



Eastchester Eagle

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE EASTCHESTER UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT

A Spanish version of this newsletter is available upon request at the District Clerk's Office. Please contact Jeanette Messina at (914) 793-6130 ext. 4211

Una versión en español de este boletín está disponible a solicitud en la Oficina del Secretario del Distrito. Comuníquese con Jeanette Messina al (914) 793-6130 ext. 4211

Dear Eastchester Community Members,

We turn our attention this time each spring to the annual budget vote. The budget supports the programs and services the Eastchester School District provides to meet the educational needs of our students in grades K-12. With the demands of a quality education increasing every year, we undertake this task through a long, thoughtful, and deliberate process. The challenge we ultimately face is providing the necessary resources while remaining fiscally responsible and adhering to New York State requirements. We entered this budget season with four important goals:

- Maintain class size
- Expand curriculum development, alignment and oversight
- Meet infrastructure needs
- Comply with the tax cap

The revenue stream to our District via New York State Foundation Aid is a factor that constrains our ability to address all of our wants and needs. Our District remains dramatically underfunded by way of this aid. I wish to thank those of you who took the time to write to our elected officials and advocate for our fair share of aid. Perhaps in years ahead that effort can be coupled with a lobbying presence and strategy involving community members and school leaders in Albany.

As this letter goes to print, the Board of Education is giving a final look at a number of new requests under consideration in the 2019-2020 budget. The Board will be identifying priorities among these requests as we await final word on revenues that may, or may not, come our way through the Westchester County Sales Tax Bill that the Governor is expected to enact. Among these requests are the following:

- | | |
|---|--|
| ■ Supervisor of STEM K-12 | ■ 0.4 Music (elementary schools) |
| ■ Supervisor of Guidance K-12 | ■ 0.4 Physical Education (EMS) |
| ■ Special Education teachers for co-teaching models in grades 7-8 | ■ 1.0 School Resource Officer (EHS/EMS campus) |
| ■ 0.4 Health (EHS) | ■ 1.0 K-6 teacher (Greenvale) |
| ■ 0.2 ENL (EHS) | ■ 1.0 Maintenance Laborer |
| ■ 1.0 Art (DW) | |

In addition, \$1,500,000 will be included in the budget line to address the heating plant and gym ceiling and lights at Anne Hutchinson School, and other projects identified in the five-year capital plan.

Please review the budget details on the website at <https://district.eastchesterschools.org>. Become informed, and of most importance, vote on May 21st. You will vote on the annual budget as well as elect three members to serve as Board of Education trustees.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Dr. Walter R. Moran III, Superintendent of Schools

BUDGET SUMMARY

Proposed Budget
\$87,603,000

Budget to Budget Increase
2.2%

Tax Levy Increase
2.12%

SCHOOL BUDGET VOTE

**Tuesday,
May 21, 2019
6:00am – 9:00pm**

Eastchester
Middle School Gym
(Enter on Lincoln Ave.)

-OR-

235 Garth Road
Community Center
(Garth Road Residents only)



2019-2020 Revenue Summary

REVENUE CATEGORY	2018-19 BUDGET	2019-20 PROPOSED BUDGET	\$ CHANGE	% CHANGE
Property Taxes	\$73,485,000	\$75,043,000	\$1,558,000	2.1%
Other Revenues	\$4,220,390	\$4,160,000	(\$60,390)	-1.4%
State/Federal Aid	\$7,450,000	\$7,900,000	\$450,000	6.0%
Assigned Fund Balance	\$300,000	\$500,000	\$200,000	66.7%
Transfer from Debt Service	\$277,610	-	\$277,610	-
GRAND TOTALS	\$85,733,000	\$87,603,000	\$1,870,000	2.2%

2019-2020 Expenditure Summary

BUDGET CATEGORY	2018-19 BUDGET	2019-20 PROPOSED BUDGET	\$ CHANGE	% CHANGE
Administration/Facilities	\$8,361,263	\$9,222,756	\$861,493	10.3%
Instruction	\$47,576,248	\$48,459,463	\$883,215	1.9%
Transportation	\$3,282,762	\$3,479,971	\$197,155	6.0%
Employee Benefits	\$18,820,756	\$18,996,820	\$176,064	0.9%
Debt Service	\$4,661,971	\$5,744,044	\$1,082,073	23.2%
Transfers to Other Funds	\$3,030,000	\$1,700,000	(\$1,330,000)	-43.9%
GRAND TOTALS	\$85,733,000	\$87,603,000	\$1,870,000	2.2%

Projected Tax Bill Impact

NOTE: The budget to budget increase is \$1,870,000. The tax levy increase, which reflects the impact on a homeowner's tax bill, is 2.12%, which is tax cap compliant.

