**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING, BUDGET VOTE AND ELECTION**
**MIDDLE COUNTRY CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT AT CENTEREACH,**
**TOWN OF BROOKHAVEN, SUFFOLK COUNTY, NEW YORK**

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN,** that a public hearing of the qualified voters of the Middle Country Central School District at Centereach, Town of Brookhaven, County of Suffolk, New York, will be held at Centereach High School, 14 43rd Street, Centereach, NY 11720 in said District on Wednesday, May 6, 2026 at 6:30 p.m., prevailing time, for the transaction of such business as is authorized by the New York State *Education Law*, including the following items.

1. Presentation of the budget document.

2. To discuss all of the items herein set forth, to be voted upon by voting machine, at the election to be held on Tuesday, May 19, 2026 as hereinafter set forth.

3. To transact such other business as may properly come before the meeting.

**AND FURTHER NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN**, that said vote and election will be held on Tuesday, May 19, 2026 at 6:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. prevailing time, in the school buildings located in such districts as enumerated below:

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| District No. 1: | Centereach High School<br>14 43rd Street, Centereach, NY 11720 |
| District No. 2: | Newfield High School<br>145 Marshall Drive, Selden, NY 11784 |

at which time the polls will be open from 6:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., prevailing time, to vote by voting machines upon the following items:

1. To adopt the 2026–2027 annual budget of the Middle Country Central School District at Centereach and authorize the requisite portion thereof to be raised by taxation on the taxable property of the School District

2. To elect three members of the Board of Education, as follows:

• One (1) member of the Board of Education for a three-year term beginning July 1, 2026, and ending June 30, 2029 to succeed **DOREEN FELDMANN,** whose term expires on June 30, 2026.

• One (1) member of the Board of Education for a three-year term beginning on July 1, 2026, and ending on June 30, 2029 to succeed **DEBORAH MANN-RODRIGUEZ,** whose term expires on June 30, 2026.

• One (1) member of the Board of Education for a three-year term beginning on July 1, 2026, and ending on June 30, 2029 to succeed **LAURA TALAMO,** whose term expires on May 19, 2026, who was appointed by the Board of Education to fill the seat of Kathleen Walsh, wherein the seat's original term commenced on July 1, 2023 and expires on June 30, 2026. The successful candidate shall be elected to such three-year term and shall also be deemed elected to fill the remainder of the unexpired term that expires on June 30, 2026, preceding the full term.

**AND FURTHER NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN**, that petitions nominating candidates for the office of Member of the Board of Education of the Middle Country Central School District at Centereach shall be filed with the District Clerk of said School District at the District Clerk's office, 8 43rd Street, Centereach, NY 11720 not later than Monday, April 20, 2026, between 9:00 am and 5:00 p.m., prevailing time. All nominating petitions must be signed by at least 41 qualified voters of the District (representing the greater of 25 or 2% of the number of voters who voted in the previous annual election); must state the name and residence of each signer, and must state the name and residence of the candidate. Each petition shall be directed to the District Clerk and shall describe the specific vacancy for which the candidate is nominated. Each vacancy upon the Board of Education to be filled shall be considered a separate specific vacancy.

**AND FURTHER NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN**, that personal registration of voters is required either pursuant to New York Education Law §2014 or pursuant to Article 5 of the New York State Election Law. If a voter has heretofore registered pursuant to New York Education Law §2014 and has voted at any annual or special district meeting within the past four (4) calendar years, such voter is eligible to vote at this election; if a voter is registered and eligible to vote pursuant to Article 5 of the New York State Election Law, such voter is also eligible to vote at this election. All other persons who wish to vote must register. Voters may register on any school day prior to Thursday, May 14, 2026, at the 8 43rd Street, Centereach, NY 11720, between the hours of 9:00 am and 4:30 p.m., prevailing time, to add any additional names to the registers to be used at the aforesaid election, at which time any person will be entitled to have her or his name placed on such registers provided that at the meeting of the Board of Registration he or she is known, or proven to the satisfaction of the Board of Registration to be then or thereafter entitled to vote at such public hearing or election for which such registers are prepared, and that the registers so prepared pursuant to New York Education Law §2014 and the registration list prepared by the Board of Elections of Suffolk County will be filed in the Office of the District Clerk of the School District, 8 43rd Street, Centereach, NY 11720, and will be open for inspection by any qualified voter of the District on weekdays between the hours of 9:00 am and 4:30 p.m., prevailing time, on and after Thursday, May 14, 2026, and Saturday by pre-arranged appointment, except Sunday.

