

MAY 2011

BUDGET ISSUE

TIDINGS
FROM THE SAYVILLE SCHOOL DISTRICT

"THE FOUNDATION FOR SUCCESS"
SAYVILLE SCHOOL DISTRICT
NEWSLETTER VOLUME 26.4
www.sayville.k12.ny.us

DEAR NEIGHBORS:

As you learned at our public Community Forum and Board meetings, we have diligently cut costs from our budgets over the past three years. Further reductions would now impact our programs. In fact, if we rolled over last year's budget, without making any cuts or concessions, this year's tax-rate increase would have been 10%. Despite starting from an already lean budget, the Board of Education reworked this year's budget, applied reserve funds, and brought the 2011-2012 Proposed Budget tax-rate increase down to 7.39%.

No one wanted a tax-rate increase, but this year's budget increase is entirely due to unfunded state-mandated obligations over which the District has no control and is coupled by the tremendous loss of approximately \$3.8 million in State Aid. For Sayville again this year, it is not a spending problem; it is a revenue problem caused directly by this lack of State Aid to fund public education.

Your feedback at these public events acknowledged that the rising costs of education overburdened residents, but the overall consensus encouraged the Board of Education to save our exceptional programs in the arts, sciences, and athletics, which took years to build and which have given our students excellent foundations for success.

Last year, many of these outstanding programs that are usually cut first when the economy falters yielded a majority portion of the \$2.3 million in scholarships that were awarded to our graduating seniors and gave the Class of 2010 the competitive edge to get into distinguished universities, colleges, and programs of higher learning.

This year, to preserve many of these programs at their current level and in the absence of adequate State Aid, the Board of Education is proposing for the 2011-2012 spending plan:

- a \$81.77 million budget
- a 3.87% increase in spending and
- a tax-rate increase of 7.39%.
- For the average home assessed at \$40,000 (before any Basic or Enhanced STAR exemptions) the annual taxes will increase by \$480.

PUBLIC HEARING

on the 2011-2012
Proposed School Budget

Tuesday, May 10th

7:30 p.m.

ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

WHAT WE CUT • Over the past several years, Sayville has cut 20% of our central office staff, as well as approximately 8% in teaching, 8% in clerical, and 8% in building administration. For a second consecutive year, the majority of our staff has agreed to another half-year salary freeze and other concessions. Also this year, we have cut an additional 5.6 teaching positions and are using over \$3 million of our reserves to offset the expenses that are under District control.

WHAT WE ARE DOING • In addition, Sayville Administrators and Board of Education members have been proactive in petitioning Albany with letter campaigns and meetings with politicians to give our district its fair share of school aid, in appealing for mandate relief, in exploring solutions to our overdependence on property taxes, and in making cost-cutting measures that still maintain our best programs.

As Sayville residents and volunteers elected by you to serve as BOE trustees, we are doing our best to stay true to the priority of delivering a competitive public education that benefits all our students and prepares them for the future. This Proposed Budget is a result of listening to all sides and seeking to find a balance. We hope that you will take time to review this Budget Issue of *Tidings*, attend the Public Hearing on May 10th at the Administration building, and remember to vote on May 17th.

Sincerely,



YOUR BOARD OF EDUCATION:

Deborah Van Essendelft, PRESIDENT; Maureen Dolan, VICE PRESIDENT,

TRUSTEES: Thomas Cooley, Norman deVenau, Keith Kolar, Raymond J. Nelson, and John Verdone

2011-2012 ADMINISTRATIVE BUDGET

2011-2012 PROGRAM BUDGET

	<i>Current 2010-2011</i>	<i>Proposed 2011-2012</i>	<i>Budget change</i>
Board of Education	\$23,721	\$23,721	\$0
District Clerk	10,051	10,040	(11)
District Meetings	27,201	28,069	868
Superintendent's Office	322,688	313,108	(9,580)
Business Office	811,209	866,687	55,478
Auditing Services	79,700	82,732	3,032
Treasurer	55,111	10,135	(44,976)
Admin Fees for Debt Service	2,500	2,500	0
Legal Services	53,680	53,680	0
Personnel Office	281,334	305,458	24,124
Records Management	34,117	34,117	0
Public Information	87,975	90,465	2,490
Printing Office	245,122	220,134	(24,988)
General Insurance	374,252	382,100	7,848
School Association Dues	23,040	23,040	0
MTA Payroll Tax	142,828	139,559	(3,269)
BOCES Services Admin	250,053	255,054	5,001
BOCES Rental Costs	153,785	156,860	3,075
Curriculum Office	245,336	264,724	19,388
Pupil Services Office	238,922	72,851	(166,071)
Special Education Office	463,820	457,512	(6,308)
Principals' Offices	2,409,679	2,446,348	36,669
Plant Operation & Custodial	123,113	97,500	(25,613)
District Transportation Service	0	0	0
Computer Instruction K-12	149,907	156,922	7,015
Adult Ed	70,592	72,772	2,180
Summer School	12,229	12,332	103
Admin Benefits/Contractual Total	2,014,242	2,120,639	106,397

