

BUDGET SUPPORTS ENHANCED OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS **WITHIN TAX CAP**

HERRICKS PUBLIC SCHOOLS **at a Glance**

- Total 2015-16 enrollment of 3,892 students
- 5 schools: 3 elementary, 1 middle, 1 high school
- Community Center building, Shelter Rock Academy
- Numerous athletic fields and playgrounds
- Full-service cafeteria in each school; district-operated bus transportation
- Extensive summer recreation program serving grades Pre-K to 9
- Student achievement levels among the highest on Long Island, in the state and in the nation
- Lowest per-pupil expenditure level among high-achieving comparable districts

The Herricks Public Schools is pleased to present a proposed 2016-17 school budget that carries a tax levy increase of 0.16 percent - the lowest in recent district history and within our allowable tax levy cap of 0.36 percent. At the same time, the proposed budget supports a variety of opportunities for students to achieve in academics, athletics, music and the arts, and extracurricular activities.

In addition to preserving all of the programs that have led our students to succeed, the proposed budget also includes a number of enhancements in several areas as we continue to enrich learning experiences. It maintains class sizes based on district standards, broadens technology initiatives across all school buildings, and sustains our ongoing focus on science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) education.

The proposed budget supports our intensified emphasis on social-emotional learning at all levels, as well as facility

improvements. It also sustains our academic intervention services, the continuum of special education services, required English as a New Language programs and opportunities for all learners.

The budget provides for several exciting new features as well, including the addition of robotics teams at the elementary schools, a high school girls golf team, new technology equipment, five star-rated football helmets to ensure safety and concert attire for select performance groups. Among other highlights are a new district website, capital improvements, new middle school cafeteria tables, library improvements, new auditorium lighting, one new school bus and two new school bus vans. The proposed budget also allocates funding for slight staffing increases and security upgrades.

The Board and administration have worked diligently to explore all possible efficiencies and ways to support both our students and our taxpayers. The budget that will be on the ballot meets our expectations and goals. All previous presentations and communications regarding the budget are available on the district's website, www.herricks.org, as is the complete line-by-line budget document.

The Herricks community prides itself on an excellent school system marked with countless student achievements and success stories over the years. We thank you for your interest and involvement in our district, and for joining us in strongly valuing education. Please remember to vote on Tuesday, May 17! Polls will be open from 7 a.m.-10 p.m. in the Community Center Gym.



Priorities in Developing the 2016-17 Budget

The proposed budget is based on an extensive set of priorities to continue our district's tradition of excellence. These drivers guided our decision-making through the budget development process. Priorities included:

- Align budget with the district's mission and goals.
- Thoroughly review all budget items.
- Address educational regulations and mandates.
- Provide cost-effective operations and strong fiscal controls.
- Use data to assess instructional programs.
- Plan staffing to ensure compliance with class size guidelines.
- Ensure a wide range of curricular offerings and social-emotional programs.
- Maintain and enhance district facilities.
- Provide varied opportunities for students in athletics, music and art, and extracurricular programs.

POINTS OF PRIDE

ACADEMICS

- 97% Regents Diploma graduation rate.
- Seven seniors were identified as National Merit Finalists and 16 were named Commended Students.
- Three high school students achieved the prominent Intel Semifinalist distinction.
- Four high school science research students were named semifinalists in the regional Junior Science and Humanities Symposium.
- Four high school students were honored in the New York Times' Editorial Cartoon Contest.
- One high school student won first place at the annual Adelphi Apprentice Challenge.
- Eight high school students were named semifinalists in the Siemens Competition, and one student was recognized as a regional finalist.
- Three high school students received honors in the 19th annual Brown University Model U.N. Competition.
- Scholastic Art and Writing Awards were earned by seven high school students, two of whom will advance

to the national level.

- One high school student was selected as a national finalist for the Neuroscience Research Prize.
- Two Center Street School students served on a panel of Williston Park "Village Officials for a Day."

