

# MORAVIA

## CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

BUDGET EDITION ► SPRING 2025

### BUDGET FACTS

#### Proposed Budget

\$29,874,130

#### Spending Increase

2,107,648 (or 7.59%)

#### Estimated Tax Levy Increase

\$231,549 (or 2.50%)

## KEY DATES

### Budget Hearing:

Wednesday, May 7, 2025

7:00PM

MS/HS Café

### Budget Vote:

Tuesday, May 20, 2025

7:00AM – 9:00PM

High School North Foyer  
68 South Main Street  
Moravia, NY 13118

# PLEASE REMEMBER TO *VOTE!*

For more information,  
including full budget  
information, visit the  
school website.

 [moraviaschool.org](http://moraviaschool.org)

 @MoraviaCSD

 @moraviacsd



## RESIDENTS TO VOTE MAY 20<sup>th</sup> ON 2025-26 BUDGET

### *Dear Moravia Central School District Community,*

We're pleased to share the details of the proposed 2025-2026 school budget in this newsletter.

This year's budget development process began with the challenge of substantial increases in fixed costs (e.g., healthcare at 10%), coupled with only a modest increase in state aid (2%). For the first time in several years, we had to make difficult decisions to close a "gap" of over a million dollars.

Reviewing the options, we began by analyzing current and future enrollment projections. The loss in state aid is predicted to be a multi-year fiscal challenge for small rural districts like Moravia. Following multiple discussions and deliberations, the decision was made to move to a two-building model with an elementary (grades UPK-6) and junior high school (grades 7-12) starting in the 25-26 school year. This building restructuring allowed for multiple cost-saving efficiencies to be utilized to position our district in the best possible fiscal situation moving forward.

With any change of this significance, there are challenges and opportunities presented, but our leadership team is committed to preserving the successful components of our current

programming. We aim to utilize this opportunity to reimagine and enhance how we support students during these pivotal years — providing engaging academic opportunities, meeting students' social-emotional needs, and creating a purposeful bridge to high school and beyond. This shift is about more than just grade levels—it reflects our commitment to enhancing academic opportunities, better aligning instruction with student readiness, and supporting smoother, more intentional transitions.

In addition to the budget vote, residents will consider a proposition to purchase three new 66-passenger school buses as part of our ongoing, cost-effective 8-year bus replacement plan. Voters will also elect three Board of Education members.

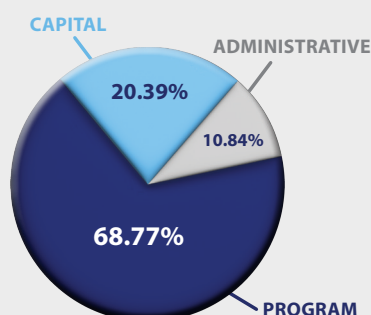
We believe this budget reflects a careful balance between providing exceptional educational opportunities and maintaining responsible fiscal stewardship for our taxpayers.

*Thank you for your ongoing support!*

**Mr. Neil Stevens**, Board of Education President

**Mr. John Birmingham**, Superintendent of Schools

## THREE-PART BUDGET



**ADMINISTRATIVE:** Salaries and benefits, as well as all other costs to operate the district office and each school's main office and cover Board of Education expenses.

**PROGRAM:** Funding for all K-12 educational programs, including teacher and support staff salaries and benefits, BOCES special education and instructional services, interscholastic athletics and transportation.

**CAPITAL:** Cleaning and maintaining district facilities, including salaries, benefits, service contracts, utilities, materials and supplies, capital outlay projects and debt service.

## A LOOK INSIDE THE PROPOSED BUDGET

### ADMINISTRATIVE BUDGET COMPONENT

	2024-25 ADOPTED	2025-26 PROPOSED	CHANGE	% CHANGE
Board of Education	\$38,651	\$42,358	\$3,707	10%
Central Administration	\$272,369	\$284,064	\$11,695	4%
Finance	\$549,861	\$565,486	\$15,625	3%
Legal Service	\$10,635	\$11,113	\$478	4%
Personnel	\$70,851	\$71,212	\$361	1%
Public Information	\$90,973	\$92,792	\$1,819	2%
Other Central Services	\$882,494	\$899,843	\$17,349	2%
Insurance	\$70,000	\$70,000	\$0	0%
Curriculum Development	\$110,022	\$114,168	\$4,146	4%
Supervision Regular School	\$447,269	\$357,927	(\$89,342)	-20%
Research/Planning/Development	\$98,867	\$100,844	\$1,977	2%
Employee Benefits	\$573,447	\$628,002	\$54,555	10%
<b>Total Administrative Component</b>	<b>\$3,215,439</b>	<b>\$3,237,809</b>	<b>\$22,370</b>	<b>10.84%</b>

