



EAST ISLIP

UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT

BUDGET NEWSLETTER 2017

PROPOSED BUDGET CALLS FOR ENHANCEMENTS WHILE STAYING UNDER THE TAX CAP

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR BOARD OF EDUCATION PRESIDENT

To My Fellow Community Members,
Taxpayers and Parents:

The Board of Education and administration have worked diligently during the past six months to develop this low-impact, high-yield budget specifically to meet the needs of our students and the community. There were three key components to the design of the proposed budget:

- Remaining **BELOW** our allowable tax cap
- Educational quality
- Fiscal soundness

We are very pleased to bring to our community a fiscally conservative budget that encompasses each of these three components. On Tuesday, May 16, residents will be asked to vote on the proposed 2017-18 budget of \$115,015,282, which represents an increase of 2.07 percent from the current year and carries a **tax levy increase of 0.59 percent.**

In addition, this budget continues our quality educational program, along with the following highlights:

- SMART Boards in every classroom
- Replenishment of outdated music

instruments and sports uniforms

- Continuation of AP Capstone program
- Addition of STEAM teacher at 3-5 grade level
- Reinstatement of middle school and high school robotics

The Board is making every effort to keep our students on the cutting edge while minimizing costs to taxpayers.

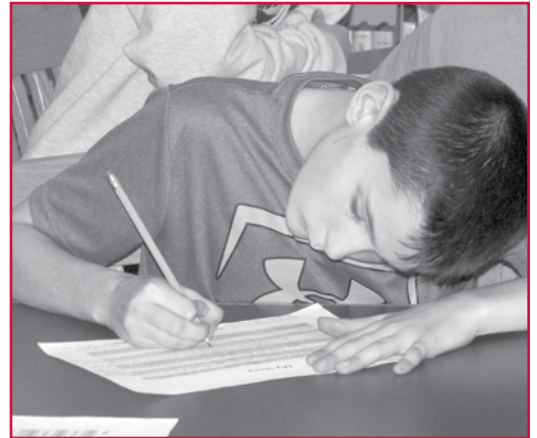
As community members, we should be proud to live in a community where our students thrive.

For more information on the proposed budget, visit the district's website at www.eischools.org. Please remember to vote on Tuesday, May 16. Polls will be open from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m. at the Early Childhood Center. Please make your voices heard.

On behalf of the entire Board of Education, thank you for taking an active role in our district and for helping us to continue to build on the future of our students and buildings.

Sincerely,

Christopher Zachry
Board of Education President



Scan this code to go directly to the budget page on our website.



REMEMBER TO VOTE!
TUESDAY, MAY 16, 2017 • ECC • 6 A.M.-9 P.M.



