

2025-2026
SCHOOL BUDGET
Key Dates

PUBLIC HEARING &
MEET THE BOARD OF
EDUCATION CANDIDATES

Wednesday, May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2025 6:00 p.m.

**JEMS Library** 

#### **BUDGET VOTE**

Tuesday, May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2025 7:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m. JEHS Events Entrance

#### IN THIS ISSUE

Proposed Budget Summary 2
$\textbf{3-Part Budget Breakdown} \ldots 2\text{-}3$
Class of 2025 Valedictorian and Salutatorian
What's on the Ballot? $\dots \dots \dots 5$
JE Dollars for Scholars 5
BOE Candidates6
Exemplary Literacy Program $\dots 7$
Class of 2025 Top Ten $\dots \dots . 7$
Voter Qualifications 8

## JORDAN-ELBRIDGE

Central School District

### **BUDGET EDITION 2025**



On Tuesday, May 20, 2025, residents will vote on the proposed \$39,585,000 budget for the 2025-26 school year, reflecting a 5.5% spending increase and a 1.5% tax levy increase. This proposal ensures the district's continued commitment to academic excellence while addressing financial realities such as rising operational costs and evolving state mandates.

The state budget, as proposed by Governor Kathy Hochul, allocates only a 2% increase in Foundation Aid for JECSD, equating to approximately \$234,000—well below the annual rate of inflation. While discussions to update New York's outdated school funding formulas are ongoing, no immediate changes are expected to benefit rural districts like Jordan-Elbridge in the upcoming year. Additionally, factors such as rising healthcare costs, inflation, and the required transition to electric school buses by 2027 necessitate careful fiscal planning.

"This budget represents a thoughtful balance," said Superintendent James Froio. "We are committed to providing exceptional educational opportunities for our students by maintaining all student programming and co-curricular activities, keeping class sizes small, and ensuring robust student support services, all while keeping the tax impact manageable for our community."

"The Jordan-Elbridge Central School District remains dedicated to serving students, families, and the community," said Assistant Superintendent R.J. Hartwell. "Through prudent financial management, strategic planning, and an unwavering focus on our mission, vision, and values, the district will continue to thrive in the 2025-26 school year and beyond."

As we approach this important vote, the district encourages community members to stay informed and participate in the process.

Polls will be open on May 20, 2025, from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. at Jordan-Elbridge High School. Voters may access the building via the events entrance. Absentee or early mail ballot requests can be made by contacting the district clerk.

### PROPOSED 2025-2026 BUDGET SUMMARY

#### **ESTIMATED REVENUES**

REVENUE SOURCES	2024-2025 Revised Revenues	2025-2026 Estimated Revenues	% Change	
Tax Levy (Including STAR)	\$13,200,000	\$13,398,000	1.5%	
Other Tax Items	596,552	597,749	0.2%	
Non-property Taxes	20,000	20,000	0%	
Charges for Services	35,000	35,000	0%	
Use of Property	82,000	82,000	0%	
Miscellaneous & Interest	545,000	864,715	37.0%	
State Aid	19,192,648	20,062,536	4.3%	
Federal Medicaid Revenue	25,000	25,000	0%	
Interfund Transfer-EBALR	0	100,000	100%	
Interfund Transfer-TRS	0	150,000	100%	
Interfund Transfer-ERS	0	400,000	100%	
Interfund Transfer-Workers Comp	0	100,000	100%	
Interfund Transfer-Bus Reserve	600,000	650,000	7.7%	
Interfund Transfer-Unemployment	118,800	100,000	(18.8%)	
Appropriated Fund Balance	3,000,000	3,000,000	0%	

Total: \$37,415,000 \$39,585,000 <u>5.5%</u>

#### PROPOSED EXPENDITURES

FUNCTION	Ado	4-2025 opted idget	2025-2026 Proposed Budget	% Change
General Support	\$4,7	37,313	\$4,997,782	5.2%
Instruction	17,8	40,658	19,089,434	6.5%
Pupil Transportation	3,41	5,475	3,693,223	7.5%
Community Service	33	,400	36,000	7.2%
Employee Benefits	7,97	75,559	8,438,750	5.5%
Debt Service	2,89	2,595	2,869,813	(0.8%)
Interfund Transfers	520	0,000	460,000	(13.0%)
	Total: \$37,4	15,000	\$39,585,000	5.5%