### PROGRAM BUDGET COMPONENT

	2024-25 ADOPTED	2025-26 PROPOSED	CHANGE	% CHANGE
Legal Service	\$60,263	\$63,902	\$3,639	6%
In-service Training	\$36,286	\$37,497	\$1,211	3%
Teaching Regular School	\$5,695,268	\$5,644,308	(\$50,960)	-1%
Special Education Program	\$4,251,940	\$4,381,285	\$129,345	3%
Occupation Education	\$1,205,021	\$1,250,368	\$45,347	4%
Teaching Special Schools	\$88,775	\$91,582	\$2,807	3%
School Library/Audio Visual	\$224,813	\$234,646	\$9,833	4%
Computer Assisted Instruction	\$953,600	\$944,935	(\$8,665)	-1%
Guidance/Attendance	\$355,604	\$378,265	\$22,661	6%
Health Services	\$231,418	\$187,359	(\$44,059)	-19%
Co-Curricular Activities	\$278,214	\$205,590	(\$72,624)	-26%
Interscholastic Athletics	\$614,352	\$637,493	\$23,141	4%
Transportation/Bus Garage	\$1,738,065	\$1,795,419	\$57,354	3%
Community Relations	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$0	0%
Employee Benefits	\$4,148,520	\$4,610,246	\$461,726	11%
School Lunch Transfer	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$0	0%
Special Aid Transfer	\$30,000	\$30,000	\$0	0%
<b>Total Program Component</b>	<b>\$19,963,639</b>	<b>\$20,544,395</b>	<b>\$580,756</b>	<b>68.77%</b>

### CAPITAL BUDGET COMPONENT

	2024-25 ADOPTED	2025-26 PROPOSED	CHANGE	% CHANGE
Operation of the Plant	\$1,322,854	\$1,278,341	(\$44,513)	-3%
Maintenance of the Plant	\$437,687	\$404,439	(\$33,248)	-8%
Refund of Taxes	\$4,500	\$4,500	\$0	0%
Employee Benefits	\$330,427	\$361,862	\$31,435	10%
Debt Service	\$2,391,936	\$3,942,784	\$1,550,848	65%
Capital Outlay	\$100,00	\$100,000	\$0	0%
<b>Total Capital Budget:</b>	<b>\$4,587,404</b>	<b>\$6,091,926</b>	<b>\$1,504,522</b>	<b>20.39%</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES:</b>	<b>\$27,766,482</b>	<b>\$29,874,130</b>	<b>\$2,107,648</b>	<b>7.59%</b>

## PROPOSITION 1: 2025-2026 Budget

That the amount of \$29,874,130 be approved for the 2025-2026 school year and the Board of Education of the Moravia Central School District be authorized to levy the necessary tax on real property of the district.

## PROPOSITION 2: Bus Purchase

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Moravia Central School District is authorized to purchase and finance three (3) student transport vehicles, including necessary furnishings, fixtures and equipment and all other costs incidental thereto, and expend a total sum not to exceed \$474,500, which is estimated to be the total maximum cost thereof, and said amount, or so much thereof as may be necessary, shall be raised by the levy of a tax upon the taxable property of said School District and collected in annual installments as provided by Section 416 of the Education Law; and, in anticipation of such tax, obligations of said School District, in the principal amount not to exceed \$474,500 shall be issued.

## PROPOSITION 3: Powers Library

RESOLVED, that pursuant to Education Law, Section 259, the Board of Education of the Moravia Central School District is authorized to levy and collect an annual tax, year after year, separate and apart from the annual school district budget, in the amount of \$2,835.00, in addition to the current appropriation of \$97,335.00 for a total of \$100,170.00 annually, which shall be paid to the Powers Library and for the support and maintenance of the library; with this appropriated amount to be the annual appropriation until thereafter modified by a future vote of the electors of the Moravia Central School District.

## SIX CANDIDATES SEEK THREE SEATS ON BOARD OF EDUCATION

Moravia residents will elect three members of the Board of Education to each serve a three-year term beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2028. Candidates names were drawn by lot and will appear on the May 20 ballot in the following order:

**KELLY ANDERSON**

Anderson is a finance officer for the Town of Ithaca and mother of two Moravia students.

She is incredibly grateful to the school district and hopes to support teachers and their impact. She also looks forward to lending her public sector finance experience to the greater Moravia community.

**EMILY PALMER**

Palmer is a mother of two who has previously served on the Moravia BOE. She would like to

retain her position on the board to assist in bringing a number of exciting district initiatives to completion. She believes her unique perspectives allow her to serve the district and support the students of our community.

**TRAVIS LEFEVER**

LeFever is a supervising pharmacist at Cornell Health Pharmacy and father of two elemen-

tary students. Himself a Moravia graduate, LeFever looks forward to ensuring that our schools prepare all students for success and provide the best education while still maintaining fiscal responsibility.

**ALLYSSA GRAHAM**

Graham is an educator of the district and mother of two committed to policies that promote

academic excellence, equity and student well-being. She looks forward to supporting our students and educators with strong community partnerships that give every student the opportunity to succeed.

**HEATHER WHIPPLE**

Whipple is a buyer and planner for Baxter International, Inc. and a proud mother of two.

As a graduate of Moravia, she cares deeply about our schools and everyone they serve. She believes in thoughtful, data-informed decision-making that strengthens educational programs, supports teachers and put students first.

**BRIAN MYERS**

Myers is a road patrol sergeant with the Cayuga County Sheriffs Office and father of two. A

graduate of Moravia High School, he is running to become a part of a community that provides all children the opportunities and resources to become effective leaders and accomplished, strong and independent adults.

## POWERS LIBRARY VOTE

Public Libraries within New York State have the right to place their levy proposition on the Board of Education's ballot for submission to the voters. Powers Library serves the entire community of the Moravia Central School District and can levy taxes to the community it serves. The amount levied by the library is separate and apart from the school district levy, however the funds are collected and held by the school district until the funds are submitted to the library. Libraries are only required to have a proposition on the ballot when they are increasing their annual levy. If a vote on an increase were to be defeated, the funding for the library reverts to the previous amount approved by the voters.



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CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT