

MAY 2023

SAYVILLE SCHOOL DISTRICT
NEWSLETTER VOLUME 38.1
www.sayvilleschools.org

TIDINGS
FROM THE SAYVILLE SCHOOL DISTRICT
"THE FOUNDATION FOR SUCCESS"

BUDGET ISSUE

THE 2023-2024 PROPOSED BUDGET

IMPROVING STUDENT PROGRAMS WITH A FIVE-YEAR PLAN THAT WILL *KEEPSPENDING DOWN*

DEAR NEIGHBORS,

As fellow taxpayers who represent the Sayville community, the members of the Sayville Board of Education have examined this year's Proposed Budget line-by-line as we do each year. Mindful to stay within the Tax Cap, we've explored areas where we could reduce spending and other areas where we can redirect spending to enhance student programs. We particularly want to emphasize that nearly every dollar we spend goes towards programs that support our students.

This year we've responded to Parent, Student, and Teacher surveys to inform our decisions and are excited to outline that the 2023-2024 Proposed Budget—if voter approved on May 16—will support phase one of a *five-year* plan to provide:

- More science, engineering, mathematics, technology opportunities at all levels;
- Expansion of the music and arts programs;
- Expansion of World Language programs at the elementary level;
- Additional Universal Pre-K sections in each of our elementary schools.

In addition, Sayville School District will see an 3% increase in State revenues along with other miscellaneous sources that will offset expenditures. While building upgrades were requested in each of the surveys, we are putting forward—as a separate proposition called Proposition #1 (see page 7.)—the creation of a Capital Reserve Fund to upgrade instructional spaces. These improvements would be made over the next eight years.

IN SUMMATION: The Sayville Board of Education adopted the **2023-2024 PROPOSED BUDGET** at its March 9th, 2023 meeting. This Proposed Budget represents a **\$102,048,891** spending plan, resulting in a spending increase of **\$2,746,734** or **2.77%**. This translates to a proposed increase on the tax rate of **2.85%**—**AT** Sayville's calculated **Tax Cap of 2.85%**, requiring a simple majority to pass. For the average home assessed at **\$40,000** there will be an *estimated* increase of **\$228/year** or **\$19/month**. (*before any STAR reimbursements*). Carefully read through this *Budget Issue of Tidings*. Under the Business Office Section of the website, you may review all the Budget presentations as well as information about the Proposed Capital Reserve Fund, also up for vote at the same time.

As your Board of Education, we appreciate your continued support to ensure that the best educational programs and opportunities are provided for our students.

SINCERELY YOUR BOARD OF EDUCATION:



President John Verdone
Vice President Thomas Cooley

TRUSTEES: James J. Bertsch, Jr., Carl Cangelosi, Maureen Dolan, Kelly Sack, and Christine Sarni

PUBLIC HEARING
on the 2023-2024
Proposed School Budget
7:30 P.M.
Tuesday, May 9th
Sayville
Administration Building

VOTE!
MAY 16th
LOCATION:
Gymnasium in the
Suffolk County Community
College • Sayville Center
30 Greene Avenue
Polls open 7^{AM}
Polls close 9^{PM}

Una versión en español de este *Noticias de Presupuesto* está disponible en nuestro sitio web en Sayvilleschools.org; en **Noticias y videos** /Boletines impresos del distrito.

PROPOSED 2023-2024 BUDGET: \$102,048,891

2023-2024 ADMINISTRATIVE BUDGET

2023-2024 PROGRAM BUDGET

	<i>Current 2022-2023</i>	<i>Proposed 2023-2024</i>	<i>Budget Change</i>
Board of Education	\$32,283	\$31,800	(\$483)
District Clerk	13,246	15,695	2,449
District Meetings	42,139	44,262	2,123
Superintendent's Office	398,941	389,952	(8,989)
Business Office	1,150,119	1,180,067	29,948
Auditing Services	95,000	95,000	0
Treasurer	14,053	14,406	353
Admin Fees for Debt Service	2,500	2,500	0
Legal Services	92,100	90,000	(2,100)
Personnel Office	417,640	436,983	19,343
Records Management	34,178	34,672	494
Public Information	81,111	58,060	(23,051)
Printing Office	199,370	199,369	(1)
General Insurance	499,780	521,819	22,039
School Association Dues	24,100	24,100	0
BOCES Services Admin	299,000	326,422	27,422
BOCES Rental Costs	140,000	129,954	(10,046)
Curriculum Office	278,735	287,589	8,854
Pupil Services Office	212,087	230,103	18,016
Principals' Offices	2,690,054	2,778,095	88,041
Plant Operation & Custodial	120,750	123,786	3,036
Adult Ed-Principal's Office	16,308	16,667	359
Summer School-Principal's Office	8,904	9,145	241
Unemploy./WC Contractual TPA	132,429	139,082	6,653
Admin Benefits Total	2,124,520	2,199,294	74,774

ADMINISTRATIVE TOTALS **\$9,119,347** **\$9,378,822** **\$259,475**

2023-2024 CAPITAL BUDGET

	<i>Current 2022-2023</i>	<i>Proposed 2023-2024</i>	<i>Budget Change</i>
Plant Operation & Custodial	\$5,942,549	\$6,127,054	\$184,505
Plant Maintenance & Grounds	2,062,573	2,157,504	94,931
Plant Maintenance Old JHS	24,000	24,000	0
Capital Benefits Total	2,745,913	2,842,631	96,718
Library Bonds	792,400	762,000	(30,400)
Bonds School Construction	2,364,375	2,655,926	291,551
Bond School Const.-EPC	1,172,846	1,172,848	2
Bond Anticipation Notes	0	0	0
Tax Anticipation Notes	200,000	330,000	130,000
Transfer to Capital Fund	1,000,000	1,000,000	0

CAPITAL TOTALS **\$16,304,656** **\$17,071,963** **\$767,307**

	<i>Current 2022-2023</i>	<i>Proposed 2023-2024</i>	<i>Budget Change</i>
Legal Services	\$214,900	\$210,000	(\$4,900)
Inservice Training	\$139,500	138,500	(1,000)
Teaching-Day School	2,320,644	2,463,117	142,473
General Instruction, K-5	7,389,583	7,660,376	270,793
General Instruction, 6	1,458,739	1,507,514	48,775
Language Arts-English, 7-12	1,759,817	1,827,390	67,573
Mathematics, 7-12	1,843,373	1,918,652	75,279
Science, 7-12	2,315,565	2,309,978	(5,587)
Social Studies, 7-12	2,095,814	2,096,710	896
Business Education, 6-12	430,522	458,327	27,805
Technology Education, 6-12	852,390	722,920	(129,470)
Family & Consumer Sci. 6-12	118,485	122,976	4,491
Health, 6-12	289,776	296,440	6,664
Alternative School, 10-12	141,372	144,678	3,306
Schoolwide Instruction, 6-12	119,700	116,000	(3,700)
General Instruction, K-12	10,000	10,000	0
Music, K-12	1,683,057	1,655,995	(27,062)
Art, K-12	1,126,227	1,166,130	39,903
Physical Education, K-12	1,536,311	1,590,806	54,495
World Languages	1,410,557	1,415,373	4,816
Enrichment Program, 4-12	147,816	247,662	99,846
Handicapped Pupils, K-12	9,917,458	9,497,040	(420,418)
Speech Instruction, K-12	817,298	866,494	49,196
English Lang. Learners, K-12	129,516	239,987	110,471
Corrective Reading, K-12	1,044,132	1,120,183	76,051
Occupational Education, 11-12	760,117	786,396	26,279
Instructional Materials AV	299,431	306,266	6,835
Library	766,302	786,990	20,688
Computer Instruction, K-12	2,929,721	3,011,169	81,448
Attendance, K-12	154,704	158,699	3,995
Guidance, 6-12	1,196,054	1,245,341	49,287
Health Services, K-12	677,552	715,912	38,360
Diagnostic Screening, K-12	14,760	14,760	0
Psychological Services, K-12	678,218	707,159	28,941
Social Work Services, K-12	717,085	733,407	16,322
Co-Curricular Activities	506,102	514,144	8,042
Interscholastic Athletics	1,340,038	1,366,230	26,192
Intra-murals	14,800	14,800	0
Teaching-Adult Ed.	79,644	96,162	16,518
Teaching- Summer School	97,000	101,000	4,000
District Transportation Service	101,454	103,593	2,139
Contract Transportation	4,435,431	4,603,086	167,655
Public Transportation	2,600	2,600	0
BOCES Transportation Service	22,000	22,000	0
Community Recreation (Pool)	115,344	115,508	164
Special Education Office	594,719	607,257	12,538
Transfer to Special Aid Fund	200,000	200,000	0
Program Benefits Total	18,862,526	19,582,379	719,853

PROGRAM TOTALS **\$73,878,154** **\$75,598,106** **\$1,719,952**

THE 2023-2024 PROPOSED BUDGET SUMMARY

An INCREASE IN SCHOOL TAX RATE: 2.85%

AT THE CALCULATED TAX-LEVY CAP, REQUIRING A SIMPLE MAJORITY.

THREE-PART BUDGET	ADOPTED BUDGET 2022-2023	PROPOSED BUDGET 2023-2024	INCREASE/ (DECREASE)
ADMINISTRATION BUDGET	\$9,119,347	\$9,378,822	\$259,475
CAPITAL BUDGET	16,304,656	17,071,963	767,307
PROGRAM BUDGET	73,878,154	75,598,106	1,719,952
TOTAL SCHOOL BUDGET	\$99,302,157	\$102,048,891	\$2,746,734

PERCENT INCREASE IN SCHOOL BUDGET: 2.77%

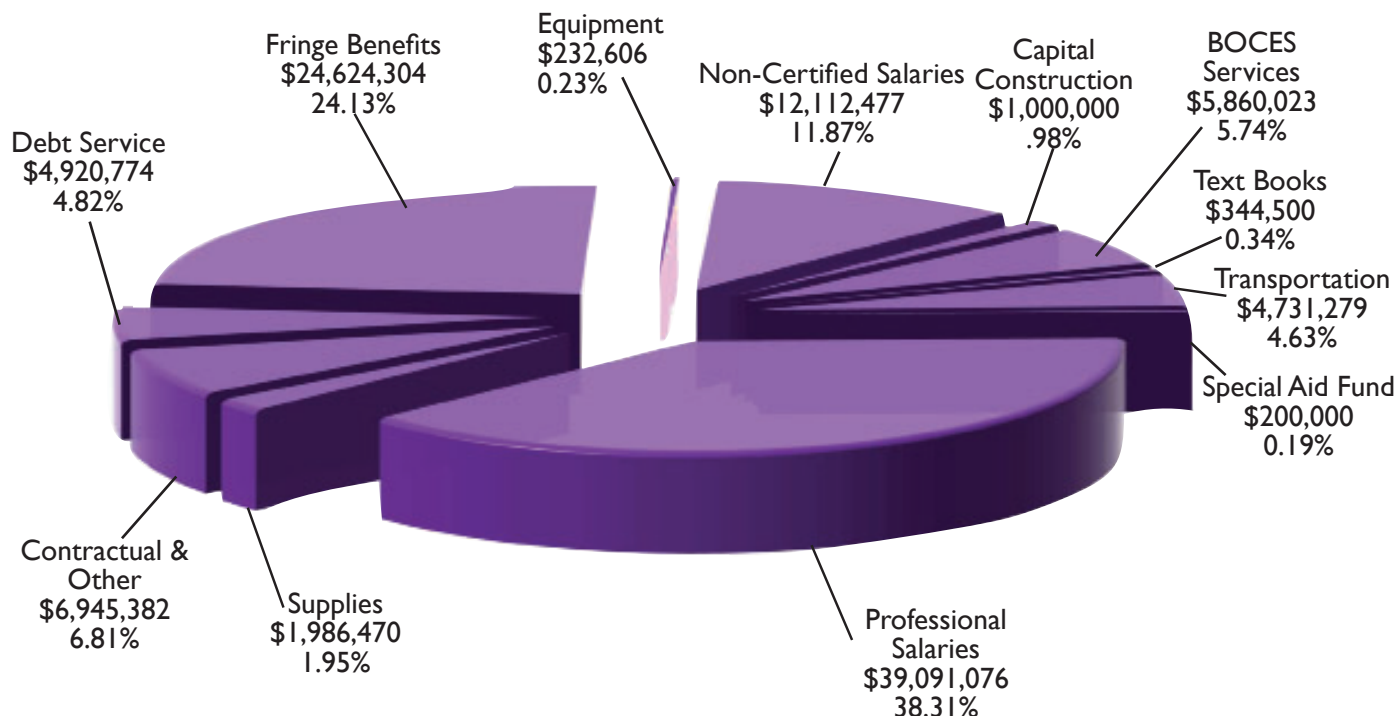
BUDGET REVENUES	ADOPTED BUDGET 2022-2023	PROPOSED BUDGET 2023-2024	INCREASE/ (DECREASE)
STATE AID	\$27,803,025	\$28,043,974	\$240,949
PAYMENT IN LIEU OF TAXES	601,714	727,280	125,566
OTHER INCOME	3,074,573	3,684,729	610,156
APPROPRIATED FUND BALANCE	5,939,479	5,947,919	8,440
PROPERTY TAX LEVY	61,883,366	63,644,989	1,761,623
TOTAL REVENUE	\$99,302,157	\$102,048,891	\$2,746,734

ESTIMATED SCHOOL TAX RATE	ADOPTED BUDGET 2022-2023	PROPOSED BUDGET 2023-2024	INCREASE/ (DECREASE)
ESTIMATED TAX RATE-HOMESTEAD (PER \$100 OF ASSESSED VALUE)	20.020	20.590	0.570
	has a tax-rate increase before S.T.A.R. Exemptions. (HOME ASSESSED AT \$40,000=APPROXIMATELY \$19/MONTH)		

2023-2024 PROPOSED BUDGET EXPENDITURES & REVENUES

The two Pie Charts (below and opposite page) show the breakdown of the 2023-2024 Proposed Budget's Expenditures and Revenues.

YOUR TAX-DOLLAR **Expenditures**



INSTRUCTIONAL INITIATIVES BEING PHASED INTO THE 2023-2024 BUDGET

Proposed Elementary Enhancements World Language

Elementary World Language Proposed Positions				
Phase I: 23-24	Phase II: 24-25	Phase III: 25-26	Phase IV: 26-27	Phase V: 27-28
Kindergarten World Language	Grade 1 World Language	Grade 2 World Language	Grade 3- 4 World Language	Grade 5/6 World Language
.5 FTE	.5 FTE	.5 FTE	.5 FTE	.5 FTE

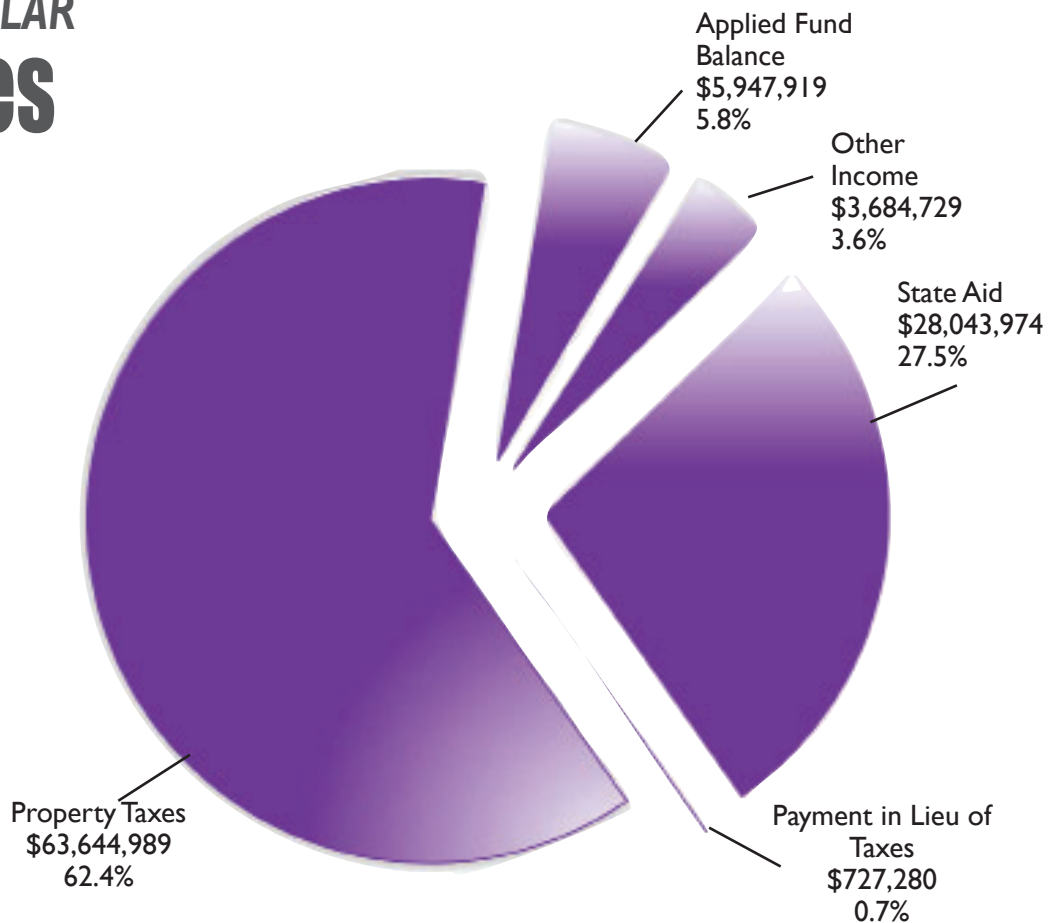
**Total FTE for a FULL K-5 WORLD LANGUAGE PROGRAM
- 3.0 FTE (2.5 increase from current staffing)**

Programs being phased in over the next two to five years:

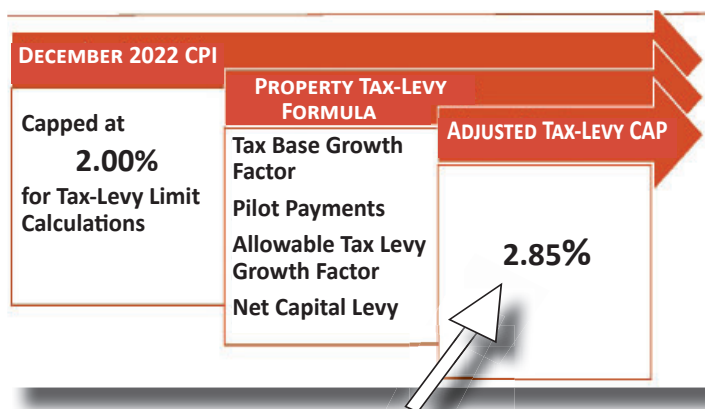
- AIS Math & Reading:
All Elementary Schools
- RTI Coordinator/Instructional Coach Elementary TOSA
- Elementary:
S.T.E.A.M./Enrichment-Cherry Avenue Elementary
- Kindergarten:
World-Language Program
- Full-Day Co-Teaching:
All Elementary Inclusion Programs
- Additional Pre-K:
Continued Commitment to Universal Pre-K

YOUR TAX-DOLLAR Revenues

On the Revenue side this year, Sayville School District has reduced costs by better aligning existing District resources with program needs. Sayville has kept the 2.85% tax levy increase at the cap.



NYS “Two Percent” Tax Cap Formula...



...IS NOT “TWO PERCENT” AT ALL, SINCE THE FORMULA IS BASED UPON SEVERAL FACTORS (see chart at left).

The Projected Tax-Levy increase of 2.85% is AT the calculated Tax Cap requiring a simple majority to pass.

- *Decrease of the District's Debt Service drives down the Tax-Levy Cap Percentage;*
- *Decrease in prior-year Building Aid drives up the Tax-Levy Cap Percentage.*

Keeping costs **at the** Tax-Cap Levy is a further demonstration that the Sayville School District and Board of Education are presenting a **fiscally responsible budget** to taxpayers.

NEW YORK STATE RULES REGARDING THE CONTINGENCY BUDGET

The Contingency Budget contains various expenditures that are: legal, specifically authorized by mandates or statutes, and maintain educational programs, preserve property, maintain the health and safety of students and staff. If the Proposed Budget fails the first time...

New York school boards may decide to: put up the *SAME* budget for revote, put up a *REVISED* budget for revote; or adopt a Contingency Budget.

*****IMPORTANT INFORMATION*****

If the Proposed Budget fails twice, school districts must adopt a Contingency Budget with a ZERO percent increase on the current tax levy. Under a Contingency Budget there are TWO spending cap limitations:

1. ADMINISTRATIVE CAP

ADMINISTRATIVE CAPS are determined by taking the ratio between the Administrative and Program Budgets, plus determining the 'lesser' of the calculated Administrative Caps for 2022-2023 or the defeated 2023-2024 Budget. (See chart below.)

ADMINISTRATIVE BUDGET CAPS

ACTUAL 2022-2023	PROPOSED 2023-2024	CONTINGENT BUDGET
12.34%	11.90%	11.90%

2. ZERO PERCENT TAX LEVY CAP

On a Contingency Budget, Sayville School District would have to cut \$1,811,623 from instructional/support programs, and staffing to achieve a ZERO PERCENT TAX LEVY INCREASE (See below).

To Achieve 0% Increase What Would Be Cut? Non-contingent Items

ADMINISTRATIVE Budget -\$72,000

- Staffing, nonessential supplies, equipment, travel, etc.

PROGRAM Budget..... -\$620,823

- Staffing, student supplies, new equipment, athletics, cocurricular, summer school, increased class size, etc.

CAPITAL Budget -\$1,118,800

- NO Community-Use of Buildings and Grounds (unless paid), staffing reductions, capital projects, etc.



Contingent Budget

	BUDGET	BUDGET PERCENTAGE INCREASE	PROPOSED INCREASE ON TAX Levy
2022-23 Final Proposed Budget	\$99,302,157	2.40%	1.72%
2023-24 Contingent Budget	\$100,237,268	0.94%	0.00%

Under a Contingency Budget the District must **REDUCE** spending by \$1,811,623.

Therefore, in addition to reducing the tax levy by \$1,761,623 to achieve a 0% increase, Fund Balance and Reserves applied would also be reduced from the defeated budget by \$50,000.

ALSO ON THE BUDGET...

SAYVILLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Budget: Tax Levy	Estimated Homestead Tax RATE PER \$100
2023-2024 • \$55,000	2023-2024 • \$0.018
2022-2023 • \$54,100	2022-2023 • \$0.018

SAYVILLE LIBRARY

Budget: Tax Levy	Estimated Homestead Tax RATE PER \$100
2023-2024 • \$4,436,024	2023-2024 • \$1.435
2022-2023 • \$4,243,928	2022-2023 • \$1.343

(All Tax Rates are expressed per \$100 of Assessed Valuation.)

CANDIDATES FOR...

BOARD OF EDUCATION TRUSTEES

Seats (3-year Term)

JAMES J. BERTSCH JR. | **UNOPPOSED**

THOMAS COOLEY | **UNOPPOSED**

LIBRARY TRUSTEE

Seat (5-year Term)

MARIANNE BASTIAN | **UNOPPOSED**

ALSO ON THE BALLOT: THE PROPOSED CAPITAL RESERVE FUND

THE FUNDING OF THE CAPITAL RESERVE FUND WILL NOT RAISE TAXES

What Are the Instructional Spaces the District Will Include in Future Capital Projects* for Reconstruction & Renovation?

Costs of the Capital-Reserve-Fund Projects will be spread over an eight-year period not to exceed \$10 million total.

- **Elementary S.T.E.A.M. labs;**
- **Secondary Science & Technology Labs;**
- **Theater & stage system upgrades;**
- **21st-century classroom spaces K-12...**
...And MORE!

BENEFITS OF THE CAPITAL RESERVE FUND:

- A Capital Reserve Fund is a separate account set up by the school district to finance future building improvements or renovations, or to address infrastructure needs.
- A Capital Reserve Fund can be used in lieu of raising funds through bonds, which incur long-term debt.
- When funding a project through the Capital Reserve, the school district is entitled to receive 68.6% of reimbursement from the state in the form of building aid.
- **THE FUNDING OF THE CAPITAL RESERVE FUND WILL NOT RAISE TAXES**

WHAT THE CAPITAL RESERVE FUND WILL FUND:

- Districtwide capital projects include: reconstruction and renovation of current facilities and instructional spaces, including S.T.E.A.M. labs, science labs, theater and stage lighting; replacement of windows, doors, boilers, floors, electrical, plumbing, masonry work, asbestos abatement, heating/ventilation, masonry work, site work, and other facility and instructional-space related work.

VOTING REQUIREMENTS*

TO BE ELIGIBLE TO VOTE ON **TUESDAY, MAY 16TH**

ONE MUST MEET THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS:

1. Be a U.S. citizen.
2. Be 18 years of age or older.
3. Be a resident of the Sayville School District for at least 30 days prior to the voting date.
4. Be registered to vote in the Sayville School District.

NOTE: General election registration qualifies residents.

**To see if you are registered to vote, check the Poll Finder Link on the District Website under Board of Education. Click on the "Current Voter Registration Information" page.*

IMPORTANT DATES

• **TUESDAY, MAY 9TH**
PUBLIC HEARING ON THE
2023-2024 PROPOSED SCHOOL BUDGET
7:30 p.m. SAYVILLE ADMIN. BLDG.

• **TUESDAY, MAY 16TH**
BUDGET VOTE ON THE
2023-2024 PROPOSED SCHOOL BUDGET
7:00 A.M. POLLS OPEN—9 P.M. POLLS CLOSE
**GYMNASIUM in the Suffolk County
Community College**
SAYVILLE CENTER
30 Greene Avenue, Sayville

REGISTRATION

Registration for new residents, residents who have moved within the district, and residents who have not voted in a Sayville School District election since January 1st, 2018 can register either:

1. In-person on Tuesday, May 9th for Evening Registration which is between the hours of 4:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. in the SAYVILLE ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, 99 Greeley Avenue, Sayville, NY 11782.

Please Note: May 9th is also the last day to request absentee ballot by mail.

AND

2. In-person until Thursday, May 11th, 2023 at the SAYVILLE SCHOOL DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, 99 Greeley Avenue, Sayville, NY 11782 between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.

Please Note: Monday May 15th is the last day to request absentee ballot (in person).

SUMMARY OF THE 2023-2024 PROPOSED BUDGET

This fiscally responsible spending plan is a complete budget package that:

- Has an increase in spending of **2.77%**;
- Has a Proposed Tax-Rate increase of **2.85%**;
- Is at the **2.85% Tax-Levy Cap**;
- **MAINTAINS** educational opportunities with challenging programs that will help our students succeed.

PUBLIC NOTICE REGARDING REGISTER INSPECTION

Any person shall be entitled to have his/her name placed upon the register of the School District, provided that at the time he/she is known or proven to the satisfaction of the District Clerk to be then or thereafter entitled to vote at said Annual School District Meeting to be held on May 16, 2023. Said Register will be filed in the Office of the School District Clerk, 99 Greeley Avenue, Sayville, New York, and will be open for inspection on each of the five days prior to and the day set for the meeting or election, (except Sunday, and on Saturday by appointment only, by calling 631 244-6510) between the hours of 9 a.m. and 3 p.m.

TRANSPORTATION POLICY

The Proposed Budget reflects the revised Board of Education transportation policy for elementary students which was passed by Referendum in May of 2012.



Students in the following grades, as indicated, are eligible to receive transportation.

GRADE	DISTANCE
K-5	Beyond 1/2 mile
6-12	Beyond 1 1/2 miles

No transportation is provided for students traveling to any school beyond 15 miles.