

**QUESTION:** Will a budget newsletter be sent to homeowners?

Yes. The budget newsletter will be sent to homeowners.

**QUESTION:** How can I get a copy of the budget?

There is a link to the budget on our main page. After adoption by the Board, the budget will be made available at all our schools as well.

**QUESTION:** How much are my taxes going to go up?

Based on the budget presented, the tax levy **actually DECREASES by \$2 million!** Based on current assessments, the average homeowner will see a REDUCTION in their taxes of approximately \$350.

**QUESTION:** Where and when do I vote?

The Budget Vote is May 17<sup>th</sup>. Polls are open from 6:00 am to 9:00 pm. The District has been divided into election districts as follows:

**ELECTION DISTRICT NO. 1** consists of all the area lying between the eastern side of Post Road and Post Avenue, south and west of the North Hempstead – Oyster Bay Town Line, north to Brush Hollow Road, Union Avenue to School Street to Old Country Road and north of Old Country Road. Voting and registration in this election district shall take place in the WESTBURY MIDDLE SCHOOL, 455 ROCKLAND STREET, WESTBURY, NEW YORK.

**ELECTION DISTRICT NO. 2** consists of all the land lying to the west of Post Avenue, Westbury and Post Road, Old Westbury, east of Ellison Avenue and north of Old Country Road. Voting and registration in this election district shall take place in the DREXEL AVENUE SCHOOL, 161 DREXEL AVENUE, WESTBURY, NEW YORK.

**ELECTION DISTRICT NO. 3** consists of all the land known as New Cassel, Town of North Hempstead, which lies east of School Street between the Long Island Railroad and Union Avenue and Brush Hollow Road; also, that which lies between Grand Boulevard and the eastern boundary of the district, north of Old Country Road and south of the Long Island Railroad. Voting and registration in this election district shall take place at the PARK AVENUE SCHOOL, 955 PARK AVENUE, WESTBURY, NEW YORK.

**ELECTION DISTRICT NO. 4** consists of all the land known as New Cassel, Town of North Hempstead, which lies south of the Long Island Railroad and north of Old Country Road, east of School Street and bounded on the northeast by Grand Boulevard. Voting and registration in this election district shall take place at the DRYDEN STREET SCHOOL, 545 DRYDEN STREET, WESTBURY, NEW YORK.

QUESTION: Will there be transportation contract cost increases?

Yes, the contractual transportation contract costs are increasing by 5% or \$485,924.

QUESTION: Will the District hire new custodians and security staff for the new Middle School wing?

Yes – we are adding one of each to the Middle School.

QUESTION: What new programs are being added?

Art & Music will be added at Dryden Street School. We will adopt a new Math Programs for elementary schools. We will expand *Foundations* and *The Writing Revolution* at the elementary level. Additionally, we will expand World Languages to Grades 7 and 8.

QUESTION: Was there an increase in the school's population?

There was a slight increase.

BY SCHOOL	2020-21	2021-22 CURRENT
WESTBURY HIGH SCHOOL	1549	1615
WESTBURY MIDDLE SCHOOL	1134	1093
DREXEL AVENUE SCHOOL	511	516
PARK AVENUE SCHOOL	646	609
POWELLS LANE SCHOOL	508	446
DRYDEN STREET SCHOOL	287	321
UPK (IN-DISTRICT)	168	212
TOTAL DISTRICT	4803	4812

QUESTION: What percent does the 14.4 percent represent in the 3.7 overall budget increase?

This area of the budget supports employee benefits for all district staff. Areas include the district's share of all employee retirement costs; social security costs; worker's compensation; unemployment; life insurance; health, dental and retiree payouts costs. This area did increase not only due to normal increases in costs, but also due to the addition of new staff being added to the 22-23 budget.

**QUESTION: What does PILOT mean?**

Payment in lieu of taxes.

**QUESTION: Are any staff being added? If so, what is the cost?**

The district is adding 8 new instructional staff; 2 custodial positions; 3 security positions and will be increasing the part-time Treasurer position to a full-time position. The cost of the added positions is estimated at just over \$2 million dollars.

**QUESTION: What facilities improvements are you planning on doing?**

The District is looking at several projects including roofing work at several buildings; creating security vestibules at each building; replacing rooftop units; boilers; cafeteria equipment upgrades and Middle School playfield and track repairs, as well as replacing the playground at Drexel. Additionally, we are looking at replacing/repairing portables at both Park and Dryden.

**QUESTION: What is Proposition #2 for and what is the importance of it?**

Proposition 2 will allow the District to use current reserves and excess fund balance (at no cost to the taxpayer) to fund projects listed above. If the proposition is defeated by the voters, no work will be done.

**QUESTION: When I look at the budget, I see large increases and decreases in salary lines – why?**

The District is creating salary department codes to provide additional transparency for the community. As an example, the HS (A2110.130.01.0000) currently contains all regular education teachers making it difficult to determine how much we spend on various programs (i.e., Math, Social Studies, Physical Education, etc). We have created “department” codes and are moving salaries from a generic code to the specific department code for transparency and reporting purposes.