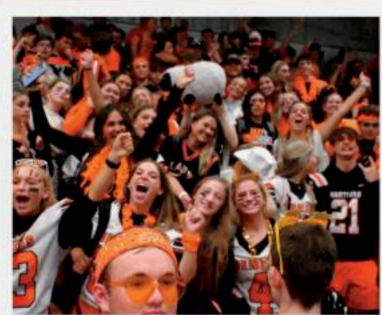


# Ovations



November 2023  
Issue



# Superintendent Jeff Walters



Dear Hartford Union High School Family and Community,  
The new academic year is off to a super start! Recently during a professional development day, Principal Kelly Lam introduced the results of our PreACT and we saw growth in all categories. While the strides may be small, we are headed in the right direction and are above the national average. Plus we are proud of the **increased** number of students who took the test and ownership of their learning.

We also appreciate those who came to our recent Community Conversation, Annual Meeting and School Board Meeting. Executive Director of Business Services and Human Resources, Rob Nelson, along with myself shared information about school funding, our district's current financial situation, as well as the district's budget challenges that need to be addressed in the coming weeks and months. Please see the detailed budget information in the following pages and here's to our collective resilience and creativity as we always keep our students' best interests at heart.

Go Orioles!

Jeffrey A. Walters  
Hartford Union High School Superintendent



Front row, left to right: Elena Rettler, Izzy Haeft, Addison Hagen, **Queen Maddie Roell**, Diana Schallock, Bri Olejnik, Mariah Senfleben, Lizzy Larkin, and Gaby George  
Back row, left to right: Blake Bell, Dilan Breuer, Tommy Wetzal, Mason Weber, Kenny Kasier, Kade Hirsch, **King Chris Weed**, Billy Powell and Brady Senkbeil.

# Our Reasons Why



## **Trent Schmitt - 12th Grade**

**Future Plans:** Going straight into the trades and working with a rough carpenter and later on down the road start my own business.

**Hartford Area School:** Erin School

**Favorite Class:** Residential Construction

**Favorite thing about HUHS:** The wide variety of tech ed classes we offer compared to other schools.

*I've seen Trent come through some challenging times in his life and continue to grow as a young man. His interest in carpentry and connection to a construction company through summer work and Youth Apprenticeship has help form a successful career path. It also creates a model for peers to see and replicate. - Mr. Mark Murphy*

## **Connor Knippel - 11th Grade**

**Future Plans:** I plan on going to college to become an engineer.

**Hartford Area School:** Saint Gabriel School

**Favorite Class:** Mr. Kraus's Woods 2

**Favorite Thing About HUHS:** All the friends I have made.

*I appreciate the way Connor brings a sense of curiosity to each lesson. He is not satisfied with just knowing the 'what', but truly desires to understand the 'why' and 'how' behind the concepts we study in Calculus. - Mrs. Kristen Helms*



## **Elliot Brunner-Selsing - 10th Grade**

**Future Plans:** College for Music

**Hartford Area School:** Central and Rossman

**Favorite Class:** Choir, although I play piano, flute, guitar and upright bass

**Favorite Thing About HUHS:** All the teachers and students in music dept.

*Elliott is a leader in the alto section of the Concert Choir as well as a String Bass player in the Orchestra. She even finds time to participate in the HUHS musical. It is a joy to watch her make music from the heart. She is an exceptional performer. - Mr. Ernest Brusubardis*



## **Karise Holland - 9th Grade**

**Future Plans:** College - See where that takes me, I want to be a teacher some day.

**Hartford Area School:** Erin School

**Favorite Class:** English and Oriole Choir

**Favorite thing about HUHS:** My friends, teachers, student council, and the musical.

*Karise is a positive force in the classroom. She is always willing to participate, work with anyone in the room, and continues to push herself and take initiative in her learning. - Ms. Abbey Belling*



## Students Chosen By Our Counselors



## 2023-2024 Budget Hearing and 2023 Annual Meeting Report Summary

Hello neighbor! You may be wondering, "Why should the HUHS budget matter to me if I don't have a student at the school?" Well, here's the thing - our school is not just a building where young minds grow. It's a key pillar of our community and here's why:

- The value of your home rises and falls based on the quality of our school and how it attracts new families and development.
- Local businesses rely on a strong school district to attract employees and customers.
- Investing in education means investing in our future leaders, innovators, and problem-solvers.

The cost of doing business is going up, but did you know Wisconsin schools have a property tax and state general aid limit set by a law passed in the 1993-1994 school year? Which means our funds have not kept up with inflation and only 88% of our budget is covered by your taxes. Like many districts, we are operating with a budget deficit.

We're keeping an eye on our programs and services to make sure they add real value. Our fund allocations are not just numbers on a page, they're a reflection of our commitment to our students and the 14 different municipalities we serve.

### ENROLLMENT

Eighty eight percent of the operating budget revenues are determined by the state revenue limit law. The revenue limit formula is based on student "membership," meaning resident students for whom the District is paying the cost of education. This includes District residents who attend **other** public schools through the state's open enrollment program or private schools through the Wisconsin Parental Choice Program (WPCP).



## EXPENDITURES

Transfers are the District's share of Special Education.

<b>Expenses</b>	<b>2022-23 Unaudited</b>	<b>2023-24 Budget</b>
Salaries/Benefits	\$12,126,457	\$12,464,594
Purchased Services	\$5,097,347	\$5,338,101
Supplies Equipment	\$1,631,353	\$1,356,500
Transfers	\$1,388,765	\$1,483,596
Other	\$348,186	\$388,200
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$20,592,108</b>	<b>\$21,030,991</b>

## REVENUES

When all state and local sources are combined, more than 95.00% of the budget is funded from these sources. Less than 5.00% of the District's revenues come from federal and other sources.

