

May 2014

VOLUME 50 NUMBER 3



*In Jericho High School's class of 2013, 99% of all seniors earned Regents diplomas and 87% received Regents Diplomas Awarded with Distinction. Also, 88% of our graduates completed at least one Advanced Placement course. Jericho's percentages in these categories are among the highest in New York State.*

## ***Jericho's BOE Adopts Budget That Freezes Tax Levy***

The Board of Education unanimously adopted the proposed 2014-2015 school district budget at an open meeting on March 20, 2014. The \$119,572,384 budget represents a 1.44% budget increase and a **0% tax levy** increase.

Since January, the district hosted a series of public workshops to review the financial status of the school district and create a budget for the coming year. The Board of Education and district administration requested input from members of the school community at these workshops.

If the budget is not approved with a simple majority, the district can resubmit the original budget or a revised budget in June.

### ***Technology Education***

Technology plays a pivotal role in education today. The district owns more than 1,500 computers and added a Mac Lab this year to give students access to the best media and video editing software. Also, in 2014-2015, 460 iPads will be added for use throughout the district. Additionally, students in the engineering classes have access to

two 3-D CNC printers that they incorporated into the curriculum, with plans to add a third next year.

Just as important as the hardware are the systems that support it. With an approved budget, the district plans to increase reliability by expanding WiFi access and increase network connectivity throughout the district. (Details inside newsletter.) The district's disaster recovery capabilities will also be enhanced.

A robocall system was implemented this year for attendance and emergency contact, streamlining the notification process for parents and staff.

Also, standards-based electronic report cards for the elementary schools were implemented this year and are available through the parent portal.

### ***On the Ballot***

Also on the ballot is Proposition #2: Jericho High/Middle School Auditorium Asbestos Abatement and renovations, and district-wide security upgrades. Approving this proposition would enable the district to renovate the current

Middle School/High School auditorium, complete an asbestos abatement and upgrade security enhancements throughout the district. Approval of this proposition would have **NO** additional impact to the budget or tax levy. (Details inside newsletter.)

### ***Board of Education Seats***

There are two open seats on the Board of Education this year and three candidates running. They are, listed by ballot order, Claire Hochheiser, Gina Levy, and Barbara Krieger. There is a Meet the Candidates Night scheduled for Tuesday, May 13, 2014 at 8 PM in the Little Theater. This is an "at large" election and the two candidates with the most votes will fill the open seats beginning in July.

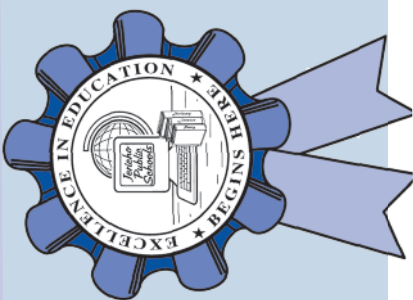
### ***Additional Information***

Copies of the presentations that were made at the budget workshops are available at [www.jerichoschools.org](http://www.jerichoschools.org). Questions related to the budget can be e-mailed to Denise Nash at [dnash@jerichoschools.org](mailto:dnash@jerichoschools.org) or by calling 516-203-3600 ext. 3202.

**SCHOOL BUDGET VOTE**

**Tuesday, May 20, 2014  
6 AM - 9 PM  
Middle/High School Gym**

# Jericho Budget Bulletin



## ON THE BALLOT: PROPOSITION #2

Voters will find Proposition #2 on the ballot in May. It reads:

*Shall the Board of Education be authorized to appropriate and expend a total amount of \$3,800,000 from current funds available within the general fund for the projects listed below, including incidental and necessary expenses in connection therewith:*

*\*Jericho High/Middle School Auditorium Asbestos Abatement and renovations*

*\*District-wide security upgrades*

Approval of this proposition will enable a complete renovation of the Middle School/High School auditorium and asbestos abatement. The proposed renovation would include, but is not limited to, updates to the floor finishes, seating, stage curtains/rigging, ceiling, lighting, sound system and audio visual system. WiFi in the auditorium, dressing rooms, a music shell on the stage and a sound booth are also included. Additionally, heating, ventilating and air conditioning would be included in the upgrade.