2017-2018 Proposed Budget

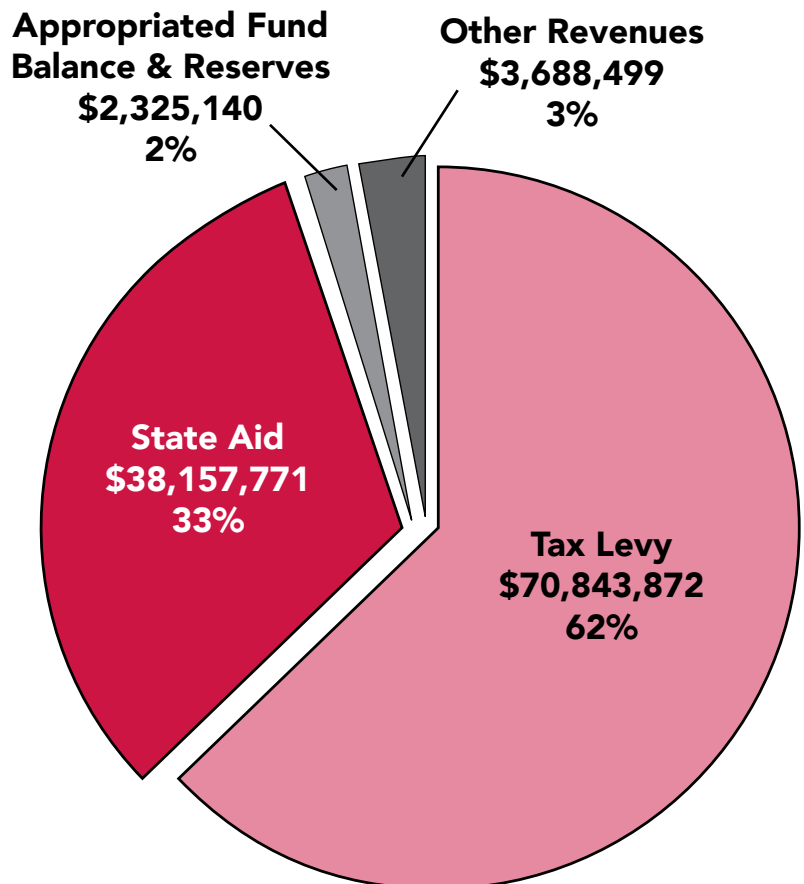
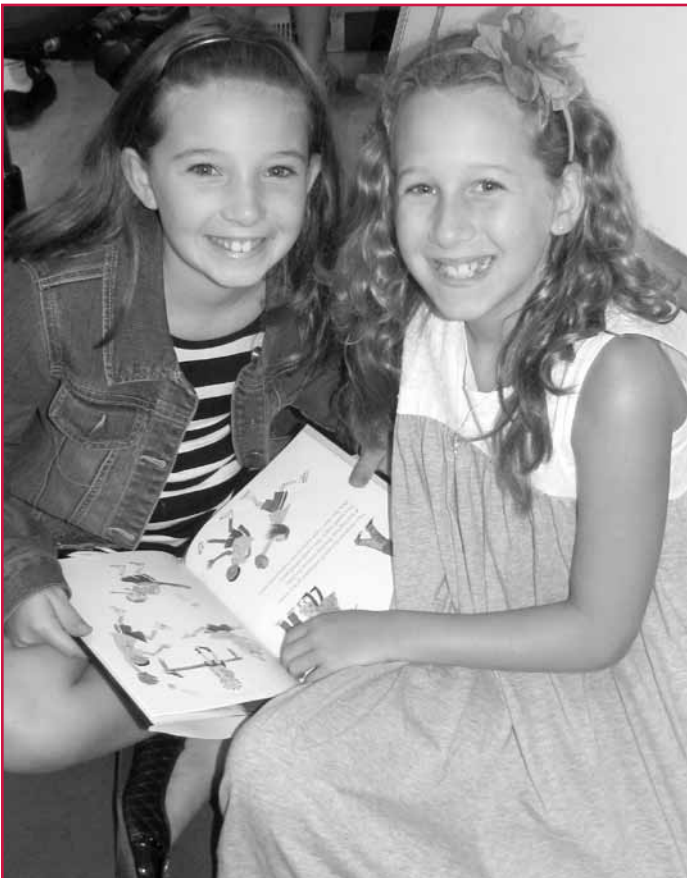
Expenditures

