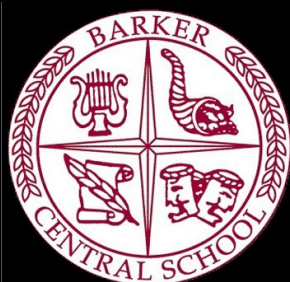


# The Banner



## Annual Budget Vote and Board Member Election

Tuesday, May 19, 2015

12:00 pm to 8:00 pm

Herbert F. Ludwig Fine Arts Hall

District residents will vote “yes” or “no” for the following proposition:

**Proposition #1:** “Shall the Board of Education be authorized to spend the sum of \$18,315,472 in the total amount set forth in the proposed Budget during the 2015-2016 school year and to levy the necessary tax?”



**Barker Central School**  
1628 Quaker Road  
Barker NY 14012  
[www.barkercsd.net](http://www.barkercsd.net)



### Board of Education

Ronald L. Clemens, President  
William F. Smith, Vice President  
Randall B. Atwater  
Mary Jo Clemens-Harris  
Gordon D. Kenyon  
Louis J. Mead  
John E. Sweeney Jr.

Dr. Roger J. Klatt, Superintendent of Schools  
Lisa Trakas, District Clerk

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Please visit:

[www.barkercsd.net](http://www.barkercsd.net)

for the 2015-16

District Calendar

**VISION:** “Barker Central School will provide the experiences necessary for our students to acquire the knowledge, skills, and traits to succeed intellectually, physically, socially, and emotionally in an ever-changing world.”

# A Message From Your Superintendent



Dear Resident,

This edition of the school newsletter includes the announcement of this year's Distinguished Alumni Commencement Speaker, detailed information about the 2015–2016 school budget, a heartfelt thank you to school board members who have given years of dedicated service to the school and community and an introduction to four district residents interested in serving on the Board of Education.

Detailed information about the school budget can be found on pages 4-5. The school board presents an expenditure budget of \$18,315,472 which represents a 1.23% decrease in spending compared to 2014–2015. This is the third consecutive year in which the expenditure budget has been decreased to reflect the decline in enrollment and funding. Cost saving efficiencies including a shared

superintendent, shared director of technology and other programs and services will not only allow us to work within a proposed budget under the legal tax cap limit, but also one that meets the required 1% equivalent savings on the tax levy. As a result, eligible district residents will once again receive a rebate check to offset increases in school taxes.

We extend a heartfelt thank you to Mr. Ronald Clemens and Mr. Gordon Kenyon for their dedicated service to the school and community. Mr. Clemens served for nine years, most recently as President of the Board. Mr. Kenyon concludes fifteen years of service, including six years as President. We are truly grateful to them for the many contributions each has made to the school and community.

To fill their vacancies, three interested district residents submitted applications to serve as members of the school board: William Moffitt, Virginia Voss and Candice Gancasz. Randall Atwater, a member of the school board for 27 years, is seeking re-election. You can read more about the candidates on page 6.

As always, should you have questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at 795-3832.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. J. Klatt". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Dr. Roger J. Klatt



# Distinguished Alumni Commencement Speaker

We are honored to have Mr. David Cleveland address the Class of 2015 at this year's commencement ceremony on Saturday, June 27. Mr. Cleveland, Class of 1967, recently retired from NASA serving as Associate Director for Mission Assurance. His work included many of NASA's robotic missions launched over the past thirty-five years, including the Hubble Space Telescope, Compton Gamma Ray Observatory, Galileo mission to Jupiter, Cosmic Background Explorer, NOAA's weather satellites, astrophysical observatories and earth observing satellites. Mr. Cleveland now serves as a consultant to NASA.

Mr. Cleveland credits much of his success to Barker Central School which propelled him to limitless opportunities. Following high school, he received a degree in Physics from the Rochester Institute of Technology and John Hopkins University in Applied Science. He also joined the US Army and in 1980, took a position with the Naval Research Laboratory's Space Physics Division in Washington, D.C. The following year, he moved to NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, Maryland.

We welcome Mr. Cleveland back home to Barker and look forward to his commencement speech.



David Cleveland



## United Way Award

Barker Sr. High School Guidance Counselor, Michael Gendrue received the United Way of Greater Niagara's "Outstanding Employee Coordinator Award" for his continued efforts in organizing the BCS staff for a successful employee campaign at Barker Central School and for his and the staff's volunteer support of United Way events. Mr. Gendrue was recognized on April 22 at the United Way of Greater Niagara's 5th Annual Meeting and Awards Breakfast. Pictured at the left, Mr. Gendrue accepted the award from Niagara County Sheriff James Voutour and United Way of Greater Niagara President Carol G. Houwaart-Diez.



# Recent Events at BCS



Clockwise from top left: Members of the National Academy of Finance visit Niagara University.

