

District Presents 2021-2022 Budget and Vote Information

PROPOSED BUDGET CONTINUES TO SUPPORT DISTRICT FOCUS AREAS

Each year the Board of Education focuses on the development of various policies to guide our daily work in providing safe and healthy schools and excellent learning opportunities for each of our students. Although often not thought of as a policy, the most important policy statement that the Board makes is the annual budget which provides the clearest signal of the district's priorities relative to supporting the learning of our students. This seven-month process begins in October and ends with the budget vote which is held on the third Tuesday of May each year. In the intervening seven months, a great deal of planning takes place to ensure that we are finding an appropriate balance between providing our students with the best possible program that is within the confines of the taxpaying public. We believe that the budget that was presented to and adopted by the Board for the 2021-2022 school year accomplishes this balance while keeping the focus on the seven key areas of our strategic plan:



1. The development and implementation of a strong and rigorous K – 12 curriculum;
2. The effective delivery of instruction and, when students struggle to learn, instructional interventions;
3. The use of well-designed assessments that provide us with critical information to improve teaching and learning;
4. Promoting positive student behavior and wellness through explicit instruction and, when students struggle, effective interventions;
5. The recruitment, retention, and development of strong personnel in all areas of district operation;
6. The development of effective internal and external communications and communication tools; and
7. The ongoing development and maintenance of long-term plans in all major areas of district operations including curriculum, finance, and facilities.

After you read the information within this newsletter, we encourage you to review the additional Financial Information available on our website at <https://www.bsbsd.org/Page/13278>.

We greatly appreciate the community's ongoing support of our students and staff and hope to see all eligible voters at one of our voting sites on Tuesday, May 18, 2021.

Ken Slentz
Superintendent of Schools

Dottie Sellers
President, Board of Education

Budget Vote Dates

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| May 5 | Public Hearing on the 2021-2022 Budget |
| May 11 | Voter Registration Day |
| May 18 | Budget Vote and Board of Education Elections |

BUDGET at-a-Glance

PROPOSED BUDGET

\$94,927,725

SPENDING INCREASE

1.8%

over the current year

TAX LEVY INCREASE

1.9%

over the current year

WHAT IS ON THE BALLOT?

Voters will consider the following separate propositions on the ballot:

Proposition I: School Budget

The District will be authorized to expend the sum set forth in its estimate of expenditures for the 2021-2022 school year in the amount of \$94,927,725 and to levy the necessary taxes therefore.

Proposition II: School Vehicle Replacement

The District will be authorized to spend up to \$948,000 to purchase and replace school buses and vehicles.

Proposition III: Ballston Spa Public Library

The District will be authorized to collect and contribute \$59,840 towards the expense of operating the public library.

BOARD OF EDUCATION ELECTIONS:

There are three full term (three year) Board seats up for election this year, commencing in July 2021. Interested voters will select from the following candidates at the polls: Jason Fernau and Timothy Turbiak.



MS Students prepare for spring theatre productions

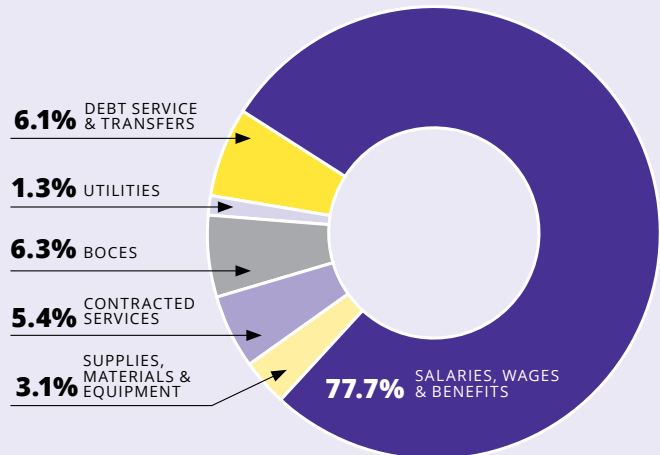
What is a Meaningful Diploma?

Our district's primary goal is to have each of our students receive a meaningful diploma at the end of their educational career with us. But what exactly is a meaningful diploma? While some might think that simply meeting all of the requirements is sufficient, that is not our belief. We believe that each of our students deserves and, thanks to the support of our taxpayers, will be provided with numerous excellent learning opportunities in the classroom, on the stage, and on the fields that will help develop their knowledge, skills, and overall attitudes towards learning and life. We also believe that by taking full advantage of these opportunities, our students will then be prepared to successfully enter:

