

West Canada Valley Central School

Highlights

Special Budget Edition

May 2014

Calendar

Budget Hearing :

Monday, May 12, 2014
6:00 p.m.
High School Auditorium

Budget Vote & School Board Election :

Tuesday, May 20, 2014
12p.m.— 8p.m.
High School Lobby

Absentee Ballots:

Applications for absentee ballots must be received at least 7 days prior to election, if it is to be mailed to the voter, or the day before the election if it is to be personally delivered and is due back in the Office of the District Clerk by 5:00 p.m. on the date of the election.

Voting Qualifications in School District Elections:

Must be a United States citizen who is at least 18 years of age on or before the day of the election.

Must be a legal resident of the West Canada Valley Central School district for at least 30 days prior to the election.

You need not be a registered voter.

From Your Board of Education:

Dear Community Members-

Once again, the West Canada Valley Board of Education seeks your support for financial plan for the 2014-2015 school year. The annual budget hearing will take place on Monday, May 12th followed by the budget vote on Tuesday, May 20th. The proposed budget is the result of a great deal of analysis throughout multiple board meetings. All of the needs that are accommodated in the budget plan are balanced with the priority of protecting district tax payers from an excessive burden. In doing so, we are projecting only a 2% tax levy increase for next year.

This year's proposed budget is impacted by many factors that continue to stress the district financially. However, improving state aid and a stabilizing fund balance suggest that West Canada Valley is entering a period that will allow for enhanced instructional programs and more opportunities for students.

In the following pages we further detail the administrative, program and capital components of the budget and their respective increases. Again, this information will be shared with the public at the budget hearing of the Board on **Monday, May 12th at 6:00pm** in the high school auditorium. Taken in combination, this information is provided so that each member of the community may cast an informed vote on **Tuesday, May 20th from 12pm to 8pm** in the high school lobby.

Also at that time, district residents will elect two members to the Board of Education.

We look forward to seeing you on **Monday, May 12th** and encourage you and your neighbors to vote on **Tuesday, May 20th**.

If you have questions regarding the budget, please contact John Banek, Superintendent, at 845-6800 or send an e-mail to jbanek@westcanada.org. For absentee ballots, please contact John McKeown, District Clerk, at 845-6800, extension 384.

Thank you.

The West Canada Valley Board of Education

Proposed Budget: 2014-2015



<u>Summary</u>		
	2013-14	2014-15
Administration	1,600,164	1,675,500
Program	10,764,565	11,232,742
Capital	2,724,467	2,783,676
TOTAL	15,089,196	15,691,918

<u>I. Administration</u>		
	2013-14	2014-15
<i>Board of Education</i> Expenses incurred by Board members for travel and conferences: by the District Clerk and by the District for advertising meetings, the Annual Meeting and elections.	\$9,600	\$9,600
<i>Central Administration</i> Salaries, travel, conferences, equipment and materials & supplies for the Superintendent and Secretary.	\$138,470	\$142,559
<i>Finance</i> Salaries, travel, conferences, equipment maintenance, postage, computer services and materials and supplies for the Business official/treasurer and staff, auditing, tax collection and contractual expenditures.	\$377,335	\$410,700
<i>Staff</i> Legal services, BOCES personnel services and public information costs.	\$43,443	\$43,978
<i>Special Items</i> Unallocated insurance and BOCES administrative & capital expenses	\$348,815	\$349,826
<i>Administration and Improvement</i> Salaries, travel, conferences, equipment maintenance, curriculum development and materials and supplies for the school building principals and school building clerical staff.	\$322,145	\$342,549
<i>Fringe Benefits</i> State Employee and Teacher Retirement System costs, social security, workers compensation, hospital & medical insurance, and unemployment insurance for all employees in the administrative section of the budget.	\$360,356	\$376,288
Administration Total	\$1,600,164	\$1,675,500

