

Warrior pride

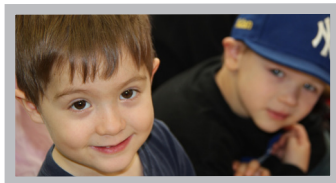
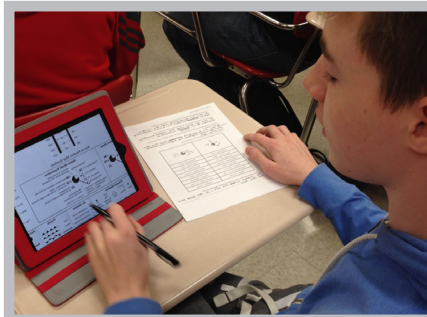
Chenango Valley Central School District
May/Budget 2014

2014-15 Budget Edition

Believe it!



Achieve it!



*Where Warriors
Excel!*

**Budget Hearing &
Meet the Candidates Forum**

May 12, 2014

6 p.m.

Middle School Cafeteria

AT A GLANCE:

- Proposed tax levy decrease: -.44%
- Allowable tax levy increase: -.44%
- Proposed budget increase: 2.26%
- No staff/program cuts

VOTE

May 20, 2014

12 - 9 p.m.

High School Auditorium

Message from the Board of Education president and the superintendent



Gerald Abbey
Board President



David Gill
Superintendent

We are pleased to present you with the 2014-15 Chenango Valley Central School District budget proposal.

School districts statewide continue to be impacted by unfunded mandates, gap elimination adjustments, tax levy limits, escalating costs and more. While these factors are significant, it is important that we remain positive about our future and focused on the reason we are here: our students.

All students deserve a high-quality education that ensures they are college and career ready. At Chenango Valley, our consistently high test scores and graduation rates reflect a commitment to providing students with the education they deserve. Our mission is to *"provide the best possible educational opportunities that promote maximum learning potential for personal growth and social responsibility."*

In developing the budget, we used this mission as our guide, while giving careful consideration to all stakeholders. Our plan allows us to add two (2) additional Academic Intervention Service teachers to the current level of staffing for next year, which will help maintain instructional integrity and effectiveness, as well as provide additional support for our students. No cuts to programs or extra-curricular activities are proposed. The plan also provides for an expansion of instructional technology, particularly through our high school iPad program, incorporating grades nine through 12 in the initiative.

The budget continues to include smaller capital projects that allow us to take advantage of significant state reimbursements that will be received in the following year. This means we'll be able to complete approximately \$100,000 in capital projects at a net cost of about \$19,000. (see article, next page.)

The tax levy limit law enacted in 2011 by New York State (commonly misrepresented as a tax "cap") requires districts to apply an eight-step formula to determine the highest allowable tax levy increase a district can propose that will require approval of a simple majority (more than 50 percent) of voters. If districts choose to propose a tax levy increase above this calculated amount, a "super majority" of more than 60 percent of voters must approve the plan.

Chenango Valley's allowable tax levy limit for 2014-15 is a negative (-).44 percent. This means we are proposing to collect **less** in taxes to support the school budget than we collected for the 2013-2014 school year.

We invite all residents to attend a Meet the Candidates Forum on May 12 at 6 p.m. in the Middle School cafeteria, followed by the annual budget hearing at 6:30 p.m. The district budget vote and school board elections will be held from 12 to 9 p.m. on Tuesday, May 20 in the CV High School auditorium lobby.

Please review the enclosed material, which includes the 2014-15 budget presented in three components, information on the bus purchase proposition, an explanation of the Town of Fenton Library proposition, and statements from our three board of education candidates. For more detailed budget information, please visit our website: www.cvcasd.stier.org.

If you have questions, we encourage you to contact Superintendent David Gill at 762-6810, dgill@cvcasd.stier.org, or School Business Executive Beth Donahue at 762-6803, edonahue@cvcasd.stier.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gerald Abbey".

Gerald Abbey
Board of Education President
Chenango Valley Central School District

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Gill".

David Gill
Superintendent
Chenango Valley Central School District

Proposition for Fenton Library to be on district ballot

Chenango Valley residents voting on the 2014-15 school budget in May will notice something new on the ballot: a separate proposition to fund the Fenton Free Library in Hillcrest.

According to New York State Education Law, libraries within the boundaries of a school district have the right to place a separate funding proposition on the district's ballot. The law provides this as a means for libraries to access community voters and levy taxes.

