

DERUYTER Central School

Budget/Spring 2025

ROCKET PRIDE

2025/2026 BUDGET BOOKLET VOTE: MAY 20th Noon-8pm

Dear Stakeholders, As we approach the final stretch of the school year, I want to take a moment to recognize the outstanding work taking place throughout the DeRuyter Central School District. From classrooms to extracurriculars, this year has been filled with meaningful learning, personal growth, and unwavering dedication from our staff and students. I also want to extend my sincere appreciation to everyone who contributed feedback and insight during the development of our District Strategic Plan. Adopted by the Board of Education in April, the plan will guide our work through the 2028 school year and ensures that we remain focused on what matters most—our students and their success.

At the heart of this Strategic Plan is our mission: empowering students to become engaged, compassionate, and productive members of the community through transformative educational experiences. Our vision and core values—integrity, resiliency, respect, belonging, and care for others—inform every decision we make. As we prepare the district budget, these guiding principles are more than just words—they are the lens through which every financial and programmatic decision is evaluated. Whether considering staffing, curriculum, or facilities, we ask: Does this investment directly support student learning? Does it advance our strategic priorities—Academic Excellence, The Student Experience, and Operations? Does it reflect the values we've committed to? These questions ensure that our resources remain aligned with our long-term goals, not just the immediate needs of a single year.

As the weather warms and the school year winds down, there's a palpable energy in the air—our Rockets are soaring. With a clear plan in place and purposeful investments guiding our path, we are closing out a successful year and setting our sights on continued progress. The momentum we've built is real, and I look forward to all that lies ahead.

*Sincerely,
Neal Capone, Superintendent*



**DERUYTER
CENTRAL
SCHOOL DISTRICT**

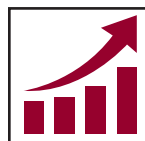
**2025
-2028**

<https://www.deruytercentral.org/>

711 Railroad Street
DeRuyter, New York 13052
Phone: (315) 852-3400


**BLUEPRINT FOR
EXCELLENCE
STRATEGIC PLAN**

PRIORITY AREAS



**Academic
Excellence**



**Student
Experience**



Operations

SCHOOL BUDGET NOTICE

Overall Budget Proposal	Budget Adopted for the 2024-25 School Year	Budget Proposed for the 2025-26 School Year	Contingency Budget for the 2025-2026 School Year *
Total Budgeted Amount, Not Including Separate Propositions	\$ 12,360,748	\$ 12,667,418	\$ 12,527,418
Increase/Decrease for the 2025-26 School Year		\$ 306,670	\$ 166,670
Percentage Increase/Decrease in Proposed Budget		2.48%	1.35%
Change in the Consumer Price Index		2.95%	
A. Proposed Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount	4,633,488	4,737,805	
B. Levy to Support Library Debt, if Applicable	0	0	
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)	4,633,488	4,737,805	4,633,488
F. Total Permissible Exclusions	\$ 771,680	\$ 775,130	
G. School Tax Levy Limit, <u>Excluding</u> Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$ 3,861,808	\$ 3,861,808	
H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, <u>Excluding</u> Levy to Support Library Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions (E - B - F + D)	\$ 3,861,808	\$ 3,962,675	
I. Difference: G - H (Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval - See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions) **	\$ 0	\$ 0	
Administrative Component	\$ 1,277,453	\$ 1,358,949	\$ 1,358,949
Program Component	\$ 8,981,610	\$ 9,191,445	\$ 9,160,445
Capital Component	\$ 2,101,685	\$ 2,117,024	\$ 2,008,024
<p>The contingency budget is based upon the following assumptions: The required Tax Levy will default to the previous year's tax levy allowing for reductions in appropriations to allow for some expenses such as:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> All Equipment is removed from the budget (as required by law) All non-school groups will have to pay for use of the building (as required by law) All Materials supplied for student use will be removed (as required by law) <p>The actual changes in appropriations under a contingency budget would be determined by the Board of Education should this be necessary.</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)	Description	Amount	
	School Vehicle Proposition(1 60 Passenger Bus & 1 48 Passenger Bus)	\$354,125	
	DeRuyter Free Library Proposition	\$41,694	
	Village of DeRuyter Summer Recreation	\$20,000	

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

Under the Budget Proposed for the 2025-26 School Year

Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings¹

\$396

The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2025-26 by the qualified voters of the DeRuyter Central school district, Madison County, New York, will be held in the lobby by the big gym DeRuyter Central School in said district on Tuesday, May 20, 2025 between the hours of 12:00pm and 8:00pm prevailing time in the DeRuyter Central School, at which time the polls will be opened to vote by optically scanned voting ballot.