Proposed Budget: 2014-2015

II. Program		
	2013-14	2014-15
<i>Legal</i> Services related to students with disabilities.	\$5,000	\$10,000
<i>In-service Training</i> Professional development for instructional personnel.	\$5,000	\$5,000
<i>Teaching, Regular School</i> Salaries and other expenses including materials and supplies related to teachers, substitute teachers, teacher assistants, teacher aides, and monitors.	\$3,234,153	\$3,356,349
<i>Program for Students with Disabilities</i> Expenses related to services of students with disabilities including instructional salaries, speech, occupational & physical therapy, resource room, BOCES and other public and private school placements.	\$1,547,451	\$1,599,561
<i>Occupational Education</i> Expenses for students at Herkimer BOCES Career Tech Education Program.	\$337,260	\$370,260
<i>Special Schools</i> Expenses related to instruction other than regular school (BOCES Summer School).	\$18,655	\$13,218
<i>Instructional Media</i> Salaries and expenses for operating the school libraries, audiovisual equipment, materials & supplies, and the school's computer assisted instruction program.	\$423,207	\$474,287
<i>Pupil Services</i> Expenses related to guidance, counseling, health services, testing, equipment maintenance and scoring services. Also included are co-curricular and interscholastic athletics.	\$583,779	\$601,423
<i>District Transportation Services</i> Expenses incurred for student transportation program including salary, repairs, fuel and operation & maintenance of the garage building.	\$839,618	\$870,008
<i>Fringe Benefits</i> State Employee and Teacher Retirement System costs, social security, workers compensation, hospital & medical insurance and unemployment insurance for all employees in the program section.	\$3,668,318	\$3,830,512
<i>Interfund Transfer</i> Transfers to the Special Aid and School Lunch Funds.	\$102,124	\$102,124
Program Total	\$10,764,565	\$11,232,742

Proposed Budget: 2014-2015

<u>III. Capital</u>		
	2013-14	2014-15
<i>Central Services</i> Operation and maintenance of plant including fuel & utilities, salaries, contractual expenditures, material and supplies and BOCES services.	\$1,087,616	\$1,135,242
<i>Refund of Real Property Taxes</i>	\$3,000	\$3,000
<i>Fringe Benefits</i> State Employee Retirement System cost, social security, workers compensation, hospital & medical insurance and unemployment insurance for all employees in the capital component.	\$307,393	\$320,984
<i>Debt Service</i> Expenditures for Principal and Interest on Bonds for School Construction Projects, Statutory Installment Bonds for School Bus Purchases and Revenue Anticipation Notes that have been issued.	\$1,320,458	\$1,318,450
<i>Transfer to Capital Fund</i> The annual fully state aided security camera purchases are included in this section of the budget.	\$6,000	\$6,000
Capital Total	\$2,724,467	\$2,783,676

Did you know.....

1. We continue to utilize services from BOCES as much as possible as we receive about 80% state aid on many of these services.
2. We receive 90% State Aid on most of our transportation costs (excluding field trips, co-curricular and athletic trips) including the purchase of our new buses and expenses related to the operation and maintenance of the total transportation service and garage building.
3. We are implementing additional security measures.
4. We receive over 90% State Aid on our approved capital projects.

