Kaleidoscope

A Publication of the Katonah-Lewisboro School District

Proposed Budget Highlights



Curriculum Enhancements

2016-17 Proposed Expenditures

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ENHANCING ACADEMICS

The 2016-17 proposed budget includes a number of items that will further enrich the district's educational program. A World Language Lab will be introduced at John Jay High School and John Jay Middle School. Elementary and middle school students will be introduced to new mathematics materials. In addition, new textbook adoptions will take place in multiple subjects in grades six through 12. The proposed budget also includes the introduction of a therapeutic support program at the high school, as well as the addition of a board-certified behavior analyst.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT EXPANSION

This budget supports the addition of two staff developer positions. These teachers will provide more in-district professional development for our faculty. In addition, the district plans to continue its partnership with Teachers College, Columbia University in the area of writing.

THIRD YEAR OF SPENDING DECREASES

For the third consecutive year, the Board of Education has adopted a budget that represents a decrease from the current year's spending plan.

Compared to the 2015-16 budget, the 2016-17 proposal represents a reduction in spending of \$2.7 million. This represents a 2.52 percent decrease. The district has seen a decrease in its debt due to making the final payment on two bonds; a \$14.5 million bond and a \$9.9 million bond associated with construction projects undertaken in 1995. In addition, the Board of Education will prepay approximately \$560,000 of debt issued to purchase buses. The combined impact of these transactions will reduce debt payments by \$3,263,715. Additional savings in 2016-17 are achieved through the Board of Education's utilization of multi-year contracts to help lock in lower electricity costs.

> Budget: \$105,994,936

Budget-to-budget change: \$2.7 million DECREASE

Tax levy: \$92,825,737*

Tax Levy Change: \$3.08 million DECREASE* *Projection

Budget Vote and School Board Election

Tuesday, May 17, 6 a.m.-9 p.m. at IMES, KES and MPES

A MESSAGE FROM

Your BOE President

Dear Community Members,

On Tuesday, May 17 district residents will have the opportunity to vote on the proposed Katonah-Lewisboro school budget for the 2016-17 school year. Our school administration has judiciously structured the proposed budget to ensure excellence in academic and extra-curricular programming and careful management of school district resources. After extensive review, the Board of Education has voted unanimously to support the Superintendent's proposed budget. We are pleased to present a budget that preserves high quality education and opportunity for students even as it represents a 2.52 percent decrease from last year's budget, which was itself a 2.19 percent decrease from the previous (2014-15) budget.

The proposed 2016-17 budget continues to support excellent staffing levels in our classrooms as well as important programs added in the recent past such as full-day kindergarten and an internship program for students in their senior year. In addition, the budget includes

funding for a variety of resources including new texts, improved access to technology and support for best practices in all academic areas. Among other things, students will benefit from critical curriculum development work, opportunity to access two state-of-the-art language labs and support for emotional and social needs as they pursue their academic endeavors. The budget also includes funding for important infrastructural improvements to ensure quality communication with our community as well as the safety and well-being of students and staff.

Even as the proposed budget provides funding to meet the needs of our current students, it reflects taxpayer savings associated with reductions in debt service, state mandated retirement contributions, enrollment and energy costs. The proposed budget will result in a tax levy that is below the New York State tax cap and lower than the current tax levy. This is the third consecutive year of budget-to-budget and tax levy decreases, and we are fortunate to be

able to achieve these taxpayer savings while preserving and enhancing excellent programming in our schools.

Separate from the budget approval process, we are asking the community to support the continued safe, responsible transportation of our students by authorizing use of district funds to continue a bus replacement cycle. This item will appear in a separate proposition on the ballot and will not increase or decrease the tax levy. Your authorization is required, however, to utilize these existing funds for bus purchases.

We appreciate the leadership of our Superintendent and the involvement of staff and community members in a budget development process that carefully considers the needs of our taxpayers and our students. Thank you for your continued support of our schools and our students.

Please cast your vote on Tuesday, May 17.

Sincerely, Marjorie Schiff President, Board of Education

Finhancing the KLSD Experience

The Katonah-Lewisboro School District continues to seek ways to improve the educational experience for students at all grade levels while balancing the fiscal demands of a community-friendly budget.

Throughout the 2015-16 academic year, students have seen more course offerings, including a plethora of newly introduced electives at John Jay High School, as well as new technology, texts and curricula.

In the fall, middle and high school students

enjoyed the unveiling of new outdoor athletic and recreational facilities on campus. A community-funded tennis complex was opened to meet the needs of our competitive athletic teams, our physical education classes and the greater community. In addition, a new track and turf field is offering a state-of-the-art area for athletic contests and recreation.