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

SUMMARY OF RESOLUTIONS

Proposition 1 2025-26 School Budget: Shall the Board of Education adopt a budget for the DeRuyter Central School District in the amount of \$12,667,418 for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2025?

Proposition 2 Bus Proposition: Shall the Board of Education of the DeRuyter Central School District be authorized to purchase and finance one (1) 60-passenger school bus and one (1) 48-passenger school bus, including necessary furnishings, fixtures and equipment and all other costs incidental thereto, and expend a total sum not to exceed \$354,125, which is estimated to be the total maximum cost thereof, and said amount, or so much thereof as may be necessary, shall be raised by the levy of a tax upon the taxable property of said School District and collected in annual installments as provided by Section 416 of the Education Law; and, in anticipation of such tax, obligations of said School District, in the principal amount not to exceed \$354,125, shall be issued.

Proposition 3 Library Contribution: Shall the annual appropriation for the DeRuyter Free Library within the DeRuyter Central School District be increased from its current level of \$41,404 per year to \$41,694 per year, such sum to be raised by levy of a tax upon the taxable property of the District?

Proposition 4 Recreation Youth Program: Shall the Board of Education of the DeRuyter Central School District be authorized to expend \$20,000 for the district-wide recreation program administered by the Village of DeRuyter for the 2025-2026 school year, such sum to be raised by levy of a tax upon the taxable property of the District?

Tax Levy Impact The impact of approving all 4 propositions would be an increase to the tax levy of **2.25%** which is our tax cap. Due to assessment (Town control) and equalization (State control), we are not able to calculate the exact impact to each individual town at this time.



PROPOSITION 3 DETAIL

DeRuyter Free Library

This year's proposed budget reflects a modest increase of \$290, or 0.70%, totaling \$41,694.00. This amount remains within the Library's tax cap limit. The Library's Board is committed to minimizing the financial impact on local residents while continuing to provide essential services to our community.

In 2024, the DeRuyter Free Library welcomed 6,491 visitors, hosted 83 programs with 1,298 attendees, and recorded 719 computer sessions and 534 Wi-Fi sessions. Our library offers a variety of materials, including books, audiobooks, DVDs, and digital content. We checked out 13,458 physical items and 2,273 digital items through our Libby app. We also added 999 new items to our collection, bringing our total holdings to 13,830.

We serve 1,016 active users and continue to expand our reach with interlibrary loan services, fulfilling 3,335 requests and lending 2,190 items to other libraries. These efforts help provide access to even more materials for our patrons.

The DeRuyter Free Library has been a cornerstone of our community for 93 years, and we are grateful for the continued support of our residents. Our mission is to provide resources that educate, entertain, and enrich the lives of everyone in the DeRuyter Central School District. Our budget proposal allows us to maintain these services. We encourage community members to review our budget, ask questions, and get involved in shaping the future of our library. Our monthly Board meetings are open to the public, and we welcome your participation.

Sincerely, Amanda Ladd, Director

PROPOSITION 4 DETAIL

Village of DeRuyter Recreation Youth Program

For over 60 years, the Village of DeRuyter has offered recreational opportunities for the youth that live within the DeRuyter School District. We again are looking to make this happen. We are again seeking a contract agreement with Cortland Youth Bureau for a pool site to offer swim lessons. We have been able to run a successful spring and summer baseball program. A very well attended soccer program and basketball happened over the winter months on Saturday Mornings! All of this being possible with \$20,000.

