

# Candor Central School District

## Budget Proposal

### 2025-2026



#### **District Mission Statement:**

The mission of the Candor Central School District is to empower students to be lifelong learners who are caring, capable, responsible citizens who value differences and have a meaningful impact in their community.

#### **District Vision:**

Candor Central School District will set the standard for small, rural, public-school districts. Our students will be effective communicators, critical thinkers and collaborative problem solvers who excel on their path to being caring and contributing citizens.



## CANDOR CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET PROPOSAL 2025-2026

**ANNUAL BUDGET  
PUBLIC HEARING**

Tuesday, May 13, 2025

7:00 p.m.

High School Auditorium

**SCHOOL BUDGET VOTE &  
SCHOOL BOARD  
ELECTIONS**

Tuesday, May 20, 2025

Noon - 9:00 p.m.

High School Auditorium

**Residents will vote on:**

- ♦ *2025-2026 Budget*
- ♦ *Proposition I:  
purchase of four (4) sixty-four passenger  
buses*
- ♦ *Proposition II:  
additional funding for the Candor Free  
Library Association*
- ♦ *Board of Education seats (2)*

**Inside this issue**

|                                   |       |
|-----------------------------------|-------|
| Message from the Board .....      | 3     |
| Common Budget Q & A.....          | 4-5   |
| Property Tax Report Card.....     | 6     |
| Three Part Budget.....            | 7     |
| Statement of Expenditures.....    | 8     |
| Three Components                  |       |
| Statement of Expenditures.....    | 9     |
| by Object                         |       |
| Revenue Report .....              | 10    |
| Propositions .....                | 11    |
| Meet the Candidates.....          | 12-13 |
| STAR Program Info*.....           | 14    |
| Voter & Absentee Ballot info..... | 15    |

\*For further information on the STAR program,  
log on to  
[www.tax.ny.gov/pit/property/star/eligibility.htm](http://www.tax.ny.gov/pit/property/star/eligibility.htm)

**Administrative Disclosure:** Chapter 474 of the laws of 1996, includes a provision for the publication of the salary of the Superintendent of Schools as part of the annual school district budget process. A copy of the Superintendent's Salary Disclosure is available in the School District Office, 1 Academy Street, Candor, New York, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.

**Detailed Budget:** A more detailed copy of the budget is also available at the Candor School District Office.

**Real Property Exemption Notice:** A report detailing the total assessed value exempted from real property tax is available upon request of the District.

# CANDOR CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET PROPOSAL 2025-2026

## A MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

**Dear Candor School Community Members,**

We are pleased to share that on April 17, 2025, the Board of Education successfully adopted a proposed budget of \$22,902,205. Thanks to careful planning, we are proposing a local tax levy of just 2.0%, which is lower than our allowable rate of 2.65%. This local tax revenue is essential for maintaining our schools and providing our students with the resources and opportunities they need to excel.

Our proposed budget strategically allocates funds to sustain our vital programs, including technology, arts, music, athletics, and clubs, all while keeping class sizes stable. By investing in education, we're investing in the future of our community, ensuring that our students are equipped with the knowledge and skills needed to thrive.

Just like household budgets, school budgets reflect our priorities. We are committed to delivering a high-quality education while being mindful of the financial impact on our families and community. We have carefully reviewed each line of the budget, ensuring it aligns with the thoughtful judgment of the Superintendent, School Business Official, Administrators and the Board of Education. We are confident that this budget truly reflects the values and aspirations of our entire community.

We understand the importance of transparency and community input. We encourage all residents to review the full budget document and attend our upcoming public budget hearing. This is a great opportunity to learn more about the programs supported by this budget and to have your questions answered. We also encourage all eligible community members to participate in the upcoming school budget vote and school board elections. Your voice matters in shaping the future of our schools.

### **Key Dates to Remember:**

- **Public Budget Hearing:** Tuesday, May 13, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. in the High School Auditorium.
- **Budget Vote:** Tuesday, May 20, 2025, in the High School Auditorium from Noon to 9:00 p.m.

Thank you for your ongoing engagement and commitment to our school community. Together, we can foster a bright future for Candor!

Sincerely,

The Candor Central School District Board of Education

President Nate Brace, Vice-President Hannah Murray, Kate Davenport, Hope VanScoy, Gregg Houck, Craig Nevins, and Jessica Spaccio



## CANDOR CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET PROPOSAL 2025-2026

## COMMON BUDGET QUESTIONS &amp; ANSWERS

**Q:** How is the budget developed?

**A:** The Board of Education sets the district's mission, philosophy and priorities. The Board provides the fiscal oversight that guides the budget during its development and throughout the year. The process of building each year's school budget is led by the Superintendent of Schools and the School Business Official with support from the Budget Advisory Committee. Input is actively sought from faculty, staff, students and community stakeholders. The work of developing a budget for a new school year involves assessment of our current programs, appraisal of our facilities, understanding economic conditions, prioritizing district goals and planning for the current and future needs of our students and community. Simply stated, our objectives are to improve programming, instruction and learning while being fiscally responsible to our taxpayers. With this in mind, the budget must be balanced so that the year's revenue stream meets school spending. The budget must allow our district to meet all applicable legal requirements, including federal, state and local regulations and mandates. Finally, the budget must provide a basis for evaluation of the school's services, costs and accomplishments.