Security upgrades include, but are not limited to, video surveillance upgrades, visitor management upgrades, intrusion detection, panic system upgrades, and door security upgrades. Approval of this proposition would have NO additional impact to the budget or tax levy.



*A photo of the current auditorium, showing the need for renovations, including stained and aging asbestos tiles and chairs that are not properly functioning. ▲*

### Capital Improvements:

Funds are allocated in the proposed budget (\$900,000) to begin/continue district-wide projects such as: Replacement of boiler burners and vacuum pumps, implementation building management systems, parking lot replacement, transportation garage extension, access control systems, and ceiling/lighting upgrades.

## Current MS/HS Auditorium Uses

The MS/HS auditorium is used on an average of 17 out of 20 days per month. That is more than any other non-classroom space in the district. Here is a list of some of the current uses:

- 4 Winter Concerts MS/HS (and rehearsals)
- 4 Spring Concerts MS/HS (and rehearsals)
- POPS Concert
- Class Meetings at MS and HS
- Yearbook Photo Sessions (MS & HS)
- HS Guidance College Nights
- Board of Education Meetings (2-3 per year) for large crowds
- World Language Honor Society Induction
- Art Honor Society Induction
- Back To School Nights
- Choreo Concert
- Diversity Day
- NYS Summer School of the Arts Auditions
- NYSSMA
- All Sports Recognition & Award Nights (4 per year)
- Meet the Author
- Meet the Poet
- Geography Bee
- Senior Awards
- MS Moving Up Ceremony & Rehearsals
- MS Orientation Meetings
- HS Orientation Meetings
- Numerous School-Wide Assembly Programs
- HS Course Information Night (AP orientations)
- Bid Openings
- Open Mic Sessions (MS)
- MS Lunch Class Meetings
- Choices & Consequences Driving Program
- AATSP (World Language) Ceremony
- Lincoln-Douglas Debate Award Ceremony



## JERICO ACCOLADES

99%

REGENTS DIPLOMA PASS RATE  
(JERICO HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 2013)  
\*\*\*\*\*

87%

REGENTS DIPLOMA PASS RATE  
WITH ADVANCED DESIGNATION  
(JERICO HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 2013)  
\*\*\*\*\*

95%

4-YEAR COLLEGE ENROLLMENT RATE  
(JERICO HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 2013)  
\*\*\*\*\*

NEWSWEEK RANKED JERICO HIGH SCHOOL 1ST  
ON LONG ISLAND & 32ND IN NATION  
\*\*\*\*\*

US NEWS & WORLD REPORT  
RANKED JERICO HIGH SCHOOL  
1ST ON LONG ISLAND & 71ST IN NATION  
\*\*\*\*\*

7 STUDENTS WERE NAMED INTEL SEMIFINALISTS  
& 2 WERE NAMED FINALISTS  
\*\*\*\*\*

HIGH SCHOOL'S ONLINE NEWSPAPER *JERECHO*  
WON 6 QUILL AWARDS  
\*\*\*\*\*

NAMED BEST COMMUNITY IN AMERICA FOR  
MUSIC EDUCATION FOR 15TH YEAR IN A ROW  
\*\*\*\*\*

NYS SCHOLAR ATHLETE SCHOOL OF  
DISTINCTION FOR 9 CONSECUTIVE YEARS  
\*\*\*\*\*

4 STUDENTS FINISHED 2ND IN THE  
NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL ETHICS BOWL  
\*\*\*\*\*

## 2014-2015 BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

### BUDGET STRATEGIES:

- Remain committed to being a premier district
- Commitment to district's mission and goals
- Keep a multi-year perspective on the budget
- Long-range planning for educational programs and goals
- Maintain building reconditioning projects
- Continue technology replacement plans and expand technological initiatives district-wide
- Continue to pursue efficiencies in all areas of the school district.

### COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY 2014-15:

- Increase Wi-Fi access throughout the school district
- Introduce 460 additional iPads throughout the district
- Incorporate an additional CNC 3-D printer
- Upgrade Network connectivity between buildings
- Maintain building reconditioning projects
- Increase network speed and reliability
- Back-up Internet access
- Provide additional iMacs for video editing classes

### EDUCATIONAL ENHANCEMENTS:

#### New High School Course Offerings:\*

- Discrete Chemistry
- Intro to Computer Science
- AP Art History
- Pre-Calculus (C)
- Red Cross Water Safety Instructor
- Ways of Seeing

\* IMPLEMENTED WITH EXISTING STAFF AT NO ADDITIONAL COST TO TAXPAYERS.

### POSITIVE OUTLOOK:

- NYS Mandated Employer Contribution Rates to Employee Retirement System will decrease for 2014-15
- Although the NYS Mandated Employer Contribution Rates (ECR) to the Teachers Retirement System (TRS) will increase in 2014-15, it will not be as significant as 2013-14. Additionally, the ECR could potentially plateau, which is good news for future budgets
- Health insurance premiums for calendar year 2014 reflected nominal increases
- Tax Certiorari: the NYS Court of Appeals on February 18, 2014 issued a 30-page opinion in which it confirms that Nassau County violated the State Constitution when it acted by local law to repeal the County Guaranty. This eliminated what would have had a \$3-\$6 dollar million annual impact to Jericho School District.

### *Not Going to be in Jericho on May 20 and Want to Vote?*

Absentee Ballot Applications are available online at [www.jerichoschools.org](http://www.jerichoschools.org). Click on the "Vote" logo at the bottom of the page. Applications must be received by the district clerk at least seven days before the election if the ballot is to be mailed to the voter, or the day before the election if the ballot is to be delivered personally to the voter. More information is available online.

## ELEMENTARY PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS CONTINUING IN 2014-15

- *Band & Orchestra for Grades 4 & 5*
- *Library*
- *Student Leaders/Safety Patrol*
- *Cultural Arts*
- *Science Labs*
- *World Languages for grades 1-5*
- *Co-Teaching Program*
- *ELA & Math After-School Support Grades 3-5*
- *Social/Emotional Literacy Components*
- *Various Student Enrichment Opportunities including science, Mandarin, and coding*

## BUDGET HEARING & SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION

A Public Hearing on the Budget will be held on Tuesday evening, May 13, 2014, in the High School Little Theater, at 7:30 p.m. Community members are encouraged to attend.

There are two open seats on the Board of Education this year and three candidates running. Listed here by ballot order, they are incumbent Claire Hochheiser, Gina Levy, and incumbent Barbara Krieger. There is a Meet the Candidates Night scheduled for Tuesday, May 13, 2014 at 8 PM in the Little Theater. This is an "at large" election and the two candidates with the most votes will fill the open seats beginning in July.

### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Complete copies of the proposed 2014-2015 Jericho School District Budget are available on the district website and in the Central Administration Office at 99 Cedar Swamp Road. Reference copies are available for inspection at all district schools and the Jericho Public Library. Please do not hesitate to contact the Office of the Superintendent of Schools at 203-3600, extension 3201, with any questions. For information or questions regarding registration, voting and absentee ballots, please call 203-3600, extension 3214.

### Follow us on Twitter!

Follow Jericho School District on Twitter at [Twitter.com/JerichoUFSD](https://twitter.com/JerichoUFSD) for district-wide information, as well as election results on May 20.



