The Journey Back to Basics

**MAY 2014** 

# Proposed 2014-15 Budget is Under the Tax Cap Again at 1.98%

# A Message from the Board of Education

Remaining mindful of the economic challenges facing our Hempstead Union Free School District, the District is submitting a student-friendly budget to the voters for adoption. The District's Board of Education gave the District's administration a directive in proposing the budget – put the student first but at the same time be fiscally responsible. The District's administration has done just that.

The proposed budget remains under the New York State tax cap, while at the same time maintaining current services for students and making cuts to the budget that are not going to affect the students, their education or the services provided to the students in the District. The Board of Education and the District's administrators worked diligently to propose a budget that addresses the needs of all of our students in the District.

The proposed budget maintains funding for all of the activities for the students including the Saturday Prep Academy, the Student of the Month program, the Mock Trial program, Advanced Placement courses, the Multicultural committee, and many other student activities.

It is important for you as a voter to know that if the vote on the budget fails, there may be reductions or elimination in programs for the students.

We strongly urge and encourage you to come out and vote on May 20, 2014 on the school budget.

#### **Board of Education**

Betty J. Cross, President JoAnn Simmons, First Vice-President Shelley Brazley, Second Vice-President Lamont Johnson, Treasurer Leonard Myers, Trustee









School Budget Vote: Tuesday, May 20, 2014

7 a.m. to 9 p.m.

ABGS Middle School, 70 Greenwich St., Hempstead, NY 11550

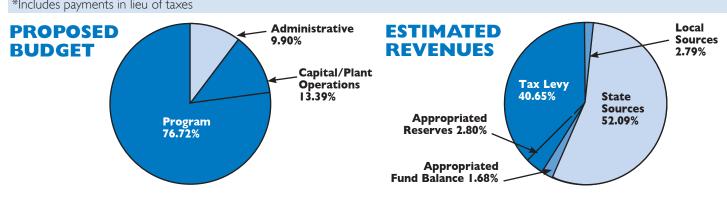


# 2014-2015 PROPOSED SCHOOL BUDGET

ESTIMATED EXPENDITURES		2013-2014	2014-2015	Dollar	Percent
1099 1240 1399 1420 1430 1460 1480 1699 2010 2020 9098	ADMINISTRATION Board of Education Central Administration Business Office Legal Services Personnel Records Management Public Information Other Central Services Curriculum Development Instructional Supervision Employee Benefits	\$ 178,239 542,974 1,544,670 683,000 490,714 1,200 135,000 3,469,071 1,257,036 5,189,251 4,963,778	202,460 442,593 1,572,006 728,000 537,379 1,200 135,000 3,772,684 1,334,507 4,760,109 4,819,297	24,221 -100,381 27,336 45,000 46,665 0 0 303,613 77,471 -429,142 -144,481	13.59% -18.49% 1.77% 6.59% 9.51% 0.00% 0.00% 8.75% 6.16% -8.27% -2.91%
7070	Administrative Sub-total Percent of Total	<b>18,454,933</b> 10.32%	18,305,235 9.90%	-149,698	-0.81%
1620 1621 1930 9098 9898 9950	Capital/Plant Operations Operation of Plant Maintenance of Plant Judgment & Claims Employee Benefits Debt Service Transfer to Capital Capital Sub-total Percent of Total	\$ 11,864,247 1,511,530 600,000 4,338,843 3,039,250 1,000,000 <b>22,353,870</b> 12,50%	12,483,976 1,704,030 600,000 4,694,662 3,779,250 1,500,000 <b>24,761,918</b> 13.39%	619,729 192,500 0 355,819 740,000 500,000 <b>2,408,048</b>	5.22% 12.74% 0.00% 8.20% 24.35% 50.00%
1420 2999 5540 8099 9098 9951	Program Legal Services Teaching/Instruction Transportation Services Community Services Employee Benefits Interfund Transfers	\$ 555,000 97,512,868 8,984,962 23,800 30,276,403 675,000	500,000 100,052,736 8,181,165 23,800 32,460,717 675,000	-55,000 2,539,868 -803,797 0 2,184,314	-9.91% 2.60% -8.95% 0.00% 7.21% 0.00%
	<b>Program Sub-total</b> Percent of Total	<b>138,028,033</b> 77.18%	<b>141,893,418</b> 76.72%	3,865,385	2.80%
TOTAL BUDGET		178,836,836	184,960,572	6,123,736	3.42%

A detailed budget information packet is available in all schools and at the public library.

