

Popular Annual Financial Report

For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024



Table of Contents

3	4	7	10	11
District at a Glance	Financial Highlights / Net Position	Revenue, Expenditures, & Changes in Fund Balances	Long-Term Liabilities & Looking to the Future	Stay Connected

A Message From the School District



Brett Dusinberre,
Superintendent

"Collaboration is Key: *The strength of our school community lies in the collaborative spirit we share. Parents, guardians, and families play a crucial role in supporting their children's academic and personal growth. We encourage your continued engagement through events, volunteering opportunities and open communication with teachers and staff. Together, we can ensure that Alfred-Almond continues to be a vibrant hub of learning, growth, and opportunity for all."*

Welcome to the Popular Annual Financial Report for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024.

Our school district takes great pride in its long-term financial stability. Recognized by S&P Global Ratings for its sound operating results, the credit rating organization emphasized that the school district's financial reserves are robust, the tax base is stable, and the debt burden is light.

Each year the school district participates in an independent audit of its financial statements for the prior year. Allied CPAs, PC of Amherst, performed this year's audit that included a detailed review of financial transactions between July 1, 2023, and June 30, 2024. Preparation for the audit started in July 2024 and continued through October 2024. During this time, members of the assigned team from Allied CPAs, PC, were provided access to the Business Office team and the District's financial records to complete their review and testing activities. After the audit was completed, an unmodified ("clean") opinion was issued. Accompanying the opinion was one recommendation that has been addressed as part of the 2024-25 fiscal year activities (presented on page 5).

Although not required by New York School Code, the school district prepares an Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR), which offers a complete and detailed presentation of the District's financial condition and an independent opinion of the report's information from our auditor. This document, and other financial resources, are available on the school district's website. We are also pleased to release our first Popular Annual Financial Report (PAFR) this year. Based on the ACFR, the PAFR provides information about the school district's financial condition without the overwhelming detail and technical accounting terminology. This report will provide our stakeholders with an easily understandable overview of the school district's financial position at the end of the 2023-24 fiscal year and key considerations for the future. Should you have any further questions or would like to offer feedback regarding this document, please do not hesitate to reach out at any time.



Brett Dusinberre,
Superintendent



Kathryn Kruger,
Business Manager

Meet the Board of Education

Board Structure

Alfred-Almond Central School District is governed by an elected, five-member Board of Education. All members are elected on a staggered term basis by qualified voters within the District boundaries at the annual election of the District held during the month of May. The term of office for each board member is five years. Board members are volunteers who do not receive a salary for their services. The Board of Education includes three officers: president, vice president, and clerk. The president and vice president are elected annually by the Board membership, and the clerk role is filled by the secretary to the superintendent.

The Board of Education meets regularly on the first Tuesday and second Wednesday of each month. All meetings of the Board of Education are open to the public. In addition to the regular meetings, the Board of Education has established a Policy Committee, to facilitate the review of topics relevant to the operation of the school district. Each committee includes up to two members of the Board of Education, as well as the president of the Board ex officio, as well as members of the District and School leadership teams (e.g. superintendent, principals, and managers).

Meetings & Committees

The most common areas of action for the Board of Education include approving policies for the operation of the schools, adopting and monitoring the budget, adopting the levy, authorizing curriculum development, approving the appointment of teachers and other staff members, and providing overall direction.



