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CANAJOHARIE, NEW YORK 13317

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Canajoharie Central School District 2023-24 NYSED Foundation Aid Increase Required Plan

The Canajoharie Central School District is set to receive a 12% increase in foundation aid for the 2023-24 school year. A requirement from the NYSED is to seek public comment, take comments into account in the development of the plan, and describe how the aid increase will be used.

The district did a number of things to gain feedback from all stakeholders to devise the 2023-24 budget. Each building submitted their requests to their respective principal and supervisor. The requests were then vetted with administration to formulate a preliminary budget. The district then held a number of public Finance/Budget meetings from February through April to discuss the budget and how the aid would be used. A survey was also sent out to all faculty, staff and parents/guardians explaining the requirement from NYSED, what aid we were set to receive, ideas devised from the district and finance/budget meetings with regard to a preliminary budget and gathering any additional feedback on the increase. The budget yielded the following:

70% of the responses agreed with the proposed budget

20% of the responses included comments and suggestions

-Asked to provide more opportunities for students and less on increases to salaries and benefits

-Use Title funds as opposed foundation aid for increased special education costs

-Add scholarships for graduating seniors, new personnel art supplies and instruments

-Look for ways to keep the additional AIS teacher in the future

10% of the responses asked specific questions on how the budget was devised

The foundation aid increase is planned to be used for the following:

3 FTE Academic Intervention Services Teachers - support students at each school

.5 FTE Music Teacher - additional arts/music offerings - current position was only .5

1 FTE Special Education Teacher - support areas of Math and Science at the high school

.5 FTE English Language Learner Teacher - support students who have a second language

Maintain a 1 FTE Guidance Counselor at the Elementary School - ARPA funds expired

Additional Courses - High School and Middle School

All of the following above will help with supports for students and take into account feedback from the community, faculty and staff. The total is equal to 40% of the aid increase we were expecting to receive. The remaining funds will help offset normal increases in salaries, benefits, BOCES costs and special education increases.

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