

McGraw Central School District

# Budget Proposal

# 2013-2014

[www.mcgrawschools.org](http://www.mcgrawschools.org)

May 2013



## **ANNUAL VOTE**

**May 21 ♦ Noon to 8 pm**

**McGraw High School Auditorium Foyer**

## **PUBLIC HEARING**

**May 8 ♦ 6:00 pm**

**McGraw High School Library**

*Absentee ballots can be obtained  
from the District Office,  
PO Box 566, Academy Street  
McGraw, NY 13101*

**Maximum Fulfillment of Each Student's Potential**

## Economics and Academics Go Together

The last three years have been very difficult for school districts and their budgets. I believe we may be turning the corner to a brighter economic future. Since becoming the superintendent, we have operated under four solid budgeting principles.

### 1. We are completely and unwaveringly committed to serving the interests of students.

At McGraw, we continue to add programs, staff, and equipment. Through the award of two grants, one from the governor's office and one from the Federal Government, we have been able to accomplish the following:

- Purchase 20 IPADS for both buildings
- Reinstate the library media specialist position at the high school
- Create and sustain a reading intervention program for middle school students
- Host two book events for students and the community at the elementary school
- Purchase a credit recovery program to help increase McGraw's graduation rate
- Purchase books, software and materials for staff and students in grades K-12
- Provide staff development for teachers and staff in reading, vocabulary and more
- Purchase workstations for students using E-readers
- Purchase books for both libraries and for students
- Fund two teaching assistants to work with parents and students
- Provide professional development for teachers and staff

### Board of Education

Tony Opera, President  
Barb Closson, Vice-President  
Cindy Buerkle  
Steve Jenney  
Cheryl Kenyon  
Al Mosher  
Stephen Tobias

### 2. We are committed to exercising care and good judgment in managing the resources with which we are entrusted.

- This year we will complete the 8.5 million dollar building project under budget. With the savings we have purchased \$150,000 in LED lights. These lights not only save electricity and money, but also save labor hours for repairs and replacements.
- We have also made a complete conversion to the BOCES for our business office. This service is 80% aidable.
- We have also converted our technology services to the BOCES also 80% aidable. Not only has this service saved the district money, we have a better service for staff, students and parents.
- We continue to share services with other districts. Currently we share our Family and Consumer Science teacher with LaFayette.
- We are committed to conducting our business in an open, objective, and professional manner.
- We held several budget meetings in the library which were open to the public.



### 3. We are committed to conducting our business in an open, objective, and professional manner.

- We held our first meeting with the community on March 27<sup>th</sup>, in the Community Building.
- We are hoping by bringing our presentation to the community building, more people could attend.
- In all of our budget decisions, we made decisions that were best for students, instruction and for district savings.

### 4. We are future-focused planning and committed to constant improvement.

- Currently we are examining a future building project that would focus on energy savings for the district and be offered at no cost to the district.
- We are continuing with our yearly NetZero projects that focus on energy savings and monies used are reimbursed to the district by state funding.
- We are preparing for changes in technology by completely revamping our server room. This project was 80% aidable through BOCES and saves the district over \$10,000 a year in electricity savings.
- We are also reviewing the building condition survey for all buildings in the district. We are preparing a five year plan to help keep all buildings at their prime condition.

In closing, we have been working on planning for the future. Without a plan, you do not know where you are going and will end up someplace you may not want to be. We currently have designed a five-year financial plan, a five year facilities plan and a five year instructional plan. As always, the Board and I are committed to make the best of your dollars work the best for our students.

Sincerely,

*Mary E. Curcio*

Mary E. Curcio,  
Superintendent



### District Vision Statement

The Mission of the McGraw Central School District is to pursue the maximum fulfillment of each student's potential. We will accomplish this by identifying student outcomes based on excellence, fostering and enhancing student opportunities, emphasizing student enthusiasm, and promoting parent, school, and community involvement.