Exceptional Rankings

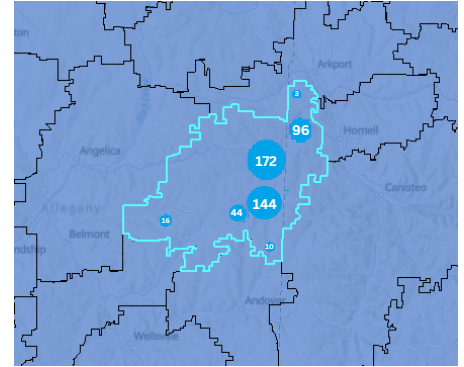
U.S. News & World Report ranked schools on college readiness, state assessment proficiency and performance, under-served student performance, college curriculum breadth, and graduation rate. Alfred-Almond High School ranked:

- #126 out of 1,210 in New York State
- #1 out of 21 component districts in GST BOCES
- #1 ranking in Allegany and Steuben Counties
- #1 ranking in the Southern Tier

District at a Glance

Alfred-Almond Central School District was established in 1939 when the Villages of Alfred and Almond merged their schools and centralized various rural school districts in the area. Through the leadership of its elected Board of Education and professional educational administrators, the school district provided a comprehensive school experience rich in academics, activities, arts, and athletics to 504 students during the 2023-24 school year.

District Boundaries and Student Population Clusters



Leadership Team



We want to hear from you!

Contact information for the leadership team, including emails and phone numbers, is accessible from aacsapps.org by selecting *Home > Staff Directory*, and *Home > Office Directory*.

Financial Highlights

Over \$4.9 million in capital projects were completed in the summer of 2024, including bus garage fuel tank replacements, and another phase of heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) renovations. Additional projects included continuation of the replacement of doors and other security-related enhancements, elevator and boiler replacements, and the upgrade of lighting at the athletic fields.



Capital Improvements



Collective Bargaining

The District successfully negotiated a three-year contract with the Alfred-Almond Teachers' Association (AATA). The negotiated agreement is within the parameters set by the Board of Education and provides for consistency and stability across the instructional group. The contract is scheduled to expire on June 30, 2027.

The District had \$15.4 million in expenses related to governmental activities, of which \$4.3 million were offset by program-specific charges for services or operating grants and contributions. General revenues of \$14 million offset the remaining program expenses.

The balance resulted in an increase in net position of \$2.9 million. An increase in net position indicates that the District's revenue continues to support the programs and services it provides.



Increase in Net Position



Increase in EAV

For tax year 2023, payable in 2024, the District's aggregate equalized assessed value (EAV) for all real property within the boundaries of Alfred-Almond School District increased approximately 9% from \$290.6 million to \$317.0 million. This is attributed to \$0.6 million in new property, the Town of Hartsville reassessment, and property sales throughout the District.

Financial Statements

The school district annually prepares and publishes a series of financial statements in the form of an Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR). For the purposes of this document, several of these statements have been selected and are presented in a condensed form. To view the ACFR in its entirety, please visit the school district's website and select Our District > Departments > Business Office > Audit Reports.

Audit Recommendations & Confirmed Resolutions

FUND MANAGEMENT

Recommendation: Previously and during our current year-end audit procedures, Allied CPAs noted that the District had an unassigned fund balance over 4% in the General Fund. Allied CPAs recommend the District use these excess funds to offset any shortfalls in future periods.

Action Plan: Management acknowledges the excess unassigned fund balance in the General Fund resulting from end-of-year reporting and accrual adjustments, and will consider these end-of-year adjustments when developing plans to transfer into Capital Reserves and appropriating fund balance to offset future budgets.

GASB STATEMENT NO. 101 COMPENSATED ABSENCES

Implementation: The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) has issued Statement No. 101, Compensated Absences. This Statement changes the way governments will recognize and measure liabilities for leave time earned by employees, and is effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2023. The District and Allied CPAs will monitor the way leave time is recognized and measured for financial reporting purposes, in fiscal year 2025.

GASB STATEMENT NO. 96 SUBSCRIPTION-BASED INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY ARRANGEMENTS

Implementation: As the District has no material subscriptions, there was no impact on the financial statements in the current year. The District and Allied CPAs will continue to monitor subscriptions in the future to determine if additional reporting is required.

GASB STATEMENT NO. 100 ACCOUNTING CHANGES AND ERROR CORRECTIONS

Implementation: As the District has no accounting changes and error corrections, there was no impact on the financial statements in the current year. The District and Allied CPAs will continue to monitor accounting changes and error corrections in the future to determine if additional reporting is required.

Definitions

Assets - Assets are resources owned and controlled by the school district that are expected to benefit future operations.

Deferred Outflows - Deferred outflows are the consumption of net assets applicable to future reporting periods.

Liabilities - Liabilities are debt or obligations that the school district must pay.

Deferred Inflows - Deferred inflows are the acquisition of net assets applicable to future reporting periods.

Net Investment in Capital Assets - Net investment in capital assets represents the school district's investment in capital assets, less any related outstanding debt used to acquire those assets.

Net Position - Net position reflects the school district's net worth. (Net position = Assets + Deferred outflows - Liabilities - Deferred inflows)

Condensed Statement of Net Position

The Statement of Net Position indicates the net worth of the school district as of June 30, 2024. The statement presents a comprehensive picture of the organization's financial position, including all financed debt, the value of its property (i.e., buildings, land, and capitalized equipment), and its liquid assets (i.e., cash on hand, investments) as of a certain point in time. The 27% increase in net position from 2023 to 2024 indicates an improved financial position able to withstand unanticipated losses or other costs that could impact district operations.

Governmental Activities	Fiscal Year 2023	Fiscal Year 2024
Assets		
Current and other assets	\$8,569,269	\$11,892,271
Capital assets and right-to-use assets	\$16,996,233	\$20,965,378
Total assets	\$25,565,502	\$32,857,649
Deferred outflows of resources	\$4,604,075	\$3,646,692
Liabilities		
Other liabilities	\$1,023,322	\$5,868,608
Long-term liabilities	\$16,415,018	\$14,254,678
Total liabilities	\$17,438,340	\$20,123,286
Deferred inflows of resources	\$1,916,047	\$2,656,279
Net position		
Net investment in capital assets	\$9,389,053	\$9,980,378
Restricted	\$5,443,459	\$7,206,581
Unrestricted (deficit)	(\$4,017,322)	(\$3,462,183)
Total net position	\$10,815,190	\$13,724,776

>>Looking for more? To view the full Statement of Net Position, refer to page 12 in the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report.

Did you know? The school district uses a “zero-based budgeting” approach, combined with a formula-driven review of budget allocations? These practices help ensure decision making processes are consistent, data-based and equitable to current and future generations of students.

Condensed Statement of Revenues, Expenditures & Changes in Fund Balances

The Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances presents a summary of all transactions and financial events between July 1, 2023 and June 30, 2024, that affects the net position reported on the statement.

In a school district, it is common to reference its net position as expressed through its fund balance (also known as reserve), to determine the financial stability of the organization. Should the fund balance level demonstrate a significant decrease, it would indicate that the organization's expenditures exceeded its revenues. There are times when this is appropriate, such as when the Board of Education approved a series of capital projects to improve the heating, ventilation and cooling systems (HVAC) of its facilities. Using the school district's fund balance should be limited to one-time, purposeful uses (e.g., the HVAC projects), or due to delayed revenues impacting the overall cash flow for the organization (e.g., the delay of property tax and state aid revenue).