Over the past few years, we have added a new soccer and softball field at the fairgrounds, which adds a nice flat and safe surface for our youth. We added some drainage to move some standing water away from the field (hopefully it will help with the mosquitos) and the Village of DeRuyter is dedicating the American Rescue Plan Act Funds towards fencing on that field.

We may be a small community but we are fortunate to offer these types of programs. We hope you will continue to support this program as we continue to grow. Please feel free to reach out to me with any and all questions regarding the Community Recreation Program. I can be reached via email at mayormarshall@deruyternygov.us

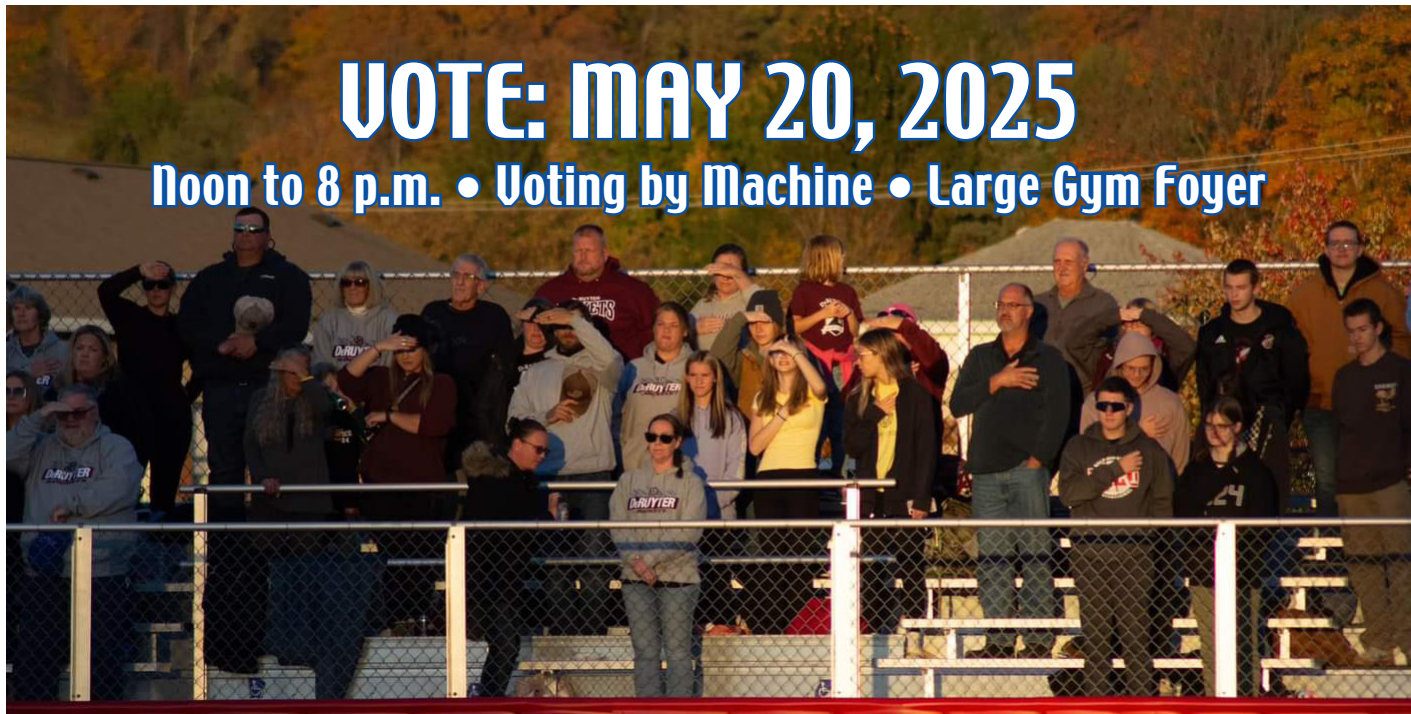
Thank you.