**AND FURTHER NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN**, that pursuant to New York Education Law §2014, the Board of Registration shall meet on Tuesday, May 19, 2026, at each of the two (2) election districts (Centereach High School, 14 43rd Street, Centereach, NY 11720 and Newfield High School, 145 Marshall Drive, Selden, NY 11784) between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m., prevailing time, to prepare the Register of the School District to be used at the annual meeting and election that is to be held in 2027, and any special meeting that may be held after the preparation of said Register, at which time any person will be entitled to have her or his name placed on such Register, provided that at such meeting of the Board of Registration he or she is known or proven to the satisfaction of such Board of Registration to be then or thereafter entitled to vote at the school meeting or election for which such Register is prepared.

**AND FURTHER NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN**, that qualified voters with disabilities who seek information about access to polling places may, in advance of the day of the vote, contact the District Clerk at 631-285-8011 for information about accessibility.

**AND FURTHER NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN**, that beginning seven (7) days immediately preceding the Wednesday, May 6, 2026 public budget hearing, any resident in the District may request to review a copy of the proposed budget by appearing at the Office of the District Clerk, 8 43rd Street, Centereach, NY 11720. Additionally, a statement of the estimated expenses for the ensuing year may be obtained by any resident in the District during the fourteen (14) days immediately preceding said election on the school district website **http://www.mccsd.net/**, at the Middle Country Public Library during its normal hours of operation, at either the Centereach branch located at 101 Eastwood Blvd. Centereach, NY 11720 or at the Selden branch, located at 575 Middle Country Road, Selden, NY 11784, at the School District

Administrative Office, located at 8 43rd Street, Centereach, NY 11720, and at each of the following school buildings in which school is maintained between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m., prevailing time, except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays:

Centereach High School
Dawnwood Middle School
Eugene Auer Memorial Elementary School
Hawkins Path Elementary School
Holbrook Road Elementary School
Jericho Elementary School
Newfield High School
New Lane Memorial Elementary School
North Coleman Road Elementary School
Oxhead Road Elementary School
Selden Middle School
Stagecoach Elementary School
Unity Drive PreK/Kindergarten Center
Bicycle Path PreK/Kindergarten Center

**AND FURTHER NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN**, that pursuant to Real Property Tax Law Section 495, the School District is required to attach to its proposed budget an exemption report. Said exemption report, which will also become part of the final budget, will show how much of the total assessed value on the final assessment roll used in the budgetary process is exempt from taxation, list every type of exemption granted, identified by statutory authority, and show: (a) the cumulative impact of each type of exemption expressed either as a dollar amount of assessed value or as a percentage of the total assessed value on the roll; (b) the cumulative amount expected to be received from recipients of each type of exemption as payments in lieu of taxes or other payments for municipal services; and (c) the cumulative impact of all exemptions granted. The exemption report shall be posted on any bulletin board maintained by the District for public notices and on any website maintained by the District.

**AND FURTHER NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN**, that applications for absentee and early mail ballots will be obtainable during school business hours at the office of the District Clerk beginning Monday, April 20, 2026. In accordance with Education Law §§ 2018-a and 2018-e, completed absentee and early mail ballot applications may not be received by the District Clerk earlier than thirty (30) days prior to the election, and must be received by the District Clerk at least seven (7) days before the election if the ballot is to be mailed to the voter, or the day before the election, if the ballot is to be delivered personally to the voter or to the agent named in the absentee or early mail ballot application. Absentee and early mail ballots must be received by the District Clerk not later than 5:00 p.m., prevailing time, on Tuesday, May 19, 2026.

