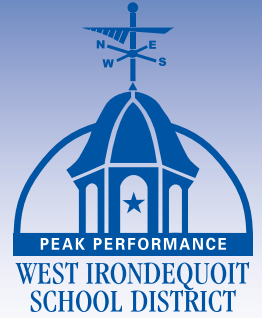


“The Quote”



web: www.westirondequoit.org

May 2022

Special District Budget Edition

Quick Facts:

\$0.85 Estimated Tax Rate increase per \$1,000 assessed value

6.39% Budget Increase

2.98% Tax Levy Increase, within allowable tax cap

From Superintendent, Aaron Johnson

This year’s Budget Edition of *The Quote* brings many reasons to celebrate. At the top of the list is how everyone in our community has pulled together to provide for our children. It was not without challenge and stress but having people willing to work together made all the difference. It reminds me of a famous quote: “There is no power for change greater than a community discovering what it cares about.” For us, our why has always been our children.

Thanks to work by our Board of Education and staff, we conducted an extensive process to develop this year’s budget and propositions. Like in most planning, we always start with our end in mind, and for us that continues to be our district mission and now our Strategic Plan. Both include furthering the comprehensive and robust educational experience our community is proud of while developing the whole child. We are known for Peak Performance, as exemplified by the annual “District Snapshot,” our brag sheet. Statistics such as:

- 8 out of our 10 schools earning Top 20 status from *Buffalo Business First*
- The Irondequoit High School Class of 2021 graduation rate was 94.5% during the throws of a pandemic; 62.3% of those graduates earned an Advanced Regents diploma
- 89% of that class completed college coursework at IHS
- 15 straight years being named one of “Best Communities for Music Education in America” by NAMM (21 out of the past 23 years, too)



Air Robinson, left, and Lyla Marrapese – students in Miss Marisa Macera’s kindergarten class at Briarwood – use ink stamps to identify ending sounds to words.

- 10 consecutive years being named a “WISE National Top 100 School for Financial Literacy”
- Voted 2021 “Best Public School” in Rochester by the *Democrat and Chronicle’s* Community Choice Awards

This success maintains a 10-year average tax levy increase of 1.93%, which is below the 2.0% tax cap, and a per-pupil spending rate that is the second-lowest in Monroe County (16th out of 17 districts). Statistics like this make our district one of the top values in the area and, as we know, a desired community to raise a family.

Building a comprehensive yet fiscally responsible school budget maintains specific standing criteria like making sure class sizes are at a conducive level and that we uphold all state and federal mandates. For many years, our most considerable state aid revenue, foundation aid, was underfunded. That forced us to deliberate and prioritize what supplies, programs and services would be funded and which would be reduced. Thanks to years of persistent lobbying efforts by many, including our Board of education, NYS committed to fully funding foundation aid last year for a three-year period. Next year

continued on page 3

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Revenue and Expenses

Revenue	2021-22	2022-23 (estimate)	\$ Change	% Change	% of Budget
Local Property Tax	41,273,363	42,503,672	1,230,309	2.98%	51.58%
Foundation Aid	19,633,855	24,359,067	4,725,212	24.07%	29.56%
Expense Driven Aid	7,484,206	6,452,367	(1,031,839)	-13.79%	7.83%
Building Aid	3,069,208	3,453,834	384,626	12.53%	4.19%
Sales Tax	3,600,000	3,700,000	100,000	2.78%	4.49%
Misc. Revenues	1,300,827	1,253,350	(47,477)	-3.65%	1.52%
Interfund Transfer	120,000		(120,000)	-100.00%	0.00%
Fund Balance	971,306	681,633	(289,673)	-29.82%	0.83%
Reserve: Unemployment	-	-	-		0.00%
Reserve: Worker's Comp	-	-	-		0.00%
Reserve: Retirement	-	-	-		0.00%
TOTAL	\$77,452,765	\$82,403,923	\$4,951,158	6.39%	100.0%

Expenses	2021-22	2022-23 (proposed)	\$ Change	% Change	% of Budget
Central Services	2,756,669	2,917,336	160,667	5.83%	3.54%
Operations and Maintenance	7,419,916	8,115,394	695,478	9.37%	9.85%
Curriculum and Supervision	2,879,376	3,043,361	163,985	5.70%	3.69%
Instruction and Student Programs	37,319,797	39,728,376	2,408,579	6.45%	48.21%
Fuel and Contract Transportation	3,188,572	3,360,126	171,554	5.38%	4.08%
Debt Service (Mortgage)	2,971,733	2,842,200	-129,533	-4.36%	3.45%
Employee Benefits (Health, Retirement, FICA, Disability)	20,526,702	22,007,130	1,480,428	7.21%	26.71%
Interfund Transfers	390,000	390,000	0	0.00%	0.47%
TOTAL	\$77,452,765	\$82,403,923	\$4,951,158	6.39%	100.0%

Proposed Tax Levy Increase: 2.98%

Projected Tax Levy \$42,503,672

Projected Rate per \$1000 Assessed Value\$29.22

Based on a \$100,000 Assessed Home Value

Monthly Increase - No STAR\$7.08

Annual Increase - No STAR.....\$85.00

STAR Savings


Basic\$775

Enhanced\$1,789

Vote Date, Location and Parking

Tuesday, May 17, 2022, from 6 a.m. – 9 p.m.
St. Paul Blvd. Fire Department
433 Cooper Road

This location provides residents with convenient and extensive parking. The firehouse is universally accessible. If you require handicapped parking or any form of assistance, please speak to one of our security workers.

The Board of Elections no longer provides mechanical voting machines. We will use paper ballots and the new optical scanners you have used for other government elections. 

TAX LEVY

The amount of money needed to balance the budget between expenditures and all other revenue. It is the total amount of revenue raised through property taxes.

BUDGET DETAILS

Budget information is on our website, www.westirondequoit.org. Look for the “May 2022 Budget and School Vote Information” box on the main page. For more information, call (585) 342-5500.

Proposed Expenditures

TOTAL BUDGET = \$82,403,923

Administrative Component \$9,332,237 = 11.4% of Budget

Provides general support and management for the District

- Board of Education and Superintendent's Office
- Finance, Personnel and Public Information
- Technology infrastructure
- Legal services and liability insurance
- Auditing services
- Curriculum development
- Supervision of the schools by principals and assistant principals

Capital Component \$11,572,319 = 14% of Budget

Maintaining the infrastructure and facilities for the District

- Upkeep of 134 acres of District property
- Maintenance of 10 schools and 7 additional buildings
- Utility bills (natural gas, electric, fuel, telephone)
- Refund of property tax claims
- Principal and interest payments on District debt for previous capital improvements

Program Component \$61,499,367 = 74.6% of Budget

Provides instruction and support services to schools

- General education faculty and staff
- Special education faculty and staff
- Co-curricular and extra-curricular programs
- Transportation
- Health services
- Guidance counselors, social workers, psychologists
- School supplies, textbooks, library books, software, instructional computers

Need to Know: What if the district budget is not approved by voters?

A simple majority vote is required for the proposed budget to be approved, as the proposal meets the acceptable tax levy threshold for West Irondequoit with a 2.98% tax levy increase. The Board of Education could propose one more budget for voter approval, or it could elect to adopt a contingency budget. A contingency budget cannot contain a tax levy that is greater than the levy of the previous year. [»](#)

Superintendent's Message *continued from cover*



Dr. Aaron Johnson

is Year 2. The state aid allows us to move from a deficit or reduction budgeting mindset to one that provides for restoration. That means we can now reinstate essential items that we have had to go without, and now focus on buildings and infrastructure needing repair and replacement before they fail.

Like your household finances, annual inflation rates significantly impact our school budget. With the inflation rate rising from 4.7% last year to the current rate and a 40-year high of 8.5% our costs have also jumped. The majority of this year's tax levy increase of 2.98%, which is within our tax cap calculation, reflects inflation—2.0%, to be exact. Another critical point is that despite the 8.5% inflation rate, next year's overall proposed budget increases by just 6.39%. Hats off to everyone involved in the problem-solving who helped offer a conservative spending plan that also restores much-needed elements around safety and security, programming, and maintenance.

Also on this year's ballot are two additional propositions. One would authorize us to acquire the former community center on Pinegrove Avenue adjacent to our Helmer Nature Center. By purchasing

this former elementary school building/site, we can maintain the classrooms currently used by the Nature Center and envision future needs like pre-kindergarten classrooms, expanded tutoring services, and an all-purpose STEAM and community education room. This is part of our asset management plan and, if acquired, would prompt the sale of one or more other district assets currently not used for district instruction. The second additional proposition authorizes the district to open a new \$20 million capital reserve. Capital reserves must be approved by the community and have specific parameters on how their funds are spent. In this case, the funds must offset the community share of future capital improvement projects. An appropriate savings plan may allow us to complete future repairs and improvements without impacting the tax levy. With inflation so high and identified maintenance and repair needs totaling \$33 million, we must plan accordingly.

This year's spending plan does not include the COVID-19-related federal stimulus funds initiated last year that carry through 2024. Working together with students, families, and staff, we created a multi-year plan to increase social, emotional, and mental health staffing and supports to help students through these unparalleled times. Remember, people make the difference, and in our District our people share one critical value: Our children's best interests. [»](#)

Board of Education Candidates

Two candidates are running for two seats on the Board of Education. The seven-member board is made up of community volunteers who serve three-year terms. All candidate biographical information appears in *The Quote* as it was submitted by each candidate. Names will appear on the ballot in the following order as drawn by lottery.