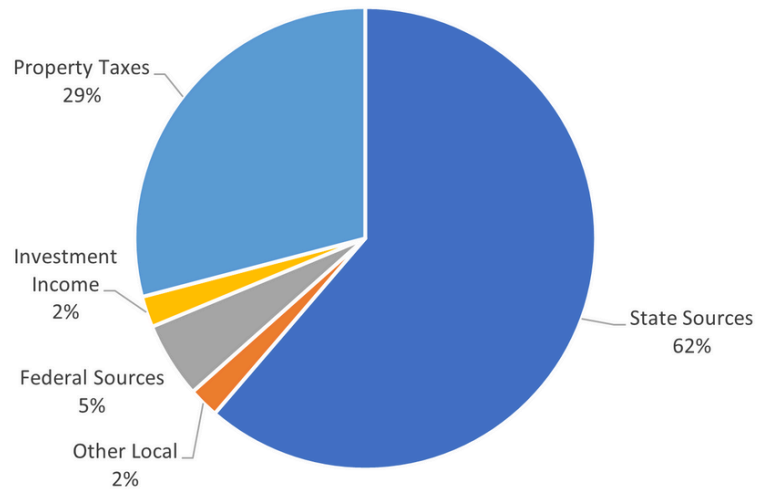
	Operating Funds	Debt Services	Capital Projects	Total
Revenue				
Local sources - taxes	\$5,282,685	\$-	\$-	\$5,282,685
Local sources - other	\$782,810	\$140,116	\$150	\$923,076
State sources	\$11,143,627	\$-	\$-	\$11,143,627
Federal sources	\$964,388	\$-	\$-	\$964,388
Total revenues	\$18,173,510	\$140,116	\$150	\$18,313,776
Expenditures				
Instruction	\$7,809,225	\$-	\$-	\$7,809,225
General support	\$2,283,658	\$-	\$3,972,588	\$6,256,246
Pupil transportation	\$668,214	\$-	\$-	\$668,214
Cost of sales	\$521,057	\$-	\$-	\$521,057
Employee benefits	\$3,141,154	\$-	\$-	\$3,141,154
Debt services	\$1,581,981	\$-	\$-	\$1,581,981
Total expenditures	\$16,005,289	\$-	\$3,972,588	\$19,977,877
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over (under) expenditures	\$2,168,221	\$140,116	(\$3,972,438)	(\$1,664,101)
Other Financing Sources (Uses)				
Debt issuance	\$-	\$-	\$165,000	\$165,000
Transfers	(\$200,000)	\$-	\$200,000	\$-
Total other financing sources (uses)	(\$200,000)	\$-	\$365,000	\$165,000
Net change in fund balance	\$1,968,221	\$140,116	(\$3,607,438)	(\$1,499,101)
Fund balances - beginning	\$6,782,526	\$532,022	\$232,220	\$7,546,768
Fund balances - ending	\$8,750,747	\$672,138	(\$3,375,218)	\$6,047,667

