HCS

Wildcat News

May 2016

Special 2016-2017 Budget Proposal Issue

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2016-2017 Spending Plan Represents a 0% Increase on the Local Tax Levy

2016-17 Proposed Budget

With this issue of the *Wildcat News*, we present the proposed 2016-2017 budget for the Hancock Central School District. Please review this information carefully. The annual budget hearing is set for Monday, May 9, at 7:30 p.m. in the Middle/High School Auditorium, and the annual budget vote is slated for Tuesday, May 17, from 2:00-8:00 p.m. in the Middle/High School Auditorium.

Inside you will find the highlights of the proposal compared with the current year's budget. The $10,684,945 spending plan represents a 1.40% increase in expenditures compared to the current year. We furthermore estimate an average tax levy increase of 0% over the current year. Some residential tax rates may fluctuate because of the STAR program and changing tax equalization rates. Factors that have contributed to this fiscal outlook include the following.

- Ongoing fiscal prudence demonstrated by the Board of Education, Administrative Team, and the Business Manager.
- A continuing commitment to working cooperatively with our neighboring school districts to cut costs through BOCES.
- Savings in health insurance costs netted through negotiations with various collective bargaining units in the school district.

- Savings netted through restructuring of existing staff responsibilities, including the reorganization of the elementary school art position and a reduction from two (2) third grade classroom teaching positions to one (1).
- Budget adjustments along non-instructional lines.
- Cuts in equipment and supplies.
- Cuts in utility expenses due to favorable rates.

The proposed 2016-2017 spending plan successfully balances fiscal responsibility and the maintenance of existing program offerings. If you would like a more detailed summary of the budget proposal, one is available at the Hancock Central School District Offices, Monday through Friday, from 8:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. Please stop by to pick up a copy, or give us a call at 637-1301 and we will gladly mail a copy to your home.

Thank you for your ongoing support and continued commitment to our School District. We welcome your questions or comments about this proposal. Again, feel free to contact us at 637-1301 or attend the budget presentation on May 9.

Respectfully,
Terrance P. Dougherty
Superintendent of Schools
(607) 637-1301

Expenditures for 2016-2017

Instruction

Current year $4,582,257
Proposed 2016-17 . . . . . $4,727,288

Covers the expenses of the teaching staff, building administration, in-service training, instructional equipment, BOCES services, and programs for the handicapped. School libraries, occupational education, and summer school are included here. Attendance, health, guidance, social work, special education, co-curricular programs and interscholastic sports are all in this category.

Undistributed

Current year $3,460,942
Proposed 2016-17 . . . . . $3,443,221

Covers contractual employee benefits such as health insurance, Social Security, retirement system contributions, unemployment and workers' compensation, and interfund transfers.

General Support

Current year $1,649,452
Proposed 2016-17 . . . . . $1,679,384

Covers building maintenance supplies and equipment, in addition to all non-instructional personnel. Central administration, legal fees and Board of Education expenses are budgeted here.

Debt Service

Current year $446,188
Proposed 2016-17 . . . . . $447,250

This area includes principal and interest on the bond payments for the 2007 $7.8 million renovation project.

Transportation

Current year $398,233
Proposed 2016-17 . . . . . $387,802

This area includes all expenses related to the daily transportation of students.

Revenues for 2016-2017

State Aid

Current year $5,682,959
Proposed 2016-17 . . . . . $5,761,718

This area represents NYS aid in all categories including regular operating aid and building aid.

Property Taxes

Current year $3,862,113
Proposed 2016-17 . . . . . $3,862,113

This is the local share of the budget, to be raised through the school tax levy. A significant portion of this amount will actually be paid for many residents through the NYS STAR program.

Tuition

Current year $260,000
Proposed 2016-17 . . . . . $260,000

This is primarily tuition from the Wayne-Highlands District for our Pennsylvania students. Other tuition receipts for special education placements are also included here.

Transfers

Current year $50,000
Proposed 2016-17 . . . . . $200,000

This category includes transfers from our capital reserve account, and/or other reserves.

Appropriated Fund Balance

Current year $455,000
Proposed 2016-17 . . . . . $357,114

The appropriated fund balance consists of funds saved during the current year to be applied to the next year's budget to offset taxes.

Miscellaneous Sources

Current year $227,000
Proposed 2016-17 . . . . . $244,000

Included here are funds received from interest and penalties on tax payments, refunds of prior years' obligations, and payment in lieu of taxes.

Budget at a Glance

Expenditures

Current year $10,537,072
Proposed 2016-17 . . . . . $10,684,945
Expenditure increase $147,873
1.40%

Revenues from local property taxes

Current year $3,862,113
Proposed 2016-17 . . . . . $3,862,113
Property tax increase $0
0%

Managed expenditures support . . .

- ✓ Continuing implementation of the NYS standards
- ✓ Increased health insurance costs
- ✓ Contractual obligations for staff salaries
- ✓ State mandated retirement cost increases
- ✓ Support of existing instruction programs

Tax Rate Changes

These are worst case estimates based on currently available State aid, assessment and equalization figures. Final figures could be significantly different.

Town of Hancock

Current year . . . . . $99.84/$1,000 assessed
Proposed 2016-17 . . . . . $99.84/$1,000 assessed
Change of $0 or 0%

Property in the Town of Hancock is currently assessed at 12.37% of market value.

Town of Deposit

Current year . . . . . $304.94/$1,000 assessed
Proposed 2016-17 . . . . . $304.94/$1,000 assessed
Change of $0 or 0%

Property in the Town of Deposit is currently assessed at 4.05% of market value.

