
Elwood Union Free School District

2022-2023

Budget Workshop #3



Budget Goals within Board Goals

- We pledge to utilize the financial resources made available through both the district budget and the Federal stimulus grants to:
 - Continue to govern in a transparent way using multiple communication platforms to ensure residents are keenly aware of district initiatives.
 - Make fiscally responsible decisions that allow for the maximizing of resources to support students' programs and district initiatives
 - Continue to partner with parent/community groups to engage all stakeholders.
 - Create new and exciting opportunities to address both necessary remediation as well as enrichment for all students, K-12
 - Utilize Federal Stimulus opportunities to address long-standing areas of need that were not addressed within the district budget
 - Minimize impact on local taxpayers by using all available grant funding to address student priorities.
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2022-2023 Budget Goals

- Maintain all programs K-12
 - Continued focus on academic priorities and diverse course offerings to maximize student achievement
 - Continue enhancement for Student Wellness, PPS, Mental Health Support & DEI
 - Continue growth of literacy initiatives and digital instructional methods in partnership with Teachers College Reading and Writing Project (K-8); academic vocabulary, phonics and handwriting
 - Preserve class size limits at current levels
 - Continued support for our AIS and ENL populations, with emphasis on equity and home-school communication
 - Increase secondary course selections with a focus on credit-bearing opportunities
 - Continue expansion of technology initiatives to assist with digital and hardware resources for the instructional program
 - Maximize the use Federal funds to offset increases to the operating budget
 - Maintain fiscal health of district
 - Continue achieving a “No Fiscal Stress” designation from Comptroller
 - Continue to fund reserves to appropriate levels
 - Focus on achieving optimal Moody’s rating
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CRRSA Funding

- Utilizing the federal grant monies has and will to continue to allow the district to fund expenditures without impacting the general fund. Some of these expenditures include:
 - New Math textbook series, K-6
 - Full-time Social Worker at each building
 - Technology enhancements
 - Director of MST
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Program Component

- Program Component is the largest portion of the budget and includes the following:
 - Teacher salaries & benefits
 - All instructional related costs
 - Textbooks
 - Materials & Supplies
 - Contractual
 - Equipment
 - Professional Development
 - Special Education Program
 - BOCES Programs
 - Tuition for Out-Of-District placements
 - Contractual costs for all related services
 - Transportation expenses
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Program Component

- Budgeted salaries and benefits reflect all retiree notifications received to date (8)
 - Teachers Retirement System increase from previous year
 - Health Insurance Rate increase
- Contractual and supply adjustments based on 4-year trend
 - Workbook/textbook expenses continue to decrease based on 1:1 Chromebook initiative
 - Supplies decreased due to purchasing with Ed-Data, State Contracts, Co-operative bids
 - Transportation contract in year 2 of 5

2022-2023 Program Component (est.)	2021-2022 Program Component	\$ Change	% Change
\$50,749,750	\$ 48,948,542	\$1,801,208	3.7%

Current Budget Update

- BOCES Budget numbers have been received and continue to be updated
 - Retirement notifications (teachers) received is eight (8)
 - Staffing continues to be updated based upon students' needs
 - Costs related to health and safety concerns for staff and students
 - Tax Cap Calculation filed March 1, 2022 as per NYS Law. Initial number of 4.07% **is subject to change** once final state aid numbers are released. This increase equates to \$2,021,076
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2022/2023 Tax Levy

- The current maximum levy limit is 4.07%. Our levy recommendation for the proposed budget is expected to be between 2.5% & 3.0%.
 - This would allow the district to:
 - Sustain programs and services
 - Keep the fund balance allocation of \$1.5 million flat (unchanged)
 - Keep the allocation of reserves flat (unchanged) as well
 - This is important as allocated fund balance and/or use of reserves including in the budget equates to deficit spending and is not sustainable long term.
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2022-2023 Budget Challenges

- Unknown impact of Governor's proposals to Executive Budget
 - Technology budget
 - Cost of hardware & software continues to grow as we expand on our initiatives related to digital learning
 - Chromebook initiative was advanced from grades 6-12 to K-12 this year. The maintenance costs required for this program is growing in both the equipment and support staff areas
 - Transportation budget
 - In 22/23 we will be in year 2 of a five year contract which includes a 7% increase from the current year
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Challenges continued...

- Utilize the grants to target one-time expenses while developing a long-term plan to include programs in the budget that are necessary to continue beyond the life of the grant.
 - The proposed budget will continue to evolve as we progress through the remainder of the year. The goal remains to recommend a reasonable budget that allows us to continue providing the level of excellence that Elwood is accustomed to and our students deserve.
 - Long-range planning is an essential part of the budget process. We are not planning a budget for one year, the budget is developed with multiple years in mind.
 - Every dollar we spend or save today effects what we will have tomorrow. We must “act now and be prepared for the future” by maintaining fiscal health and preparing balanced budgets moving forward.
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Next Meeting

- March 14, 2022 - Updates will be provided based on conversations within the administration and the Board of Education.
 - April 1, 2022 is NYS Budget deadline. We should receive final state aid numbers at that time.
 - April 7, 2022 - Budget Workshop #4 and Budget Adoption.
 - Please keep in mind, BOE adopts total budget figure, not spending plan.
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ANY
QUESTIONS?

