

STRONG STUDENT PROGRAMS, FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS, FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY

The proposed 2024/2025 Educational Plan and Budget is a fiscally responsible plan that preserves and enhances the high quality academic and extracurricular programs that are the cornerstone of an Arlington education. For the 13th consecutive year, the Board has adopted a budget that is below our allowable tax levy cap. The proposed budget is \$263,984,000, a 3.02% increase from the current school year. The tax levy increase is 2.0%, which is below our allowable 2.51% tax cap.

BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

The proposed 2024/2025 Educational Plan and Budget maintains all current instructional, student support, and extracurricular programs. The plan includes funding for the following:

- Additional academic intervention services to provide extra support for students who are struggling.
- New high school courses (see inside for details).
- Continuation of universal pre-kindergarten for district four-year-olds.
- Replacing aging computers and Chromebooks.
- Implementing Science 21 for grades K–5, which provides hands-on science investigations aligned to the Next Generation Science Standards.

In addition to the facility improvements in the proposed Capital Projects Bond Proposition, there are facilities

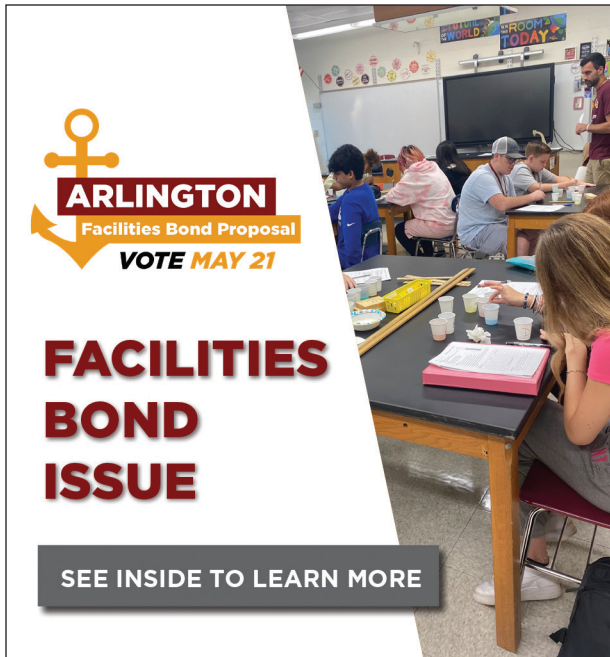
projects included as part of the annual budget (from an interfund transfer to capital). These include funding for the LaGrange Middle School municipal water connection, the Overlook Primary HVAC system, the Union Vale Middle School fire alarm system, and hot water storage tanks and plumbing at Titusville Intermediate, as well as several projects at Arthur S. May School.

TWO PROPOSITIONS ON THE BALLOT

- See page 6 for this year's bus and equipment proposition.
- See pages 2–5 to learn more about the Capital (Facilities) Projects proposition.

A complete copy of the 2024/2025 Educational Plan and Budget is available online, at all of our schools, and in the town libraries. For more information, call 486-4460 or visit our website at www.arlingtonschools.org.

Please, remember to vote on May 21, 2024. •



ARLINGTON
Facilities Bond Proposal
VOTE MAY 21

**FACILITIES
BOND
ISSUE**

SEE INSIDE TO LEARN MORE



World Champions

Arlington High School's Winterguard triumphed in a spectacular display of talent and dedication, seizing the gold medal at the Winter Guard International (WGI): Sport of the Arts World Championships on April 12 in Dayton, Ohio. Outshining 115 competitors from across the country, their stunning performance capped off an undefeated season. Their show, "Lizzie," captivated audiences with its powerful narrative, delving into the complex tale of Lizzie Borden.



ARLINGTON CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
COMMUNICATOR

2024 BUDGET VOTE MAY 21 • 6 AM – 9 PM

BUDGET ISSUE 2024



ARLINGTON

Facilities Bond Proposal



Arlington bond proposal seeks to renovate, update and improve schools

The Arlington Central School District Board of Education is asking residents to vote on a Capital Project Bond Proposition on Tuesday, May 21, that will address essential infrastructure repairs and improvements and better serve students' educational needs.

If approved, a total of \$179.6 million in renovations, upgrades, and new construction will be made to Arlington schools. Funding will address the district's most pressing facilities needs, including adding secure and welcoming school entrance vestibules; constructing new classrooms, labs, and library media centers; eliminating temporary classrooms; replacing roofs where needed; upgrading electrical systems; and much more. ***Every school will see enhancements.***

Arlington students learn in older buildings with a median age of 62 years. These schools face many age-related challenges in crucial areas, including deteriorating roofs,

doors, flooring, and electrical systems. In addition, older schools create challenges for meeting the educational needs of current and future Arlington students.

