



# Marathon

## Central School District

MAY 2025

Budget Flyer 2025/26    Vote Date: May 20, 2025 • Noon - 8 p.m. • Jr/Sr HS

### VOTER QUALIFICATIONS

All voters must possess the following qualifications:

1. Be a citizen of the United States
2. Be 18 years of age
3. Be a legal resident of the Marathon Central School District for at least 30 days prior to May 20, 2025.



### ABSENTEE BALLOTS

Applications for absentee ballots for the Marathon Central School District budget vote are available from Heather Frink, District Clerk, 607-849-3117.

Applications may be filled out *in* the District Office until 3:30 pm on Monday, May 19, 2025.

**All absentee ballots must be returned** to the office of the District Clerk by 5 pm on the day of the vote, May 20, 2025.

### SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

On **May 12, 2025 at 6 p.m.**, the Marathon Central School District will hold a Community Forum in the high school auditorium to discuss the proposed budget for the 2025-2026 school year. On the same night we will have a "Meet the Candidates" activity for the community to hear from those District members who have submitted a petition to run for a seat on the Board of Education. That will be followed by a vote on Tuesday, May 20th from noon until 9 p.m. in room 107 of the high school. Signage at the school will direct voters to the voting area.

I am often asked, "When did you start planning for the proposed budget?" The answer has always been, "On the day after the current one was approved." In short, the budgeting process (and the ramifications thereof) is a never-ending story.

Especially for a school district.

Your school board and the administration have to plan to work with a number of students who will be taking a variety of courses. In addition, we have to plan to get the students to and from school, feed them and offer extra-curricular activities, all of which are integral components of the educational experience. In other words, the process is dynamic and ever-evolving.

Then there is the balancing act.

Since the school district needs capital to run, we receive those assets from state taxpayers, from federal taxpayers and from local taxpayers, with a bit of interest from banks thrown in for good measure. This is done while doing our best to be equitable between the educational needs of our student population and the ability of the three groups mentioned above to financially support us.

As of the date I am typing this notice there has been an announcement made by Governor Hochul that we have a state budget for this fiscal year, but she has qualified that pronouncement by saying, "The reality is, we can only devise a budget based on the information we have at this time," she said. "There is a possibility that we'll have to come back later this year and update our budget in response to federal actions."

The Board of Education may not explicitly say the word "budget" all the time, but it is constantly on their minds and the minds of your administrators. The concept of "budget" has impacted nearly every decision made since last May; to balance proposed programmatic needs with fiscal responsibility to our taxpayers.

Please review the information contained in the following pages, get the answers to any questions you may have by communicating with school officials and be sure to exercise your right to vote on May 20th.

**William S. Locke – Acting Superintendent of Schools**

## PROPOSED BUDGET EXPENDITURES - 2025-2026

<b>ADMINISTRATIVE CATEGORIES</b>	<b><u>2024-2025</u></b>	<b><u>2025-2026</u></b>	<b><u>CHANGE</u></b>
BOARD OF EDUCATION	\$19,300	\$19,800	\$500
DISTRICT CLERK	\$5,260	\$5,625	\$365
DISTRICT MEETING	\$1,800	\$1,800	\$-
CENTRAL OFFICE	\$212,200	\$224,200	\$12,000
BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION	\$168,500	\$173,500	\$5,000
AUDITING	\$29,500	\$29,500	\$-
TAX COLLECTOR	\$7,100	\$7,100	\$-
FISCAL AGENT	\$12,000	\$12,000	\$-
LEGAL	\$29,000	\$32,000	\$3,000
SECURITY OF PLANT	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$-
UNALLOCATED INSURANCE	\$65,000	\$65,000	\$-
BOCES ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS	\$575,000	\$600,000	\$25,000
ADMINISTRATION - REGULAR SCHOOL	\$469,700	\$478,800	\$9,100
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	\$620,983	\$640,401	\$19,418
<b>TOTAL ADMINISTRATIVE</b>	<b>\$2,415,343</b>	<b>\$2,489,726</b>	<b>\$74,383</b>
<b>PROGRAM CATEGORIES</b>			
TEACHING - REGULAR SCHOOL	\$5,582,005	\$5,749,600	\$167,595
SERVICES - CHILDREN w/ DISAB.	\$2,598,125	\$2,761,500	\$163,375
OCCUPATIONAL & CONTINUING ED.	\$346,000	\$501,000	\$155,000
SCHOOL LIBRARY AND AUDIO VISUAL	\$109,750	\$110,750	\$1,000
COMPUTER ASST. INSTRUCTION	\$437,000	\$402,000	\$(35,000)
GUIDANCE	\$249,500	\$249,500	\$-
HEALTH SERVICES	\$89,250	\$107,000	\$17,750
PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$-
CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES	\$103,700	\$103,700	\$-
INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS	\$265,500	\$265,500	\$-
DISTRICT TRANSPORTATION	\$717,400	\$821,975	\$104,575
BUS GARAGE BUILDING	\$72,500	\$72,500	\$-
CONTRACT TRANSPORTATION	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$-
COMMUNITY SERVICE - CENSUS	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$-
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	\$5,233,521	\$5,426,190	\$192,669
<b>TOTAL PROGRAM</b>	<b>\$15,810,251</b>	<b>\$16,577,215</b>	<b>\$766,964</b>
<b>CAPITAL CATEGORIES</b>			
OPERATION OF PLANT	\$830,450	\$895,450	\$65,000
MAINTENANCE OF PLANT	\$315,000	\$317,000	\$2,000
SPECIAL ITEMS	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$-
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	\$265,296	\$311,909	\$46,613
DEBT SERVICE	\$2,152,500	\$2,218,500	\$66,000
INTERFUND TRANSFERS	\$127,000	\$127,000	\$-
<b>TOTAL CAPITAL</b>	<b>\$3,691,246</b>	<b>\$3,870,859</b>	<b>\$179,613</b>

