

Syosset Pride

A Publication of the Syosset Central School District

www.syossetschools.org

INTELLECTUAL AGILITY. FISCAL STABILITY. EXTRAORDINARY ACCOMPLISHMENTS.

Dear Syosset Community,

We take great pride in how our student body, our faculty and staff, and our community have responded to an unforeseen and devastating global crisis. The mission of the Syosset Central School District is to prepare our students to thrive in both the future we imagine and one which may evolve in ways yet to be envisioned. Our current environment is one that we couldn't have envisioned and one that has certainly presented unique challenges, though we have witnessed our students rise to each challenge and as a community, we have come together to support each other and persevere.

The District's fiscal stability has enabled us to respond to the pandemic in a robust and comprehensive manner. We benefited from our previous investments in technology, and teachers were able to optimize the District's extensive digital resources for the online environment. Our mental health staff, recently expanded prior to the pandemic, focused on providing social and emotional support to students. We invested in upgrades to the ventilation systems, and new cleaning products and devices, and portable air filters, to provide a safe environment for students and staff. Desktop barriers, temperature screeners, touchless faucets and portable handwashing stations were installed. And the District ensured meals were provided for students, childcare was available for first responders, and our community had access to COVID-19 rapid tests by providing two test sites on our campuses for the community's use. More recently, the District secured four rounds of vaccination opportunities for staff and is working to

identify additional vaccination opportunities now that students are eligible.

Even while meeting the urgent needs resulting from the pandemic, many long-planned and much-needed upgrades to the facilities were completed. Just in time for the increase in car traffic we experienced this fall, the expanded bus and car loop was completed at the high school, and the new vestibule provided an open, safe space to conduct health screening as students entered the building. The state-of-the-art weight room at the high school was opened to students. New bathrooms were installed; lighting and ceiling upgrades and air conditioning projects were completed; and a guard booth was erected at the high school to further increase security.

The most impressive accomplishments over the last year, however, were those of our students. Their intellectual agility, perseverance, and creative thinking have led to extraordinary accomplishments. This year, an astounding five Syosset High School students were named Regeneration Science Talent Search Scholars; a record number of students, 32, were named National Merit Semifinalists; and our student-athletes once again excelled even under extraordinary circumstances. And the remarkable philanthropic efforts of our study body during this time of need demonstrates the strong character of our students and their indomitable spirit.

As we prepare for the next school year, there is still much uncertainty. We don't yet know the course the pandemic will take over the summer and the resulting health and safety precautions that will be necessary in the fall to continue to safeguard the health of our learning

community. We have therefore worked closely with the central administrative team to prepare a budget with flexibility to position the District to respond to changing conditions.

The proposed budget maintains the current programs and services for students and maintains a focus on the mental well-being of students. It also continues to support the advancement of instructional technology, provision of a secure environment for our students and staff, maintenance and improvement of our facilities, and continuation of amplified cleaning and disinfecting protocols.

The Board remains sensitive to the tax burden on the community, and the proposed budget carries a tax levy increase of 1.98%, which is under the New York State tax levy cap of 2.31%. The proposed budget is approximately \$675,000 under the cap and represents a budget increase of 2.28% over the current year.

In addition to the school budget, the community will have the opportunity to vote on a unique opportunity to transfer of a portion of the Stillwell property to the District and accept \$3 million in County funds earmarked for improvements to the property, and for the District to undertake a capital improvement project with these funds and funds from District sources to improve the property to provide students with additional access to educational and interscholastic athletic opportunities and added amenities for community members. The County would retain ownership and control of the remainder of the 270-acre property, including the bicycle and

equestrian trails, and the property would retain its preserve status. The investment would not result in a tax levy increase, as the District will shortly roll off older debt that represents a higher portion of the tax levy. Detailed information on the Propositions can be found in this newsletter and on the District website.

In addition to the 2021-2022 budget and Stillwell propositions, candidates for the annual Board of Education trustee election will appear on the May 18 ballot. Please note that this year, we have extended the voting hours until 10 p.m. so that those observing Shavuot have ample opportunity to vote.

We encourage you to attend the public budget hearing on May 10 at South Woods Middle School beginning at 7:45 p.m. You may also visit www.syossetschools.org/budget or call the District Office at 516-364-5600. The Board and administration value your input. Please reach out to us with any thoughts, questions, or concerns.

