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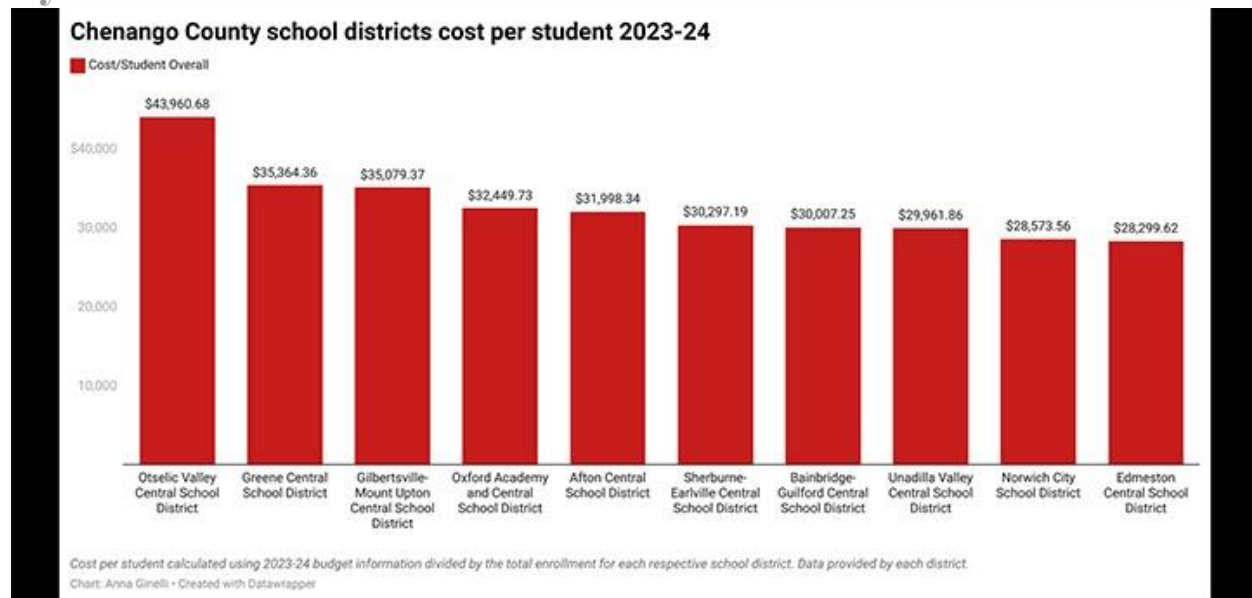
What It Really Costs Each Year To Send A Child To School In Chenango County

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Title: Chenango County school districts cost per student 2023-24 Data from the 2023 to 2024 academic year shows the cost per student using budget data and total enrollment numbers provided by 10 Chenango County public school districts. (Graph by Anna Ginelli)

CHENANGO COUNTY — In May, voters approved school budgets across Chenango County for 2024 to 2025 academic year.

As the current year comes to a close and a new one approaches, data illustrates how much districts spent per student and per graduating student for the recently finished 2023 to 2024 school year.

The data represents the full amount of the 2023 to 2024 school budgets divided by the total number enrolled in the district and number of graduating students.

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The figures for the 2023 to 2024 academic year, as reported by each school district, paint a stark contrast between large and small districts.

The Norwich City School District's budget was the largest at $46,146,296, but so was the district's enrollment of 1,615 students across four schools.

On the other side of the spectrum, the Edmeston Central School District operated with a significantly smaller budget of $10,859,354, serving 385 students at its only school.

The Otselic Valley Central School District had the highest percent increase from the 2023 to 2024 academic year budget to the 2024 to 2025 budget at a 14 percent increase. The previous budget was $11,913,344, and the recently approved budget is $13,583,193.

To compare, Greene Central School District had the lowest percent increase at a little over one percent. The previous budget was $31,580,370 and was raised to $32,084,906 for the upcoming school year.

Regarding the cost per student for each district, Otselic Valley had the highest amount and the lowest total enrollment. The cost per student was $43.960.68. The school's enrollment at the end of the school year was 271 students in its only school. The lowest cost per student was for Edmeston at $28,299.62.

For cost per graduating high school student, Gilbertsville-Mount Upton Central School District had the highest amount at $613,888.89, with 18 students graduating this year.

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Bainbridge-Guilford Central School District had the lowest cost per graduating student at $390,611.62, with 58 graduating students.