice-Holland



Listed below are the students' project titles and individual awards:

Taylor Charbonneau: "Subjecting Known Extremophiles to Exoplanet-Like Temperatures, Calculated Using the Luminosity Formula to Determine Plausibility of Extraterrestrial Life"; High Honors-Earth Science Department SU Geology Award Certificate and \$200; NASA New York Space Grant Award \$200; Best High School Level Physics and Astronomy Project

Taylor Herne: "The Use of Various Herbs to Create a More Effective Microorganism Filtering Layer in Common African Tribal Water Filtration Systems"; High Honors-Chance to compete in the Stockholm Junior Water Prize U.S. Winner Receives

\$10,000 and a trophy and all-expense paid trip to Stockholm

Kyler Grice-Holland: "Antibacterial Effects of Garlic on the Growth of Topical and Intestinal Bacteria"; High Honors Society for In Vitro Biology; LeMoyne College Scholarship Award \$50,000

Jay Hunter : "Feasibility of Using Roadside Grass Clippings to Formulate Ethanol to Diminish the Quantity of Fossil Fuels Burned"; Honors-Office of Naval Research Naval Science Award \$50 gift card Syracuse Pulp and Paper Foundation at SUNY ESF \$4,000

Jacey Phillips: "Effects of Washing Methods on a Population of Known Food-borne Bacterium Colonizing in Craze Lines of Ceramic Plates"; High Honors-SUNY ESF Scholarship \$4,000

Abigail Cox: "Monitoring the Application and Effects of Cauterizing Paste versus Butane Dehorning to Reduce Stress and Increase Growth of Young Dairy Cattle"; Honors

Emma Green: "Comparing the Coatings of Different Metals using an Electrolytic Cell"; Honors-US Air Force Award

April, 2017

Dear Resident:

The proposed 2017-2018 school budget is included in this pamphlet. The total budget of \$20,817,405 represents an increase of \$287,520 which is approximately a 1.4% budget to budget increase. We are pleased to let you know that we are proposing no tax levy increase.

As in previous years, crafting a balanced budget has been a challenge. Our district did receive an increase in State Aid; however the district's fixed costs continue to rise. The good news is that all academic programs will be maintained as well as athletics, field trips, school breakfast and lunch programs and community use of facilities. This budget proposal will permit staffing levels in our schools that will benefit students and support the overall education programs in our schools.

In addition to the budget there are two other propositions for consideration, the purchase of three school buses, and the establishment of a Capital Reserve Fund. The Capital Reserve Fund will allow the district to set aside money for future construction projects and major purchases and would be used in future years to reduce the local tax payer share and to reduce borrowing fees and interest on capital projects.

It is our desire that the residents of the Cato-Meridian School District will support the 2017-2018 school budget in order to maintain quality programming and services for the children in our community. We, the Cato-Meridian Board of Education, believe that this budget represents a balance between educational opportunities for our students as well as fiscal responsibilities to our taxpayers.

Please review the enclosed information and feel free to ask for any necessary clarification. Noel Patterson, our Superintendent of Schools; Brenda Semeraro, our School Business Administrator; or any Board of Education member will be happy to answer any questions or address any concerns that you may have.

The school budget presentation will be Thursday, May 4, 2017 at 6:30 PM in the cafeteria in the elementary school building. More importantly, the budget vote will be Tuesday, May 16, 2017 from 9:00 AM to 9:00 PM in the cafeteria in the elementary school building.

As always, we welcome your support for our district and the students we serve. Thank you.

Sincerely,

*Michael Lees, Board President
Kathleen Bratt, Board Member
Scott Ford, Board Member*

*Lee Epprecht, Board Vice-President
Paul Byrne, Board Member
Todd Kacur, Board Member
Jill Modafferi, Board Member*

2017-2018

THREE PART BUDGET

Description	2016-2017	2017-2018	\$ Change	% Change
Administrative	\$ 1,824,086	\$ 1,940,494	\$ 116,408	6.38%
Program	\$ 14,394,808	\$ 14,488,925	\$ 94,117	0.65%
Capital	\$ 4,310,991	\$ 4,387,986	\$ 76,995	1.79%
Total Budget	\$ 20,529,885	\$ 20,817,405	\$ 287,520	1.40%