Regards,

The Syosset Board of Education

Propositions No. 2 and No. 3: Stillwell Property Conveyance and Stillwell Property Improvement Project

The May 18 ballot contains two propositions, separate from the proposed 2021-2022 school district budget. The Propositions seek voter approval to transfer a portion of the Stillwell Woods Preserve to the school district and for the District to invest in a Capital Improvement Project with County funds and funds from District sources to improve the property to provide students with additional access to educational and interscholastic athletic opportunities.

Syosset Central School District
Syosset, New York 11791

Nonprofit
Organization
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Syosset, NY 11791

****ECRWSS****

Resident of
Syosset Central School District

POINTS OF PRIDE

SYOSSET SCHOOLS DELIVER

- Syosset Central School District named 4th Best School District in NY, 13th Best School District in America, 8th Best Place to Teach in NY by Niche.com.
- Five students named Regeneration Science Talent Search Scholars.
- A record 32 Syosset High School seniors named National Merit Semifinalists, 39 Commended students.
- Three students named 2021 U.S. Presidential Scholar Candidates.
- 34 students won an overall 117 awards in the 2021 Scholastic Art & Writing Awards.
- Syosset High School granted the College Board AP Computer Science Female Diversity Award for expanding young women's access to AP Computer Science courses and helping close the gender gap in computer science education.
- Syosset High School research students placed first and second in their respective categories in the 2021 Long Island Junior Science and Humanities (JSHS) Symposium.
- National Speech and Debate Association's Academic All American award winner.
- Two Syosset High School students recognized as College Board National Recognition Program Scholars through the Hispanic Recognition Program.
- Recipient of the Robert Sheppard Student Leadership Scholarship from the National Society of High School Scholars (NSHSS).
- Second and Third place in the kidOYO Annual Interdistrict Competitive Hackathon.
- Syosset High School Forensics earned the Leading Chapter Award from the National Speech & Debate Association.
- Virtual Enterprise team named a finalist in the National Business Plan Competition.
- 54 International Career Development Conference (ICDC) qualifiers from the SHS DECA team; 120 medals at the State Career Conference.
- Finalist in the 18th Annual USA Biolympiad (USABO) Finals.
- 46 individual and team medals at the Al Kalfus Long Island Math Fair.

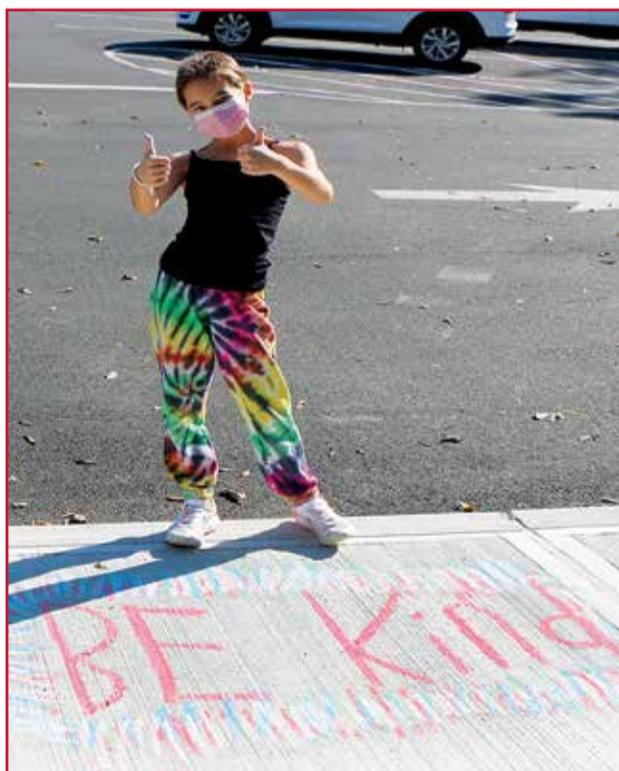
Fine and Performing Arts

- Designated a 2021 Best Community for Music Education.
- 29 students selected as New York State School Music Association (NYSSMA) All-State Musicians.
- Four students' works exhibited in the NYS Art Teachers Association's Legislative Exhibit (Virtual Edition).
- Three Syosset High School students selected for NAFME All-Eastern Ensembles.
- Three students named finalists in the Metropolitan Youth Orchestra of New York Concerto and Vocal Competition.
- Three students named Long Island Arts Alliance Scholar Artists.
- New York State Theatre Education Association's (NYSTEA) 2020 Student Playwriting Competition winner.
- Syosset High School's Model UN earned the Best Small Delegation Award at the Phillips Exeter Academy Model UN Conference (PEAMUN).



Character and Community

- All three secondary schools have been designated as No Place for Hate Schools by the Anti-Defamation League.
- Partnerships with Erase Racism, Holocaust Memorial and Tolerance Center, Syosset Interfaith Clergy, Harmony Social Emotional program.
- Tens of thousands of dollars raised District-wide for local and national charitable organizations, such as Birthday Wishes of LI, Island Harvest, Make a Wish, Mercy First, Ronald McDonald House, Ruff House Rescue, St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital and World Wildlife Fund.



Athletics

- Varsity girls gymnastics: Conference 1 Champions, Nassau County Team Champions.
- Varsity boys swimming and diving: Nassau County Champions, Conference 1 Champions, earned their 55th consecutive win this year.
- Varsity girls basketball: Conference Champions.
- Varsity boys basketball: Conference Champions.
- Varsity girls winter track: Nassau County Pole Vault record.
- Fencing: Nassau County Men's Fencing Dual Meet Season Division 1 Champions.
- Wrestling: seven All-County, eight All-Conference, one All-Long Island wrestlers.
- Girls bowling: Conference Champions, undefeated.
- One student-athlete selected to play in the Girls' Soccer High School All-American Game.



SUMMARY OF THE DISTRICT BUDGET BY FUNCTION

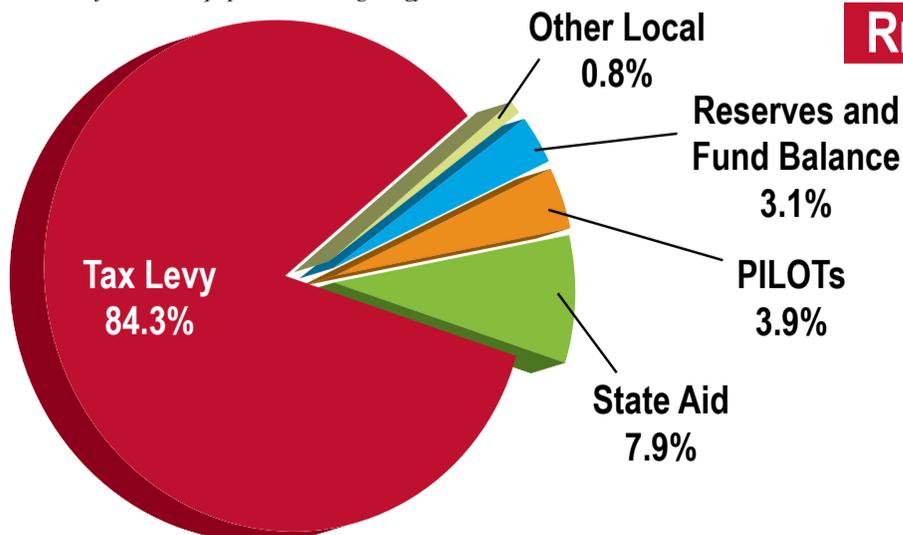
BUDGET DATA INCLUDING ANNUAL EXPENDITURES AVAILABLE ON DISTRICT WEBSITE: WWW.SYOSSETSCHOOLS.ORG