2014-2015 PROPOSED SCHOOL BUDGET									
<b>ESTIMATE</b>	D EXPENDITURES	2013-2014	2014-2015	Dollar	Percent				
		Current Budget	Proposed Budget	Difference	Difference				
Administrative		\$ 18,454,933	18,305,235	-149,698	-0.81%				
Capital/Plant Operations		22,353,870	24,761,918	2,408,048	10.77%				
Program		138,028,033	141,893,418	3,865,385	2.80%				
TOTAL BUDGET		\$ 178,836,836	184,960,572	6,123,736	3.42%				
ESTIMATED REVENUES		2013-2014	2014-2015	Dollar	Percent				
		Current Budget	Proposed Budget	Difference	Difference				
.2.65%	Local Source*	4,982,459	4,910,000	-72,459	-1.45%				
53.60%	State Sources	93,152,792	99,144,293	5,991,501	6.43%				
1.60%	Appropriated Fund Balance	3,000,000	2,965,202	-34,798	-1.16%				
2.05%	Appropriated Reserves	5,000,000	3,800,000	-1,200,000	-24.00%%				
40.08%	Tax Levy	72,701,585	74,141,076	1,439,491	1.98%				
100.00%	Total Revenues	178,836,836	184,960,572	6,123,736	3.42%				
*Includes navn	nents in lieu of taxes								



### YOUR TAX DOLLARS AT WORK

For the 2013-2014 school year we partnered with Farmingdale State College under our "Smart Scholars Program" and currently have 44 students in the program. Students attend college level courses at Farmingdale and at the high school and attended the STEM Diversity Summit on March 21, 2014. On June 14, 2014 our students will attend CNN's Engineering World Conference in NYC.

#### **Curriculum and Instruction**

- Maintain current elementary grade configurations
- Make adjustments to class sizes as necessary
- Continue the Extended Day for Middle and High School Students
- Continue with NYS Math Modules P-5
- Full implementation of the Social Studies/ELA curriculum for grades K-2 utilizing leveled text to address students' instructional needs
- iRead Scholastic online reading support for grades Pre K and K;
   Fundations for grade K to build early literacy skills
- Reading Street Common Core Program for grades 3-5, incorporating the NYS ELA Expeditionary Learning Curriculum
- Continued use of Ready CCLS instruction for test readiness
- Renew licenses for Raz-Kids, Fastt Math, Wilson, and Systems 44
- District developed science curriculum using new Science Common Core Standards, literacy, and hands-on materials; this will eliminate Science 21 which is a very costly and underused program
- Start after school program (I CAN ACADEMY) in October
- Math teachers for grades Pre K and K; staff developers for (P-1; 2-4; 5-6)
- One Elementary and Secondary ELA staff developer to work with Director of ELA

#### **Personnel**

- Increase professional development offerings for all district employees
- Continue recruiting Highly Qualified Candidates for key positions within the district
- Maintain the staffing level of administrative leadership on the building level
- Increase administrative staffing of the English Limited Learner Department
- Continue with the implementation of AESOP (Substitute Teacher Management System) and move to paperless implementation with payroll.
- Enhance the "My Learning Plan" platform to include Student Learning Objective scores input.
- Update the Personnel website and move to a paperless form system for Direct Deposit, Attendance, Claim Forms, Expense Reimbursement, Overtime, and Travel Claim Forms

#### **Technology**

- Implement SchoolTool new student management system
- Introduce the parent and student portal
- Re-launch all schools websites with current content
- Focus on professional development
- · Identify tools and applications that enhance teaching and learning

#### **Pupil Personnel Services**

- Staff development for clinicians, particularly in the areas of student discipline and other social/emotional issues.
- Structured Team Center Activities (Hands Across Hempstead)
- Increased services to pregnant teens.