Over the past two years, the Arlington community came together to study the needs of its schools and provide feedback on how the district can move forward and best serve its students now and in the future. ARLINGTON CONNECT was created to gather input from a broad base of Arlington parents, employees and community members. Through a series of community engagement sessions, electronic surveys, and a telephone survey, the community helped shape the bond proposal before voters on May 21.



Find out more about the bond proposal, including a list of frequently asked questions:
www.arlingtonschools.org/facilityplan24

FACILITIES BOND PROPOSAL

VOTE MAY 21

NEW CLASSROOMS, NEW LOCATION FOR TRAVER STUDENTS

At 90 years old, Traver Road Primary School is Arlington's oldest school and requires extensive, cost-prohibitive renovations. If the bond proposal is approved, Traver will close, and all students will move to West Road School, which will become a K-5 elementary school. Renovating and expanding West Road and closing Traver will cost \$20 million LESS than completing needed renovations at both schools. A new, 16-classroom wing will be added to West Road, along with an expanded gym and related support spaces. Students would likely begin attending West Road School in the 2028-2029 school year. Transitioning students to an updated and expanded K-5 West Road School will provide better learning environments for primary students and teachers and save the district an estimated \$800,000 a year in operating expenses. It will also keep all Traver and West Road students together at one school.

FINANCIALLY RESPONSIBLE PLAN MINIMIZES TAXPAYER IMPACT

The critical needs identified in Arlington schools will require \$179.6 million in bond funding to complete. If the bond proposal is approved by voters on May 21, the State of New York will provide approximately 72% funding for eligible expenses, and the district will provide \$10.7 million funding from its savings, reducing the amount it needs to borrow. Because Arlington is completing payments on existing debt service, a significant portion of the tax increase required for the bond proposal will be reduced for the local taxpayer. The estimated annual tax increase is 23 cents per \$1,000 of assessed value. The average homeowner will pay about \$8 dollars per month for the bond proposal phased in over several years. Arlington has been planning for facilities improvements for several years, and the reduction in existing debt payments, the high level of state aid, and usage of district savings mean the district will be able to complete needed updates, repairs, and renovations while minimizing the impact on taxpayers.

ENSURING EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS

All Arlington students deserve the same opportunities and learning experiences and the May 21 bond proposal includes renovations and upgrades to improve facilities and opportunities for all students. This includes addressing inadequate spaces at LaGrange Middle School. If approved, the bond proposal would fund the following at LMS: construction of a 15-classroom wing, including updated science labs; a cafeteria renovation; space for the psychologist and social worker to meet with students (they now use a former storeroom); improvements to scheduling of classes; relief from overcrowding in the hallways; updates to the library media center to meet current educational standards; and improvements in lighting, painting, and ventilation. Union Vale would also benefit from the bond proposal by receiving an updated, secure and welcoming front entrance and fixing its pavement and parking lot.

UPDATES THAT IMPACT STUDENT LEARNING



Everyday students attend classes in 30-year old trailers. The bond proposal will remove these trailers and add new classrooms to better accommodate student learning and safety.

If approved, the bond proposal will enhance the academic environment to meet the needs of current and future Arlington students. Updates that directly impact student learning include STEM spaces, science labs, cafeterias, gyms, library media centers and classrooms. Deteriorating, 30-year old temporary classrooms will be eliminated and replaced with permanent classrooms, and outdated academic areas will be renovated or added to meet current educational standards.

FACILITIES BOND PROPOSAL

VOTE MAY 21

SAFETY AND SECURITY, A CONTINUING PRIORITY

Arlington's bond proposal will enable the district to continue improving the safety and security of students, staff and visitors. If approved, the bond proposal will fund the installation of welcoming and secure vestibules at all schools.

All visitors must be screened and pass through the main entry before entering the school. We will also improve safety by replacing aging exterior doors at several schools and improving the traffic flow during pickup and drop off times at Arthur S. May School.



Replacing original exterior doors where needed will improve security at schools.

IMPROVEMENTS AT EVERY ARLINGTON SCHOOL

Over the past 10 years, Arlington completed a number of projects to maintain its schools, improve energy efficiency, enhance school safety, and keep facilities in good repair. With aging buildings, however, all schools are in need of updates and improvements, some more extensive than others. Here is the list of projects to be completed at each school if the bond proposal passes.