| | 2019-20 BUDGET | 2020-21 BUDGET | PROPOSED 2021-22 BUDGET |
|-------------------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------------|
| 1010 BOARD OF EDUCATION | \$46,700 | \$46,700 | \$46,700 |
| 1040 DISTRICT CLERK | 48,787 | 97,186 | 98,271 |
| 1060 DISTRICT MEETINGS | 30,500 | 30,500 | 30,500 |
| 1240 CHIEF SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR OFFICE | 422,699 | 385,079 | 386,204 |
| 1310 FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION | 569,494 | 576,814 | 581,804 |
| 1320 AUDITING | 128,370 | 128,370 | 125,870 |
| 1345 PURCHASING | 529,833 | 553,578 | 566,762 |
| 1420 LEGAL FEES | 429,600 | 429,600 | 429,600 |
| 1430 PERSONNEL OFFICE | 645,520 | 656,821 | 710,090 |
| 1480 COMMUNITY RELATIONS | 170,537 | 169,670 | 179,670 |
| 1620 CUSTODIAL OPERATIONS ¹ | 9,870,762 | 9,991,539 | 10,773,075 |
| 1621 MAINTENANCE OPERATIONS ² | 6,178,261 | 7,024,678 | 5,738,350 |
| 1631 SECURITY OPERATIONS ³ | 3,131,061 | 3,853,595 | 3,344,650 |
| 1670 CENTRAL PRINTING ⁴ | 554,359 | 554,393 | 545,541 |
| 1680 CENTRAL DATA PROCESSING ⁵ | 2,716,217 | 2,806,764 | 2,816,285 |
| 1910 ALLOCATED INSURANCE | 1,140,923 | 1,175,372 | 1,175,372 |
| 1981 ADMIN CHARGE – BOCES | 759,013 | 807,288 | 824,806 |
| 1983 BOCES CAPITAL EXPENSES | 163,847 | 130,020 | 130,451 |
| 1989 UNCLASSIFIED | 50,000 | 50,000 | 50,000 |
| 2010 CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT/SUPERVISION | 2,434,478 | 2,833,187 | 2,895,524 |
| 2020 SUPERVISION REGULAR | 6,578,510 | 6,282,938 | 6,394,401 |
| 2070 IN-SERVICE PROGRAMS | 516,200 | 503,000 | 503,000 |
| 2110 GENERAL EDUCATION PROGRAM ⁶ | 77,853,177 | 77,152,388 | 79,390,850 |
| 2250 SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS ⁷ | 29,770,065 | 29,956,047 | 30,212,630 |
| 2280 OCCUPATIONAL EDUCATION | 400,000 | 410,000 | 420,000 |
| 2310 CONTINUING EDUCATION | 118,623 | 118,611 | 118,752 |
| 2320 SUMMER SCHOOL | 377,095 | 397,258 | 397,258 |
| 2610 LIBRARY MEDIA PROGRAM | 2,712,937 | 2,559,499 | 2,708,327 |
| 2630 COMPUTER-ASSISTED INSTRUCTION ⁸ | 3,303,500 | 3,274,731 | 3,636,105 |
| 2805 ATTENDANCE OFFICES | 246,510 | 247,149 | 256,229 |
| 2810 GUIDANCE OFFICES | 3,048,481 | 3,060,288 | 3,271,577 |
| 2815 HEALTH SERVICES ⁹ | 1,525,824 | 1,440,578 | 1,762,219 |
| 2820 PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES | 2,698,807 | 2,698,100 | 2,670,577 |
| 2825 SOCIAL WORK SERVICES | 105,418 | 214,655 | 331,317 |
| 2850 CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES | 1,573,965 | 1,656,045 | 1,673,694 |
| 2855 INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS ¹⁰ | 2,702,919 | 2,348,329 | 2,408,589 |
| 2989 POTENTIAL COVID-RELATED EXPENSES | 0 | 2,000,000 | 0 |
| 5510 DISTRICT TRANSPORTATION | 195,696 | 244,788 | 247,722 |
| 5540 CONTRACTED TRANSPORTATION | 10,126,700 | 10,318,136 | 11,507,600 |
| 5581 BOCES TRANSPORTATION MGMT. SERVICE | 47,210 | 0 | 0 |
| 7140 COMMUNITY SERVICES/RECREATION | 261,221 | 291,221 | 297,127 |
| 8070 COMMUNITY SERVICES/CENSUS | 18,750 | 18,750 | 18,750 |
| 9010 RETIREMENT SYSTEM – ERS | 3,000,000 | 3,000,000 | 3,445,000 |
| 9020 RETIREMENT SYSTEM – TRS | 9,909,500 | 10,590,935 | 11,120,514 |
| 9030 SOCIAL SECURITY | 9,648,064 | 9,549,176 | 9,840,000 |
| 9045 LIFE INSURANCE | 205,000 | 218,000 | 230,000 |
| 9060 HEALTH INSURANCE | 30,360,112 | 30,651,664 | 30,700,234 |
| 9065 DENTAL INSURANCE | 900,000 | 905,000 | 905,000 |
| 9000 OTHER BENEFITS | 1,521,862 | 1,465,200 | 1,409,200 |
| 9760 TAX ANTICIPATION NOTES INTEREST (TANs) | 720,000 | 720,000 | 720,000 |
| 9901 TRANSFER TO OTHER FUNDS | 4,309,913 | 5,278,331 | 7,200,281 |
| 9950 TRANSFER TO CAPITAL FUND** | 2,200,000 | 1,767,274 | 1,913,547 |
| TOTAL GENERAL FUND | \$236,977,020 | \$241,639,245 | \$247,160,025 |

** The \$1,913,547 Transfer to Capital Fund includes allocations for roofing and masonry for the High School and South Woods, High School pool ventilation, and district-wide masonry projects.