Administrative Budget

Description	2016-2017	2017-2018	\$ Change	% Change
A1099 Board of Education	\$ 22,405	\$ 29,988	\$ 7,583	33.85%
A1299 Central Administration	\$ 188,632	\$ 198,000	\$ 9,368	4.97%
A1399 Finance	\$ 193,800	\$ 210,000	\$ 16,200	8.36%
A1499 Staff/Legal/Personnel	\$ 100,249	\$ 106,509	\$ 6,260	6.24%
A1699 Central Services	\$ 91,029	\$ 107,200	\$ 16,171	17.76%
A1999 Special Items	\$ 218,706	\$ 221,400	\$ 2,694	1.23%
A2099 Instruction-	\$ 667,708	\$ 728,121	\$ 60,413	9.05%
A9099 Employee Benefits	\$ 341,557	\$ 339,276	\$ (2,281)	-0.67%
Total Administrative Budget	\$ 1,824,086	\$ 1,940,494	\$ 116,408	6.38%
% of Total Budget	8.89%	9.32%		

PROGRAM BUDGET

Description	2016-2017	2017-2018	\$ Change	% Change
A1499 Legal&BOCES	\$ 61,383	\$ 63,224	\$ 1,841	3.00%
A2199 Instruction- Regular School	\$ 5,147,626	\$ 5,244,569	\$ 96,943	1.88%
A2259 Instruction-Handicapped	\$ 1,699,254	\$ 1,734,085	\$ 34,831	2.05%
A2289 Occupational Education	\$ 801,091	\$ 818,636	\$ 17,545	2.19%
A2399 Special Schools	\$ 250,977	\$ 250,977	\$ -	0.00%
A2699 Instructional Media	\$ 865,142	\$ 904,010	\$ 38,868	4.49%
A2899 Pupil Services	\$ 848,453	\$ 868,142	\$ 19,689	2.32%
A5599 District Transportation	\$ 1,187,517	\$ 1,225,556	\$ 38,039	3.20%
A8099 Community Service	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
A9099 Employee Benefits	\$ 3,533,365	\$ 3,379,726	\$ (153,639)	-4.35%
Total Program Budget	\$ 14,394,808	\$ 14,488,925	\$ 94,117	0.65%
% of Total Budget	70.12%	69.60%		



2017-18 Property Tax Report Card

050401- CATO-MERIDIAN CSD Contact Person: Brenda Semeraro	Budgeted	Proposed Budget	Percent
Telephone Number: 315-626-2716	2016-17	2017-18	Change
	(A)	(B)	(C)
Total Budgeted Amount, not Including Separate Propositions	20,529,885	20,817,405	1.40%
A. Proposed Tax Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount ¹	5,809,854	5,809,854	
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)	5,809,854	5,809,854	0.00%
F. Permissible Exclusions to the School Tax Levy Limit	316,558	259,696	
G. School Tax Levy Limit , <u>Excluding</u> Levy for Permissible Exclusions ³	5,493,296	5,500,158	
H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, <u>Excluding</u> Levy to Support Library Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions (E - B - F + D)	5,493,296	5,493,296	
I. Difference: (G - H); (negative value requires 60.0% voter approval) ²	0	6,862	
Public School Enrollment	988	958	-3.04%
Consumer Price Index			1.26%

	Actual	Estimated
	2016-17	2017-18
	(D)	(E)
Adjusted Restricted Fund Balance	1,749,727	2,199,727
Assigned Appropriated Fund Balance	320,028	300,000
Adjusted Unrestricted Fund Balance	1,362,540	1,112,540
Adjusted Unrestricted Fund Balance as a Percent of the Total Budget	6.57%	4.00%

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 2017-18, includes any carryover from 2016-17 and excludes any tax levy for library debt or prior year reserve for excess tax levy, including interest.