#### **Special Education Services**

- Develop Kindergarten inclusion class
- Support Response to Intervention (Rtl) initiatives
- Reduce the number of initial referrals
- Provide on-going professional development
- Establish Transition classes split/day school
- Work experience
   Vocational training
   Job training
- Parent workshop on post-secondary outcomes
- Develop educational criteria for new graduation credentials for SWD's
- Improve special education instruction and service delivery by hiring duly certified/bilingual teachers
- Establish classes for specific disabilities ex: Autism, Inclusion
- Build Parent Connections
- Expand services/capacity to educate and service our students
- Increase preschoolers receiving CPSE services
- Return students to district when appropriate
- Collaborate with Special Education PTA
- Decrease dependency on outside providers
- Secure additional funding resources
- Maintain compliance with special education state regulations

#### **Funded Programs**

- UPK: \$2,087,301
- Teachers of Tomorrow: \$146,000
- Teacher Center: \$27,836
- IDEA 611:\$1,614,409 IDEA 619:\$60,577
- School Improvement Grant: \$210,000
- School Improvement Grant/STEM: \$120,000
- Response to Intervention: \$100,000
- Child Nutrition: \$181,980
- Title IA: \$1,891,369 Title IIA: \$437,327 Title IIIA LEP: \$289,702
- Liberty Partnership Program (LPP): \$20,000
- Systemic Support for District Turnaround: \$118,084
- Race to the Top (RTTT): \$567,387

#### **Facilities**

- Design and Install Liners in the heating system at the High School to provide a Return Air system in Building "A"
- Renovation of Bathrooms District-Wide that are in need of repair

Please see our website at www.hempsteadschools.org for more details on the budget



Hempstead Public School District 185 Peninsula Boulevard Hempstead, New York 11550

**Board of Education** 

Betty J. Cross
President

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JoAnn Simmons First Vice President

Shelley Brazley Second Vice President

Lamont Johnson

Treasurer

**Leonard Myers** 

Trustee

Susan Johnson

Superintendent of Schools

ECRWSS
RESIDENTIAL POSTAL PATRON

# Did You Know...

Q. What happens if the proposed budget is not approved by voters?
A. If voters do not approve the proposed budget on Tuesday, May 20, 2014, the Board of Education may immediately adopt a contingency budget in accordance with New York State requirements or schedule a second budget vote. If the proposed budget



fails the second time, the Board of Education must adopt a contingency budget. Under the new contingency budget law, the budget may not increase its current tax levy by any amount, which would mean a zero percent tax levy increase.

A failed budget will also result in:

- Layoffs in administrators, teachers and support staff
- Increase in class size for students
- Reduction in purchasing equipment and supplies
- Outside groups using school facilities will have to pay full usage cost
- **Q.** How the district was able to stay below the Tax Cap?
- **A.** The district was able to propose a budget below the "Cap" by applying money from reserves, improving efficiencies from various operations, balancing programs to meet the needs of the students and working diligently to find additional revenue sources to adequately meet the needs of the taxpayers.

## **IMPORTANT VOTER INFORMATION**

## **Voting Requirements:**

To participate in the May 20th annual budget vote and election of Trustees, you do not need to register if, during the last four years, you either:
1) voted in a general election in Nassau County, 2) voted in a Hempstead School District election, 3) registered with the Nassau County Board of Elections, or 4) registered with the Hempstead School District.

If you need to register to vote on May 20th, you must do so by May 13th. To register to vote in future elections, please call the District Clerk at 516-292-7111 ext. 1130.

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Permit No. 93

A voter must be:

- 18 years of age
- A U.S. citizen
- A school district resident for 30 days prior to the election

## When and Where to Vote

Voting is at the Alverta B. Gray Schultz Middle School, 70 Greenwich St., on Tuesday, May 20, 2014, 7 a.m. to 9 p.m.

#### **Absentee Ballots**

Registered voters who want to cast absentee ballots must request an application from the District Clerk at 516-292-7111 ext. 1130. An absentee ballot will be sent upon receipt of a completed application. Alternatively, applications can be picked up at the Administration Office at 185 Peninsula Blvd. from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, prior to the election. Ballots must be filed with the District Clerk by 5 p.m. on Election Day. Persons who have been designated "permanently disabled" by the Nassau Board of Elections will automatically receive absentee ballots.

Remember to vote on Tuesday, May 20, 2014, 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. at ABGS Middle School