Travis Marshall, Mayor, Village Of DeRuyter

REVENUE PLAN

CATEGORY	2024-25 Budgeted Revenue 4/16/24	2025-26 Estimated Revenue 4/14/25	Estimated 24-54 to 25-26 Difference	% Difference
Foundation Aid	\$4,870,674	\$4,968,087	\$97,413	2.06%
BOCES Aid	\$538,091	\$639,804	\$101,713	18.67%
Hardware & Technology Aid	\$4,612	\$4,451	\$(161)	-3.40%
Software, Library, Textbook	\$24,841	\$24,120	\$(721)	-2.83%
Transportation Aid	\$624,180	\$637,715	\$13,535	1.94%
Building Aid	\$753,870	\$767,905	\$14,035	1.88%
Misc. Aids	\$158,847	\$159,847	\$1,000	0.63%
High Cost Excess Cost	\$65,951	\$49,634	\$(16,317)	11.27%
Total	\$7,041,066	\$7,251,563	\$210,497	3.05%

Charge for Services & Misc.	\$28,500	\$9,000	\$(19,500)	-15.42%
Use of Money/Property	\$31,000	\$31,000	\$-	0.00%
Medicaid	\$18,750	\$18,750	\$-	0.00%
Penalties and Interest	\$62,500	\$70,000	\$7,500	500.00%
Prior Year Refunds	\$110,000	\$110,000	\$-	0.00%
Fund Balance/Reserve Use	\$374,041	\$374,041	\$-	0.00%
Property Taxes	\$4,694,892	\$4,803,065	\$108,173	2.38%
Total Revenues	\$12,360,748	\$12,667,418	\$306,670	2.48%



THREE PART BUDGET

Administrative Component

- The administrative component represents 10.72% of the total budget which includes expenses for the Board of Education, school information officer, central administration, superintendent of buildings & grounds, transportation supervisor, instructional supervision, curriculum development, legal services, central data processing, printing, mailing, and employee benefits attributable to salaries in these functions.

ACCOUNT GROUP	2024-25 BUDGET	2025-26 BUDGET
BOARD OF EDUCATION	34,340	35,558
CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION	206,300	214,525
CENTRAL SUPPORT	651,128	702,004
SUPERVISION/STAFF DEVELOPMENT	251,284	271,301
COMMUNITY SERVICE/CENSUS	0	0
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	134,401	135,561
TOTAL ADMINISTRATIVE	1,277,453	1,358,949
Percent of Overall Budget	10.32%	10.72%

Program Component

- The program component represents the largest portion and focal point of our budget. The program component represents 72.57% of the total budget which includes regular instruction, special education, occupational education, curriculum and staff development, and summer school. Also included are pupil services such as health, guidance, library, co-curricular, athletics, and transportation. Associated employee benefit expenses, legal, and community service expenses are also included.

ACCOUNT GROUP	2024-25 BUDGET	2025-26 BUDGET
REGULAR INSTRUCTION	3,204,731	3,272,753
SPECIAL SCHOOL PROGRAMS	1,854,977	1,879,619
CENTRAL PRINTING & MAILING	0	0
STUDENT SERVICES	1,000,427	1,048,852
LEGAL	10,000	10,000
TRANSPORTATION	492,265	540,136
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	2,419,210	2,440,085
TOTAL PROGRAM	8,981,610	9,191,445
Percent of Overall Budget	72.68%	72.57%