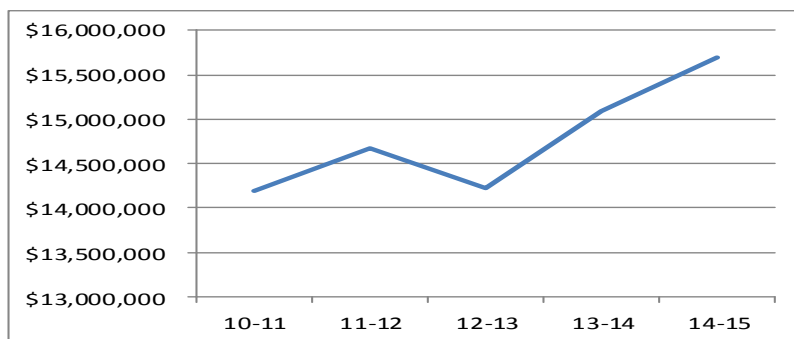
Estimated Revenues

Source	2013-14	2014-15
<i>Real Property Taxes</i> - This estimated amount is determined after all other sources are accounted for. 2014-15 (+2%)	\$4,681,936	\$4,775,575
<i>Other Payments in Lieu of Taxes</i> – This is the estimated amount to be received for the PILOTS that are currently in effect: Town of Newport Hillside Meadows, Upper Mohawk Valley Regional Water Authority and Atlantic Wind Project.	\$240,947	\$240,947
<i>Interest and Penalties on Real Property Taxes</i> – This is the estimated amount to be received for late payment of Property Taxes.	\$25,000	\$25,000
<i>Charges for Services</i> - This is the estimated amount to be received for Admissions, Student Tuitions, Fees & Charges and Services for BOCES.	\$53,900	\$53,900
<i>Use of Money and Property</i> – This is the estimated amount to be received for Interest Earning and Rental of Real Property.	\$4,035	\$4,035
<i>Sale of Property</i> – This is the estimate amount to be received from the Sale of Scrap & Excess Materials and Used School Buses.	\$6,000	\$6,000
<i>Miscellaneous</i> - Estimated Reimbursement for Medicare Part D and Refunds for prior years BOCES Expenditures.	\$100,000	\$100,000
<i>State Aid</i> — Basic Formula Foundation Aid, Transportation Aid, Excess Cost Aid, Less the Gap Elimination Adjustment, plus BOCES, Textbook, Computer Software & Hardware and School Library Aid.	\$8,651,030	\$8,991,771
<i>State Aid</i> — Building Aid	\$980,584	\$1,073,684
<i>Federal Aid</i> — Medicaid Reimbursement for Special Ed. Expenditures.	\$15,000	\$15,000
<i>Interfund Transfers</i> - This is a transfer of other funds from the Special Aid Fund for summer special education transportation expenses and transfer from the Debt Service Fund of interest received on Capital Funds to offset capital project debt service.	\$40,000	\$0
TOTAL REVENUE ITEMS	\$14,798,432	\$15,285,912
<i>Projected Appropriation of Fund Balance</i> — While this is not actually a revenue, this is the projected amount of the estimated Fund Balance to be used to offset the total tax levy.	\$290,764	\$406,006
TOTAL	\$15,089,196	\$15,691,918

Budget Summary

General Fund Budget:
Percentage Over
Prior Year

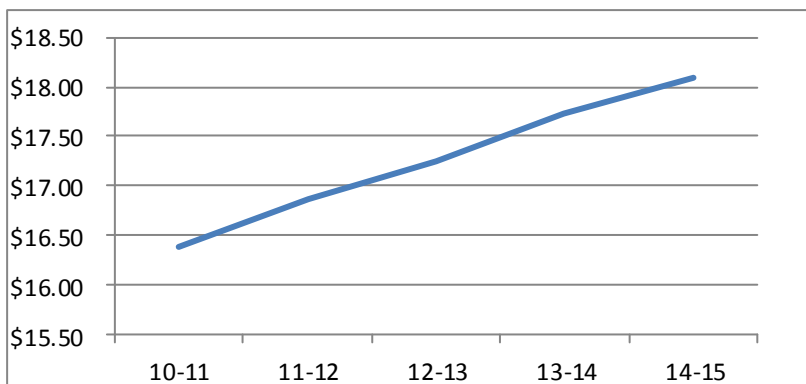
School Year	General Fund Budget	% Over Prior Year
10-11	\$14,200,000	.03%
11-12	\$14,681,000	3.38%
12-13	\$14,224,000	-3.11%
13-14	\$15,089,196	6.08%
14-15	\$15,691,918	3.99%



Tax on True
Percentage over
Prior Year

School Year	Tax (True)*	% Over
10-11	\$16.38	3.47%
11-12	\$16.87	2.99%
12-13	\$17.24	2.19%
13-14	\$17.73	2.84%
14-15	\$18.09	2.03%

**per \$1000 of assessed value*



Budget Questions and Answers

Q: What new challenges are facing the district and how are they being handled?

A: During the last few years, there have been significant changes in the educational requirements and associated measurements of success. We rely heavily on our instructional leaders to make sure that the district has accounted for all of the necessary changes and that they are reflected in our financial plan. New requirements from the Common Core to new teacher evaluation methods place additional stress on time and resources, however we believe that the personnel and financial support are sufficient to meet these obligations.

