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Bloomfield Public Library Budget Fact Sheet

The Bloomfield Public Library is asking residents of the Bloomfield Central School District to vote for the library's 2024-2025 funding. The library is asking voters to support a \$320,218 tax levy, which represents an overall budget increase of \$132,238 from the 2023-2024 fiscal year. **This library tax is estimated to be \$0.49 per \$1,000 of assessed value.**

The library has operated on a minimally increased budgetary level since 2019. The library's budget for the past two years was insufficient to cover needs, thus requiring funding from savings that cannot be responsibly depleted additionally. Drivers of increased operating costs include state mandated wage increases and labor regulations, an estimated 20% increase in utility costs, insurance industry-wide rate increases, and increased costs for building and property maintenance.

Library improvements made this past year include replacement of outdated computers, new energy-efficient windows throughout, new gutters, rotted fascia repair, replacement of aged toilets, and new security cameras.

Voting to PASS this budget allows for the following:

- Fewer restrictions on operating hours through adequate funding for staff.
- Continued purchases of new materials, including bestsellers, movies, eBooks, young adult and children's materials, technology, and magazines.
- More programs and classes for all ages, including early literacy and summer reading programs.
- Continuation of the current level of computer and internet access, and the community meeting room availability.
- Increased collaboration with schools and community organizations.

If the Vote FAILS, what can be expected?

- Operating hours may need to be reduced.
- Fewer new books, eBooks, movies, and magazines will be purchased.
- Programming and classes for adults, teens, and children may be decreased.

The proposed budget will enable the library to continue serving the Bloomfield community in a fiscally responsible manner, while reflecting our mission to educate and enrich by providing essential resources and opportunities. It is an asset to have a welcoming and well-maintained building and a skilled, qualified staff to serve our community. If this budget passes we will be able to continue the forward movement towards the growth and utilization of the library.

The mission of the Bloomfield Public Library is to educate and enrich the community by providing resources and opportunities for gathering, learning, connecting, innovating, and accessing information.