**Q:** What is the difference between the *tax levy* and *tax rate*?

**A:** *The tax levy* is the total amount of money a school district raises in taxes each year from all property owners in the district. Candor's tax levy accounts for around 1/3 of the budget and about 2/3 comes from state funding. Some additional funds are derived from BOCES refunds, interest earned, and federal sources.

*The tax rate* is the amount paid for each \$1,000 of taxable assessed value of property. The rate is used to calculate each individual property tax bill.

**Q:** What is the tax levy limit, or tax cap?

**A:** The tax levy limit is the highest allowable tax levy (*before exemptions*) that a school district can propose as part of its annual budget with the support of a simple majority of voters.

**Q:** How would the proposed budget affect my taxes? Is it within the cap?

**A:** The proposed tax levy increase is 2.0%, which is below this year's maximum allowable tax levy limit of 2.65%. This levy increase will result in homeowners in our district paying about \$0.70 more for every \$1,000.00 of assessed property value. It is important to note that there are variations to actual tax bills as the result of several factors that are out of the district's control, including assessment levels, which vary by municipality, and equalization rates, which are set by the New York State Office of Real Property Services.

CANDOR CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET PROPOSAL 2025-2026

COMMON BUDGET QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

**Q:** What happens if the budget is defeated?

**A:** Under New York state law, if the school budget is defeated, the board of education has two options: hold another vote in June or adopt a contingent budget without a second vote.

**Q:** What is a contingent budget?

**A:** State law mandates that under a contingent budget, a school district must adopt a budget with no tax levy increase and eliminate all non-contingent expenses, such as certain student supplies, certain equipment purchases and community use of school facilities. The administrative budget would also be subject to certain restrictions.

**Q:** What is “fund balance” and how does it affect what I pay in school taxes?

**A:** Fund balance is created when there is money left at the end of the fiscal year, either by the district spending less than budgeted or receiving more revenue than anticipated. New York state limits school districts’ unassigned fund balances to 4%.

Fund balance can be used to offset cost in the following years’ unassigned budget or put into reserves.

**Q:** What is a reserve fund?

**A:** A reserve is much like a savings account. Reserve funds allow districts to set aside money for future construction projects, unanticipated insurance costs and major purchases such as buses. This money is set aside so that a significant project or expense does not affect the budget all at once. Reserve funds reduce the district’s need to borrow money to cover unexpected costs, replace assets or undertake major construction projects in the future, while also enabling the district to still maximize state aid.

# 2025 - 2026 Budget



# 2025-2026 Property Tax Report Card

2025-26 Property Tax Report Card

|  |  |                 |  |                        |  |
|--|--|-----------------|--|------------------------|--|
| <b>600301 – CANDOR CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT</b>   |  | <b>Budgeted</b> |  | <b>Proposed Budget</b> |  |
| Contact Person: Christine Pierce   |  | 2024-25         |  | 2025-26                |  |
| Telephone Number: 607-655-5610   |  | (A)             |  | (B)                    |  |
| Total Budgeted Amount, not Including Separate Propositions   |  | 21,401,620      |  | 22,902,205             |  |
| A. Proposed Tax Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount <sup>1</sup>   |  | 6,249,886       |  | 6,374,883              |  |
| B. Tax Levy to Support Library Debt, if Applicable   |  |                 |  |                        |  |
| C. Tax Levy for Non-Excludable Propositions, if Applicable <sup>2</sup>  |  |                 |  |                        |  |
| D. Total Tax Cap Reserve Amount Used to Reduce Current Year Levy, if Applicable  |  |                 |  |                        |  |
| E. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy (A + B + C - D)   |  | 6,249,886       |  | 6,374,883              |  |
| F. Permissible Exclusions to the School Tax Levy Limit   |  | 43,107          |  | 82,338                 |  |
| G. School Tax Levy Limit, Excluding Levy for Permissible Exclusions <sup>3</sup>   |  | 6,279,352       |  | 6,416,481              |  |
| H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, Excluding Levy to Support Library Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions (E - B - F + D) |  | 6,206,779       |  | 6,282,545              |  |
| I. Difference: (G - H); (negative value requires 60.0% voter approval) <sup>2</sup>  |  | 72,573          |  | 122,936                |  |
| Public School Enrollment   |  | 680             |  | 680                    |  |
| Consumer Price Index   |  | 4.12%           |  | 2.95%                  |  |

<sup>1</sup> Include any prior year reserve for excess tax levy, including interest.  
<sup>2</sup> 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.  
<sup>3</sup> For 2025-26 include any carryover from 2024-25 and exclude any tax levy for library debt or prior year reserve for excess tax levy, including interest.