Q: What is the long term financial outlook for the district?

A: West Canada Valley is heavily dependent upon State Aid as its major source of revenue. We all know how unstable things can be in State government. This is certainly borne out in the history of education funding where we've had our revenue frozen and then cut back each of the last few years. This has necessitated cuts in programs and personnel as well as the increasing use of the district's fund balance. However, based on current information, we believe that district expenses going forward will be manageable within broad parameters for the use of reserves and tax dollars.

Q: Will there be staff reductions next year?

A: No, nor will we eliminate any programs for students.

Q: Does the budget include any additional staffing?

A: Yes, we have included a School Resource Officer to ensure student safety. Additionally, we are adding two .5 positions which will allow for the addition of 4-5 electives in the high school along with an addition of a math support teacher in the elementary school.

Q: Are there any Board seats available this year?

A: Yes, as noted on page (1), two seats are available this year.

Q: What if I have more questions before the budget vote?

A: Attend the Budget hearing on May 12th or contact Mr. Banek, Superintendent, at the school.

Board of Education Candidates

Carson Marko
Roger (Peter) Kemler
Jeffrey Conte



Enchanted Forest Literacy Rewards

Enchanted Forest Water Safari and West Canada Valley teamed together to send your K-6 grade student on a Reading Safari! During the month of March, in an effort to promote extracurricular reading and literacy, students who read a minimum of 6 hours outside of school earned one ticket to Enchanted Forest Water Safari for the 2014 summer!

241 students will receive free tickets for their commitment to literacy during the month of March!

This is the first time Enchanted Forest has offered such a program and it was offered exclusively to West Canada Valley students in grades K-6. Students will receive their ticket prior to the park opening in mid-June. Thank you to Mrs. Maine (4th grade teacher) who was instrumental in launching this program. In addition, thank you to the entire elementary staff and the parents/guardians of our students for their support and encouragement.

Herkimer County Science Fair Winners

As usual, WCV students were well represented among the winners of local academic competitions and events. The team of Herbert Fountain and Ryan Soron were the overall winners of the Herkimer County Science Fair on February 8th. They also tied for first place at the state level competition in March, and are now preparing to embark on a trip to Washington D.C. where they will be recognized at an event at the Capitol Building. What is remarkable is that these two 7th grade students were competing in an open category against all grade levels through seniors!

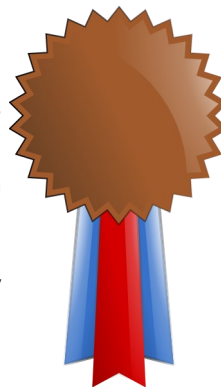


For the fourth year in a row, a student from WCV has won the Envirothon logo design contest. All students from all schools are required to wear t-shirts sporting the winning design during the actual competition on May 7th. Senior Patrick Denslow submitted a beautiful logo based on his own drawing of a brook trout. Congratulations Patrick!

2014 West Canada Valley Honors Night

The 2014 WCV Honors Night will be held in the Auditorium followed by light refreshments in the cafeteria Thursday May 29, 2014, @ 6:30pm, for students grades 9-11 with a cumulative average of 90 or higher, and Seniors with a cumulative average of 85 or higher. In addition, special awards will be presented.

Invitees will be notified by letter. RSVP is required by May 19, 2014, to Mr. Cantarano in the Guidance Office.



Fitness Center Hours

Mon, Wed, Fri

5:00 AM—7:00 AM

Tuesday & Thursday

5:00 AM—6:00 AM

2nd Annual Unity Challenge

On June 23rd the elementary students will participate in the 2nd Annual Unity Challenge. Teams will complete an obstacle course that encourages friendly competition, cooperation and unity. Spectators are welcome. Students and their families will receive more information before the event.



