**

**BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Michael Mishook, President

Amey Rusak, Vice President

Pamela Cleveland, Member

Olivia Krezenski, Member

Dr. Susan Narby, Member

Scott Ward, Member

Jennifer Yartym, Member

Theresa McKenna, Business Adm.

Donna Patterson, District Clerk

BATH CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Home of the Haverling Rams

25 Ellas Avenue ▪ Bath, New York 14810

www.bathcsd.org

**Joseph L. Rumsey**

Superintendent of Schools

**Press Release May 1 2023**

Bath Central School District Board Approves Budget

At the recent April meeting, the Bath (Haverling) Central School District Board of Education approved the proposed 2023-2024 general operating budget to be submitted for voter approval on May 16, 2023.

The Board of Education unanimously agreed to authorize a proposed budget of $43,301,542 for the 2023-24 school year. Due to an increase in NYS Foundation Aid and proper conservative planning, the Board has authorized this proposed budget with **NO INCREASE (0%)** to the tax levy. ***It is important to note that due to NO INCREASE to the tax levy, it is anticipated that this will result in a DECREASE in the tax rate for the upcoming school year based on historical trends in property assessments***.

The largest area of increase comes in hikes in minimum wage, significant spikes in insurance costs, rising energy costs, and due to state and federally required special education costs including transportation and instructional services. Cost savings will be achieved by continuing shared services within the areas of business functions, transportation, and special education with neighboring school districts. The district is receiving additional revenues through added rental agreements with GST BOCES and other non-profit organizations as well.

According to Board President Michael Mishook, “We are pleased to present a budget that maintains our strong academic programs and opportunities for students while minimizing the impact to taxpayers. Through an increase in state aid and a strategic use of our fund balance and reserves, we are able to achieve a balanced budget with no increase in the tax levy. We are proud that over the past 10-years we have minimized tax levy increases to an average of 0.73% per year.”

District Superintendent Joseph Rumsey added: “With good conservative planning, we will continue to help our students meet and exceed the high levels of achievement we have grown accustomed to over the past many years while maintaining a comparatively low tax rate for the residents.”

There is one five-year seat open on the Bath Board of Education. At this time, newcomer Mr. Bradley Laverty will be running unopposed to fill the seat currently held by Mrs. Pam Cleveland. Mrs. Cleveland has served for ten years and has chosen not to run for re-election. The Bath Board of Education wishes to thank Mrs. Cleveland for her dedicated service to the community.

Qualified voters in the Bath Central School District can cast their votes on the school budget, school board election, school bus purchase, and on the proposed capital project reserve on statewide voting day, Tuesday, May 16, 2023 from noon to 8:00 p.m. in the Bath District Office.