A list of persons to whom absentee ballots shall have been issued, and a list of all persons to whom early mail voter's ballots shall have been issued, will be available for inspection to qualified voters of the District in the office of the District Clerk on and after Thursday, May 14, 2026, between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. on weekdays prior to the day set for the annual election and on Saturday, May 16, 2026, by advanced appointment by contacting the District Clerk at 631-285-8011 and on Tuesday, May 19, 2026, the day set for the election. Any qualified voter may, upon examination of such lists, file a written challenge of the qualifications as a voter of any person whose name appears on such lists, stating the reasons for such challenge. Any such written challenge shall be transmitted by the District Clerk or a designee of the Board of Education to the inspectors of election on election day.

**AND FURTHER NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN**, that military voters who are not currently registered may apply to register as a qualified voter of the Middle Country Central School District at Centereach by requesting and returning a registration application to the District Clerk in person, or by email to **slarkin@mccsd.net** or fax sent to 631-738-2719. The request for the registration application may include the military voter's preference for receipt of the registration application by either mail, fax or email. Military voter registration application forms must be received in the office of the District Clerk no later than 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 23, 2026.

**AND FURTHER NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN**, that military voters who are qualified voters of the Middle Country Central School District at Centereach may request an application for a military ballot from the District Clerk and return such military ballot application to the District Clerk in person, or by email to **slarkin@mccsd.net** or fax sent to 631-738-2719. In order for a military voter to be issued a military ballot, a valid military ballot application must be received in the office of the District Clerk no later than 5:00 p.m., on Thursday, April 23, 2026. Military ballot applications received in accordance with the foregoing will be processed in the same manner as a non-military ballot application under Section 2018-a of the Education Law. The application for military ballot may include the military voter's preference for receipt of the military ballot by mail, fax, or email. A military voter's original military ballot application and military ballot must be returned by mail or in person to the office of the District Clerk at 8 43rd Street, Centereach, NY 11720 along with the required signed affidavit by the voter.

**AND FURTHER NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN**, that military ballots shall be canvassed if they are received by the District Clerk before the close of polls on Tuesday, May 19, 2026 showing a cancellation mark of the United States Postal Service or a foreign country's postal service, or showing a dated endorsement of receipt by another agency of the United States Government; or received not later than 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, May 19, 2026 and signed and dated by the military voter and one witness thereto, with a date which is ascertained to be not later than the day before the election.

**AND FURTHER NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN**, that pursuant to a rule adopted by the Board of Education in accordance with New York Education Law §2035, any referenda or propositions to change the number of Board of Education members, or a bond issue for capital improvements, or any other petition required by law to be stated in the Notice of Annual Meeting and Election must be filed with the District Clerk at 8 43rd Street, Centereach, NY 11720, not later than 5:00 p.m., prevailing time, on Friday, March 20, 2026. Any other petition, except those petitions required by law to be stated in the Notice of Annual Meeting and Election, must be filed with the District Clerk at 8 43rd Street, Centereach, NY 11720, no later than 5:00 p.m., prevailing time on Monday, April 20, 2026. All such petitions must be typed or printed in the English language; must be directed to the Clerk of the School District; must be signed by at least 103 qualified voters of the District (representing the greater of 25 or 5% of the number of voters who voted in the previous annual election); and must legibly state the name of each signer. However, the Board of Education will not entertain any petition to place before the voters any proposition the purpose of which is not within the powers of the voters to determine, nor any proposition or amendment which is contrary to law.

**AND FURTHER NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN**, that those voters seeking information regarding this Budget Vote and Election in Spanish should contact the Office of the District Clerk at 631-285-8011.

Stephanie Larkin
District Clerk of the Board of Education
Middle Country Central School District at Centereach
8 43rd Street, Centereach, NY 11720