MUSIC AND THE ARTS

- One student was recognized as a Scholar Artist Merit Winner through the Long Island Arts Alliance.
- One student won the Nassau County Art Supervisors Association Senior Art Scholarship Award.
- A total of 16 students performed in the Long Island String Festival Association's Nassau Chamber Music Festival.
- Twelve high school students were chosen to perform in New York State All-State ensembles.
- Seven middle and high school students performed at the New York State Band Directors Association's Honor Band Festival.
- One high school student



- was selected for the NYSSMA Piano Showcase.
- A total of 170 musicians participated in the 2016 All-County Music Festival.
- One high school student performed with the All-National Concert Band.
- One high school student was selected to the Honor Orchestra of America and another was selected to the Honor Band of America.
- One high school flutist was selected as the winner of the Metropolitan Youth Orchestra Concerto Competition.
- One Searingtown School flutist performed with the Queensboro Symphony.

ATHLETICS

- One high school student was awarded the Long Island Association of Football Officials Conference 1 Unsung

Hero Award.

- Two high school athletes were recognized as Outstanding Physical Education students by the Nassau Zone of the New York State Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance.
- Five lacrosse players signed National Letters of Intent to participate on college teams.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

- The middle school Student Government sponsored food and toy drives.
- Denton Avenue School's student council organized a Valentines for Veterans initiative.
- Athletic teams have collectively fundraised thousands of dollars to support charities and cancer research.



EXPENDITURE SUMMARY WITH ESTIMATED REVENUE

EXPENDITURES	Budget 2015-2016	Proposed 2016-2017	\$ CHANGE	PERCENT CHANGE
Board of Education	\$76,052	\$91,843	\$15,791	
Central Administration	\$352,867	\$359,259	\$6,392	
Finance	\$990,208	\$1,034,388	\$44,180	
Staff	\$337,016	\$537,373	\$200,357	
Central Services	\$8,495,264	\$9,959,427	\$1,464,163	
Special Items	\$1,082,895	\$1,123,131	\$40,236	
Total General Support	\$11,334,302	\$13,105,421	\$1,771,119	
INSTRUCTION				
Instruction/Supervision	\$55,735,303	\$56,091,529	\$356,226	
Instructional Support	\$3,370,673	\$2,876,736	(\$493,937)	
Pupil Personnel Services	\$5,159,009	\$5,424,721	\$265,712	
Total Instruction	\$64,264,985	\$64,392,986	\$128,001	
TRANSPORTATION				
Total Transportation	\$3,797,634	\$3,614,613	(\$183,021)	
COMMUNITY SERVICE				
Total Community Service	\$558,505	\$709,222	\$150,717	
UNDISTRIBUTED				
Employee Benefits	\$24,782,018	\$24,621,104	(\$160,914)	
Debt Services	\$2,986,818	\$3,238,381	\$251,563	
Special Aid	\$391,730	\$403,813	\$12,083	
Lunch	\$125,000	\$25,000	(\$100,000)	
Capital	\$0	\$200,000	\$200,000	
Total Undistributed	\$28,285,566	\$28,488,298	\$202,732	
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$108,240,992	\$110,310,540	\$2,069,548	1.91%
ESTIMATED REVENUE				
Net State Aid	\$9,799,805	\$11,551,250	\$1,751,445	
Interest on Investments	\$70,000	\$70,000	\$0	
From All Other Revenue	\$235,000	\$258,600	\$23,600	
Saturday/Summer Rec/Music Program	\$540,000	\$630,000	\$90,000	
Special Education District of Location	\$200,000	\$150,000	(\$50,000)	
Tuition-Individual & School District	\$260,000	\$448,489	\$188,489	
Tuition-Shelter Rock Academy	\$470,800	\$441,511	(\$29,289)	
Nassau County Substance Abuse	\$85,000	\$93,000	\$8,000	
Rental of Property	\$539,021	\$550,087	\$11,066	
PILOT Payment	\$0	\$342,000	\$342,000	
LIPA Property*	\$2,152,541	\$1,977,189	(\$175,352)	
TOTAL ANTICIPATED REVENUE	\$14,352,167	\$16,512,126	\$2,159,959	15.05%
Appropriated Fund Balance	\$1,440,000	\$1,200,000	-\$240,000	
Net Tax Levy	\$92,448,825	\$92,598,414	\$149,589	0.16%
TOTALS	\$108,240,992	\$110,310,540	\$2,069,548	