Courtney Shouse

101 Covington Rd. • 585-286-0904 •
courtney.r.shouse@gmail.com

Age: 44

Family:

Spouse – Gary Shouse
Son – Noah Totter; Irondequoit HS senior
Son – Ethan Totter; IHS sophomore

Occupation:

Director, MedAmerica (Excellus)

Education:

MS Human Services Administration
BS Sociology, Women’s Studies, English

Community Involvement:

- Showing up for Racial Justice (SURJ) ROC- Steering Committee Member and Education Subcommittee Member
- Indigenous Peoples’ Day Planning Committee Member
- Our Voices Project – Education Outreach Facilitator
- Irondequoit Commission Advancing Racial Equity (ICARE) Member
- Urban League of Rochester’s Powerbroker’s Group Member
- Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Book Club Facilitator for Excellus
- Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Coalition Member, West

Irondequoit Central School District, including participation in the following subcommittees:

- Community and Family Engagement
- Indigenous Peoples
- DEI Policy

Candidate Statement:

“Through activism and participation in the school district’s Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Coalition, I have shown that I am dedicated to promoting student-centered learning environments that affirm racial and cultural identities, empower students as agents of social change, and contribute to an individual’s engagement, learning, growth, and achievement. I support platforms to encourage student voices, having worked with Mosaic Club members to complete the Black History Film Series project showcasing Black Historical figures who have challenged racist policies, fought for societal change, and made numerous contributions to our communities, as well as a student film project documenting discussions around identities and the impact that identity has had on them individually and on our society. I was humbled by the welcoming I received from the students and inspired by their collective confidence, awareness, and sense of social responsibility. It is critical to support the social-emotional wellness of our students, teachers, staff, and administration and to encourage parent and community engagement through the honest and transparent sharing of information. I’d be honored to advocate for our community!”



Matt Sullivan

77 Cranbrooke Dr. • 585-730-3551
mattsully74@gmail.com

Age: 47

Family:

Wife – Jennifer Sullivan; long-term substitute,
West Irondequoit schools

Daughter – Emily Sullivan; Irondequoit HS graduate (2020)

Son – Andrew; IHS sophomore

Son – Brady; Dake Jr. HS, 7th grade

Occupation:

Director, Inside Sales at Alorica, Inc. (Business Process Outsourcing)

Education:

St. Anthony’s High School, South Huntington, N.Y.
SUNY College at Geneseo (1997)

Community Involvement:

- West Irondequoit Board of Education Member (‘19-22)
- Dake Junior HS School Based Planning Team
- Irondequoit Junior Eagles Board of Directors (Secretary, President, Community Relations, Treasurer)
- Volunteer team videographer for IHS Varsity Football
- St. Kateri CYO Basketball Coach
- Irondequoit Little League Coach (‘14-’15)

- Irondequoit Junior Eagles Football Coach
- Charlotte Youth Athletic Association Coach & Board of Directors (2008-2013)
- Avid Blood Donor (American Red Cross)

Candidate Statement:

“It has been an honor to service our community, students, and staff as a member of the West Irondequoit Board of Education for the last three years. I have approached this role with a service and support mindset and feel that the accomplishments of our Board during this time demonstrate that. I am passionate about our district’s efforts to focus on ‘the whole student’ and their social emotional wellness as well as their academic performance. It has been an exciting three years to say the least: supporting our administration, staff and students as we navigated a pandemic, being actively involved in committees focused on our district’s approach to diversity, equity, and inclusion, as well as helping develop our district’s current Strategic Plan. As a parent of three children, I have experienced firsthand the great education and supports provided to our students. I would be very excited to, once again, be able to advocate for our district and help West Irondequoit continue to welcome, nurture, and inspire all.”

WATCH CANDIDATES’ NIGHT

To learn more about each candidate, please visit our district website at westirondequoit.org or the district YouTube channel at bit.ly/WICSD_YouTube to watch a video replay of the 2022 West Irondequoit Central PTSA Candidates’ Night after May 2.

You can go home again to teach, work In West Irondequoit

They are teachers, secretaries and clerks, maintenance staff, security crew members and food service helpers. More than 80 Irondequoit High School graduates work in the same buildings they grew up learning in and many, like Dake Junior High School Social Studies teacher Aaron Nobles, call it a dream come true.

“I wanted to have the opportunity to give back to this community that gave me so much,” says Nobles, a 2006 IHS graduate who started working here in 2015 and also coaches IHS cross country and track. “I think we have an awesome community here in Irondequoit that sort of sets a foundation for their understanding of the world outside of (it).”

“My biggest thing,” says fourth-year Southlawn teaching assistant and 2012 grad Josh Desilet, “make kids love school the way I did as a kid.”

Many IHS grads who now teach in the West Irondequoit CSD say they were inspired by those who taught them. Nobles credits his 10th-grade global teacher, Jason Harshman. Dake and IHS Technology teacher, Dave Marshall, a 1987 graduate, says Doug Carlson and Dave Whitcomb made an impact on him by using “hands-on” learning.

