

EAST ISLIP UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT

# **Board: "Community Should Decide"**

Board of Education Responds to Community's Support of Key Programs, Including Athletics, Music, and Full-Day Kindergarten; Supermajority of Voters Needed to Pass Budget

Fellow Community Members, Taxpayers, Parents:

In recent years, the East Islip School District has maintained a commitment to educational excellence, steering clear of the drastic cuts in both staffing and programs that other districts have implemented, and the voters have strongly supported this investment on behalf of the community.

This year, your vote carries significant weight and consequences that will impact the direction of the school district now and in the future. Please read this newsletter, check for updates on the website (www.eischools.org), and attend any of the several budget presentations so as to make an informed decision.

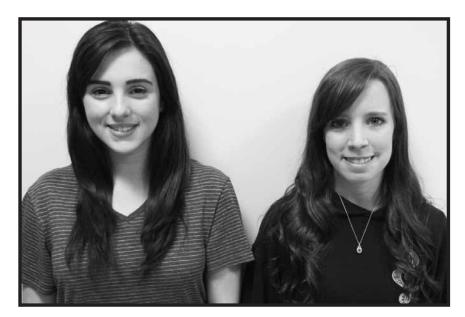
In preparing the 2012/13 budget, the Board kept two principles in mind: local control and educational excellence. We believe these values are core to East Islip residents. Throughout the year we have held meetings, shared information, published reports, read emails and letters, and had extensive conversations with many in the community. We received a strong message from the taxpayers: voters should have the opportunity to decide whether prominent programs are funded in the budget.

Therefore, the adopted budget represents a 5.94% tax levy increase, which, based on laws recently enacted, requires a "supermajority" of voter approval (60%) to approve the budget. The budget includes:

- All NYS mandated programs and services.
- Many programs that our community has come to utilize and expect: athletics, music, full-day kindergarten, 9-period days, and clubs.

Savings and reductions in the budget include:

• \$600,000 savings through vendor contract



Seniors Angela Pizzuto and Megan Monaghan were named Commended Students in the 2012 National Merit Scholarship Program.

negotiations and operating efficiencies.

- \$1.1 million of program and staff reductions, resulting in 15 positions being lost.
- Previous savings that continue to benefit us, such as the closing of the ECC, bond refinancing at lower rates, and staff retirements that have led to lower headcounts or less expensive alternatives.

We have reviewed and held discussions with each of our eight bargaining units, with previous and prospective savings included where possible. As contracts expire, we anticipate that the reality of our fiscal position will impact future outcomes.

As a Board of Education, we believe the decision rests – as it properly should – in the hands of the East Islip community. We strongly encourage your awareness of the proposed budget, and encourage you to vote on May 15.

Sincerely,

**Glenn Reed, President East Islip Board of Education** 



Board members, administrators, and community members gathered at a recent work session on budget planning.

# Nearly 25 Staff Positions at Stake With Proposed Budget

A sizable number of staff positions, including the jobs of 23 full-time equivalent teachers, may be eliminated if the proposed budget is not approved, along with the programs they support.

Seven teachers and one teaching assistant of kindergarten, 7.7 music teachers for grades 3-12, and general education teachers who support the district's ability to provide a 9-period day at the middle school and high school were not included in the projected tax levy cap budget that was first introduced in late January.

These positions will possibly be eliminated if the proposed budget is not approved, because the Board will likely provide voters with the tax levy cap budget.

"This is certainly not a threat; it's the reality of school budgeting in New York in 2012," said Board of Education President Glenn Reed. "These are the new rules that the tax cap legislation imposes on school districts. Our community has asked us to give them the opportunity to decide whether they want to fund these programs and positions. In the words of our governor, this is all about local control, and our voters determine that outcome."

# Substantial Reductions Made to District Budget

On January 31, the district offered community residents a window into the challenges of budget formulation for 2012-13. Carrying the budget forward from the current year would result in a tax levy increase of nearly 10%. This was unacceptable. Thus began the process of reducing spending and showing residents what could not be included in a tax levy cap budget.

More than \$2 million in reductions have been made to the budget since that first presentation. These include reductions in staffing and cuts in an array of operations, especially in the area of transportation. Losses of program occurred through elimination of the BOCES Summer School (which also serves out-of-district students) and a partial reduction in the BOCES Career and Technical Education program.