It is important to note that library funds and school district funds remain separate, and the school district does not have any role in funding, operations or management of the library.



The Fenton Free Library, located at 1062 Chenango Street in Hillcrest.

The proposition is for \$85,000 in annual funding. If the proposition passes, it will be included as a separate line item on residents' tax bills. For information on the impact should the proposition be defeated, or for general information on the proposition, please call 724-8649 or attend an information session scheduled for 7 p.m. May 15 at the library. A Frequently Asked Questions document is available on Town of Fenton website: www.townoffenton.com.

Capitalizing on NYS Building Aid \$100,000 in improvements to cost local taxpayers approximately \$19,000

The district is proposing to take advantage of a New York State Department of Education program that will reimburse a significant portion of school district capital project expenditures up to \$100,000. This means that much-needed building repairs can be accomplished at a greatly reduced cost to local taxpayers.

The state offers school building aid reimbursement for smaller capital projects (up to \$100,000 each year) according to the individual school district's building aid ratio. Based on Chenango Valley's current building aid ratio of 81 percent, if the district completes \$100,000 in capital projects, it will be reimbursed \$81,000 the following year. The aid received on a project next year can be used to offset the cost of a project the following year, creating a cycle of mini-projects primarily funded by building aid. It's an efficient, cost-effective way to keep our buildings and facilities in good working order.

The district plans to use the funding opportunity to finish the bus loop paving project at Chenango Bridge Elementary that was partially done in April of this year. Other projects planned include replacing a handicap-accessible door and repairing a retaining wall, both at Chenango Bridge. The total cost of these three projects is approximately \$100,000; the net cost after building aid reimbursement is approximately \$19,000.



In April, contractors worked on the first phase of the bus loop paving project at Chenango Bridge Elementary. The 2014-15 budget proposal includes funding for completion of the project using an 81% building aid opportunity from the NYS Department of Education.

Bus Purchase Proposition

Voters will be asked to consider a proposition to purchase four (4) buses for the district fleet: two (2) 66-passenger buses at a cost not to exceed \$108,000 each, one (1) 35-passenger buses at a cost not to exceed \$65,000 each, and one (1) 30-passenger wheelchair accessible bus at a cost not to exceed \$70,000. The total cost of the buses will not exceed \$351,000.

The need for new buses

Chenango Valley maintains a fleet of 31 buses. Our buses are normally replaced after approximately 10-12 years and have been driven 100,000 to 120,000 miles. Our goal is to meet the New York State guidelines, which recommend replacing all larger buses every ten years. This helps keep the cost of repairs down, especially since the buses are out of warranty after ten years. It also helps to ensure that our students are being transported in safe, reliable vehicles.

The cost of bus acquisition

Total cost (with interest): \$361,350 to be paid over five years
State aid (75.4%): \$272,594 reimbursed over five years
Total cost to taxpayers: \$ 88,936 spread over five years
Annual cost to taxpayers: \$ 17,787

Average cost per household = \$2.50 per year*

*based on a property value of \$100,000

The exact amount of the cost to each individual taxpayer depends on the property's assessed value, equalization rates established by the towns, and participation in STAR.

Did You Know?

- Our buses traveled a total of 326,316 miles during the 2012-13 school year
- The buses make approximately 2,052 stops each day
- Drivers are required to be certified with a CDL class B license with passenger and school bus endorsements. They are also required to have annual physicals, submit to random drug and alcohol testing, complete refresher training biannually and pass road tests every other year.
- Each bus goes through a 200-point Department of Transportation inspection twice each year. Our most recent DOT approval rate was 98.5%. (A rating of 90% or higher is considered excellent.)

Board of Education candidate

(two seats open, each for five-year terms: July 1, 2014-June 30, 2019)



Stephen Carr

I have lived in the Chenango Valley School District for the last 24 years. My wife Pam and I have four children, two that have graduated from CV and two that are still students in the district. I am a graduate of Oswego State College with a degree in Business Administration, and I work in the insurance and financial services business.

I am an owner of PRL Associates in Endicott. My wife has been a teacher in another district for 23 years. I have been involved in various organizations through the years, including coaching baseball and softball, working with the Boy Scouts, and serving on the Chenango Bridge Community Association. Most recently I served on the committee to study the possible merger with the Chenango Forks district.

Serving on this committee helped me understand the challenges that we will face as a school district in the coming years now that it has been decided that there will be no merger. Being married to a teacher gives me an understanding of the challenges that our educators are facing with the new Common Core standards now in place in New York State.

