



Superintendent Report

Sweet Home Central School District

Michael V. Ginestre
April 19, 2022



We Are Sweet Home

Tonight's Presentations

- 2022-2023 Budget Presentation/Update
- Safety Presentation, JoAnn Balazs
- Superintendent Update



Sweet Home Central School District

"EVERY STUDENT, ONE COMMUNITY, READY FOR THE FUTURE."





SWEET HOME

"EVERY STUDENT, ONE COMMUNITY, READY FOR THE FUTURE."

2022-23 BUDGET ADOPTION

Sweet Home Board of Education Budget Study Session #4

Tuesday, April 19, 2022

Budget Workshop #3

2022-23 Snapshot / April 5, 2022



Revenue Summary	2021-22	2022-23	2020-21 Percent Increase
Budgeted Revenues	\$85,923,559	\$89,351,588	3.99%
Local Tax Levy	\$51,105,559	\$53,321,588	4.34%

Expenditure Summary	2021-22	2022-23	2020-21 Percent Increase
Budgeted Expenditures	\$85,923,559	\$89,351,588	3.99%

BALANCED BUDGET

2022-23 Budget Changes in Expenses Since March 15



- **Decrease of \$240,000 for Health Insurance / NY 44 Trust**
- **Decrease of \$100,000 in Salary Lines**
- **Add 2 Special Education Teachers into Budget (Close \$122K gap)**
- **Add \$15,000 to Building & Grounds Equipment**
- **Add \$15,000 to Transportation Materials & Supplies**
- **Add \$30,000 to Staff Development for DEI Initiative**
- **Add \$150,000 to Capital Outlay for total of \$250,000**
 - *Did not make it through NYS Budget Process*
 - *Move \$150,000 to elementary teacher salaries (\$75K), elementary teacher aides (\$25K) and health insurance (\$50K)*

Budget Workshop #4

2022-23 Snapshot / April 19, 2022



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BALANCED BUDGET

Program Maintenance Budget 2022-23 Snapshot / Tax Rates



Assumptions:

- **Assessed Values remain at 2021 levels**
- Amherst Equalization Rate reduced from 91% to 88%
- Tonawanda Equalization Rate remained steady at 33%

School Tax on an Average Market Value Home of \$150,000				
	Amherst		Tonawanda	
	2021-22	2022-23 Est.	2021-22	2022-23 Est.
Equalization Rate	88.0%	88.0%	33.0%	33.0%
Assessed Value	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$55,500	\$55,500
Tax Rate	\$14.72	\$15.36	\$39.48	\$41.19
Calculated Tax Bill	\$2,208	\$2,304	\$2,191	\$2,286
Estimated Change in Tax Bill for 2022-23		\$96		\$95

2022-23 Budget Voter Propositions



- **Proposition #1:** Elect two (2) Board of Education members to five (5) year terms expiring on June 30, 2027
 - Terms of the following Board members expiring:
 - *Amy Battaglia & Marianne Jasen*

- **Proposition #2:** Capital Improvements Reserve Fund 2017 Consideration
 - *Amend purpose of Reserve Fund to allow for purchase of vehicles and equipment outside of a Capital Improvement Project*
 - *Ask voters to approve change on May ballot*
 - *Ask voters to authorize spending out of the reserve to replace District vehicles and equipment*
 - Buildings & Grounds vans, tractors, snow removal equipment, transportation smaller vehicles (Suburbans, mini-vans, etc)
 - Placed an additional \$500,000 in this reserve in August 2021
 - Any purchase out of this reserve would have a ZERO tax impact

2022-23 Budget Proposition #2



- **Capital Improvements Reserve Fund 2017 Proposed Expenditure**
 - ***Total Purchases Not to Exceed \$500,000***
 - **Quantity 3 – Ford F350 XL Plow Truck @ \$42,500 = \$127,500 (Buildings & Grounds / Facilities)**
 - **Quantity 4 - Ford Transit High Roof Maintenance Vans @ \$42,850 = \$171,400 (Facilities)**
 - **Quantity 3 - Ford Transit Connect Vans @ \$25,625 = \$76,875 (Mail Courier / Transportation)**
 - **Quantity 1 - Ford Box Truck @ \$50,000 - \$50,000 (Information Technology Department)**
 - **Quantity 1 - John Deere 8800A TerrainCut Mower @ \$73,525 = \$73,525 (Buildings & Grounds)**
 - ***Total Expected Expenditure = \$499,300***



2022-23 Budget Discussion

QUESTIONS??