NOTE: This projection assumes a total static assessment base. A change in assessments as calculated by the Town of Eastchester may have an impact on this estimate of the tax impact. Lower assessments in the town may raise the tax rate. Final rates are set by the Town of Eastchester in August.

AVERAGE

ASSESSED VALUE	\$5,000	\$7,000	\$8,900	\$11,000	\$13,000
2018-2019 School Tax Bill*	\$7,236	\$10,131	\$12,881	\$15,920	\$18,815
Estimated 2019-2020 Tax Bill*	\$7,390	\$10,347	\$13,155	\$16,259	\$19,215
GRAND TOTALS	\$154	\$216	\$274	\$339	\$401

*Does not include STAR impact.

2018-2019 Tax Rate per \$1,000 of Assessed Valuation.....	\$1,447.27
2019-2020 Tax Rate Impact per \$1,000 of Assessed Valuation	\$30.82
2019-2020 Estimated Tax Rate per \$1,000 of Assessed Valuation	\$1,478.09

★ **VOTE May 21, 2019 Poll Hours: 6:00am – 9:00pm** ★

Voting Information

What You Will See on the Ballot

Proposition #1

Shall Eastchester Union Free School District of the Town of Eastchester, Westchester County, New York adopt a budget for the school year 2019-2020 for the Schools comprising said Eastchester Union Free School District, in the gross sum of \$87,603,000 and raise the necessary taxes required for said budget in one sum by tax upon the taxable property of the District?

Vote for Three:

Members of the Board of Education for three (3) full terms of three (3) years each commencing July 1, 2019 and ending June 30, 2022. Indicate your choices by placing an "X" in the appropriate boxes.)

Please vote for three (3):

_____ Steven Projansky
_____ Sally Veltidi
_____ Cheryl Smith

Am I Eligible to Vote?

In order to vote in the district election, you must be:

- A citizen of the United States of America.
- A resident of the Eastchester School District for at least 30 days prior to the vote date.
- At least 18 years of age by the vote date.
- A registered voter with either the school district or with the County Board of Elections.

You are registered to vote if:

- You are on the Westchester County voter list AND have voted at least once during the last four years, OR
- You are registered with the school district.

Absentee Ballots

Obtaining an absentee ballot is a two-step process.

An Application for an Absentee Ballot must be filed first with the District Clerk. Applications for absentee ballots may be obtained by contacting Jeanette Messina, District Clerk, at 580 White Plains Road, Eastchester, NY 10709; Phone: 914-793-6130, ext. 4211, or by going to the website at <http://district.eastchesterschools.org>. Look under Budgets and Elections for instructions and an application.

Deadlines

Applications must be obtained from the District Clerk at least seven days before the election if the ballot is to be mailed to the voter or by 4:00pm on the day before the election if the ballot is to be given personally to the voter. The completed ballot must be returned to the District Clerk no later than 5:00pm on the voting day, May 21, 2019.

Registration Applications

School District Voter Registration Applications

Applications for School District Voter Registration are available at the District Office and on the website at <http://district.eastchesterschools.org>. This registration allows you to vote only in School District votes (Budgets, Bond, BOE trustees).

Deadline for school district registration for the May 21, 2019 Annual Budget and Trustee Vote is Wednesday, May 15, 2019.

Westchester County Voter Registration Applications

Qualified voters who register with Westchester County can vote in school district elections as well as other local and national elections. Registration applications are available locally at Eastchester Town Hall and Tuckahoe Village Hall. Applications can be downloaded at <http://www.elections.ny.gov/>. Call 1-800-FOR-VOTE for additional information.