"There are no easy pathways to getting to the tax cap without reducing programs and services for students," said Interim Superintendent John J. Finello. "The call from the community was to give voters an opportunity to preserve the programs that could not be included in a tax cap budget, and that is what the Board has done."

### Total Reductions of More than \$2 Million

Staffing Reductions

Reduction of 15 positions: one counselor, one administrator, five TAs, two social workers, one librarian, four clericals, and one security position.

Transportation Savings

Contract reductions and savings due to elementary start time change.

- BOCES Career & Tech Ed Reduced
- BOCES Summer School Eliminated
- Contractual Expenses Reduced
- Equipment/Miscellaneous Reductions

2

### **PROPOSED**

3.58% Spending Increase (Increase of \$3,718,365)
Results in:

5.94% Tax Levy Increase

**Requires 60% Approval** 

#### **VOTE ON MAY 15**

A Proposed Budget of \$107,648,004

Preservation of programs and staff:

- Full-day kindergarten
- 9-period day at MS and HS
- MS, JV, and varsity athletics
- Music program grades 3-12
- Co-curricular programs

### IF IT FAILS



### TAX CAP BUDGET\*

1.87% Spending Increase (Increase of \$1,945,787)
Results in:

3.23% Tax Levy Increase

#### **Requires Simple Majority**

#### **VOTE WOULD TAKE PLACE ON JUNE 19**

**A Proposed Budget of \$105,875,426** 

May result in the following:

- Full-day kindergarten reduced to half-day
- Reduction to 8-period day at MS and HS
- MS, JV and varsity athletics eliminated
- Most non-mandated music programs reduced
- Co-curricular programs reduced significantly

### If It Fails

### CONTINGENCY



By law, the Board would adopt a contingency budget by July 1. For East Islip, the contingency budget is LESS than the current budget for 2011-12!



The Tax Levy Cannot Increase.

An additional \$1,772,578 in spending must be reduced. Significant staff and program reductions would ensue.

<sup>\*</sup>Though this is not the only option if the first vote fails, the Board has indicated that it is the likely possibility. See pages 6 and 7 for more information.

### 2012-13 Proposed Budget

Description	Ехрє	enditu	res			
Includes appraisonal expenses, district clorix, district meetings, etc.  Central Administration 361,319 338,266 -23,053 includes operational expenses and salaries for all staff in the office of the Superintendent.  Finance 793,252 757,268 -35,984 includes expenses for accounting, treasurer, purchasing, and fiscal advisors.  Staff 573,022 649,904 76,882 includes expenses for large costs, personnel, public information, and administration.  Central Services (Operations & Maintenance) 6,998,589 7,099,717 101,128 includes expenses and salaries related to the operation and maintenance of district buildings, second year leaves payment on a district webside, and central services.  Special Ilerus 1,256,800 1,074,644 -182,156 includes operation and administration.  Total GENERAL SUPPORT 10,042,748 9,984,817 -57,931  Administration & Improvement: Building 5,079,272 5,112,960 33,688 1 (20,000) 1,074,644 (20,000) 1,074,074,074,074,075,075,075,075,075,075,075,075,075,075	Description					
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Size   Size   State   State	Includes operational expenses and salaries for all staff in the office of the					
Staff   S73,022   649,904   76,882   Includes expenses for legal costs, personnel, public information, and administration.	Finance	793,252	757,268	-35,984		
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Central Services (Operations & Maintenance)         6,998,589         7,099,717         101,128           Includes expenses and salinfes related to the operation and maintenance of district buildings, second year lease payment on a district vehicle, and central services.         1,256,800         1,074,644         -182,156           Special Items         1,256,800         1,074,644         -182,156           Includes costs for insurance, dues, and BOCES.         10,042,748         9,984,817         -57,931           Administration & Improvement: Building         5,079,272         5,112,960         33,688           Teaching Expenses: Regular School         36,198,278         38,100,068         1,901,790           Special Education         12,108,424         12,527,627         419,203           Occupalloral Education         272,672         107,730         -164,942           Special School Services         193,000         3,000         -190,000           Computer & Media Services         251,693         259,845         8,152           Pupil Personnel         3,503,987         3,757,799         253,812           Total INSTRUCTION         57,607,326         59,869,029         2,261,703           Total COMMUNITY SERVICES (RECREATION)         239,538         259,738         20,200           Fringe Benefits	Staff	573,022	649,904	76,882		
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Special Items	Central Services (Operations & Maintenance)	6,998,589	7,099,717	101,128		
Special Items         1,256,800         1,074,644         -182,156           Includes costs for insurance, dues, and BOCES.         1,074,644         -182,156           Total GENERAL SUPPORT         10,042,748         9,984,817         -57,931           Administration & Improvement: Building         5,079,272         5,112,960         33,688           Teaching Expenses: Regular School         36,198,278         38,100,068         1,901,790           Special Education         12,108,424         12,527,627         419,203           Occupational Education         272,672         107,730         -164,942           Special School Services         193,000         3,000         -190,000           Computer & Media Services         251,693         259,845         8,152           Pupil Personnel         3,503,987         3,757,799         253,812           Total INSTRUCTION         57,607,326         59,869,029         2,261,703           Total TRANSPORTATION         5,903,407         5,508,893         -394,514           Total COMMUNITY SERVICES (RECREATION)         239,538         259,738         20,200           Fringe Benefits         23,817,618         25,581,339         1,763,721           Debt Services (TANS)         550,000         515,000 <t< td=""><td>Includes expenses and salaries related to the operation and maintenance of d</td><td>istrict buildings,</td><td></td><td></td></t<>	Includes expenses and salaries related to the operation and maintenance of d	istrict buildings,				
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Administration & Improvement: Building         5,079,272         5,112,960         33,688           Teaching Expenses: Regular School         36,198,278         38,100,068         1,901,790           Special Education         12,108,424         12,527,627         419,203           Occupational Education         272,672         107,730         -164,942           Special School Services         193,000         3,000         -190,000           Computer & Media Services         251,693         259,845         8,152           Pupil Personnel         3,503,987         3,757,799         253,812           Total INSTRUCTION         57,607,326         59,869,029         2,261,703           Total TRANSPORTATION         5,903,407         5,508,893         -394,514           Total COMMUNITY SERVICES (RECREATION)         239,538         259,738         20,200           Fringe Benefits         23,817,618         25,581,339         1,763,721           Debt Services (TANS)         550,000         515,000         -35,000           Interfund Transfers         5,769,002         5,929,188         160,186	Includes costs for insurance, dues, and BOCES.					
Teaching Expenses: Regular School         36,198,278         38,100,068         1,901,790           Special Education         12,108,424         12,527,627         419,203           Occupational Education         272,672         107,730         -164,942           Special School Services         193,000         3,000         -190,000           Computer & Media Services         251,693         259,845         8,152           Pupil Personnel         3,503,987         3,757,799         253,812           Total INSTRUCTION         57,607,326         59,869,029         2,261,703           Total TRANSPORTATION         5,903,407         5,508,893         -394,514           Total COMMUNITY SERVICES (RECREATION)         239,538         259,738         20,200           Fringe Benefits         23,817,618         25,581,339         1,763,721           Debt Services (TANS)         550,000         515,000         -35,000           Interfund Transfers         5,769,002         5,929,188         160,186	Total GENERAL SUPPORT	10,042,748	9,984,817	-57,931		
Special Education         12,108,424         12,527,627         419,203           Occupational Education         272,672         107,730         -164,942           Special School Services         193,000         3,000         -190,000           Computer & Media Services         251,693         259,845         8,152           Pupil Personnel         3,503,987         3,757,799         253,812           Total INSTRUCTION         57,607,326         59,869,029         2,261,703           Total TRANSPORTATION         5,903,407         5,508,893         -394,514           Total COMMUNITY SERVICES (RECREATION)         239,538         259,738         20,200           Fringe Benefits         23,817,618         25,581,339         1,763,721           Debt Services (TANS)         550,000         515,000         -35,000           Interfund Transfers         5,769,002         5,929,188         160,186	Administration & Improvement: Building	5,079,272	5,112,960	33,688		
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Computer & Media Services         251,693         259,845         8,152           Pupil Personnel         3,503,987         3,757,799         253,812           Total INSTRUCTION         57,607,326         59,869,029         2,261,703           Total TRANSPORTATION         5,903,407         5,508,893         -394,514           Total COMMUNITY SERVICES (RECREATION)         239,538         259,738         20,200           Fringe Benefits         23,817,618         25,581,339         1,763,721           Debt Services (TANS)         550,000         515,000         -35,000           Interfund Transfers         5,769,002         5,929,188         160,186	Occupational Education	272,672	107,730	-164,942		
Pupil Personnel         3,503,987         3,757,799         253,812           Total INSTRUCTION         57,607,326         59,869,029         2,261,703           Total TRANSPORTATION         5,903,407         5,508,893         -394,514           Total COMMUNITY SERVICES (RECREATION)         239,538         259,738         20,200           Fringe Benefits         23,817,618         25,581,339         1,763,721           Debt Services (TANS)         550,000         515,000         -35,000           Interfund Transfers         5,769,002         5,929,188         160,186	Special School Services	193,000	3,000	-190,000		
Total INSTRUCTION         57,607,326         59,869,029         2,261,703           Total TRANSPORTATION         5,903,407         5,508,893         -394,514           Total COMMUNITY SERVICES (RECREATION)         239,538         259,738         20,200           Fringe Benefits         23,817,618         25,581,339         1,763,721           Debt Services (TANS)         550,000         515,000         -35,000           Interfund Transfers         5,769,002         5,929,188         160,186	Computer & Media Services	251,693	259,845	8,152		
Total TRANSPORTATION         5,903,407         5,508,893         -394,514           Total COMMUNITY SERVICES (RECREATION)         239,538         259,738         20,200           Fringe Benefits         23,817,618         25,581,339         1,763,721           Debt Services (TANS)         550,000         515,000         -35,000           Interfund Transfers         5,769,002         5,929,188         160,186	Pupil Personnel	3,503,987	3,757,799	253,812		
Total COMMUNITY SERVICES (RECREATION)         239,538         259,738         20,200           Fringe Benefits         23,817,618         25,581,339         1,763,721           Debt Services (TANS)         550,000         515,000         -35,000           Interfund Transfers         5,769,002         5,929,188         160,186	Total INSTRUCTION	57,607,326	59,869,029	2,261,703		
Fringe Benefits       23,817,618       25,581,339       1,763,721         Debt Services (TANS)       550,000       515,000       -35,000         Interfund Transfers       5,769,002       5,929,188       160,186	Total TRANSPORTATION	5,903,407	5,508,893	-394,514		
Debt Services (TANS)         550,000         515,000         -35,000           Interfund Transfers         5,769,002         5,929,188         160,186	Total COMMUNITY SERVICES (RECREATION)	239,538	259,738	20,200		
Debt Services (TANS)         550,000         515,000         -35,000           Interfund Transfers         5,769,002         5,929,188         160,186	Fringe Benefits	23,817,618	25,581,339	1,763,721		
Interfund Transfers 5,769,002 5,929,188 160,186	-					
Total UNDISTRIBUTED 30,136,620 32,025,527 1,888,907						
	Total UNDISTRIBUTED	30,136,620	32,025,527	1,888,907		
TOTAL BUDGET \$103,929,639 \$107,648,004 \$3,718,365	TOTAL BUDGET	\$103,929,639	\$107,648,004	\$3,718,365		
Percent Increase 3.58%	Percent Increase			3.58%		

### 2012-13 Proposed Budget

R e	venue	e s	
Description	2011-12 Final Budget	2012-13 Adopted Budget	Difference from 2011-12
State Aid	\$31,721,230	\$32,889,398	\$1,168,168
Federal Jobs Fund	668,093	0	-668,093
Other Revenue	3,083,538	2,737,410	-346,128
This revenue comes from areas such as interest income, rental of facilities,			
tuition and other fees.			
MTA Tax Reimbursement	175,406	0	-175,406
Applied Surplus (FUND BALANCE)	1,942,900	1,942,900	0
Appropriated Reserves	1,726,661	1,626,983	-99,678
Tax Levy	64,611,811	68,451,313	3,839,502
TOTAL REVENUES	\$103,929,639	\$107,648,004	\$3,718,365
Tax Rate Per \$100 Assessed Value	\$18.266	\$19.351	\$1.085
Tax Rate/Tax Levy Increase	6.71%	5.94%	
Total Assessed Value	353,736,700	353,736,700	0
Homestead Assessed Value	314,491,655	314,491,655	0
Non-Homestead Assessed Value	39,245,045	39,245,045	0

#### Sample T a x

The total school tax is based upon the school tax rate and the assessed value of your home. If your home's assessed value does not change and the budget is approved, your school tax will increase by 5.94% next year.