## 2013-14 Property Tax Report Card

	Budgeted 2012/13 (A)	Budgeted 2013/14 (B)	Percent Change (C)
Total Proposed Spending	\$10,845,245	\$11,623,882	7.18%
Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, including Tax Levy to Support Library Debt <sup>1</sup>	\$2,861,616	\$2,918,848	2.00%
Permissible Exclusions to the School Tax Levy Limit	\$169,480	\$87,561	
Proposed School Year Tax Levy, not including Levy for Permissible Exclusions or Levy to Support Library Debt	\$2,692,137	\$2,831,287	
School Tax Levy Limit, not including Levy for Permissible Exclusions <sup>2</sup>	\$2,837,976	\$2,919,707	
Difference (positive value requires 60.0% voter approval)	-145,840	-88,420	
Public School Enrollment	544	540	-0.74%
Consumer Price Index			2.1%

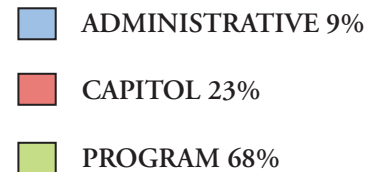
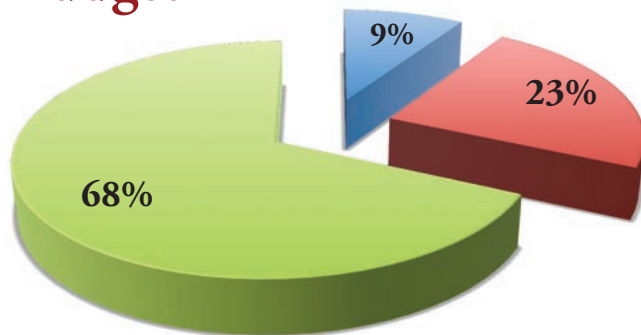
<sup>1</sup> All proposed levies should exclude any prior year reserve for excess tax levy, including interest.

<sup>2</sup> For 2013-14, includes any carryover from 2012-13 and excludes any tax levy for library debt prior year reserve for excess tax levy, including interest

	Actual 2012/13 (D)	Estimated 2013/14 (E)
Adjusted Restricted Fund Balance	\$2,113,678	\$2,134,815
Assigned Appropriated Fund Balance	\$651,677	\$651,677
Adjusted Unrestricted Fund Balance	\$433,810	\$464,955
Adjusted Unrestricted Fund Balance as a Percent of the Total Budget	4%	4%



### 3-Part Budget



THE ACTUAL CHANGES IN APPROPRIATIONS UNDER A CONTINGENCY BUDGET  
WOULD BE DETERMINED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION SHOULD THIS BE NECESSARY.

## 2013-2014 Budget Proposal

Description	Administrative	Program	Capital
Total Board of Education	\$10,200		
Total District Clerk	\$1,711		
Total District Meeting	\$2,150		
Total Superintendent's Office	\$152,562		
Total Business Administration	\$213,169		
Total Auditing	\$23,000		
Total Tax Collector	\$5,700		
Total Fiscal Agent	\$5,000		
Total Legal	\$10,000		
Total Personnel	\$45,139		
Total Operation of Plant			\$673,595
Total Maintenance of Plant			\$218,507
Total Printing and Mailing	\$11,800		
Total Unallocated Insurance	\$53,000		
Total BOCES Admin Costs	\$39,007		
Total Curriculum Development		\$76,000	
Total Supervision-Regular School	\$241,305		
Total Inservice Training		\$10,599	
Total Teaching Regular School		\$2,952,576	
Total Students w/disabilities		\$920,860	
Total Occupational Education		\$289,245	
Total Summer School/Special Schools		\$30,299	
Total Library/Audiovisual		\$78,325	
Total Computer Assisted Instruction		\$381,424	
Total Guidance		\$274,651	
Total Health Services		\$55,329	
Total Psychologist Services		\$57,734	
Total Social Work Services			
Total Co-Curricular		\$31,779	
Total Interscholastic Athletic		\$95,112	
Total District Transportation		\$335,393	
Total Garage Building		\$24,115	
Total Contract Transportation		\$387	
Total Community Recreation		\$500	
ERS	\$23,126	\$191,595	\$15,733
TRS	\$61,753	\$553,618	
FICA	\$40,257	\$333,514	\$27,386
Workers Compensation	\$7,418	\$61,456	\$5,046
Unemployment Insurance	\$5,018	\$41,569	\$3,413
Health and Dental Insurance	\$132,043	\$1,093,942	\$89,828
Other Employee Benefits	\$1,003	\$8,314	\$683
Total Debt Service			\$1,506,996
Interfund Transfers			\$100,000
	<b>\$1,084,360</b> <b>9.33%</b>	<b>\$7,898,335</b> <b>67.95%</b>	<b>\$2,641,187</b> <b>22.72%</b>