|   |                          |                             |
|---|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
|   | Actual<br>2024-25<br>(D) | Estimated<br>2025-26<br>(E) |
| Adjusted Restricted Fund Balance                                    | 6,702,032                | 6,502,000                   |
| Assigned Appropriated Fund Balance                                  | 100,000                  | 100,000                     |
| Adjusted Unrestricted Fund Balance                                  | 856,064                  | 916,088                     |
| Adjusted Unrestricted Fund Balance as a Percent of the Total Budget | 4.00%                    | 4.00%                       |

Schedule of Reserve Funds

| Reserve Type                               | Reserve Name                               | Reserve Description *  | 33125 Actual Balance | 63025 Estimated Ending Balance | Intended Use of the Reserve in the 2025-26 School Year |
|--|--|--|----------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| Capital                                    | 2025 Capital Reserve                       | To pay the cost of any object or purpose for which bonds may be issued.  | 2,129,123.78         | 2,129,123.78                   |  |
| Repair                                     |  | To pay the cost of repairs to capital improvements or equipment.   |                      |                                |  |
| Workers Compensation                       | Workers Compensation Reserve               | To pay for Workers Compensation and benefits.  | 652.81               | 652.81                         |  |
| Unemployment Insurance                     | Unemployment Insurance Reserve             | To pay the cost of reimbursement to the State Unemployment Insurance Fund.   | 115,028.19           | 115,028.19                     |  |
| 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.   |                      |                                |  |
| EBALR – Employee Benefit Accrued Liability | Employee Benefit Accrued Liability Reserve | For the payment of accrued employee benefits due to employees upon termination of service.   | 306,639.12           | 306,639.12                     |  |
| Retirement Contribution                    | Retirement Contribution Reserve            | To fund employer retirement contributions to the State and Local Employees' Retirement System.                                     | 1,686,904.94         | 1,486,904.94                   | \$200,000 to fund ERS expenditures                     |
| Other Reserve                              | Teacher's Retirement Contribution Reserve  | To fund employer retirement contributions to the Teacher's Retirement System.  | 369,733.14           | 369,733.14                     |  |
| Other Reserve                              | Health Insurance Reserve                   | To fund self-insured Health Insurance  | 2,093,949.81         | 2,093,949.81                   |  |

