Dear Community Member,

The Board of Education is dedicated to providing meaningful opportunities for our students amid ongoing economic challenges and increasing unfunded state mandates. The proposed 2016-17 budget will provide all students with an engaging, rigorous and equitable academic experience while remaining within the allowable tax levy cap.

This budget achieves its major objectives within the tax levy cap. The District will add two 5th grade teachers and support staff, as well as additional sections at the high school level to accommodate growing enrollment and maintain current class sizes. To better serve special education students requiring year-round services, the budget provides for an in-district summer program to ensure their ongoing progress.

The tax levy cap has forced program cuts in past years; however, this year’s proposed budget sustains existing programs and maintains class sizes throughout the District. The District remains committed to continuous improvement in the educational experience for all students, even in the face of these constraints. We are most excited that the budget supports the ongoing work of creating multiple measures to better inform teachers, students and parents about student growth. We believe that children need more than academic skills to succeed in life. This budget provides for the development of a cutting-edge, research-based curriculum to help students develop their social and emotional intelligence and better understand themselves as learners.

The ability of the Superintendent, the leadership team and the Board to develop a budget within the tax levy cap while maintaining programs is the result of careful long-term strategic initiatives and fortuitous external financial variables. The District’s strategic initiatives include a restructured teacher contract, a teacher retirement incentive, and careful monitoring of current expenditures. A number of external factors positively impacted this year’s budget, including a reduction in mandated pension costs, stabilized property values, an increase in real property improvements, and reinstatement of annual state aid. These factors, in addition to comprehensive oversight, aligned to protect programs in the 2016-17 budget. It is important to note that without these positive external developments, even our recognized excellence in financial management would have only partially mitigated the reductions required to create a budget within the tax levy cap.

The Board has long been committed to responsible and strategic fiscal management. Over the past six years, the Harrison Central School District tax levy has been at or below the cap; the budget increase has averaged only 1.4% during this period. The 2016-17 school budget proposes an increase in spending of 0.69%, which results in an estimated tax rate increase of 0.96%.

Throughout the budget development process, we have worked with members of the Citizens Budget Advisory Committee, and we appreciate their thoughtful feedback. As always, we remain committed to providing the highest quality education, while ensuring the responsible management of tax dollars. We are grateful for your consistent support for the education of the children of our community.

Sincerely,

Board of Education: Abby Mendelsohn, President; Joan Tiburzi, Vice President;
Trustees: Dennis DiLorenzo, Rachel Estroff, Kelly Mangan, Robert Sullivan, Lindy Wolverton
Louis N. Wool, Ed.D. Superintendent of Schools
2016-2017 PROPOSED BUDGET SUMMARY

PROPOSED BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

Program
- Maintains district-wide class size
- Provides an additional 5th grade teacher at Parsons and Harrison Avenue Elementary schools
- Increases one elementary instructional coach - (provides one full-time instructional support person in all four elementary schools)
- Upgrades two instructional coaches to assistant principals
- Creates an extended year in-district special education program
- Implements after school/evening instructional supervision for Student Union and Fitness Center
- Implements evening operation of food kiosks for Student Union and Fitness Center
- Adds evening security personnel

Operations and Safety
- Provides additional card readers district-wide, additional cameras and door upgrades
- District-wide field/facility upgrades and improvements
- Completes perimeter awning to provide protective coverage for students at the High School
- Completes student plaza/concession at High School gymnasium
- Upgrades Wi-Fi hub/access points district-wide to meet increased demand
- District-wide classroom renovations
- Continues district-wide asbestos abatement
- Continues Energy Performance Audit and implementation plan
- Partial roof replacement at High School, Middle School, and Harrison Avenue Elementary school
- Additional storage at High School to address safety concerns
- Paving and masonry repairs
- Other repairs as necessary

REVENUES AND TAX RATES

GENERAL FUND BUDGET

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>BUDGET 15-16</th>
<th>BUDGET 16-17</th>
<th>% CHANGE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Payments in Lieu of Taxes</td>
<td>$869,337</td>
<td>$1,027,921</td>
<td>18.24%</td>
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<tr>
<td>County Sales Tax</td>
<td>$1,461,000</td>
<td>$1,440,000</td>
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<td>Miscellaneous Revenues</td>
<td>$521,000</td>
<td>$487,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Health Services for Other Districts</td>
<td>$235,000</td>
<td>$240,000</td>
<td>2.13%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Interest &amp; Earnings</td>
<td>$85,000</td>
<td>$125,000</td>
<td>47.65%</td>
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<td>State Aid</td>
<td>$4,022,104</td>
<td>$4,363,711</td>
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<tr>
<td>Federal Aid</td>
<td>$25,000</td>
<td>$0</td>
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<tr>
<td>TOTAL NON-PROPERTY TAX REVENUES</td>
<td>$7,228,441</td>
<td>$7,683,632</td>
<td>6.30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>APPROPRIATED RESERVE</td>
<td>$370,000</td>
<td>$200,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>APPROPRIATED FUND BALANCE</td>
<td>$1,630,000</td>
<td>$1,200,000</td>
<td>-26.38%</td>
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<tr>
<td>REAL PROPERTY TAXES</td>
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<td>ESTIMATED TAX RATES (per $1,000 of assessed valuation)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Harrison</td>
<td>$750.99</td>
<td>$758.23</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rye Town</td>
<td>$13.00</td>
<td>$12.13</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Castle</td>
<td>$548.42</td>
<td>$539.18</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The 2016 Washington Post Challenge Index ranks Harrison High School #1 in Westchester County at preparing all students for college and career readiness. U.S. News and World Report awarded HHS a Gold Medal distinction.