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UPDATE ON DISTRICT SAFETY INITIATIVES

Spring 2022

JoAnn Balazs, Asst
Superintendent

Lt Jon Klein, Amherst Police
SRO David Awald, Amherst
Police

Safety is our Priority!

Sweet Home is committed to providing a safe learning environment for all students and staff.

Please remember that situational awareness, knowledge of environment, & concern for those around you can help to ensure that our District remains a safe and orderly place of learning.

Safety Highlights

2018-19:

Vulnerability
Assessments
with Don
Shomette,
National Safety
Expert

Focus:

- Arrival and Dismissal/ Visitor Protocol
- Cafeteria and high traffic areas
- Staff Engagement
- Understanding of Safety Roles
- Lockdown and Evacuation Drills
- Building design
- Hardening Facilities

Key Safety Concepts

- Increase **ENGAGEMENT** (improve culture & climate; also increases awareness of surroundings)
- **Surveillance & Supervision** (ability to “see” situations)
- **Interior Access Control** (ability to delay or deny access)
- **Territorial Ownership** (reinforces message of control)
- **FILTERS & LAYERS:** adult supervision, creating space & distance (interior access), hardening target (improved door hardware, reinforced glass, cameras), procedures (visitor systems, ID badges, subs, systems access, mass notification), environmental design (parking lot flow, etc.)

Outcomes of Vulnerability Assessments

Interior Access Control:

- Raptor (Electronic Visitor Mngmt System)
- Reinforcing Single Point of Entry
- Buildings in Lockout Mode
- Review of Building Access

Increase Surveillance & Supervision:

- Armed & Unarmed Security- HS
- Increased Hall Monitors - HS & MS
- Increased Program Aides - All
- Improved Camera System (ongoing)- All
- PA System review

Territorial Ownership:

- Staff visible and engaging
- All Staff & approved 3rd parties wear and display ID badges
- Thank You, B & G! Our buildings are well maintained

Filters & Layers:

- Mass Notification System
- Training on Improving Lockdowns
- Arrival & Dismissal (e.g. MS traffic flow)
- Capital Project Recommendations

All Staff
Members Have
Role in Safety

Own Our Roles-
It takes ALL of
US...

- **Increase
Engagement:**

by improving culture
& climate we increase
awareness of
surroundings

- **Situational
Awareness**

***Be part of the
solution!***

Emergency Awareness/ Preparedness

- Electronic Access of All Plans
- Revised District & Building Safety Plans per Incident Command Structure (ICS)
- Developed Executive Summaries (Quick View) for all Buildings
- Standardized Resources (safety materials, sub packets, etc.)
 - Emergency Procedures - Placards in all rooms
- Training & Table Top Drills w Admin Team & Bldg Safety Teams

And Then Covid...

Priority Shift...

- Drill
Modifications
 - Social
Distancing
 - Focus on PPE
 - Etc., etc.,
-

Responding to SEL & Mental Health Issues

- Increased PPS Staff
 - Added: Crisis Counselors (2), Social Workers (3)
 - Increased: School Psychologists (2)
- Ongoing Mental Health Awareness/Training for all Staff
 - Increased offerings & opportunities (FSC & PD)
- On the Horizon:
 - New Northwest Amherst Community Center
 - DEI Committee- NYSED Framework re: Student Wellness

Capital Project 2022-23

- New PA System (2022: MS, HS, WR, HH; 2023: MM, GL)
- Mass Notification System (2022: Ready, WR, HH; 2023: MM, GL, MS)
- Reinforced Glass at all main entrances- 2022
- Capital Outlay: Door Hardware (HS PE wing)

Assess & Progress

Threat Assessment

Training - Jan 2022

With Don Shomette,
National Safety Expert

Goal: District Safety Committee

All Cabinet Members (Admin & Supervisors), Counselors, Social Workers, School Psychologists,

Amherst PD (Capt Mann & SRO Awald)

Focus:

- Threat vs No Threat
- Path to Violence
- Low, Medium, High Threat
- No Threat but in Need of
——other Services

Threat Assessment Teams

Responding to Threats

Core Team Members:

- DO/ICS: Ginestre, Balazs, Feldmann
- Building Administrators
- Building Counselors/social workers
- School Resource Officer

Additional (per Circumstances):

- Nurse
 - Teachers
 - Other
-

Safe & Loved Safety Training - March, 18 2022

With Don Shomette,
National Safety Expert

Goal: District Safety
Committee

All MS & HS Staff

Focus:

- Blends Violence Prevention techniques with Student Engagement techniques
 - Critical Safety Response techniques
-

Next Steps

District Safety
Committee

Annual Review of:

- Code of Conduct
 - District Safety Plan
 - Annual Public Hearing
-

Questions? Your Input Matters...

