

2021 BUDGET HEARING SUMMARY - May 4, 2021

PRESENTATION #7

In 1997, the State adopted a uniformed voting date for the annual school district budget vote and deemed it to be the 3rd Tuesday in May each year. Additionally, school districts are also mandated to meet a number of budget requirements, which include the annual school budget hearing. The primary purpose of the budget hearing is to provide the community with another opportunity to learn more about the upcoming budget that will be voted on May 18, 2021 and to provide comment.

Budget Process:

Before we discuss the contents of the proposed 2021-22 school budget it is important to explain the budget development process. The development process is an ongoing event and it requires the input and dedication of the faculty, staff and administrators before it can be presented to the board of education and public. Throughout the budget process, we have worked closely with many key district personnel and stakeholders to identify educational needs for the district to be addressed for the 2021-22 budget. The budget calendar is developed and we start reviewing the rollover budget with the board of education and the Budget Committee in December and January. Over the next months, we meet with various administrators and department leaders to discuss programs, personnel and recurring expenses. Once the preliminary data was received, we were able to develop a spending plan that meets the needs of the district while being fiscally responsible.

We presented the Non-Instructional Budget in February and the Instructional Budget in March at the corresponding Board of Education meetings. The projected revenues were presented at the April 13th Board of Education meeting. It is important to note that the public is voting on the educational spending plan and not necessarily the revenues, tax levy or tax rate. Finally, the full budget was presented to the Board of Education on April 20th and formally adopted at the same meeting. In all, including tonight's hearing, there have been 7 public presentations made to the Board.

Budget Summary:

It's also relevant to state that this budget does not include any Federal Stimulus funding. The funds derived from the Stimulus package are received and held separately from the

General fund and will be designated for specific needs in accordance with the requirements of the grants.

The Total Budget: \$43,878,924 compared to the current budget of \$42,382,980. This represents a 3.5% increase over the current budget or a total dollar increase of \$1,495,944.

Instructional Budget is \$22,982,580 and this is a 2.28% increase over the current year and is an \$512,318 increase.

The instructional budget represents 52.4% of the total budget and includes salaries, equipment, supplies and materials, contractual obligations and BOCES services.

- There are five major sections to the Instructional Budget and they include:
 1. Instruction, Administrative Improvement
 2. Teaching Regular School (K-12)
 3. Special Apportionment Programs (Programs for Handicapped Students, Occupational Education, Special School)
 4. Instructional Media (Library and Computer Aided Instruction)
 5. Pupil Personnel Services (Attendance, Guidance, Health Services, Psychological Services, Social Work Services, Co-Curricular and Interscholastic Athletics)

The Non-Instructional Budget is \$20,896,343 and this is 47.6% of the total budget. The budget is up 4.94% over the current Non-Instructional Budget or \$983,626 increase.

The Non-Instructional Budget is made up of salaries, equipment, supplies and materials, contractual services and BOCES services.

- The Non-Instructional Budget is made up of nine areas:
 1. Board of Education (BOE, District Clerk and District Meetings)
 2. Central Administration (Superintendent)
 3. Finance (Business Administration, Auditing, Treasurer, Tax Collector and Fiscal Agent)
 4. Staff (Legal, Personnel, Records, Retention, Public Information)
 5. Central Services (Operation, Maintenance and Central Printing and Mailing Services)
 6. Special Items (Unallocated Insurance, School Association Dues, Refund on Real Property Taxes and Administrative and Capital Charges for BOCES)

7. Pupil Transportation
8. Benefits (Employee Benefits – ERS, TRS, Social Security, Workers Comp, Unemployment Insurance, Medical and Dental Insurance and Accrued Liabilities)
9. Debt Service: Interfund Transfers (Café, Capital and Special Aid Fund)

The district has made the budget documents, which includes the details of the full budget available in all the main buildings and at the public libraries in North Chatham, Valatie and Kinderhook as required by law. The school budget notice form will be sent out this week with the Newsletter, which will provide a summary of the budget and the STAR savings along with specific budget information.

Finally, the projected tax levy for 2021-22 is anticipated to be 2.95%, which is under the tax cap limit for our district of 3.5%. The projected tax levy will be \$25,418,985. Additional revenues include: \$16,203,036 in State Aid; \$1,777,500 in Other, Rent, Tuition and Miscellaneous Revenue; and \$1,079,403 in appropriated fund balance and reserves.

The required breakdown of the budget into three components includes:

1. Program for \$33,378,697 (76.07%)
2. Capital for \$6,458,978 (14.72%)
3. Administrative for \$4,041,249 (9.21%).

The budget vote will be held on May 18, 2021 at the HS Gymnasium from 9AM-8PM. Absentee ballots are due 5PM the same day.

There will be two propositions for voters to consider:

1. Approval of the 2021-22 Budget for \$43,878,924
2. Approval to purchase four buses for \$430,333.

Finally, voters will also be asked to fill three Board of Education seats. The following Board member seats are up for election:

Vacant seats of John Antelek, Ruth Moore and Susan Ramos. Running for those seats in the order they will appear on the ballot are: Regina Rose, Jared Widjeskog, Resa Dimino, Jennifer Allard and Anne Schaefer. The candidates with the top 3 votes will join the Board of Education for 3 year terms.

