



Discovery

GREAT NECK PUBLIC SCHOOLS

2021–22 PROPOSED SCHOOL BUDGET

Proposed 1.98% Tax Levy Increase is BELOW the Property Tax Cap Limit

The Board of Education has adopted the proposed 2021–22 school budget in the amount of \$252,194,682. This amount is a 4.47% increase over last year's budget. The proposed tax levy increase is 1.98%, which is below the tax cap limit of 2.82%.

Over the past year, the Great Neck school community has overcome tremendous challenges to deliver a safe educational program while abiding by strict public health measures. "Amidst the uncertainty of the pandemic, we developed a successful Reopening Plan and offered innovative instructional models that provide daily, live instruction for all learners, whether in-person, remote, or hybrid," says Superintendent Dr. Teresa Prendergast. "I am grateful for the support of our Board in presenting a sound budget that will continue to ensure high-quality academic, social, and emotional programs for all students."

PLANNING FOR A BRIGHTER FUTURE

The 2021–22 budget was developed with input from stakeholders across the District in anticipation of reopening schools for daily, in-person instruction for all students.

"Our District is committed to a full reopening for our schools and this budget is our plan to achieve that objective," explains Assistant Superintendent for Business John Powell. "This budget supports the full complement of instructional programs and extra-curricular activities that our community expects from our award-winning public school district, while maintaining a safe environment for learning and teaching."

"Our community has a long history of supporting high-quality educational opportunities for our students," says Barbara Berkowitz, Board President. "We are all hopeful for a return to some sense of normalcy, but we will not forget the challenges we've experienced together along the way. This budget will provide the ongoing academic and emotional support our children need."

BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

The proposed 2021–22 budget provides funding to:

- **Return to daily, in-person instruction and extra-curricular programs** at the elementary and secondary levels, in anticipation of reduced COVID-related restrictions.
- **Ensure the health and safety** of students and staff.
- **Add teaching positions** to safeguard class sizes, in accordance with Board guidelines, due to increasing enrollment.
- **Maintain opportunities in support of all learners.**
- **Continue to support student wellness** through strong social-emotional curricular programs and expanded mental health offerings, including a new mental health partnership with Northwell Health.
- **Provide ongoing professional development** training for faculty and staff.



SCHOOL BUDGET VOTE

Tuesday, May 11, 2021 • 7 AM–10 PM
at E.M. Baker • Lakeville • Saddle Rock • South High School

REVENUES IN 2021–22

To balance the 2021–22 budget and offset the tax burden on residents, the District will appropriate over \$11.5 million in fund balance and reserves, which are unspent funds from prior years. This funding will help to cover contractual salary increases, hikes in health-insurance premiums, and other planned expenditures. The proposed budget also allocates \$454,085 in additional state aid to offset the financial burden on taxpayers.

SERVICES FOR NON-PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS

The District, in accordance with State law, allocates more than \$8.5 million to provide services to private and non-public school students, including bus transportation, textbooks, health services, special education services, school library materials, and computer software loan programs.

DID YOU KNOW?

Great Neck's 2020–21 school tax rate for single-family homes ranks as the sixth-lowest of all school districts in Nassau County.

NEW YORK STATE'S PROPERTY TAX CAP

Since the inception of the tax-cap legislation in 2012, Great Neck's proposed tax rate increases have been at or below the State-mandated tax levy limit. The proposed 1.98% tax rate increase is below the 2021–22 tax levy limit of 2.82%.

Multiple factors affect the actual limit, including changes to the tax base, the rate of inflation, payments in lieu of taxes, debt payments, capital project expenditures, transportation equipment purchases, and pension increases above a certain percentage.

School Year	Tax Levy Limit	Tax Rate Increase
2021–22	2.82 %	1.98 %
2020–21	3.07 %	2.57 %
2019–20	4.09 %	1.94 %
2018–19	2.85 %	2.52 %
2017–18	1.26 %	1.26 %
2016–17	0.17 %	0.17 %
2015–16	1.56 %	1.56 %
2014–15	2.39 %	1.97 %
2013–14	3.14 %	3.14 %
2012–13	2.49 %	2.49 %
AVERAGE	2.38 %	1.96 %

VOTING INFORMATION

VOTER REGISTRATION



If you have voted in any school or general election between 2017 and 2020, you are registered to vote in the school election on **Tuesday, May 11, 2021**. Residents can confirm their registration status by calling the District Clerk (516-441-4020) or by using the “Am I Registered?” online tool.

Voter registration is available through the Nassau County Board of Elections (516-571-VOTE) or at the Office of the District Clerk, Phipps Admin. Bldg., 345 Lakeville Rd., on school days from 9 AM–4 PM. Please note that registration with the District Clerk only registers an individual to vote in Great Neck School District elections. **Residents must be registered by Thursday, May 6, to vote on Tuesday, May 11.**

ABSENTEE BALLOTS



Qualified registered voters can obtain applications for absentee ballots from the District website, or from the District Clerk during school days from 9 AM–4 PM.

Executive Order 202.81, which modifies New York State Education Law to include COVID-19 within the definition of an “illness,” has been extended by the Governor. As such, qualified voters may apply for an absentee ballot based on health concerns associated with the ongoing pandemic.

Residents who are qualified voters and whose registration records have been marked “permanently disabled” by the Board of Elections will automatically receive absentee ballots. **Completed absentee ballots must be received by the District Clerk no later than 5 PM on Tuesday, May 11.**

FOR MORE INFORMATION

For additional details, call 516-441-4020 or visit www.greatneck.k12.ny.us/budget.