### Athletics Highlights

- *A New York State Scholar Athlete School of Distinction for 9 consecutive years*
- *398 High School students participated on our 18 fall teams*
- *270 High School students are currently participating on 13 winter teams*
- *203 Middle School students participated on our 10 fall teams*
- *258 Middle School students are currently participating on 13 winter teams*
- *2 fall teams were named Scholar Athlete State Champions in 2013.*
- *Boys Soccer won the NY State Championship in 2011, 2012 & 2013.*
- *Boys Swimming and Diving won their 7th consecutive Division Championship*
- *Boys Badminton captured their 5th consecutive Nassau County Championship*
- *In the past 7 years, the Jericho Athletic Program has won:*
  - \* *12 Nassau County Championships*
  - \* *19 Conference Championships*
  - \* *2 individual athletes earned State Championship honors in their respective sports*
  - \* *12 individual athletes received All-State honors*
- *All Winter teams were qualified for NYS Scholar Athlete Team with over a 90% average*

### With an Eye and Ear Toward the Arts: Art and Music Highlights

- *Named Best Community in America for Music Education for the 15th year in a row*
- *8 Jericho musicians selected to perform at New York All-State Conference*
- *Jericho art students represented at Nassau Art Supervisors Association*
- *26 concerts were held in 10 months*
- *500+ NYSSMA entries*
- *83 All-County students*
- *26 Long Island String Festival Association Musicians*
- *Participation in the Herricks Jazz Festival*
- *Ad hoc ensembles perform at nursing homes and senior citizen facilities*
- *Fundraising concerts are held by the Tri-M Music Honor Society*
- *National Art Honor Society and Tri-M National Music Honor Society*



# SUMMARY OF PROPOSED 2014-2015 SCHOOL BUDGET

## (PROPOSITION #1)

ESTIMATED EXPENSES	2013-2014	%	2014-2015	%
INSTRUCTION	\$69,781,189	59.20%	\$70,883,319	59.28%
CENTRAL SERVICES	\$3,549,484	3.01%	\$3,541,182	2.96%
CAPITAL BUILDING IMPROVEMENTS	\$900,000	0.76%	\$900,000	0.75%
BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS	\$7,677,386	6.51%	\$7,681,216	6.42%
PUPIL TRANSPORTATION	\$6,202,778	5.26%	\$6,280,414	5.25%
COMMUNITY SERVICES	\$54,000	0.05%	\$56,000	0.05%
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	\$27,298,833	23.16%	\$27,842,340	23.29%
DEBT SERVICE & UNDISTRIBUTED	\$2,415,038	2.05%	\$2,387,913	2.00%
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$117,878,708</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>\$119,572,384</b>	<b>100%</b>

## PROPOSED 2014-15 BUDGET

The Board of Education unanimously adopted the proposed 2014-2015 Jericho School District Budget at an open meeting on March 20, 2014. The \$119,572,384 budget represents a 1.44% budget increase and a **flat tax levy**.

Since January, the district hosted a series of public workshops to review the financial status of the school district and create a budget for the coming year. The Board of Education and district administration requested input from members of the school community at these workshops. "We have worked collaboratively to create a fiscal plan that continues the highest quality instructional program; expands investment in technology; and is extremely mindful of our taxpayers," explains Jericho Superintendent Hank Grishman.



*Jericho Middle School was re-designated a National School to Watch, one of only 300 Middle Schools in the Nation to earn this designation!*

## SECONDARY PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS CONTINUING IN 2014-15

### MIDDLE SCHOOL

- Middle School Teaming/Student Team Advisors
- OLWEUS Anti-Bullying Program
- BRAVE Program/BRAVE Ambassadors
- Co-teaching Program
- Electives including Mock Trial, Project History, SEEDLINGS, Competitive Science Elective, and Coding, Gadgets, & Gizmos
- Diversity Day
- Wise Start
- World Languages: Spanish, Italian, French, Chinese
- Mathletes/Math Olympiad/American Math Competition
- Mathcounts Long Island Champions
- Study Island
- S.A.D.D. Students Against Destructive Decisions
- V.A.L.U.E. Credit Program-Community Service
- Mentoring Program
- Project A.I.M. (HS students mentoring 6th grade students)
- Participation in Nassau County Anti-bias Consortium
- Personal Best Initiative

