

Richfield Springs Central School District

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER



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- BOE President's Message
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TUESDAY
May 17th
7 AM-8 PM

School Budget, Bus Purchases, Repair Reserve, Two BOE Positions

Superintendent's Message



A year ago, I wrote about emerging from a global pandemic. Who knew that it would rage on for an additional year and take its toll on us all? As we move into the beautiful colors of spring, overtaking the gray of March, may we be hopeful that we can put COVID-19 behind us and rebuild stronger.

Across the board there is so much to be grateful for. A huge thank you to our transportation team for getting our students safely to and from school during the winter season in Central New York. Our faculty and staff consistently go above and beyond for our students, families and for one another. The buildings and grounds team not only maintain the facility and fields, but complete many in-house projects. This year we are upgrading the lighting throughout the building at a 70-80% energy reduction and replacing the bus garage roof to name two key projects. It is amazing what can be accomplished when we work as a team and family.

Our spring sports season has begun. We have excellent participation this spring from Richfield Springs and ODY students. Come out and catch a game or take a road trip to support the track and field team. We are working to reinstate all of our spring events in-person, including, but not limited to the Jr/Sr Prom, athletic and academic awards night, National Honor Society inductions, the spring concert and a return of marching band and color guard to the Sherburne Pageant of Bands. Graduation will take place on the front lawn on the evening of June 24th.

The 2022-2023 school budget has been conservatively crafted, yet again. Overall, there is an increase of 2.13% in the budget, with just a .48% tax levy increase. Even with skyrocketing costs, we believe that we can not only maintain, but are looking to expand programs for our students at Richfield Springs. The Federal grants that will be received over the next two to three years are instrumental in offsetting costs, while helping us to keep meet the academic, social and emotional needs of our students.

Enjoy the spring and let's all collectively keep our fingers crossed for sunny days.

Together in Education,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Thomas Piatti". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Thomas Piatti
Richfield Springs Superintendent of Schools

"People have said that this isn't a small town, it's a large family."
-Floyd Bourne

A Message From The Board of Education

When visiting the Richfield Springs Central School website, www.richfieldcsd.org, in the top left-hand corner of the homepage and all subsequent pages, you see the following: Responsibility, Scholarship, Confidence, Success. It's not a mistake to see these words throughout because they are what is expected of our students, faculty and staff. They also act as a reminder for the work that is being done in the District for the rest of us.

The Board of Education remains inspired by the creativity and commitment that we have witnessed from staff, administrators, family and community members all driven by the one goal of providing a well-rounded, rigorous educational experience for our kids – especially given the added challenges that we have all faced. We thank everyone who supports the education of our students and look forward to the continued partnership as we enter the final stretch of the academic year.

Spring is always an exciting time in a school district. We conduct the yearly state tests to provide students, families, and educators credible measures of students' skills and knowledge. We get to witness (and root for) our students participating in spring sports and spring concerts for both band and chorus. We also begin the celebrations of achievement – naming the newest members of our Junior and National Honor Societies, with end-of-year activities culminating with Moving Up Day for Pre-K through 11th grade and the recognition and celebration of our Class of 2022's graduation.

With that, please join us in congratulating the Class of 2022 Valedictorian Isabel Martinez and Salutatorian Roberta Schaefer-Gilbert. Your commitment and dedication to academic success are tremendous – and we look forward to seeing what you achieve beyond RSCS. To your families and all those who provided the care, guidance and support, you should be commended and feel proud as well.

Spring is also a time to plan for the future, the 2022-2023 school year budget is part of the planning. While reviewing the newsletter, you'll find that the District is striving to maximize all the resources available to deliver an exceptional educational program at every level. As a team, we are focused on continuing to provide a comprehensive education for our students with many program opportunities – and we are also focused on making sure the staff continues to receive the support they need to be successful, which ultimately makes our students successful. RSCS continues to put your tax dollars to work in the classroom on program and learning – in fact, 74.3 percent of this budget is focused on program. At RSCS, we continue to make that a priority.

We continue to be focused on our mission to enable lifelong learning with Responsibility, Scholarship, Confidence, and Success – while always moving toward excellence. We ask that you please support the District with your vote. It matters and is very much appreciated.

This is your community and your school district. Thank you for all your support throughout the year – the concerts, athletic events, fundraisers and award ceremonies. Your support shows the children of the community how much they matter and how much you care.

Respectfully,

Scot Mondore
President

Class of 2022 Valedictorian & Salutatorian



Isabel Martinez
Class of 2022 Valedictorian



Roberta Schaefer-Gilbert
Class of 2022 Salutatorian

It is with great pleasure that we announce the Richfield Springs Central School's Valedictorian, Isabel Martinez and Salutatorian, Roberta Schaefer-Gilbert. Isabel is the daughter of Roger and Aletha Sprague. Roberta is the daughter of Denise Schaefer and Dean Gilbert.

Isabel Martinez of Richfield Springs earned an overall high school GPA of 99.14. Isabel is involved in Battle of the Books, GSA Club, National Honor Society, Girls State, School Musicals, and Morning Announcements. She is looking to become a Journalist. She has applied to Harvard, Williams, Amherst, University of Rochester, Northeastern University, Boston University, UMass Amherst, Penn State, SUNY New Paltz. Currently she has been accepted into UMass Amherst.

Roberta Schaefer-Gilbert of Richfield Springs earned an overall high school GPA of 98.86. Roberta is involved in Battle of the Books, GSA Club, Morning Announcements, and participated in Track and Field for two years. Her intention is to pursue a Bachelor's degree in Biology and Genetics, eventually going to Graduate School. She is considering numerous schools including Duke, Yale, Penn State, UNC, Temple University, University of Rochester. Currently she has been accepted into RPI and Stony Brook.