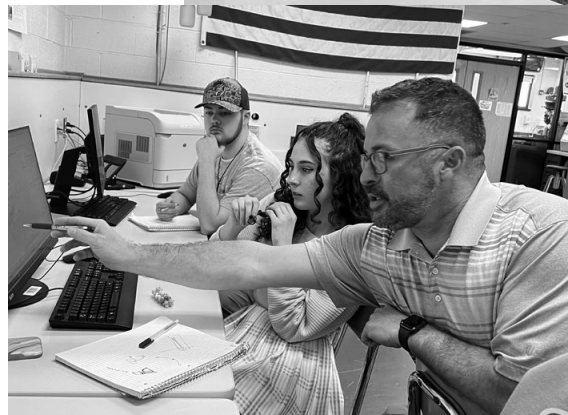
“I was one of those kids in school that if I didn’t see it, I didn’t touch it, it was hard for me to understand,” says Marshall, a teacher here since 1994. “They made the learning part of it extremely fun. I’m kind of hoping that I can share that same experience with kids.”

Second-year IHS English teacher Ben Bovenzi, 29, says he started to zero in on teaching as a career during his senior year in 2010-11. Now he works in the same department of some of his former teachers such as Megan Langley-Cass, Joe Kunz and Erin Quintero. He says he feels a “real sense of duty ... to uphold, number one, a legacy of outstanding teaching but also, and perhaps more importantly, a duty to uphold the service to the Irondequoit community.”

All three of his older siblings – Lisa (2000), Matt (2002) and Megan (Class of 2007) – are in the education field in Maryland, New York City and Pennsylvania, respectively. “All four of us chose to come to this profession is awesome and it’s awesome because it came from this building, it came from this district and seeing a lot of the great examples of teaching here.”

IHS nurse Mary Piston (1975 grad), elementary teacher Ann Stewart (1981) and IHS cleaner, Carrie Bulger (1988), feel a sense

Sue Jacobs (left) with art students.



Dave Marshall (right) with his technology students.

of purpose every time they step in a WICSD building because it’s where their father, Clare Wallace, helped shape young lives for 40 years, starting in the mid-1950s and resuming after he was drafted. Mr. Wallace was a teacher, guidance counselor, elementary principal and IHS vice-principal.

“I can say with confidence that we started and continue to work in West Irondequoit for the exact same reason, to honor our Dad,” says Ann, whose tour of the WICSD has included teaching at Iroquois Middle School for 15 years, one year at Listwood and now third grade at Southlawn.

Piston, who started with the district in 1992, plans to retire in June. “I always wanted to be the nurse at the high school,” she says wistfully.

IHS physical education teacher and 1997 graduate Kelly Moroni loves what she does. “I love working with all different ability levels and ages,” says Moroni, who is also a Unified Sports coach.

Art teacher and K-12 Art Coordinator, Sue Jacobs, has taught here for 25 years. She values being a member of the community now as an adult. She lives here again after being away for about 20 years. She takes great joy in seeing former students become art teachers and nurses as well as her neighbors and “in some cases just genuine friends.”

continued on back cover

School District Budget Notice

Overall Budget Proposal	Budget Adopted for the 2021-22 School Year	Budget Proposed for the 2022-23 School Year	Contingency Budget for the 2022-23 School Year *
Total Budgeted Amount, Not Including Separate Propositions	\$ 77,452,765	\$ 82,403,923	\$ 81,273,614
Increase/Decrease for the 2022-23 School Year		\$ 4,951,158	\$ 3,820,849
Percentage Increase/Decrease in Proposed Budget		6.4%	4.9%
Change in the Consumer Price Index		4.7%	
A. Proposed Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount	\$ 41,273,363	\$ 42,503,672	
B. Levy to Support Library Debt, if Applicable	\$ 0	\$ 0	
C. Levy for Non-Excludable Propositions, if Applicable **	\$ 0	\$ 0	
D. Total Tax Cap Reserve Amount Used to Reduce Current Year Levy	\$ 0	\$ 0	
E. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy (A + B + C - D)	\$ 41,273,363	\$ 42,503,672	\$ 41,273,363
F. Total Permissible Exclusions	\$ 0	\$ 0	
G. School Tax Levy Limit, <u>Excluding</u> Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$ 41,568,693	\$ 41,504,672	
H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, <u>Excluding</u> Levy to Support Library Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions (E - B - F + D)	\$ 41,273,363	\$ 41,503,672	
I. Difference: G - H (Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval - See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions) **	\$ 295,330	\$ 1,000	
Administrative Component	\$ 8,933,065	\$ 9,332,237	\$ 9,192,905
Program Component	\$ 57,661,927	\$ 61,499,367	\$ 60,581,167
Capital Component	\$ 10,857,773	\$ 11,572,319	\$ 11,399,542

* Provide a statement of assumptions made in projecting a contingency budget for the 2022-23 school year, should the proposed budget be defeated pursuant to Section 2023 of the Education Law.