PRIDE IN OUR SCHOOLS & OUR STUDENTS

Our community values education and has high expectations for its students and its schools. The following awards and achievements are from May 2020 through April 2021.



Best Schools by Niche

The Great Neck Public Schools is ranked by Niche.com as the #2 Best School District in New York State and the #6 Best School District in the nation. The 2021 Niche K-12 Rankings also recognize the quality of Great Neck's academic offerings, co-curricular activities, faculty, and health and safety programs.



Best Communities for Music Education

The Great Neck Public Schools continues to be recognized by the NAMM Foundation for demonstrating an exceptionally high commitment to music education. The District has earned this national honor fifteen times since the program's inception in 2005.

Advanced Placement (AP) Scholars

490 high school students honored by the College Board

Alliance for Community Media (ACM) Hometown Media Awards

GNPS/TV receives Overall Excellence in Educational Access award for the best educational channel in the nation; wins 2 awards for student-produced programs

All-Eastern Music Conference

2 high school participants

All-State Music Conference

8 high school participants, 1 alternate

All-National Music Conference

1 high school alternate

Brookhaven National Laboratory/Long Island Regional Science Bowl

Middle school team and high school team win first place in regional competitions

Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center Young Musicians Innovation Challenge

3 high school teams win national competition

DECA Competitions

215 high school students compete at DECA State Conference; 63 qualify for International Career Development Conference

International Telly Awards

GNPS/TV receives gold award for student-produced program

Long Island Science and Engineering Fair (LISEF)

2 first-place winners, 1 second-place winner

Mathcounts Competition

Middle school participants excel at regionals, qualify for state competition

National Merit Scholarship Competition

28 Finalists, 29 Semifinalists, 49 Commended Students

Prudential Spirit of Community Awards

1 Distinguished Finalist at the state level; 3 Top Youth Volunteers at the local level

U.S. Presidential Scholar Program

1 high school senior and 1 teacher honored in 2020; 6 seniors selected as candidates in 2021

Regeneron Science Talent Search (formerly Intel)

1 Regeneron STS Scholar

Vocabulary Bowl

Middle school team wins national Division II Championship for middle/elementary schools



DID YOU KNOW?

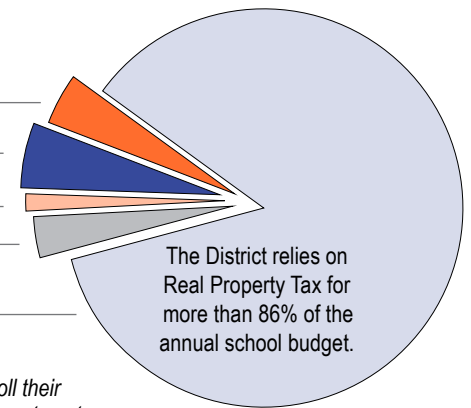
Great Neck is among a select few school districts in New York State to earn an "Aaa" rating from Moody's Investors Service. This rating means that the district's financial obligations are judged by Moody's to be of the highest quality and, therefore, subject to the lowest level of credit risk.

2021–22 PROPOSED SCHOOL BUDGET SUMMARY

EXPENDITURES	BUDGET 2020–21	PROPOSED BUDGET 2021–22	PERCENT CHANGE
Instruction	\$ 176,618,833	\$ 187,572,627	6.20%
Buildings & Grounds	\$ 23,991,367	\$ 23,891,660	– 0.42%
Transportation	\$ 16,836,852	\$ 17,094,294	1.53%
General Support	\$ 9,386,622	\$ 9,268,597	– 1.26%
Capital Projects	\$ 6,216,000	\$ 6,016,000	– 3.22%
Community Education & Recreation	\$ 3,906,771	\$ 3,603,304	– 7.77%
Debt Service	\$ 4,439,126	\$ 4,748,200	6.96%
TOTAL BUDGET	\$ 241,395,571	\$ 252,194,682	4.47%



REVENUES	BUDGET 2020–21	PROPOSED BUDGET 2021–22	PERCENT CHANGE
State Aid	\$ 9,079,079	\$ 10,037,243	
Miscellaneous*	\$ 13,749,023	\$ 13,548,411	
Appropriated Fund Balance	\$ 2,200,000	\$ 3,184,205	
Appropriated Reserves	\$ 3,510,000	\$ 8,352,777	
Amount to be Raised by Real Property Tax	\$ 212,857,469	\$ 217,072,046	1.98%



* This line includes revenue from sources other than taxes on real property, such as tuition from other districts that enroll their students in Great Neck Public Schools programs, Payments in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT), and interest on deposits and investments.

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BALLOT PROPOSITIONS

PROPOSITION 1: 2021–22 Great Neck Public School District Budget

PROPOSITION 2: Great Neck Library Budget

PROPOSITION 3: Two Board of Education Seats

Candidates for Board Seat 1

Barbara Berkowitz
Michael S. Glickman

Candidate for Board Seat 2

Grant Toch

POLLING LOCATIONS

There are four polling locations for school district elections: E.M. Baker School, Lakeville School, Saddle Rock School, and South High School. All polling locations will follow guidance issued by the New York State Department of Health and the State Board of Elections to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Precautions at polling places will include increased signage, cleaning and disinfection procedures, social distancing, and face masks. Voters will be required to wear a mask while at a polling location.

To confirm your registration status and assigned polling location, scan the QR code or visit www.greatneck.k12.ny.us/voting and click on the “Poll Place Finder” link. This information is also available by calling the District Clerk on school days between 9 AM–4 PM at 516-441-4020.