* The proposed tax levy for 2015-16 was reduced by Nassau County by \$2,152,541 and billed as a PILOT to LIPA.

Board of Education:

Nancy Feinstein, President
Christine Turner, Vice President

Trustees:

Juleigh Chin
Jim Gounaris
Brian Hassan

Dr. Fino M. Celano

Superintendent of Schools

Dr. Christine Finn

Assistant Superintendent for Instruction

Helen Costigan, CPA

Assistant Superintendent for Business

www.herricks.org

Budget Q&A

Qualifications:

If you are registered with the Nassau County Board of Elections, you are automatically registered for school elections.

To vote on May 17, you must be:

- 18 years of age
- A citizen of the United States
- A resident of the Herricks School District for 30 days prior to May

New voters must register by May 12, 2016.

How do I register?

Registration will be held May 3, from 4-8 p.m., at the Herricks Community Center, 999 Herricks Road, New Hyde Park. If that day is not convenient for you, you may also register any school day between 8 a.m. and 3 p.m. through May 12, 2016.

What will I be voting on?

- Proposition 1: The Annual Budget for the 2016-17 school year.
- Voters will also be asked to elect one member of the Board of Education commencing July 1, 2016.

Absentee Ballots:

Absentee ballots can be obtained at the district clerk's office, Room 205, located at 999 Herricks Road, New Hyde Park. If you have any questions, please call 516-305-8903. Applications for absentee ballots are available on the Herricks Public Schools website, www.herricks.org.

Q: The proposed budget calls for a tax levy of only 0.16 percent. Does that mean my taxes will only go up by that amount?

A: No. The tax cap limits how much money the district can levy from the overall community. The tax rate, on the other hand, is determined by a variety of factors, including the value of real estate. In Nassau County, how a particular piece of property is taxed is based on three factors: the tax levy, which is set by the school district; the adjusted base proportion for that class or type of property, set by Nassau County; and the assessment of the property, also set by Nassau County. Please contact Assistant Superintendent for Business Helen Costigan at 305-8903 with specific questions.

Q: What are the key additions in the proposed budget?

A. The proposed budget includes the addition of a full-time special education teacher, two full-time contingent general education teachers and one full-time social worker; robotics teams at each elementary school; a high school girls golf team;

technology equipment upgrades; a new district website; five star-rated football helmets;

concert attire for select performance groups; a new school bus and two new school bus vans; an assistant coach; and an additional bus driver. It also provides for a new districtwide personnel administrator to increase operational efficiencies, with costs offset by the reduction of data analysis support staff. Sidewalk and curb replacements, middle school cafeteria table replacements, library improvements, new gym bleachers at the middle and high schools, new auditorium lighting, repairs to all three elementary playgrounds and security enhancements are all included in this budget as well.

Q: How was such a minimal tax levy increase possible?

A. Decreasing contributions to New York State pension systems in 2016-17 helped in mitigating expenses. A state aid increase of approximately 13.9 percent over the current year also played a role, along with the district's other sources of revenue. In addition, several veteran staff members will be retiring at the end of the year.

Q: Where can I get more information about the budget?

A. For more information please visit the district's website, www.herricks.org, or contact Assistant Superintendent for Business Helen Costigan at 305-8903 or hcostigan@herricks.org.

VOTER REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Budget Hearing

Thursday, May 5, 2016

7:30 p.m.

Community Center

Budget Vote

Tuesday, May 17, 2016

7 a.m.-10 p.m.

Community Center Gym