### HIGH SCHOOL

- Broad array of Advanced Placement opportunities
- Science / Social Science / Pre-Calculus Research: Four year programs that enable students to perform actual research
- BOLT (Building Outstanding Leaders for Tomorrow): Leadership class that challenges students to make a difference
- Project Lead the Way: International pre-engineering program that offers up to 16 college engineering credits
- Senior Experience: Integrated internship experience allowing students to learn about government and economics
- Broad array of elective and extracurricular opportunities
- Co-Teaching Program
- Numerous Competitions

# Budget Bulletin

## School Budget Vote & Board Election Public Library Budget Vote & Board Election:

Tuesday, May 20, 2014

6 AM - 9 PM

Jericho Middle/High School Gym

Jericho Union Free School District

Jericho, New York 11753

(516) 203-3600

### Board of Education

William Ferro, *President*

Claire M. Hochheiser, *Vice President*

Shawn Gladstone

Barbara Krieger

Joseph H. Lorintz

### Superintendent of Schools

Henry L. Grishman

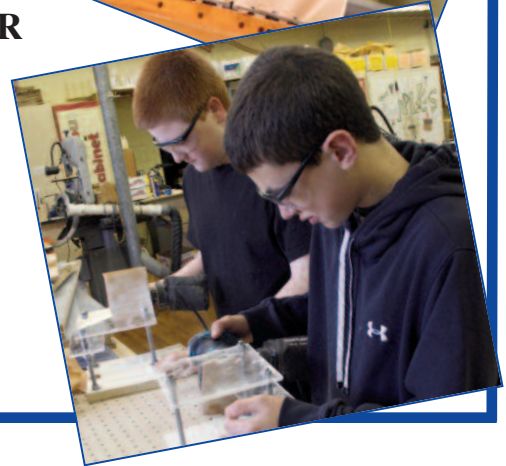
### Newsletter Editor

Denise Nash



## ECRWSS RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMER

Please visit us at our website  
[jerichoschools.org](http://jerichoschools.org)



May 2014

## SUMMARY OF PROPOSED 2014-2015 LIBRARY BUDGET (PROPOSITION #3)

ESTIMATED EXPENSES	2013-2014	2014-2015
LIBRARY MATERIALS	\$429,000	\$451,250
PROGRAMMING	\$95,600	\$92,500
PROPERTY IMPROVEMENTS	\$9,500	\$9,000
FURNITURE & EQUIPMENT	\$66,000	\$65,500
OPERATING EXPENSES	\$593,950	\$648,725
SALARIES & BENEFITS	\$3,713,850	\$3,738,750
CAPITAL RESERVE	\$5,000	\$5,000
GASB 45	\$10,000	\$10,000
MTA TAX	\$8,900	\$9,050
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$4,931,800</b>	<b>\$5,029,775</b>
<b>LESS TOTAL ANTICIPATED INCOME</b>	<b>\$68,900</b>	<b>\$74,500</b>
<b>TOTAL TO BE RAISED BY TAXES</b>	<b>\$4,862,900</b>	<b>\$4,955,275</b>

Percentage Increase in the Library Tax Levy 1.90 %

The proposed levy will be within the allowable threshold as prescribed in Chapter 97 of the Laws of 2011

One incumbent candidate running for one open Library Board seat:

**Nancy Feldman**

*Copies of the complete Jericho Library Proposed 2014-2015 Budget are available at the Jericho Public Library for inspection.*

## Voting Qualifications

Only persons who are qualified voters as of May 20, 2014 shall be permitted to vote in the election held on May 20, 2014 on matters affecting the Jericho School District and the Jericho Public Library.

A qualified voter is defined as:

- \*A citizen of the United States
- \*At least eighteen years of age
- \*A resident in the Jericho Union Free School District for thirty days or more preceding the budget vote at which he/she offers to vote.

Persons disqualified from voting under the provisions of Section 5-106 of the Election Law are not eligible to vote in school district elections.

**NEW VOTERS MAY REGISTER AND VOTE ON THE DAY OF THE ELECTION. THEY WILL BE ASKED TO PROVIDE PROOF OF RESIDENCY AND AGE.**