#### WHAT THE BUDGET PAYS FOR\*

#### **PROGRAM**

- » Salary and benefits (teachers, counselors, librarians, coaches, teaching assistants, bus monitors, bus drivers)
- » Teacher supplies, materials and equipment, conferences
- » Textbooks and software
- » Sports and cocurricular activities
- » Transportation
- » Library Services

#### **ADMINISTRATIVE**

- » Board of Education expenses
- » District clerk and district meeting expenses
- » Salary and benefits for: superintendent, assistant superintendent, principals/ supervisors, and central office and main office staff
- » Staff development
- » School resource officers

#### **CAPITAL**

- » Salary and benefits (custodial, grounds keepers, and maintenance)
- » Supplies and materials
- » Equipment

- » Water, sewage and utilities
- » Bond principal and interest payments
- » Capital Outlay
- » Bus purchases

\*Summary and not an item-by-item list

## THREE-COMPONENT BREAK DOWN

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

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

## HOW YOUR TAX DOLLARS ARE SPENT

**PROPOSED BUDGET: \$39,585,000** 

Administrative 11.2%

Capital **17.6**%

698 F (Sandan, 2)





### PROPOSED 2025-2026 BUDGET

A LINE-BY-LINE LOOK

#### **GENERAL SUPPORT**

#### 2025-2026 2024-2025 **FUNCTION** % Change **Budget** Proposed **Board of Education** \$19,730 \$19,730 District Clerk 10.000 10.000 0% 0% **District Meeting** 3.150 3.150 **Chief School Administrator** 285,645 375,908 24.0% **Business Administration** 368,813 382,190 3.5% **Auditing** 31.500 34.650 9.1% Tax Collection 13,750 17,250 20.3% **Purchasing** 4,535 4,665 2.8% **Legal Services-Other** 73,800 83,800 11.9% 6,500 6,500 Legal Services-Financial Advisor 0% **Legal-BOCES Services** 26,230 27,017 2.9% Personnel 120,075 120,930 0.7% **Records Management** 2,500 2.500 0% 83.340 85.790 **Public Information & Services** 2.9% Operation of Plant 1,912,400 1,972,750 3.1% Maintenance of Plant 693,180 718,250 3.5% **Central Printing & Mailing** 61,000 77,400 21.2% Central Data Processing 552,105 576.602 4.2% Insurance & BOCES Admin. Services 469,060 478,700 2.0% Total General Support: \$4,737,313 \$4,997,782 5.2%

#### INSTRUCTION

FUNCTION	2024-2025 Budget	2025-2026 Proposed	% Change	
<b>Curriculum Development</b>	\$142,039	\$146,657	3.2%	
Supervision-Regular School	1,080,726	1,040,795	(3.8%)	
Research, Planning & Evaluation	146,625	151,000	2.9%	
In-Service Training	92,250	93,000	0.8%	
Teaching-Regular School	8,089,978 8,494,385		4.8%	
Programs-Students w/Disabilities	4,316,470	4,851,130	11.0%	
English Language Learners	32,500	33,638	3.4%	
Occupational Education	793,884 975,000		18.6%	
Teaching-Special Schools	60,000	61,800	2.9%	
School Library & AV	311,263	324,029	3.9%	
Computer Assisted Instruction	833,610	879,814	5.3%	
Guidance	555,170	619,712	10.4%	
Health Services	189,408	201,750	6.1%	
Psychological Services	169,256	150,125	(12.7%)	
Social Work Services	126,700	96,376	(31.5%)	
Co-Curricular Activities	260,624	293,710	11.3%	
Interscholastic Activities	640,155	676,495	5.4%	