AFS club officers and advisor Mrs. Dewart were presented the 2015 Top AFS School Award.

Collin Webb, Casey Webb, Alexander Goodlander and Andrew Jenks set a new school record (1:33.57) in the 200 Free Relay at Sectionals on February 13.

Pratt Elementary and Barker Sr. High School students participated in the BCS Musical performance of *Mary Poppins*.

Dr. Surace visited 1st and 2nd grade students to discuss dental hygiene.

Students from Mrs. Luckman's kindergarten class celebrated Dr. Seuss' birthday.

# School District Budget Notice

Overall Budget Proposal	Budget Adopted for the 2014-15 School Year	Budget Proposed for the 2015-16 School Year	Contingency Budget for the 2015-16 School Year *
Total Budgeted Amount, Not Including Separate Propositions	\$ 18,543,787	\$ 18,315,472	\$ 18,144,013
Increase/Decrease for the 2015-16 School Year		\$ (228,315)	\$ (399,774)
Percentage Increase/Decrease in Proposed Budget		(1.23) %	(2.16) %
Change in the Consumer Price Index		1.62 %	
A. Proposed Tax Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount	\$ 3,992,689	\$ 4,072,543	
B. Levy to Support Library Debt, if Applicable	\$ 75,000	\$ 75,000	
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)	\$ 4,067,689	\$ 4,147,543	\$ 4,067,689
F. Permissible Exclusions to the School Tax Levy Limit	0	0	
G. School Tax Levy Limit, <u>Excluding</u> Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$ 5,696,988	\$ 4,202,519	
H. Total Proposed Tax Levy for School Purposes, <u>Excluding</u> Permissible Exclusions and Levy for Library Debt, Plus Prior Year Tax Cap Reserve (E - B - F + D)	\$ 3,992,689	\$ 4,072,543	
I. Difference: (G - H); (Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval - See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions) **	\$ 1,704,309	\$ 129,976	
Administrative Component	\$ 2,044,956	\$ 2,022,905	\$ 2,011,450
Program Component	\$ 13,680,473	\$ 13,545,120	\$ 13,477,116
Capital Component	\$ 2,818,358	\$ 2,747,447	\$ 2,655,447
<p>* Provide a statement of assumptions made in projecting a contingency budget for the 2015-16 school year, should the proposed budget be defeated pursuant to Section 2023 of the Education Law.</p> <p>Reduction in equipment purchases of \$ 165,804. Reduction in General Support Services of an additional \$3656.</p>			
<p>** 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)</p>	Description	Amount	

NOTE: Please submit an electronic version (Word or PDF) of this completed form to: [emscmgts@nysed.gov](mailto:emscmgts@nysed.gov)

Under the Budget Proposed for the 2015-16 School Year

Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings<sup>1</sup>

\$ 490.00

The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2015-2016 by the qualified voters of the Barker Central School District, Niagara County, New York, will be held in the Herbert F. Ludwig Fine Arts Hall in said district on Tuesday, May 19, 2015 between the hours of 12:00pm and 8:00pm, prevailing time in the Barker High School at which time the polls will be opened to vote by voting machine.

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

# Budget Summary

<b>REVENUES</b>	<b>2014-2015 Approved Budget</b>	<b>2015-2016 Proposed Budget</b>	<b>% Change</b>
Payments in Lieu of Taxes	\$ 3,033,600	\$ 3,033,600	0.00%
State Aid	\$ 7,484,844	\$ 7,700,803	2.89%
Real Property Taxes	\$ 3,992,689	\$ 4,072,543	2.00%
Other	\$ 257,000	\$ 327,000	27.24%
Appropriated Fund Balance	\$ 350,000	\$ 0	-100.00%
Assigned Fund Balance	\$ 3,425,654	\$ 3,181,526	-7.13%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 18,543,787</b>	<b>\$ 18,315,472</b>	<b>-1.23%</b>

<b>EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>2014-2015 Approved Budget</b>	<b>2015-2016 Proposed Budget</b>	<b>% Change</b>
General Support	\$ 2,528,413	\$ 2,432,014	-3.81%
Instruction	\$ 9,499,595	\$ 9,490,281	-0.10%
Pupil Transportation	\$ 1,112,356	\$ 1,127,017	1.32%
Community Service	\$ 40,746	\$ 40,950	0.50%
Employee Benefits	\$ 4,158,939	\$ 4,000,130	-3.82%
Debt Service	\$ 1,153,739	\$ 1,147,100	-0.58%
Interfund Transfers	\$ 50,000	\$ 77,980	55.96%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 18,543,787</b>	<b>\$ 18,315,472</b>	<b>-1.23%</b>

## Qualifications of a Voter

If you are a citizen of the United States; you have been a resident of the Barker Central School District for at least 30 days; you are at least eighteen (18) years of age; you are qualified to register for an election in accordance with Section 5-106 of the Election Law. (NOTE: You are not required to be a registered voter in the general election or to have cast a vote in any such election. You must, however, be qualified or eligible to register to vote.)