- As staff members, you have tremendous insight; do not hesitate to share safety ideas and/or concerns
- Recognize that YOU are part of the solution
- Please email or call JoAnn Balazs or SRO Dave Awald

We Are Sweet Home

Sweet Home Named 2022 Best Communities for Music Education

- Sweet Home is a Third-Time Winner of this Distinction
- The Best Communities for Music Education (BCME) Award is a signature program of the National Association of Music Merchants Foundation that recognizes and celebrates school districts and schools for their support and commitment to music education and efforts to ensure access to music for all students as part of a well-rounded education.



We Are Sweet Home

National Technical Honor Society

- Eriel BOCES has recently named the following Sweet Home students to the National Technical Honor Society:

- Maria Almekhtifi
- Samantha Asciutto
- Stephanie Brown
- Noah Burmeier
- Viviana Davila
- Roman Haen
- Timothy Palka
- Cole Stang
- Maya Wodjeski



We Are Sweet Home

Glendale Principal Search

- Input received through community survey and Glendale Faculty Meeting.
- 27 applicants
- Screened 13 candidates
- 7 candidates moving to committee round.
- April 28, Finalists Meet Constituency Groups at Glendale, Noon - 5 p.m.
- Finalist will interview with COS.
- Final candidate to meet BOE before May voting session.



Glendale

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Glendale Principal Search

As we celebrate the career of Mrs. Joleen Dimitroff, we must find our next dynamic leader who will continue to make Glendale a cutting-edge school, while at the same time, meet the vision of the district. While we search for the ideal candidate, it is critical that we hear from our community on what qualities they would like the next principal at Glendale to possess. Please take the time to provide your input regarding the search for the Glendale principal. Thank you.

Please Identify the Stakeholder Group That Best Describes You. *

- ☐ Parent
- ☐ Community Member
- ☐ Student
- ☐ Teacher at Glendale
- ☐ Administrator at Sweet Home
- ☐ Service Employee at Sweet Home



We Are Sweet Home

Director of Human Resources Process

- 18 applicants
- 10 candidates screened.
- 7 candidates at committee today.
- Final interview with COS.
- Meet and greet with the Board at May voting session.



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DISTRICT OFFICE

Business Office

Central Registration

Curriculum and Instruction

The Sweet Home District Office is located in the building adjoining the north side of the High School (enter through Door #6). This is also where the Vergil's Community Center is located.



We Are Sweet Home

Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction

- 34 Applicants
- 14 Candidates will be Screened on April 25
- Make determination who will go to Committee.
- Finalists to make presentation before DEI Committee.
- Final interview with COS/Cabinet.
- Finalist to meet Board in executive session at June voting meeting.



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The Sweet Home Way

Northwest Amherst Community Center

- Press Event for April 20 at 10 a.m. with Amherst Officials.
- Announce a May 14 and May 16 Open House to gather community input.
- Next meeting of Advisory Committee scheduled for April 21.



TOWN OF AMHERST

5583 Main Street | Williamsville, NY 14221
(716) 631-7000



The Sweet Home Way

Town of Amherst/Shared Services

- Due to construction project, our fuel services will be offline toward the end of May as tanks are replaced.
- Negotiated an agreement with the Town of Amherst to fuel buses at their facility.
- In hands of Town of Amherst Board. Plan to have agreement for your review ASAP.
- SH Transportation back online in September.



TOWN OF AMHERST

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We Are Sweet Home

High School Graduation

- Scheduled for June 23.
- High School Administration conducted student survey.



We Are Sweet Home

Questions from the Board?

STRENGTH OF MIND AND BODY

Discipline yourself to be at your best to conquer adversity and challenge

Preparation * Perseverance * Resilience * Focus * Energy

QUALITY RELATIONSHIPS

Build a support network of people that inspire you and challenge you to thrive

Honesty * Empathy * Thoughtfulness * Respect * Trust

ACCOUNTABILITY

Take ownership of your life direction and master the sea

Discipline * Responsibility * Reliability * Independence * Problem Solving

COURAGE TO LEAD

Believe in something that can improve the human condition, and show others the way

Character * Humility * Communication * Service * Inspiration