Advancements in curricula and across all areas of education will continue in the year to come.



Points of Pride:

Highlights from the 2015-16 School Year

- Two middle school students were named national finalists in the World Series of Innovation.
- The high school's girls cross-country team was named Class B state champions.
- Elementary students created special cards for the Valentines for Veterans program.
- The middle school's Geography Bee winner qualified to compete at the New York State level of the National Geographic Bee.
- The high school's chorale was invited to perform in the New York Choral Festival at Carnegie Hall.
- A high school student was named a semifinalist in the Intel Science Talent Search.
- Students throughout the district encouraged each other to make smart choices during Red Ribbon Week.
- Eight high school students received medals at the New York State Science Olympiad in Syracuse.
- Middle school students explored their love for science and earned awards during the annual Science Fair.
- Elementary students learned more about learning differences during the SEPTA Differences Day program.
- High school musicians created the school's first Tri-M Music Honor Society.



- The high school's mock trial team had an impressive season and competed at the Westchester County Courthouse in White Plains.
- Students at each of the elementary schools participated in seasonal drives to collect items for charity during the holidays.
- Sixteen students from the high school's Model UN club participated in the Ivy League Model United Nations Conference in Philadelphia.
- Middle school students earned a fifth-place finish at the Westchester/Putnam MATHCOUNTS Competition at Pace University.
- Elementary students were engaged in coding during the international Hour of Code.
- The high school's top two Poetry Out Loud contestants competed in the regional competition at Purchase College.

Curriculum Developments Across the District

A number of subject areas will be the focus of continued curriculum development heading into the 2016-17 academic year.

Administrators and teachers have been endeavoring to create and implement more of an inquiry-based approach to social studies. In ELA, the district is working to create new units for K-12. Additionally, there will be continued attention to the K-12 mathematics curriculum. Finally, world language courses in grades 6-12 continue to receive revision and improvements to meet the needs of students and align with World Language standards.

To prepare for these improvements, faculty are involved in a number of professional development opportunities, including attending conferences, working with consultants and collaborating with each other.

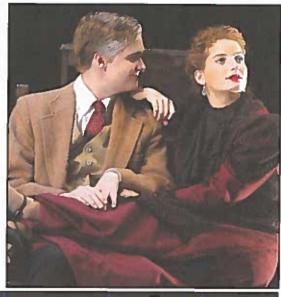


2016 BUDGET NEWSLETTER

2016-17 EXPENDITURE CHART

ITEM	BUDGET 2015-16	PROPOSED BUDGET 2016-17	DOLLAR DIFFERENCE	% DIFFERENCE	% OF TOTAL BUDGET
Board of Education			Sharman Ca	Committee and	
	\$66,505	\$64,929	(\$1,576)	-2.37%	0.06%
District Clerk & Voting Central Administration	\$98,983	\$121,118	\$22,135	22.36%	0.11%
	\$434,103	\$423,661	(\$10,442)	-2.41%	0.40%
Finance	\$1,010,490	\$1,050,393	\$39,903	3.95%	0.99%
Personnel Services	\$458,923	\$407,814	(\$51,109)	-11.14%	0.38%
Legal Services					
Attorney Fees for General					
Counsel, Labor Counsel					
and CSE Litigation	\$648,963	\$540,101	(\$108,862)	-16.77%	0.51%
Public Information	\$84,407	\$105,750	\$21,343	25.29%	0.10%
Operations and Maintenance					
Buildings and Grounds	\$6,568,712	\$6,368,528	(\$200,184)	-3.05%	6.01%
Printing, Mailing,	201				
Data Processing,					
Records Management,					
Warehouse	\$834,262	\$790,533	(\$43,729)	-5.24%	0.75%
Insurance	\$152,895	\$152,868	(\$27)	-0.02%	0.14%
Tax Certioraris/Judgments	Ti and the second		-022		
and Claims	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$0	0.00%	0.05%
Special Items	*				
BOCES Administration/Capital					
MTA Tax	\$640,820	\$648,004	\$7,184	1.12%	0.61%
SUBTOTAL	\$11,049,063	\$10,723,699	(\$325,364)	-2.94%	10.12%
Curriculum Development	\$654,362	\$638,969	(\$15,393)	-2.35%	0.60%
Building &	1				A. C.
Department Supervision	\$4,357,815	\$4,635,389	\$277,574	6.37%	4.37%
Research Planning &	-		-		
Staff Development	\$233,014	\$198,577	(\$34,437)	-14.78%	0.19%
Teaching - Regular School	\$30,482,418	\$30,650,472	\$168,054	0.55%	28.92%
Special Education Program	\$11,688,430	\$12,018,183	\$329,753	2.82%	11.34%
Adult Ed/Drivers Ed	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$0	0.00%	~ 0.00%
School Library/Audio-Visual/Ed.	-	7,5,5	,,,	3.33.3	0,00.0
Television	\$988,792	\$1,021,513	\$32,721	3.31%	0.96%
Instructional Computer		7.1,-2.1,-1.2	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	5.51.75	
Software/Hardware	\$2,359,376	\$2,527,189	\$167,813	7.11%	2.38%
Co-curricular Activities	\$409,040	\$406,500	(\$2,540)	-0.62%	0.38%
Interscholastic Sports	\$937,549	\$918,910	(\$18,639)	-1.99%	0.87%
Other Pupil Services	\$4,289,834	\$4,298,614	\$8,780	0.20%	4.06%
SUBTOTAL	\$56,405,630	\$57,319,316	\$913,686	1.62%	54.08%
Pupil Transportation/Recreation	\$4,841,264	\$4,920,862	\$79,598	1.64%	4.64%
SUBTOTAL	\$4,841,264	\$4,920,862	\$79,598	1.64%	4.64%
Employee Benefits	\$29,857,444				
Debt Service		\$29,706,455	(\$150,989)	0.51%	28.03%
Interfund Transfer	\$6,043,319	\$2,779,604	(\$3,263,715)	-54.01%	2.62%
SUBTOTAL	\$535,000	\$545,000	\$10,000	1.87%	0.51%
	\$36,435,763	\$33,031,059	(\$3,404,704)	-9.34%	31.16%
GRAND TOTAL	\$108,731,720	\$105,994,936	(\$2,736,784)	-2.52%	100.00%