NEW YORK STATE SCHOOL TAX RELIEF PROGRAM (STAR)

STAR is New York State's School Tax Relief program that provides a partial exemption from school property taxes for owner-occupied, primary residences such as homes, condominiums, farm homes. In effect since January 1997, **STAR** exemptions must be renewed yearly (before March 1) for senior citizens age 65 or older whose incomes do not exceed \$86,000. For all other homeowners, the original application automatically renews as long as they own their home. **PLEASE NOTE: Senior Citizens who have not enrolled in the Income Verification Program must apply each year for the STAR program.**

ABSENTEE BALLOTS

Qualified school district voters may vote in the Annual School District Election and Budget Vote by absentee ballot if they are unable to vote in person on Tuesday, May 16, 2017. Individuals who may use an absentee ballot include those who are ill, hospitalized, physically disabled, away on business or vacation or who are detained in jail awaiting action by a grand jury, awaiting trial or confined for an offense other than a felony.

Applications for an absentee ballot are available in the district office and may be filed up to one day prior to the date of the vote. Absentee ballot applications may be requested from: Gwendolyn Marriam, Cato-Meridian Central School District, 2851 State Route 370, Cato, NY 13033. Telephone: (315) 626-3439, extension 1203.

LASAGNA DINNER

When? Tuesday, May 16, 2017 from 4:30 - 7:30 PM

Where? Cafeteria in the Elementary School

Why? To benefit Odyssey of the Mind

How Much? Dinner — \$ 7.00
 Family — \$22.00
 Seniors — \$ 6.00



BUDGET VOTE

PROPOSITION #1

Shall the Board of Education be authorized and directed to expend the sum of \$20,817,405 for General Fund appropriation.

PROPOSITION #2

Resolved that the Board of Education of the Cato-Meridian Central School District is hereby authorized to undertake the acquisition of one 24-passenger wheelchair bus, at an estimated maximum cost of \$65,000 and two 65-passenger school buses, at an estimated maximum cost of \$110,000 each, all at an estimated maximum aggregate cost of \$285,000, less trade-in value, if any, and that such costs, or so much thereof as may be necessary, shall be raised by the levy of a tax to be collected in annual installments; and, in anticipation of such tax, debt obligations of the school district as may be necessary not to exceed such estimated maximum aggregate cost shall be issued, or the school district may enter into an installment purchase contract if the Board of Education determines that it is in the best interest of the school district to finance the purchase in that method.

PROPOSITION #3

Resolved that the Board of Education of the Cato-Meridian Central School District is hereby authorized to establish a Capital Reserve Fund pursuant to Section 3651 of the Education Law (to be known as the "2017 Building Capital Reserve Fund"), with the purpose of such fund being to finance construction, reconstruction, improvement and equipping of school buildings and facilities; such capital costs being of a type that would be eligible for financing under the local finance law, and costs incidental thereto, the ultimate amount of such fund to be \$5,000,000.00, plus earnings thereon, the probable term of such fund to be 10 years, but such fund shall continue in existence until liquidated in accordance with the Education Law or until the funds are exhausted, and the sources from which the funds shall be obtained for such Reserve are (i) amounts from budgetary appropriations from time to time, and (ii) unappropriated fund balance made available by the Board of Education from time to time, and (iii) New York State Aid received and made available by the Board of Education from time to time, all as permitted by law.

BOARD OF EDUCATION ELECTION

Two seats, (three-year terms each) on the Board of Education are up for election. The last incumbents are Paul Byrne and Jill Modafferi. The candidates for these seats are:

Ron Witkowski Carol Hunter Monica Waite Harmon Kent, III Paul Byrne

The Cato-Meridian Board of Education is composed of seven board members elected by the voters of this school district. Terms of office are for three years. Board members receive no salary. As representatives of New York State government, the Board has a legal responsibility to provide for the proper education of children living in the district. Exercising this responsibility includes developing a budget, which will adequately support the school and its programs.

ANNUAL BUDGET VOTE

The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2017-2018 by the qualified voters of the Cato-Meridian Central School District, Cayuga County, New York will be held in the **Elementary School 8th Grade Cafeteria**, Cato, New York, in said district on Tuesday, May 16, 2017 between the hours of 9:00 AM and 9:00 PM, prevailing time at which time the polls will be opened for voting.