# CANDOR CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET PROPOSAL 2025-2026

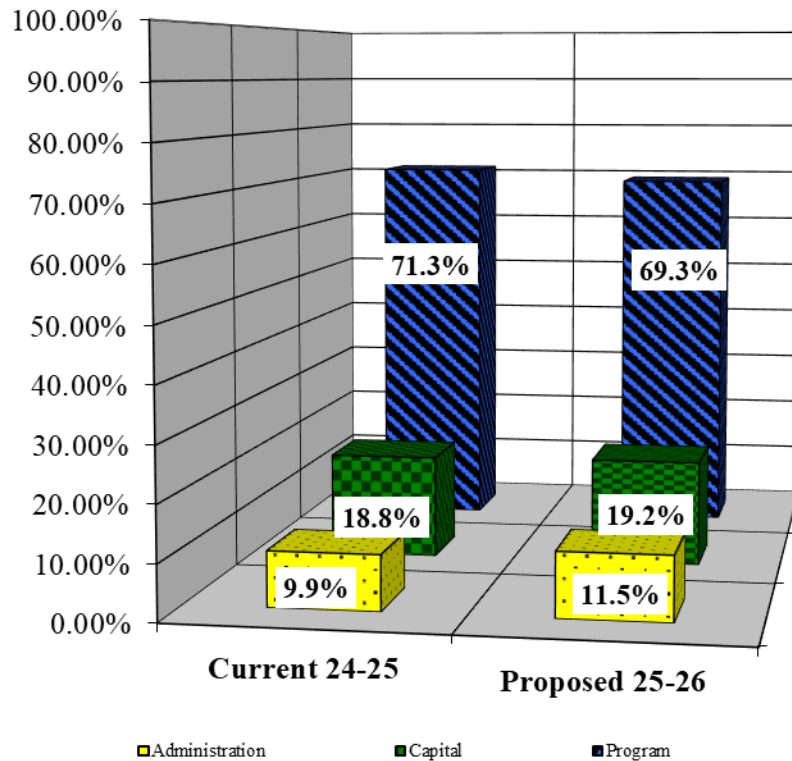
## THREE PART BUDGET

### CANDOR SCHOOL DISTRICT THREE PART BUDGET 2025-2026

| <u>CODE</u>                  | <u>TITLE</u>                   | <u>2024-2025<br/>BUDGET</u> |              | <u>2025-2026<br/>PROPOSED</u> |              | <u>CHANGES</u>         |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------|-------------------------------|--------------|------------------------|
| <b><u>ADMINISTRATION</u></b> |                                |                             |              |                               |              |                        |
| 1099                         | Board of Education             | \$ 52,445.00                |              | \$ 59,411.00                  |              | \$ 6,966.00            |
| 1299                         | Central Administration         | \$ 234,416.90               |              | \$ 242,790.00                 |              | \$ 8,373.10            |
| 1399                         | Finance                        | \$ 325,167.12               |              | \$ 345,782.00                 |              | \$ 20,614.88           |
| 1420                         | Legal                          |                             |              |                               |              | \$ -                   |
| 1460                         | Records Management             | \$ 20,000.00                |              | \$ 20,000.00                  |              | \$ -                   |
| 1699                         | Other Central Services         | \$ 311,371.12               |              | \$ 333,024.00                 |              | \$ 21,652.88           |
| 1998                         | Other Special Items            | \$ 398,516.00               |              | \$ 417,708.00                 |              | \$ 19,192.00           |
| 2010                         | Curriculum & Instruction       | \$ -                        |              | \$ 290,420.00                 |              | \$ 290,420.00          |
| 2020                         | Supervision                    | \$ 325,621.30               |              | \$ 335,917.00                 |              | \$ 10,295.70           |
| 2060                         | Research, Planning, Evaluation | \$ -                        |              | \$ -                          |              | \$ -                   |
| 9098                         | Employee Benefits              | \$ 442,285.18               |              | \$ 592,539.67                 |              | \$ 150,254.49          |
|                              | <b>TOTAL</b>                   | <b>\$ 2,109,822.62</b>      | <b>9.9%</b>  | <b>\$ 2,637,591.67</b>        | <b>11.5%</b> | <b>\$ 527,769.05</b>   |
| <b><u>PROGRAM</u></b>        |                                |                             |              |                               |              |                        |
| 1420                         | Legal                          | \$ 15,000.00                |              | \$ 20,000.00                  |              | \$ 5,000.00            |
| 2999                         | Instructional                  | \$ 9,460,782.25             |              | \$ 9,970,115.00               |              | \$ 509,332.75          |
| 5510                         | Transportation                 | \$ 1,119,642.87             |              | \$ 1,214,891.00               |              | \$ 95,248.13           |
| 5530                         | Bus Garage                     | \$ 51,750.00                |              | \$ 51,750.00                  |              | \$ -                   |
| 8998                         | Community Service              | \$ 5,000.00                 |              | \$ 5,000.00                   |              | \$ -                   |
| 9098                         | Employee Benefits              | \$ 4,575,145.85             |              | \$ 4,558,494.61               |              | \$ (16,651.24)         |
| 9951                         | Other Transfers                | \$ 40,000.00                |              | \$ 40,000.00                  |              | \$ -                   |
|                              | <b>TOTAL</b>                   | <b>\$ 15,267,320.97</b>     | <b>71.3%</b> | <b>\$ 15,860,250.61</b>       | <b>69.3%</b> | <b>\$ 592,929.64</b>   |
| <b><u>CAPITAL</u></b>        |                                |                             |              |                               |              |                        |
| 1620                         | Operation of Plant             | \$ 1,022,517.13             |              | \$ 1,062,328.00               |              | \$ 39,810.87           |
| 1621                         | Maintenance of Plant           | \$ 153,567.50               |              | \$ 158,353.00                 |              | \$ 4,785.50            |
| 1964                         | Refund of Real Property Taxes  | \$ 2,000.00                 |              | \$ 2,000.00                   |              | \$ -                   |
| 1981                         | Other Special Items            | \$ 21,075.00                |              | \$ 24,886.00                  |              | \$ 3,811.00            |
|                              | Transportation - Purchase of   |                             |              |                               |              |                        |
| 5510                         | Buses                          | \$ 30,000.00                |              | \$ 30,000.00                  |              | \$ -                   |
| 9098                         | Employee Benefits              | \$ 406,668.97               |              | \$ 385,065.72                 |              | \$ (21,603.25)         |
| 9899                         | Debt Service                   | \$ 2,288,646.94             |              | \$ 2,641,730.00               |              | \$ 353,083.06          |
| 9951                         | Transfer to Capital            | \$ 100,000.00               |              | \$ 100,000.00                 |              | \$ -                   |
|                              | <b>TOTAL</b>                   | <b>\$ 4,024,475.54</b>      | <b>18.8%</b> | <b>\$ 4,404,362.72</b>        | <b>19.2%</b> | <b>\$ 379,887.18</b>   |
| <b>GRAND TOTAL</b>           |                                | <b>\$ 21,401,620.00</b>     |              | <b>\$ 22,902,205.00</b>       |              | <b>\$ 1,500,585.00</b> |