	<i>Current 2010-2011</i>	<i>Proposed 2011-2012</i>	<i>Budget change</i>
LEGAL SERVICES TOTAL	\$188,300	\$188,300	\$0
Inservice Training	70,650	70,650	0
Teaching-Day School	1,580,180	1,820,464	240,284
General Instruction, K-5	6,439,172	6,697,408	258,236
General Instruction, 6	1,156,321	1,072,217	(84,104)
Language Arts-English, 7-12	1,696,503	1,537,241	(159,262)
Mathematics, 7-12	1,539,977	1,529,300	(10,677)
Science, 7-12	2,027,764	2,039,210	11,446
Social Studies, 7-12	1,564,715	1,599,511	34,796
Business Education, 6-12	104,527	108,062	3,535
Technology Education, 6-12	750,359	792,437	42,078
Home & Career Skills, 6-12	227,119	234,989	7,870
Health, 6-12	325,578	338,054	12,476
Alternative School, 10-12	105,791	108,860	3,069
Schoolwide Instruction, 6-12	99,959	99,959	0
General Instruction, K-12	10,000	10,000	0
Music, K-12	1,401,601	1,434,696	33,095
Art, K-12	915,905	903,435	(12,470)
Physical Education, K-12	1,211,610	1,155,111	(56,499)
Foreign Language, 6-12	1,281,000	1,177,515	(103,485)
Gifted & Talented, 4-12	108,975	113,531	4,556
Handicapped Pupils, K-12	7,681,869	8,387,238	705,369
Speech Instruction, K-12	574,972	674,107	99,135
Non-English Speaking, K-12	550	550	0
Corrective Reading, K-12	827,021	857,250	30,229
Occupational Education, 11-12	583,255	696,000	112,745
Instructional Materials AV	252,765	238,336	(14,429)
Library	692,286	709,493	17,207
Computer Instruction, K-12	1,788,352	1,824,033	35,681
Attendance, K-12	161,040	162,888	1,848
Guidance, 6-12	818,864	839,944	21,080
Health Services, K-12	488,023	495,766	7,743
Diagnostic Screening, K-12	14,760	14,760	0
Psychological Services, K-12	633,761	551,937	(81,824)
Social Work Services, K-12	367,612	427,088	59,476
Co-Curricular Activities	316,586	334,175	17,589
Interscholastic Athletics	945,645	958,420	12,775
Intra-murals	11,000	11,000	0
Teaching-Adult Ed.	54,350	88,796	34,446
Teaching- Summer School	59,749	61,549	1,800
District Transportation Service	72,175	72,596	421
Contract Transportation	3,086,896	3,185,223	98,327
Public Transportation	2,300	2,300	0
BOCES Transportation Service	14,000	14,280	280
Community Recreation (Pool)	98,078	114,101	16,023
Program benefits Total	13,707,245	15,170,895	1,463,650

ADMINISTRATIVE TOTALS \$8,706,207 \$8,699,059 (\$7,148)

2011-2012 CAPITAL BUDGET

	<i>Current 2010-2011</i>	<i>Proposed 2011-2012</i>	<i>Budget change</i>
Plant Operation & Custodial	\$5,028,051	\$5,118,790	\$90,739
Plant Maintenance & Grounds	1,563,147	1,599,160	36,013
Plant Maintenance Old JHS	13,900	13,900	0
Judgements and Claims	5,000	5,000	0
Capital Benefits Total	1,601,781	1,817,662	215,881
Library Bonds	1,031,188	1,038,313	7,125
Bonds School Construction	4,107,019	4,093,841	(13,178)
Bond Anticipation Notes	0	0	0
Tax Anticipation Notes	320,000	320,000	0
Transfer to Special Aid Fund	300,000	150,000	(150,000)
Transfer to Capital Fund	0	0	0

CAPITAL TOTALS \$13,970,086 \$14,156,666 \$186,580

PROGRAM TOTALS \$56,059,160 \$58,923,675 \$2,864,515

PROPOSED 2011-2012 BUDGET: \$81,779,400

THE 2011-2012 PROPOSED BUDGET SUMMARY

THREE-PART BUDGET	<i>ADOPTED BUDGET 2010-2011</i>	<i>PROPOSED BUDGET 2011-2012</i>	<i>INCREASE/ (DECREASE)</i>
ADMINISTRATION BUDGET	\$8,706,207	\$8,699,059	(\$7,148)
CAPITAL BUDGET	13,970,086	14,156,666	186,580
PROGRAM BUDGET	56,059,160	58,923,675	2,864,515
TOTAL SCHOOL BUDGET	\$78,735,453	\$81,779,400	\$3,043,947

PERCENT INCREASE IN SCHOOL BUDGET: 3.87%

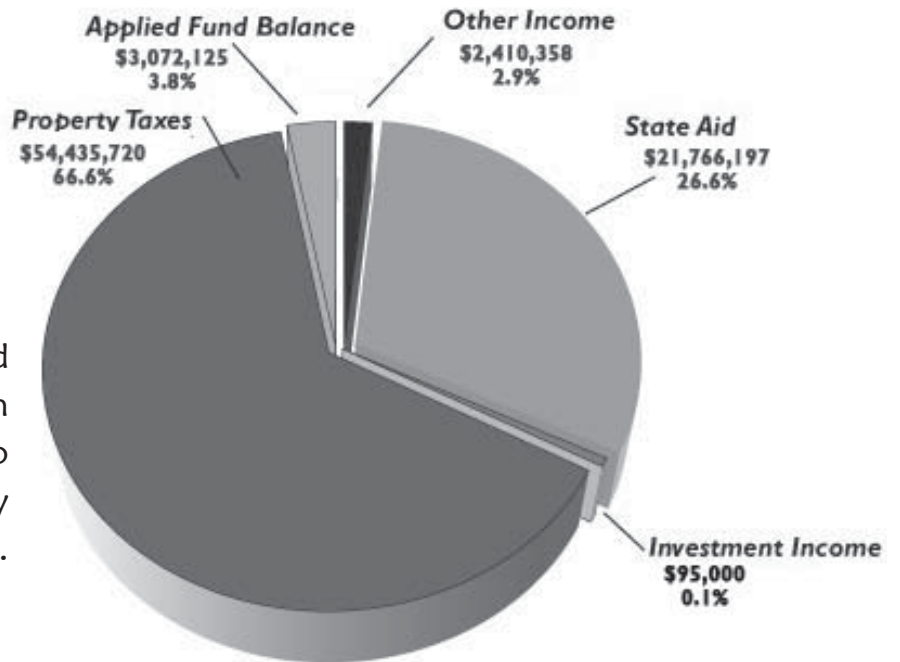
BUDGET REVENUES	<i>ADOPTED BUDGET 2010-2011</i>	<i>PROPOSED BUDGET 2011-2012</i>	<i>INCREASE/ (DECREASE)</i>
STATE AID	\$22,906,999	\$21,766,197	(\$1,140,802)
OTHER INCOME	2,378,728	2,410,358	31,630
INVESTMENT INCOME	175,000	95,000	(80,000)
APPROPRIATED FUND BALANCE	2,585,000	3,072,125	487,125
PROPERTY TAX LEVY	50,689,726	54,435,720	3,745,994
TOTAL REVENUE	\$78,735,453	\$81,779,400	\$3,043,947

ESTIMATED SCHOOL TAX RATE	<i>ADOPTED BUDGET 2010-2011</i>	<i>PROPOSED BUDGET 2011-2012</i>	<i>INCREASE/ (DECREASE)</i>
ESTIMATED TAX RATE-HOMESTEAD (PER \$100 OF ASSESSED VALUE)	16.239	17.439	1.20

PERCENT INCREASE IN SCHOOL TAX RATE: 7.39%

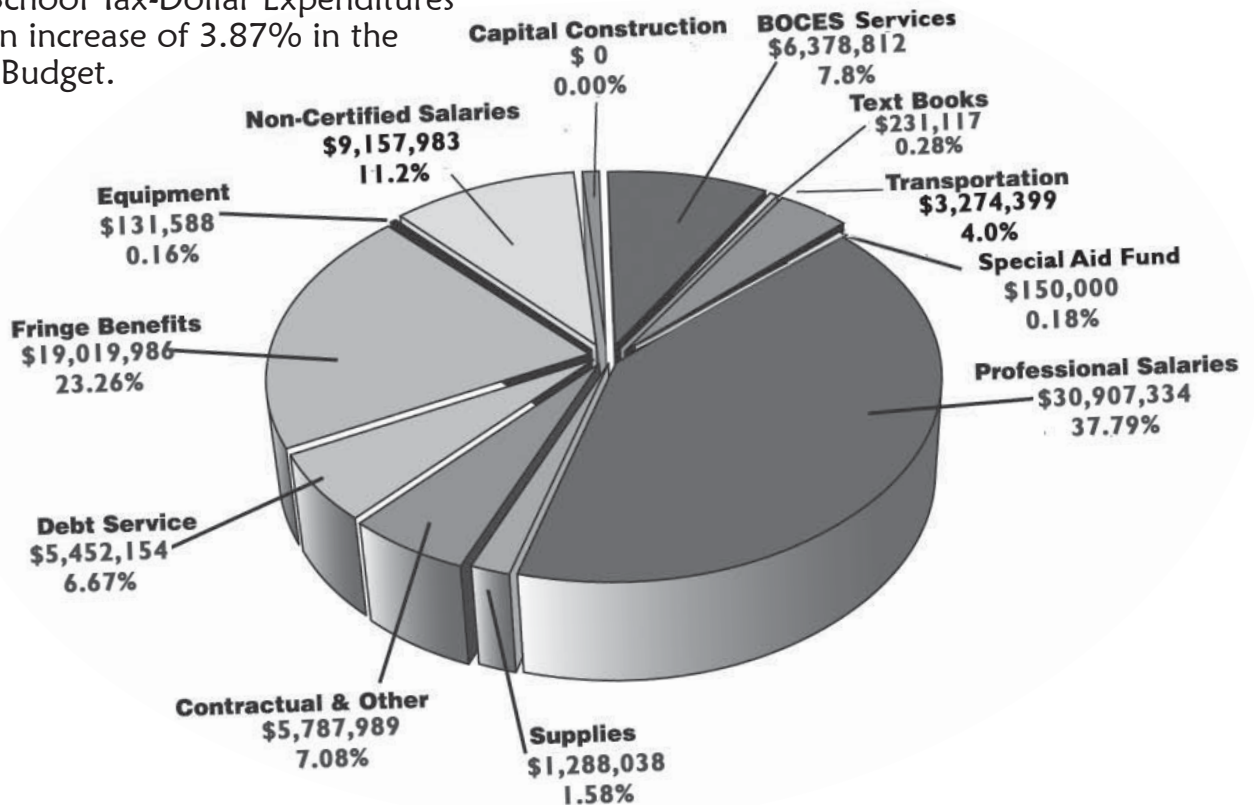
2011-2012 PROPOSED BUDGET EXPENDITURES & REVENUES

The two Pie Charts below show the breakdown of the 2011-2012 Proposed Budget's Revenues and Expenditures.



(RIGHT) Diminishing State-Aid Revenues by \$3.8 million have forced the tax levy to rise to 7.39% before any STAR Exemptions.

(BELOW) School Tax-Dollar Expenditures show an increase of 3.87% in the School Budget.



Note: Capital Construction expenses show 0% increase on the budget. Districtwide improvements have been funded both by past State Building Aid and the Bond Referendum.

IF THE PROPOSED BUDGET FAILS...

“Will my taxes be lower on a Contingency Budget if the Proposed Budget isn't approved?”

NO. If the Proposed Budget with a 7.39% Tax-Rate increase does not pass, the calculated Contingency Budget will result in a higher Contingency Tax Rate of 9.18%. This is because the Contingency Budget uses less fund balance revenues.

WHAT CONTINGENCY BUDGET CUTS MAY INCLUDE:

Because these services are not mandated by the State, the following items are under consideration for the 2011-2012 Contingency Budget Reductions:

LEVEL I RECOMMENDED CHOICES:

- English reduction: 0.4 (7-12)
- Math reduction: 0.4 (7-12)
- LOTE reduction: 0.4 (7-12)
- Music reduction: 0.4 Districtwide
- Tech - Business reduction: 0.4 (7-12)
- Science reduction: 0.4 (7-12)
- Art reduction: 0.4 Districtwide
- Social Studies reduction: 0.4 (7-12)
- Non IEP Speech: 1.0 Districtwide
- Class size 3 to 4 (28): 2.0 Cherry & Lincoln
- Class size 4 to 5 (27): Sunrise
- SEED Elementary: 1.0 Districtwide
- Elementary Curriculum Council: Districtwide
- MS Sports
- 12 Asst Varsity Coaches (HS)
- Band/Orchestra/Chorus Concert (MS)
- Student Assistance Counselor (HS)
- Homework Clinic (MS)
- Secondary Summer School (HS)
- Travel - Conferences: Districtwide
- Supplies and Paper: Districtwide
- Administrative Reduction: Districtwide

UNDER CONTINGENCY,
THE TOTAL OF THESE CUTS MUST EQUAL
A MINIMUM OF \$1,595,000

CONTINGENCY BUDGET CONTAINS

1. Various expenditures that are:
 - legal,
 - specifically authorized by mandates or statutes, and that
 - maintain educational programs, preserve property, & maintain the health & safety of students & staff;
2. Reductions in Noncontingent Items:
Nonessential supplies, equipment, travel
3. Reductions in Program Budget: staffing, student supplies, new equipment, athletics, cocurricular, summer school;
4. Increased class size;
5. Restrictions for Community use of Buildings & Grounds.

THIS YEAR'S CONTINGENCY BUDGET

1. Sets a 1.84% Total Spending Cap (which is about \$1,595,000 lower than the Proposed Budget)
2. Will yield a 9.18% Projected Tax-Rate increase that is higher than the 7.39% Proposed Budget Tax-Rate increase.
For a home assessed at \$40,000, the projected increase would be \$596/year or \$49.67/month.
3. Reduces the use of fund balance revenues, resulting in higher proposed tax rate.
4. Significantly affects Sayville's fiscal stability and credit rating.
5. Has long-term effects on the recovery of District's programs and finances.

PUBLIC HEARING

on the 2011-2012
Proposed School Budget

Tuesday, May 10th

7:30 p.m.

ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

The 2011-2012 Proposed Budget sees a 3.87% increase on the spending plan & a 7.39% Tax-Rate increase.

Using the Tax-Rate Analysis chart (below), residents can compare the different tax rate percentages. As the chart shows, it takes more than \$500,000 to reduce the Tax Rate by 1%. This means reducing the Tax-Rate increase to 4% requires cutting an additional \$2 million from the budget and drastically affecting our programs, while only marginally decreasing the weekly cost to the average taxpayer by \$5.

Assessed Valuation*	Percentage of Tax Rate Increase**									
	2%		4%		6%		8%		10%	
	Yearly	Monthly	Yearly	Monthly	Yearly	Monthly	Yearly	Monthly	Yearly	Monthly
30,000	\$98	\$8.17	\$195	\$16.25	\$292	\$24.33	\$390	\$32.50	\$487	\$40.58
35,000	\$114	\$9.50	\$228	\$19.00	\$341	\$28.42	\$455	\$37.92	\$568	\$47.33
40,000***	\$130	\$10.83	\$260	\$21.67	\$390	\$32.50	\$520	\$43.33	\$650	\$54.17
45,000	\$146	\$12.17	\$293	\$24.42	\$438	\$36.50	\$585	\$48.75	\$731	\$60.92
50,000	\$163	\$13.58	\$325	\$27.08	\$487	\$40.58	\$649	\$54.08	\$812	\$67.67
55,000	\$179	\$14.92	\$358	\$29.83	\$536	\$44.67	\$714	\$59.50	\$893	\$74.42
60,000	\$195	\$16.25	\$390	\$32.50	\$584	\$48.67	\$779	\$64.92	\$974	\$81.17

(ABOVE) Is the difference of \$5 more a week for the average taxpayer worth keeping our excellent programs intact?

