

# Pelham FOCUS

A PUBLICATION OF THE PELHAM BOARD OF EDUCATION

SPRING 2017

## BUDGET VOTE/SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION - MAY 16

**A Story of 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning & Social-Emotional Growth**

**Five Candidates Running for Two Seats**

### Dear Pelham Residents,



On Tuesday, May 16, I encourage you to vote in the 2017-18 school budget referendum and Board of Education election. I believe that the school budget,

adopted by the Board, will allow the District to continue the great strides we have made toward fulfilling the goals of our Strategic Plan. In addition to the budget vote, you will also have the opportunity to select two of five candidates running for the Board of Education who will be charged with continuing to carry out the important work we do to provide the best possible education for our students.

This year's school budget continues the Board's emphasis on improving our curriculum and programming through a well thought-out and fiscally responsible budget. The proposed tax levy increase of 1.98 percent is once again under the state-mandated cap of 2.14 percent and will allow the District to make substantive strides towards 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning and Social-Emotional Wellness, as well as continue to maintain and upgrade our facilities.

One important highlight of this budget is the addition of Spanish instruction for all second and third graders starting next year through

— CONTINUED on page 4

### BUDGET - At a Glance see pages 2-6

**2017-18 Budget:** \$72,780,000 ♦ 2.60% Increase, Under Tax Cap

- ♦ Adds Foreign Language to Elementary Program
- ♦ Maintains Favorable Class Size
- ♦ Upgrades Facilities/Infrastructure
- ♦ New Courses at PMHS

**Tax Levy:** 1.98%

Below Allowable Tax Cap of 2.14%

**Projected Tax Rate:** \$18.88 per \$1,000

(homestead assessed value using 2016 assessments)

## CELEBRATING EXCELLENCE

**Annual District Report Card for 2014-15 & 2015-16** see pages 7-11

*"Budgets tell a story about the direction and vision of our school district.*

*The 2017-18 budget is a reflection on our core mission of ensuring that our students receive the best K-12 education that is possible."*

**Dr. Peter Giarrizzo, Superintendent of Schools** (see full letter on pages 7 & 8)



The PMHS chorus, conducted by Maria Abeshouse, performs during their winter concert.

★ **76% of the Class of 2016 Attending Top Colleges**

see page 9

★ Standard & Poor's twice reaffirmed the District's 'AAA' rating and stable outlook

★ *US News & World Report* ranked PMHS as the 47<sup>th</sup> best HS in NYS & 388<sup>th</sup> in the country

★ PMHS Named to the AP District Honor Roll for 5<sup>th</sup> Time in 7 Years

# VOTE!

**Tuesday, May 16, 7:00 am - 9:00 pm, HS Gym**

# A Responsible Financial Plan for Students & Taxpayers

## BUDGETING FOR EXCELLENCE: What Your Tax Dollars Achieved in 2016-17



**International Baccalaureate**

The implementation of the International Baccalaureate Middle Years Programme took off in earnest this year at the middle school. Teachers have shown a robust interest in professional development opportunities and the results are showing in the classroom. In the next year we expect to see the program make similar progress in grades 9 and 10 as well.

*"One effect the IB program has had on my teaching is making connections between the content we are learning*

*and the real world. It encourages students to design their own labs, which is something I have added into my program. For example, our unit on photosynthesis includes testing variables on plants that will affect their ability to go through photosynthesis."*

– Maria Buckley, Science Teacher



**Mandarin**

Each year more and more students are opting to take Mandarin Chinese as a foreign language. The students are making tremendous progress. In 2016-17 we offered Mandarin II for the first time and the 2017-18 budget includes funding to offer Mandarin III.

*"It's a really popular language now and it's become one of the more prominent languages in the world. It's complex and difficult to learn, but I'm*

*able to comprehend most of what people are saying and I can speak to other people in that language."*

– Olivia Ting, Sophomore

*"Our community's overwhelming support for the Pelham Public Schools has allowed the District to enhance our program offerings each year. In 2016-17, the District made significant progress in a number of key areas and we look forward to continuing that work into 2017-18 and beyond."*

– Dr. Peter Giarrizzo, Superintendent of Schools



**Mindfulness & School Yoga Project**

The District's focus on social-emotional growth took a major step forward in 2016-17 with the introduction of the School Yoga Project. The yoga techniques have brought a calming influence to the classroom and prepare

children to learn. This program will expand in 2017-18, and we are thankful to the Pelham Education Foundation for helping to get this off the ground.

*"Doing Yoga is super calming. Also, it gets all of the energy out of us."*

– Frankie Ring, Siwanoy 3<sup>rd</sup> grader



**MakerSpaces**

With the help of the Pelham Education Foundation, MakerSpaces were built in each of our six schools this year. These hands-on innovation centers give our students the chance to tinker, play and innovate and have quickly become an essential element of our S.T.E.A.M. programming.

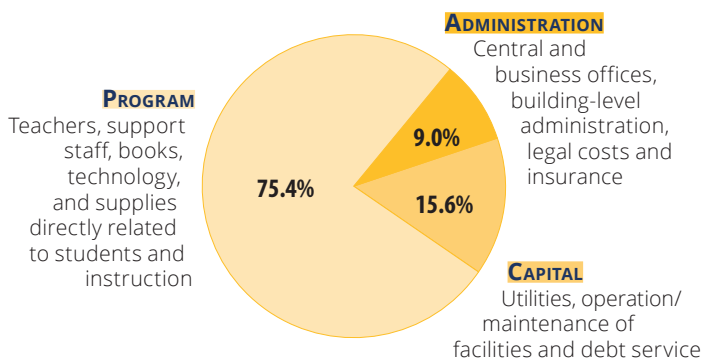
*"The MakerSpace is a place for students to put their skills to the test and make connections between classroom instruction and the real world. It is also an opportunity for students to learn that not everything always works the first time and there is nothing*

*wrong with that. It is taking these events as opportunities to learn from and grow, which is all a part of the engineering design process."*

– Jason Lindley, Physics Teacher

### How the Budget Is Spent

Our budget continues to focus its spending on students.



### How Pelham's Projected Per Pupil Cost Compares with Other Districts for 2016-17

Our spending is consistently in the bottom quartile compared with other districts reporting data in Westchester and Putnam.

#### 10 LOWEST SPENDING

Port Chester	18,862
New Rochelle	22,774
Mamaroneck	24,095
<b>PELHAM</b>	<b>24,562</b>
Rye Neck	24,590
Peekskill	24,857
Eastchester	25,031
Ossining	25,530
Tarrytown	25,743
Lakeland	26,673

**MEDIAN**  
\$28,717

#### 10 HIGHEST SPENDING

Pocantico Hills	48,236
Byram Hills	37,592
Greenburgh	36,288
Irvington	34,271
Katonah	33,908
Valhalla	32,712
Garrison	32,431
Hendrick Hudson	32,055
Elmsford	31,496
Ardsley	31,413

# The Revenue & Tax Rate Info, 2017-18

## Tax Rebate for STAR Recipients

The 2017-18 Pelham Schools' budget complies with the tax cap. As a result of these requisites being met, qualified STAR recipients are eligible to receive a tax rebate from the State next fall.

For more information on STAR, please visit:  
<https://www.tax.ny.gov/pit/property/star/>

## PROJECTED TAX RATE PER THOUSAND

	2016-17	2017-18	Change
<b>Budget</b>	\$70,938,000	\$72,780,000	2.60%
<b>Tax Levy</b>	\$59,254,100	\$60,427,331	1.98%
<b>Projected Tax Rate, Res. Homeowners*</b>	\$19.32	\$18.88	-\$0.44
Homestead Tax Rate			
<b>Projected Tax Rate, Commercial Property Owners*</b>	\$26.37	\$26.12	-\$0.25
Non Homestead Tax Rate			

\*Tax rates are per \$1,000 of assessed value. The 2017-18 school taxes are based on the 2016 assessments.

## HOW TO CALCULATE PROJECTED SCHOOL TAXES FOR 2017-18

**Residential Homeowners:** Using your property's 2016 assessed value:

1. Divide your total assessed value\* for 2016 by \$1,000 to get your value on a per \$1,000 basis.
2. Multiply by \$18.88, the projected tax rate.
3. Deduct Basic STAR savings of \$1,739 or Enhanced STAR savings of \$3,483, if applicable.

