# Pelham Follows

A PUBLICATION OF THE PELHAM BOARD OF EDUCATION

SPRING 2018

## **BUDGET, BOND VOTE & SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION: MAY 15**

Polls Open 7 am - 9 pm, PMHS Main Gym

**COMMUNITY INFO SESSIONS:** Tuesday, May 8, 7 pm, Daronco Townhouse I Friday, May 11, 9 am, Daronco Townhouse



## Dear Residents,

On Tuesday, May 15 you will have the opportunity to vote on the 2018-19 school budget and bond propositions, and to elect two new

members to the Board of Education.

The budget and bond proposals are the result of months of hard work, including countless hours of study by the Board, the Administration, and various committees. We are thankful for the incredibly helpful feedback that we have received from our community, including from residents who have participated on committees, have attended our community engagement events and have reached out to the Board.

Every year since the New York State tax cap was enacted, the Board has worked to ensure that our tax levy increase is compliant. This year, the preliminary budget included a tax levy increase of 2.42%, however the Board elected to reduce that to 2.09% through the use of reserves to lessen the burden on our taxpayers. Within that increase, which is below the rate of inflation (CPI), there are a number of proposals that are intended to build on the progress that we've already made toward the goals of our Strategic Plan. I'm also pleased that Pelham is once again among the 10 lowest districts in per pupil spending in Westchester/Putnam.

Importantly, this budget includes the addition of one Foreign Language Elementary School (FLES) teacher, which will allow the expansion of this program to the fourth grade. The FLES program, which began this school year in the second and third grades, incorporates Spanish language instruction into the elementary curriculum and has been highly successful.

The budget includes two important

→ CONTINUED on page 4

## On the Ballot

## PROPOSED BUDGET see pages 2-6

**2018-19 Budget:** \$73,650,000 | 1.20% Increase, Tax Cap Compliant

- ◆ Expands Foreign Language Elementary School (FLES) Program
- Maintains Favorable Class Size
- Increases Social-Emotional Supports for Our Students
- Continues Focus on Professional Development for Staff

## **Tax Levy:** 2.09%

- ◆ Compliant with Tax Cap of 2.09%
- Projected Tax Rate: \$18.39 per \$1,000 assessed home value (homestead assessed value using 2017 assessments)

## **BOND REFERENDUM** see pages 10-11

**Proposition 1:** Facilities Upgrades | \$52,900,000

- New Hutchinson School
- Renovation of District Offices PMHS/PMS to Provide Additional Classrooms
- Security & ADA Accessibility Upgrades at Prospect Hill
- ◆ Replacement of 1964 PMHS Roof & Parapets + PMS Masonry Repointing

## **Proposition 2:** Athletic Facilities and Fields | \$4,624,892

- ◆ Turfing of Glover Baseball/Practice Fields
- Glover Tennis Court Replacement
- ◆ Prospect Hill Field Irrigation & Renovation

(If Proposition 2 passes, it will only be implemented if Proposition 1 also passes)

## **Celebrating Excellence**

Annual District Report Card for 2015-16 & 2016-17 see pages 7-9



- ★ AAA rated by Standard and Poor's
- ★ PMHS ranked as 47<sup>th</sup> best HS in NYS and 388<sup>th</sup> in the country by U.S. News and World Report in May 2017
- PMHS ranked 21st most challenging high school in NYS by Washington Post

# A Responsible Financial Plan for Students & Taxpayers

## **BUDGETING FOR EXCELLENCE: What Your Tax Dollars Achieved in 2017-18**



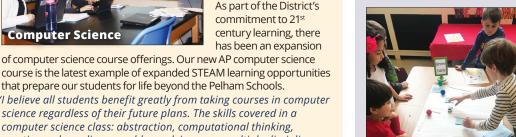
Last spring, Pelham Middle School received its full authorization as an International Baccalaureate World School. This designation is a result of continued professional development for our teachers and staff and is a hallmark of our Strategic Plan. As part of the IB program, students connect their learning to the real world. One example is through the IB-MYP Community Project.

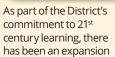
"I like that (with the IB-MYP Community Project) we're able to actually take action and not just research stuff, but make a difference. We're learning a lot from it. We are going on our own path."

Kate Dougherty, Gr. 8 regarding the "Play it Forward" sports equipment collection

"With the support of our community and the guidance of our Strategic Plan, the Pelham Public Schools has made significant progress over the past several years. We should take great pride in being able to offer our students a rigorous and diversified curriculum and I look forward to

continuing that tradition in the coming years." - Dr. Cheryl Champ, Superintendent of Schools





course is the latest example of expanded STEAM learning opportunities that prepare our students for life beyond the Pelham Schools. "I believe all students benefit greatly from taking courses in computer science regardless of their future plans. The skills covered in a computer science class: abstraction, computational thinking, creative and non-linear problem solving cross multiple disciplines. The demand for computer science related occupations are rising faster than college graduates can fill them, and the earlier students begin their computer science education, the more prepared they will be towards building a successful career."