* Does not include any Star or other tax exemptions.
 ** Assumes 2010 Assessed Valuation and Base Allocation levels.
 *** Represents the average for the Sayville community

DID YOU KNOW THAT:

- Our current salary costs for the 2010-11 school year are less than the prior year.
- Under the State’s Approved Executive Budget for 2011-12, Sayville is losing approximately \$3.8 million or 7.26% of its aid!
- In addition, last year Sayville loss 5.29% in aid!
- This left the District with some difficult choices and decisions for the 2011-2012 Budget, which were:
 1. Make up some of the revenue shortfall by using over \$3 million from our Fund Balance;
 2. Reduce costs by eliminating spending on supplies, cutting positions, taking a second year of salary freezes, and reducing 5.6 teaching positions; and
 3. Shift the remaining revenue shortfall to the tax rate!

VOTE!

MAY 17TH

SAYVILLE HIGH SCHOOL
7 A.M. - 9 P.M.

ALSO ON THE BALLOT

SAYVILLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Budget: Tax Levy	Estimated Homestead Tax RATE PER \$100
2010-2011 • \$55,147	2010-2011 • \$0.018
2011-2012 • \$55,012	2011-2012 • \$0.018

SAYVILLE LIBRARY

Budget: Tax Levy	Estimated Homestead Tax RATE PER \$100
2010-2011 • \$3,434,546	2010-2011 • \$1.1003
2011-2012 • \$3,503,400	2011-2012 • \$1.1223

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

CANDIDATES FOR...

BOARD OF EDUCATION TRUSTEE

Seats (3-year Term)

THOMAS COOLEY	UNOPPOSED
DEBORAH VANESSEDELFT	UNOPPOSED

LIBRARY TRUSTEE

Seats (5-year Term)

SHARON LIPPMAN	TOM MURRAY, III
incumbent	opponent

The 2011-2012
Proposed Spending Plan of
\$81,779,400 represents a **3.87%**
increase over the current school
year and a projected
tax-rate increase of **7.39%**.

REDUCTIONS IN STAR EXEMPTIONS

DID YOU KNOW THAT

the Governor's 2011-2012 Approved
Budget imposed a new 2% cap
on the increases in STAR Savings?

(SEE 5.2808-D/A.2808-D-PART N)

For 2011-2012, your maximum
STAR savings will be:

	BASIC	ENHANCED
HOMESTEAD	\$1,078	\$2,160
NONHOMESTEAD	\$1,794	\$3,593

The bottom line is that the State—
with all its bluster about controlling
property taxes—has **QUIETLY**
increased property taxes
for Sayville homeowners
by capping STAR Aid.

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 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 17, 2011. 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 244-6510) between the hours of 9 a.m. and 3 p.m.

TIDINGS

FROM THE SAYVILLE SCHOOL DISTRICT

You can still refer to it as HIGHLIGHTS, but we're giving Sayville School District's periodic newsletter a new name and look that is befitting a seaside community affected by its tides. **TIDINGS**, which literally means "news," seemed appropriate.

LINDA A. MITTIGA, SAYVILLE SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWSLETTER & DISTRICT WEBSITE EDITOR

DR. WALTER F. SCHATNER,
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS
99 Greeley Avenue
Sayville, New York 11782

****ECRWSS****

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School Tax Code 566

VOTING REQUIREMENTS

TO BE ELIGIBLE TO VOTE ON
MAY 17TH, 2011

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.

PUBLIC HEARING

on the 2011-2012
Proposed School Budget
Tuesday, May 10th
7:30 p.m.
ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

SUMMARY OF THE 2011-2012 PROPOSED BUDGET

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

- Maintains existing instructional and support programs,
- Has brought the Proposed Tax-Rate increase down from 10% to 7.39%,
- Continues to provide our students with educational opportunities and challenges that will help them succeed.

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, 2006 can register either:

1. Until Thursday, May 12th, 2011 at the Administration Building, between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. 99 Greeley Avenue, Sayville, NY,

or during

2. Evening Registration on Tuesday, May 10th, between the hours of 4:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m., at the Administration Building, 99 Greeley Avenue, Sayville, NY

TRANSPORTATION POLICY

The Proposed Budget reflects the current Board of Education policy on transportation for students. Students in the following grades, as indicated, are eligible to receive transportation.

GRADE	DISTANCE
K-2	Beyond 1/2 mile
3-5	Beyond 1 mile
6-12	Beyond 1 1/2 miles

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