\*Veteran and Partial Exemptions should be deducted from your total assessed value.

## ASSESSED VALUATION

Assessed valuation has an impact on the amount of taxes a homeowner pays. As of April 2017, the homestead assessed valuation increased by \$116,311,141 from the prior year and the non-homestead increased by \$7,139,419.

<b>Projected Residential Valuation</b>	<b>\$2,621,644,725</b>
<b>Projected Commercial Valuation</b>	<b>\$418,561,524</b>
<b>Projected Total</b>	<b>\$3,040,206,249</b>

## BUDGETED REVENUE

### Property Taxes **\$60,427,331**

The majority of the School District's revenue comes from property taxes. The increase is below the cap allowed by NYS law for the Pelham Schools.

### State Aid **\$7,335,958**

This amount is based on the State's adopted budget and reflects an increase of \$413,692. This is due primarily to an increase in Foundation Aid and modest increases from other funding sources.

### Miscellaneous Receipts **\$2,369,931**

This includes money from categories such as tuition and health services from other districts, shared town maintenance, interest on deposits, county sales tax revenue, rental of real property, and small miscellaneous revenue items.

### Appropriated Fund Balance **\$810,000**

This includes an appropriation of fund balance generated from favorable operating results.

### Appropriated Fund Balance - Non-Recurring Contractual Expenses **\$586,780**

This includes an appropriation of fund balance for non-recurring contractual payments to teachers.

### Appropriated Fund Balance - ERS Pension Reserve Fund **\$725,000**

This money is an appropriation from the Reserve Fund established by the Board in 2008 to fund State-required pension contributions to the NYS Employee Retirement System (ERS).

### Appropriated Fund Balance - Debt Service Fund **\$325,000**

This money is an appropriation from the Debt Service fund, which includes excess proceeds from past bonded capital projects.

### Appropriated Fund Balance - Capital Reserve **\$200,000**

This money is an appropriation from the Capital Reserve established in 2016 to fund improvements and repairs to District athletic fields. Specifically, these funds will be used to bring Friendship Field up to regulation standards.

## RESIDENCY CHECK

**30** students investigated for residency verification

**22** identified as residents

**8** determined to be non-residents

We continually work to improve our system to verify that incoming students are residents. If you suspect a non-resident student is attending our schools, please call 738-3434, ext. 1157.



## SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET NOTICE

Overall Budget Proposal	Budget Adopted for the 2016-17 School Year	Budget Proposed for the 2017-18 School Year	Contingency Budget for the 2017-18 School Year*
Total Budgeted Amount, Not Including Separate Propositions	70,938,000	\$72,780,000	\$71,407,000
Increase/Decrease for the 2017-18 School Year		\$1,842,000	\$469,000
Percentage Increase/Decrease in Proposed Budget		2.60%	0.66%
Change in the Consumer Price Index		1.26%	
A. Proposed Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount, Net of Reserve	59,254,100	\$60,427,331	
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)	59,254,100	\$60,427,331	\$59,254,100
F. Total Permissible Exclusions	1,169,320	\$1,534,989	
G. School Tax Levy Limit, <u>Excluding</u> Levy for Permissible Exclusions	58,189,907	\$58,984,650	
H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, <u>Excluding</u> Levy to Support Library Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions (E - B - F + D)	58,084,780	\$58,892,342	
I. Difference: (G - H); (Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval - See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions)**	105,127	\$92,308	
Administrative Component	6,198,778	\$6,563,554	\$6,267,000
Program Component	54,257,053	\$54,884,854	\$54,856,000
Capital Component	10,482,169	\$11,331,592	\$10,284,000

\* Pursuant to Section 2023 of NYS Education Law, a contingent budget must be adopted by the Board of Education after the proposed budget has been defeated twice by the voters. A contingency budget may not result in a tax levy greater than the tax that was levied for the prior school year. It is the Board of Education's authority to determine what to include in the contingency budget; however, costs related to non-contingent expenditures must be eliminated. Some examples of non-contingent expenditures include: new equipment; public use of school buildings/grounds except where there is no net cost to the District; non-essential maintenance; capital expenditures; and salary increases for certain unrepresented, non-certified staff. The contingency budget figures noted above represent the following assumptions: removal of all new equipment purchases (\$173,000); elimination of capital projects (\$950,000); and reductions (beyond elimination of new equipment and certain salary increase) of \$250,000 in the Administrative component in the budget in order to meet the Administrative cap per contingent budget law.

\*\* List Separate Propositions that are not included in the Total Budgeted Amount: (Tax Levy associated with educational or transportation services propositions are not eligible for exclusion and may affect voter approval requirements)

Description	Amount
None	None

**NOTE:** Please submit an electronic version (Word or PDF) of this completed form to: [emscmgts@nysed.gov](mailto:emscmgts@nysed.gov)

**Under the Budget Proposed for the 2017-18 School Year**

**Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings<sup>1</sup>** **\$1,739**

The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2017-18 by the qualified voters of the Pelham Union Free School District, Westchester County, New York, will be held at Pelham Memorial High School in said district on Tuesday, May 16, 2017 between the hours of 7:00 am and 9:00 pm, prevailing time in the Pelham Union Free 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.

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the implementation of the Foreign Language Elementary School (FLES) program. The FLES program, which was recommended by our World Language Task Force, would have Spanish teachers work alongside our regular classroom teachers to incorporate the Spanish language into the regular curriculum. Over the next few years, we hope to expand this program so that it is eventually in place for grades 2-5.

This budget also continues to expand our mindfulness and social-emotional wellness programming by continuing and expanding the School Yoga Project, which has proven to be successful this year, and starting a pilot of a Responsive Classroom at Hutchinson School. Additionally the budget would fund new course offerings at PMHS such as Applied Statistics, Calculus, Transitional Algebra, Mandarin 3, AP Computer Science Language, Instruction and Coding as well as the purchase of new social studies textbooks for grades 5 and 6.

As we have in previous years, the Board has also included funds for specific upgrades to our facilities and infrastructure through our operating budget. Included in the 2017-18 plan is approximately \$200,000 from our capital reserve to bring Friendship Field up to regulation standards by installing a turf infield, which is expected to also reduce long-term maintenance costs.

We encourage you to review this issue of FOCUS and take an in-depth look at this budget. Please do not hesitate to contact any one of us on the Board of Education with questions. We look forward to seeing you all on May 16<sup>th</sup> and thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,

**Marianne Gilland, *President*,  
Pelham Board of Education**

# 2017-18 Budget Appropriations

The complete budget can be viewed at [www.pelhamschools.org](http://www.pelhamschools.org).  
Click "**District**" → "**Budgets & Finance**" → "**Budgets & Documents**."

## PROGRAM (INSTRUCTION)

### TEACHING-REGULAR EDUCATION

Includes regular education costs including teacher and support staff salaries, curriculum development and teacher training. Maintains and enhances academic program.

	2016-17 BUDGET	2017-18 BUDGET	INCREASE (DECREASE)
Salaries	\$23,307,315	\$24,233,143	\$925,828
Equipment	13,680	36,000	22,320
Contract Services	386,624	290,027	(96,597)
Supplies	256,195	295,025	38,830
Textbooks	170,175	192,890	22,715
BOCES Services	2,645,230	2,616,619	(28,611)
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$26,779,219</b>	<b>\$27,663,704</b>	<b>\$884,485</b>

### SPECIAL EDUCATION

Includes services related to Special Education, including Special Education teachers and tuition for Special Education students attending programs out of district.

Salaries	\$5,435,991	\$5,660,347	\$224,356
Contract Services	578,375	431,550	(146,825)
Supplies	2,800	2,800	-
BOCES Services	620,494	870,984	250,490
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$6,637,660</b>	<b>\$6,965,681</b>	<b>\$328,021</b>

### SCHOOL LIBRARY & AUDIO VISUAL

Includes costs for the operation of school libraries, HS Info Center and audio visual needs.

Salaries	\$643,321	\$670,121	\$26,800
Supplies	6,095	5,805	(290)
Library Books	35,935	36,188	253
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$685,351</b>	<b>\$712,114</b>	<b>\$26,763</b>

### TECHNOLOGY

Includes technology support services, network applications, hardware and software support.