## CANDOR CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET PROPOSAL 2025-2026

### STATEMENT OF ESTIMATED EXPENDITURES THREE COMPONENT PRESENTATION

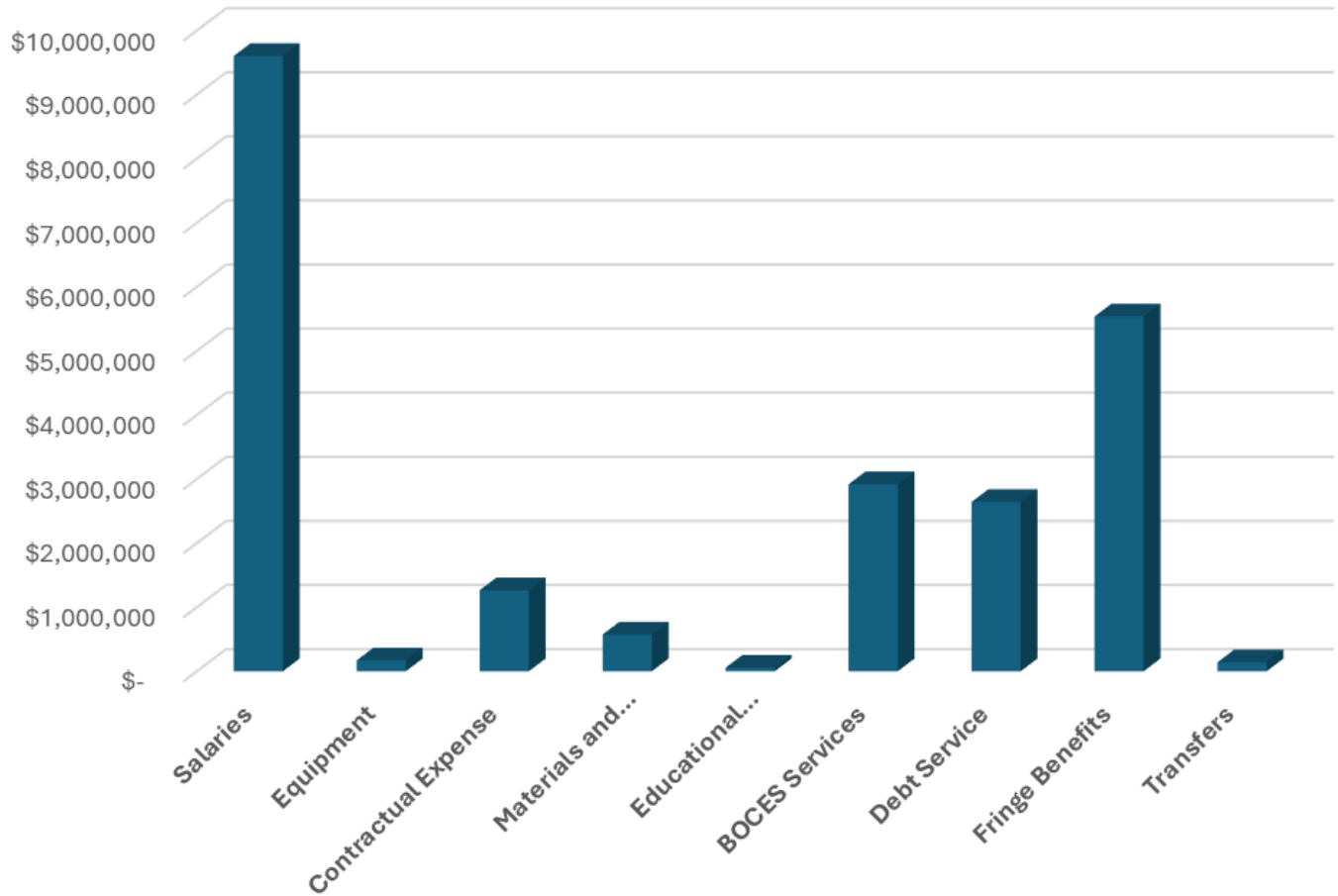


- Administration:** The administration component includes district and principals' office administrative expenses, administrative salary expenses, and related expenses for benefits, materials and supplies and equipment. It also includes Board of Education expenses.
- Capital:** The capital component includes all facilities costs to the district, annual debt service, and cost of construction and reconstruction. The capital component also includes costs for operation and maintenance; all expenditures associated with custodial salaries and benefits; service contracts; materials and supplies; utilities; and maintenance and repair of school facilities.
- Program:** The program expenditures are the instructional component of the budget. It includes salaries and benefits; materials, supplies, and equipment for librarians, guidance counselors, teachers, and non-teaching personnel who spend a majority of time performing teaching duties; and all transportation operating expenses.