THREE PART BUDGET

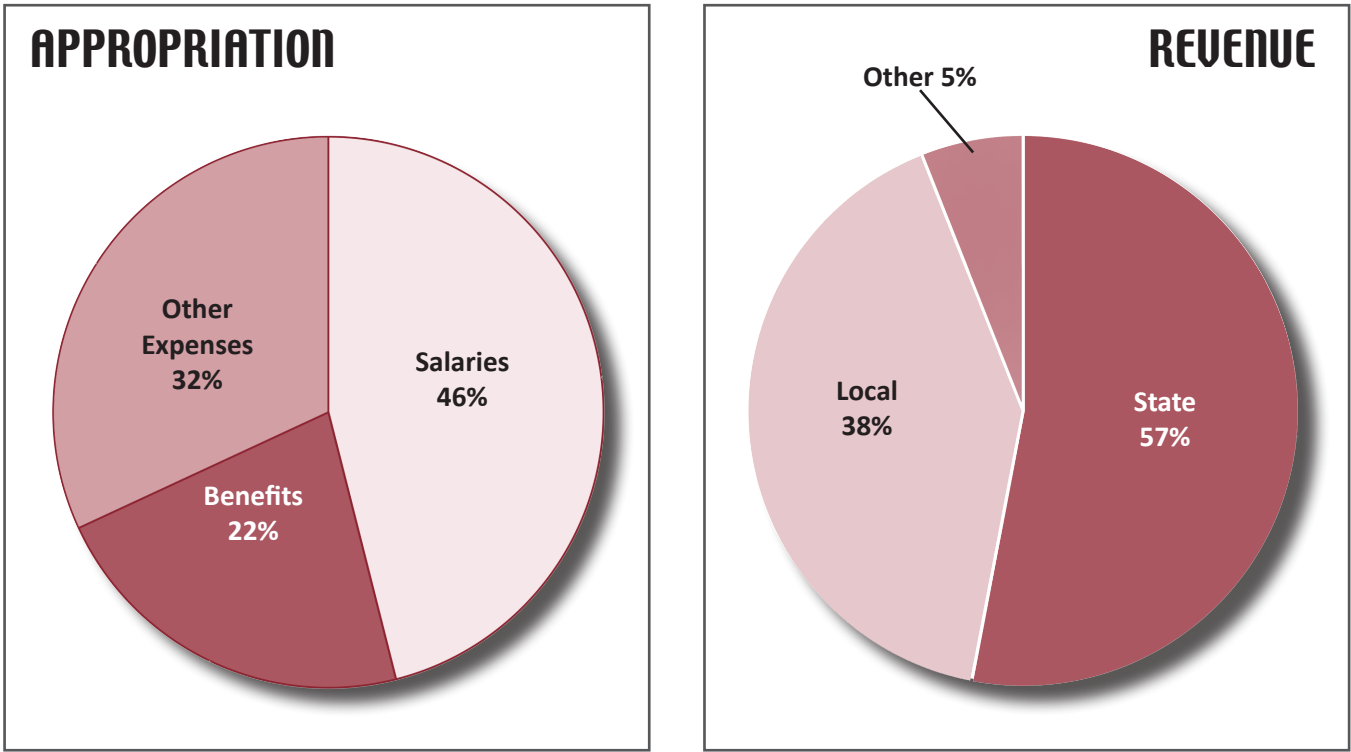
Capital Component - The capital component represents 16.71% of the total budget including expenses for the operation and maintenance of district faculties, building renovation costs, property tax refunds, and employee benefits attributable to salaries included in these functions.

*The 2025-2026 Proposed Budget includes an allocation for a \$100,000 Capital Outlay Project which would be eligible for Building Aid. This project would address flooring in the main building.

ACCOUNT GROUP	2024-25 BUDGET	2025-26 BUDGET
OPERATION & MAINTENANCE OF FACILITIES	781,056	783,976
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	134,401	135,560
DEBT SERVICE	1,186,228	1,197,488
TOTAL CAPITAL	2,101,685	2,117,024
Percent of Overall Budget	17.00%	16.71%
GRAND TOTALS	\$12,360,748	\$12,667,418

BUDGET BREAKDOWN

The charts below demonstrate the 2025-2026 proposed budget breakdown by appropriation (expense) and revenue. The appropriation is categorized by Salary, Benefits, and all other expenses. The Revenues is categorized by State aid, Local Funding (Tax Levy), and all other misc. revenues.