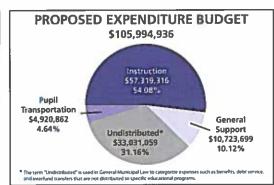
2016-17 REVENUES

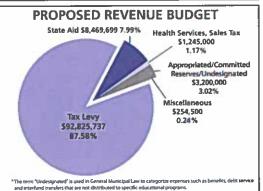
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	BUDGET 2015-16	PROPOSED BUDGET 2016-17	DOLLAR DIFFERENCE	% DIFFERENCE	% OF TOTA BUDGET
State Aid	\$7,888,157	\$8,469,699	\$581,542		
SUBTOTAL	\$7,888,157	\$8,469,699	\$581,542	7.37%	7.99%
Health Services/Sales Tax/BOCES			100		
Refunds from BOCES	\$125,000	\$90,000	(\$35,000)		
Health Services	\$210,000	\$215,000	\$5,000		
Westchester County Sales Tax	\$943,810	\$940,000	(\$3,810)		
SUBTOTAL	\$1,278,810	\$1,245,000	(\$33,810)	-2.64%	1.17%
Miscellaneous					
Earnings on Investments	\$92,150	\$90,000	(\$2,150)		
Rentals	\$12,908	\$13,000	\$92		
Insurance Refunds	\$15,000	\$12,000	(\$3,000)		
Admissions and Fees	\$30,000	\$82,000	\$52,000		
Miscellaneous	\$60,000	\$57,500	(\$2,500)		
SUBTOTAL	\$210,058	\$254,500	\$44,442	21.16%	0.24%
Appropriated/Committed	18%	**************************************			
Reserves					
Reserves Applied to Tax Reduction	\$1,250,000	\$1,250,000	\$0		
Appropriated and Use of					
Fund Balance	\$2,200,000	\$1,950,000	(\$250,000)		
SUBTOTAL	\$3,450,000	\$3,200,000	(\$250,000)	-7.25%	3.02%
Total Revenue Other Than					
Real Property Tax	\$12,827,025	\$13,169,199	\$342,174	2.67%	12.42%
Tax Levy	\$95,904,695	\$92,825,737	(\$3,078,958)	-3.21%	87.58%
GRAND TOTAL	\$108,731,720	\$105,994,936	(\$2,736,784)	-2.52%	100.00%

Tax Rate Projection Summary

	BUDGET 2015-16	PROPOSED BUDGET 2016-17	DOLLAR DIFFERENCE	CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS YEAR
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$108,731,720	\$105,994,936	(\$2,736,784)	-2.52%
TOTAL REVENUE OTHER THAN PROPERTY TAXES	\$12,827,025	\$13,169,199	\$342,174	2.67%
AMOUNT TO BE RAISED BY TAX LEVY	\$95,904,695	\$92,825,737	(\$3,078,958)	-3.21%