Description	2016-2017 Final Budget	2017-2018 Adopted Budget	Difference
Board of Education Includes operational expenses, district clerk, district meetings, etc.	\$69,657	\$82,301	\$12,644
Central Administration Includes operational expenses and salaries for all staff in the office of the superintendent.	\$335,385	\$344,407	\$9,022
Finance Includes expenses for accounting, treasurer, purchasing and fiscal advisers. Also includes lease for mail machine.	\$872,467	\$851,824	(\$20,643)
Staff Includes expenses for legal costs, personnel, public information and administration.	\$707,754	\$739,308	\$31,554
Central Services (Operations and Maintenance) Includes expenses and salaries related to the operation and maintenance of district buildings. Also, the district entered into a three-year lease for a tractor during 2014-15. The total amount of the lease is \$37,362. The last twelve monthly lease payments, totaling \$12,454, are included in the 2017-18 budget. Also included is an amount of \$17,601 for the buyout of this piece of equipment. Includes the estimated expense for the purchase of the following pieces of equipment for the Buildings and Grounds Department: Truck \$68,000, Skid Steer attachments \$9,600, Tow Mower Deck \$19,500, Scissor Lift \$21,000 and Security Vehicle \$25,000.	\$7,327,172	\$7,770,372	\$443,200
Special Items Includes costs for insurance, dues and BOCES.	\$1,166,699	\$1,219,542	\$52,843
Total GENERAL SUPPORT	\$10,479,134	\$11,007,754	\$528,620
Administration and Improvement: Building Includes the lease of a folder/sealer machine.	\$5,232,798	\$5,462,057	\$229,259
Teaching Expenses: Regular School	\$39,043,289	\$38,091,684	(\$951,605)
Special Education	\$13,313,449	\$13,621,805	\$308,356
Special School Services	\$0	\$164,805	\$164,805
Computer and Media Services Includes expenditure of approximately \$1,368,225 for interactive classroom technology.	\$383,644	\$1,679,097	\$1,295,453
Pupil Personnel	\$3,878,807	\$4,004,680	\$125,873
Total INSTRUCTION	\$61,851,987	\$63,024,128	\$1,172,141
Includes estimated expenses associated with the four-year lease of photocopiers through Eastern Suffolk BOCES. The total amount of the lease over the four years is \$422,611, of which \$105,653 is budgeted in 2017/18.			
Total TRANSPORTATION	\$5,827,471	\$6,083,863	\$256,392
Includes two-year extension at 0% for 2016/17 and the lower of 2% or CPI for 2017-18.			
Total COMMUNITY SERVICES (RECREATION)	\$239,395	\$432,067	\$192,672
Fringe Benefits	\$27,638,084	\$27,694,110	\$56,026
Debt Service (TANS)	\$743,910	\$743,910	\$0
Interfund Transfers (Spec. Aid, Debt Svc, H/C, Capital, Cafeteria) Includes \$111,000 for network upgrades, switch replacement and wireless access. Also included is an estimated \$41,000 for the replacement of the walk-in freezer at the High School cafeteria.	\$5,903,166	\$6,029,450	\$126,284
Total UNDISTRIBUTED	\$34,285,160	\$34,467,470	\$182,310
TOTAL BUDGET	\$112,683,147	\$115,015,282	\$2,332,135
Percent Increase			2.07%

2017-2018 Proposed Budget

Revenues

Description	2016-2017	2017-2018	Difference
	Final Budget	Adopted Budget	
State Aid	\$36,807,497	\$38,157,771	\$1,350,274
Other Revenues	\$2,693,623	\$3,688,499	\$994,876
Appropriated Fund Balance	\$354,819	\$1,521,723	\$1,166,904
Appropriated Benefits Accrued Liability	\$75,000	\$0	(\$75,000)
Appropriated Retirement Contrib. Reserve	\$1,564,058	\$443,712	(\$1,120,346)
Appropriated Unemployment Reserves	\$159,705	\$159,705	\$0
Appropriated Workers' Comp. Reserve	\$600,100	\$200,000	(\$400,100)
Transfer from Debt Service Fund	\$0	\$0	\$0
Tax Levy	\$70,428,345	\$70,843,872	\$415,527
TOTAL REVENUES/RESERVES	\$112,683,147	\$115,015,282	\$2,332,135
Tax Rate per \$100 Assessed Value	\$19.956	\$20.026	\$0.117
Tax Levy Increase	0%	0.59%	
Tax Rate Increase	0%	0.59%	
Total Assessed Value	\$352,919,815	\$353,762,911	
Homestead Assessed Value	\$313,330,621	\$313,089,953	
Non-Homestead Assessed Value	\$39,589,194	\$40,672,958	