We congratulate both students on their outstanding accomplishments and look forward to seeing what the future holds for them.

In Memoriam: “Coach” Len Calkins



The Richfield Springs school and community mourns the loss of “Coach” Len Calkins.

Coach Len Calkins passed away at his home on January 6th. A loving and caring man, Calkins was a long-

time resident of Richfield where he coached two generations of student athletes at RSCS. Although football was his life’s passion, through the years he coached girls and boys basketball, baseball and softball.

The biggest “wins” of coaches career were seeing his athletes being successful, respectful and hard working after their athletic careers ended. Football was just a game. An important game to help his athletes prepare for the rest of their lives.

Long after his coaching career ended coach continued mentoring students at RSCS on daily bus trips or somewhere on the grounds. The game of life was most important to him always, and he always had time for every student. Whether just a friendly hello, or to talk about what

was going on in their lives. He was always there for everyone to help. Each and every person young or old were important to him. He truly cared about everyone he came in contact with. His family extended way beyond his wife, children and grandchildren. His family was the entire community.

A scholarship fund has been set up in memory of “Coach” Calkins. Donations to the fund can be made in the main office and each year an award will go to an RSCS Graduating Senior to continue the legacy and community spirit of Coach.

Coache’s family would like extend a very heartfelt thank you to the school and entire community for their incredible support during this very difficult time.

RSCS Earth Ambassadors



Pictured above (left to right): Earth Ambassadors Adelina Clements, Mya Kane, Mrs. Trask, Dylan Mead and Emmet LaBruzzo

Since mid-November, the Earth Ambassadors have been busy saving the planet from excess plastic. They collect plastic that can not be recycled in the usual manner, and therefore, is usually thrown away and ends up in landfills. On Tuesdays, they go to classrooms

and collect plastic brought in by students. At the end of each month, it is weighed, dropped off to Price Chopper, and the weight recorded.

Richfield Springs Elementary is competing with other schools in the county to see who can collect the most. So far, they have collected 453.5 pounds! The Otsego County Solid Waste and Recycling brought back the challenge which has been on hiatus due to Covid. The challenge continues until Earth Day, April 22nd.



**Bassett Healthcare
Network
Richfield Springs**

Don’t forget to see your physician for well child visits, immunizations and physicals! Bassett’s School Based Health Center is open with limited hours when school is in session (virtual or in-person) and are ready to see your child safely. Call 844-255-7242 Monday–Friday from 8 AM–4 PM to schedule an appointment.

The Bassett School-Based Health Centers (SHBC) continues to offer the Pfizer SARS-COVID vaccine to all children 5 years and older, along with vaccine boosters as recommended. Consent and information packets are available at the SBHC. Please contact your SHBC with any questions and to setup a time for your child’s visit. 315-858-0610 ext. 1041

Mrs. Wusts Kindergartners Celebrate 100 Days of School



Kindergarten students celebrate the 100th day of school with a fun project! We used the aging booth app to make them look old and wrinkled - similarly to how they might look at 100 years old. The students wrote and then recorded themselves reading a sentence explaining what they think it might be like to be 100 years old.



First Graders Learn About The Chinese New Year



Mrs. Kalkowsky's first graders learned about the Chinese new year on February 1st by reading a book, watching videos of the lion dance and making dragon puppets.

RSCS Student Scores 1000th Point



Sophomore Dylan Hosford, son of Jon and Amber Hosford, scored his 1000th point! To help celebrate this milestone were former Thousand Pointers John Muller, Graig Harris, Ryan Kelly, and Kyle Grup (Pictured above). We are so thankful to Dylan for the years of basketball enjoyment he's given our community. We are so thankful to the alumni for coming out to help recognize the newest member of their club.

“El Día de los Reyes Magos” Three Kings Day Celebration

Students in Spanish classes celebrated “El Día de los Reyes Magos” (Three Kings Day) by eating the traditional “Rosca de Reyes” (king cake), which has a plastic baby figurine inside that represents the baby Jesus. Whoever gets the piece of cake with the baby inside is crowned “king” or “queen” for the day! Students were excited to see who would find the baby!

Pictured Left: Seventh grader, Owen Oldick is presenting the baby figurine he found in the piece of cake he received. Pictured Right: Tenth grader, Bryan Webb & Señora Cotto dressed as Rey Melchor, the King of Arabia.



Mrs. Wust’s Kindergartners See Their Shadows

Our Kindergartners have been celebrating Groundhogs day today! We made a graph to show who thought spring would come and who thought we would have 6 more weeks of winter. Most of us were sad to hear that we will be having 6 more weeks of winter. We also made groundhog headbands to celebrate!

Pictured left-to-right: . Eli Yuhasz, Levi Effner, Layla VanBuren, Jaxon Hudson, Jennifer Bowman, Alexandria Ruffles, and James Seamon.



Mrs. Dykstra’s First Graders 101st Day of School

Mrs. Dykstra’s first graders celebrated their 101st day of school through a variety of hands-on activities. Students demonstrated their understanding of computational skills through creative means, around the number 101.

Pictured left front row: Abbeygail Schultz, Colton Fullington, Emerson Price, and Ella Wells. Pictured left back row: Bentley Bush, Jayde Moss, Benjamin Spengler, Jeremiah Hernandez, Lincoln Seamon, and Sophia Seamon. Pictured right: Lincoln Seamon and Sophia Seamon making their necklaces of 101 beads.



RSCS Performs At All-County Music Festival

Congratulations to our RSCS High School Vocal students who were selected to perform in the All-County event.

Pictured left-to-right: Cadence Moxham, Emily Diotte, Maura Buck (background), Isabel Martinez, Roberta Schaefer-Gilbert (background) and Katrina Schaefer-Gilbert.