Salaries	\$264,937	\$265,883	\$946
Equipment	90,774	57,060	(33,714)
Contract Services	99,822	115,452	15,630
Software	100,268	122,583	22,315
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$555,801</b>	<b>\$560,978</b>	<b>\$5,177</b>

### PUPIL PERSONNEL

Includes guidance services, school nurses, the school doctor, psychologists, attendance and building safety services.

Salaries	\$3,038,741	\$3,034,420	\$(4,321)
Equipment		4,500	4,500
Contract Services	388,261	389,398	1,137
Supplies	27,750	23,800	(3,950)
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$3,454,752</b>	<b>\$3,452,118</b>	<b>\$(2,634)</b>

### CO-CURRICULAR & INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS

Includes co-curricular activity stipends, athletic director, coaches, team equipment, supplies, supervision at athletic events and an athletic trainer.

Salaries	\$877,140	\$883,562	\$6,422
Contract Services	108,863	116,863	8,000
Supplies	71,000	66,000	(5,000)
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,057,003</b>	<b>\$1,066,425</b>	<b>\$9,422</b>

### TRANSPORTATION

Includes mandated transportation for pupils attending private and parochial schools, special needs students and those attending occupational education programs. Also includes transportation for athletic events.

Salaries	\$34,870	\$35,767	\$897
Charter & Athletic Trips	154,850	161,250	6,400
Contract Transportation*	816,423	922,331	105,908
Public Transportation	71,012	41,084	(29,928)
Supplies	500	500	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,077,655</b>	<b>\$1,160,932</b>	<b>\$83,277</b>

### COMMUNITY SERVICES

Includes cost for use of District fields and facilities by the community.

Salaries	\$0	\$67,967	\$67,967
Contract Services	37,960	52,500	14,540
Supplies	46,243	47,005	762
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$84,203</b>	<b>\$167,472</b>	<b>\$83,269</b>

### EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

Represents contractually required pension, health, payroll tax and related costs.

<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$13,834,159</b>	<b>\$13,049,930</b>	<b>\$(784,229)</b>
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### INTERFUND TRANSFER

Includes district share of summer school costs for special needs students.

<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$35,000</b>	<b>\$30,000</b>	<b>\$(5,000)</b>
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### LEGAL

Includes legal costs associated with student issues (health, welfare, safety, rights, discipline, disabilities, etc.).

<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$56,250</b>	<b>\$55,500</b>	<b>\$(750)</b>
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<b>TOTAL PROGRAM</b>	<b>\$54,257,053</b>	<b>\$54,884,854</b>	<b>\$627,801</b>
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\*This transportation expense item includes an estimated \$844,651 for private school, special education and out-of-district school transportation based upon the District's current usage of such transportation and upon the District, as part of the BEPT Consortium, entering into a three (3) year contract (September 1, 2017 - June 30, 2020, excluding summers) with the lowest responsible bidder for such transportation services. The approval of this budget will constitute approval for the Board of Education to enter into a three (3) year contract, as part of the BEPT Consortium, with the lowest responsible bidder for these transportation services.

# 2017-18 Budget Appropriations

		2016-17 BUDGET	2017-18 BUDGET	INCREASE (DECREASE)
<b>CAPITAL (BUILDINGS &amp; GROUNDS)</b>				
<b>OPERATION &amp; MAINTENANCE</b>				
Includes cost for operation and maintenance of all school buildings and grounds, including custodial staff.	Salaries	\$2,351,580	\$2,334,638	\$(16,942)
	Equipment	89,192	68,900	(20,292)
	Contract Services	2,114,731	1,775,308	(339,423)
	Utilities	1,143,128	1,181,000	37,872
	Supplies	323,280	360,770	37,490
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$6,021,911</b>	<b>\$5,720,616</b>	<b>\$(301,295)</b>
<b>EMPLOYEE BENEFITS</b>				
Represents contractually required pension, health, payroll tax and related costs.	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,015,987</b>	<b>\$1,557,928</b>	<b>\$541,941</b>
<b>TRANSFER TO DEBT SERVICE/DEBT SERVICE</b>				
Includes debt service on capital bonds.	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$3,369,271</b>	<b>\$3,428,049</b>	<b>\$58,778</b>
<b>TRANSFER TO CAPITAL FUND</b>				
Includes funding for replacement of the fire escape at Prospect Hill, significant masonry work at the High School and the Friendship Field improvement project.	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$75,000</b>	<b>\$625,000</b>	<b>\$550,000</b>
	<b>TOTAL CAPITAL</b>	<b>\$10,482,169</b>	<b>\$11,331,593</b>	<b>\$849,424</b>
<b>ADMINISTRATION (MANAGEMENT)</b>				
<b>BOARD OF EDUCATION</b>				
Includes cost of budget vote, meetings, publications, memberships and workshops.	General Expenses	\$77,209	\$71,846	\$(5,363)
	District Meeting	22,500	12,500	(10,000)
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$99,709</b>	<b>\$84,346</b>	<b>\$(15,363)</b>
<b>CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION</b>				
Includes funds for operation of the Superintendent's Office.	Salaries	\$480,677	\$490,228	\$9,551
	Contractual	96,700	24,700	(72,000)
	Supplies	7,500	7,500	-
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$584,877</b>	<b>\$522,428</b>	<b>\$(62,449)</b>
<b>BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION</b>				
Includes funds for the District Business Office including: accounting, payroll, accounts payable and receivable, bidding, audit and personnel functions for non-certified staff.	Salaries	\$634,177	\$600,168	\$(34,009)
	Equipment	1,600	-	(1,600)
	Contractual & Auditing	115,392	108,015	(7,377)
	Supplies	17,500	16,000	(1,500)
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$768,669</b>	<b>\$724,183</b>	<b>\$(44,486)</b>
<b>LEGAL</b>				
Includes legal costs related to contractual negotiations, labor relations, regulatory compliance, tax certiorari proceedings, etc.	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$168,750</b>	<b>\$129,500</b>	<b>\$(39,250)</b>
<b>PERSONNEL &amp; PUBLIC INFORMATION</b>				
Includes funds for advertising and recruiting of certified staff and for employee record keeping and the Public Information Officer.	Salaries	\$70,675	\$183,570	\$112,895
	Equipment	500	500	-
	Contractual	6,000	6,000	-
	Supplies	3,000	3,000	-
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$80,175</b>	<b>\$193,070</b>	<b>\$112,895</b>
<b>SPECIAL ITEMS</b>				
Includes costs for liability and student accident insurance. Also includes school association dues, sewer tax and BOCES administrative fee.	Insurance	\$300,000	\$296,000	\$(4,000)
	Association Dues	24,000	24,000	-
	Sewer Tax	66,800	66,800	-
	BOCES Admin. Charge	232,679	249,515	16,836
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$623,479</b>	<b>\$636,315</b>	<b>\$12,836</b>
<b>INSTRUCTION, ADMINISTRATION &amp; IMPROVEMENT</b>				
Includes costs for administration, evaluation and revision of the instructional program, including funds for student supervision and operation of the principals' offices. Also includes staff development costs.	Salaries	\$2,316,019	\$2,346,024	\$30,005
	Equipment	0	5,786	5,786
	Contract Services	70,766	208,588	137,822
	Supplies	44,050	67,100	23,050
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$2,430,835</b>	<b>\$2,627,498</b>	<b>\$196,663</b>
<b>EMPLOYEE BENEFITS</b>				
Represents contractually required pension, health, payroll tax and related costs.	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,442,284</b>	<b>\$1,646,213</b>	<b>\$203,929</b>
	<b>TOTAL ADMINISTRATION</b>	<b>\$6,198,778</b>	<b>\$6,563,553</b>	<b>\$364,775</b>
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$70,938,000</b>	<b>\$72,780,000</b>	<b>\$1,842,000</b>

# 2014-15 & 2015-16 District Report Card

Holding Ourselves Accountable - Inspiring a Standard of Excellence for All Students



## Dear Community Members,

For those of you who remember the television series "The Naked City," you will recall that the series closed

with the narrator sharing, "There are eight million stories in The Naked City. This has been one of them." There was always a compelling story of intrigue and suspense. In many ways, budgets are similar. They tell stories about our values and our future and we believe that the 2017-2018 budget adopted by the Board of Education tells a compelling one designed to support our students through the careful balance of academic achievement and their social-emotional development.