QUALIFICATIONS FOR VOTERS

1. A citizen of the United States
2. At least 18 years of age
3. A resident of the district at least 30 days prior to the date of the vote

Cato-Meridian Central School
2851 State Route 370
Cato, New York 13033

PUBLIC BUDGET PRESENTATION SCHEDULE
2017-2018

Presented by:

W. Noel Patterson, Superintendent of Schools
&
Brenda Semeraro, School Business Administrator

Elementary Staff	May 2, 2017	8:10 am	8 th Grade Cafeteria
Middle School Staff	May 2, 2017	2:30 pm	Middle School Library
Transportation/Support Staff	May 3, 2017	9:15 am	8 th Grade Cafeteria
High School Staff	May 3, 2017	2:30 pm	High School Library
Public Hearing	May 4, 2017	6:30 pm	8 th Grade Cafeteria

The 2017-18 budget will be presented at the above locations. Please feel free to attend any session that fits your schedule. If you have any questions or concerns, please call the district office at 626-3439, extension 1203.

2017 Class Valedictorian and Salutatorian



Diana Mae Rudy, daughter of Eric and Sara Rudy, is named Cato-Meridian's Valedictorian for the Class of 2017 with a weighted grade point average of 104.68. Diana has participated in many activities throughout high school including band, MasterMinds, Spanish Club, Student Council, Science Fair, Science Olympiad and National Honor Society (in which she is the secretary). Diana has always had a passion for computers and science. She has balanced her many activities and rigorous course load while maintaining excellent attendance. Diana plans to initially attend Cayuga Community College then transfer to a four-year institution where she will study Computer Science.



Amelia Rose Sheckler, daughter of Ross and Cindy Sheckler, is named Cato-Meridian's Salutatorian for the Class of 2017 with a weighted grade point average of 103.51. Amelia has been a member of Art Club, Ski Club, Drama Club, Technology Club, MasterMinds, Science Olympiad and National Honor Society. She is the captain of this year's Feats of Clay Competition. Amelia has been a member of the track and field team for the past five years. She has been able to balance her activities with volunteer work and summer employment while maintaining a rigorous course load and excellent attendance. Amelia plans to attend Iowa State University for Graphic Design.



May 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 Dance Dress Rehearsal/ Pictures (ms gym/auditorium)	3 Dance Dress Rehearsal/ Pictures (ms gym/auditorium)	4 Public Budget Hearing @ 6:30 PM (8th Gr. Café.)	5 Dance Recital @ 6:00 PM	6 Jr./Sr. Prom (River Vista in Fulton)
		Grades 3-8 NYS Math Exams				
7	8	9 PTO Mtg. @ 3:45 PM (Elem Rm. 29)	10	11 MS/HS Band Concert @ 7:00 PM	12	13
14	15	16 Budget Vote in <u>Elementary 8th Gr. Cafeteria</u> 9:00 AM—9:00 PM	17 Elementary Chorus Concert @ 6:30 PM	18	19	20
			8th Grade Trip to Washington, DC			
21	22 BOE Mtg. @ 6:30 PM	23	24	25	26 M.S. Spring Olympics	27
28	29 NO SCHOOL (Memorial Day)	30 MS/HS Chorus Concert 7:00 PM	31			

June 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2 1/2 Day for K-6 Students (Artic. Day) Dismissal at 11:30 AM Senior Trip to Boston, MA	3
4 Senior Trip to Boston, MA	5 Athletic Awards @ 6:30 PM (auditorium)	6	7 H.S. Academic Awards @ 6:30 PM (auditorium)	8 BOCES Graduation	9 Elem. Grandparents'/ Special Friends' Day	10
11	12 BOE Mtg. @ 6:30 PM	13 PTO Mtg. @ 3:45	14 Soldier Show @ 11:00	15 Kindergarten Celebration 6:00 PM	16 Elem. Field Days	17
HIGH SCHOOL REGENTS EXAMS						
18	19	20	21	22 Mandatory Graduation Rehearsal 9-11:00	23 H.S. Graduation 7 PM (HS Gym)	24
HIGH SCHOOL REGENTS EXAMS						
25	26	27	28	29	30	

Cato-Meridian Central School
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Cato, NY 13033

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