Annual Tax Monthly Homestead Assessment Levy Increase Increase \$33,400 \$347 \$28.94 \$40,000 \$416 \$34.67 \$50,000 \$520 \$43.33

1578350

MAKE FUNDS PAYABLE TO:

Alexis Weik RECEIVER OF TAXES

SEE THE COUN

40 NASSAU AVE., ISLIP, NEW YORK 11751-3645

OWNER AS OF TAXABLE STATUS DATE MARCH 1, 2011

OFFICE PAYMENT HOURS MON. TO FRL 8:30 A.M. TO 4:30 P.M. PHONE 631-224-5580

IF PROPERTY HAS BEEN SOLD O TRANSFERRED AFTER MARCH 1, 201 PLEASE FORWARD THIS STATEMENT TO THE NEW OWNER OR RETURN TO THIS OFFIC SCHOOL: (631) 581-1600

ISLIP TERRACE NY

11752

ISLIP TERRACE NY

11752

Tax Map Number

Physical Address ISLIP TERRACE

Acreage Swis Code Designation

472889 HOMESTEAD NYS School Code 161

Bank & Mort. No. 01 -0001521734 11752

Land Assessment

Total Assessment Uniform % of Value Full Value as of July 1, 2010 True Tax

Property Type 210 Tax Code 203 Roli Section

> 33,400 286,695 9,180.77

This is the Assessed Value. In our district, the average home's Assessed Value is \$40,000, according to the Islip Town Assessor.

# I thought the tax cap for all school districts was 2%. Why is our tax cap 3.23%?

Last May, New York passed a law that instituted a tax levy cap on all municipal entities, including school districts, effective for the 2012-2013 school year. In this first year of the cap, there is some confusion as to what it actually means.

In sum, there is no hard 2% cap that you may have read about in media reports. The "2% cap" commonly referred to is actually a 2% growth factor that is part of a complex formula used to determine (on a district-by-district basis) the maximum allowable tax levy increase.

The publicized caps for school districts have been higher or lower than 2% and depend on a number of factors in the formula, including debt service for capital projects, retirement contributions over a certain 2% higher than the prior year, Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) payments, changes in state aid, etc. Thus far on Long Island, districts in Suffolk and Nassau have identified maximum allowable tax caps as low as 1% and as high as more than 6%. It all depends on a district's financial profile.

Remember, the tax cap is imposed on the tax levy, which is the total amount of money collected from property owners; it is not the exact property tax which any resident will have to pay. Property taxes are individually determined by assessed value and other considerations that are not in any district's control.

#### PROPOSED BUDGET

# Questions We've Been Asked

Why was the decision originally made to remove athletics, full-day kindergarten, and extracurricular activities, and to reduce the 9-period day, from the tax cap budget?

In a word, because they are not <u>mandated</u> by the State Education Department. It should be without question that district leaders do not want to see important programs and appropriate staffing taken away from students, but there are few other avenues that represent the cost centers that non-mandated programs such as these represent. Kindergarten, for instance, is not a mandated program. Is early childhood education critically important? Yes, without question. But it is not required by the state, and thus becomes one of the areas to reduce in order to bridge the budget gap.

# It doesn't seem possible that the district could actually eliminate these programs. Could this really happen?

District residents should not think about the past as a guide. All school districts are now operating under the new rules of the tax levy cap, which has markedly changed what is at stake for individual communities. The Board of Education believes it is important to have the community understand that control rests with the voters.

Why are we asking for a higher tax levy increase than what most districts appear to be asking for? Unlike many other districts, East

Islip has avoided making significant cuts to programs and staff in order to preserve opportunities and resources for students. Others have already increased class sizes or dramatically reduced programs over the past three years, while East Islip has not made these reductions. For instance, several districts have already made the decision – unilaterally – to go to half-day kindergarten from full-day. In East Islip, we are asking voters to decide; the Board will not take that decision away from residents.