UPDATING LIBRARY MEDIA CENTERS

Some schools will receive renovated or new library media centers if the bond proposal is approved. Updating school libraries that offer more than just the traditional book lending is key to students' academic and lifelong learning. This plan will recreate larger school libraries by adding expanded and flexible areas where students can work together to find creative ways to design, build and invent to promote learning.

CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE REPAIRS AND UPDATES

Keeping Arlington schools in good condition for student learning is crucial, especially with schools ranging in age from 20 to 90 years old. Like homeowners who periodically need to replace roofs and furnaces after years of wear and tear, Arlington schools need fixes to critical infrastructure. Many buildings have original electrical systems, not designed to meet the existing electrical loads. Five schools need roof replacements, and some need improvements to ventilation and drainage systems. Other important projects in the bond proposal include replacing doors, flooring and casework, asbestos removal, and sidewalk and pavement improvements.



The plan calls for updating or replacing electrical systems.



Replacing classroom cabinets and floors where needed will help keep schools in good working condition.



Roofs are in need of repair at many schools including LaGrange Middle School.



Many doors throughout the district are old and need to be replaced.

CAPITAL UPGRADES PER SCHOOL

ARLINGTON HS

- Welcoming secure vestibule
- Replace roofing (partial)

LAGRANGE MS

- New (15) classroom wing at LMS (including two new science labs)
- Expanded cafeteria
- Updated library media center
- Dedicated STEM room
- Welcoming secure vestibule
- Replace roofing
- Replace casework (Art, Science, FACS)
- Pavement and parking lot renovations
- Ventilation upgrades
- Asbestos flooring removal and replacement

UNION VALE MS

- Welcoming secure vestibule
- Pavement and parking lot renovations

ARTHUR S. MAY

- Welcoming secure vestibule
- Improved traffic flow
- New library media center
- Dedicated STEM space
- Exterior door replacements
- Upgrade electric system
- Limited ventilation upgrades

BEEKMAN

- Welcoming secure vestibule
- New library media center
- Eliminate temporary classrooms and construct permanent classrooms
- Dedicated STEM space
- Exterior door replacement
- Upgrade electric system
- Limited ventilation upgrades

NOXON

- Welcoming secure vestibule
- New library media center
- Dedicated STEM space

- Exterior door replacement
- Asbestos flooring removal and replacement
- Upgrade electric system

OVERLOOK

- Welcoming secure vestibule
- New library media center
- Eliminate temporary classrooms and construct permanent classrooms
- Expand gymnasium
- Dedicated STEM space
- Exterior door replacement
- Replace roofing

TRAYER

- Trayer will be closed after construction at West Road is completed

TITUSVILLE

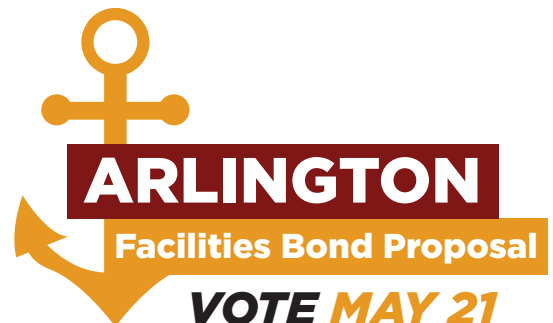
- Welcoming secure vestibule
- New library media center
- Dedicated STEM space
- Exterior door replacement
- Replace roofing
- Upgrade electric system

VAIL FARM

- Welcoming secure vestibule

WEST ROAD

- New (16) classroom wing (plus related support spaces)
- Expanded gymnasium
- Expanded cafeteria
- Welcoming secure vestibule
- New library media center
- Dedicated STEM space
- Eliminate temporary classrooms
- Upgrade electric system
- Replace roofing
- Replace casework
- Asbestos flooring removal and replacement
- Pavement and parking lot renovations



NEW COURSES EXPAND STUDENT OPPORTUNITIES

Arlington High School continues to offer enriching, diverse courses to appeal to a variety of interests. Our students can explore a wide range of subjects as they prepare for college or careers. Next year, AHS will offer five new and exciting classes:

- **Digital Illustration & Character Development:** Designed to teach students the basics of visual storytelling using computers for digital painting and drawing.
- **Unified Physical Education:** Students without disabilities will mentor and assist students with disabilities, promoting leadership, compassion, and a path for friendship and social inclusion.
- **AP Business Principles:** An additional AP level option, particularly for students interested in the business field.
- **Investing 101:** Introduces students to the world of investing and provides them with a basic understanding of key investment concepts, strategies, and practices.
- **Career Exploration Internship Program (ACSD Help Desk):** Students have the opportunity to become technology support experts and support district staff with technology needs.