Total Instruction: \$17,840,658 \$19,089,434

#### TRANSPORTATION; BENEFITS; DEBT SERVICE; INTERFUND TRANSFERS

	2024-2025 Budget	2025-2026 Proposed	% Change		2024-2025 Budget	2025-2026 Proposed
PUPIL TRANSPORTATION				EMPLOYEE BENEFITS		
				Employees' Retirement	\$560,595	\$569,000
District Transportation	\$3,234,750	\$3,343,932	3.3%	Teachers' Retirement	1,334,000	1,344,500
Garage Building	160,125	328,175	51.2%	Social Security	1,401,625	1,415,800
Transportation From BOCES	20,600	21,116	2.4%	Workers' Compensation	190,000	190,000
	•	•		Unemployment Insurance	35,000	35,000
Total Pupil Transportation:	\$3,415,475	\$3,693,223	7.5%	Health (Medical)	4,276,340	4,703,450
COMMUNITY SERVICE				Vision & Dental	164,500	164,500
Total Community Service:	\$33,400	\$36,000	7.2%	Employee Tuition	7,500	10,000
•				Total Employee Benefits:	\$7,975,559	\$8,438,750
DEBT SERVICE (PRINCIPAL & INT	EKESI)			INTERFUND TRANSFERS		
Total Debt Service-Construction:	\$2,588,132	\$2,561,813	(1.0%)	Transfer to Special Aid Funds	\$420,000	\$360,000
				Transfer to Capital Fund	100,000	100,000
Total Debt Service-BOCES:	\$304,463	\$308,000	1.1%	Total Interfund Transfers:	\$520,000	\$460,000
				2024-2025 Budget 2025-202	26 Proposed	% Cl

**GRAND TOTAL:** 



\$37,415,000

\$39,585,000

% Change

1.5%

0.8%

1.0%

0%
0%
10%
0%
25%

(16.7%) 0% (13.0%)

Change

5.5%

## JEHS ANNOUNCES CLASS OF 2025 VALEDICTORIAN AND SALUTATORIAN

Jordan-Elbridge High School is proud to announce the Valedictorian and Salutatorian for the Class of 2025: Nicolas Loperfido and Brooke Chiaramonte. These two outstanding students have demonstrated exceptional dedication, leadership, and perseverance throughout their high school careers.

#### NICOLAS LOPERFIDO - VALEDICTORIAN

For Nicolas Loperfido, earning the title of valedictorian is both an honor and a testament to his hard work—though he jokingly admits it also makes him "a nerd." Reflecting on his journey, Nick acknowledges the long nights spent studying and writing essays, especially for Mrs. Hourigan's class, and while he believes he could have put more effort into the little things, he is proud of the work that got him here.

Throughout high school, Nick was a well-rounded student-athlete, participating in football, basketball, and baseball while also being a dedicated member of the National Honor Society and Student Council. As graduation approaches, he is still deciding on his next steps but is considering a future in the medical or engineering fields. While the uncertainty of committing to a career path is daunting, Nick is excited for what's to come.

Before he walks across the stage, however, he's looking forward to making the most of his final months at JEHS. From the senior ball and class trip to the lighthearted moments of the pre-test de-stress event, Nick is eager to soak in every last experience before closing this chapter of his life.

#### **BROOKE CHIARAMONTE - SALUTATORIAN**

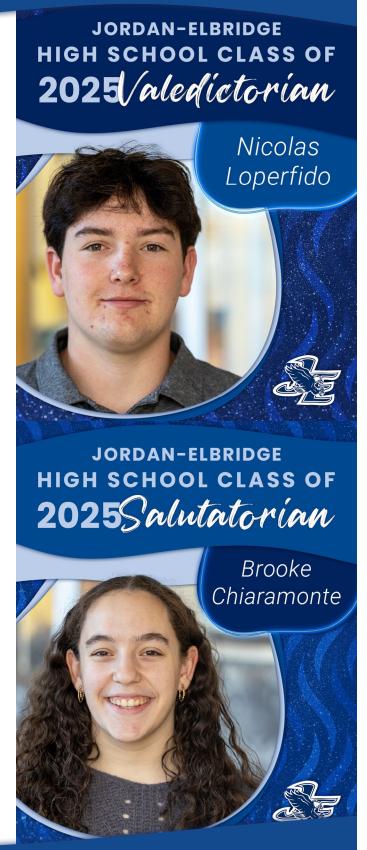
For Brooke Chiaramonte, earning the title of salutatorian is a reflection of both hard work and perseverance. Once she realized she had a chance at being in the top two, she committed herself fully to the challenge, drawing on her natural competitive spirit as an athlete to keep pushing forward. While the journey wasn't always easy, she knows the effort was worth it.