Contingent budget will be developed utilizing a zero tax levy increase and elimination of any contingent expenses.

** List Separate Propositions that are not included in the Total Budgeted Amount: (Tax Levy associated with educational or transportation services propositions are not eligible for exclusion and may affect voter approval requirements)

Description	Amount
Acquisition of the former Pinegrove elementary building.	\$ 1,100,000
	\$
	\$
	\$

	Under the Budget Proposed for the 2022-23 School Year
Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings ¹	\$ 775

The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2022-23 by the qualified voters of the West Irondequoit School District, Monroe County, New York, will be held at the St. Paul Fire Department in said district on Tuesday, May 17, 2022 between the hours of 6:00am and 9:00pm, at which time the polls will be opened to vote by voting ballot or machine.

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

2022-23 Budget Objectives

Development of the 2022-23 budget centered on the following objectives:

- Balance enrollment changes at grade levels to maintain class sizes
- Continue to follow Special Education mandates
- Align our curriculum and instruction resources as stated in the Strategic Plan
- Restore elements of the budget that had been reduced in the past
- Maintain a sustainable 5-Year Financial Plan while staying within the Tax Levy Cap.

The continued restoration of Foundation Aid and its promise to provide a predictable and sustained revenue source for the District has allowed for the restoration of budget elements that had been eliminated in past budgets. For the operations and security the 2022-23 budget includes a Director of Safety and Security as well

as one additional grounds equipment operator and maintenance mechanic. The inclusion of these three important positions will enhance the safety of our district and ensure that our buildings and grounds remain in top condition. The budget also includes funds for the addition of up to three special educators for our ICT program at 7-12 to meet student need and ensure compliance with special education mandates.

The budget also includes \$100,000 for a Capital Outlay Exclusion Project (COEP) to improve physical security at Rogers/Southlawn Middle School. The proposed project will incorporate a teller style window between the main office and the secured vestibule. This window and associated office reconfiguration will allow for enhanced screening of visitors in a more controlled setting. We will receive more than \$80,000 in state aid on this project, for the following budget year. 🗨️

Award-winning IHS students, teachers are all 'business'



The Irondequoit High School DECA Club continues to thrive under the direction of teachers Lou DiCesare, Jeanine Lent and LaVon Bucciarelli as one of the district's top programs. Mr. DiCesare, who formerly worked in business/marketing before coming to IHS in 1995, relaunched the IHS DECA

Club in 2001. Check out the list of honors and awards below.

- 30 students qualified for the State Career Conference in March and eight earned Top 10 medals, including a state champion, freshman Evelyn Dean. The seven others: junior Alyssa Calarco, Caroline Coleman, Nicole Lamberson, Melissa McCulloch, Ben Sargent, Bryn Straub and Noah Totter.
- That group and four others were scheduled to attend the DECA national competition April 23-26. The four others earned spots through individual simulation competitions: freshmen Ryan Avery and Justin Nitti, junior Cayden Catalina, junior Taylor Flynn and senior Dylan Piccaretto.
- Cayden Catalina also earned second place nationally in a Knowledge Matters/DECA Digital Presentation Skills Challenge.
- Caroline Coleman will receive the Irondequoit Chamber of Commerce IHS Business Student of the Year honor on May 24.
- Seniors Brenna Bauman and Madison Colbey were named Emerging Leaders by DECA.

IRONDEQUOIT
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



**BUSINESS STUDENT
OF THE YEAR!**

Caroline Coleman
Irondequoit High School



- In April, Mr. DiCesare was honored as a Gold-Star Teacher by W!SE.
 - For the 15th straight year, IHS was named a Blue-Star School for student financial literacy and 10th straight year a Top 100 school for Teaching Financial Literacy. Both honors came from W!SE.
 - IHS DECA is one of 60 schools internationally and two in the state to complete the DECA Advocacy Chapter Campaign.
- "The authenticity, real world connections, and life lessons that are so desired in order to have high academic and social/emotional success occur daily in IHS classrooms thanks to the expertise, hard work and drive of the terrific IHS business department," said W!CSD Assistant Superintendent for Instruction, Mrs. Chrissy Miga. 🗨️

West Irondequoit Schools Are Community Schools!

Community Education

The Community Education program provides the opportunity for students of all ages to participate in a variety of classes and activities using school facilities and community resources. Program highlights include:

- Art & Crafts
- Business/Financial
- Driver Education/Pre-Licensing Course
- Music
- Nerf Battles
- Pickleball
- Rock Climbing
- Sports Camps
- Water Fitness
- Yoga, Zumba, Belly Dance

View the catalogue: bit.ly/CommunityEd_WI

Register for classes online: registration.xenegrade.com/wisd

Call to register or with questions: 585-336-3014

Swimming at Irondequoit High School

Our eight-lane pool provides opportunities for lap swim, family swim, swim lessons and water fitness. A monthly schedule for the pool can be viewed on our website at: westirondequoit.org/athletics/aquatics or by calling Community Education, 585-336-3014.