As we go forward and face more challenges, it is more important than ever that the board of education has an open, transparent relationship with the community. An informed community and informed parents can only help the school district move forward from this point on.

I look forward to working with you all and ask for your support.

Meet the Board Candidates Forum & Public Budget Hearing

sponsored by the Chenango Valley Parent-Teacher Associations

Monday, May 12

6 p.m. - Candidate Forum

6:30 p.m. - Budget Hearing

Chenango Valley Middle School Cafeteria

Board of Education candidate

(two seats open, each for five-year terms: July 1, 2014-June 30, 2019)



Joel Luchun

Since 1970, my family has lived in the Chenango Valley Central School District. I have an engineering degree from the City University of New York and my career spans 20 years as a department manager and a program manager for the Link Division of the Singer Company. Since 1990, I obtained a Master Certificate in Management and

Leadership from Marymount University in Virginia and spent 20 years in government service as a program manager for the headquarters of the USPS and the Securities Exchange Commission for construction programs. I am now retired.

I have a granddaughter who is a junior at the high school and my grandson attends Port Dickinson Elementary School. Waiting in the wings is the littlest future CV Warrior, Lily, who is three years old. My wife is a dedicated 27-year employee of the district who works as an aide with children with special needs.

Over the past few years, we have seen critical items such as the proposed CF merger and the implementation of "Common Core" that can or will have a major impact on our students' education. This has prompted me to run for the school board. As a grandparent, I share the concerns of all parents who desire the best education for their children. I am running so that I can give them a voice.

If elected, I would work tirelessly for issues and concerns of all of our parents and students. Here are some areas that I think I can make a difference:

- Continue the fostering of an atmosphere of open communication and mutual respect among teachers, parents, administration, staff, and educators
- Expanding opportunities for all our students including those with special needs
- Implementing smart financial decisions to manage spending and limit tax increases
- Increasing parent and teacher input and involvement with educational and curriculum issues and approaches

Thank you for consideration and I ask for your vote.

Board of Education candidate

(two seats open, each for five-year terms: July 1, 2014-June 30, 2019)



Michelle Porterfield Wilson

In 2001, my husband, Scott, and I moved back to Chenango Bridge, our hometown. We both graduated from Chenango Valley High School and we wanted to raise our three children, Carter, Nolan, and Adelle (ages 13, 12, and 8, respectively) in this particular school district and community. We feel privileged to give them the same opportunity that we had.

After high school graduation, I studied civil engineering at Johns Hopkins University, in Baltimore, Maryland where I received my Bachelor and Master of Science degrees. I stayed at Hopkins to continue doctoral studies, conducting research, teaching, and consulting for the National Research Council in Washington, DC. Through this last job in particular, I had to balance many constituencies, opinions, weigh choices fairly and explain my thinking.

Through raising our three children, I have had the opportunity to be included in their schools and their organizations. I have been an active member of our community, serving on the board of directors at Chenango Valley Nursery School for seven years, being a Cub Scout leader for five years, and coaching youth sports. Today, I continue to be involved with the Boy Scouts and am actively involved with my children's sports teams. I feel that my education and experience has given me the skills necessary to be a contributing member of the CV Board of Education.

Today our community faces many challenges. Our teachers and students are feeling the pressure from new educational standards and testing, and our schools continue to have budget constraints. Many in our community are facing tough economic times. I feel that it is important for the board of education to find balance between meeting the needs of our students and teachers, while minimizing the tax burden on our residents. We need to be creative so that we can continue to offer our students and teachers the resources and opportunities necessary for a well-rounded education, while not placing unnecessary strain on taxpayers.

With children in three different school buildings at CV, I feel I am aware of many of the concerns of district parents, teachers and students. With my parents and husband's parents both being retired and in our district, I also feel that I am sensitive to the concerns of our taxpayers on fixed incomes. It would be an honor to help move our school district forward and to support the educational system in our community.