2024 SCHOOL BOARD ELECTIONS

On May 21, voters will elect three members to the Arlington Board of Education. The terms of Mary Anne Meaden, Edward McCormick, and Dr. Larry Jeannotte will expire on June 30, 2024.

There are five candidates running for three seats. Those elected to the Board will serve a three-year term beginning on July 1, 2024. The following candidates, listed in the order that they will appear on the ballot, are running for the Board of Education:

1. Mary Anne Meaden
2. Donna Logan
3. Sofia Bonnet Hollis
4. Jennifer Boye
5. Edward McCormick

Click on the QR code or visit www.arlingtonschools.org for details on each candidate's educational background, career history, community involvement, and the reason they are running for the Board of Education.



2024/2025 BUS AND EQUIPMENT PROPOSITION

ON MAY 21, VOTERS WILL CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING VEHICLE AND EQUIPMENT PURCHASES:

- 10 Seventy-one (71) Passenger Propane Buses
- 4 Thirty-five (35) Passenger Vans
- 4 Twenty (20) Passenger Vans
- 4 Seven (7) Passenger Minivans
- 1 Wheelchair Van
- 1 Pickup Truck with Plow
- 1 Pickup Truck with Plow and Lift Gate
- 1 Delivery Truck

This year's bus and equipment proposition is for \$3,140,000 bonded over five years. Bus costs totaling \$2,870,000 are eligible for state transportation aid at the rate of 69.6%, so the local share is \$872,480.

SAFETY AND FLEET AGE

Arlington's Transportation Department's primary responsibility is to provide students with safe transportation to and from school. This requires us to maintain safe, reliable vehicles that meet all NYS Department of Transportation (DOT) requirements. In order to maintain our fleet in a fiscally responsible manner, we adhere to a year-to-year schedule for replacing our older buses. This provides cost predictability for the District and for our taxpayers. We need to replace buses after 10–12 years that have excessive mileage or undercarriage rusting. This replacement cycle helps to avoid expensive repairs and the need for emergency leasing. Purchasing new vehicles through a bond maximizes state aid and our buying power.

WHAT HAPPENS IF THE BUDGET IS DEFEATED?

Under state law, if the school budget is defeated, the Board of Education has three choices:

1. Put the same budget up for a re-vote on June 18
2. Present a revised budget for a vote on June 18
3. Adopt a contingency budget

If the budget is defeated a second time, the board must adopt a contingency budget. In a contingent budget, a district may not increase its current tax levy *by any amount*—which would impose a 0% cap. For Arlington, this means cutting an additional \$4.11 million from the proposed budget.

These reductions would be made by eliminating all new equipment (except for instructional technology), reducing staff, reducing programs, eliminating certain materials and supplies for students, reducing extracurricular activities, and reducing capital expenditures.

ARLINGTON CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET NOTICE

OVERALL BUDGET PROPOSAL

	Budget Adopted for the 2023/24 School Year	Budget Proposed for the 2024/25 School Year	Contingency Budget for the 2024/25 School Year*
Total Budgeted Amount, Not Including Separate Propositions	\$256,252,000	\$263,984,000	\$259,869,540
Increase/Decrease for the 2024/25 School Year		\$7,732,000	\$3,617,540
Percentage Increase/Decrease in Proposed Budget		3.02%	1.41%
Change in the Consumer Price Index		4.12%	
A. Proposed Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount	\$153,074,008	\$156,135,432	
B. Levy to Support Library Debt, if Applicable	\$0	\$0	
C. Levy for Non-Excludable Propositions, if Applicable **	\$0	\$0	
D. Total Tax Cap Reserve Amount Used to Reduce Current Year Levy	\$0	\$0	
E. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy (A + B + C – D)	\$153,074,008	\$156,135,432	\$153,074,008
F. Total Permissible Exclusions	\$4,761,659	\$4,700,935	
G. School Tax Levy Limit, Excluding Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$148,612,349	\$152,221,088	
H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, Excluding Levy to Support Library Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions (E – B – F + D)	\$148,312,349	\$151,434,497	
I. Difference: G – H (Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval – See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions) **	\$300,000	\$786,591	
Administrative Component	\$22,286,312	\$23,297,851	\$23,189,241
Program Component	\$197,128,848	\$206,375,767	\$205,939,417
Capital Component	\$36,836,840	\$34,310,382	\$30,740,882

* The following is a statement of assumptions made in projecting a contingency budget for the 2024/25 school year, should the proposed budget be defeated, pursuant to Section 2023 of the Education Law. The projected contingency budget for the 2024/25 school year would be the proposed budget less \$4,114,460. These reductions would be made by eliminating all new equipment (except state-aided equipment), reducing staff, reducing programs, eliminating certain raises, eliminating certain materials and supplies for students, reducing extracurricular activities, and reducing capital expenditures.