HHS junior Tasha Garayo won the Greg Horrace Award for Medicine at the Westchester Science and Engineering Fair. HHS junior Emma Abramson captured fourth in Medicine & Health.

HHS seniors Zach Evans, Michael Nannariello, and Jack Witte were honored by the Golden Dozen Football Organization.

The HCSD unveiled three new playgrounds at its elementary schools replacing outdated wooden playgrounds at Parsons Memorial, Purchase, and Harrison Avenue Elementary schools. The state of the art equipment provides multiple activities for children of varying abilities. The playground at S.J. Preston Elementary school was replaced this spring.

The HCSD Year In Review: Accomplishments, Accolades, and Awards

Griff, Grant Muller, Adam Elijamal, and Akshat Sanghavi advanced to Nationals.

The HHS Relay for Life was named the American Cancer Society’s Rookie Event of the Year, having raised $84,000. This year’s event will be held June 4.

The HHS DECA Club had 31 students compete at the New York State competition. Matthew Grif, Grant Muller, Adam Elijamal, and Akshat Sanghavi advanced to Nationals.

The Winter and Spring Boys and Girls Track and Field teams captured the League Championships.

The HHS Fifth Annual Field of Honor, dedicated to veterans, opened in April and proceeds will benefit resident and father Detective Sergeant Joseph Lemm.

Teachers and students initiated the first annual Wellness Day and Jog-A-Thon at Parsons Memorial Elementary School.

Harrison Avenue continued its successful Genius Hour, based on the Google initiative, allowing students to research a topic of interest and present the findings to their peers and teachers.

The HHS Debate team captured the top three spots in two regional Championships. Elyssa Alfieri, Kathryn Kenny, and Sarah Ryan will attend the NCFL Nationals and Sammi O’Reilly, Kathryn Kenny, and Raffi Piliero will attend the NSDA Nationals.

HHS Technical Theatre students learned the complexities of running a large scale musical production from the current stage manager of the successful Broadway production Finding Neverland.

S.J. Preston students collected over 1,000 items for the Harrison Food Pantry in late January, a crucial time of need for the pantry.

HHS seniors Emily Kohutnicki and Emma Smolev were selected to participate in White Plains Hospital’s Pre-Med program, run by HHS graduate Dr. Kaare Weber. The program provides students the opportunity to work in a small group with medical doctors from a variety of fields.

HHS art students Gia LaVista, Cyle Rockoff, and Sakura Tateiwa participated in the 2016 StArt Exhibition at the Osilas Gallery at Concordia College. Cyle was also the runner-up in the Congressional Art competition sponsored by US Congresswoman Nita Lowey.

LMK students opened a Genius Bar to help students and teachers if they are experiencing problems with their phone, device, Google Apps, or anything else technology related.

The Caring Kids Club at Purchase Elementary School hosted its first annual shoe drive to benefit the Soles 4 Soles organization. They collected nearly 400 pairs of shoes for this worthy cause over a two week period.

HHS juniors Tasha Garayo won the Greg Horrace Award for Medicine at the Westchester Science and Engineering Fair. HHS junior Emma Abramson captured fourth in Medicine & Health.

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Harrison Central School District

BOARD OF EDUCATION
Abby Mendelsohn, President
Joan Tiburzi, Vice President
Dennis DiLorenzo, Trustee
Rachel Estroff, Trustee
Kelly Mangan, Trustee
Robert Sullivan, Trustee
Lindy Wolverton, Trustee

SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS
Louis N. Wool, Ed.D.

HCSD has received the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for their fiscal year end 2014 comprehensive annual financial report (CAFRs). This is the 7th consecutive year the District was been awarded this distinction for achieving the highest level of excellence in public sector financial management from the Government Finance Officers Association.

The Harrison Fine and Performing Arts Department hosted the NYSSMA adjudication this year where over 1,900 students from across Westchester performed in all musical disciplines. Also, the inaugural The Pedros: An Open Mic Invitational will be held at Harrison High School on May 14th, 2016, allowing musical theatre students from high school productions across Westchester, Rockland, and Putnam counties the opportunity to perform a short number on stage. This event is a precursor to the Metropolitan Theater Awards given out on June 6, 2016.

BUDGET VOTE

Tuesday, May 17, 2016, 7:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m. — At your neighborhood elementary school

REGISTRATION
As there is no personal registration for school elections, voting in a budget vote does not automatically entitle one to vote in a general election. Therefore, all citizens are strongly encouraged to register to vote with the Westchester County Board of Elections. Registration materials are available at www.westchestergov.com/boe or the Board of Elections, 25 Quarropas Street, White Plains, NY, (914) 995-5715; (Business hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.).

VOTER ELIGIBILITY
There is no personal registration. At the time of the vote, voters will sign a statement affirming that they possess the following qualifications: 1) A citizen of the United States; 2) 18 years of age; 3) A resident of the District for a period of at least 30 days. Voters must be able to produce at least one of the following proofs of residency: a driver’s license; a non-driver identification card; a utility bill; or a voter registration card.

ABSENTEE BALLOTS
Applications for an absentee ballot may be obtained at the office of the District Clerk, 50 Union Avenue, Harrison, or may be downloaded from the District website, www.harrisoncsd.org. Completed applications must be received by the District Clerk at least seven days before the vote if the ballot is to be mailed to the voter, or the day before the vote if the ballot is to be picked up personally by the voter. Completed ballots must be received in the District Clerk’s office no later than 5:00 p.m. on election day.

For more information: www.harrisoncsd.org or call (914) 835-3300