The overarching theme of our budget this year is a reaffirmation of our mission- Inspiring a Standard of Excellence for All Students. This commitment is reflected in the four pillars of our Strategic Plan: 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning, coordinating networks of support and targeted learning, social-emotional development and wellness of the whole child, and a professional culture of learning, effective feedback, and growth.

I am pleased to report that despite growing enrollment, this budget maintains favorable class sizes and all existing general and special education programs remain in place. It is also my pleasure to share that we have several substantive additions to the budget, including:

- The addition of the Foreign Language Elementary School (FLES) program for 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students. The FLES program will supplement the regular elementary school curriculum with Spanish instruction starting next school year.
- The continuation and expansion of the School Yoga Project and the piloting of the Responsive Classroom framework at Hutchinson;
- The continuation of our research, study, planning, and implementation of the International Baccalaureate Programme in grades 6-10 at Pelham Middle School and PMHS;

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## Measuring Our Success

### OUR GRADUATES: Class of 2016

"Over the past several years, we have worked hard to open access to honors and AP classes for our students. This work is essential in allowing our students to reach their potential as learners. We believe that these courses and challenges should be available to all students who are prepared for the rigor of advanced coursework."

Attending College	90.6%
4-Year Schools	87.8%
2-Year Schools	2.8%
Total Regents Diplomas Earned	92%
Regents Diplomas with Distinction Earned	61%
Local Diplomas Earned	3%
Graduation Rate, Bridge Academy*	100%

\*An alternative program for students at PMHS better suited in a non-traditional high school classroom.

**Rosemary G. Matthews**, Assistant Superintendent for Pupil Personnel Services

## Improving College Readiness

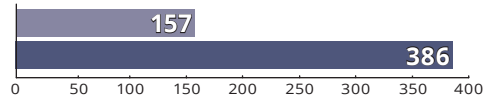
### OUR STUDENTS: Taking More Challenging Courses & Succeeding

"We endeavor to develop a K-12 systemic approach to teaching and learning. We believe our efforts, through continuous improvement, reflect student achievement and college acceptance at the commencement level. However, we also must find a balance between academic and social-emotional development."

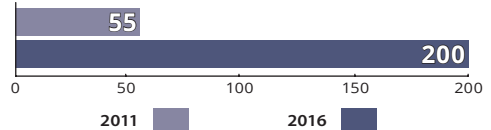
**Steven M. Garcia**,  
Assistant Superintendent for  
Curriculum, Instruction & Personnel

#### 4-Year Perspective

##### Enrollment in Advanced Placement Courses



##### Enrollment in College Level Courses



Advanced Placement Tests	# Tested	Pelham Average Score	National Average Score
English Literature & Composition	129	3.1	2.7
English Language & Composition	121	3.2	2.8
U.S. History	85	3.7	2.7
European History	19	3.7	2.7
Psychology	28	3.8	3.0
U.S. Government & Politics	64	2.9	2.6
World History	89	3.2	2.6
Calculus AB	14	4.0	2.9
Calculus BC	26	4.3	3.8
Statistics	13	4.1	2.8
Biology	21	3.8	2.8
Chemistry	27	4.1	2.6
Physics I	107	2.7	2.3
Physics II	64	3.5	2.8
Environmental Science	21	3.1	2.5
Spanish Language	12	4.0	3.7
Studio Art - 2D	17	3.8	3.4

# 2014-15 & 2015-16 District Report Card

## ★ Mean SAT Scores

Critical Reading	2016
PMHS Mean Score	564
National Mean Score	494
Math	
PMHS Mean Score	567
National Mean Score	494
Writing	
PMHS Mean Score	570
National Mean Score	462

87% of Pelham's 2016 graduating class took the SATs.

## ★ Mean ACT Scores

Test	PMHS	State
English	26.8	23.2
Math	25.9	23.9
Reading	26.8	24.4
Science	25.6	23.7
Composite	25.1	23.9

58% of Pelham's 2016 graduating class took the ACTs.

← CONTINUED from page 7

- The purchase of new social studies textbooks in grades 5 and 6;
- New course offerings at PMHS including: Applied Statistics, Calculus, Transitional Algebra, Mandarin 3, and AP Computer Science, Language, Instruction and Coding;
- The establishment of a varsity boys' swim team, the hiring of an assistant cross country coach, and a plan to use approximately \$200K from the capital reserve to bring Friendship Field to regulation standards for girls' softball.

I encourage you to review the budget information and our District's many accomplishments throughout the pages of this FOCUS. We are making remarkable progress towards achieving our goals and staying on a path of continuous improvement. I extend my thanks to the business office staff, administration, building principals, and Board of Education for their fine work in building and adopting this spending plan. Please contact me directly with any questions. I look forward to seeing you at the polls on May 16<sup>th</sup>.

Very truly yours,



Peter Giarrizzo, Ed. D.

## NYS Testing Grade 3-12

"NYS exams are just one data point that we use in assessing student performance. Our teachers and administrators conduct ongoing assessments to measure learning and growth, and work diligently to evaluate the whole child rather than rely solely on standardized tests."

Steven M. Garcia, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction & Personnel

## ★ 2015-16 HS Regents Exams

Exam	# Tested	% Attaining Proficiency	% Attaining High Proficiency
Common Core English *	204	96%	80% (level 5)
Global History	222	95%	68%
US History & Government	211	97%	84%
Common Core Algebra I *	156	84%	3% (level 5)
Common Core Algebra II *	127	73%	5% (level 5)
Common Core Geometry *	187	93%	15% (level 5)
Algebra 2/Trigonometry	134	82%	33%
Living Environment	221	96%	66%
Chemistry	183	93%	40%
Physics	178	93%	44%

## ★ 2015-16 Pelham Middle School Regents Exams

Exam	# Tested	% Attaining Proficiency	% Attaining High Proficiency
Common Core Algebra I	102	100%	69% (level 5)
Earth Science	228	88%	59%

Regents Assessments based on Common Core Learning Standards have 5 performance levels: (**Algebra I & Geometry**: level 1 = 0-54, level 2 = 55-64, level 3 = 65-79, level 4 = 80-84, level 5 = 85-100; **Algebra II**: level 1 = 0-54, level 2 = 55-64, level 3 = 65-77, level 4 = 78-84, level 5 = 85-100; **ELA**: level 1 = 0-54, level 2 = 55-64, level 3 = 65-78, level 4 = 79-84, level 5 = 85-100)

Regents Assessments based on 2005 Learning Standards have 4 performance levels (level 1 = 0-54, level 2 = 55-64, level 3 = 65-84, level 4 = 85-100)

## ★ Grade 3-8 English Language Arts & Math Tests

Exam	PELHAM 2014-15 % Attaining Proficiency	PELHAM 2015-16 % Attaining Proficiency	NYS 2015-16 % Attaining Proficiency
Common Core English Language Arts*	60%	66%	38%
Common Core Math*	67%	71%	39%

\*High Proficiency (Level 5) represents a higher level of success on the more challenging tests.



