

**The Gowanda Central School District Board of Education
to host the 2026-2027 Public Budget Hearing on
Wednesday, May 6, 2026 – 6:00 p.m.
Gowanda High School Library**

Proposition No. 1 - 2026-2027 Basic Budget

Shall the following resolution be adopted, to wit:

RESOLVED, that the basic budget for the Gowanda Central School District (the “District”) for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2027, as presented by the Board of Education of the District, in the amount of **\$40,655,630.00**, is hereby approved and adopted and the required funds therefor are hereby appropriated and the necessary real property taxes required shall be raised by a tax on the taxable property in the District to be levied and collected as required by law.

Proposition No. 2 - Purchase of Four Buses Utilizing Vehicle Purchase Reserve Fund (No Tax Rate Impact)

Shall the following resolutions be adopted, to wit:

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education (the “Board”) of the Gowanda Central School District (the “District”) is hereby authorized to purchase four (4) sixty-six (66) passenger school buses at an estimated maximum cost of \$694,747.16 for use in the transportation program of the District with such cost (or so much thereof as may be necessary) to be funded through the expenditure or application (during the current fiscal year of the District) of monies from the District’s Vehicle Purchase Reserve Fund, without creating the need to borrow; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this authorization to fund the purchase of such school buses shall have no effect on the District’s tax rate for the 2026-2027 school year.

Proposition No. 3 – Establishment of a Capital Improvements Reserve Fund, 2026

Shall the following resolution be adopted, to wit:

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education (the “Board”) of the Gowanda Central School District, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, and Erie Counties, New York (the “District”) is hereby authorized to establish a capital improvements reserve fund pursuant to Section 3651 of the Education Law of the State of New York (the “Fund”); that the Fund shall be known as the “Capital Improvements Reserve Fund, 2026” of the District; that the Fund shall be established for the purpose of financing, in whole or in part, the acquisition, construction, reconstruction, expansion, renovation, alteration, and improvement of buildings, facilities, sites, and real property by the District, or the District’s share of the cost of any capital improvements project undertaken by a Board of Cooperative Educational Services (“BOCES”) of which the District is (or may become) a component district, including, in all cases, the acquisition of necessary furnishings, equipment, machinery, and apparatus; that the ultimate amount of the Fund shall be not greater than \$10,000,000 (plus interest earned thereon); that the probable term of the Fund shall be not longer than ten (10) years; and that the permissible sources from which the Board is authorized to appropriate monies to the Fund from time to time shall be (A) amounts applied thereto from budgetary appropriations of the District; (B) unappropriated fund balance of the District as directed by the Board; (C) State aid received as reimbursement for expenditures by the District in connection with District capital improvements (whether or not such expenditures were financed in whole or in part from the Fund); (D) the proceeds from the sale of unneeded real or personal property owned by the District, if permitted by law and if so directed by the Board; (E) one or more other reserve funds of the District; and/or (F) such other sources as the Board or the voters of the District may direct from time to time, all as may be permitted by law.

Proposition No. 4 – Library Budget

Shall the following resolutions be adopted, to wit:

RESOLVED, that the annual appropriation for the operation of the Gowanda Free Library be increased by 5% from \$61,383.60 to \$64,452.78 and that the Board of Education of the Gowanda Central School District, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua and Erie Counties, New York, be authorized to levy the necessary taxes thereof.

School Board Candidates

All registered residents and qualified voters may vote on the two at-large available seats. The two candidates receiving, respectively, the largest number of votes will be elected to serve three-year terms commencing on July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2029.

Zachary C. Nobles

Brandon Newell

Aimee Gernatt

Voters may write-in the name(s) of any individual(s) who is not listed on the ballot.

Voter Registration

Qualified voters of the District shall be entitled to vote at such annual vote and election. A qualified voter is one who is (1) a citizen of the United States of America, (2) eighteen years of age or older, and (3) resident within the District for a period of thirty (30) days next preceding the annual vote and election. The School District may require all persons offering to vote at the budget vote and election to provide one form of proof of residency pursuant to Education Law §2018-c. Such form may include a driver's license, a non-driver identification card, a utility bill, or a voter registration card. Upon offer of proof of residency, the District may also require all persons offering to vote to provide their signature, printed name and address.

Absentee Ballots

Applications for absentee ballots are available from the District Clerk. Special regulations govern absentee ballots. Call 716-532-3325 ext. 6300 for information.

May 12 Deadline for absentee ballot applications if ballot is to be mailed to the voter.

May 18 Deadline for absentee ballot applications if ballot is to be picked up by the voter.

May 19, 5:00 p.m. Deadline for absentee ballots to be received by the District Clerk.

**Eligible Voters are Invited to Vote on the Annual Budget,
Vehicle Purchases, Establishment of a Capital Improvement Reserve Fund,
Library Budget and Board Election on:**

**Tuesday, May 19, 2026 8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Gowanda Middle School Library**