DERUYTER Central School

SPRING 2025

ROCKET PRIDE

IMPORTANT DATES

MAY

- 1 PTO Mtg., LMC 6pm
- 5-9 Teacher Appreciation Week
- 6-7 3-8th Grade Math Exam
- 7-9 FFA Sate Convention, Syracuse
- 9 NYSSMA Solo, Norwich (9-10)
Muffins for Mom/VIP Guest 7:45am
- 13 5 & 8 Grade Science Written Test
BOE Public Hearing 6pm/
Regular Meeting
- 16 Report Cards Go Home
- 19 Senior Citizen Lunch, 12-2pm
FFA Banquet, 6pm
- 20 **Budget Vote, 12-8pm**
3-4 Grade Vocal/Band/Art Show 6:30pm
BOE Meeting, LMC 8:05pm
- 21 MS Spring Concert/Art Show, 6:30pm
- 26 **Memorial Day, No School**
Parade 10am
- 29 9-12 Grade Spring Concert/Art Show
6:30pm

JUNE

- 3 Sports Awards: Modified 6pm,
JV/Varsity 7pm
- 5 Academic Awards: 5-8th Grade 6pm,
9-12th Grade 7pm
- 6 National Honor Society Induction,
8:15am
- 13 Donuts for Dads/VIP Guest 7:45am
- 19 **Juneteenth, No School**
- 20 Pre-K Graduation, 9am
- 21 Graduation, 11am
- 23 4th Grade Moving Up, 9am
- 26 PreK-6th Grade Rating Day
- 30 Report Cards Go Home

9th Grade Science Field Trip



On March 6, 2025, the 9th grade Earth and Space Science students embarked on an educational journey through the Museum of the Earth in Ithaca. This visit provided students with an in-depth exploration of both historical and contemporary climate change through the museum's interactive exhibits and educational programs.

A highlight of the trip was the Glacier exhibit, where students experienced a simulated ice cave environment. This hands-on display illustrated glacier formation, movement, and the rate at which glaciers are receding worldwide in response to climate change.

By connecting historical data with present-day observations, this learning experience enhanced the students' understanding of climate science and emphasized the importance of being informed.



A Meaningful Addition to Our Playground

We are excited to share a wonderful new addition to our already outstanding playground—a dedicated basketball area that reflects the love, commitment, and generosity of our community. This space stands as a testament to what can be achieved when a community comes together with a shared vision for its children.

During the summer of 2023, we successfully completed a full playground replacement through a collaborative community build. As part of that transformation, we were also able to introduce a basketball area within the playground itself—creating new opportunities for our students to engage in basketball, four square, and countless other games that fuel creativity and physical activity during recess.

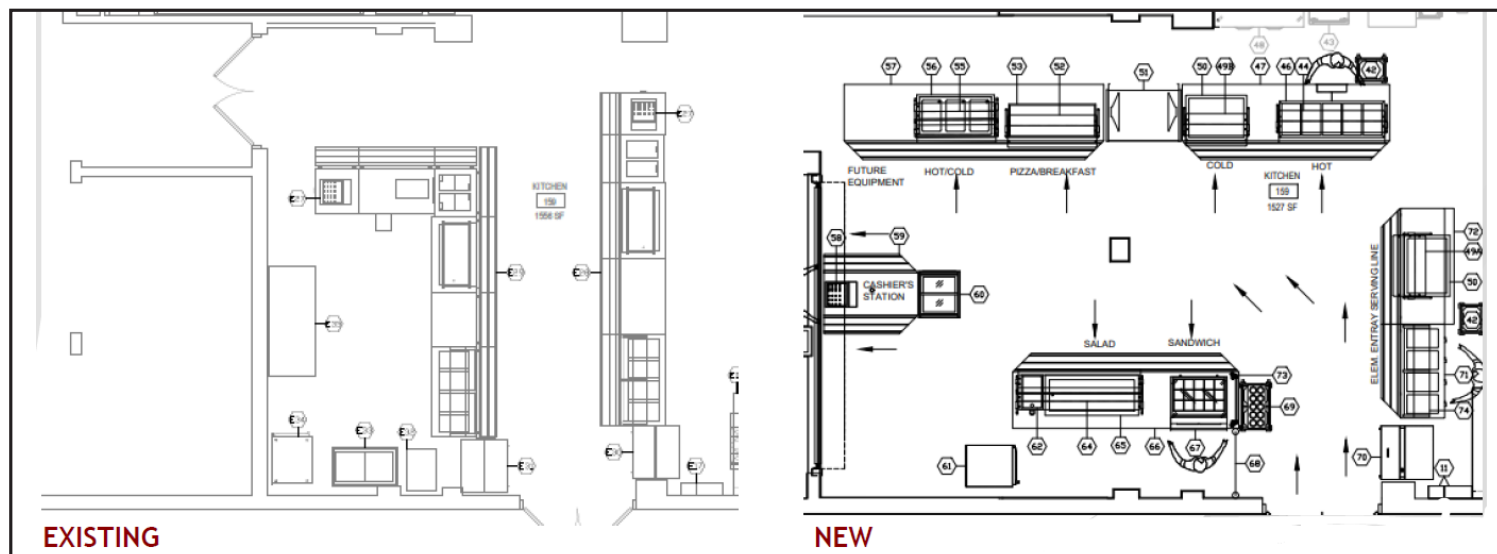
Basketball has long been a favorite among our students, but previously, the court's distance from the main playground raised safety concerns and limited access during recess. The new placement resolves those issues, allowing all students to participate more safely and inclusively.