# Colleges Our 2013-2016 Graduates Are Attending

**76 % of the class of 2016 are attending the top three tiers of schools, the highest percentage since the 1990s, when we began monitoring this data.**

Adelphi University  
American University  
Amherst College  
Anderson University  
Arizona State University  
Art Institute of Philadelphia  
Auburn University  
Barnard College  
Bates College  
Boston College  
Boston University  
Bowdoin College  
Brandeis University  
Brown University  
Bryant University  
Bucknell University  
California Polytechnic University  
Carleton College  
Carnegie Mellon University  
Case Western Reserve University  
Catholic University of America  
Christopher Newport University  
Citadel, the Military College of South Carolina  
City University of New York (CUNY): Baruch, Borough of Manhattan Community College, College of Staten Island, F.H. LaGuardia Community College, Hunter, John Jay College of Criminal Justice, Lehman College, New York City College of Technology, Queens, Queensborough Community College  
Claremont McKenna College  
Clemson University  
Coastal Carolina University  
Colgate University  
College of the Holy Cross  
College of Mount Saint Vincent  
College of New Rochelle  
College of Saint Rose  
College of Staten Island  
College of Westchester  
College of William & Mary  
Columbia University  
Concordia College  
Connecticut College  
Cornell University  
Culinary Institute of America  
Dartmouth College  
Davidson College  
Denison University  
Dickinson College  
Dominican College  
Drexel University  
Duke University  
Eastern University  
Elon University  
Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University

Endicott College  
Fairfield University  
Florida State University  
Fordham University  
Franklin & Marshall College  
Franklin W. Olin College of Engineering  
Furman University  
George Washington University  
Georgetown University  
Georgia Institute of Technology  
Grinnell College  
Hamilton College  
Harvard University  
Hobart & William Smith College  
Hofstra University  
Howard University  
Iona College  
Ithaca College  
James Madison University  
Johns Hopkins University  
Johnson & Wales University  
Keene State College  
Kenyon College  
King's College  
La Salle University  
Lafayette College  
Landmark College  
Lehigh University  
LIM College  
Long Island University, C.W. Post  
Loyola University, New Orleans  
Lynn University  
Macalester College  
Manhattan College  
Manhattanville College  
Marist College  
Massachusetts Maritime Academy  
McGill University  
Mercy College  
Miami University, Oxford  
Michigan State University  
Middlebury College  
Mitchell College  
Monmouth University  
Monroe College  
Monterey Peninsula College  
Morgan State University  
New England Conservatory of Music  
New School  
New York Institute of Technology  
New York University  
Northeastern University  
Nova Southeastern University  
Nyack College  
Oberlin College  
Ohio University  
Oral Roberts University  
Pace University  
Pennsylvania College of Technology

## PMHS Students in Best Schools

Class	Most Competitive	Highly Competitive	Very Competitive	Total
2016	27%	20%	29%	76%
2015	24%	22%	28%	71%
2014	28%	13%	28%	69%
2013	24%	20%	20%	64%

*Highest percentage in top 3 tiers of schools, according to Barron's Profile of American Colleges*

Pennsylvania State University  
Polytechnic Institute of NYU  
Pomona College  
Pratt Institute  
Princeton University  
Providence College  
Queen's University  
Quinnipiac University  
Rhode Island School of Design  
Rochester Institute of Technology  
Roger Williams University  
Rollins College  
Sacred Heart University  
Saint Joseph's University  
Saint Michael's College  
San Francisco Art Institute  
School of Visual Arts  
Scripps College  
Siena College  
Skidmore College  
Smith College  
Southeastern University  
Southern New Hampshire University  
St. Bonaventure University  
St. John's University  
Stanford University  
State University of New York (SUNY): Albany, Binghamton, Brockport, Buffalo State, Canton, Cobleskill, Cortland, Delhi, Dutchess Community College, Environmental Science & Forestry, Farmingdale State, Fredonia, Geneseo, Hudson Valley Community College, Maritime, New Paltz, Potsdam, Purchase, Stony Brook University, Sullivan County Community College, Tompkins Cortland Community College, University at Buffalo, Westchester Community College  
Stevenson University  
Susquehanna University  
Syracuse University  
Texas Tech University  
Trinity College, Connecticut  
Tufts University  
Tulane University  
Union College  
United States Air Force Academy  
United States Naval Academy  
University of Alabama  
University of Arkansas  
University of British Columbia

University of California, Davis, Los Angeles, Santa Barbara  
University of Chicago  
University of Colorado, Boulder  
University of Connecticut  
University of Delaware  
University of Denver  
University of Hartford  
University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign  
University of London, School of Oriental & African Studies  
University of Maine  
University of Maryland, College Park  
University of Massachusetts, Amherst  
University of Miami  
University of Michigan  
University of Minnesota  
University of Mississippi  
University of New Hampshire  
University of New Haven  
University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, Wilmington  
University of Notre Dame  
University of Oregon  
University of Pennsylvania  
University of Rhode Island  
University of Richmond  
University of Scranton  
University of South Carolina  
University of St. Andrews  
University of Tampa  
University of Texas  
University of Vermont  
University of Virginia  
University of Wisconsin, Madison  
Ursinus College  
Vanderbilt University  
Vassar College  
Villanova University  
Virginia Commonwealth University  
Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University  
Wagner College  
Wake Forest University  
Washington & Lee University  
Washington University, St. Louis  
Wesleyan University  
West Virginia University  
Western New England University  
Western University  
Williams College  
Yale University

# Excellence In Our Schools

## National Merit Scholarship Competition

**Finalist:** Jonathan Salama; **Semi-Finalists:** Ben Hurd & Jonathan Salama.  
**Commended Students:** George Asokumar, Julia Doucette, Erika Dudek, Enea Dushaj, Kieran Heese, Alexa Letizia, Amanpreet Singh, Dario Sujica, Owen Swanson, Jillian Vinci & Larkin Wisdom.

## AP Scholars

**National AP Scholars:** Clara Choate, Una Corbett, Rhea Dedhia, Isabelle Echelman, Sinead Joyce-Farley, Adam Kelly, Alicia Migliarini, Katherine Riedel, Samara Sober & Alice Xue. **AP Scholar with Distinction:** Ehsan Ahmed, George Asokumar, Daniel Biskup, Samuel Cardwell, Edward Carey, Joseph Catalano, Olivia Childs, Clara Choate, John Cohen, Una Corbett, Emma Curtin, Rhea Dedhia, Julia Denison, Marieme Dieng, Kathryn Doyle, Enea Dushaj, Isabelle Echelman, Emily Eicher, Sam Farrell, Nicole Fischbein, Julia Glickman, Benjamin Goldman, Ruben Grand, James Gutch, Kieran Heese, Benjamin Hurd, Bjorn Jawanda, Rachel Johnson, Robert Johnson, Chloe Jones, Sinead Joyce-Farley, Adam Kelly, Grace Kiernan, Abigail Leonard, Alexa Letizia, Joseph Liesman, Jack MacColl, Sabrina Maggiore, Madeline Manning, Katherine McCarroll, Alicia Migliarini, Maria Morrissey, Mae Mullany, Liam Murray, Matthew O'Neil, Arielle O'Connor, Peter Oppenheimer, Wesley Pedone, Dylan Petrello, Rachel Radvany, Quinn Rees, Katherine Riedel, NikkiAnn Ryan, Jonathan Salama, Alexander Sidgwick, Amanpreet Singh, Samara Sober, Jacob Soifer, Matthew Spana, Dario Sujica, Julia Tell, Jillian Vinci, Daniel Vozza, Mark Weihs, Larkin Wisdom & Alice Xue. **AP Scholars with Honor:** Gracia Acheson, Adelle Berdichevsky, Theodore Bloom, Marissa Boiano, Gabrielle Bowen, Julia Buckley, Caroline Carlton, William Case, James Chandler, Emma Chase, Morgan Collins, John Cork, Matthew Di Vitto, Julia Doucette, Erika Dudek, Philip Dutko, Alana Dvorkin, Michael Gould, Kiely Hartigan, Nathaniel Heintz, Robert Horowitz, Thomas Horowitz, Kees Huisman-Suzuki, Julianne Hynes, Gabrielle Iarocci, Sarah Jacobson, Emma Johnston, Kelly Knapp, Ilaria Lampson, Shane Macdonald, Michael MacInnis, Kathleen McLaughlin, Erin Moore, Joseph Nelson, Madeleine Nicholson, Ryan O'Neil, Giorgos Orfanoudakis, Richard Rookwood, Matthew Rubbo, Liam Sefchick, Peter Slotwiler, Owen Swanson & George Zaravelis. **AP Scholars:** Michael Anzilotti, Alexa Bastone, Mischa Biszick, Ryan Cannella, Kailee Chimento, Nicholas Ciacca, Charles Conway, Aaron Craig, Connor Crowley, Daniel Dempsey, Miles DiSciullo, Sarah Dunbar, Alessandra Grammatica, Karla Granda, Timothy Hart, Anne Healy, Phoebe Howard, John Kleinberger, Alexander Kougasian, Eve Levin, Sarah Liddy, Marlene Louro, Anthony Madeira, Samantha Mastroianni, Frankie-Ann McCauley, Matthew McDonough, Connor McLaughlin, Alexa Melnick, Sarah Morgan, Richard Northrup, Courtney O'Beirne, John O'Connor, Kaitlin O'Sullivan, Jessica Palmisciano, Virat Panicker, Nidhi Perianayagam, Luke Persanis, Meghan Petti, Megan Ploch, Katherine Pompilio, Cristina Rabadi, Miles Robertson, Hugo Robinson, Nicholas Roll, Natalie Ronan, Sofia Rubio-Topete, Kristen Ruggiero, Katie Scandole, William Sciales, Samuel Teller, Albert Thomas, Angela Thomas, Alexandria Tiso, Morgan Tolan, Brady Tuttle, Isabella Vacca & Gianna Volpe.