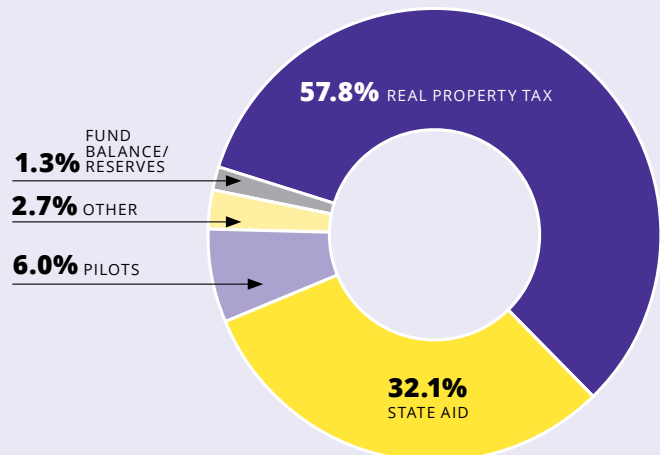
1. The workforce and receive a living wage;
2. A two or four-year college without having to take remediation courses (courses that students must pay for, but that do not carry credit);
3. The military and qualify for numerous occupation codes; or
4. Other advanced training that leads to gainful employment.

We believe that this work is and can only be done in true collaboration with our families, our community, and of course, our staff. And as we go about our work together, we believe that we must have a shared mindset that each year we commit to doing better than the year before by taking advantage of our own opportunities to learn and improve. We believe that serving as role models for lifelong learning for our students can only further the likelihood that they will in fact earn a meaningful diploma.

2021-2022 EXPENDITURES AND REVENUES



Expenses:	2020-21 Budget	2021-22 Budget	Change	
			Dollars (\$)	Percent (%)
Salaries, Wages & Benefits	\$72,766,745	\$73,800,862	\$1,034,117	1.4%
Supplies, Materials, Equipment	\$2,934,746	\$2,944,386	\$9,640	0.3%
Contracted Services	\$5,027,892	\$5,153,311	\$125,419	2.5%
BOCES	\$5,483,596	\$5,960,182	\$476,586	8.7%
Utilities	\$1,253,100	\$1,232,170	-\$20,930	-1.7%
Debt Service & Transfers	\$5,792,556	\$5,836,814	\$44,258	0.8%
Total Expenses	\$93,258,635	\$94,927,725	\$1,669,090	1.8%



Revenues:	2020-21 Budget	2021-22 Budget	Change	
			Dollars (\$)	Percent (%)
State Aid	\$29,031,594	\$30,509,051	\$1,477,457	5.1%
PILOTS	\$6,230,000	\$5,689,000	-\$541,000	-8.7%
Other Sources*	\$2,773,400	\$2,609,000	-\$164,400	-5.9%
Fund Balance/Reserves	\$1,375,000	\$1,225,000	-\$150,000	-10.9%
Real Property Tax	\$53,848,641	\$54,895,674	\$1,047,033	1.9%
Total Revenues	\$93,258,635	\$94,927,725	\$1,669,090	1.8%

* Other Sources of Revenue include federal aid, charges to other districts, interest earnings, and other miscellaneous sources.

School District Budget Notice

Overall Budget Proposal	Budget Adopted for the 2020-21 School Year	Budget Proposed for the 2021-22 School Year	Contingency Budget for the 2021-22 School Year
Total Budgeted Amount, Not Including Separate Propositions	\$93,258,635	\$94,927,725	\$93,880,692
Increase/Decrease for the 2021-22 School Year		\$1,669,090	\$622,057
Percentage Increase/Decrease in Proposed Budget		1.79%	0.67%
Change in the Consumer Price Index		1.23%	
A. Proposed Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount	\$53,848,641	\$54,895,674	
B. Levy to Support Library Debt, if Applicable	\$0	\$0	
C. Levy for Non-Excludable Propositions, if Applicable	\$0	\$0	
D. Total Tax Cap Reserve Amount Used to Reduce Current Year Levy	\$0	\$0	
E. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy (A + B + C - D)	\$53,848,641	\$54,895,674	\$53,848,641
F. Total Permissible Exclusions	\$1,603,946	\$1,685,316	
G. School Tax Levy Limit, <u>Excluding</u> Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$53,906,066	\$54,469,778	
H. Total Proposed Tax Levy for School Purposes, Excluding Permissible Exclusions and Levy for Library Debt, Plus Prior Year Tax Cap Reserve (E - B - F + D)	\$52,244,695	\$53,210,358	
I. Difference: (G - H): Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval	\$1,661,371	\$1,259,420	
Administrative Component	\$9,207,492	\$9,599,876	\$9,323,435
Program Component	\$70,917,474	\$71,941,557	\$71,810,961
Capital Component	\$13,133,669	\$13,386,292	\$12,746,296
Contingency Budget Assumptions: A contingent budget would result in the reduction and/or elimination of certain expenses such as equipment, supplies, and personnel as determined by the Board of Education. In all, a contingent budget would require \$1,047,033 in reductions.			
List of separate propositions that are not included in the Total Budgeted Amount:	Description	Amount	
	School District Buses & Vehicles	\$948,000	
	Ballston Spa Public Library	\$59,840	

Under the Budget Proposed for the 2021-22 School Year

Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings	\$607
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The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2021-2022 by the qualified voters of the Ballston Spa Central School District, Saratoga County, New York, will be held at the Ballston Spa High School for voters in District 1 and the Malta Town Hall for voters in District 2 on Tuesday, May 18, 2021 between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m., prevailing time, at which time the polls will be opened to vote by voting ballot or machine.