## 2012-13 Budget Notice Post Card

	Budget Adopted for 2012/13	Budget Proposed for 2013/14	Contingency Budget for 2013/14
Total Budgeted Amount	\$10,845,245	\$11,623,882	\$11,566,650
Increase/Decrease for the 2013-14 School Year		\$778,637	\$721,405
Percentage Increase in Each Proposed Budget		7.18%	6.65%
Change in Consumer Price Index		2.1%	
Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, including Levy to Support Library Debt, if applicable	\$2,861,616	\$2,918,848	\$2,861,616
Total Permissible Exclusions	\$169,480	\$87,561	
A. Proposed School Year Tax Levy, <u>Not</u> Including levy for permissible exclusions or Levy to support Library Debt	\$2,692,137	\$2,831,287	
B. Proposed School Year Tax Levy, <u>Not</u> Including levy for permissible exclusions	\$2,837,976	\$2,919,707	
Difference A-B (Positive value requires 60.0% Voter Approval - see note below regarding Seperate Propositions)	(\$145,840)	(\$88,420)	
Administrative Component	\$1,089,285	\$1,084,361	\$1,079,022
Program Component	\$7,286,714	\$7,898,335	\$7,859,446
Capital Component	\$2,469,246	\$2,641,187	\$2,628,182

The contingency budget is based upon the following assumptions: The required Tax Levy will default to the previous year's tax levy allowing for reductions in appropriations for some expenses such as: legally prohibited expenses for the purchase of equipment, confidential employee salary increases, public use of facilities, and allocations to the repair reserve fund are excluded. The actual changes in appropriations under a contingency budget would be determined by the board of education should this be necessary.

### Basic STAR Exemption Impact

Estimated Basic STAR<sup>1</sup> Exemption Savings

**Budget Proposed for the 2013-14 School Year**

**Basic STAR Tax Savings**

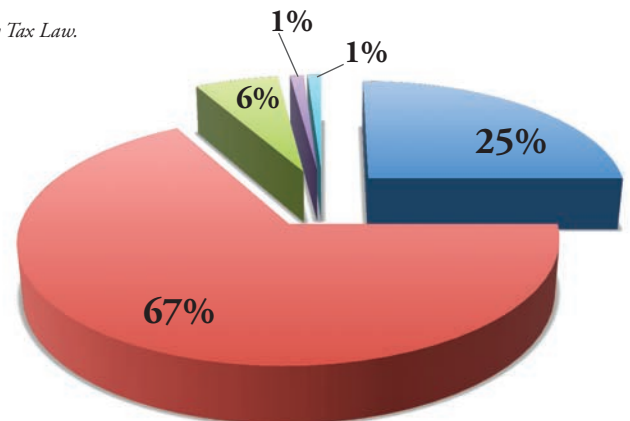
**544.42**

The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2013-14 by the qualified voters of the McGraw Central School District, Cortland County, New York will be held at McGraw High School in said district on Tuesday, May 21, 2012 between the hours of 12:00 P.M. and 8:00 P.M. prevailing time in the McGraw High School at which time the polls will be opened to vote by voting machine.

