

May 1, 2009

About Your Schools . . .

Budget and Board of Education Information



Date to Remember

• May 19, 2009

2 - 9 p.m.

Budget Vote and
Election of Board of
Education Members

Budget Vote and School
Board Election will be
held in the Multipurpose
Room of the George
Grant Mason School

Are You Registered To Vote?

- You are registered to vote if you voted in the last general election.
- You are registered to vote if you have personally registered through the school district.

Voter Registration Qualifications:

- You must be 18 years of age or older by May 19, 2009.
- You must be a resident of the school district for at least 30 days prior to the vote.
- You must be a U.S. citizen.
- By law, voters may vote in only one voting district.

REGISTER TO VOTE !

For information
call 351.4786 x323

Tuxedo Union Free School District

No Increase in Proposed Budget for 2009-10

At its scheduled public meeting on April 23rd, the Board of Education adopted a budget of \$16,315,392 for the 2009-10 school year. This budget proposal is the same amount as the budget approved by voters for the current school year. The tax levy is presently estimated to increase by 1.57%. The actual tax levy will be established in August when:

- Assessors from the Towns of Tuxedo and Warwick provide certified assessment figures,
- state aid and student enrollment data are confirmed, and
- meetings with school district auditors are completed.

The proposed budget was carefully reviewed by the board of education during multiple public work sessions held in March and April. Ultimately, it was determined that a total of 1.4 full-time positions would be eliminated in the 2009-10 budget, resulting in the removal of high school business education classes and the elementary part-time Spanish program. The Mandarin Chinese foreign language program and Virtual High School initiative offered through the Orange-Ulster BOCES will be continued.

Other reductions include the elimination of the in-district elementary summer school program, and the delay in purchasing equipment for the music, science, art and technology programs.

It is expected that there will be increased costs in the operations and maintenance component of the budget. Work will be done to improve the front steps of the high school. Over the years, due to settling, the steps have become uneven and will require re-setting. In addition, blinds will be installed in the George Grant Mason Multipurpose Room to improve the instructional atmosphere and to enhance the safety/security of this public assembly area.

Costs for legal services are expected to rise due to and higher retainage fees for general counsel.

The two largest budget category increases are projected to occur in the Student Transportation and Undistributed portions of the budget. Those two sections are estimated to go up 5.24% and 2.95% respectively. The cost escalation in Student Transportation is driven by additional student routing to accommodate mandated public, private and parochial transportation requests, additional advertising for drivers, increased maintenance costs on buses that have more road time and that are no longer covered by new vehicle warranties. The Undistributed portion of the budget is impacted by higher costs in workers compensation insurance, unemployment benefits, and health insurance. In addition, the costs related to the Employees Retirement System and the Teachers Retirement System are expected to rise.

Instructionally, new textbooks will be purchased to update and supplement the elementary science program, and to improve the district's resources in industrial arts, science and social studies.

Overall district-wide student enrollment is projected to be approximately 630 pupils. That total is about the same as this year's enrollment. Enrollment in grades K-8 is estimated at 230 students; and grades 9-12 is anticipated to be 400 students. Tuition rates to Greenwood Lake for approximately 300 high school students will increase by 2.14%.

2009 –2010 Anticipated Budget Revenues \$16,315,392

	<u>2008/09</u>	<u>2009/10</u>	<u>% Change</u>
State Aid (Executive Proposal) Budget runs provided by Governor's Office (Less Amount Due GWL for Excess Cost Aid)	\$1,040,446	\$943,747	-9.3%
Greenwood Lake Revenue/Reimbursement Estimate based on current 1 year contract flat regular education, direct cost special education & projected student enrollment.	\$4,413,500	\$4,366,689	-1.1%
Interest and Earnings Money Market interest, interest earned on Certificate of Deposit	\$113,717	\$80,000	-29.6%
Interfund Transfers Interest earned from Capital Project	\$15,000	\$55,000	266.7%
Tax Penalties/Interest Penalties for late payment of taxes	\$10,000	\$10,000	0.0%
Health Services for Other Districts	\$25,000	\$25,000	0.0%
PILOT Agreements	\$381,434	\$365,820	-4.1%
Fund Balance	\$600,000	\$600,000	0.0%
Tax Levy (includes STAR Reimbursement amt.)	<u>\$9,716,295</u>	<u>\$9,869,136</u>	1.57%
<u>Total Estimated Revenue</u>	<u>\$16,315,392</u>	<u>\$16,315,392</u>	0.0%

2009-2010 Proposed Budget Comparison to 2008-2009 Budget

Budget Category	2008/09 Appropriation	2009/10 Proposed Budget	% of Total 2008-2009 Budget	% Change Budget to Budget
Instruction Teaching, Supervision, Special Education, Health Svs., Guidance Svs., Technology, Extra-Curricular, Sports, etc.	\$9,348,229	\$9,196,871	56.37%	-1.62%
General Support Operations & Maintenance, Board of Ed., District Clerk, Legal Services, Central Admin, Auditing Svs., etc.	\$1,981,761	\$1,970,808	12.08%	-0.55%
Pupil Transportation Public, Private, Parochial, Students w/ Disabilities, Extra-Curricular, Inter-scholastic Sports, etc.	\$ 676,143	\$ 711,540	4.36%	5.24%
Undistributed NYS Retirement Systems, Social Security, Health & Workers Comp. Ins., Unemployment Ins., Debt Service, etc.	\$4,309,259	\$4,436,173	27.19%	2.95%
Total Appropriations	\$16,315,392	\$16,315,392	100%	0.00%

To Be Determined by Voters:

1. Shall the proposed 2009-2010 School Year Budget calling for expenditures of \$16,315,392 be approved and the necessary taxes be levied for it?
2. Candidates for School Board:
(3 Vacancies)

Diana Petrosky
Shawn Brown
Thomas F. 'Brixton' Doyle

BUDGET OPTIONS:

If the budget is rejected, the board of education may:

1. Place the same budget before the voters,
2. Place a revised budget before the voters, or
3. Adopt a contingency budget in accordance with state law.



Tuxedo Union Free School District
Box 2002
Tuxedo Park, NY 10987

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Board of Education

James Hickey, President
Diana Petrosky, Vice President
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Shawn Brown
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Joanne Vernon
Robert Yates

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We Encourage Your Comments

Superintendent's Office
845.351.4799

**E-Mail the
Board of Education**
BOE@tuxedoschooldistrict.com

**Please Vote on
May 19th, 2-9 p.m.**

Something to Think About . . .

- *The proposed 2009-10 budget represents the lowest estimated tax levy increase (1.57%) in eight years.*
- *Tuxedo instructional expenditures for general education students = \$11,119/pupil. Similar schools (low need/resource capacity) = \$10,904/pupil.****
- *Tuxedo instructional expenditures for special education = \$19,402/pupil. Similar schools (low need/resource capacity) = \$28,844/pupil.****
- *Federal and State mandated services for special education services are **not** offset dollar for dollar by Federal and State Aid.*
- *The Tuxedo School District participates with the Town of Tuxedo, Village of Tuxedo Park and associated emergency service agencies via an inter-municipal agreement to purchase and dispense vehicle fuel at highly competitive prices.*

***The NYS School Report Card Fiscal Accountability Supplement 2006/07 School Year