Vote May 18, 2021

The annual statewide School Budget Vote and Board of Education Elections will be held on May 18, 2021 from 7am-9pm. District residents vote at Ballston Spa High School (residents of the Towns of Ballston, Milton and Charlton) and the Malta Town Hall (residents of Malta).

Budget Q & A

Q1: Were any programs or staff cut in the approved budget for 2021-22?

No. Because the district received additional state aid this year, no cuts were made.

Q2: What will the impact of the new budget be on my tax bill?

The district does not complete the assessments or establish the tax rate, and so we cannot say what the exact impact will be. However, because of the new growth in construction in the district, we anticipate that the impact on the average homeowner's tax bill will be flat or increase minimally.

Q3: Will the district be fully reopening for students in the fall?

We are currently planning for a full fall reopening. But as was the case this year, we are dependent on decisions from the governor and guidance from the Departments of Health and Education in being able to finalize that decision.

Q4: How much money will the district receive under the American Recovery Plan Act and how will it be spent?

The district will receive a \$3.4 million base grant and an additional \$700,000 learning loss grant, the total of which must be spent over the course of three years and in line with a plan that we must develop before July 1 of this year. We are currently reviewing the guidance and requirements of these grants to determine how these monies can be utilized to provide our students additional learning opportunities and to offset some of the costs involved in computer-based instruction and facility improvements in air conditioning and ventilation.

The Bottom Line:

The adopted 2021-2022 budget for the Ballston Spa Central School District is \$94,927,725 which represents a 1.8% increase in expenditures over the 2020-2021 budget. The projected tax levy is \$54,895,674 which represents a 1.9% increase over the 2020-2021 tax levy.

The tax impact on the average home in the district assessed at \$258,000 is projected to be flat or increase minimally.

The adopted budget supports all current programs in place and adds additional support for both struggling and accelerated students. The new funding from the American Recovery Plan Act requires a separate plan to be developed by July 1 and will provide additional student program and personnel support.

Ballston Spa Central School District

70 MALTA AVENUE
BALLSTON SPA, NY 12020

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Organization
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Ballston Spa, NY

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Kenneth Slentz
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Brian Sirianni
ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT FOR BUSINESS

Written by Stuart J. Williams
COORDINATOR OF COMMUNITY RELATIONS

**VOTE
MAY 18**

Boxholder Ballston Spa Central School District

Produced in cooperation with the Capital Region
BOCES Communications Service.

Upcoming Community Events

May

- 18 Budget Vote/School Pride Day,**
7:00 am – 9:00 pm
- 22 Scotties Stampede 5K,**
BSMS (outdoors), 9:00 am
- 31 Memorial Day – No School**

June

- 3 Senior Awards Night,**
High School Auditorium, 7:00 pm
- 5 Senior Prom,** BSMS, 8:00 pm
- 10 Senior Send-off Parade,** 3:45 pm
- 11 High School - Last day of classes**
- 11-12 Troupe Performances – High School Play**
- 24 Ballston Spa High School Graduation,**
SPAC, 4:00 pm

Up-to-date information is located on the district website's events calendar. Please check often for the latest information, or call the appropriate school office.

DISTRICT BUDGET AND VOTE INFORMATION

The Board of Education approved the proposed 2021-22 school district budget at the April 21, 2021 meeting. The annual statewide School Budget Vote and Board of Education Elections will be held on May 18, 2021 from 7:00 am – 9:00 pm. District residents vote at Ballston Spa High School (residents of the Towns of Ballston, Milton and Charlton) and the Malta Town Hall (residents of Malta).

The mandated School District Annual Budget Hearing is scheduled for May 5, 2021 at 6:30 pm in the Ballston Spa High School Library. It will be broadcast via Google Live Stream and on the district's Twitter feed. Questions may be submitted via email at BOE@BSCSD.ORG. A link to the live presentation will be posted before the start of the meeting.

Please visit the website for additional details on the budget vote and/or contact us for more information. Residents may call the district's budget hotline with specific questions for the Assistant Superintendent for Business at 518-884-7195 ext. 1320.

If a resident of the school district meets the definition of a "qualified voter" but has not registered to vote, (s)he must register to be eligible to receive a ballot. A qualified voter may register with the county by contacting the Saratoga County Board of Elections, or at the district's registration day on May 11, 2021.

Absentee ballots are available for voters who are unable to visit the polls on May 18, 2021. An application for the absentee ballot is available for pickup at the District Office or by calling 518-884-7195 ext. 1320. Absentee ballots must be received no later than 5:00 pm on May 18, 2021.

Questions and comments may be sent via the comments section on the district website at www.bcsd.org or call the District Office at 518-884-7195.