Tax Rates	2015-16 Rate/\$1,000 of Assessed Value	2016-17 Estimated Rate/\$1,000 of Assessed Value	% Change from previous year
Bedford	\$193.9167	\$185.3385	-4.42%
Lewisboro	\$195.4287	\$191.3321	-2.10%
North Salem	\$184.8736	\$166.3502	-10.02%
Pound Ridge	\$110.9319	\$106.7734	-3.75%





Katonah Lewisboro School District Budget Notice

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Overall Budget Proposal	Budget Adopted for the 2015-16 School Year	Budget Proposed for the 2016-17 School Year	Contingency Budget for the 2016-17 School Year*	
Total Budgeted Amount, Not Including Separate Propositions	\$108,731,720	\$105,994,936	\$105,301,077	
Increase/Decrease for the 2016-17 School Year		(\$2,736,784)	(\$3,430,643)	
Percentage Increase/Decrease in Proposed Budget		-2.52%	-3.16%	
Change in the Consumer Price Index		0.12%		
A. Proposed Tax Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount	\$95,904,695	\$92,825,737		
B. Levy to Support Library Debt, if Applicable	\$0	\$0		
C. Levy to Non-Excludable Propositions, if Applicable**	SO	\$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)	\$95,904,695	\$92,825,737	\$92,131,878	
F. Permissible Exclusions to the School Tax Levy Limit	\$4,911,059	\$1,607,440		
G. School Tax Levy Limit, Excluding Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$95,231,774	\$91,438,898		
H. Total Proposed Tax Levy for School Purposes, Excluding Permissible Exclusions and Levy for Library Debt, Plus Prior Year Tax Cap Reserve (E-B-F+D)	\$90,993,636	\$91,218,297		
1. Difference: (G-H); (Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval - See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions)**	\$4,238,138	\$220,601		
	A10 000 000	612 AGE 717	612 AEC 700	
Administrative Component	\$12,986,066	\$13,095,717	\$13,056,708	
Program Component	\$80,428,581	\$81,070,571	\$80,866,097	
Capital Component	\$15,317,073	\$11,828,648	\$11,37 <u>8,272</u>	

^{*} Assuming "revenues other than tax levy," remain as presented in the original budget, a contingent budget would require an additional \$693,859 in reductions to the general fund budget. This would necessitate elimination of the following: \$19,700 for community use of facilities; \$237,445 for instructional, operations and maintenance, and transportation equipment purchases; \$24,144 administrative expenses and \$412,570 in other reductions. If necessary, the actual cuts to the proposed budget in the amount of \$693,859 would be made by the Administration and the Board of Education Law.

^{**} List separate propositions that are not included in the Capital Total Budgeted Amount: (capital tax, capital levy associated with educational or transportation services propositions are not eligible for exclusion and may affect voter approval requirements)

Description	Amount
Bus Replacement Proposition #2 (to be funded through use of surplus) – replacement of 5 large buses and 5 vans (various sizes)	\$895,000

	Under the Budget Proposed for the 2016-17 School Year
Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings ¹	\$1,707

The annual budget vote for the fiscal year of 2016-2017 by the qualified voters of the Katonah-Lewisboro Union Free School District, Westchestef County, New York, will be held at Katonah Elementary School, Increase Miller Elementary School and Meadow Pood Elementary School in said district on Tuesday, May 17, 2016 between the hours of 6:00 am and 9:00 pm, prevailing time, 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.



Q. What does the proposed budget include?

A. The proposed budget provides for a number of academic enhancements, such as new courses and textbooks, while preserving current programs and maintaining favorable class sizes.

Q. How does this budget support students?

A. While balancing its fiscal responsibilities, the Board of Education strives to provide excellence in teaching and learning throughout the district. This budget proposal supports improvements to academics and the whole school program, including the introduction of World Language Labs at the secondary level and the addition of new math materials in the elementary

and middle school. To be sure we maintain favorable class sizes and provide appropriate support for all students, this budget includes the addition of special education staff and five contingency positions. The expansion of professional development opportunities, such as through the district's partnership with Teachers College, Columbia University, will enhance teachers' abilities to support students in writing. The special education program is evolving to allow us to meet the needs of more students in-district.