ADMINISTRATIVE COMPONENT

Function/Account	2013-2014 Approved Budget	2014-2015 Proposed Budget	Difference
Board of Education	\$41,197	\$39,461	(\$1,736)
District Administration	\$333,985	\$330,227	(\$3,758)
Business Office & Finance	\$591,626	\$641,708	\$50,082
Central Services	\$423,459	\$467,783	\$44,324
Supervision/Curriculum Dev.	\$692,783	\$701,402	\$8,619
Employee Benefits	\$918,458	\$936,934	\$18,476
Total Administrative Component	\$3,001,509	\$3,117,514	\$116,005

CAPITAL COMPONENT

Function/Account	2013-2014 Approved Budget	2014-2015 Proposed Budget	Difference
Operations & Maintenance	\$2,041,458	\$2,037,374	(\$4,084)
Debt Service	\$3,204,809	\$2,937,038	(\$267,771)
Employee Benefits	\$800,415	\$748,741	(\$51,674)
Refund of Taxes	\$7,500	\$7,500	-
Interfund Transfer to Capital	\$100,000	\$100,000	-
Total Capital Component	\$6,154,182	\$5,830,653	(\$323,529)

PROGRAM COMPONENT

Function/Account	2013-2014 Approved Budget	2014-2015 Proposed Budget	Difference
Teaching - Regular School	\$8,276,738	\$8,819,879	\$543,141
Instruction - Special Programs	\$3,248,825	\$3,093,328	(\$155,497)
Instruction - Special School	-	\$150,000	\$150,000
Instructional Media	\$1,423,908	\$1,647,032	\$223,124
Pupil Personnel Services	\$1,035,237	\$957,373	(\$77,864)
Co-curricular & Athletics	\$514,957	\$515,654	\$697
Transportation	\$989,713	\$984,546	(\$5,167)
Interfund Transfer Special Aid & Cafe Funds	\$20,500	\$20,500	-
Community Services	\$7,300	\$7,300	-
Employee Benefits	\$8,635,786	\$8,916,723	\$280,937
Total Program Component	\$24,152,964	\$25,112,335	\$959,371

	2013-2014 Approved Budget	2014-2015 Proposed Budget	Difference
GRAND TOTALS	\$33,308,654	\$34,060,502	\$751,848

ESTIMATED REVENUES

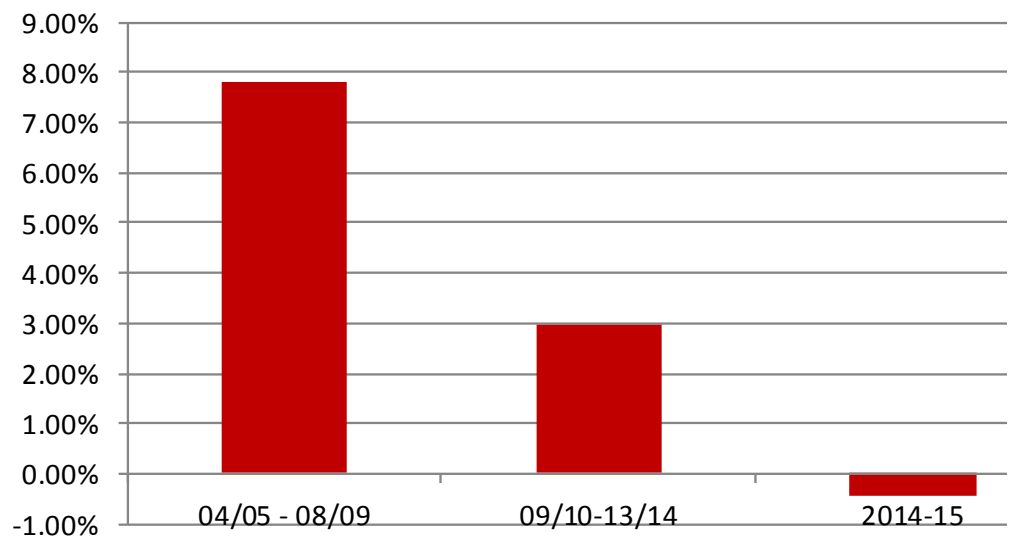
Category	2013-2014 Budgeted Revenue	2014-2015 Proposed Revenue	Difference
Tax Levy	\$18,574,237	\$18,492,561	(\$81,676)
State Aid	\$12,879,660	\$14,108,354	\$1,228,694
Other Revenue	\$920,957	\$1,109,587	\$188,630
Appropriated Fund Balance	\$450,000	\$250,000	(\$200,000)
Appropriated Reserves	\$483,800	\$100,000	(\$383,800)
Total Revenue	\$33,308,654	\$34,060,502	\$751,848