*Operating Funds Include General and Special Revenue Funds

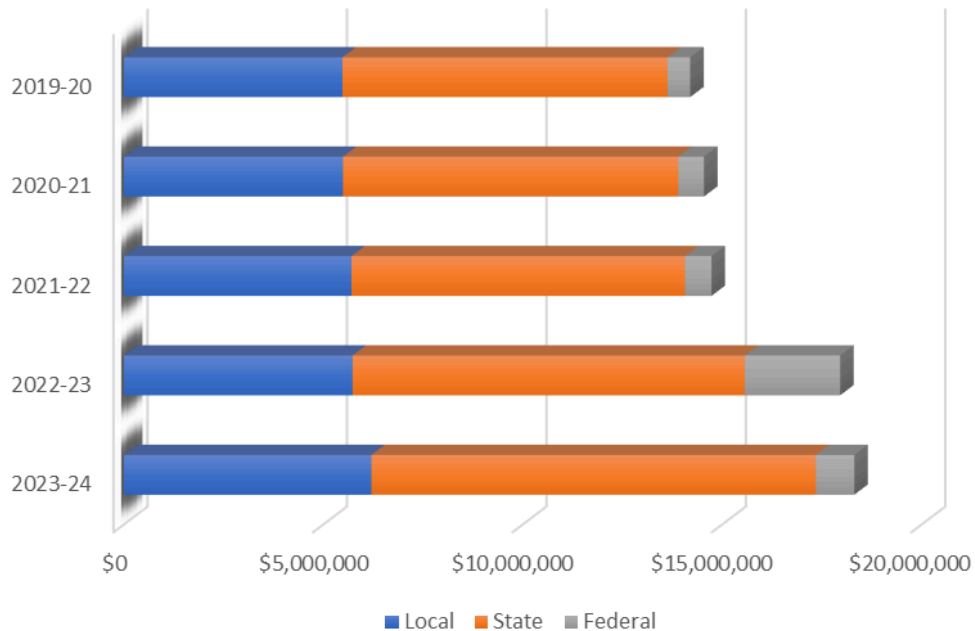
Revenue by Source

The school district receives the majority of its revenue from state and federal sources, including foundation aid, BOCES aid, building aid, transportation aid, STAR program revenue, and Medicaid reimbursement. Revenue from local sources include property taxes and interest income.

Operating Funds by Source: 2023-24



Operating Funds: Revenue Sources by Fiscal Year

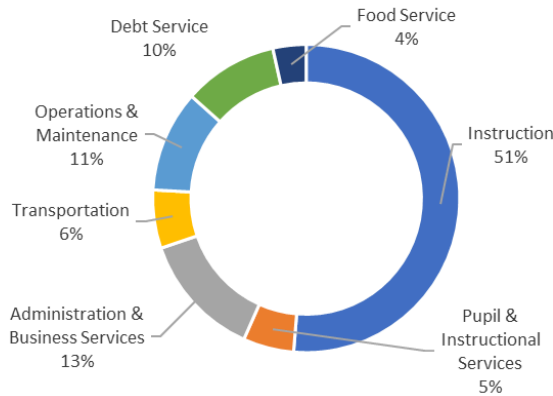


>>Looking for more? View page 16 of the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report.

Expense by Function

Through a zero-based budgeting approach, the school district's leadership team annually examines its prior year and projected expenditures. This process begins in November of the prior fiscal year and continues through the end of June. The goal of this budgeting approach is to ensure that all available financial resources are allocated in a manner that is consistent with the school district's mission, short, and long-term goals. As a learning organization, employee salaries and benefits make up the largest portion of the operating budget (61%). Through the implementation of interest-based collective bargaining, formula-based resource allocations, and extensive efforts to minimize healthcare increases, the district has consistently provided a comprehensive school experience full of opportunities in the 4 As (academics, activities, athletics, and the arts) to all of its students.

Operating Funds by Function: 2023-24



Instruction - Activities directly related to the teaching of students

Pupil and Instructional Services - Activities associated with assisting instructional staff with providing learning experiences for students

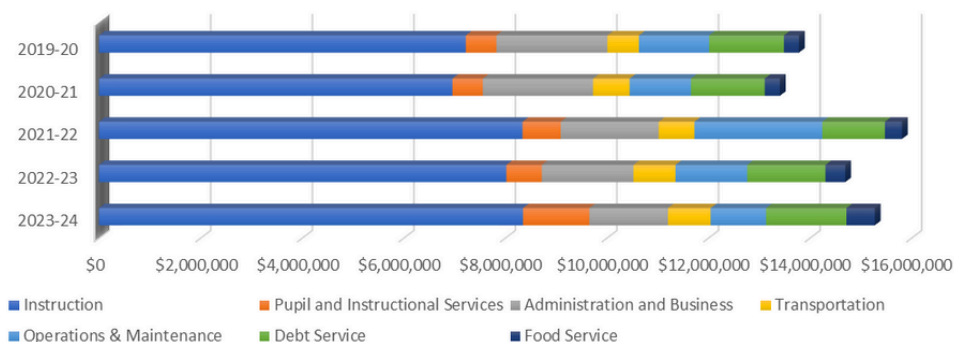
Transportation - Activities to convey individuals to and from school

Administration and Business - Activities to support fiscal services, purchasing, printing, personnel and technology administration

School Food Services - Activities to provide breakfast and lunch for students and staff

Operations and Maintenance - Activities concerned with keeping facilities and school grounds open, safe and comfortable

