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

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

Read More »
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

Source: Pennsylvania Department of Education
## 2020-21 Final Budget Summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DESCRIPTION</th>
<th>Budget 2019-20</th>
<th>Final Budget 2020-21</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Salaries</td>
<td>132,268,403</td>
<td>135,709,590</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Benefits</td>
<td>80,700,668</td>
<td>86,739,967</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>66,307,776</td>
<td>64,780,138</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Purchased Professional and Technical Svcs (IU services, consultants, etc)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Purchased Property Svcs (utilities, repair work, leases, etc)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Other Purchased Svcs (tuition payments to charters, special ed, vo-tech, general insurance, contracted transportation)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Supplies (general supplies, books, software licenses, fuel, etc)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Property (equipment)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Other Objects (debt service payments)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Budget Reserve</td>
<td>800,000</td>
<td>800,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>280,076,847</td>
<td>288,029,695</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tax Monies required to balance the Budget</td>
<td></td>
<td>5,918,026</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Budgeted Mill Value</td>
<td>7,719,935</td>
<td>7,740,029</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additional Increase in Mills Required</td>
<td>0.7646</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Mills</td>
<td>29.4088</td>
<td>30.1734</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Budget Expenditure Increase</td>
<td>2.60%</td>
<td>2.84%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# Real Estate Tax Change

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Median Household Assessment</th>
<th>$250,680</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2019-20 Real Estate Tax mill rate</td>
<td>29.4088</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Face amount of 2019-20 Real Estate Tax</td>
<td>7,372</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020-21 Real Estate Tax mill rate</td>
<td>30.1734</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Face amount of 2020-21 Real Estate Tax</td>
<td>7,564</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Tax Increase</strong></td>
<td><strong>$192</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Median household assessments provided by Montgomery Co. Board of Assessments
Capital Reserve Fund

2020-21

Capital Improvement Plan *

- 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

Total: $4,410,329
### Capital Reserve Fund (con’t)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Information Technology Plan</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SRST Routers</td>
<td>63,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Access Layer Switches</td>
<td>152,700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Load Balancer</td>
<td>35,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Security Camera Servers</td>
<td>84,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Projectors/Set Top Boxes</td>
<td>635,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>970,700</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Bus Replacement Plan –14 * 2,122,381**

**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 7.5M

$ 9.3M

Estimated Remaining Balance ($2.5M)
Committed Fund Balance

Future PSERS Obligations $10,300,000
Future Postemployment Benefits 5,000,000

Total $15,300,000
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