Brooke has been deeply involved in school activities, participating in volley-ball, basketball, softball, the musical program, and serving as both Class President and Student Council President. More than anything, she will miss the unwavering support of the JEHS community. Whether it was on the court, on stage, or even while creating school videos, she always felt surrounded by encouragement. One of her favorite aspects of high school was being recognized as the "TikTok girl"—a nod to her fun and creative presence in school media.

After graduation, Brooke will be attending Genesee Community College to study Communications while playing for the school's volleyball team. But before she embarks on her next journey, she is looking forward to the senior celebrations and creating lasting memories with her classmates—many of whom she has shared the past 12+ years with.

#### A LEGACY OF EXCELLENCE

As Nicolas and Brooke prepare to turn the page to the next chapter of their lives, they leave behind a legacy of academic achievement, leadership, and school spirit. They are currently working on their speeches for high school graduation, which will take place on Friday, June 27, at 7:30 p.m. at the JEHS Stadium.



#### **PROPOSITION 1:**

#### The 2025-26 budget

Shall the proposed 2025-2026 budget for the Jordan-Elbridge Central School District, including the use of up to \$100,000 from the Worker's Compensation Reserve, \$100,000 from the Unemployment Insurance Reserve, \$100,000 from the Employee Benefit Accrued Liability Reserve, \$400,000 from the ERS Reserve, \$150,000 from the TRS Reserve, and \$650,000 from the 2022 School Bus Capital Reserve, in the amount of \$39,585,000, as approved by the Board of Education on April 9, 2025, be adopted?

#### **PROPOSITION 2:**

#### Elbridge Free Library

Shall the annual appropriation for the Elbridge Free Library be increased by the sum of \$10,000.00, to be raised by the levy of a tax upon the taxable property within the Jordan-Elbridge Central School District, in accordance with Section 259 of the Education Law?

#### **PROPOSITION 3:**

#### **Jordan Bramley Library**

Shall the annual appropriation for the Jordan Bramley Library be increased by the sum of \$10,000.00, to be raised by the levy of a tax upon the taxable property within the Jordan-Elbridge Central School District, in accordance with Section 259 of the Education Law?

#### **BOARD OF EDUCATION ELECTION:**

(Four Seats) See page 6 for biographical information of the Board of Education candidates.

#### What if the 2025-2026 budget is not approved?

If voters reject the initial budget proposal on May 20th, the Board of Education has the option of putting the same or a revised budget up for a revote in June. If a proposed budget is defeated twice by voters, the district must adopt a contingent budget.

## A Message From JORDAN-ELBRIDGE DOLLARS FOR SCHOLARS

Did you know that Jordan-Elbridge Dollars for Scholars has awarded over ONE MILLION DOLLARS in scholarships to JE High School graduates since 1985? As part of the nationwide Scholarship America network, our mission is to support students pursuing education at two and four-year colleges, trade schools, technical institutes, and apprenticeships.

We are incredibly grateful for the generous support of our community! Thanks to your contributions and the efforts of the dedicated students who helped prepare donation envelopes during our January fundraiser, we raised money that will go directly toward scholarships for this year's graduating class. Those scholarships will be awarded at our May 18th ceremony.

Want to learn more or make a donation? Visit www.jordan-elbridge.dollarsforscholars.org





## BOARD OF EDUCATION CANDIDATES

Four seats are available on the Jordan-Elbridge Board of Education. Whoever gets the least amount of votes would get the 1 year term to fill an empty board seat.

#### **JODI MAY**

**Spouse:** David May

Children: Tyler - JE Class of 2013 & Christina - JE Class of 2017

Years lived in district: 63 years

**Employment:** Retired from teaching at JE as an elementary teacher for 34 years

**High school & college:** JESCD Class of 1978, Cortland State (BS Degree in Education) Class of 1982, Cortland State (Masters Degree in Reading)

Class of 1985

#### **MATTHEW GARDINER**

**Spouse:** Tracy Gardiner

Children: Seren - Senior & Everett - 8th Grade

Years lived in district: 13 years

**Employment:** U.S. History and Psychology Teacher at Cicero North Syracuse

High School

High school & college: Cato-Meridian High School, SUNY Oswego (B.A.

