
Elwood Union Free School District

2020 - 2021
Budget Update
May 11, 2020



Important Budget Information

- Budget Adoption Scheduled for May 18, 2020
- Budget Vote will be held on June 9, 2020
- Vote is held through use of absentee ballots only (ballots sent to 100% of registered voters)
- All ballots must be received by 5:00pm on June 9, 2020.
- All budget information is available on school district website (mailings to follow).



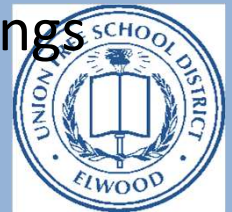
Budget Update

- Initial revenue budget was \$65,853,136, including a targeted tax levy increase of 5.8% (February).
- As we progress through the Covid-19 crisis, the administration and Board are aware and sensitive to the challenges facing our community and we have been analyzing the budget in order to make changes to reduce costs while preserving excellence wherever possible.
- Due to the school building closures that have taken place, there are a number of areas where the district will have a reduction in expenses, resulting in a surplus. These monies will be used to partially fund our declining reserves and increase the Fund Balance allocation for the 20/21 budget.
- This increase, along with targeted reductions, allows for the proposed tax levy to be modified from 4.9% to 3.89%.



Budget Update

- Targeted Reductions made within proposed budget:
 - Reductions of three (3) FTE
 - 1 FTE– retirement not being replaced (attrition)
 - 2 FTE's – targeted reductions based on enrollment projections
 - Administration: 1 FTE (unfilled vacancy)
 - Athletics: contractual costs, materials & supplies
 - Co-Curricular: reduced the number of clubs based upon participation/student interest
 - Security: reduction in hours throughout district buildings (focusing reductions on overlap)



20/21 Revenue Update as of May 11th

Revenue Source	2020-2021 Initial Revenue Proposal	2020-2021 Proposed Revenue as of May 11th	Increase/ (Decrease)
Tax Levy	\$49,846,311	\$48,947,288	-\$899,023
State Aid	\$13,456,479	\$12,944,901	-\$511,578
Miscellaneous	\$800,346	\$722,971	-\$77,375
Fund Balance Allocation	\$1,250,000	\$1,500,000	\$ 250,000
ERS Reserve	\$500,000	\$700,000	\$200,000
Total	\$65,853,136	\$64,815,160	-\$1,037,976

- Levy increase has been reduced to 3.89%, which is within the allowable levy limit of 7.22%
- State Aid numbers are still not finalized due to NYS budget status
- Miscellaneous is relatively flat for tuition students, building use fees and other small revenue sources
- FB Allocation has been increased to reduce tax levy
- ERS Reserve allocation has been increased to offset reduction in levy



Breakdown of Tax Levy

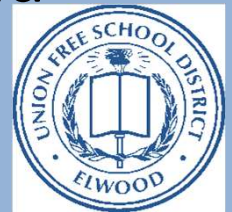
2020/2021 TAX LEVY BREAKDOWN			
	Total Levy Increase	Debt Service Increase	Balance for Operating Budget
DOLLARS	\$1,833,572	\$1,546,602	\$286,970
PERCENT	3.89%	3.28%	0.61%

The debt service increase is due to the Bond that was approved by the community on November 28, 2017. This is the first year that debt for this bond is coming due. This means a “zero” program budget increase this year would still result in a 3.28% tax levy increase due to capital debt.



Challenges Ahead

- NYS is anticipated to release new state aid numbers on May 15th. Federal assistance is essential to the economics of NYS during this crisis
- Governor Cuomo has stated there will be reductions and this potential loss in revenue could range between 10% and 20%, equaling a dollar amount of \$1.3 to \$2.6 million dollars for Elwood.
- This will require additional targeted reductions to the budget that will directly impact both program and general operations across the board.



Work to be Done

- Discussions will continue between the Board and administration as updates are received.
- As it is important to engage the community in budget discussions, Dr. Bossert and I are looking forward to hosting “virtual budget forums” with various groups in the community (Civic Associations, PTA Council, etc.).
- Following the release of the state aid projections, a final budget will be prepared for adoption by the Board of Education. The anticipated date for the adoption is May 18th.



Questions or Comments