Lap swim is available for adults 18 and older. The cost is \$4 per visit. A 30-visit pool pass with no expiration date can be purchased for \$105. For more information, please visit our website or call Community Education.

For a complete list of aquatic programs, visit
<http://bit.ly/WICSDeaquatics>
or call the Aquatic Office at (585) 336-0621.



K-6 Extension Program

Community Education offers a K-6 Extension Program both before and after school for school-age children in grades kindergarten through sixth. Care is given in an educational setting with age-appropriate activities, academic enrichment opportunities and recreation.

Locations:

- Iroquois Middle School, 150 Colebrook Drive
- Rogers Middle School, 219 Northfield Road

Hours:

- Morning: 7 AM to the start of school
- Afternoon: dismissal time until 6 PM

Registration Information:

- New family registration begins on June 1, 2022.
- Registration packets are available at District Office, call Community Education at 585-336-3014 or visit online: bit.ly/K6-Extension

K-6 Extension Program Cost Information:

- For more information on costs please contact Community Education at 585-336-3014 or visit our website by clicking Parents/Community, Community Education and K-6 Extension Program

WICSD Senior Citizen Gold Card Program

West Irondequoit residents who are at least 62 years old are invited to join our Gold Card Program. The card is free and entitles holders to:

- Discounted fees for select Community Education courses
- The opportunity to participate in the Senior Lap Swim Program at a discounted rate
- A special invitation and free admission to select student theater performances
- A special invitation to our Senior Citizen Dinner Theatre

- A special invitation and free tickets for our Senior Citizen Fun Night, which we hope will finally return next school year. It has been sponsored by the Irondequoit High School Student Council
- Free admission to regular-season home sports events

Please call the Public Information Office at 585-336-3067 with questions about events or the Community Education Office at 336-3014 with questions about adult classes and opportunities. [↗](#)

All-Access: Stay Connected with West Irondequoit schools!

We have various communication platforms to help you stay connected with our schools. From the latest updates to videos and photo galleries, we are active on Facebook and Twitter to show you what is happening in our buildings and beyond. Our YouTube channel has more than 500 videos and 1,900 subscribers. Our Transportation Page now allows you to do more digitally. Please visit the District website – www.westirondequoit.org – for the latest news. For more details, please read below.

Receive/submit transportation details online!

Parents/guardians can now submit ALL transportation forms/applications on our District site or print them from there. Find the TRANSPORTATION “Quick Link” on the main page. Families must have an Infinite Campus account (see below) to obtain transportation information, such as bus passes, route times and bus numbers. Those items are no longer mailed home.


Infinite Campus Parent/Student Portal

Infinite Campus is our student management system. Parents/guardians of all students can create an account that allows them to view schedules, attendance, report cards and teacher/transportation information. High school and junior-high students have accounts to view their own information. Login credentials are available from school main offices; parents must present ID to obtain them. If you registered in a previous year, your account stays active, and only one account is necessary for families with multiple children enrolled.

Broadcast Call System

Our Blackboard Mass Notification system allows us to contact families via phone/email/text message when we need to communicate information immediately. Phone numbers are pulled from Infinite Campus using a secure system. Be sure that your child’s school secretary has your most up-to-date phone and email information. The system will leave a voicemail message if you do not answer the call.




Non-Discrimination Notice

The West Irondequoit Central School District does not discriminate on the basis of an individual’s actual or perceived race, color, weight, national origin, ethnic group, religion, disability, age, sex, sexual orientation or gender identity, political affiliation, familial status, military status, veteran status, domestic violence victim status, arrest or conviction record (except as permitted by law), genetic information or any other basis prohibited by New York State and/or federal non-discrimination laws in its programs and activities. In addition, it provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated patriotic youth groups. 



FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Connect on Facebook, Twitter, YouTube and Instagram

Follow our **DISTRICT** on:

-  West Irondequoit CSD
-  @WestIrondequoit
-  West Irondequoit CSD



Follow **IRONDEQUOIT HIGH SCHOOL** on:

-  @IrondequoitHS
-  Irondequoit HS Art

Follow **ATHLETICS** on:

-  WIEagles

Follow **HELMER NATURE CENTER** on:

-  Helmer Nature Center
-  HelmerNature_WI

Follow the **WEST IRONDEQUOIT FOUNDATION** on:

-  West Irondequoit Foundation

Follow the **WEST IRONDEQUOIT ALUMNI ASSOCIATION** on:

-  IHS Alumni



The Safe School Helpline


Let us know ANONYMOUSLY when you become aware of anything that threatens the safety of our schools. Anyone can call: Parents, Students, Staff

- Call: 800-4-1-VOICE ext. 359 / 800-418-6423 ext. 359
- Text: 66746, then type TIPS
- Website: safeschoolhelpline.com
- Facebook: [Facebook.com/safeschoolhelpline](https://www.facebook.com/safeschoolhelpline)

Check out their free mobile app (Apple or Android). Break the Silence...Prevent the Event.

