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 »
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
New Middle School under construction
Enrollment Growth
Over the past ten years in the Commonwealth

499 School Districts
417 School Districts saw a DECLINE in Enrollment
82 School Districts showed GROWTH
(of at least one student) in Enrollment
22 School Districts Showed growth of 10% or more

Lower Merion School District’s growth was 1,391 students
and a 19.3% Increase – The second highest per pupil
increase in the last 10 years of any school district in Pennsylvania

Source: Pennsylvania Department of Education
Recent Budget Impact

• Enrollment Growth Has Slowed
  FY2021: projected enrollment was 8991
    actual was 8672
  FY 2022: projected enrollment is 9152
    current enrollment is 8592
    If past summer registrations hold we anticipate 8700

• Unprecedented number of retirements

• Increase in Local Revenue
## 2021-22 Final Budget Summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DESCRIPTION</th>
<th>Budget 2020-21</th>
<th>Final Budget 2021-22</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Salaries</td>
<td>135,709,590</td>
<td>138,209,304</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Benefits</td>
<td>86,739,967</td>
<td>85,937,937</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Purchased Professional and Technical Svcs (IU services, consultants, etc)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Purchased Property Svcs (utilities, repair work, leases, etc)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Other Purchased Svcs (tuition payments to charters, special ed, vo-tech, general insurance, contracted transportation)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Supplies (general supplies, books, software licenses, fuel, etc)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Property (equipment)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Other Objects (debt service payments)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Budget Reserve</td>
<td>800,000</td>
<td>800,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td><strong>288,029,695</strong></td>
<td><strong>292,661,964</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tax Monies required to balance the Budget</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Budgeted Mill Value</td>
<td>7,740,029</td>
<td>7,785,516</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additional Increase in Mills Required</td>
<td>0.6034</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Mills</td>
<td>30.1734</td>
<td>30.7768</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mills Increase</td>
<td>2.00%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Budget Expenditure Increase</td>
<td>1.61%</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
## 2021-22 Final Budget Summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Proposed Final Budget Expenditures</td>
<td>294,146,690</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Budget Expenditures</td>
<td>292,661,964</td>
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<tr>
<td>Budget Expenditure Decrease</td>
<td>(1,484,726)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Net Expected Increase in Revenue:</td>
<td>840,456</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>% Tax Increase</th>
<th>$ Tax Increase *</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3.00%</td>
<td>$227</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.00%</td>
<td>$151</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Median household assessment of $250,680
Real Estate Tax Change

Median Household Assessment: $250,680

2020-21 Real Estate Tax mill rate: 30.1734
Face amount of 2020-21 Real Estate Tax: $7,564

2021-22 Real Estate Tax mill rate: 30.7768
Face amount of 2021-22 Real Estate Tax: $7,715

Tax Increase: $151

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

Projects proposed for the 2021-22 year and estimated costs are:

- Fire Panel Replacement – WV $64,249
- Roof & Masonry Restoration - CN 1,032,100
- BAS Upgrades – GL 199,767
- Fire Panel Replacement – GL 24,053
- Replace Water Heaters – LM 111,266
- BAS Upgrades – PW 95,854
- Roof Restoration – BH 1,195,000
- Replace Chiller – PW 190,000
- Grandstand Restoration – LM 1,309,400
- Replace Stadium Sound System – LM 57,765
- Masonry Façade Restoration – PW 139,500
- Parking Lot – Drayton Lane & Haverford Road – PW 382,200
- Install Conduits at Stadium – LM 63,000
- Roof Replacement – 55 RHR 103,580

$4,967,734

NOTES

BAS – Building Automation System (heating and cooling system controls)
Bus Replacement Plan –18  $2,400,000

Information Technology Plan
• Board Room A/V  52,000
• Projectors for Lower Merion High School  698,000  750,000

Total  $8,117,734
Capital Reserve Fund (con’t)

Capital Reserve Balance (4/21) $ 8.5M

Estimated Uses
  - Bus Replacements (20/21) $ 2.2M
  - 2021-22 Capital Reserve Items 8.1M
  - 2020-21 Capital Reserve Items 0.1M

$10.4M

Estimated Remaining Balance ($1.9M)
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 (June 2020)

• 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