- John LaGreca, AP Computer Science Teacher



This school year, for the first time, all 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students are receiving Spanish language instruction as part of their regular curriculum through the FLES program. The 2018-19 proposed budget supports expansion of FLES into the 4th grade next year.

"My favorite part about learning Spanish is when I get to go in front of the class and lead them. It's my favorite part because it builds my confidence when I

Sahana Ganapathy, Gr. 3, Hutchinson

All Pelham kindergarten students have participated in a new science curriculum known as Science 21. The program includes a more hands-on approach to science learning, encouraging students to

> experiment and make real-world connections. After a successful start in kindergarten, Science 21 is planned to expand into 1st and 2<sup>nd</sup> grades in 2018-19.

> "Our new Science 21 program gets students AND teachers excited for science! The curriculum offers experiences for children to learn new information by doing and exploring. Carrying out engaging hands-on science and engineering

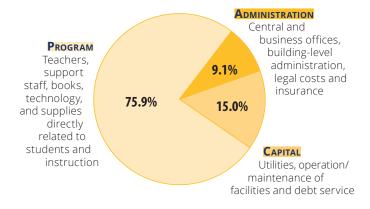
investigations has been one of the best parts of the curriculum. All activities promote thinking and discussions of fundamental concepts that our students will revisit again in middle and high school."

- Alaura Stivala, K Teacher, Colonial School

## **How the Budget Is Spent**

Computer Science

Our budget continues to focus its spending on students.



## **How Pelham's Projected Per Pupil Cost** Compares with Other Districts for 2017-18\*

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

10 Lowest Spe	NDING		10 HIGHEST SPE	NDING
Port Chester	20,002		Pocantico Hills	68,075
New Rochelle	23,551		Byram Hills	38,191
Peekskill	23,632		North Salem	38,046
Mamaroneck	23,782	MEDIAN	Briarcliff	35,423
Rye Neck	24,509	\$29,004	Katonah	34,882
PELHAM	24,942	•	Garrison	34,398
Ossining	25,160		Hendrick Hudson	34,129
Rye City	25,614		Valhalla	33,568
Eastchester	25,790		Irvington	33,091
Tarrytown	26,958		Elmsford	32,466

<sup>\*</sup>Based on 2017-18 projections of reporting districts

## The Revenue & Tax Rate Info, 2018-19 Budget

## **Tax Rebate for STAR Recipients**

The 2018-19 Pelham Schools' budget complies with the tax cap. As a result, qualified STAR recipients are eligible to receive a tax rebate from New York State next fall.

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

## PROJECTED TAX RATE PER THOUSAND

	<b>2017-18</b> Actual	2018-19 Projected	Change
Budget	\$72,780,000	\$73,650,000	1.20%
Tax Levy	\$60,427,331	\$61,692,210	2.09%
Tax Rate, Res. Homeowners* Homestead Tax Rate	\$18.87	\$18.39	-\$0.48
Tax Rate, Commercial Property Owners* Non-Homestead Tax Rate	\$26.13	\$25.99	-\$0.14

<sup>\*</sup>Tax rates are per \$1,000 of assessed value. The 2018-19 school taxes are based on the 2017 assessments.

## **HOW TO CALCULATE PROJECTED SCHOOL TAXES FOR 2018-19**

**Residential Homeowners:** Using your property's 2017 assessed value:



1. Divide your total assessed value\* for 2017 by \$1,000 to get your value on a per \$1,000 basis..



2. Multiply by \$18.39, the projected tax rate.



3. Deduct Basic STAR savings of \$1,711 or Enhanced STAR savings of \$3,553, if applicable.

## ASSESSED VALUATION

Assessed valuation has an impact on the amount of taxes a homeowner pays. As of March 2018, the homestead assessed valuation increased by \$130,152,225 from the prior year and the non-homestead increased by \$7,024,323. These assessment figures are subject to change before tax bills are issued.

**Projected Residential Valuation** \$2,752,728,450 **Projected Commercial Valuation** \$425,463,847 **Projected Total** \$3,178,192,297

## **BUDGETED REVENUE**

#### **Property Taxes**

\$61,692,210

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

#### **State Aid**

\$7.843.736

This amount is based on the State's adopted budget and reflects an increase of \$507,778. This is due primarily to an increase in BOCES, Building, and Foundation aids.