<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$21,916,840</b>	<b>\$22,937,800</b>	<b>\$1,020,960</b>
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## HISTORICAL TAX LEVY INCREASES

	<u>MCS D Increase</u>	<u>Allowable Limit</u>
2025-26	1.98%	2.97%
2024-25	0.00%	0.54%
2023-24	1.95%	3.93%
2022-23	1.8%	4.04%
2021-22	2.0%	2.72%
2020-21	2.0%	2.65%
2019-20	1.47%	2.14%
2018-19	1.0%	1.06%
2017-18	0.00%	1.48%

## PROJECTED REVENUE 2025-2026

### GENERAL REVENUES

	<u>2024-2025</u>	<u>2025-2026</u>	<u>CHANGE</u>
Appropriation of Planned Balance	\$75,000	\$75,000	\$-
Interest and Penalties on Taxes	\$12,500	\$12,500	\$-
Student Fees and Charges	\$500	\$500	\$-
Admissions	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$-
Tuition from other Districts	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$-
Medicaid Reimbursement	\$40,000	\$40,000	\$-
Interest and Earnings on Investments	\$25,000	\$65,000	\$40,000
Sale of Equipment	\$12,000	\$12,000	\$-
Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT)	\$27,000	\$27,000	\$-
Medicare Part D Reimbursement	\$75,000	\$75,000	\$-

### STATE AID

Basic Formula / Foundation	\$11,735,000	\$12,123,174	\$388,174
BOCES Aid	\$1,427,793	\$1,639,237	\$211,444
Excess Cost Aid	\$104,427	\$120,590	\$16,163
Hardware, Technology	\$13,726	\$13,683	\$(43)
Textbooks, Software, Library	\$56,526	\$56,383	\$(143)
Transportation Aid	\$922,240	\$889,006	\$(33,234)
Building Projects	\$1,698,718	\$1,835,627	\$136,909

### FEDERAL AID

Universal Pre-K	\$331,003	\$331,003	\$-
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### USE OF RESERVES AND FUND BALANCE

Estimated Fund Balance 6/30 for General Purposes	\$459,310	\$500,000	\$40,690
Transfer from Employee Retirement Contribution Res.	\$150,000	\$195,000	\$45,000
Transfer from Teacher Retirement Contribution Res.	\$200,000	\$230,000	\$30,000
Transfer from Workmans Compensation Reserve	\$90,000	\$85,000	\$(5,000)
Transfer from Unemployment Reserve	\$-	\$-	\$-
Transfer from Employee Benefit Accrued Liability Reserve	\$134,000	\$100,000	\$(34,000)
Transfer from Debt Service Fund	\$-	\$100,000	\$100,000

<b>TOTAL ESTIMATED REVENUES</b>	<b>\$17,613,243</b>	<b>\$18,549,203</b>	<b>\$935,960</b>
<b>ESTIMATED LOCAL TAX WARRANT**</b>	<b>\$4,303,597</b>	<b>\$4,388,597</b>	<b>\$85,000</b>
<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>	<b>\$21,916,840</b>	<b>\$22,937,800</b>	<b>\$1,020,960</b>

**\*\*1.98% INCREASE TO THE TAX LEVY**



**Marathon Central School District**

PO Box 339, 1 E. Main Street

Marathon, New York 13803

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# MARATHON CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT RESIDENT

**DATED MATERIAL - PLEASE RUSH**

## **A MESSAGE TO DISTRICT VOTERS:**

This budget proposal provides educational services for over 700 students, the operation and maintenance of our school buildings, transportation for approximately 95% of the student body, and payment on bonded indebtedness. It has been formulated in public sessions of the Board of Education held on December 4th, January 8th, February 5th, March 5th, and was adopted on April 21st. Required attachments to this budget document are available on the district website <http://marathonschools.org> or in the Main Office of the Junior-Senior High School from 8 am to 3:30 pm Monday through Friday.

**Annual Voting** will take place on **Tuesday, May 20th, 2025 from 12 pm to 9 pm in Room 107 (CSE Office)** of the Jr./Sr. High School. Please enter through the handicap entrance located near the gym. Absentee ballots are also available upon request by calling the District Office at 607-849-3117.

At that time, these items will be presented for voter response:

- 1.** THE PROPOSED 2025-2026 BUDGET.
- 2.** A TRANSPORTATION PROPOSITION FOR THE PURPOSE OF ACQUIRING FOUR NEW DIESEL BUSES.
- 3.** A PROPOSITION TO INCREASE THE LIBRARY LEVY FOR THE PECK MEMORIAL LIBRARY.
- 4.** THE ELECTION OF TWO MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION. TWO POSITIONS, FOR A TERM OF THREE YEARS EACH.

We encourage you to take the time to become familiar with these items and exercise your right to vote.



**Respectfully, Your Marathon Board of Education**

Justin Lilley, President (2027)  
Charlie Forkey, Vice-President (2025)  
Lucas Baker (2026)  
Kimberly Moore (2026)  
Chad Parker (2025)  
Floyd Parker (2027)  
Dick Stearns (2026)