EQUIPMENT ALLOCATIONS:

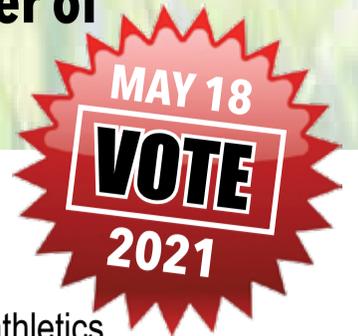
- ¹ \$72,000 for custodial equipment including electrostatic sprayers, electronic mops, carpet extractors, floor cleaners and buffers.
- ² \$677,300 maintenance replacement equipment including vehicles, and classroom and office furniture, HVAC equipment, scoreboard for HS field and LED sign.
- ³ \$25,000 for security equipment.
- ⁴ \$8,000 for mailing, office replacement equipment.
- ⁵ \$87,000 for technology equipment.
- ⁶ \$307,250 for instructional program equipment including art and music equipment.
- ⁷ \$20,000 for instructional program equipment.
- ⁸ \$40,000 for technology equipment.
- ⁹ \$3,500 for health service equipment.
- ¹⁰ \$25,000 for athletic equipment including HS gym scoreboard.



| | Budget 2020-21 | Proposed 2021-22 |
|---------------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| STATE AID | \$17,519,065 | \$19,731,030 |
| RESTRICTED RESERVES | \$3,880,000 | \$4,854,579 |
| APPROPRIATED FUND BALANCE | | |
| – Appropriated for Capital Work | \$1,767,274 | \$1,913,547 |
| – Appropriated for Potential COVID Expenses | \$2,000,000 | – |
| – Appropriated for General Purpose | \$1,200,000 | \$900,000 |
| Revenue from Debt Service Fund | \$421,615 | – |
| Other Local Revenue | \$1,739,500 | \$1,882,649 |
| PILOTs | \$8,875,626 | \$9,588,924 |
| GENERAL FUND TAX LEVY | \$204,236,165 | \$208,289,296 |
| TOTAL REVENUE | \$241,639,245 | \$247,160,025 |



On May 18, 2021, Syosset Central School District residents will have the opportunity to vote on the transfer of Stillwell Fields to the school district.



Vision

- Provide **students** with additional access to educational programs and interscholastic athletics.
- Improve a recreational asset for the **community** with added amenities and increased security.
- Improve the **safety and security** of a property already heavily used by Syosset students and families.

With the Support of the Community

- ✓ The cleared portion of Stillwell Park, approximately 35 acres, would transfer to the school district from Nassau County.
- ✓ Nassau County would retain the remaining portion of the preserve (with the hiking, biking and horse trails).
- ✓ \$3 million of County funds announced by Legislator Lafazan earmarked for improvements to the property would be conveyed to the District. The District would undertake a capital improvement project with these funds and additional funds from school district sources.
- ✓ The District would take over site management, including security and maintenance.
- ✓ Community groups' existing regular use permits would transfer with the property.

Propositions 2 and 3 work together, and one cannot be approved without the other.

What Is the Cost?

- 💰 County funds of \$3 million announced by Legislator Lafazan earmarked for improvements to Stillwell Park would be conveyed to the District.
- 💰 With the community's support and feedback, in addition to the County funds, the District would contribute \$5.5 million raised through bonds, and \$2 million in reserves for a total investment of \$10.5 million.
- 💰 Property taxes would not increase as a result of this project. The debt service on the bonds would be approximately \$23 for every \$10,000 dollars paid in taxes. However, since the District is about to roll off debt amounting to roughly twice that amount, the levy itself would not increase as a result of this project.

Strong Schools + Strong Community = Exceptional Place to Live

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Q: What is the plan for including lights on the property?

A: The proposal includes lighting for the artificial turf fields to be located in the center of the property. The lights are designed to spotlight the fields and minimize spillover.

Q: Will senior citizens be allowed to use the walking path, and will the wooded areas of the park remain available during the school day?

A: Yes. The proposed paved walking path would provide seniors with a safe walking option during the day, and access to the park would not be impacted.

Q: Would the preserve status of the land be impacted and is access to the preserve going to be affected by this project?

A: The preserve will not be touched by the District. It will remain Nassau County property and retain its

preserve status. The access point to the preserve near the southeast corner of the fields will remain open. The parking lot located near this entrance will be repaved, expanded, and evaluated for safety improvements.

Q: If the entire county will have access to the facilities, then shouldn't the entire county share the expenses?