## HS National Honor Society Inductees

Melissa Altschiller, Owen Anastas, Ethan Archibald, Julianne Argento, Eleanor Baxter, Eric Benfaida, Mason Brady, Nicklas Breskin, Theodora Caminiti, Cameron Catana, Janet Collens, Quinlan Crowley, Kaitlyn Czajka, Christopher Davis, Noah Dulock, George Dunhill, Jane Ely, Matias Facciuto, Carlo Fine, Caroline Franks, Kylie Galiani, Nicholas Garvey, Anna Giddins, Claire Gilman, Saul Glist, Julia Golfo, Edward Groome, Daphne Gutch, Lauren Hade, Jillian Harrison, Madison Hartigan, Harrison Harvey, Noah Hellum, Benjamin Hofflich, Jack Howard, Benjamin Huang, Olivia Imperato, Samuel Imperato, Linda Jaimes, Henry Johnson, Sophia Juliano, Adriana Kartanadi, Charlotte Krause, Megan Lahn, Audrey Lee, Anais Leon-Kelly, Janne Lewis, Jonathan Liesman, Justin Limardo, James Lisanti, Eli MacColl, Hannah Mackay, Kiera Mallinson, Catherine Maschio, Katherine Maydwell, Margaret McCarroll, Hannah McFarland, Alec Morelas, Jared Morel, Henry Morjikian, Michael Mottola, Julian Navarro, Harold Neu, Kiera O'Connor, Isabel Orfanoudakis, Karla Pennetta, Eva Perez, Alexis Peters, John Prignano, Mateo Rivera, Patrick Roche, Nathan Rosenberg, Michael Ruggiero, Viviana Samudio, Ryan Shea, William Shelton, Patrick Shiels, Sydney Shotkoski, Christiana Silva, Katherine Soifer, Timothy Solimine, Paola Silva, Lang Sorice, Andrew Spana, William Taubner, Anthony Terraciano, Natalie Todaro, Braden Tolan, Christopher Tolan, Samantha Tsang, Priya Varanasi, Melissa Vasami, Nicholas Wessman, Gavin Woods, Emily Xue, Abigail Young, Ryan Cannella, Daniel Dempsey, Benjamin Hurd, Harrison Kaiser, Caitlin Kindig, Isabella Lampson, Alexa Letizia, Matthew Mattesi, Andrew O'Brien & Gibson Smith.

## National History Day Winners

**MS Historical Paper:** 1<sup>st</sup> Place - Emily Kalyvas, 2<sup>nd</sup> Place - Jack D'Angelo; **MS Individual Live Performance:** 1<sup>st</sup> Place - Ella Burns, 2<sup>nd</sup> Place - Colin Healy; **MS Individual Documentary:** 1<sup>st</sup> Place - Katherine D'Adamo, 2<sup>nd</sup> Place - Juan Carlos Matos; **MS Group Documentary:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Place - Chapman Jones & Nevan Malwana; **MS Individual Website:** 1<sup>st</sup> Place - Caroline Spana; **MS Individual Exhibit:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Place - Sara Almo; **HS Historical Paper:** 1<sup>st</sup> Place - Emily Xue, 2<sup>nd</sup> Place - Saul Glist, 3<sup>rd</sup> Place - Samantha Tsang; **HS Individual Documentary:** 1<sup>st</sup> Place - Helen Meyerson; **HS Group Exhibit:** 1<sup>st</sup> Place - Karla Pennetta & Natalie Todaro.

## Forensics (Speech)

**NY State Championships Qualifiers:** Henry Driesen & Ben Glickman (JV Extemporaneous Speaking), Saul Glist (Varsity Extemporaneous Speaking), Alexandria Tiso (Original Oratory), Athena Woodfin (JV Oral Interpretation of Literature), Kate McLaughlin & Halle Tirsch (Varsity Oral Interpretation of Literature), Sarrah Asokumar & Dario Sujica (Duo Interpretation), Lucy Bischof & Violet Massie Vereker (Declamation), Angelina Rosa (Student Congressional Debate); **National Qualifiers for Grand National Tournament:** Henry Driesen (Extemporaneous Speaking), Alexandria Tiso (Original Oratory); **National Qualifiers for NSDA Tournament of Champions:** Maggie Solimine (Programmed Oral Interpretation), Kate McLaughlin & Halle Tirsch (Dramatic Interpretation), Athena Woodfin (Humorous Interpretation).

## National English Honor Society &

## Rho Kappa Honor Society (Social Studies) Inductees

**National English Honor Society:** Sarah Cullen, Carlo Fine, Edward Groome, Ilse Heredia, Adriana Kartanadi, Megan Leichtman, Lorena Maggiore, Isabel Orfanoudakis, Jayson Reynolds, Samantha Romanello & Alexis Teller; **Rho Kappa Honor Society:** Noah Dulock & Ryan Shea; **NEHS/Rho Kappa:** Melissa Altschiller, Owen Anastas, Julianne Argento, Eleanor Baxter, Eric Benfaida, Mason Brady, Nicklas Breskin, Theodora Caminiti, Cameron Catana, Janet Collens, Delia Crotty, Quinlan Crowley, Madison DiFrisco, George Dunhill, Jane Ely, Matias Facciuto, Caroline Franks, Anna Giddins, Saul Glist, Julia Golfo, Daphne Gutch, Jillian Harrison, Harrison Harvey, Noah Hellum, Benjamin Hofflich, Jack Howard, Henry Johnson, Sophia Juliano, Deena Kouroupas, Charlotte Krause, Anais Leon-Kelly, Janne Lewis, Jonathan Liesman, Justin Limardo, James Lisanti, Eli MacColl, Hannah Mackay, Kiera Mallinson, Catherine Maschio, Margaret McCarroll, Hannah McFarland, Flannery Monaghan-Morris, Jared Morel, Henry Morjikian, Harold Nicholas Neu, Kiera O'Connor, Desmond O'Rourke, Elody Paulino, Karla Pennetta, Eva Perez, Mateo Rivera, Patrick Roche, Nathan Rosenberg, Wyatt Saunders, William Shelton, Patrick Shiels, Christiana Silva, Katherine Soifer, Timothy Solimine, Lang Sorice, Andrew Spana, William Taubner, Anthony Terraciano, Braden Tolan, Christopher Tolan, Samantha Tsang, Adam Wisniewski-Jensen, Gavin Woods, Emily Xue & Abigail Young.