Students Collaborate In Virtual Valentine Exchange

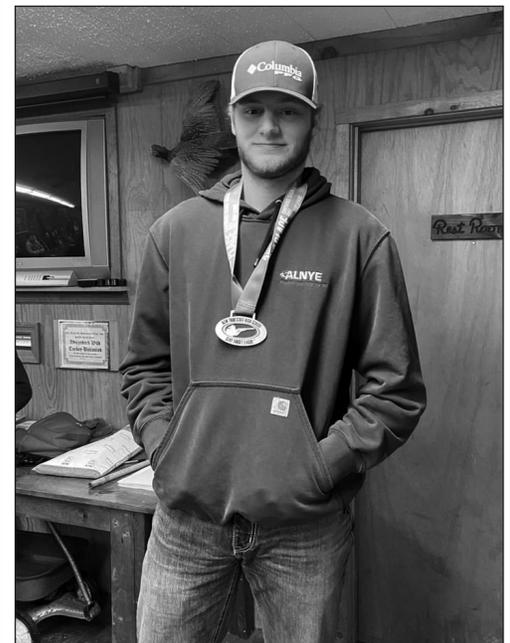
Mrs. Dandrea's 3rd grade class participated in a virtual valentine exchange with Mr. Bard's 3rd grade class at Mount Markham. Mrs. Collis's class joined in as all three classes met virtually to share a little bit about their community and participate in a fun digital breakout activity!



Pictured left: Nyles Seamon is busy working away on his Valentine's day card design on his iPad. Pictured top: Amelia Hernandez and Payton Oldick, and (Pictured bottom:) Nyles Seamon are working on the Valentine's day themed virtual breakout boxes. Students have to work together and use clues unlock the lock boxes.



RSCS Senior Takes Second Place



Austin Bowman (pictured above) came in Second Place in the New York State Class 1A Section 4 Fall Trap Shooting League. Austin finished with the Male High Average of 22.6! Way to go Austin!

There Be Leprechauns At RSCS!

Ed the leprechaun visited Mrs. Wust's kindergarten classroom. He left us lots of little treats throughout the day like; his little green footprints, glitter paths,

shamrock necklaces, bracelets, and gold chocolate coins! He even left us a present in the toilet (that might have been a favorite)! What fun we had celebrating St. Patrick's Day!

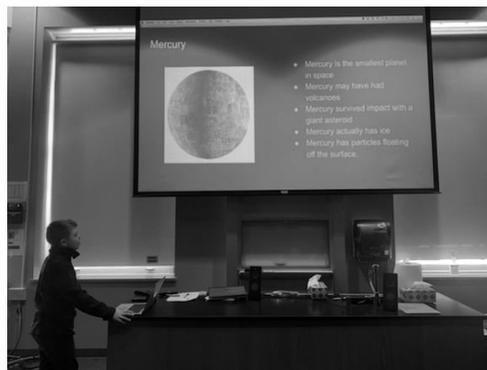


Pictured top, left-to-right: Layla VanBuren, James Seamon, Eli Yuhasz, Alexandria Ruffles, Jaxon Hudson, Jennifer Bowman, and Levi Effner.

Fifth Graders Take Learning Out of This World

Fifth grade students recently studied our solar system. Students were assigned a planet to study, design a presentation and conduct a discussion and Q&A session around their related topics. Way to go fifth graders!

Pictured right: Reed McCartney presenting on the planet Mercury in the LGI.



Annual Daddy/Daughter Dance



Pictured above (left to right): Kyra Spencer, Kendra Hall, Ariel Mickle, Emaleigh Dennis and Aubrey Beach.

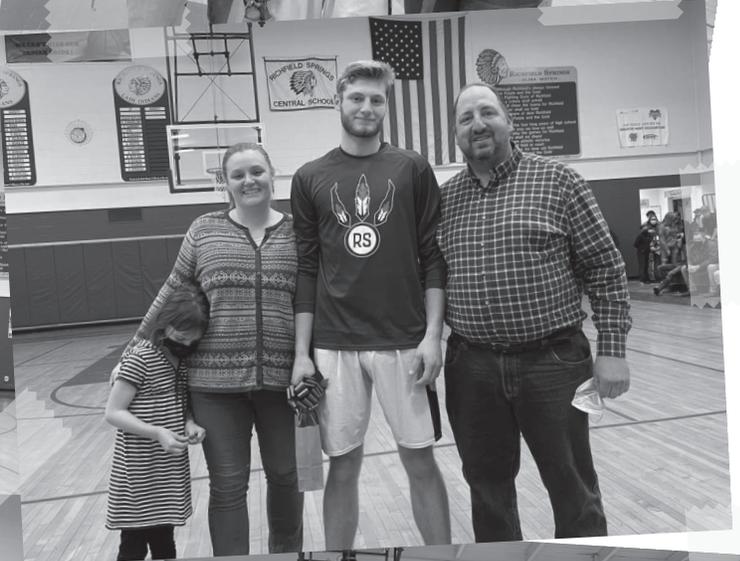
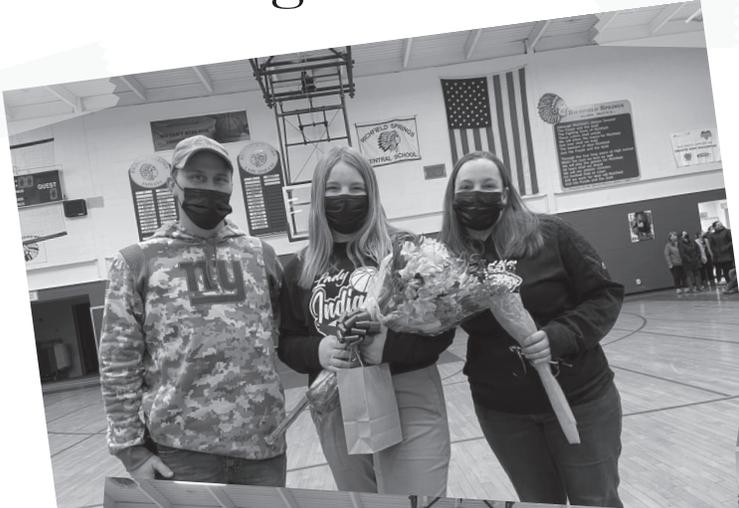


Pictured above: Camryn Bass and dad.