# CANDOR CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET PROPOSAL 2025-2026

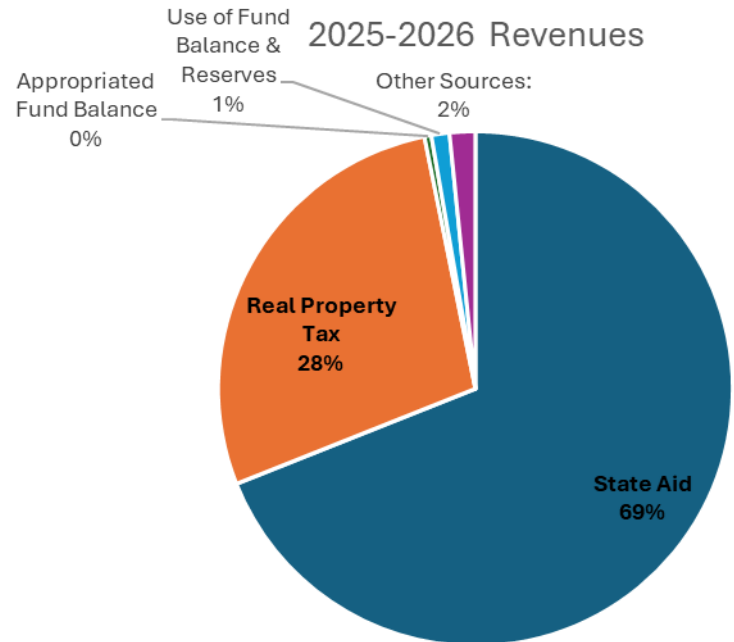
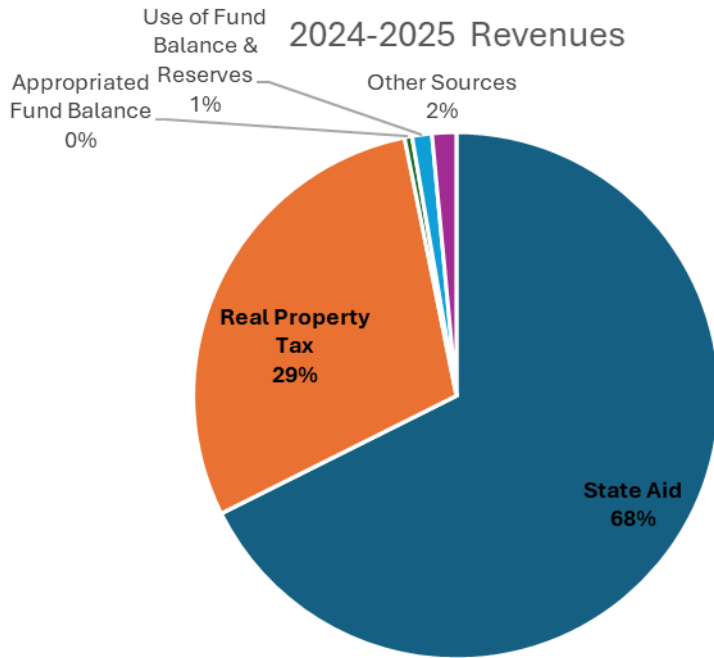
## 2025-2026 Statement of Estimated Expenditures Spending by Object of Expense - Where the Money Goes



| Object of Expense      | Current              | Proposed             | Change              |
|------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| Salaries               | \$ 8,717,391         | \$ 9,601,940         | \$ 884,549          |
| Equipment              | \$ 169,500           | \$ 169,500           | \$ -                |
| Contractual Expense    | \$ 1,177,986         | \$ 1,264,895         | \$ 86,909           |
| Materials and Supplies | \$ 572,900           | \$ 573,900           | \$ 1,000            |
| Educational Materials  | \$ 53,000            | \$ 56,000            | \$ 3,000            |
| BOCES Services         | \$ 2,858,095         | \$ 2,918,140         | \$ 60,045           |
| Debt Service           | \$ 2,288,647         | \$ 2,641,730         | \$ 353,083          |
| Fringe Benefits        | \$ 5,424,100         | \$ 5,536,100         | \$ 112,000          |
| Transfers              | \$ 140,000           | \$ 140,000           | \$ -                |
| <b>Total:</b>          | <b>\$ 21,401,620</b> | <b>\$ 22,902,205</b> | <b>\$ 1,500,585</b> |

## CANDOR CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET PROPOSAL 2025-2026

## REVENUE REPORT



| Source of Revenue            | 2024-2025 Budget     | 2025-2026 Proposed   | Change           |
|------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|------------------|
| State Aid                    | \$ 14,471,734        | \$ 15,797,322        | 1,325,588        |
| Real Property Tax            | 6,249,886            | 6,374,883            | 124,997          |
| Appropriated Fund Balance    | 100,000              | 100,000              | -                |
| Use of Fund Balance          | -                    | -                    | -                |
| Transfer from Debt Service   | 60,000               | 60,000               | -                |
| Employees Retirement Reserve | 200,000              | 200,000              | -                |
| Other Sources:               |                      |                      | -                |
| Interest                     | 45,000               | 45,000               | -                |
| Federal Aid (Medicaid)       | 50,000               | 50,000               | -                |
| Local Sources (BOCES Refund) | 225,000              | 275,000              | 50,000           |
| <b>Totals</b>                | <b>\$ 21,401,620</b> | <b>\$ 22,902,205</b> | <b>1,500,585</b> |