Spring Concert Dates

5/13/14

Spring Concert I – 7:00 PM
(1st and 3rd grades)

5/15/14

Spring Concert II – 7:00 PM
(Jr/Sr Choruses and Sr. Band)

5/20/14

Spring Concert III – 7:00 PM
(4th grade, Elem and Junior Bands)

5/28/14

SongFest 2014 – 7:00 PM
(West Canadians and Jazz Ensemble)

6/6-6/7 – *Sherburne Pageant of the Bands*

Cafeteria Corner

Where has the year gone? As we wind down in the Child Nutrition Program, we will again restrict charges on student's accounts. In keeping with last year's practice, we will not allow any breakfast charges in June and only 2 lunches. However, if your child owes more than \$4, no charging will be allowed at all.

I understand that emergencies happen, so if you have a problem, please call (845-6800 x360) to make me aware of it so I can help. Now is the perfect time to monitor accounts on myschoolbucks.com! Thank you in advance for your diligence with this.

Joanne VanAernam, Cafeteria Manager

Note from the Elementary Nurse

Physicals are required for students entering grades K, 2, 4, 7, and 10 and in order to participate on a sports team. The district has a nurse practitioner who is available to perform physicals over the summer. If your child will receive their physical from a private physician then proof of the physical must be provided to the school.

Call 845-6800 x152 if you have questions.

WCVCS 2014 ALUMNI BANQUET RESERVATION REQUEST

5/10/14 AT CRYSTAL CHANDELIER, MIDDLEVILLE, N.Y.

RETURN TO: **BETTY KEMLER, 356 ELM TREE ROAD, NEWPORT, N.Y. 13416 BY 4/26/14**CLASS: NAME: # GUESTS AMT ENCLOSED

PLEASE INFORM US OF ANY ADDRESS CHANGE OR IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO BE REMOVED FROM OUR MAILING LIST. THE WCV ALUMNI ASSOCIATION AWARDS AT THE ANNUAL GRADUATION CEREMONY A \$100.00 SCHOLARSHIP TO ONE MALE AND ONE FEMALE GRADUATE. RECIPIENTS OF THIS AWARD DEMONSTRATE GREAT PRIDE IN BEING INVOLVED WITH WCVCS AND ITS' COMMUNITY. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE SCHOLARSHIP FUND, BANQUET RESERVATION FOR A GRADUATING SENIOR, OR MAILING COSTS, PLEASE INCLUDE SUCH WITH YOUR RESERVATION. THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION

JIM HALL.....315-891-3550 META ELWOOD.....315-826-7344

ERNA NEWMAN.....315-845-8240 BETTY KEMLER.....315-845-8901

The Penny Challenge

Have you got what it takes? It's for a good cause... and it's all-out war.

Clean out the cup holders in your car, lighten up the bottom of your handbags; grab the change from under your couch cushions, and put that pile of change your mom rescued from the dryer to good use.

Every penny in your grade's container counts as one point. The grade with the most points wins. Simple, right? But ohhh the SABOTAGE! You can sabotage other grades by putting silver coins (nickels, dimes, quarters) or paper money into their container. The total of all silver coins and paper money is deducted from that grade's points. The money will be counted and totals posted semi-weekly. May the best grade win!

Who: Students grades 7-12

What: Bring your spare change... and your best strategy.

Where: To the office. Change containers are labeled by grade.

When: May 5th – May 23rd

Why: For charity. For bragging rights. For the trophy! (Yes, there's a trophy!)

**WCV Jazz Ensemble**

The WCV Jazz Ensemble attended the 27th Annual Oneida High School Scholastic Jazz Festival on March 7, 2014. The Silver Award plaque was received after the adjudicated performance. Pictured, are the WCVJE members who were granted the special recognition of being chosen as Honorary Class C All-Stars on their respective instruments.



Left to right: Kara Pepin (12)/Baritone Sax; Noah Marrero (11)/Lead Tenor Sax; Mr. Scott Bonney/WCVJE Director; Jacob Gorinshek (10)/Trumpet; Nicole Hebert (9)/Piano.

Come see the entire WCV Jazz Ensemble perform their full set of tunes in the final concert of the year. Join us on Wednesday, May 28 at 7PM in the HS Auditorium.