A: Nassau County is contributing \$3 million for improvements to the property. In addition, the County is transferring the 35-acre parcel for the sum of \$1. The transfer of the property at below market value and the cash investment of \$3 million are significant contributions from the County. The fields will be the property of the school district and first priority will be given to school programs at all times. Second priority will go to existing use permits (Syosset Soccer, Syosset Lacrosse, Syosset Baseball and Syosset Softball), followed by remaining County residents.

Q: Are there any environmental concerns?

A: A Phase I Environmental Review was conducted by an environmental consultant and revealed no environmental issues with the property.

Q: What is the timing for the improvements to the property?

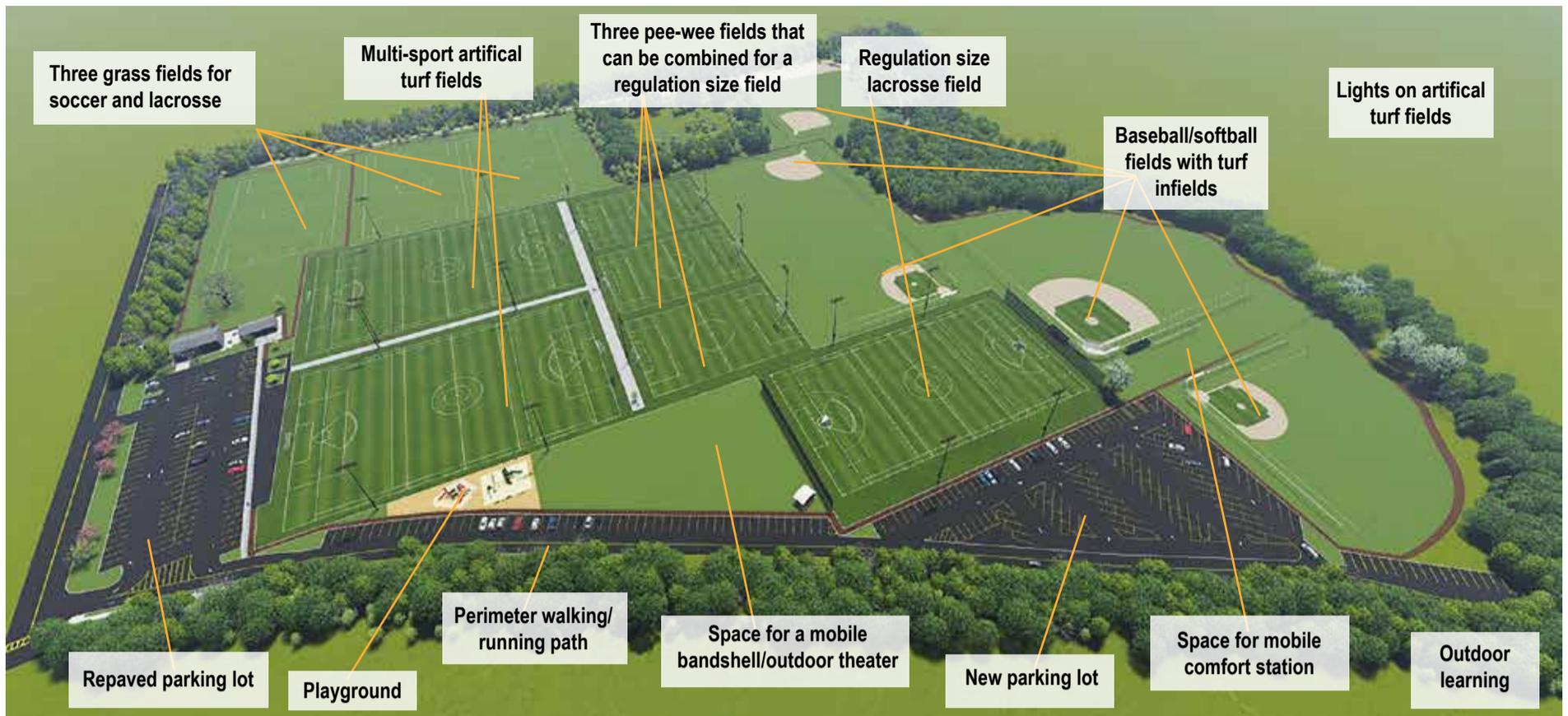
A: Some projects can be done in the short term, such as parking lot improvements and some security enhancements. Major construction projects would likely not begin until the summer of 2023.