### Didn't the district receive more state aid? Couldn't this be used to offset some of the cuts?

The district received more than \$1.1 million in additional state aid (though it lost about \$668,000 in Federal Jobs aid). While the additional funding helped to narrow the gap, it did not come close to bridging it.

## Can we apply more reserves to the budget in order to save these programs and staff?

The district is applying \$3.6 million – the same amount of fund balance and almost the same amount in reserves as last year – to fund the proposed budget, meaning that nothing additional has been apportioned from our remaining reserves beyond this amount. It would not be prudent to apply more reserves from what remains, given the fact that reserves continue to decrease due to our aggressive use of these funds over the past several years without the ability to replenish them.





### Why is a 9-period day important to students and staff?

Most high schools on Long Island have 9-period days, giving students the flexibility to build schedules that best meet their individual needs in the context of rigorous (and expanding) state requirements for instruction. Fewer periods means less schedule flexibility and a larger number of students not being able to get the courses they need. From an educator's perspective, implementation of the 8-period day offers a decline in instructional opportunitites.

# What are the cost drivers that make it difficult to achieve a budget within the tax cap?

School districts are staff-driven organizations, with roughly 80% of costs typically devoted to salaries and benefits. These costs are the principal driver of the budget increase in 2012-13. Over time, school officials believe that these costs cannot be reconciled with the revenue limitations of the property tax cap. The need to offer relief to taxpayers must be addressed contractually.

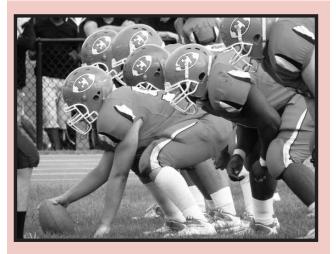
What will approval of the school budget with a 5.94% tax levy cost, and how much different is this

### from a tax levy cap budget if the first vote is not successful?

In our district, the average assessed value is \$40,000 (not your market value). For this home, the proposed 5.94% levy increase budget will cost \$416 more for the year, or \$35 more per month. The tax cap budget with a 3.23% levy increase will cost this same home about \$226 more for the year, or almost \$19 more per month. Therefore, the difference between the proposed budget and the basic tax cap budget for the average assessed value home is about \$16 per month.

#### What happens if the budget fails?

The Board can resubmit the same budget or a somewhat reduced budget (but one that is still over the tax cap), which would require 60% approval. Or it can submit a reduced budget in compliance with the tax levy cap, which requires only 50% approval. The Board has indicated that the latter is the likely possibility, given the fact that if the community does not achieve 60% approval with the proposed budget, it cannot risk losing the budget a second time, because this would require, by law, a 0% tax levy increase created through significant reductions in staff and programs.



Why did the Board agree to increase the budget to include athletics, music staff, extracurricular activities, full-day kindergarten, and the 9-period day?

Typically, more than 2,000 students receive non-mandated music instruction in East Islip; roughly 1,000 students play interscholastic sports; and thousands of students are involved in extracurricular activities. On top of this, more than 250 of our youngest students receive full-day kindergarten instruction each year.

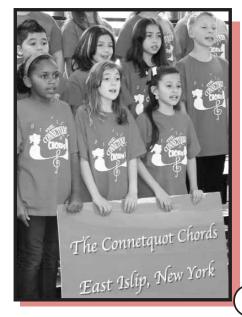
The pictures above are a few of our current successes: Cari Roccaro, who recently signed a letter of intent to play soccer at Notre Dame; Devin Thelemann, a middle school student who was invited to perform in the Long Island String Festival; and the East Islip varsity football team, which made it to the county championship this past fall.

Community residents made a strong appeal to the district – these services and programs are at the heart of the district and community. They inspire passions, careers, achievement, and college acceptances. They are, in short, what defines the district, and the Board agreed that voters should be given the opportunity to assign value to these services by being given the choice to approve funding for them.