## Foreign Language Honor Society Inductees

**French Honor Society:** Eleanor Baxter, Theodora Caminiti, Casey DeJesus, Jane Ely, Claire Gilman, Saul Glist, Noah Hellum, Thomas Horowitz, Henry Johnson, Charlotte Krause, Audrey Lee, John Little, Julian Navarro, Isabella Saljanin, William Shelton, Patrick Shiels, Halle Tirsch, Priya Varanasi, Emily Xue & Abigail Young. **Italian Honor Society:** Owen Anastas, Lorenzo Bertuccioli, Kaitlyn Czajka, Kylie Galiani, Madison Hartigan, Olivia Imperato, Lorena Maggiore, John Prignano, Lang Sorice, Miriam Ciacca, George Dunhill, Brian Leichtman, Eli MacColl, Catherine Maschio, Henry Morjikian, Viviana Samudio, Ryan Shea, Christopher Tolan & Nicola Abou-Taleb. **Latin Honor Society:** Nicklas Breskin, Cameron Catana, Quinlan Crowley, Benjamin Huang, Kiera Mallinson, Hannah McFarland, Kathleen McLaughlin, William Taubner & Braden Tolan. **Spanish Honor Society:** Melissa Altschiller, Julianne Argento, Iasmim Basso, Mason Brady, William Case, Janet Collens, Sarah Cullen, Priscilla DeFerrari, Matias Facciuto, Caroline Franks, Anna Giddins, Michael Goldman, Julia Golfo, Daphne Gutch, Lauren Hade, Ilse Heredia, Georgia Howard, Megan Leichtman, Anais Leon-Kelly, Jonathan Liesman, Justin Limardo, Valerie Martinez-Sanchez, Margaret McCarroll, Nicholas Milanese, Ashley Montiel, Harold Neu, Isabel Orfanoudakis, Pamela Pennetta, Eva Perez, Kimberly Perez, Alexis Peters, Katherine Pompilio, Angelie Prima, Emilia Privat, Mateo Rivera, Patrick Roche, Angelina Rosa, Nathan Rosenberg, Wyatt Saunders, Christiana Silva, Paola Silva, Katherine Soifer, Timothy Solimine, Steven Torres, Melissa Vasami, Andrew Vermes, Nicholas Wessman & Gavin Woods.



## Math Honor Society Inductees

Elise Aronson, Daniel Bernstein, Gabriella Bhiri, Rachel Brewer, Manon Bushong, John Carew, Richard Che, Ian Childs, Erin Cohen, Kevin Coleman, Lucy Conway, Samuel Cork, Emma Dickson, Francesca DiCristofano, Katherine Douglass, Madelyn Dunbar, Charlotte Edmunds, Sarah Ellenbogen, Connor Evans, Anna Giddins, Jonathan Girolamo, Benjamin Glickman, Harrison Harvey, Henry Johnson, Isabel Kenny, Lauren Kuster, Meredith Kuster, Zara Levy, Julia Loughman, Violet Massie-Vereker, Tara Matz, Sophia McSpedon, Christian Morfit, John Morrell, Hailey Nelson, Arden Neu, Allison Palmisciano, Madelyn Ploch, Kristina Pompilio, Luca Rivera, Liam Ronan, Kaitlyn Rubbo, Leana Rutt, Michael Salama, Andrew Shulzhenko, Joseph Silva, Margaret Solimine, Meghan Stevens, Eleanor Tahbaz, Alexis Teller, Olivia Ting, Sara Veteri, Elizabeth Walters, Helena White, Adam Wisniewski-Jensen, Alyssa Wong & Caitlin Wong.

## Science Honor Society Inductees

Melissa Altschiller, Julianne Argento, Elise Aronson, Eleanor Baxter, Jennifer Bell, Eric Benfaida, Gabriella Bhiri, Lucy Bischof, Rachel Brewer, Madeline Bryce, John Carew, Richard Che, Ian Childs, Erin Cohen, Kevin Coleman, Janet Collens, Lucy Conway, Samuel Cork, Francesca DiCristofano, Claudia Dodge, Katherine Douglass, Madelyn Dunbar, Charlotte Edmunds, Sarah Ellenbogen, Jane Ely, Nahian Ehtesham, Connor Evans, Julien Evans, Kathryn Fugazy, Jonathan Girolamo, Benjamin Glickman, Fiona Joffroy, Henry Johnson, Sophia Juliano, Isabel Kenny, Lauren Kuster, Brian Leichtman, Zara Levy, Julia Loughman, Violet Massie-Vereker, Christian Morfit, Henry Morjikian, John Morrell, Sophia McSpedon, Arden Neu, Allison Palmisciano, Karla Pennetta, Ascensy Perez, Madelyn Ploch, Kristina Pompilio, Peyton Rees, Liam Ronan, Kimberley Rosell, Kaitlyn Rubbo, Leana Rutt, Michael Salama, Andrew Shulzhenko, Joseph Silva, Sidney Skop, Margaret Solimine, Meghan Stevens, Alexis Teller, Sara Veteri, Daniel Walsh, Elizabeth Walters, Helena White, Adam Wisniewski-Jensen, Alyssa Wong, Caitlin Wong & Gavin Woods.

## MS/HS American Math Competition Top Scores

**AMC Math Competition, AMC 8:** Gold - Matthew Cannella, Silver - Emily Kalyvas, Bronze - Teddy D'Angelo & William Otondi; **AMC 10:** 1<sup>st</sup> Place - Lance Brady, 2<sup>nd</sup> Place - Julian Wisdom, 3<sup>rd</sup> Place - Sophie Xu; **AMC 12:** 1<sup>st</sup> Place - Ryan Cannella, 2<sup>nd</sup> Place - Patrick Roche, 3<sup>rd</sup> Place - Benjamin Hofflich.

## Science Recognition

**Junior Science and Humanities Symposium (JSHS):** James Chandler - National Finalist. **International Sustainable World (Engineering Energy Environment) Fair:** Rachel Radvany - International Finalist, Megan Ploch - International Finalist. **WESEF WINNERS (Westchester Science & Engineering Fair):** 1<sup>st</sup> in Category - Megan Ploch (Environmental Sciences), 2<sup>nd</sup> in Category - Emily Xue (Medicine & Health), James Chandler (Animal Sciences), Caitlin Wong (Behavioral & Social Sciences), Francesca Di Cristofano (Cellular & Molecular Biology), Patrick Roche & Quin Crowley (Mathematics), 3<sup>rd</sup> in Category - Rachel Radvany (Biochemistry), Sarah Jacobson (Cellular & Molecular Biology), Priya Varanasi (Environmental Science), Nick Breskin & Conor McNulty (Mathematics), Ehsan Ahmed (Medicine & Health), 4<sup>th</sup> in Category - Jillian Harrison (Behavior), Alana Dvorkin & Jane Bryce (Behavior), Wesley Pedone & Ben Hurd (Environmental Science), Anais Leon Kelly & Maggie Mc Carroll (Medicine & Health), Sam Imperato (Physics & Astronomy), Dan Voza (Medicine & Health). **Special Awards:** Megan Ploch (Environmental Sciences), Priya Varanasi (Environmental Sciences), William Taubner (Engineering), Sam Tsang (Medicine & Health), Tony Terraciano (Medicine & Health), Matt Rubbo & Owen Swanson (Engineering), Alicia Ugenti & Richard Rookwood (Computational Biology/Bioinformatics), Aidan Sisk & Brady Tolan (Environmental Science). **JSHS Winners: State Finalists:** Sarah Jacobson, Megan Ploch & James Chandler; **State Semifinalists:** Ehsan Ahmed & Rachel Radvany; **Poster Winners:** Jillian Harrison, Samantha Tsang & Sam Imperato.

## Elementary, MS & HS Musicians

**Tri M-Music Honor Society:** Sarrah Manisha Asokumar, John-Howard Bissell, Lorivert Cobo, Enea Dushaj, Olivia Imperato, Samuel Imperato, Sarah Jacobson, Ava

Juliano, Sophia Juliano, Alexander Kougasian, Janné Lewis, Kiera Mallinson, Violet Massie-Vereker, Hannah McFarland, Andrew O'Brien, Rachel Radvany, Jonathan Salama, Matyas Spunberg, Veronica Stern, Adam Wisniewski-Jensen, Sophie Xu & Emily Xue. **All-County Chorus: 6<sup>th</sup> grade:** Abigail Miyake, Emma Van Praagh, Leah Sherbansky & Sophia Cipolla; **7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grade:** Dale Martin, Allison Lange, Katy Lange, Caitlin Winston, Malia McClellan, Mattie Johnson & Ulysses Conrad; **9<sup>th</sup> grade:** Alanah Parker, Grace Aronson, Jack Finegan, Arthur O'Sullivan & Joel Hawthorne; **Colonial:** Kate Gristina, Claudia Hertwig, Ben Gorski & Anderson Sylver; **Siwanoy:** Kady Finegan, Michael Domenici, Bates Bland & Sean McCormick; **Prospect Hill:** Joselyn Warwick, Olivia Polsky, Madison Schneider & Ava Sobolak; **Hutchinson:** Lotti Drinkwine, William Johnson, Milan Otondi & Amelia Des Marais. **HS Area All-State Chorus:** Kiera Mallinson; **All-County Orchestra (Grades 5-9):** Max Edmister (violin, 5<sup>th</sup> grade Prospect Hill), Andrew Scott (violin, 5<sup>th</sup> grade, Siwanoy), Joshua Casenas (violin, 4<sup>th</sup> grade, Hutchinson); **All-County Junior Orchestra:** Mark Tarazi, Ann Liu & Katie Scott; **All-County Intermediate Orchestra:** Lucas Matos; **HS Area All-State Orchestra:** Rachel Radvany, Alex Kougasian, Enea Dushaj, Adam Wisniewski-Jensen, Emily Xue, Janne Lewis & John-Howard Bissell; **All-County Intermediate Band:** Liv Villegas Chan & Michael Li.