Q: Who would be responsible for site maintenance?

A: Cleaning and maintenance would be done by the District as part of the District's facilities portfolio. District groundskeepers would maintain the property and ensure fields are lined properly for various activities.

Q: What would happen to existing permits held by youth sports and other groups?

A: Community groups' existing regular use permits would transfer with the property and remain in force. The property will remain open to public use from the Nassau County community at large as it currently is. New use permits will be issued under the District's Community Use of Facilities Policy 1500, which can be found on the District website.



Educational Programs

Environmental education.

Outdoor learning experiences, field trip opportunities centered on interdisciplinary study of biology, ecology, earth science, geography, atmospheric science, engineering, and mathematics.

Outdoor theater utilizing a mobile bandshell to support student performances.

Health and wellness programs.

Outdoor sensory walk to support and encourage sensory perception and integration.

Athletic Facilities

Six multisport artificial turf fields, including three regulation-size soccer/lacrosse fields and three pee-wee fields. The three pee-wee fields can be combined for a regulation-sized field.

Lights for the turf fields positioned in the center of the property designed to spotlight the fields with minimal spillover.

Three grass soccer/lacrosse fields.

Five baseball/softball fields with turf infields that would support varying dimensions for different base paths.

Community Amenities

Enhanced safety and security with surveillance infrastructure.

1-mile perimeter running/walking path.

Repaved parking lots and expanded number of parking spaces, traffic flow and safety improvements.

Renovation of the existing restroom facility and space for a mobile comfort station near the baseball/softball fields.

Small playground for young children.

Upgraded landscaping and entrance to the park.

ESTIMATED ITEMIZED CONSTRUCTION EXPENSES

| | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|
| Demolition Costs | \$85,000 |
| New Turf Playfields | \$4,915,531 |
| Lighting | \$2,146,000 |
| Walking Paths | \$395,687 |
| New parking, repaired roadway | \$663,712 |
| Playground structures | \$150,000 |
| Fencing | \$231,375 |
| Landscaping and Trees | \$200,000 |
| Bathroom Repairs | \$70,000 |
| Contingencies and Soft Costs | \$1,639,200 |
| Total | \$10,496,505 |

ESTIMATED ONGOING OPERATING EXPENSES

| | |
|------------------------------|------------------|
| Grounds Staff | \$146,300 |
| Security Staff | \$47,180 |
| Turf Field Maintenance | \$112,000 |
| Utilities | \$21,500 |
| Other Materials and Supplies | \$9,500 |
| Insurance | \$7,000 |
| Total | \$343,480 |

POTENTIAL OFFSETS TO OPERATING EXPENSES

| | |
|-----------------------------------------|------------------|
| In-House Turf Maintenance | (\$75,000) |
| Pledged from Syosset Soccer | (\$50,000) |
| Busing Savings | (\$43,000) |
| Estimated Net Operating Expenses | \$175,480 |

The Syosset community will have the opportunity to vote on Propositions 2 and 3 during the regular school district annual budget vote taking place on May 18, 2021.

VOTER GUIDE

PROPOSITION No. 1 SCHOOL BUDGET 2021-2022

Adoption of the proposed budget approved by the Board of Education for the fiscal year 2021-2022.

PROPOSITION No. 2 STILLWELL PROPERTY CONVEYANCE

Authorizes the conveyance of a portion of the Stillwell Woods Preserve by the County of Nassau to the Syosset Central School District.

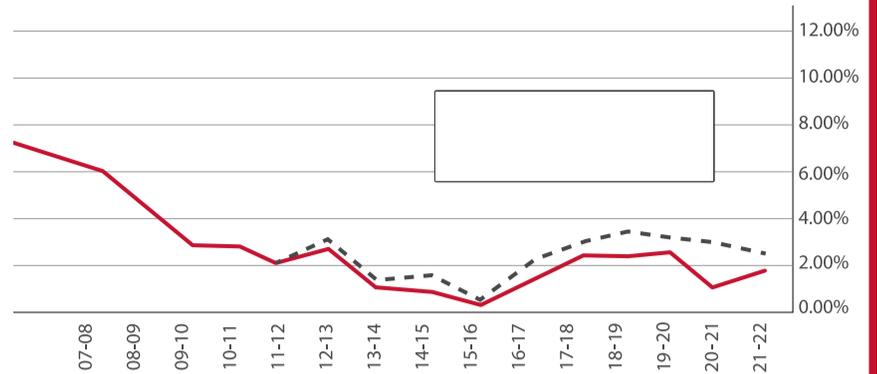
PROPOSITION No. 3 STILLWELL PROPERTY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Authorizes the investment in the property of a maximum of \$10,500,000, with \$2,000,000 to come from 2020 Capital Reserve Fund monies, \$3,000,000 to come from County funds, and the remaining \$5,500,000 to come from bonds.

