# Shelter Island UFSD 2024-2025 Proposed Budget:

"Consistent Academic Achievement, Facilities Improvement, & Fiscal Stability"



Board of Education Meeting of February 12, 2024 Facilities & Capital Presentation #2

## Accomplishments

- US News & World Best High School 3 Years In A Row (soon to be 4)
  - This past year top 18% of High Schools in United States; top 23% of High Schools in New York State
- Continued Significant Improvement State Exams in ELA and Mathematics in Participation, Performance, and Growth
- Implementing new Elementary ELA and exploring Math Curriculums
- New Strategic Plan for the district (Year 1 of 5)
  - o Academic Focus on Scaffolding
  - Increase Parental Outreach & Involvement
  - Employee of the Month Program
  - Classes Create Class Rules

# Accomplishments

- Installed state of the art septic system to reduce amount of nitrates using reserve funds
- Installed brand new softball field using reserve funds
- In the process of installing a new school sign using reserve funds
- Expanding intramurals for our elementary students
- Expanding clubs for our elementary students
- Introducing new classes

## **Budget Formation Process**

- District administration consults with teachers and staff to determine programmatic wishes and goals for the 2024-2025 school year.
- District administration examines the value and efficacy of existing programs to determine if changes are needed in the 2024-2025 school year.
- District administration gathers pricing, contractual obligations and best estimates in compiling the spending plan.
- The Board of Education reviews these decisions to determine if they represent the proper direction for the District and its taxpayers.

## District Administration Budget Goals

In formulating a proposed spending plan for evaluation by the Board of Education, we have sought to:

- Design and adopt a budget that stays <u>below</u> the Tax Cap limitations.
- Develop a budget that maintains district programs
- Design a budget that builds on prior community support and values fiscal restraint.
- Design a budget that helps us provide the best education possible at the most efficient cost as possible.

# Operations and Maintenance of Plant

- The District employs six full time and two part time employees who are responsible to maintain, repair, clean and operate the District's buildings and property.
- The Department works with outside vendors on larger projects and on specialty projects, such as the abatement of hazardous materials.
- The Department works with the District's architect/engineer on long-range planning and the preventative maintenance of the real property of the District.



#### Proposed Budget - Operations and Maintenance of Plant

	2022-2023 Adopted	2023-2024 Adopted	2024-2025 Proposed	Percent
	Budget	Budget	Budget	Change
Plant Operations	\$675,806	\$676,820	\$693,376	2.45%
Plant Maintenance	\$283,576	\$289,118	\$292,565	1.19%
Printing and Postage	\$43,396	\$39,447	\$39,550	0.26%
Total	\$1,002,778	\$1,005,385	\$1,025,491	2.00%

The Operations and Maintenance increases are modest, especially given the increase in costs for fuel and cleaning supplies.



## Transportation

- The District provides transportation for students both on-island as well as off-island.
- The District is responsible for transporting students to any private placement within 15 miles of the student's home (50 miles for Special Education students).
- The District budgets for the cost of contracted bus companies as well as ferry fare for the North and South Ferries.



### **Proposed Budget - Transportation**

	2022-2023 Adopted Budget	2023-2024 Adopted Budget	2024-2025 Proposed Budget	Percent Change
Busing	\$419,383	\$356,547	\$390,466	9.51%
Ferries	\$122,172	\$90,808	\$97,165	7.00%
Total	\$541,556	\$447,356	\$487,631	9.00%

The District has contracted with Sunrise Buses of Greenport for most transportation needs. The District also plans to make use of District vehicles where possible to save on Transportation costs.

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## **Debt Service**

- The District has issued bonds or other borrowings that represent the unconditional promise of the District to repay the loan.
- Debt schedules are determined at the time the loan is finalized.
- The District also borrows money each fall in anticipation of property tax receipts being received beginning each January. This Tax Anticipation Note is repaid each June, with interest.



## What Are Transfers to Other Funds?

- The District must cover a portion of the costs of summer instruction for Special Education students. The balance is paid via grant to the Special Aid Fund.
- Due to its operating expenses and limited revenue sources, the Cafeteria runs a deficit each year. The General Fund then must support such deficits through a transfer to the Cafeteria Fund.



### Proposed Budget - Debt Service and Transfers to Other Funds

	2022-2023 Adopted Budget	2023-2024 Adopted Budget	2024-2025 Proposed Budget	Percent Change
Bonds Principal and Interest	\$298,856	\$298,856	\$303,581	1.58%
Energy Performance Contract Principal and Interest	\$82,982	\$82,981	\$82,982	0.00%
Tax Anticipation Note Interest	\$38,775	\$46,000	\$50,000	8.70%
Transfer to Special Aid Fund	\$11,000	\$11,000	\$11,000	0.00%
Transfer to Cafeteria Fund	\$125,000	\$118,974	\$118,974	0.00%
Total	\$556,613	\$557,812	\$566,538	1.56%

Increases to interest rates means that the District can expect to pay more to borrow the same amount of money.



# State Aid - An Early Look

Governor Hochul has released State Aid figures for school districts all across New York State.