Student Recognition—January 2014

Teresa Bonavita - Global Studies, Mr. Sarus - Teresa has really turned it around this last marking period. She has really made some improvements in Global Studies and her efforts deserve to be noticed. Teresa has been a polite young lady and is making a conscious effort to do well. Keep up the good work!

Zack Borden – Senior Chorus, Mr. VanPatten – Great job in chorus. I’m so glad that you joined us this year. You add so much to the chorus and to West Canadians as well. Keep singing!!

Isaiah Farrell – Science 8, Mr. Chapman – Isaiah works hard and that gets him great results! He clearly comprehends the concepts, and scores in the 90’s on his tests. Keep up the great work!



Courtney Gee – English 11, Mrs. Ackman – Courtney is dedicated and motivated. She gives 110% to everything she does and her enthusiasm for our reading on *In Cold Blood* is awesome! She is a real joy in class and I’m very proud of what she has done. Great work, Courtney!

Olivia Johnson – Spanish I, Mrs. Kraszewski – Olivia is a very polite and responsible young lady. Through her strong participation in class, effort, and willingness to learn Spanish; she has shown that learning a foreign language can be interesting and possible. She is never afraid to give an answer or to ask when she has a question. Olivia is a great role model student. Muy bien Olivia!

Olivia Johnson - Instrumental Music Lessons, Mrs. Bonney - Olivia strives to be the best flutist she can be. She plays well beyond her years and is surely one of the best flutists I have ever taught. She not only has amazing technicality on the instruments, but also plays with such delicate sensitivity that you would never guess she is in eighth grade! Keep up the excellent work, Olivia!

Harper Jones – ELA 7, Mrs. Murphy-Scalise – Harper is a diligent and insightful young lady who is doing well in ELA this year. It is both refreshing and enjoyable having Harper in my class. Keep up the great work, Harper.

Harper Jones - 7th Grade Science, Mr. Hansen - Harper is an incredibly hard worker in the classroom and has been a pleasure to have this year. She comes prepared to learn every day and asks very thoughtful questions related to the material. Great job Harper!

Jenna Jouben - Wind Ensemble, Mrs. Bonney - Jenna is such a pleasure to teach. She is consistently prepared for her lesson and shows an inherent need for improvement. Even though she began the flute just last year, she has already caught up to and even surpassed some of her peers! She has worked so diligently and for that I am incredibly grateful! Keep up the great work, Jenna!

Sydney McEvoy – Spanish, Mrs. Foster - Sydney has been doing an outstanding job in Spanish III. Sydney has had to miss Spanish class for several days this year due to circumstance beyond her control. She was able to make up all of the work she missed while maintaining an average above 90 percent. Sydney has impressed me with her retention of the Spanish language and how she strives every day to do her best, even when obstacles are put in her way. Sydney has inspired and motivated me as well as several other people around her. Keep up the great work chica!

Savannah Morris - Ms. Goodwin-Savannah is one of the hardest working students that I know. She is always prepared and ready to work. Savannah always strives to be the best she can be and does not give up. I am very proud of Savannah!

Samantha Raymo – Junior Chorus, Mr. VanPatten – Great job in chorus and in lessons. You are a wonderful leader in the alto section. Thanks also for helping with our daily log. Keep singing!!

Rebecca Salm – Economics & Sociology, Mr. Pullman – Rebecca always puts forth a great effort with a positive attitude.



Christopher Schultz – Social Studies 7, Mr. Youngs – Nice job this semester. Keep up the good work.

Caleb Sherwood - Chemistry, Mr. Hansen - Caleb has consistently received the highest marks on quizzes and test in Chemistry this year. He has an excellent understanding of the information and brings the knowledge to the lab setting. Keep up the great work!

**West Canada
Valley Central
School**



Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Newport, NY
Permit #5

District Office

Mr. John Banek
Superintendent

315-845-6800

Fax: 315-845-8652

Business Office

Mr. John McKeown
Business Administrator

315-845-6800

Reminder: Budget Vote & School Board Election :

May 20, 2014

Board of Education Candidates

Carson Marko

Roger (Peter) Kemler

Jeffrey Conte