The tradition of the annual daddy/daughter dance started in 2015. All participants must be enrolled in grades Pre-K through sixth. The intent was to create a special night to celebrate that special bond between father and daughter. This year, seventy-eight girls spent two hours of dancing, music, food and fun with their special person. All proceeds from this event will help sponsor project prom and the post-prom party.

Do you have photos from RSCS events?
If so, please email them to:
rscspublications@richfieldcsd.org
Stay tuned to our Newsletters, Website and Facebook Page to see if they are published!

Senior Night at RSCS



Winter Boys Varsity Basketball



Pictured front left to right: Vlad Hula, Brayden Dunckel, Damon Boss, Andrew Oakley, and Aric Steenberg. Pictured back left to right: Clay Bobnick, Dylan Hosford, Nathan LaVere, Austin Bowman, Jordan Diliberto, Brogan Graves and Coach Busch.



RSCS *Indian* **PRIDE**



Winter Boys Junior Varsity Basketball



Photo front left to right: Landen Schultz, Dallas Miller, Aiden Dibble, Riley Blackledge, and Jesse Bowman. Pictured back left to right: Coach Talbot, William Bawolak, Ayden House, Cameron Mercer, Mitchell Palmatier, and Carter Bawolak.



Winter Girls Junior Varsity Basketball



Pictured front left to right: Edith Garnsey, Sophia Spencer, Gabrielle Seamon, Dakota Butler, and Eleanore Garnsey. Pictured back left to right: Isabelle Seamon, Abigail Diotte, Laken Dyn, Coach Butler, Anna Hawkes, Katrina Schaefer-Gilbert, and Emma White.



Our Girls JV Basketball team took a big 1st place win in their Tip Off Tourney this weekend! Great job ladies!



RSCS Lady Indians took their 4th Tournament Championship in Oriskany at the Holiday Hoops Tournament. They defeated Oriskany 42-34.



RSCS *Indian* **PRIDE**



Winter Boys Modified Basketball



Pictured above: (Front row) Dylan Bruen, Xavier Youker; (Back row) Coach Weingates, Latham McCOORD, Daniel Kane, Liam Onyan, Jacob Silver, and Wesley Kniesley.



For all scheduled RSCS Sports Events, Please visit:
<https://www.schedulegalaxy.com/schools/160>

Winter Girls Modified Basketball



Pictured above: (Front row) Riley O'Connor, Natalie Maine, Madison O'Connor, Natalie Dumond, Camdon Seamon and Alexis Stoddard (Back row) Coach Fahey, Amber Connolly, Abby Hosford, Hunter Ough, Arianna Bevers, Paige O'Connor, Lilly Blackledge and Nina Hula.



For all scheduled RSCS Sports Events, Please visit:
<https://www.schedulegalaxy.com/schools/160>

Winter Girls Varsity Volleyball



Pictured front left to right: Molly Bobnick, Riley Hajczewski, Isabella Valenta, Jayne Synder, and Mackena Salisbury. Pictured back left to right: Coach John Rogers, Shaundah Demorest, Maragret Woroby, Cameran Marshall, Grace Frable, Aeden Osborn, and Coach Corey Patterson.



For all scheduled RSCS Sports Events, Please visit:
<https://www.schedulegalaxy.com/schools/160>

Winter Girls Junior Varsity Volleyball



Pictured front left to right: Alyssa Hunt, Rylie Chenel, Danica Farley, Emily Kenyon, and Shelby Reynolds. Pictured back left to right: Coach Folts, Emma Sheldrick, Madison Martin, Haleigh Lord, and Coach Valenta.

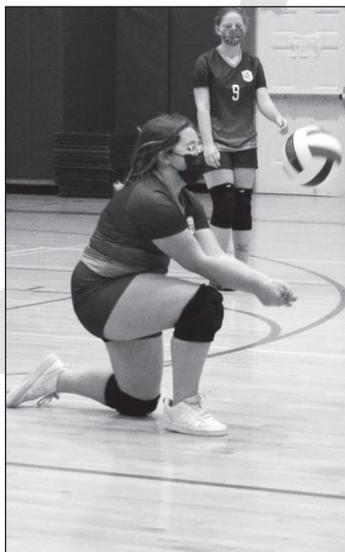


For all scheduled RSCS Sports Events, Please visit:
<https://www.schedulegalaxy.com/schools/160>

Winter Modified Volleyball



Pictured front left to right: Natalie Maine, Morgan Hunt, Lily Richvalsky, Alexis Stoddard, and Autumn Bulger. Pictured back left to right: Coach Pike, Isabelle Weiss, Hunter Ough, Ariana Bowers and Morgan Marriott.



For all scheduled RSCS Sports Events, Please visit:
<https://www.schedulegalaxy.com/schools/160>

RSCS Boys Varsity Basketball Victory at Cooperstown's Dick White Invitational



Top left to right: Brayden Dunckel, Jordan Diliberto, Damon Boss, Dylan Hosford, Clay Bobnick, Andrew Oakley, Aric Steenberg, Vlad Hula, Brogan Graves, Gabe Kilbourn, and Landon Schultz.

The Boys Varsity Basketball Team won Cooperstown's Dick White Invitational over the December Break. Dylan Hosford was named tournament MVP and Jordi Diliberto was named to the all tournament team.