Student Achievement Data

Information regarding the New York State Report Card containing Profile, Assessment and Accountability Data is available at <http://bit.ly/2pLb2ve>

A link to this document is provided on our website at www.westirondequoit.org. Click on District, then on NYS District Report Card. A hard copy of the report is available from the District Office, 321 List Ave., (585) 336-3067. Contact the office via email at public_info@westiron.monroe.edu. 

West Irondequoit Schools

Welcome. Nurture. Inspire.



BY THE NUMBERS

- 8** Rank among local Public Schools by the *Democrat and Chronicle* in its 2021 Community Choice Awards
- 8** Of our 10 schools earned Top 20 status from *Buffalo Business First* magazine
- 94.5** Graduation rate percentage of Irondequoit High School Class of 2021
- 62.3** Percent of 2021 graduates who earned Advanced Regents diplomas (37.7% earned Regents diplomas)
- 89** Percentage of 2021 graduates who accessed college coursework at IHS
- 5** Where Briarwood School is ranked by *Buffalo Business First* magazine among 162 elementary schools
- 21** Advanced Placement Courses offered
- 40** New York State Seal of Biliteracy recipients in 2020-21
- 15** Straight years named one of “Best Communities for Music Education in America” (21 of 23 years)
- 14** Consecutive years IHS has been a WISE Blue-Star High School for Student Financial Literacy
- 4** World Languages offered: French, German, Italian, Spanish (nd Russian as a 2021-22 elective)
- 2,472** National ranking for IHS by *Newsweek* for top STEM schools among 30,000 (puts IHS in top 8.2%)
- 1,823** IHS ranking among 17,857 schools nationally by *U.S. News and World Report*
- 30** Number of IHS students who qualified for DECA’s 2022 NYS State Career Conference competition
- 177** Rank among 1,266 high schools in New York State by *U.S. News & World Report*
- 1.93** 10-year average Tax Levy Increase (2012-13 to 2022-23)






ACHIEVING PEAK PERFORMANCE

- ◆ **Comprehensive education:** We offer one of the area’s most comprehensive high schools with programs in art, building trades, business, music, performing arts, technology and vocational automotive.
- ◆ **Neighborhood schools:** Average enrollment of 174 among our six K-3 schools.
- ◆ **Career Connections Program:** Helps students thrive in work-study jobs, internships & career shadowing.
- ◆ **Fine art:** Offer 16 courses in art; students regularly have work displayed in local exhibits.
- ◆ **Performing arts:** Traditionally 4 major dramatic presentations annually by IHS and Dake Jr. High students.
- ◆ **1:1 technology:** Laptop computers for grades K-12, a first, for the 2020-21 school year.
- ◆ **Professional development:** For 35-plus years we have provided a teacher learning center.
- ◆ **Athletics:** Varsity teams in 26 sports.
- ◆ **Unified Sports:** Inclusive co-ed basketball/bowling teams that unite students with and without disabilities.
- ◆ **Helmer Nature Center:** Our District-owned 45-acre “outdoor classroom” teaches environmental awareness to our students and is a widely used community asset offering exposure to woods and wetlands.
- ◆ **West Irondequoit Foundation:** Has awarded more than \$1 million in grants to the District for educational programs and equipment.

April 2022

West Irondequoit CSD 2022-23 School Calendar



-  Conference Day
-  First Day for Students
-  Holiday/Recess
-  Local/Regents Exams
-  Regents Rating Day


July

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
				1
4	5	6	7	8
11	12	13	14	15
18	19	20	21	22
25	26	27	28	29


August

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
1	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	12
15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26
29	30	31		





September

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
			X	2
5	6		8	9
12	13	14	15	16
19	20	21	22	23
26	27	28	29	30






October

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
3	4	5	6	7
	11	12	13	14
17	18	19	20	21
24	25	26	27	28
31				







November

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
	1	2	3	4
7	8	9	X	
14	15	16	17	18
21	22			
28	29	30		






December

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
			1	2
5	6	7	8	9
12	13	14	15	16
19	20	21	22	23
				

January

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
	3	4	5	6
9	10	11	12	13
	17	18	19	20
23				
30	31			






February

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
		1	2	3
6	7	8	9	10
13	14	15	16	17
				
27	28			


March

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
		1	2	3
6	7	8	9	10
13	14	15	16	17
20	21	22	23	24
27	28	29	30	X









April

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
				
10	11	12	13	X
17	18	19	20	21
24	25	26	27	28

May

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
1	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	12
15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26
	30	31		