**SCHOOL
BUDGET
VOTE**

Tuesday, May 21, 2019
Poll Hours: 6:00am – 9:00pm

Eastchester
Middle School Gym
(Enter on Lincoln Ave.)

235 Garth Road
Community Center
(Garth Road Residents only)



EASTCHESTER
 UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT
 SOARING TO EXCELLENCE
580 WHITE PLAINS ROAD
EASTCHESTER, NY 10709
(914) 793-6130

BOARD OF EDUCATION

- Mary Messner Martin, *President*
- Dr. Cheryl Smith, *Vice President*
- Vito Catania, *Secretary*
- David Carforo, *Trustee*
- Tara Conte, *Trustee*
- Judah Holstein, *Trustee*
- Erin Murray, *Trustee*
- Robert Summer, *Trustee*
- Sally Veltidi, *Trustee*

**Annual Budget and Board
 of Education Election**

Tuesday, May 21, 2019
6:00am - 9:00pm

Eastchester Middle School Gym
 (Enter on Lincoln Ave.)

OR

235 Garth Road Community
 Center (Garth Road Residents only)

For more 2019-2020 Budget Information, go to www.EastchesterSchools.org

2019-2020 School Budget Notice

OVERALL BUDGET PROPOSAL	Budget Adopted for the 2018-19 School Year	Budget Proposed for the 2019-20 School Year	Contingency Budget for the 2019-20 School Year*
Total Budgeted Amount, Not Including Separate Propositions	\$85,733,000	\$87,603,000	\$86,045,000
Increase/Decrease for the 2019-20 School Year		\$1,870,000	\$312,000
Percentage Increase/Decrease in Proposed Budget		2.18%	0.36%
Change in the Consumer Price Index		2.44%	
A. Proposed Tax Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount	\$73,485,000	\$75,043,000	
B. Levy to Support Library Debt, if Applicable	\$0	\$0	
C. Levy for Non-Excludable Propositions, if Applicable **	\$0	\$0	
D. Total Tax Cap Reserve Amount Used to Reduce Current Year Levy	\$0	\$0	
E. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy (A + B + C - D)	\$73,485,000	\$75,043,000	\$73,485,000
F. Total Permissible Exclusions	\$4,652,491	\$4,706,987	
G. School Tax Levy Limit, Excluding Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$68,833,395	\$70,336,582	
H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, Excluding Levy to Support Library Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions (E - B - F + D)	\$68,832,509	\$70,336,013	
I. Difference: G - H (Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval - See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions) **	\$886	\$569	
Administrative Component	\$8,400,633	\$9,103,427	\$8,462,598
Program Component	\$64,433,662	\$64,096,274	\$63,886,413
Capital Component	\$13,898,705	\$14,403,299	\$13,695,989

*Provide a statement of assumptions made in projecting a contingency budget for the 2019-20 school year, should the proposed budget be defeated pursuant to Section 2023 of the Education Law.

Under a contingency budget, which does not allow for any increase in the maximum allowable tax levy from the current year, the following items will be eliminated: all equipment, a significant portion of professional development, and most facility maintenance projects. The Supervisor of STEM, Supervisor of Guidance and Maintenance Laborer positions would be eliminated. All outside groups must be charged the full cost of using the District's facilities.

** List Separate Propositions that are not included in the Total Budgeted Amount: (Tax Levy associated with educational or transportation services propositions are not eligible for exclusion and may affect voter approval requirements)

Description	Amount
None	None

***The basic school tax relief (STAR) exemption is authorized by section 425 of the Real Property Tax Law.

**Under the Budget Proposed
for the 2019-20 School Year**

Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings ***	\$1,596
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The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2019-20 by the qualified voters of the Eastchester Union Free School District, Westchester County, New York, will be held at the Eastchester Middle School Gym and the 235 Garth Road Community Center (Garth Road Residents only) in said district on Tuesday, May 21, between the hours of 6:00am and 9:00pm, prevailing time in the Eastchester school(s), at which time the polls will be opened to vote by voting ballot or machine.