Central Valley Academy Boys and Girls Indoor Track Team Win TVL Pioneer Championship



Pictured above, left to right: Bella Kleban (CVA), Lauren Johnson (RSCS), Emma Donahue (CVA), and Mallory Mower (CVA).



Pictured above: the Central Valley Academy and Richfield Springs Central School combined Boys and Girls Indoor Track Team. All students and coaches were excited and celebrated their successes at the TVL Pioneer Championship.

Congratulations to Lauren Johnson and the Central Valley Academy Girls and Boys Indoor Track Team. Lauren and her team won the TVL Pioneer Championship Friday night at Utica College. In addition to the girls championship, the CVA boys won the TVL Pioneer Championship as well. Lauren contributed 20 points in total, competing in the High Jump, Long Jump, and the third leg of the

4X200 meter relay team. Despite winning the TVL Championship, Lauren's season isn't over yet, she will be competing with her team at the Class A Sectionals on Wednesday in Syracuse, she is running in the 4X200 meter relay event. Lauren has worked hard this season and is looking to finish the indoor season strong and begin preparing for the spring outdoor season.



Proposed 2022-2023 Budget

Proposition One – Basic Budget

Resolved, that the Board of Education is hereby authorized to expend the sum of \$12,903,098 as General Fund Appropriation budget for the 2022/2023 school year and to levy the necessary tax.

This represents a 2.13% budget increase and tax levy increase of .48%.

Proposition Two – Bus Purchase

Resolved that the Board of Education of the Richfield Springs Central School District is hereby authorized to undertake the acquisition of two (2) sixty-four passenger school buses at an estimated maximum cost of \$125,000 each, and (1) van, at an estimated cost of \$35,000, 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 \$285,000. Such taxes shall be levied upon all the taxable property of the District, shall be levied in annual installments and shall be of such amounts and levied in such years as may be determined by the Board of Education. The District Clerk or the Clerk's designee is hereby directed to add the above to the notice of the annual meeting of the School District. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

Proposition Three – Repair Reserve

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Richfield Springs Central School District in the counties of Otsego and Herkimer in the State of New York, is authorized to establish a Repair Reserve Fund and the sum of up to \$100,000 is hereby appropriated to such fund to be transferred from fund balance.

Included in the Proposed 2022–2023 Budget

- Special Education & Title I services
- BOCES programs including Occupational Ed., Special Ed., staff development, etc.
- Programs for at-risk and advanced students
- Adult Education courses & programs
- Purchase of two buses and one student van
- Summer academic & recreational camp program

Voter Qualifications

All voters must have all of the following qualifications:

1. Be a citizen of the United States.
2. Be at least 18 years of age.
3. Be a resident of the school district for at least 30 days preceding the meeting.
(Owning a home in the district does not make the owner a resident; home must be permanent residence.)
4. Not otherwise prohibited from voting (ex. mentally incompetent or convicted felon).

Absentee Ballots

And further notice is hereby given, that applications for absentee ballots will be obtainable during school business hours from the District Clerk beginning Wednesday April 27, 2022; completed applications must be received by the District Clerk at least seven (7) days before the election if the ballot is to be mailed to the voter, or the day before the election if the ballot is to be delivered personally to the voter. Completed absentee ballots must be received by the District Clerk no later than 5:00 p.m., prevailing time, on Tuesday, May 17, 2022.

PLEASE TAKE THE TIME TO VOTE ON TUESDAY, MAY 17, 2022

• BASIC BUDGET • BUS PURCHASE • REPAIR RESERVE • TWO BOARD SEATS

BOARD VACANCIES: The following vacancies are to be filled on the Board of Education: (2) 3-year terms
(Last incumbents) Tom Shypski & Tony Bailey.

Administration

The administrative budget includes those expenses directly related to the functioning of the Board of Education, District Clerk, Superintendent's Office, Business Office, BOCES Administrative charges, and Supervision. The administrative budget is increasing by 3.75%, and makes up 13.50% of the budget.

DESCRIPTION	Adopted Budget 2021-22	Proposed Budget 2022-23	\$ Change	% Change
Board of Education	\$31,940	\$32,441	\$501	1.57%
Central Administration	\$216,406	\$230,410	\$14,004	6.47%
Finance	\$222,338	\$206,317	-\$16,021	-7.21%
Staff	\$71,526	\$72,347	\$821	1.15%
Special Items	\$318,373	\$335,781	\$17,408	5.47%
Supervision and Training	\$335,781	\$363,153	\$22,601	6.64%
Employee Benefits	\$468,410	\$499,211	\$30,801	6.58%
TOTAL ADMIN	\$1,686,953	\$1,750,266	\$63,313	3.75%

Program

The program budget includes those expenses directly related to the teaching of students. Those include teachers, assistants, aides, and other professional salaries, BOCES charges, supplies, textbooks, special education costs, health, guidance, co-curricular activities, and athletics. This area also includes transportation expenses directly related to the functioning of the bus garage and the operation of the bus fleet. The program area shows an increase of 1.98%. Program accounts for 74.30% of the budget.