This meaningful improvement was made possible thanks to the generosity of a beloved DeRuyter alum, David Kennedy, who shared a passion for basketball. Through memorial donations in his honor, we were able to create a space that will inspire future generations to embrace the game he loved. Additionally, the Class of 2023 had a vision of enhancing outdoor learning and recreation. Their contributions helped bring this project to life by supporting the creation of an additional gathering space beyond the traditional classroom.

To all who donated and supported this initiative — thank you. Your generosity and belief in our students have made a lasting impact. This was truly a community effort, and its legacy will be felt in the joy and enthusiasm of our children for many years to come.



Exciting News: Kitchen Renovation Set for Summer 2025



We are pleased to share that the long-anticipated kitchen renovation project will officially take place this summer. This transformation will create a more inclusive, functional, and safe space for all of our students, Pre-K through 12th grade.

Thanks to the dedicated support of Senator Rachel May, DeRuyter Central School District received state aid funding specifically designated for this kitchen renovation. We are incredibly grateful for her advocacy and investment in our students' well-being.

This project has been several years in the making and was originally envisioned by our former Cook Manager, Brenda Scutt. Although she sadly passed before the project could be realized, we are proud to carry forward her vision.

We look forward to unveiling the completed kitchen in September 2025. Thank you to everyone who has supported this project—it reflects our ongoing commitment to creating a safe, supportive, and nurturing environment for every student.

Career Fair



We hosted a Career Fair on Friday, 4/4 for all students in Grades 5-12. We had 34 presenters, including twelve Alumni! We are very grateful for their time and for sharing their career experiences and talents with us. This was a great opportunity for students to learn about careers, job opportunities, and other career paths.

Thank you to the committee: M. Alger, J. Platt, M. Wallace, M. Newton, and J. Jones for putting together the event!

National Honor Society Trip



The National Honor Society members went to the Corning Museum of Glass. They learned about the history of glass, watched a vase being constructed from scratch, and sandblasted a cup to take home. It was a great opportunity for the members to come together and spend the day.

SADD Wellness Week



SADD members have been busy working together to help their community. They served breakfast to all staff members for DCS Wellness week. They also attended the Madison County Leadership Conference in Cazenovia, where they planned community outreach opportunities for next year.



Celebrating Adelyn's 1st Place Award in Junior Drawing Category

6th grader Adelyn Shute won first place in the drawing category at the Fenimore Art Museum. The exhibit is up until May 5th in Cooperstown. Addie worked very hard to research her idea and learn new skills with drawing media. She created several edits before completing the final drawing, planning out every detail with validity, working for over two months to submit her work in the Legends theme art contest at Fenimore Art Museum. Congratulations, Addie!