#### **Miscellaneous Receipts** \$2,389,054

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 -ERS Pension Reserve Fund**

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

## **Appropriated Fund Balance -Debt Service Fund**

\$200,000

\$715,000

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

## **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.

## RESIDENCY CHECK

students investigated for residency verification

identified as residents

7 determined to be non-residents

We continually work to improve our system to verify that incoming students are residents. For concerns regarding residency, please call 738-3434, ext. 1166 or send an email to residency@pelhamschools.org.

<sup>\*</sup>Veteran and Partial Exemptions should be deducted from your total assessed value.

SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET NOTICE				
Overall Budget Proposal	Budget Adopted for the 2017-18 School Year	Budget Proposed for the 2018-19 School Year	Contingency Budget for the 2018-19 School Year*	
Total Budgeted Amount, Not Including Separate Propositions	\$72,780,000	\$73,650,000	\$72,885,000	
Increase/Decrease for the 2018-19 School Year		\$870,000	\$105,000	
Percentage Increase/Decrease in Proposed Budget		1.20%	0.14%	
Change in the Consumer Price Index		2.13%		
A. Proposed Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount	\$60,427,331	\$61,692,210		
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)	\$60,427,331	61,692,210	\$60,427,331	
F. Total Permissible Exclusions	\$1,534,989	\$1,387,805		
G. School Tax Levy Limit, <u>Excluding</u> Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$58,984,650	\$60,304,405		
H.Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, <u>Excluding</u> Levy to Support Library Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions (E – B – F + D)	\$58,892,342	\$60,304,405		
I. Difference: (G – H); (Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval – See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions)**	\$92,308	\$0		
Administrative Component	\$6,563,554	\$6,676,475	\$6,646,671	
Program Component	\$54,884,854	\$55,899,867	\$55,650,332	
Capital Component	\$11,331,592	\$11,073,658	\$10,587,997	

\*Pursuant to Section 2023 of NYS Education Law, a contingent budget must be adopted by the Board of Education if a 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: no tax levy increase over 2017-18; increase in appropriated fund balance of \$500,000 as a funding source; removal of all new equipment purchases (\$157,000); elimination of capital projects (\$386,000); elimination of salary increases for unrepresented & non-certified staff (\$37,000); and unspecified reductions in the Program component of the budget (\$200,000).

<sup>\*\*</sup>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
<b>Proposition 1:</b> Facilities upgrades to address capacity, ADA accessibility, safety & security features and infrastructure.	\$52,900,000
<b>Proposition 2:</b> Athletic facilities & fields projects to address issues resulting from increased use & growing participation by our physical education and athletic programs.	\$4,624,892

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

Under the Budget Proposed for the 2018-19 School Year

## Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings<sup>1</sup>

\$1,711

The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2018-19 by the qualified voters of the Pelham Union Free School District, Westchester County, New York, will be held at the Pelham Memorial High School in said district on Tuesday, May 15, 2018 between the hours of 7:00am and 9:00pm, 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.

#### ← CONTINUED from page 1

new positions, a high school social worker and a secondary supervisor of special education, both of which aim to improve social-emotional wellness supports for our students. These positions were created through the reallocation of funds within the Pupil Personnel Services department.

This year, in addition to the budget, you will see two bond propositions on the ballot. Proposition 1 totals \$52,900,000 and includes: building a new Hutchinson School; renovating the current District offices into 6 classrooms and an orchestra rehearsal room for the MS/HS and providing two science room upgrades; providing security and ADA accessibility upgrades at Prospect Hill school; and replacing the PMHS annex roof/parapets and addressing some masonry repointing at Pelham Middle School. Proposition 2 totals \$4,624,892 and includes: turfing the Glover baseball/practice fields; replacement of the tennis courts at Glover; and irrigation and renovation of Prospect Hill field. You will be asked to vote on both propositions, but if Proposition 2 is approved, it may only be implemented if Proposition 1 is also approved.

These bond propositions were developed over the course of 18 months. Throughout this process, the Board and District consulted with architects, construction professionals, masonry experts, engineers, and others, while also holding more than 50 community engagement sessions.

We encourage you to review the pages of this FOCUS to learn more about the budget and bond proposals. If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to us at BOE@pelhamschools.org. Most importantly, we hope you will VOTE on Tuesday, May 15 from 7 am - 9 pm in the PMHS Main Gym. And as always, we thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Madeline Smith, *President*, Pelham Board of Education

# **2018-19 Budget Appropriations**

The complete budget can be viewed at www.pelhamschools.org.