DESCRIPTION	Adopted Budget 2020-21	Proposed Budget 2021-22	\$ Change	% Change
In-service Training	\$14,433	\$14,730	\$297	2.06%
Teaching Regular School	\$3,181,014	\$3,172,543	-\$8,471	-0.27%
Special Apportionment Programs	\$1,595,340	\$1,648,027	\$52,687	3.30%
Special Schools	\$6,250	\$6,250	\$0	0.00%
Instructional Media	\$599,769	\$713,189	\$113,420	18.91%
Pupil Personnel Services	\$403,041	\$383,235	-\$19,806	-4.91%
Pupil Transportation	\$580,500	\$580,500	\$0	0.00%
Community Service	\$55,000	\$55,000	\$0	0.00%
Employee Benefits	\$2,995,340	\$3,044,033	\$48,693	1.63%
Interfund Transfer to Lunch	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$0	0.00%
TOTAL PROGRAM	\$9,440,687	\$9,627,507	\$186,820	1.98%

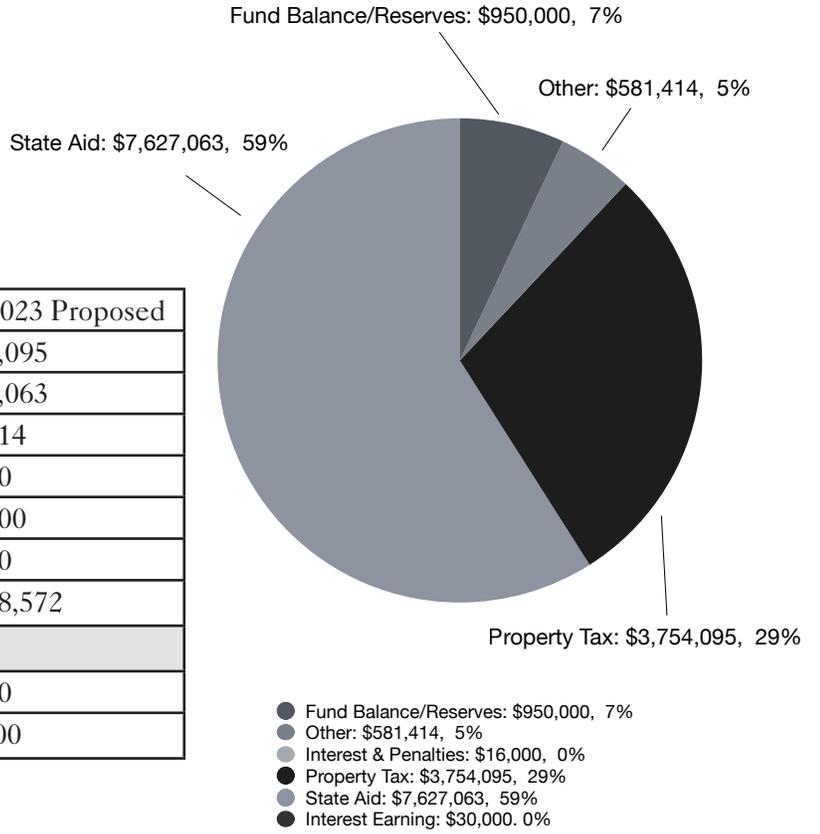
Capital

The capital budget includes Operations and Maintenance expenses including salaries, fringe benefits, utilities, and supplies directly related to the cleaning and maintenance of the District's building and grounds. This portion of the budget also includes principal & interest costs related to previous capital improvement projects. The District receives 82.1% building aid from NYS for this. Borrowing for Buses over five years is reimbursed by NYS at 75.5% including interest over five years. The capital budget is decreasing by 1.28%, constituting 12.20% of total budget.

DESCRIPTION	Adopted Budget 2020-21	Proposed Budget 2021-22	\$ Change	% Change
Operation & Maintenance of Plant	\$780,149	\$788,450	\$8,301	1.06%
Purchase of Buses	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%
Refund of Property Taxes	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$0	0.00%
Employee Benefits	\$193,496	\$207,299	\$13,803	7.13%
Bonds	\$577,200	\$575,050	-\$2,150	-0.37%
Transfer to Capital Fund	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%
TOTAL CAPITAL	\$1,560,845	\$1,580,799	\$19,954	1.28%

General Fund Appropriations by Components

Type	Amount	% of Total
Administrative	\$1,750,266	13.50
Program	\$9,627,507	74.30
Capital	\$1,580,799	12.20
Total	\$12,958,572	100%