## CANDOR CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET PROPOSAL 2025-2026

## BUDGET PROPOSITIONS

***You will be casting your vote for the following items included on this year's ballot:***

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <i>Budget:</i>   | Shall the Board of Education of the Candor Central School District be authorized to expend for school purposes, the sums set forth in the proposed 2025-2026 budget, in the amount of <b>\$22,902,205</b> and to levy the necessary tax on the property of said District?  |
| <i>Proposition I:<br/>Purchase of buses</i>              | Shall the following resolution be adopted to wit:<br><br>Resolved that the Board of Education of the Candor Central School District is hereby authorized to undertake the acquisition of four (4) sixty-four passenger school buses, at an estimated maximum aggregate cost of \$792,911, 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 \$792,911 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. |
| <i>Proposition II:<br/>Candor Free<br/>Library funds</i> | Shall the Board of Education be authorized to levy additional taxes in the amount of \$901.25 annually, and pay over such monies to the Candor Free Library Association?<br>(The voters approved the annual appropriation of \$36,050 on May 21, 2024.)  |
| <i>School Board<br/>Member Election:</i>                 | <b><u>Vote for Board of Education Members</u></b><br><br>There are two (2) Board of Education members who will be elected due to the vacancies as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A three-year term ending June 30, 2028, presently held by Hannah Murray.</li> <li>• A three-year term ending June 30, 2028, presently held by Hope VanScoy.</li> </ul> The two (2) individuals receiving the highest number of votes shall be elected to an at large full three-year term from July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2028.<br><br><b><u>CANDIDATES (two petitions received)</u></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ <b><i>Jason Anderson</i></b></li> <li>♦ <b><i>Rebecca Aman</i></b></li> </ul>  |

## Capital Outlay Project

### Flooring Replacement

Included in the 2025-2026 proposed budget is an amount not to exceed \$100,000 for purpose of a capital outlay project to complete the flooring replacement project at the Candor Elementary School.

## Meet the Candidates



### *Jason Anderson*

Hello, my name is Jason Anderson, and I'm excited to be running for a seat on the Board of Education. I recently moved back to Candor, where I graduated from Candor Central School District in 1997. After graduating, I served for 9 1/2 years in the United States Marine Corps, a time that taught me the value of discipline, teamwork, and commitment. Following my service, I settled in Pennsylvania, where I've been raising three wonderful children - Branden, Ava, and Callen - with my wife, Christa. Last April, my family and I

decided to return to Candor so my children could experience the same strong educational foundation that I had here. Now, I'm eager to be an active member of this community and help ensure that Candor Central School District continues to provide excellent opportunities for all students.

I have a deep passion for giving back to the community that shaped me, and my involvement doesn't stop at education. I am also a proud member of the American Legion, where I continue to serve and support those who have served before me.

I would be honored to bring my dedication, experience, and commitment to the school board and help our students, teachers, and families thrive. Thank you for considering me as your candidate for the Board of Education!

#### *Philosophy of school board service:*

My philosophy of school board service is rooted in the belief that every student deserves access to a high-quality, equitable education that prepares them for success in life. I believe in listening to the community, being transparent in decision-making, and working collaboratively with families, educators, and administrators. School board members should advocate for policies that reflect the needs and values of the people they serve while always keeping students' best interests at the center of every decision.

#### *Contribution to the school board on behalf of the community:*

As a member of the school board, I would work to strengthen the partnership between the community and school, while addressing the needs and concerns of the entire district.



## CANDOR CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET PROPOSAL 2025-2026

## Meet the Candidates



### *Rebecca Aman*

Hello, I'm Rebecca Aman, and I'm running for the Candor Central School Board of Education. I've been a proud resident of Candor since 1992, and after nearly thirty years as a teacher, I retired on January 31, 2025. My connection to our schools runs deep: I'm the mother of five CCSD graduates, including a son with special needs. I'm also an active member of Allen Memorial Baptist Church. Over the years, I've been involved in our community as a youth soccer and T-Ball coach, a member of Tioga County Dairy Promotion, and a Vacation Bible School director. This experience has given me valuable

insights and leadership skills that I believe will help me effectively represent our community on the school board.

A school board's core responsibility is to ensure every student has access to a high-quality education that allows them to reach their full potential. This means setting sound policies, making responsible budget decisions, hiring and evaluating our superintendent, and advocating for our district's needs while being responsive to the voices of parents, students, and taxpayers. Ultimately, it's about balancing the immediate needs of our schools with a clear vision for the future, always prioritizing student success and well-being.

I'm incredibly proud of the education our small, rural school district has provided my own children, equipping them for success as adults. However, I recognize that our schools face challenges, including declining enrollment and economic shifts in our community. As a board member, my priorities will be to ensure our students receive the best possible education in a safe and supportive environment, while also being mindful of the financial realities of our community. I believe strongly that we must invest in the long-term success of our schools and avoid decisions that sacrifice our students' future for short-term fixes.