Town of Tompkins

Current year . . . . . $320.78/$1,000 assessed
Proposed 2016-17 . . . . . $320.78/$1,000 assessed
Change of $0 or 0%

Property in the Town of Tompkins is currently assessed at 3.85% of market value.

NYS STAR Program Example

School Tax Billing • $50,000 full value home

- Non Senior Citizen school tax bill without STAR = $617.50
- Non Senior Citizen school tax bill with STAR = $183.50
- Senior Citizen school tax bill with STAR = $0.00
  (Senior Citizen annual income under $60,000)

All figures based on current year assessments and equalization rates.

Three-Part Budget Documentation

With the enactment of Chapter 436 of the 1997 Laws of New York State, a school district's proposed budget must be presented to the voters in a three-part format. Below, you will find the proposed 2016-2017 budget in that format along with comparative data from the current year's budget.

Program

Current year $7,431,015
Proposed 2016-17 . . . . . $7,541,644
Change of $110,629

The Program Component of the three-part budget includes all expenses related to the delivery of instruction including instructional salaries and benefits, transportation operating expenses, textbooks and instructional supplies, and instructional equipment. Interscholastic and extracurricular activities are also included here.

Capital

Current year $1,466,719
Proposed 2016-17 . . . . . $1,477,718
Change of $10,999

The Capital Component of the three-part budget includes all expenses related to debt service, leases, tax proceedings, facilities expenses including maintenance personnel, custodial personnel and all maintenance supplies and equipment.

Administration

Current year $1,639,338
Proposed 2016-17 . . . . . $1,665,583
Change of $26,245

The Administrative Component of the three-part budget includes building and central administrative and support salaries and related costs, staff travel, consultant fees, expenses of the Board of Education and all staff training expenses.

The Administrative Component is 15.1% of the total proposal. If the Capital Component is removed, then the Administrative Component is 18.09% of the remainder.

HANCOCK CENTRAL SCHOOL
67 Education Lane
Hancock, NY 13783

Board Members
Terry Whitt, President
Rebecca L. Smith, Vice-President
Cindy R. Argiros
Gene W. Homer
Todd Jacobs
Lothar Holbert, Wayne Highlands Rep.
Scott MacDowall, District Treasurer

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CURRENT RESIDENT OR

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2016-2017 BUDGET VOTE
Tuesday, May 17, 2016
2:00-8:00 p.m.
MS/HS Auditorium

PROPOSITIONS

Proposition #1

Shall the Board of Education of the Hancock Central School District be authorized to expend a sum not to exceed $10,684,945 for the fiscal year 2016-2017 and to levy the necessary tax for the local contribution thereto?

Proposition #2

Shall the budget for the Louise Adelia Read Memorial Library in the amount of $79,611 for fiscal year 2016-2017 be approved and the Board of Education be authorized to levy the necessary tax for the local contribution thereto?

Proposition #3

Shall the Board of Education expend from the Capital Reserve Fund (transportation), last authorized by the voters in May of 2011, a sum not to exceed $132,951, for the purchase of one 66-passenger school bus, and one 28-passenger school bus

HANCOCK CENTRAL SCHOOL — **2016-17 School District Budget Notice**

Overall Budget Proposal	Budget Adopted 15-16	Budget Proposed 16-17	Contingency Budget 16-17*
Total Budgeted Amount, Not Including Separate Propositions	$ 10,537,072	$ 10,684,945	$ 10,684,945
Increase/Decrease for the 2016-17 School Year		$ 147,873	$ 147,873
Percentage Increase/Decrease in Proposed Budget		1.40%	1.40%
Change in the Consumer Price Index		0.12%	
A. Proposed Tax Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount	$ 3,862,113	$ 3,862,113	
B. Levy to Support Library Debt, if Applicable	$ 0	$ 0	
C. Levy for Non-Excludable Propositions, if Applicable **	$ 0	$ 0	
D. Total Tax Cap Reserve Amount Used to Reduce Current Year Levy	$ 0	$ 0	
E. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy (A + B + C - D)	$ 3,862,113	$ 3,862,113	$ 3,804,791
F. Permissible Exclusions to the School Tax Levy Limit	$ 260,561	$ 196,348	
G. School Tax Levy Limit, Excluding Levy for Permissible Exclusions	$ 3,627,050	$ 3,608,443	
H. Total Proposed Tax Levy for School, Excluding Permissible Exclusions and Levy for Library Debt, Plus Prior Year Tax Cap Reserve (E - B - F + D)	$ 3,601,552	$ 3,665,765	
I. Difference: (G - H) Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval **	$ 0	$ (57,322)	
Administrative Component	$ 1,639,338	$ 1,665,583	$ 1,665,583
Program Component	$ 7,431,015	$ 7,541,644	$ 7,541,644
Capital Component	$ 1,466,719	$ 1,477,718	$ 1,477,718

Est. Basic STAR Exemption Savings[1]	List Separate Propositions that are not included in the Total Budgeted Amount**			
	Desc: Buses	Desc:	Desc:	Desc:
$ 434.00	$ 132,951	$	$	$

*Statement of assumptions made in projecting a contingency budget for the 2016-17 school year, should the proposed budget be defeated pursuant to Section 2023 of the Education Law.

The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2016-17 by the qualified voters of the Hancock Central School District, Delaware County, New York, will be held at the Hancock Central School Auditorium in said district on Tuesday, May 17, 2016 between the hours of 2:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m., prevailing time in the Hancock Central School District, at which time the polls will be opened to vote by voting ballot or machine.

[1]The basic school tax relief (STAR) exemption is authorized by Section 425 of the Real Property Tax Law.

**Tax Levy associated with educational or transportation services propositions are not eligible for exclusion and may affect voter approval requirements.

Changed from $1,639,388 to $1,639,338 to match page 3.