## Pel Mel, HS Newspaper Honored

**Columbia Scholastic Press Association:** Gold Medal; **American Scholastic Press Association:** 1<sup>st</sup> Place; **National Scholastic Press Association:** 1<sup>st</sup> Class with One Mark for Distinction.

## Model UN

**Columbia Model UN Conference & Exhibition:** Verbal Commendation - Peter Slotwiner; Honorable Mention - Alana Dvorkin; Best Delegate Award - Robert Horowitz.

## Top Award for *The Pelican*, HS Yearbook

**National Scholastic Press Association:** 1<sup>st</sup> Class Rating with One Mark of Distinction; **Columbia Scholastic Press Association:** Gold Medal Award

## MS & HS Artists

**Participants in Pelham Art Center's Art Salon Exhibition:** Kaitlyn Czajka, Rachel Ellenbogen, Jane Ely, Mia Randazzo, Alexis Teller, Christopher Tolan, Mary Vrahimis, Gabriella Bhiri, Lucy Bischof, Manon Bushong, Zoe Casey, Oisín Connolly, Sophia Juliano, Michael Kakos, Isabel Kenny, Chloe Krulak, Arden Neu, Luca Rivera, Kimberly Rosell, Anna Ruuge, Meghan Stevens & Ariana Vazquez. **11<sup>th</sup> Annual StArt Regional High School Art Exhibition Participants:** Rachel Ellenbogen, Mia Randazzo & Mary Vrahimis.

## 2016-17 Athletes

**State Champions, Section 1 Division 2 Champions, Regional Champions:** Ice Hockey; **State Champion:** Kate Douglass, Swimming; **Section 1 Champions:** Girls Swimming. **Scholar Athlete Teams** (composite scores of 90 or above): Boys & Girls Basketball, Fall Cheerleading, Winter Cheerleading, Cross Country, Ice Hockey, Field Hockey, Football, Boys & Girls Soccer, Tennis, Winter Track, Girls' Swimming & Volleyball. **All-American: Swimming:** Kate Douglass, Jane Bryce, Lucy Bischof & Madison Hartigan. **All-State: Swimming:** Kate Douglass; **Volleyball:** Sydney Shotkoski & Charlotte Krause; **Ice Hockey:** Ben Hurd, Gib Smith, Stefan Miklakos, Natty Heintz & Will Case; **Boys' Basketball:** Davis Allen. **NYS Division 2 Player of the Year - Gib Smith.** **All-County: Winter Track:** Dan Dempsey. **All-Section: Girls Soccer:** Alison Emery; **Diving:** Jennifer Bell; **Ice Hockey:** Ben Hurd, Gibson Smith, Stefan Miklakos, Natty Heintz & Will Case; **Swimming:** Madison Hartigan, Jane Bryce, Lucy Bischof & Kate Douglass; **Volleyball:** Sydney Shotkoski & Charlotte Krause; **Boys Basketball:** Davis Allen; **Girls Basketball:** Samantha Volpe. **All-Conference: Volleyball:** Sydney Shotkoski & Charlotte Krause; **Boys Basketball:** Davis Allen; **All-Elite: Field Hockey:** Madelyn Dunbar; **Academic Athlete: Hockey:** Ben Hurd.

**BOARD OF EDUCATION**

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**SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS**

Peter Giarrizzo, Ed. D.....738-3434, ext. 6

**EDITOR**

Alex Wolff

**DESIGNER**

Beth Pollock

**PHOTOGRAPHER**

Deborah Karson

**Postal Patron  
ECR-WSS****VOTE! School Budget & School Board Election  
May 16: PMHS Gym, 7 am - 9 pm****Mark Your Calendar****TENURE RECOGNITION**

**May 23, Reception:** 7:30 pm, *HS Library*;  
**Meeting:** 8:15 pm, *MS Library*. Receiving tenure  
are:

Meryeme Gashi  
Alaura Stivala (Imperioli)  
Tara Carmody

**RETIREE RECOGNITION**

**June 6, Reception:** 7:30 pm, *HS Library*;  
**Meeting:** 8:15 pm, *MS Library*. Retiring are:

Mr. Bob Benkwitt  
Dr. Richard Limato  
Ms. Catherine Morgan  
Mrs. Gail Orfei

**SUPERINTENDENT'S END-OF-YEAR REPORT**

**June 13, 8:15 pm, MS Library**

**ARE YOU READY TO VOTE?**

Contact District Clerk, Stephanie Pollock, for all questions regarding voting.

 **738-3434, ext. 6**  **spollock@pelhamschools.org**  **18 Franklin Place**

**Voter Qualifications**

*To vote in a School District election/vote, you must:*

- Be a U.S. citizen
- Pelham resident for at least 30 days prior to the election and vote
- Be at least 18 years of age by Election Day
- Not claim the right to vote elsewhere
- Be registered with either the County Board of Elections or with the School District Board of Registration.

**Voter Registration**

*You are registered if:*

- You are on the Westchester County voters' list and have voted at least once in the last four years, or
- You have personally registered to vote with the School District Board of Registration.

**TO REGISTER WITH THE COUNTY**

Download forms at **pelhamschools.org** under Need to Know - Voter Information or pick up a form at the District Office or any school office. Fill in and mail. Must be received by the Westchester Board of Elections before day of the vote.

**TO REGISTER WITH THE SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Saturday, April 29, 2017: 10:00 am - 2:00 pm at District Office, or  
Monday, May 8, 2017, 4:00 - 8:00 pm at District Office.

**Absentee Ballot - If You Cannot Get to the Polls:**

*This is a two-step process of filling in and returning an application and filling in and returning the ballot:*

Download an application at **pelhamschools.org** → **Need to Know** → **Voter Information**. You can also pick up a form at the District Office or any school office.

**STEP 1:**

Fill in the application and return to the District Clerk in person or by mail by:

- 4:00 pm on May 9 if the ballot is to be mailed to the voter,
- 4:00 pm on May 15 if the ballot will be delivered in person. **Note: Only Original Signatures will be accepted.**

**STEP 2:**

Fill in the ballot\* and return it to the District Clerk no later than 5:00 pm on the day of the vote, May 16. Ballots received after that date and time will not be counted.

**\*IMPORTANT NOTE:**

Absentee ballot applications are available immediately. However, absentee ballots will not be available until May 5 due to this year's extended deadline for receiving prospective candidate nominating petitions.

**CONTESTED  
SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION**

Five candidates are running for two openings on the Board of Education. They are Sue Bratone Childs, Jessica DeDomenico, Stephen K. Doka, Ben Metz, Lonnie H. Phillips.

Both open positions are for full three-year terms. View PTA-sponsored Candidates' Forum on Cablevision Ch. 77/FiOs Ch. 42 or at **pelhamschools.org** (see "Good to Know").

**For More Budget Info**

**VISIT** **pelhamschools.org**. Click "District" → "Budgets & Finance" → "Budgets & Documents."

**CALL** School Board members or Superintendent Giarrizzo (numbers listed above).

**EMAIL** questions to **boe@pelhamschools.org**.

**WATCH** Cablevision Ch. 77 or FiOS Ch. 42.

**Senior Citizen Gold Card**

Residents of the Town of Pelham, 60 years or older, are eligible for a Gold Card. This will admit you, at no charge, to designated school musicals and dramatic presentations. Please contact Alex Wolff at 738-3434, ext. 1131 or **awolff@pelhamschools.org**.