### EAST ISLIP SCHOOLS AND STUDENTS



- The tremendous performing arts talents of each school were showcased in a year-round array of musicals, plays, and concerts, demonstrating the excellence of East Islip's music and arts programs.
- Nine fall and four winter high school athletic teams earned NYSPHSAA Scholar-Athlete Team Awards, and four winter teams were league/division champs (including the undefeated girls varsity bowling team).
- Timber Point Elementary was nominated as a Blue Ribbon National School.
- East Islip's musicians recognized for excellence, with students from each of East Islip's six schools selected to perform in SCMEA divisional performing ensembles.
- Connetquot Chords chorus group performed at Radio City Music Hall in NYC.
- Varsity teams had numerous studentathletes selected for All-League,



All-Conference, and All-County status, and one student-athlete was named All-American and Long Island Player of the Year.

- In the PTA Reflections art contest, eight talented middle school students won for literature and visual arts, RCK artists submitted a remarkable 28 entries, and a high school student won at the county level with a prizewinning photo.
- The proud Redmen varsity football team made it to the Suffolk County championship game.
- The high school Academic Team continued its remarkable showing on MSG Varsity's" The Challenge" quiz show.
- The high school newspaper, *The Broadcaster*, was again honored for excellence in journalism, winning a total of four 2012 Quill Awards.



- Both the high school and middle school kickline teams won championships.
- A seventh grader was nominated to attend the Junior National Young Leaders Conference in Washington, D.C.

# EAST ISLIP SCHOOLS AND STUDENTS



• The Class of 2012 has been offered hundreds of thousands of dollars in college scholarships to date, and seniors have already been accepted to a multitude of prestigious colleges and universities, including: Cornell, Cooper Union, Notre Dame, Brown, University of Virginia, RIT, Syracuse, NYU, Colgate, Boston College, SUNY Potsdam Crane School of Music, James Madison, Binghamton, Virginia Tech, Babson, Emerson, Fordham, WPI, Adelphi, Roger Williams, Drexel, Temple, Dowling, Penn State, Marist, Geneseo, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, Towson, Siena, Northeastern, St. John's, Pace, Concord, FIT, Molloy, Briarcliffe, Alfred, Hofstra, Villanova, Sacred Heart, Quinnipiac, Iona, Seton Hall, Utica, C.W. Post LIU, Mercy, St. Joseph's, Stonehill, Flagler, Hartwick, Mount St. Mary, Bryant, Loyola, Dean, Stevenson, Franklin Pierce, Hunter, Maryland Institute College of Art, Arcadia, Emmanuel, Husson, Marquette, Bloomsburg, Manhattanville, Keene, Johnson & Wales, Scranton, Campbell, LeMoyne, University of Michigan, Fitchburg, Stony Brook, Drew, NYIT, Salisbury, Buffalo State, Messiah, University of Tampa, Houghton, New Paltz, Monmouth, Rider, Coastal Carolina, and Berklee College of Music.

- Six high school musicians were chosen to perform at All-State Conference, 21 students were selected for the NYSCAME All-County music festival, and five orchestra performers were chosen for the Long Island String Festival.
- The high school's salutatorian was chosen as a United States Presidential Scholar candidate.
- Two seniors were honored in the National Hispanic Recognition Program.
- A middle school student received the 2011 County Executive Youth Achievement Award for East Islip.



 The high school's Environment Green and Global Business Career Academies continued to thrive, with a third Medical and Health Technology Career Academy on the way; 19 students in the Environment Green Career Academy were selected as finalists at Dowling College's Long Island Youth Summit Competition.

9

### EAST ISLIP SCHOOLS AND STUDENTS EXCEL!

- Six Connetquot students

   participated in Brookhaven

   National Laboratory's prestigious
   Science Fair.
- Five JFK music students participated in the SCMEA PEAK fest.
- The high school's Mock Trial Team placed second in Suffolk County during the statewide tournament.
- A high school student video won "Best in Show" at the Long Island Media Arts Show.



• Students throughout the district were involved in community service projects and charity events such as recycling initiatives, holiday food drives, visits to veterans, shopping for the homeless, cancer and diabetes fundraising, blood drives, assisting seniors with Medicare, and sending care packages to marines in Afghanistan; and hundreds of middle school and high school students volunteered in sports and mentoring programs, as well as at fundraising events that benefited children with special needs.