- The Governor has proposed a budget that decreases State Aid to the District by 21.30%. This cut is devastating to our budget.
- The 2024-2025 figures are the Governor's proposal. The NYS Legislature is scheduled to adopt a budget by April 1, 2024, which normally increases aid from the levels in the Governor's proposal.
- The District has been in touch with our Legislators to plead for increases to the State Aid proposed by the Governor.

## State Aid - Governor's Proposal

	2023-2024 Anticipated	2024-2025 Projected	Change	Percent Change
Foundation Aid	\$434,197	\$266,099	-\$168,098	-38.71%
BOCES	\$55,651	\$70,304	\$14,653	26.33%
Private Excess Cost	\$0	\$1,954	\$1,954	
Software, Library, Textbook	\$14,559	\$15,419	\$860	5.91%
Transportation	\$26,272	\$27,950	\$1,678	6.39%
Building Aid	\$38,371	\$44,837	\$6,466	16.85%
High Tax Aid	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$0	0.00%
Total	\$669,050	\$526,563	-\$142,487	-21.30%

The Governor's budget proposal is subject to change by the New York State Legislature.



# Property Tax Cap - What Does The Law Say?

Revenues raised by the District through property tax – "the levy" – can increase no more than approximately 2%, or CPI, whichever is less, plus several exemptions.

- Exempt from the tax calculation:
  - Capital costs
  - Some pension costs (Pension cost exclusions applicable to 0.1% of the ERS contribution rate)



#### Shelter Island UFSD Property Tax Calculations

Prior school year tax levy	\$ 11,236,630
Tax base growth factor (for new taxable properties)	1.0029
Product	\$ 11,269,216
PILOTS in Prior Year	\$ 63,458
Sum	\$ 11,332,674
Capital Tax Levy in Prior Year	\$ 363,124
Difference	\$ 10,969,550
Levy Growth Factor	1.0198
Product	\$ 11,186,747
PILOTS in Coming Year	\$ 63,458
Difference	\$ 11,123,289
Tax Levy Limit	\$ 11,123,289
Capital Tax Levy in Coming Year	\$ 375,441.15
TRS/ERS Above 2%	\$ 156
Total Levy 2024-2025	\$ 11,498,886

All figures are subject to adjustment.

The Board of Education will be asked to approve a resolution related to these calculations at this evening's Board meeting to allow the District to file a report with NYSED and the New York State Comptroller.



## Revenue Budget

- The Revenue Budget represents the funds available to pay for the expenditures.
- At the moment, the District will need to make reductions to the proposed budget in order to remain under the tax cap.
- The District may wish to use additional reserves to balance the budget or not reduce reliance on the Appropriated Fund Balance.

	2023-2024 Proposed	2024-2025 Anticipated	Difference
Property Taxes	\$11,236,630	\$11,498,886	\$262,256
State Aid	\$694,128	\$526,563	-\$167,565
Reserves	\$85,000	\$190,000	\$105,000
Interest Income	\$25,000	\$45,000	\$20,000
Appropriated Fund Balance	\$623,335	\$590,210	-\$33,125
Total	\$12,664,093	\$12,850,659	\$186,566
Projected Expenditure Budget		\$13,086,266	
Budget Reduction Needed		\$235,607	



## **Budgets Over the Past 4 Years**

	20-21	21-22	22-23	23-24	4 Year Increase
Budget	12,150,257.00	12,384,947.00	12,445,523.00	12,664,093.00	513,836.00
Budget Inc.	215,380.00	234,690.00	60,576.00	218,570.00	
Budget % Inc.	1.80	1.93	0.49%	1.76%	
Property Taxes	10,777,960.00	11,016,572.00	11,016,572.00	11,236,630.00	458,670.00
Property Tax Inc.	226,397.00	238,612.00	0.00	220,058.00	
Property Tax % Inc.	2.14	2.21	0%	2%	

- In the last 4 years of budgets, our total 4 year increase has only been \$513,836. That is an average yearly budget increase of \$128,459. The average yearly budget percent increase is 1.49%.
- In the last 4 years of property tax levies, our total increase has only been \$458,670. That is an average yearly property tax increase of \$114,667. The average yearly property tax percent increase is 1.58%.
- We did this while putting in a \$1.2 million septic system, bought a new school van, bought a new driver's ed car, added several sports and clubs, added additional curriculum and professional development that were never here before, and also have installed a new softball field and sign. That is pretty remarkable!

# Budget - Next Steps

- The District will continue to monitor developments in educational needs for next year between now and when the budget must be finalized.
- The District will also continue to monitor any changes in the proposed state aid. The Legislature is expected to adopt a budget on or before April 1, 2024.
- The budget presentations will continue, following the schedule on the following slide.

## Next Time....

- February 28 Budget Presentation Educational
- March 11 Budget Overview and Adjustments
- April 8 Budget Adoption by the Board of Education
- May 13 Budget Hearing at Board of Education Meeting
- May 21 Budget Vote 12:00 pm until 9:00 pm at the School Gym