



LOWER MERION
SCHOOL DISTRICT

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OUR DISTRICT WELCOMES

students of all races, ethnicities and nationalities
students with diverse abilities
students who are LGBT
students of all family structures
students who are English language learners
students of all religions
students from all socio-economic backgrounds
students of all body types

...YOU



Safe, Supportive, Inclusive

Lower Merion School District is committed to providing a safe, supportive and inclusive learning environment for all students and employees.

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Lower Merion School District



2020-21 Final Budget

In Ten Years of Growth



Needed to hire over 100 New Professional Staff
(includes Librarians, Nurses etc.)

Additions/Renovations to:

Gladwyne Elementary School - \$2.9 Million

Penn Valley Elementary School - \$3.1 Million

Welsh Valley Middle School - \$16.4 Million

Bala Cynwyd Middle School - \$1.9 Million

District Administration Building (for LMHS) \$5.5 Million

Construction of Lower Merion and Harriton High Schools
over \$200 million

Enrollment Growth

Over the past ten years in the Commonwealth



- 499 School Districts
- 391 School Districts saw a **DECLINE** in Enrollment
- 1 School Districts saw **NO** Growth
- 107 School Districts showed **GROWTH**
(of at least one student) in Enrollment
- 27 School Districts Showed growth of 10% or more

Lower Merion School District's growth was **1612** students and a **22.9%** Increase – The highest per pupil increase in the last 10 years of any school district in Pennsylvania

2020-21 Final Budget Summary



DESCRIPTION	Budget 2019-20	Final Budget 2020-21
Salaries	132,268,403	135,709,590
Benefits	80,700,668	86,739,967
Other <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Purchased Professional and Technical Svcs (IU services, consultants, etc) - Purchased Property Svcs (utilities, repair work, leases, etc) - Other Purchased Svcs (tuition payments to charters, special ed, vo-tech, general insurance, contracted transportation) - Supplies (general supplies, books, software licenses, fuel, etc) - Property (equipment) - Other Objects (debt service payments) 	66,307,776	64,780,138
Budget Reserve	800,000	800,000
	280,076,847	288,029,695
Tax Monies required to balance the Budget		5,918,026
Budgeted Mill Value	7,719,935	7,740,029
Additional Increase in Mills Required		0.7646
Total Mills	29.4088	30.1734
Mills Increase		2.60%
Budget Expenditure Increase		2.84%

Real Estate Tax Change



Median Household Assessment			\$250,680
2019-20 Real Estate Tax mill rate		29.4088	
	Face amount of 2019-20 Real Estate Tax		7,372
2020-21 Real Estate Tax mill rate		30.1734	
	Face amount of 2020-21 Real Estate Tax		7,564
		Tax Increase	\$192

Median household assessments provided by Montgomery Co. Board of Assessments



Capital Reserve Fund

2020-21

Capital Improvement Plan *

\$4,410,329

• BAS Upgrade – 1165 MFR	35,100
• Asphalt Replacement Lower Lot - GL	513,000
• Replace Chiller (Rooftop Unit) – 65 RHR	30,000
• Upgrade BAS System – BC	217,200
• Replace Fire Protection Panel – CN	42,850
• Install Sound System in & Highlander Gyms – HH	70,000
• Install Electric for Permanent Lighting at Stadium Field -LM	200,000
• Replace Chiller – MR	130,000
• Construct Modulars (Temporary Classrooms) – MR	475,000
• Shingle Roof & Masonary Repairs – MR	1,217,179
• Additional Parking – MR	400,000
• Masonary Façade Repairs/Restoration – PV	450,000
• Parking Lot – Drayton Lane & Haverford Road – PW	400,000
• Bus Parking – WV	50,000
• Replace Auditorium Sound System – WV	180,000

Capital Reserve Fund (con't)



Bus Replacement Plan –14 *		2,122,381
Information Technology Plan		
• SRST Routers	63,200	
• Access Layer Switches	152,700	
• Load Balancer	35,800	
• Security Camera Servers	84,000	
• Projectors/Set Top Boxes	<u>635,000</u>	
		<u>970,700</u>
Total		\$7,503,410

* 3/25/20 Operations Budget Presentation



Capital Reserve Fund (con't)

Capital Reserve Balance (5/20)	\$ 6.8M
Estimated Uses	
Bus Replacements (19/20)	1.8M
2020-21 Capital Reserve Items	<u>7.5M</u>
	\$ 9.3M
Estimated Remaining Balance	<u><u>(\$2.5M)</u></u>

Committed Fund Balance



Future PSERS Obligations	\$10,300,000
Future Postemployment Benefits	<u>5,000,000</u>
Total	<u>\$15,300,000</u>

Moody's Annual Comment on Lower Merion School District



- Credit Position is excellent
- Financial Position is very healthy and is aligned with its Aaa rating
- Debt and pension liabilities are moderate overall
- Exceptionally healthy economy and tax base
- PA school districts continue to face challenges from overall rising fixed costs

Where Does the Money Go?



It goes to the values of the Community - the District prides itself in providing access to a plethora of opportunities for students:

- **Low class sizes**
- **Extensive curricular and co-curricular offerings**
- **Commitment to the Arts and Music**
- **Numerous enrichment programs (IB, Dual-enrollment, Interdisciplinary programs, FLES)**
- **Inclusive instructional model and environment**
- **Enhanced academic support services at all buildings (literacy and math specialists)**
- **Enhanced holistic support services at all buildings (counselors, psychologists, etc.)**
- **Extensive after-school and summer enrichment programs at all levels**
- **Commitment to community service and service-oriented programs**
- **Commitment to hire, recruit and professionally develop quality staff**