### SAMPLE BALLOT

Voters will experience a new ballot system this year at the polls. In the interest of awareness, we are presenting this sample ballot.

#### Side One:

PROPOSITION NO. 1

Adoption of this budget requires a tax levy increase of \$ 3,839,502 which exceeds the statutory tax levy increase limit of \$2,088,824 for this school fiscal year and therefore exceeds the state tax cap and must be approved by sixty percent of the qualified voters present and voting.

"Resolved that the budget of the East Islip Union Free School District of the Town of Islip, Suffolk County, New York, for the fiscal year 2012/2013 as proposed by the Board of Education in accordance with Section 1716 of the Education Law shall be approved and a tax levied therefore upon the taxable property of said School District."

Yes	No
$\bigcirc$	$\bigcirc$
$\circ$	$\circ$

#### Side Two:

OFFICE	Trustee Three year term (Vote for One)	Trustee Three year term (Vote for One)
5	Louis F. Raffone	Joseph G. Sargent
5	Robert Dell'Isola	Philip Montuori, Sr.
	WRITE-IN	WRITE-IN
Write-in		770.12-17

OFFICIAL BALLOT FOR THE SCHOOL DISTRICT ELECTION - MAY 15, 2012

INSTRUCTIONS:

1) Mark only with a writing instrument provided by the School District.

2) To vote for a candidate whose name is printed on this ballot fill in the oval above or next to the name of the candidate.

3) To vote for a person whose name is not printed on this ballot write or stamp his or her name in the space labeled "WRITE-

IN that appears at the bottom of the column for such office.
4) To vote yes or no on a proposal, if any, that appears on the back side of the ballot, fill in the oval that corresponds to your

5) Any other mark or writing, or any erasure made on this ballot outside the voting squares or blank spaces provided for voting will void this entire ballot.

STATE OF NEW YORK, EAST ISLIP SCHOOL DISTRICT

office, party position or proposal.

7) if you lear, or deface, or wrongly mark this ballot, return it and obtain another. Do not attempt to correct mistakes on the ballot by making erasures or cross outs. Erasures or cross outs may invalidate all or part of your ballot. Prior to submitting your ballot, if you make a mistake in completing the ballot or wish to change your ballot choices, you may obtain and complete a new ballot. You have a right to a replacement ballot upon return of the original ballot.

8) After completing your ballot, insert it into the ballot scanner and wait for the notice that your ballot has been successfully scanned. If no

such notice appears, seek the assistance of an election inspector.

Ballot ID: 5001

#### **East Islip Union Free School District**

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

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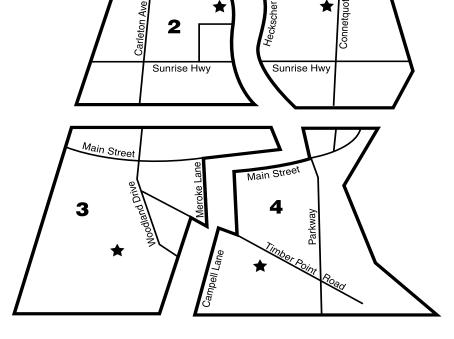
\*\*\* ECRWSS \*\*\* Postal Customer • Local Resident Delivery

**Voting Information** 

May 15, 2012 • 6 a.m. - 9 p.m.

#### **Voting Districts**

- 1. Connetquot Hementary School
- 2. Ruth C. Kinney Elementary School
- 3. John F. Kennedy Elementary School
- **4. Timber Point Elementary School**



Manhattan Blv

#### **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 12 between the hours of 11 a.m. and 12 noon.

#### **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, 2012.

Questions? Please contact the District Clerk at 631-224-2013.

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

#### **Qualifications for Voting**

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

- a) be registered with the Suffolk County Board of Elections, or
- b) have voted in a school, library, or general election in the East Islip School District within the past four years, or
- c) have registered with the School District by May 9, 2012.



#### BOARD OF EDUCATION •

Glenn Reed, President
Ken Cronin, Vice President • Kim G. Phillips, Trustee
Louis F. Raffone, Trustee • Joseph G. Sargent, Trustee
John J. Finello, 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.

# PLEASE STRIP IN INDICIAS



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