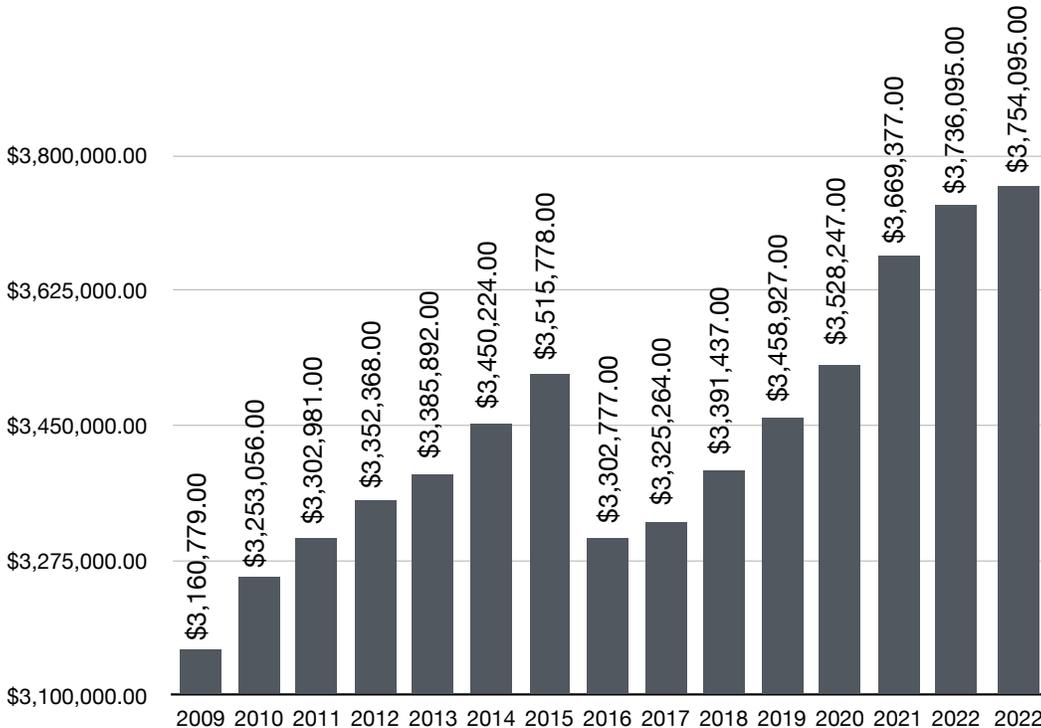


General Fund Revenues

Source	2021-2022 Current	2022-2023 Proposed
Property Tax	\$3,736,095	\$3,754,095
State Aid	\$7,382,476	\$7,627,063
Other	\$573,914	\$581,414
Interest Earning	\$30,000	\$30,000
Fund Balance/Reserves	\$950,000	\$950,000
Interest and Penalties	\$16,000	\$16,000
Total	\$12,688,485	\$12,958,572
Tax on True Rate	10.2800	10.3300
Contingent Cap	\$12,940,572	-\$18,000

Budget School Property Tax Levy History

History of Property Tax at Richfield Springs CSD



Increase .48%

Increase \$18,000
(Below Tax Cap)

2022-2023 Proposed Budget Q&A

Q: What is the increase in the local property tax levy?

A: .48%, this is below the tax cap.

Q: Does the STAR Program still exist?

A: Yes, if you are eligible and enrolled in the STAR program, you'll receive your benefit each year in one of two ways:

- STAR credit check. If you are registered for the STAR credit, the Tax Department will send you a STAR check in the mail each year. You can use the check to pay your school taxes. You can receive the STAR credit if you own your home and it's your primary residence and the combined income of the owners and the owners' spouses is \$500,000 or less.
- STAR exemption: a reduction on your school tax bill. If you've been receiving the STAR exemption since 2015, you can continue to receive it for the same primary residence. As long as you remain eligible, you'll see a reduction on your school tax bill for the amount of your STAR exemption. Note: The STAR exemption is no longer available to new homeowners.
- Enhanced STAR provides a larger exemption on the primary residence for people over 65 years of age and who earn less than \$92,000. The STAR exemption requires an initial application through the local assessor. If you or spouse recently turned 65, or if your income fell below \$92,000 due to changing circumstances, please apply for the Enhanced STAR.

Richfield Springs CSD STAR maximums 2022-23

Municipal Name	Basic	Enhanced
Town of Columbia	\$306	\$684
Town of Exeter	\$299	\$659
Town of Otsego	\$306	\$693
Town of Richfield	\$319	\$664
Town of Springfield	\$302	\$664
Town of Warren	\$296	\$659

Q: How are your dollars spent?

A: By state law the budget is divided into three categories:

- Program: 75 % – This category includes expenses for the instruction and transportation of students.
- Capital: 12% – This category includes capital improvement and operations and maintenance costs.
- Administration: 13 % – This category includes costs for administration, supervision, and legal services.

Q: How is education at Richfield Springs Central School funded?

A: State aid covers approximately 60% of our expenses. Property taxes cover an additional 29% (with STAR paying 4% and local property owners paying 25%) and other sources cover the remaining 11 %.

Q: How much State Aid will we receive next year?

A: Based on the current estimates we are expected to receive approximately \$7,627,063 in State Aid. However, at the time of this printing, state aid figures are not finalized.

Q: What is the difference between the State Aid we received last year versus the State aid we will be receiving this year?

A: The District anticipates receiving \$244,587 more aid for the 2022-2023 school year. General aid is anticipated to increase 3%, while building aid and transportation aid increased slightly.

Q: What does this mean in terms of local tax levy?

A: The Board of Education establishes the final tax levy each August, prior to the printing of our tax bills. Based on the anticipated State Aid, the tax levy increase for 2022-2023 is 0.48%.

Q: How do our school taxes on true value compare to other school districts?

A: Richfield Springs CSD continues to enjoy one of the lowest if not the lowest tax on true rate in the Herkimer County BOCES region.

Q: What has been done to reduce the budget to its present level and limit the taxes?

A: The Board of Education at Richfield Springs CSD works hard to balance the needs of the students and the taxpayers' ability to pay. We have put together a budget that is fiscally responsible and that sustains our educational programs. The district continues to be efficient with the following efforts: making the treasurer position 0.4 FTE with no benefits, the maintenance supervisor at 0.6 FTE BOCES aidable, payroll in-house stipend, maximizing grant funds, and stabilizing health care costs (up only 5.0%) through our well-managed consortium & through meaningful contribution rates for our active employees. We will continue to pursue savings in 2022-2023.

Q: What happens if the budget is voted down?

A: If the proposed budget is voted down the Board of Education has three choices.

1. They can adopt a contingency budget.
2. Put the same budget before the voters for a second vote in June.
3. Revise the defeated budget and put the revised budget up for another vote in June.

Q: What is a contingency Budget?

A: A contingent budget is a budget that includes the minimum funds necessary to operate and to maintain school and educational programs, preserve the property of the district, and to assure the health and safety of the students and staff. Ordinary contingent expenditures are determined by the Board of Education and are subject to certain regulations.

Q: What would the District have to do to develop a contingency budget?

A: The current NYS laws include a new calculated tax levy cap for each school district. Richfield Springs' calculated cap for next year is 0.48%, and our proposed tax levy is 0.48%. If a contingency budget happens, then the tax levy increase would be 0.00%. Certain items would need to be "cut" from the budget, according to State law. This reduction could hurt various educational and extra curricular programs like the summer program, sport programs, and class offerings.

Q: Why do we replace buses every year?

A: The District has had a replacement program in place for over 30 years. Currently, our transportation aid from NYS is 75.5%. We receive the aid the following year for five years, including interest. This allows for lower repair and maintenance costs and improved safety for the students. We plan on borrowing with voters' approval to purchase 2 full-sized gasoline buses and a Van. By trading in older buses earlier, the district receives a higher trade-in value too.