<sup>1</sup>The basic school tax relief (STAR) exemption is authorized by section 425 of the Real Property Tax Law.

## Revenue Overview

- TAX LEVY 25%
- STATE AID 67%
- APPROPRIATED FUND BALANCE 6%
- RESERVES 1%
- MISCELLANEOUS 1%



# 2013-2014 Budget Proposal



## Estimated 2013-14 Tax Bills

	<i>No Star</i>	<i>Basic Star</i>	<i>Enhanced Star</i>
\$40,000	\$722.36	\$180.59	---
\$50,000	\$902.94	\$361.18	---
\$60,000	\$1,083.53	\$541.77	---
\$70,000	\$1,264.12	\$722.36	\$120.99
\$80,000	\$1,444.71	\$902.94	\$301.58
\$90,000	\$1,625.30	\$1,083.53	\$482.17
\$100,000	\$1,805.89	\$1,264.12	\$662.76

## Estimated Increase Based on BASIC STAR

	<i>2012-13</i>	<i>2013-14</i>	<i>Estimated Increase</i>
\$40,000	\$177.05	\$180.59	\$3.54
\$50,000	\$354.10	\$361.18	\$7.08
\$60,000	\$531.14	\$541.77	\$10.62
\$70,000	\$708.19	\$722.36	\$14.16
\$80,000	\$885.24	\$902.94	\$17.70
\$90,000	\$1,062.29	\$1,083.53	\$21.25
\$100,000	\$1,239.33	\$1,264.12	\$24.79
<b>Basic Star Savings</b>	<b>\$531.14</b>	<b>\$541.77</b>	



## Estimated Rates based on 2012-13 Assessments and Equalization Rates

	<i>2012-13</i>	<i>2013-14</i>
Cortlandville	\$17.70	\$18.06
Freetown	\$18.07	\$18.43
Homer	\$17.70	\$18.06
Solon	\$18.25	\$18.62
Taylor	\$19.24	\$19.63
Truxton	\$22.41	\$22.86
Virgil	\$17.70	\$18.06
District	\$17.70	\$18.06

Actual Increase  
Per Thousand

\$0.35



## Propositions

### PROPOSITION I – Purchase of a 66-Passenger Bus and a Suburban

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the McGraw Central School District, Cortland County, New York, is hereby authorized to pay the cost of the purchase of one 66-passengerschool bus and one suburban, including incidental expenses in connection therewith, at a maximum estimated cost of not exceeding \$152,000.00, 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 shall be issued.

### PROPOSITION II – Capital Reserve Fund

Resolved that the Board of Education of the McGraw Central School District, Cortland County, NY, is hereby authorized to reconstruct and repair water lines at School District facilities, including incidental improvements and expenses in connection therewith, at a maximum estimated cost of \$25,000.00, and that said amount, or so much thereof as may be necessary, shall be expended from the Capital Improvement Reserve Fund of the District established in 1998 therefore, the probable term of which is hereby authorized to be extended until June 30, 2025.

### PROPOSITION III – Lamont Library

Shall the Board be authorized to increase the taxes levied annually by the amount of \$1,750 to the sum of \$26,750 and to pay over said monies to the Lamont Memorial Free Library.

Applications for **absentee ballots** may be applied for at the office of the District Clerk. Such applications must be received by the District Clerk at least seven days before the vote set in this notice if the ballot is to be mailed to the absentee voter, or the day before the vote if the ballot is to be delivered personally to the absentee voter. **Absentee ballots must be received in the office of the District Clerk of the District not later than 5:00 p.m. on the day of the vote.**





# Absentee Ballot

The use of Absentee Ballots has been authorized by the Board of Education for all school district elections and referendums. Listed below are the regulations:

1. The applicant must be a citizen of the United States, 18 years of age by the date of election, and a resident of the school district for 30 days immediately preceding the date of the election.
2. The applicant must be unable to appear in person to vote on that day for one of the following reasons:
  - The applicant is a patient in the hospital or unable to appear because of physical disability or illness;
  - The applicant’s duties, occupation or business require him/her to be outside the county of residence;
  - The applicant will be on vacation outside the county of residence;
  - The applicant will be detained in jail awaiting trial or grand jury action, or has been sentenced after conviction for an offense other than a felony, or
  - The applicant expects to be absent from the district on the day of election by reason of accompanying his/her spouse, parent, or child who, if said spouse, parent, or child were a qualified voter, would be entitled to vote by Absentee Ballot.
3. Notwithstanding the above, any qualified voter of the district who is unable to appear personally at the polling place by reason of permanent illness or physical disability and whose registration record has been marked “permanently disabled” by the Board of Elections and who has previously applied for an Absentee Ballot shall be entitled to receive subsequent Absentee Ballots without separate application.

**Application for Absentee Ballot** - Anyone wishing to vote by Absentee Ballot should request one from the District Clerk. An application is included below for your convenience. The ballot may not be counted unless a signed application form is returned. If any Absentee Ballot is to be mailed to the voter, the application must be received by the district clerk at least seven days prior to the election. If the absentee ballot is to be hand delivered to the voter, the application must be received by the district clerk at least one day prior to the election.

**Absentee Ballot Application** - As of the school district election to be conducted on May 15, 2012, I will be over 18 years of age, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of the District for 30 days preceding the election. I will be unable to appear in person to vote on that day because (check one):

- I will be a patient in the hospital or unable to appear because of illness or physical disability.
- My duties, occupation or business require me to be out of county of residence.  
A brief description of my duties and circumstances on my account of which I will be absent are as follows:
  - I will be on vacation outside of my county of residence. I expect to begin my vacation on \_\_\_\_\_ and end on \_\_\_\_\_. I expect to spend my vacation at \_\_\_\_\_.
  - The address of my employer is \_\_\_\_\_ I am/am not self employed.
  - I will be detained or confined to jail awaiting action of the grand jury.
  - I will be detained or confined to jail after conviction of an offense other than a felony.
  - I am a qualified voter who will be accompanying a spouse, child, or parent of a person who would be entitled to vote by Absentee Ballot and I will be out of my county of residence by reason of accompanying said person.

I HEREBY DECLARE THAT THE FOREGOING IS A TRUE STATEMENT TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE AND BELIEF, AND I UNDERSTAND THAT IF I MAKE ANY MATERIAL FALSE STATEMENT IN THE FOREGOING STATEMENT OF APPLICATION FOR ABSENTEE BALLOT, I SHALL BE GUILTY OF A MISDEMEANOR.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_



## Lamont Memorial Free Library

5 Main Street, P.O. Box 559, McGraw, NY 13101

(607) 836-6767

### *Have you visited your local library lately?*

The Lamont Memorial Free Library has something for everyone! There are over 14,000 books (fiction and nonfiction) and 44 different magazine titles for all ages. You may borrow a Nook Color, DVDs/videos, books on tape/cd, or downloadable audio books and eBooks for your home computer, e-reader, or mobile device. The library offers WIFI and 6 internet access computers with 55 databases that may be used by library patrons. So many resources and all you need are a library card and current account!

The library is also a great place to join friends and neighbors for a variety of programs such as: a weekly Thursday and Friday morning Preschool Storytime, a weekly Saturday morning Books and Babies program for parents and their babies (birth to 2 years), a five week Summer Reading Program for preschoolers – adults with special visiting artists such as storytellers, puppeteers, musicians, dancers and actors, Beginner Quilting classes and Puppet Pals in May to teach children how to make and use puppets.