You do not have to be a property owner to be eligible to vote.



# Candidates for the Board of Education

The Barker Board of Education has three vacant seats for the 2015-2016 School Board election for a three year term each. The candidates that returned petitions are listed here in the order they will appear on the ballot:

## Candidate – Bill Moffitt

Bill Moffitt is a 1991 graduate of BCS and has been a resident of the district for most of his life. He is a veteran of the United States Army, attended both SUNY Brockport and Buffalo State for History Education and Political Science and is currently employed by GM Powertrain. Bill has been in a variety of roles for the Barker School system, from substitute teacher to advisor for the Drama Club, and has contributed to many past BCS activities, including the Alumni Committee, English Club, Prom and Homecoming Week festivities. In addition, Mr. Moffitt continues his involvement in the community through the Somerset Little League where he currently coaches and holds a seat on the Board of Directors. His wife, Jackie, is also a BCS graduate, and their two daughters, Piper (Junior High) and Paris (Pratt Elementary), are very active in the BCS sports and music programs and have benefitted from a solid education in Barker as they are both Honor students. It is Bill's hope as a member of the Barker Board of Education that he will be able to help further enhance our children's educational culture and promote our students' community involvement to ensure they are prepared for the challenges and opportunities for life beyond high school.

## Candidate – Virginia Voss

My name is Virginia Voss and I am running for Barker school board. My family has lived in the Barker/Somerset area for 15 years and we are active in the community.

My husband, David, is a chemistry teacher at Medina High School and our four children attend Barker. Our oldest, Abby, is a senior, who will be attending Nazareth College in the fall. Ryan is in 10th grade, Ellie in 6th and Aidan is in the 4th grade. I am the Customer Service Manager at Tops in Lockport where I have worked for 27 years. Recently I returned to full time employment after working part-time while raising my family. I am a member of Christ Community Church where I have served on the General Board. I am currently active on the worship team and in children ministries. In my spare time I enjoy reading, baking, cross-stitching and supporting my children in their various activities.

Fifteen years ago my husband and I chose to move our family to Barker so our children would get an excellent education while also enjoying the benefits of living in a small community. I have been fortunate to be able to volunteer at the school in

many capacities. I have been a parent volunteer in the classroom and for special functions. I have served on several interview committees, the most recent being the committee that hired the high school principal.

I have decided to run for school board for the same reason that I decided to move to Barker. I want to ensure that all Barker children continue to receive a quality education. I realize how important the Barker Schools are to the whole community. I want to ensure that our school continues to be a viable option. I want future generations to be able to get the same "Barker education" that my children have received.

## Candidate – Candice Gancasz

Candice Gancasz has lived in the Barker area for over 30 years. She and her husband Doug are Barker graduates and have raised their 3 girls, Alexandra, Savanna, and Madison in the Barker school district. Candice has been employed by VanDeMark Chemical Inc, a global chemical manufacturer, for 27 years. Currently Candice holds the position of Customer Relations Administrator. Candice feels there is nothing more important than raising our children in a safe, productive environment. She is looking forward to the opportunity of becoming part of a team of dedicated people with the privilege to support our children, their education and our entire school community.

## Candidate – Randall Atwater

My name is Randy Atwater and I reside in the Town of Somerset with my wife, Pam. Our daughters, Anna and Julia, graduated from Barker Central School in 2008 and 2014 respectively.

I am a 1977 graduate of BCS and a 1981 graduate of Union College in Schenectady, NY, with a BS in electrical engineering. After a short engineering career with IBM in Vermont, I returned to the Town of Somerset in 1984. I have been in the dried fruit business since 1986, currently as the international sales manager for Shoreline Fruit, LLC of Traverse City, Michigan.

I have been a member of the Barker Central School Board of Education since 1988. It has been gratifying to see the changes and progress our district has made over the years. Our school plays a central role in our community and I hope to continue working with the board of education and the school administration to preserve and strengthen high quality educational opportunities for the children of the district.

Barker Central School District  
1628 Quaker Road  
Barker, NY 14012

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Students are presently building six picnic tables this spring as an assignment in Mr. Nash's Construction Systems high school course. The students have received valuable hands-on construction experience such as estimating materials, cutting/drilling with power tools, measuring, and assembling with hardware. The picnic tables will be used for various outdoor events on the school grounds. Construction Systems students in the past have built garden sheds and all the dugouts on the athletic fields. In this course, students also will explore the application of tools and materials to design and produce wood-framed, residential structures. They will learn to work with house plans as well as estimating materials needed to build a typical house. Pictured with their creation (Standing from left-right) are: Kyle MacDonald, Derek Uschold, Cameron Fox, Randall Wasnock, Mr. Nash. Seated is Joshua Mace.