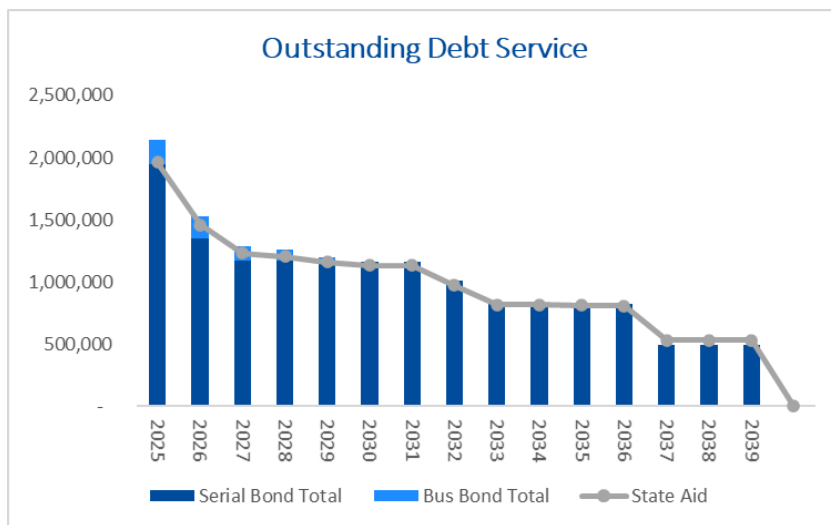
Operating Funds: Expense by Function by Fiscal Year



Long-term Liabilities

	Governmental Activities Fiscal Year 2023	Governmental Activities Fiscal Year 2024
General Obligation Bonds	\$7,839,400	\$6,730,000
Unamortized Bond Premium Net of Discount	\$290,149	\$213,407
Compensated Absences	\$36,252	\$67,777
Net Pension Liability	\$1,352,305	\$947,235
Other Postemployment Benefits	\$6,896,912	\$6,296,259
Total	\$16,415,018	\$14,254,678

Looking to the Future



Alfred-Almond Area Economic & Residential Growth:

The Allegany and Steuben County Industrial Development Boards continue to support the development of underutilized properties for commercial, industrial, and residential purposes. The school district monitors these new developments to ensure capacity within our schools, and the financial resources necessary to provide a comprehensive elementary and high school education to new students enrolling as a result of new developments.

Collective Bargaining:

The school district will begin negotiations with the Alfred-Almond Support Staff Association (AASSA) during the 2024-25 school year.

Student Enrollment:

Recent enrollment and census data indicate a decline of enrollment at Alfred-Almond Central School District. The annual budget-building process includes provisions for future enrollment variances.

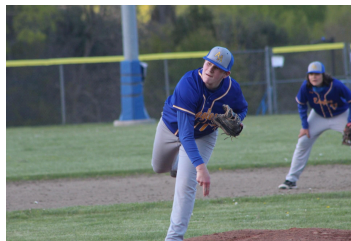
Alfred-Almond Central School District Mission

It is the overall mission of the Alfred-Almond Central School District to prepare each individual to live successfully in a world of rapid change, and to grow from dependence to independence. Development of self-discipline and readiness to accept responsibility for one's actions are essential characteristics of that growth.

Our school system will provide an equal opportunity for each Alfred-Almond student to be challenged to the fullest extent of his or her ability and to assure that all students will acquire the knowledge and skills necessary to enable them to become productive members of society.

This mission is best accomplished when school personnel maintain high expectations for all students, create a positive school climate, ensure a safe and orderly school environment, monitor student progress on a frequent basis, and promote effective home-school communication.

The school system shares the responsibility for accomplishing this mission with the family and community.



Let's Stay in Touch!

Alfred-Almond Central School District
6795 State Route 21, Almond, New York 14804
aacsapps.com | (607) 276-6500

Learn More About the District

>> **Looking for more?** Visit aacsapps.com and select Our District >> Business Services to access other financial resources.