We are pleased to report that many of you have indeed visited your local library. In 2012, 16,660 items circulated and 3,959 patrons used the computers. 146 program sessions were held at the library and community center with a total of 2,393 in attendance. Providing library services and programs come with expenses. An increase in these expenses are occurring: Employee salaries and benefits, Internet connection costs, Online catalog contract

The Library Board of Trustees relies on both public and private funding to maintain the library and its services. We are asking for an additional \$1,750 (from \$25,000 to \$26,750) in library tax to help meet our increased expenses. Our last increase was received in 2008. We are pursuing other sources of funding as well. The following is an example of our request:

<b>Lamont Free Library Estimated Bills</b>			
	<i>2012-13</i>	<i>2013-14</i>	<i>Increase</i>
\$40,000	\$6.19	\$6.62	\$0.43
\$50,000	\$7.73	\$8.28	\$0.54
\$60,000	\$9.28	\$9.93	\$0.65
\$70,000	\$10.83	\$11.59	\$0.76
\$80,000	\$12.37	\$13.24	\$0.87
\$90,000	\$13.92	\$14.90	\$0.97
\$100,000	\$15.47	\$16.55	\$1.08

<b>Lamont Free Library Estimated Rates</b>		
	<i>2012-13</i>	<i>2013-14</i>
Cortlandville	\$0.15	\$0.17
Freetown	\$0.16	\$0.17
Homer	\$0.15	\$0.17
Solon	\$0.16	\$0.17
Taylor	\$0.17	\$0.18
Truxton	\$0.20	\$0.21
Virgil	\$0.15	\$0.17
District	\$0.15	\$0.17
Actual Increase Per Thousand		\$0.01

We respectfully ask for your support so that we can continue to offer quality services and meet our increased costs. Thank you for your consideration, support and confidence in the Lamont Memorial Free Library.

Sincerely,  
The Lamont Memorial Free Library Board of Directors

## McGraw Central School District HIGHLIGHTS



### Cortland County Youth of the Year

Tiffany LaVancha, a senior at McGraw was recently voted as Cortland Counties Youth of the Year. Her dedication to the community and her perseverance to overcome obstacles in her life has proven to make her an excellent choice for this award. As Tiffany's principal, I am proud of her accomplishments both in and outside of school and I believe that she is very deserving of this honor.

### Lexus Eco-Challenge Team

Mrs. Lener and 10 of her students won a National Contest and a prize of \$10,000 for our district and the 10 team members. The club will be doing a presentation at a future Board of Education meeting, where they will discuss their accomplishments thus far and what the future holds for such a prestigious accomplishment. Our

Environmental Club is very active in our community and we as a district are proud of their accomplishments. We look forward to their success as they compete in the 2nd level of the Lexus Eco-Challenge in the hopes of winning additional prize money.

### Spring Musical – *“You’re A Good Man, Charlie Brown”*

The cast and crew for the musical worked long and hard for their shows on March 15th and 16th. The show was a great success with a full auditorium both nights. A sneak preview was done for all district students to see on March 15th—the program was enjoyed by everyone—with many students anxious to become part of the cast and crew in the years to come. We look forward to hear what the plans are for next year's musical production.

### Basketball Season

Our varsity basketball team had a great season, achieving their goal of being CCL champs and they had the opportunity to play in the Section III quarter and semi-final games. The kids worked hard to achieve their goals and represented our school well. We are proud of their hard work and their positive representation.

### Soccer Season

Our varsity girls and boys soccer teams both placed 2nd in the CCL League during the 2012 fall season. They also qualified for sectional play representing our district in a positive manner. Ten members of the boys varsity soccer team also qualified for the Scholar Athlete Award for maintaining a combined average of at least 90%.





**McGraw Central School District**  
PO Box 556  
Academy Street  
McGraw, NY 13101

Non-Profit Organization

**U.S. Postage Paid**

**Permit No. 1**

McGraw, NY 13101

ECRWSS  
POSTAL CUSTOMER

*McGraw Central School District*

**BUDGET PROPOSAL**

**2013 2014**

**ANNUAL VOTE** – May 21  
Noon to 8 pm ▶ McGraw HS

**PUBLIC HEARING** – May 8  
6:00 pm ◀ McGraw HS