Points of Pride



- 14 music students from the high school, middle school and JFK were selected for this year's Long Island String Festival Association concerts, recognizing them as being among the top string orchestra players in the county; numerous student-musicians at JFK, RCK and the middle school were selected for the SCMEA All-County Festival.
- Three members of the high school varsity girls volleyball team were named All-League, one was named All-Division, and two were named to the All-County Tournament Team.
- Makerspaces or STEAM rooms at all four elementary schools were opened to focus on project-based learning and hands-on activities that foster innovation and creativity.
- The high school's world language department was approved to award LIU Post college credit.
- The high school varsity wrestling team placed three wrestlers at the League V championships, four at the EI-hosted 30th annual Rocky Gilmore Classic wrestling tournament, and eight at the Paul P. Grammatico Tournament, finishing in second place overall in the latter.
- Two members of the girls varsity swimming and diving team participated in the New York State Swimming Championships.
- Middle school students participated in a special writing workshop with visiting author Adam Gidwitz.
- The high school French Club raised \$400 with a tie-dye bake sale to help fund the secondary education of a Gambian girl.
- JFK and RCK science fair winners competed at the Brookhaven National Laboratory Elementary School Science Fair.
- Seniors signed National Letters of Intent to play for top college athletic programs, including Marist College, Stony Brook University, Wingate University, Molloy College, Lafayette University, Belmont Abbey College, Mercy College, LIU Post, Manhattanville College and the University of South Carolina.
- The theater programs at the high school and middle school successfully presented the musicals "Aida" and "Alice in Wonderland," respectively.
- Elementary schools adopted the Literacy Matters program based on process writing, in which all K-5 students learn lessons on the various stages of the writing method.
- A high school senior musician was named as one of only 20 Long Island Arts Alliance Scholar-Artists for 2016-17.
- The high school's 4x200 team finished fourth in the New York State indoor track and field championships and first in the state qualifier and league meets; two seniors were named county track champions in the girls 55-meter and boys 300-meter races; and a senior earned All-County and Academic All-County honors.
- One JFK student finished third and two from RCK finished fourth overall in the 31st annual Town of Islip Sharpshooter Basketball Contest.
- The high school boys and girls bowling teams both won their respective county championships, and one sophomore on the girls team bowled a perfect 300 game.
- The middle school Leaders Club sponsored schoolwide initiatives including a fundraiser for UNICEF that raised \$1,200 to help benefit children in other countries, a Thanksgiving food drive for St. Peter's Church and a holiday gift-wrapping service for the Make-A-Wish Foundation.
- The high school successfully debuted the AP Capstone diploma program.



A Message from the Superintendent

Together we have made some difficult decisions that have allowed the district to strengthen its financial foundation, thereby ensuring that East Islip maintains its standing as a high-quality school system that provides for our students. Due to efficient staffing and budgeting, the district is able to do the following:

- Have a SMART Board in every classroom
- Enhance internet capacity
- Add additional technology support
- Increase STEM/STEAM offerings
- Replace outdated music equipment
- Replace outdated athletic equipment and supplies
- Continue AP course offerings
- Add security vehicle
- Add building and grounds vehicle
- Add BOCES Summer School and Enrichment programs
- Replace walk-in freezer in the HS Cafeteria
- Add boys volleyball
- Courses that will be re-introduced next year include:
 - Robotics at the Middle School & High School
 - Digital Communications
 - Speech and Communications

As evidenced by the list above, if we continue to be prudent with our budget, we can continue to invest in our technological and capital infrastructure without overburdening our taxpayers.

Our goal is to remain fiscally responsible while maintaining high-quality programs for our students. Our pledge is to continue to find ways to reduce spending in every budget, and funds realized through these savings from budget to budget can be used to make necessary improvements as we invest in the future of East Islip Schools.

