

# East Islip School District

## District Response to the Budget Advisory Committee's Recommendations



**Presented by:**

**Mrs. Linda Rozzi - Superintendent of Schools**

**Mr. Carl Fraser - Assistant Superintendent for Business**

**April 10, 2014**

# **A Very Special “Thank you”...**

The East Islip Board of Education and Central Administration thanks all members of this year’s Budget Advisory Committee:

**Aileen D’Addario: Co-Chair**

**Michele Pandolfo**

**William Schreiner**


**Christopher Zachary**

**Michael Steves**

**Matthew Calarco**

**John Milito**

**Carl Fraser: Co-Chair**



Your diligent work exploring the educational needs of our students, the resident's expectations and the District's fiscal ability is valued and appreciated. With your assistance, together we will present a budget to the East Islip community in May that is not only fiscally responsible, but one that preserves and enhances programs for our students.

## **Responses to Recommendations:**

Throughout the budget planning process, the Board and administration has taken recommendations seriously, has studied enrollment trends, student needs and has explored staffing with a keen eye. The proposed budget will strive to maintain the following:

## **Recommendation: Seek to Reallocate Funding for Academic Advancements**

**The BAC has recommended an exploration of coursework in the areas of freshman seminar and character development to restore other programs. The District will commit to evaluating the effectiveness of such programs in the 2014/2015 school year as we plan for 2015/2016. The BAC also recommended savings to reinstitute a BOCES vocational program. While the per pupil cost for an individualized BOCES program is very costly, with an audit of staffing district-wide, the proposed budget will strive to include:**

- The return of Grade 3 instrumental music**
- The return of 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Foreign Language; Spanish/Italian and possibly French offerings**
- The return of middle school robotics**
- The addition of a culinary arts academy at EIHS**
- The addition of two Advanced Placement courses at EIHS: AP Psychology and AP Music Theory**
- The consolidation of one central office clerical position**

## **Recommendation: Maintain Music, Art, Athletics and Provide Extended Opportunities for Students**

**The BAC has recommended we maintain current levels of music and the arts, interscholastic athletics as well as look at extended opportunities for our students. In response, the proposed budget will strive to:**

- Maintain current music and art offerings, K-12**
- Maintain all middle school and high school athletics**
- Maintain a Full Day Kindergarten**

**The BAC also recommended that our district adheres to the Commissioner's memo dated February, 2014 which details the "...use of multiple measures– not only grades 3-8 assessments ,” in determining student placement, which we will continue to do.**



## **Recommendation: Support for the Long Term Vision of Our District and Long Term Planning**

**The BAC supports the District's elementary grade span reconfiguration and the District truly appreciates that support. The BAC has recommended that the Long Range Planning committee continues its work analyzing future trends in school year 2014/2015, which the district will commit to embracing.**

**As a District we realize that enrollment will be declining over the next decade, as it has shown in the last decade, consistently, according to data points. Together, we strive to embrace both short-term and long term solutions to maintain sustainability of our district which includes maintaining our reserves, hence the fiscal health of our school system.**



## **Recommendation: Continue to Approach Vendors in an Effort to Reduce Costs Without Deferments**

**Our business office continues to work annually with our vendors in reducing operational and contractual costs from year to year. Moreover, a schedule of RFP's (Requests for Proposals) is maintained and followed in order to promote getting the best estimates for necessary contractual work.**



## **Recommendation: Align “Actual” Expenditures with Expenditure Requests**

**The District has closely acknowledged the code reductions that the BAC has recommended. To summarize:**

**\* BAC Recommended Code Reductions: \$539,343**

**\* Administration’s Response to the BOE: \$287,204**

**The administration advises the Board of Education to reduce various codes recommended by the BAC by \$287, 204, equating to 53% of recommended reductions.**

# 2014-15 Budget Calendar

- **April 24 – Budget Adoption**
- **May 13 – Budget Hearing**
- **May 20 – Budget Vote, at ECC**



**Thank You...**



**Questions/Comments?**