June

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
			1	2
5	6	7	8	9
12	13			
				
26	27	28	29	30

- Sept. 1 Conference Day – No School K-12
- Sept. 5 Labor Day – No School
- Sept. 6 Conference Day – No School K-12
- Sept. 7 School Opens – Grades K-12
- Oct. 10 Indigenous Peoples' Day/Columbus Day – No School
- Nov. 10 Conference Day/Parent Teacher Conference Day – No School K-12
- Nov. 11 Veterans Day – No School
- Nov. 23-25 Thanksgiving Recess – No School
- Dec. 26-30 Holiday Recess – No School
- Jan. 3 School Resumes
- Jan. 16 Martin Luther King Day – No School
- Jan. 23-27 IHS Local/Regents Exams
- Feb. 20-24 Winter Recess – No School
- Mar. 31 Conference Day – No School K-12
- Apr. 14 K-4 Half-day Parent-Teacher Conference Day
- Apr. 3-7 Spring Recess – No School
- May 29 Memorial Day Recess – No School
- June 14-22 Regents Exams
- June 19 Juneteenth Observed – No School
- June 21 Last Day of School for Grades K-6
- June 23 Regents Rating Day – Last Day Students/Faculty
- June 25 Graduation 10:00 a.m. at RIT

Faculty Days 186 Student Days 183

*187th day-discretionary time
to complete mandatory
trainings between 9/1/22-10/10/22

Approved by the Board of Education: March 17, 2022



Superintendent
Dr. Aaron Johnson

Board of Education
Mrs. Ann Cunningham, President
Mr. Matthew Metras, Vice President
Mr. Justin Connor
Mr. Matthew Fink
Mr. Matthew Sullivan
Mrs. Rosa Vargas-Cronin
Mr. John Vay

Mrs. Jenna Lustig, District Clerk
Ms. Lucie Graziano, Student Representative
Mr. Colton Mantha, Student Representative
Ms. Ava Palo, Student Representative

Newsletter Editor
Mr. Jeff DiVeronica

DISTRICT VOTE: MAY 17 at St. Paul Blvd. Fire Department

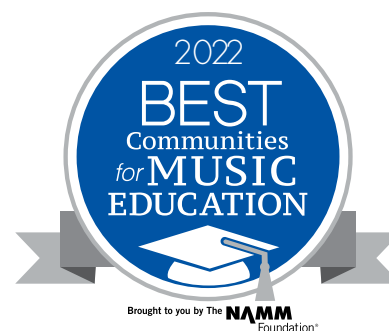
VOTER QUALIFICATIONS

You are eligible to vote if you are a U.S. citizen; you have lived in the West Irondequoit School District for at least 30 days prior to the vote; you are at least 18 years of age by the day of the vote.

The West Irondequoit Board of Education requires proof of residency at the polls. Examples include a driver's license or other documentation proving residence in West Irondequoit.

ABSENTEE BALLOTS

West Irondequoit residents, who qualify, can vote on the annual budget and board election by absentee ballot. Residents unable to vote in person because of disabilities, illness, travel or other valid reasons listed under election law, may request an application for an absentee ballot in person weekdays from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. from District Clerk Jenna Lustig, District Office, 321 List Avenue, Rochester, NY 14617. The application is also available on the district website at www.westirondequoit.org. Completed applications must be received in the district clerk's office at least 7 days before the vote (May 10) if ballot is to be mailed, or by 4:30 p.m. the day prior to the vote (May 16) if ballot is to be delivered in person. Absentee ballots must be received by the district clerk no later than 5 p.m. on May 17. 🗳️



MUSIC PROGRAM EARNS HONORS

For the 15th straight year and 21st time in the past 23 years, West Irondequoit has earned the distinction as one of the Best Communities for Music Education in America. The designation comes from the National Association of Music Merchants Foundation. Now in its 23rd year, the BCME honor is bestowed on districts that demonstrate outstanding achievement in efforts to provide music access and education to all students. To qualify for the award, West Irondequoit answered detailed questions about funding, graduation requirements, music class participation, instruction time, facilities, support for the music program and community music-making programs. 🗳️

Teach, Work in West Irondequoit *continued from page 5*

"We do have this multi-generational connection. There's something that brings people back here, whether they intend it or not," Jacobs says. "It's a great place to be."

Desilet, 27, knew what he wanted to do upon graduation. In fact, his Superlative in the 2012 IHS yearbook was: "Most Likely To Be a Teacher at IHS." Iroquois sixth-grade teacher Amy Taberski thought she'd travel after college - not teach.

But she started as a substitute teacher, then a long-term sub and "before I knew it I was living here, working here and I had three children who attended school here." Twenty-five years, she says she couldn't have planned a better career in a better place."

And that travel thing? "It'll be there when I retire, and I'll have more money to do it!" 🗳️