I'm asking for your support. By working together, we can address the challenges facing our schools and build a stronger future where every student in Candor thrives.



## CANDOR CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET PROPOSAL 2025-2026

## STAR PROGRAM INFORMATION

## Requirements for Basic and Enhanced STAR

| Factor    | Basic STAR  | Enhanced STAR  |
|-----------|---|--|
| Residency | The property must be the primary residence of an owner.   | The property must be the primary residence of at least one age-eligible owner.   |
| Age       | No age restriction  | 65 or older<br><br>All owners must be at least age 65 as of December 31 of the year of the exemption, except where the property is jointly owned by only a married couple or only siblings, in which case only one owner needs to meet the age requirement.<br><br>Surviving spouses may be eligible to retain Enhanced STAR benefit if they're at least age 62 as of December 31 in the year the benefit will continue. Otherwise, they may receive the Basic STAR benefit. |
| Income    | \$500,000 or less for the STAR credit<br>\$250,000 or less for the STAR exemption<br><br>The income limit applies to the combined incomes of only the owners and owners' spouses who reside at the property.  | For 2025 benefits: \$107,300 or less.<br><br>The income limit applies to the combined incomes of all owners (residents and non-residents), and any owner's spouse who resides at the property. Income eligibility for the 2025 STAR credit is based on the federal or state income tax return information from the 2023 tax year.  |
| Ownership | <p>The property must be owned by the eligible applicant(s).</p> <p>A married couple can receive only one STAR benefit regardless of how many properties they own, unless they are legally separated.</p> <p>Purchaser(s) in possession of the home under an executory contract of sale (aka land contract) are considered owners(s).</p> <p>Corporations, partnerships, and LLCs are not eligible unless it is a farm dwelling.</p> |  |

## STAR MAXIMUM SAVINGS

## (New York State School Tax Relief Program)

For 2025-2026, the maximum STAR exemption savings per town is as follows:

| Municipality     | Basic Amount | Enhanced Amount |
|------------------|--------------|-----------------|
| Town of Candor   | \$564        | \$1,136         |
| Town of Caroline | \$560        | \$1,293         |
| Town of Danby    | \$560        | \$1,293         |

| Municipality    | Basic Amount | Enhanced Amount |
|-----------------|--------------|-----------------|
| Town of Spencer | \$556        | \$1,350         |
| Town of Tioga   | \$538        | \$1,113         |



## CANDOR CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET PROPOSAL 2025-2026

### VOTER QUALIFICATIONS

**In order to vote at any school election or meeting, a person must:**

1. Be a citizen of the United States,
2. Be 18 years of age or over, and
3. Have been a resident of the school district for a period of thirty days or more prior to the meeting at which he or she offers to vote, and who is not otherwise prohibited from voting under the provisions of section 5-106 of the Election Law.

### ABSENTEE BALLOTS

The Board of Education authorizes the District Clerk or a Board designee to provide absentee ballots to qualified district voters. Absentee ballots can be used for the election of school board members and for the adoption of the annual budget and referenda.

A district voter must request in advance an application for an absentee ballot. The voter must complete the application and state the reason he/she will not be able to appear in person on the day of the district vote. The application must be received by the District Clerk/designee at least seven (7) days before the election/vote if the ballot is to be mailed to the voter, or received the day before the election if the ballot is to be delivered personally to the voter.

Pursuant to the provisions of Education Law, a district voter is eligible to vote by absentee ballot under any one of the following conditions:

1. Illness or physical disability,
2. Business responsibilities or studies which require travel outside of the county or city of residence on the day of the vote,
3. Vacation outside the county or city of residence, or
4. Detention or confinement to jail after conviction for an offense other than a felony.

An absentee ballot must reach the office of the District Clerk/designee not later than 5:00 p.m. on the day of the election.

*To obtain an absentee ballot, please contact Kathy Hinkle at (607)659-3178 or [KHinkle@candorcs.org](mailto:KHinkle@candorcs.org).*



## BOX HOLDER

Two of our Board Members are stepping down from the Board June 30, 2025:  
Hannah Murray and Hope VanScoy.

**Hannah Murray** has been a member of the Board of Education since July 2016. She served as President from July 2021 through June 2024, and Vice-President from July 2024 through June 2025. Thank you, Mrs. Murray, for nine years of service to the Candor community.

**Hope VanScoy** has been a member of the Board of Education since July 2022. Thank you, Mrs. VanScoy, for three years of service to the Candor community.

Thank  
You

As a reminder, the regular school newsletters are no longer printed and mailed to community members. They are always posted to the school website and Facebook page. However, if you would like a hard copy printed and mailed to you, please contact District Clerk Kathy Hinkle at (607)659-3178 or [KHinkle@candorcs.org](mailto:KHinkle@candorcs.org). Thank you.