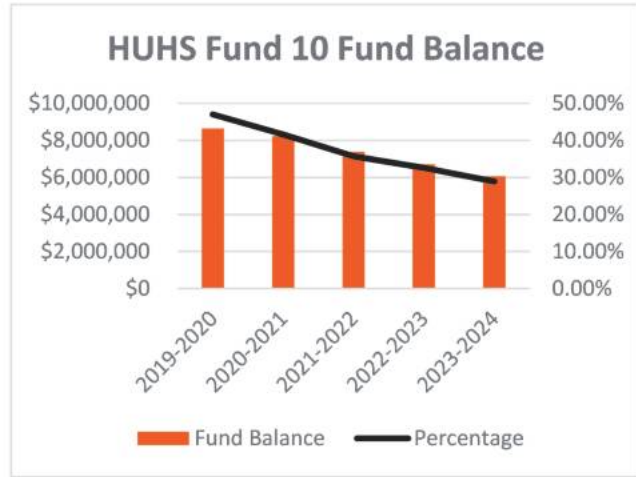
<b>Revenue</b>	<b>2022-23 Unaudited</b>	<b>2023-24 Budget</b>
Local Sources	\$10,797,589	\$10,724,172
Inter-District Sources	\$608,330	\$688,423
Intermediate Sources	\$41,475	\$36,151
State Sources	\$8,137,656	\$8,076,502
Federal Sources	\$729,447	\$801,279
Other Sources	\$138,634	\$55,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$20,453,131</b>	<b>\$20,381,527</b>

## FUND BALANCE

Fund balance is the difference between what a district owns and what it owes: assets – liabilities = fund balance (equity). Fund balance is not cash in the bank. Each fund has a fund balance calculation. When referencing a district's fund balance, it is usually related to the fund balance of the general operations Fund 10.

A district's General Fund 10 balance is calculated on the last day of the fiscal year (June 30), once all revenues and expenditures have been accounted for. A district's actual cash reserves fluctuate throughout the year as revenues are received and expenses are paid.

Year	Fund Balance	Percentage
2019-2020	\$8,647,703	47.00%
2020-2021	\$8,235,087	41.60%
2021-2022	\$7,389,739	35.70%
2022-2023	\$6,713,613	32.60%
2023-2024	\$6,044,065	28.90%

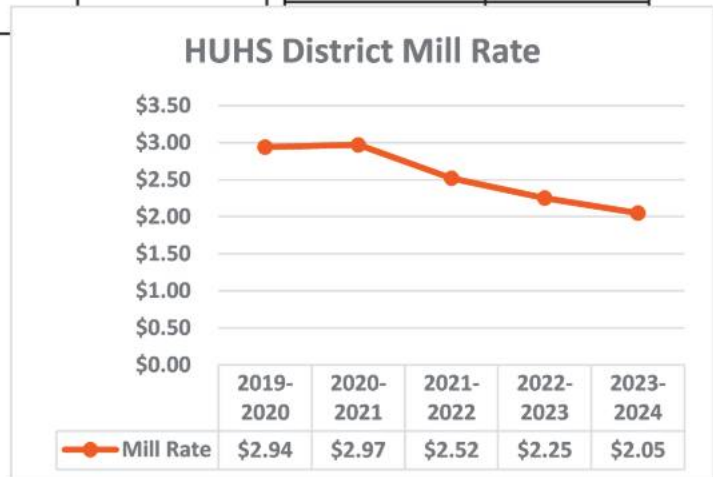


## HUHS DISTRICT PROPERTY TAX LEVY

Tax Levy by Fund	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024
General Fund 10	\$9,609,727	\$10,181,152	\$10,190,272
Debt Service Fund 38	\$619,346	\$620,945	\$619,366
Capital Expansion Fund 41	\$500,000	\$0	\$345,000
<b>Total Levy</b>	<b>\$10,729,073</b>	<b>\$10,802,097</b>	<b>\$11,154,638</b>
Mill Rate-per \$1000 property value	\$2.52	\$2.25	\$2.05

Year	Mill Rate
2018-2019	\$3.18
2019-2020	\$2.94
2020-2021	\$2.97
2021-2022	\$2.52

For every \$100,000 in property value, you pay approximately \$205 to support education.



# See What's Happening at HUHS



**Schauer Arts Center**  
Saturday, November 11th  
Sunday, November 12th  
Thurs., Fri., and Sat. - 16th, 17th, and 18th



15th Annual Manufacturing & Trade Career Expo in West Bend with more than 40 businesses and organizations. Students were able to discuss career opportunities, internships, and training programs.



Thanks to Tech Ed Teacher Corey McCauley, Counselor David Lynch and YA Coordinator Charles Gawle!

Terrific Performances by Our Choirs, Jazz Band, and Orchestra

Thanks to Our Fabulous Music Teachers



## Hartford Union High School District

To learn more about current events and to keep up with the daily happenings and news at HUHS, download our app or go to our website [www.HUHS.org](http://www.HUHS.org)

A GREAT  
**MOBILE APP  
FOR YOU**

NEWS LETTER  
Get the latest Newsletter

EVENT  
Stay up to date on all events

Never miss what's for Lunch

School Calendars

Hartford Union High School District

## Upcoming Events

### November

**3** End of Term

**6** No School - HUHS Professional Dev.

**22-24** Thanksgiving Break

### December

**11** No School - HUHS Professional Dev.

**13** Parent Teacher Conferences

**25-29** No School - Winter Break

### January

**1** No School- Winter Break

**18** End of Semester

**19** No School- HUHS Professional Dev.