PROPOSITION No. 4 SYOSSET PUBLIC LIBRARY BUDGET FOR 2021-2022

Adoption of the proposed budget approved by the Board of Trustees for the fiscal year 2021-2022.

SYOSSET CSD TAX CAP HISTORY



Since New York State implemented the tax levy cap in 2012, Syosset has produced budgets at or below the district's calculated cap.

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Two members for a term of three years and one member for a term of three years plus the balance of an unexpired term commencing May 18, 2021.

VOTE FOR THREE

| |
|--------------------|
| Brian J. Grieco |
| Shany Park |
| Dr. Rob Sharma |
| Mitchell Lieberman |
| Lisa Coscia |
| Lynn Abramson |

*Mr. Christopher DiFilippo withdrew his candidacy. The list of candidates will be finalized when the extension to submit a Candidate Petition closes on May 11, 2021.

MEMBERS OF THE SYOSSET PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

One member for a term of four years and one member for a term of five years.

VOTE FOR TWO

| |
|-------------------|
| Reid M. Goldsmith |
| Sam Sochet |

Voting Information

The annual budget vote and election of Board of Education trustees will be held on Tuesday, May 18 from 6 a.m.- 10 p.m. at Robbins Lane Elementary School, H.B. Thompson Middle School and Syosset High School.

The table below shows where residents must vote based on their elementary school attendance zone:

| Elementary school attendance zone: | Voting site: |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Robbins Lane and South Grove | Robbins Lane Elementary School |
| A.P. Willits and Baylis | H.B. Thompson Middle School |
| Walt Whitman, Berry Hill and Village | Syosset High School |

If you are a resident who does not have children enrolled in the District, you may refer to the District website to find your designated polling location. Go to www.syossetschools.org and click on the District tab located in the channel bar in the top right of the homepage. You will find your polling location under the "Voter Information" menu option.

VOTER REGISTRATION

Voter registration will take place at South Woods Middle School on Monday, May 10, 2021, from 4-8 p.m.

VOTER ELIGIBILITY

To vote in the annual school district election, voters must be a U.S. citizen, 18 years of age or older and a District resident for at least 30 days prior to the vote. Eligible voters include those who have voted in school district elections within the past four years, those who are registered with the Nassau County Board of Elections and those who registered on one of the 2021 registration dates.

ABSENTEE BALLOTS

Absentee ballot applications are available on the District's website at www.syossetschools.org. Absentee ballot applications must be mailed back to the District no later than the seventh day before the election or delivered in person back to the District no later than the day before the election.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Q: What is the estimated tax levy increase of the proposed budget?

A: The proposed budget would increase the school tax levy by 1.98%. This is below the state-mandated tax cap set at 2.31%. The total proposed budget of \$247,160,025 carries a budget-to-budget increase of 2.28% for the 2021-22 school year.

Q: What does the 2021-22 budget support?

A: The proposed budget preserves all current academic offerings, as well as all extracurricular and co-curricular programs. It also funds instructional technology to support in-person and remote learning, resources to support the social and emotional well-being of students, maintenance of the physical plant, equipment and cleaning and disinfecting protocols, and flexibility to optimize our response to changing circumstances surrounding the global pandemic.

Q: What happens if the budget is defeated?

A: If the budget is defeated on May 18, the District will be faced with three options. The Board could choose to submit the same budget for a revote, submit a revised version of the defeated budget or adopt a contingency budget. If a proposed budget is defeated twice, a contingency budget must be adopted, and state law would mandate that the District revert to a 0% tax levy increase for the 2021-22 year. That would require the District to make \$4,053,131 in reductions to the proposed budget and delay capital projects included in the budget.

Q: Where can I find more information about the District's proposed budget?

A: Complete copies of the 2021-22 proposed budget can be downloaded from the District's website, www.syossetschools.org.

BUDGET 2021

Syosset Pride

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www.syossetschools.org

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Tracy Frankel, President Rob Gershon, Vice President
 Carol C. Cheng Christopher DiFilippo Susan Falkove
 Andrew Feldman Anna Levitan Thomas A. Rotolo

Dr. Thomas Rogers, Superintendent of Schools