Secondary Education and Theatre and Masters in Education)

#### **TABITHA DELCOSTELLO**

Spouse: Steven DelCostello

Children: Madison - JE Class of 2024 & Adam - 10th Grade

Years lived in district: 26 years

**Employment:** Accounts Receivable Manager at The QMC Group

High school & college: Baker High School in Baldwinsville, Cazenovia College (A.A.)

#### **SARA AASERUD**

Spouse: Eric Aaserud

Children: Grace - 5th Grade & Isla - 4YP

Years lived in district: 6 years

**Employment:** Contractor for NYSERDA

High school & college: Union Springs High School, Cornell University (B.S.

Mechanical Engineering)





JODI



MATTHEW GARDINER



TABITHA DELCOSTELLO



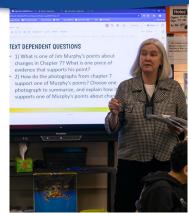
SARA AASERUI

## JEDIS Showcases Exemplary Literacy Program to Seneca Falls CSD

Recently, Jordan-Elbridge Dynamic Intermediate School (JEDIS) had the honor of welcoming educators from Seneca Falls Central School District for an in-depth look at the school's renowned literacy program. The visit provided an opportunity for educators to observe JEDIS' fourth and fifthgrade curriculum in action, highlighting innovative teaching strategies and student engagement in literacy.

JEDIS has built a reputation for excellence in literacy instruction, implementing a well-rounded approach that combines foundational skills with critical thinking and creativity. Students actively participate in reading workshops, guided discussions, and hands-on activities that deepen comprehension and foster a love for literature. The school's curriculum aligns with best practices in literacy education, ensuring students develop strong reading and writing skills that prepare them for lifelong success.

"Our literacy program is designed to not only teach reading and writing but to inspire students to become thoughtful, confident learners," said JEDIS and JEMS Principal Alexis Ridlon. "We focus on meeting each student where they are and providing them with the tools they need to grow. It was a pleasure to share our strategies with the educators from Seneca Falls and exchange ideas on how to continue strengthening literacy education."









# Top Ten Students of JEHS Class of 2025



Jordan-Elbridge High School is proud to announce the Top Ten students of the Class of 2025! These remarkable individuals have shown exceptional dedication to their academics, leadership, and overall commitment to excellence. We are excited to recognize the following students for their hard work and achievement:

- 1. Nicolas Loperfido
- 2. Brooke Chiaramonte
- 3. Amy Lin
- 4. Ayden Campion
- 5. Madison Clochessy
- 6. Roanan Ross
- 7. Kennedy Sims
- 8. Emily Chiaramonte
- 9. Isabella Sauro
- 10. Claire Brown

Each of these students has demonstrated an outstanding work ethic, a passion for learning, and a commitment to their communities. As they continue their journey through high school, they are sure to inspire their peers and make lasting contributions to the school and beyond. Congratulations to the Top Ten of the Class of 2025—your achievements are a testament to your hard work and determination!



#### JORDAN-ELBRIDGE

Central School District

District Office: 9 North Chappell St.

Jordan, NY 13080

Mailing Address: PO Box 902

Jordan, NY 13080

Non-Profit Organization **PAID** Jordan, NY 13080 Permit #5

#### **BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Karen Guerrette. President Tabitha DelCostello, Vice President Molly Godfrey **Kurt Handley** Jodi May

SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

James R. Froio

**Jeffrey Poor** 

**ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT** 

R.J. Hartwell

#### **POSTAL PATRON**

## Please Vote!

Tuesday, May 20th, 2025

**JEHS Events Entrance** 

Voting will take place in-person. Absentee ballots will be available by request. If you'd like one, please contact the District Clerk at 315-689-8500 ext. 5002. All ballots have to be returned to the District Clerk by 5 p.m. on May 20, 2025.

#### WHO CAN VOTE?

#### **Voter Qualifications:**

- » U.S. citizen
- » 18 years of age or older
- » District residency for at least 30 days prior to the vote
- » No voter registration is required