Q. How was a decrease made possible?

A. The budget-to-budget decrease of \$2,736,784 can be attributed to careful and thorough budgeting

on the part of the district's Board of Education and administrative team. Additionally, factors such as the satisfaction of district debt and retirement system costs contributed to this proposed decrease. The district also anticipates an increase in state aid of \$581,542 for the coming school year.

Q. What is the tax levy? What is the impact of the tax levy cap?

A. The estimated tax levy in the proposed 2016-17 budget is \$92,825,737, which represents a DECREASE of \$3,078,958 from the current year's tax levy. This amount is below the district's 2016-17 calculated New York State-mandated tax cap limit, which means the budget will require a simple majority of 50

(continued on page 8...)

Proposition No. 2: Bus Replacement

In addition to the general fund budget proposal, voters will have an opportunity to weigh in on one additional proposition to fund replacement buses and other vehicles that have reached the ends of their lives. If approved, there would be **no impact on taxes**.

This proposition seeks the community's approval to authorize the purchase of: two 66-passenger school buses at a cost of approximately \$111,000 each; three 78-passenger school buses at a cost of \$136,000 each; three 18-passenger school vans at a cost of \$51,000 each; and two 34-passenger school vans at a cost of \$56,000 each, for a **total cost of \$895,000**. These purchases would be funded by current monies available within the general fund that would be transferred to the capital fund.



All buses within our fleet will now be equipped with GPS location technology that will allow the transportation office to track the progress of each bus in real time. The transportation budget includes funds to accommodate a multi-year lease of this GPS equipment and the service contracts necessary to activate these services. All GPS technology integrates with our bus routing software.

Eight of the buses being replaced are 11 years old and two are 14 years old. Five of the buses have between 180,000 and 205,000 miles; three buses have between 130,000 and 140,000 miles; and two buses have between 120,000 and 130,000 miles. It is important for the district to maintain a replacement schedule so that it does not end up with a very large number of buses needing to be replaced in any one year.

Voter Information

Budget Vote and Board of Education Election: May 17, 2016, 6 a.m.-9 p.m.

- Increase Miller Elementary School
- Katonah Elementary School
- Meadow Pond Elementary School

Election of three school board members.

Voter Qualifications:

An individual must:

- Be a U.S. citizen, 18 years of age or older; and
- Have resided in the school district for 30 days preceding the day of the vote.

Voter Registration

Individuals may register at any of the schools in the district or in the District Office between the hours of 9 a.m.-3 p.m. on regular school/business days. Registration is open through Thursday, May 12, 2016. All voters registered with Westchester County are automatically registered with the school district. A special registration will take place at the District Office on Saturday, May 7, 2016 between the hours of 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Absentee Ballots

Absentee ballots are permitted in all school board elections and/or referenda. Absentee ballots may be cast by a qualified voter who is:

- A patient in a hospital or who is unable to vote because of illness or physical disability.
- Out of the county of residence on election day because of business, vacation or studies.

A two-page application form can be obtained from the district clerk or each school building secretary, and may also be downloaded from the school district website, www.klschooldistrict.org, and returned to the district clerk.

Applications, if they are mailed, must be received by the district clerk by Tuesday, May 10, 2016. Applications, if delivered personally, must be received by the district clerk no later than 5 p.m. on Monday, May 16, 2016. Once the district clerk receives the application, an absentee ballot will be mailed to the address specified on the application. Absentee ballots must be received by the district clerk no later than 5 p.m. on Tuesday, May 17, 2016.

Additional Information

For additional information, please contact Kimberly Monzon, District Clerk, at 763-7020 or by email at kmonzon@klschools.org.



P.O. Box 387 Katonah, NY 10536

Board of Education

Marjorie Schifft, President
Jeff Holbrook, Vice President
Scott Posner
William Rifkin
Richard Stone
Stephanie Tobin
Peter Treyz
Terrence Levens, Student Representative

Non-Profit Organization U.S. Postage Paid Permit No. 3650 White Plains, NY 10610

POSTAL CUSTOMER

Administration

Andrew Selesnick, Superintendent
Alice Cronin, Asst. Supt. for Instruction
Michael Jumper, Asst. Supt. for Business
Debra Legato, Asst. Supt. for HR



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percent plus one to pass on May 17.

Q. What happens if the budget is not approved by voters?

A. If the budget is defeated, the district may present the budget to the voters for reconsideration in June in the same or an amended form. If the Board of Education does decide to place the budget before the community a second time, and if it is defeated both times (or after the first defeat in the event the Board decides not to place the budget before the voters a second time), the Board of Education must adopt a contingent budget, which would require reductions.