Tax levy increases: 5-year average vs. 2014-15 projected increases

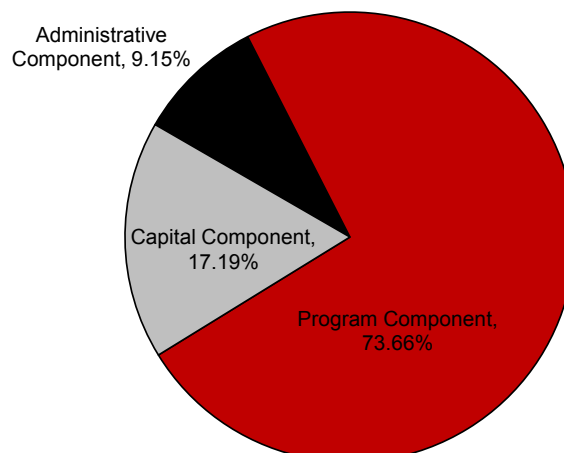
Average annual Tax levy increase

The chart at right shows the Chenango Valley Central School District's average tax levy increases over the past ten years, compared with the tax levy increase proposed for the 2014-15 school year.

The average tax levy increase for 2004-2009 was 7.81%, and for 2010-2014 was 2.95%, compared to the 2014-15 proposed increase of -0.44%.



Budget breakdown: Administrative, capital & program



Chenango Valley Central School District

221 Chenango Bridge Rd.

Binghamton, NY 13901

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Believe It! Achieve It! Where Warriors Excel!



VOTE

May 20 - 12 to 9 p.m.

High School Auditorium

Budget Hearing & Meet the Candidates Forum

May 12 at 6 p.m.

Middle School Cafeteria

Polling location (for all voters)

Chenango Valley High School
Auditorium

On the ballot

CV voters will decide on:

- 2014 - 2015 proposed budget
- two seats on the board of education
- bus purchase proposition
- Fenton Library funding
(separate from CVCSD budget)

What if the budget doesn't pass?

The board of education will either:
(1) make changes to the budget and hold a second vote; or (2) adopt a contingency budget. If a contingency budget is adopted, all equipment purchases would be eliminated and other cuts would be made to remove \$172,800 from the budget.

More information:

District Office - 221 Chenango Bridge Rd.

Website - www.cvcscd.stier.org

Superintendent David Gill:

762-6810; dgill@cvcscd.stier.org

School Business Executive Beth Donahue:

762-6803; edonahue@cvcscd.stier.org

Voter eligibility

To vote, you must be:

- 18 years of age or older
- a U.S. citizen
- a resident of the school district for at least 30 days (proof of residency is required: NYS driver's license, sheriff's ID card, senior citizen ID card or utility bill indicating residency)

Absentee ballots

Absentee ballots may be obtained through District Clerk Susan Cirba, 762-6812. Absentee voters must verify voter eligibility and provide an eligible reason for their inability to vote in person.

If the absentee ballot will be mailed to the district, it must be received by the clerk at least seven days prior to the vote. If the ballot will be hand-delivered, it must be received by the day before the vote.

The district will automatically mail absentee ballots to voters listed as "permanently disabled" on the Board of Elections registration list. For more information on absentee ballots, please call Susan Cirba at 762-6812.

Directory

Website	www.cvcscd.stier.org
CV School District Main Number	762-6800
Board of Education	
Gerald G. Abbey Jr.....	722-5474
James DeGennaro	773-8078
Stuart W. Elliott.....	648-6061
John Hussar.....	773-8196
Terrence M. Kane	648-4499
Lynn M. Kaufman.....	221-6240
Steve Randall	724-4823
Eric Rifenbury.....	348-4294
Maureen A. Roberts	724-3621
Superintendent of Schools	
David Gill	762-6810
Interim Assistant Superintendent of Schools	
Mary Beth Hammond	762-6811
District Clerk	
Susan Cirba	762-6812
Communications/Newscaster	
Linda Snyder.....	762-6804

Offices

Athletics	762-6904
Food Service	762-6840
Guidance.....	762-6918
Special Education Department	762-6830
Transportation Department	762-6850

Schools

Port Dickinson.....	762-6970
Attendance	762-6977
Health Office.....	762-6976
Chenango Bridge.....	762-6950
Attendance	762-6954
Health Office	762-6952
Middle School.....	762-6902
Attendance	762-6931
Health Office.....	762-6911
Homework Hotline - Grey	762-6870
Homework Hotline - Red.....	762-6872
High School	762-6900
Attendance	762-6931
Health Office.....	762-6911