Sincerely,
John V. Dolan
Superintendent of Schools

Points of Pride

- One high school senior was named a Commended Student by the 2017 National Merit Scholarship Program.
- The high school varsity football team won the Division III Suffolk County Championship and boasted two All-Long Island winners and 24 players enrolled in honors and AP classes; two Redmen players were honored for athletic and academic excellence by the Great American Rivalry series.
- Timber Point was chosen as Suffolk County regional winners of the New York State PTA's Pick a Reading Partner program award.
- The Broadcaster won five awards including a "Most Outstanding Newspaper" honorable mention at Adelphi University's Quill Awards, and two awards including third place for "Best High School Newspaper" at the LIU Post Best of High School Journalism Awards.
- Two high school students were named All-National musicians and chosen to perform at NAFME's All-National Symphony Orchestra concert; four were selected for All-State honors and performed at the NYSSMA Winter Conference's All-State concerts; 18 were chosen as All-County musicians and performed at the NYSCAME/SCMEA All-County concert.
- Three middle school students finished first, second and third in the Arts Alive LI 2016 Poster Contest, with their artwork displayed at the Long Island Children's Museum.
- The high school's Mock Trial team won the Spirit of Empire Award for civility and professionalism at the Empire World Mock Trial Championship.
- The middle school's Tri-M Music Honor Society inducted 26 new members.
- Artwork by high school students was chosen for exhibition at the New York State Art Teachers Association's Legislative Student Art Exhibition in Albany and the Colors of Long Island student art exhibit at The Long Island Museum in Stony Brook, and artwork by a senior was chosen for publication in the Long Island Arts Council's next calendar.
- Two JFK musicians and one middle school musician performed at SCMEA's Day of Tuba.
- A senior was named to the girls soccer All-Long Island second team.



East Islip Union Free School District

1 Craig B. Gariepy Ave. • Islip Terrace, NY 11752

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VOTING INFORMATION May 16, 2017 • 6 a.m.-9 p.m.

Early Childhood Center • 1 Craig B. Gariepy Ave., Islip Terrace

If you have a question about the budget, please call or email Assistant Superintendent for Business Stephen Harrison at 631-224-2020 or sharrison@eischools.org.



Q: What is the difference between the tax levy and the tax rate?

A: The tax levy is the amount of money requested from the Town of Islip by the Board of Education to balance the budget after state aid and other revenues are considered. The Board does not set the tax rate, which is a function of the assessed value of properties and is determined by the town assessor through valuation of properties in the town. The state's tax levy limit does not apply to the tax rate or an individual tax bill, but solely to the tax levy of the school district.

Q: Will taxpayers be eligible for a Property Tax Rebate?

A: Yes. Under the New York State Property Tax Rebate program, taxpayers receiving a STAR exemption, who earn \$275,000 or less, and who reside in a district that complies with the New York State tax cap, are eligible to receive a property tax rebate based upon a sliding scale credit as a percentage of STAR savings for the 2017-18 school year.

Q: What happens if the proposed budget is defeated and a contingency budget results?

A: If voters reject the proposed budget on May 16, it can be presented for one more vote in June. If the Board of Education does not opt for a revote, it can immediately adopt a contingency budget, which by the New York State tax cap law would require the district to operate with a zero percent tax levy increase. If the district proposes a second budget and that is also defeated, the district must, by law, adopt at a zero percent increase. The contingency budget assumes reductions in the following areas: certain equipment, supplies and materials, and professional and technical services.

Voter Registration Books Inspection

The register will be open for inspection at the district clerk's office upon completion and on the five days prior to the budget vote and election, during regular business hours and on Saturday, May 13, 2017 between the hours of 11 a.m. and 12 p.m.

Qualifications for Voting

You must be 18 years of age and a citizen of the United States and...

- be registered with the Suffolk County Board of Elections, or
- have voted in a school, library or general election in the East Islip School District within the past four years, or
- have registered with the school district by May 11, 2017.

Absentee Ballots

Applications for absentee ballots may be made at the district clerk's office. Such applications must be received by the district clerk at least seven days before the vote if the ballot is to be mailed to the voter, or by the day before the vote if the ballot is to be delivered personally to the voter.

A list of all persons to whom absentee ballots have been issued will be available in the district clerk's office on the five days prior to the day of the vote during business hours. In order to be canvassed, an absentee voter's ballot must be in the district clerk's office by 5 p.m. on May 15, 2017.

Questions? Please contact the district clerk at 631-224-2013.



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UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Visit our website at www.eischools.org

• BOARD OF EDUCATION •

Christopher Zachry, President
William Carpluk, Vice President • Steven Behan, Trustee
Jessica Carney, Trustee • Philip Montuori Sr., Trustee
John V. Dolan, Superintendent of Schools

This newsletter is published by the Board of Education as a community service to inform the public of school news and business. If you have any questions, please feel free to call 631-224-2000 or fax 631-581-1617.