RSCS Students Art Displayed At The Mohawk Valley Center For The Arts “2022 Reflections” Exhibit



Pictured above: Abigail Harris presents her certificate for her artwork being displayed at the “2022 Reflections” art show exhibit.

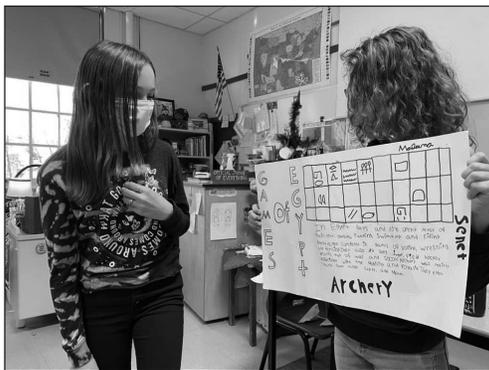


Pictured above: Aubrey Beach and family present her certificate for her artwork being displayed at the “2022 Reflections” art exhibit.



Pictured above: Alana Carter attends the “2022 Reflections” art exhibit. Her artwork is also featured in the show.

Sixth Graders Learn About Ancient Egypt



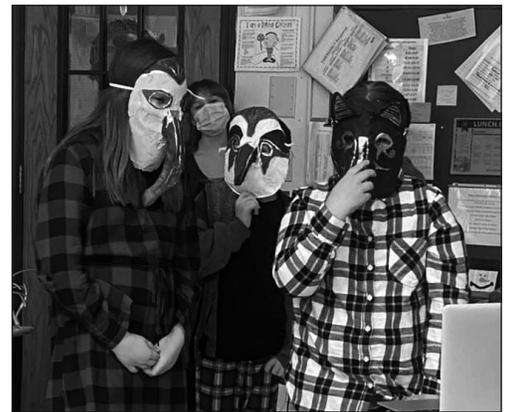
Prior to the holiday break, Mrs. Young’s sixth grade Social Studies students presented their final projects involving Ancient Egypt.

Pictured above; Maleena Brown is presenting (with Dahlia Mead’s help) about games and recreation. Pictured right; Mason Snyder and his boat he built, to accompany his presentation on ancient Egyptian transportation.

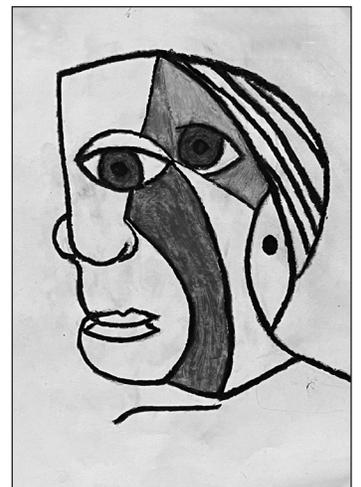
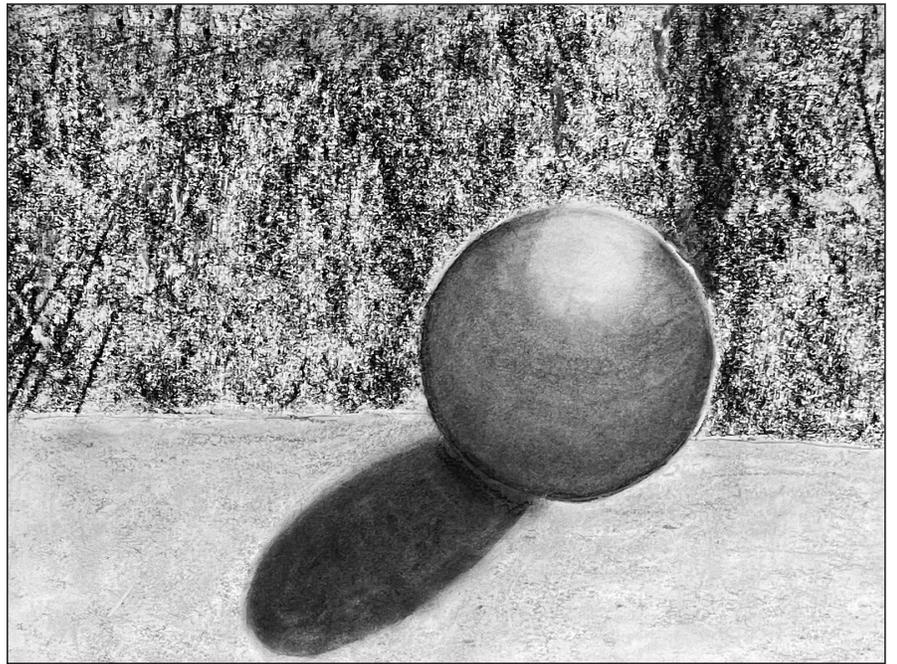
Other projects included a play put on by Lily Coveny who made her own paper mache masks (pictured top right) for the cast members, as well as Mackenzie Burdick who



wrote a play where a pharaoh died. She ‘removed’ her classmate’s organs, sprinkled him with salt to preserve him, and then wrapped him in gauze to mummify him before placing him in his pyramid (pictured bottom right). This group has lots of creativity!



Budding Artists From Around The Building





Richfield Springs Pre-K and Kindergarten Registration

PRE-K

If you are interested in having your child attend PRE-K in September, they must be four years old on or before December 1, 2022.

KINDERGARTEN

If you are interested in having your child attend Kindergarten in September, they must be five years old on or before December 1, 2022.

Contact Lynda Oakes at 315-858-0610 ext. 2351
or by email at loakes@richfieldcsd.org
for a registration packet.

Paperwork needs to be returned by June 30th.





Richfield Springs Central School
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