** List Separate Propositions that are not included in the Total Budgeted Amount: (Tax Levy associated with educational or transportation services propositions are not eligible for exclusion and may affect voter approval requirements)

Description	Amount
Proposition #2 – Purchase of School Buses and Equipment	\$3,140,000
Proposition #3- Capital Project Bond Proposition	\$179,600,000

	Under the Budget Proposed for the 2024/25 School Year
Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings ¹	\$828

The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2024/2025 by the qualified voters of the Arlington Central School District, Dutchess County, New York, will be held at School Election District #1 – Arthur S. May School, School Election District #2 – Traver Road Primary, School Election District #3 – Overlook Primary, School Election District #4 – Noxon Road Elementary, School Election District #5 – Beekman Elementary, and School Election District #6 – Vail Farm Elementary school(s) in said district on Tuesday, May 21, 2024 between the hours of 6:00am and 9:00pm, prevailing time in the Arlington Central School(s), at which time the polls will be opened to vote by voting machine.

¹ The basic school tax relief (STAR) exemption is authorized by section 425 of the Real Property Tax Law.

2024 BUDGET VOTE MAY 21 • 6 AM – 9 PM

OUR MISSION IS

to empower
all students
to be
self-directed,
lifelong
learners,
who
willingly
contribute
to their
community,
and lead
passionate,
purposeful
lives.

Mr. Paul Finch,
Interim Superintendent of Schools

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Mary Anne Meaden, President
Linda Gaines Ed.D., Vice President
Kelly Cahill Chenski, Esq.
Jeff Haight
Dr. Larry Jeannotte
Edward McCormick
Marion Quinn
Eileen Snook
Mark Tornatore

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

144 Todd Hill Road
LaGrangeville, NY 12540
845-486-4460

Visit Our District Website at
www.arlingtonschools.org



ARLINGTON CENTRAL
SCHOOL DISTRICT

144 Todd Hill Road
LaGrangeville, NY 12540

Non-Profit Org.
US Postage
PAID
Deposit, NY
Permit #9

CAR-RT Pre-sort

POSTAL CUSTOMER

DON'T FORGET TO VOTE!

TUESDAY, MAY 21, 2024 • 6:00 AM – 9:00 PM

VOTER ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible to vote, you must be a U.S. citizen, 18 years of age or older, and a district resident for 30 days prior to the vote. If you are registered to vote for a general election, you are registered to vote in all school district elections. If you have questions about voting, please call the district clerk at 486-4460 ext. 20212.

VOTING LOCATIONS

Make sure you know where to vote! An Arlington Street listing is available at www.arlingtonschools.org.

District 1 – Arthur S. May School	District 4 – Noxon Road Elementary
District 2 – Traver Road Primary	District 5 – Beekman Elementary
District 3 – Overlook Primary	District 6 – Vail Farm Elementary

NEW THIS YEAR! EARLY MAIL-IN VOTING

You can now vote early using a mail-in ballot. You no longer need a reason why you cannot vote in person on Election Day. An application must be completed before a ballot can be issued. Visit our website or call 486-4460 ext. 20212 for an application.

To have a ballot mailed to you, we must receive your application by May 14. If you plan to pick up your ballot, we need your application by May 20. Completed mail-in ballots must be received by 5:00 PM on May 21. •

BUDGET SNAPSHOT

Budget Element		Year Over Year Change
Spending	\$263,984,000	3.04%
State Aid Revenue	\$88,873,142	0.75%
Other Revenue	\$10,107,426	33.71%
Assigned Fund Balance	\$7,193,000	0.00%
Reserve for Tax Reduction	\$210,000	0.00%
Tax Levy Revenue	\$156,135,432	2.00%

WANT MORE BUDGET DETAILS?

Visit the Arlington website: www.arlingtonschools.org

- Voter information
- Complete budget details
- Full bus proposition details
- Full facilities bond proposition details
- Board of Education candidate bios