Academic Achievement – Congratulations Students

5th Grade

Principal's List

Adisyn Ouderkirk
Ella Bush
John Shute
Franklin Benedict
Kaydence Cox
Lucas Haskins

High Honor Roll

Olivia Hannafan
Reagan Hawk
Darcy McCann
Jameson Baker
Connor Parker
Chase Johnson
Michael Rodriguez

Honor Roll

Kacen Daley
Jason Darrow
Tabitha Doody
Mia Shelby
Zachary Hood

6th Grade

Principal's List

Adelyn Shute
Donte Creecy-Delaney
Scott Holl

High Honor Roll

Landon Thousand-Burrows
Evelyn Gallerani
Mason Votra
Anna Bragg
Faith Washburn
Bryce Sorrells
Leigha Pforter
Savanah Stone
Francis Rowe
Liam Jarvis
Chase Barber
Madison Alicky
Kera Welsh
Brady Barrows
Jean Ralicki

Honor Roll

Madison Bell
Tabitha Duval
Makayla-Grace Mustapha
Ethan Morales
Kamora Damon

7th Grade

Principal's List

Morgan Darrow
Teagan Winters
Isabella Scott
Trenton Richardson
Maxwell Hawk
Brinley Carrigan
Mason Pforter

High Honor Roll

Julian Gallerani
Makayla Cox
Bryan DeGroat Jr.
Michael Allen III

Honor Roll

Kody Darrow
Trevor Doubleday
Logan Near

8th Grade

Principal's List

Brandon Townsend
Lillian Stone-Smith
Liam Mead

High Honor Roll

Anderson Ramirez
MacKenna Sartwell
Kayden Smith

Honor Roll

Michael Alicky
Malakee Payne
Kailey Bell

9th Grade

Principal's List

Abbigail Whalen
Erin Bragg
Robert Murphy
Rebecca Amidon

High Honor Roll

Mason Shoemaker
Annabelle Stanton
Noah Kent
Harli Henry

Honor Roll

Lisvet Lucas
Sidney Marshall
Madison Weeks
Dylan Musto

10th Grade

Principal's List

Chelsey Prince
Shannon Pforter
Emma Haggart

High Honor Roll

Haylee Schlafer
Hayley Near
Jacob Shutts
Cooper Millett
Everett Bush
Dafne Vicari
Naomi Barrows

Honor Roll

Crue Judson
Mandy Phillips

11th Grade

Principal's List

Josiah Hannafan
Devens Whalen
Jackson Millett
Rhyanna Richardson

High Honor Roll

Layla Marshall
Angelena Rodriguez
Taralyn Conway
Braedon Hurlbert
Savannah Compton
Graycie Barber
Molly Amidon
Jonah Baxter

Honor Roll

Hailey Sabin
Hailey Nicholas
Dylan Foster
Myah-Ann Woods

12th Grade

Principal's List

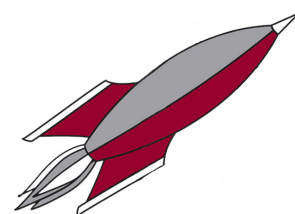
Colin Wilken
Jacob Haggart
Payton Near
Dakota Baker

High Honor Roll

Chloe Greene
Jeramy Prince
Montana Eldridge
Camron Bowman
Gavin Miller
Michael Russell
Bree Burdick

Honor Roll

Lori Dunagan
Bergen Sperat
Owen Tytler
Isabella Pagano
Alyssa Cline
Selena Rodriguez
Brydee Rounsaville



DeRuyter Central School
711 Railroad Street
DeRuyter, NY 13052

DeRuyter Central School
Non-Profit Organization
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Permit #1

Board of Education Candidates

The term of office for current Board of Education member Lisa Benedict will expire on June 30, 2025. The term of office for current Board of Education member Dean Hathaway who was appointed when Melanie Ackley resigned, will expire on May 20, 2025. One of the seats will commence May 20, 2025 and expire June 30, 2028 and the other seat will commence on July 1, 2025 and expire on June 30, 2028. The following candidate(s) have filed petitions necessary to seek election and will appear on the May 20, 2025 ballot as follows: Lisa Benedict and Elizabeth Pierce.

Qualifications of Voters

- A citizen of the United States
- At least 18 years of age
- A resident of the District for at least 30 days preceding the vote
- Registered with the county or school district.