Click "District" → "Budgets & Finance" → "Budgets & Documents."

position (Secondary Supervisor of Special Education).	<b>BOCES Services</b>	870,984	490,357	(380,627)
Education teachers, and tuition for Special Education students attending programs out of district. Salaries include new administrative position (Secondary Supervisor of Special Education)	Supplies Tuition	2,800 357,950	2,800 530,094	172,144
	TOTAL	\$6,965,681	\$6,924,742	(\$40,939)
SCHOOL LIBRARY & AUDIO VISUAL	Salaries	\$670,121	\$633,260	(\$36,861)
Includes costs for the operation of school libraries, HS Info Center and	Supplies	5,805	5,185	(620)
audio visual needs.	Library Books TOTAL	36,188 <b>\$712,114</b>	27,620 <b>\$666,065</b>	(8,568) <b>(\$46,049)</b>
TECHNOLOGY	Salaries	\$265,883	\$275,049	\$9,166
Includes technology support services, network applications, hardware	Equipment	57,060	21,960	(35,100)
and software support. Supplies formerly accounted for in Contract	Contract Services	115,452	96,545	(18,907)
Services.	Supplies	_	14,963	14,963
	Software TOTAL	122,583 <b>\$560,978</b>	96,311 <b>\$504,828</b>	(26,272) <b>(\$56,150)</b>
PUPIL PERSONNEL	Salaries	\$3,034,420	\$3,123,883	\$89,463
Includes guidance services, school nurses, the school doctor,	Equipment	4,500	3,000	(1,500)
psychologists, attendance and building safety services. Salary increase	Contract Services	389,398	378,737	(10,661)
includes new HS social worker position.	Supplies	23,800	21,390	(2,410)
	TOTAL	\$3,452,118	\$3,527,010	\$74,892
CO-CURRICULAR & INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS	Salaries	\$883,562	\$895,728	\$12,166
Includes co-curricular activity stipends, athletic director, coaches, team	Contract Services	116,863	126,049	9,186
equipment, supplies, supervision at athletic events and athletic training services.	Supplies TOTAL	66,000 <b>\$1,066,425</b>	53,500 <b>\$1,075,277</b>	(12,500) <b>\$8,852</b>
TRANSPORTATION	Salaries	\$35,767	\$36,939	\$1,172
Includes mandated transportation for pupils attending private	Charter & Athletic Trips	161,250	160,185	(1,065)
and parochial schools, special needs students and those attending	<b>Contract Transportation</b>	922,331	897,117	(25,214)
occupational education programs. Also includes transportation for	Public Transportation	41,084	47,586	6,502
athletic events and certain trips.	Supplies TOTAL	500 <b>\$1,160,932</b>	350 <b>\$1,142,177</b>	(150) <b>\$(18,755)</b>
COMMUNITY SERVICES	Salaries			
Includes allocated costs for use of District fields and facilities by the	Contract Services	\$67,967 52,500	\$65,528 66,300	\$(2,439) 13,800
community.	Supplies	47,005	47,005	13,000
,	TOTAL	\$167,472	\$178,833	\$11,361
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	TOTAL	\$13,049,930	\$13,708,130	\$658,200
Represents contractually-required pension, health, employment taxes and other employment-related costs.				
INTERFUND TRANSFER	TOTAL	\$30,000	\$30,000	
Includes District share of summer school costs for special needs students.	IOIAL	<b>430,000</b>	<b>430,000</b>	_
LEGAL	TOTAL	\$55,500	\$45,000	\$(10,500)
Includes legal costs associated with student issues (health, welfare, safety, rights, discipline, disabilities, etc.)		•	•	
	TOTAL PROGRAM	\$54,884,854	\$55,899,867	\$1,015,013
	. JIAL I ROGRAM	+5 .,00 4,054	+55,655,667	,0 .5,0 .5

CAPITAL (BUILDINGS & GROUNDS)		2017-18 BUDGET	2018-19 BUDGET	INCREASE (DECREASE)
OPERATION & MAINTENANCE	Salaries	\$2,334,638	\$2,397,970	\$63,332
Includes cost for operation and maintenance of all school buildings	Equipment	68,900	100,000	31,100
and grounds, including custodial staff. Contract services include	Contract Services	1,775,308	1,697,998	(77,310)
anticipated property lease expenditures related to relocating	Utilities	1,181,000	1,181,000	_
the District's administrative offices off site, if the May 15 bond	Supplies	360,770	371,095	10,325
referendum is approved.	TOTAL	\$5,720,616	\$5,748,063	\$27,447
<b>EMPLOYEE BENEFITS</b> Represents contractually-required pension, health, employment taxes and	<b>TOTAL</b> other employment-related costs	<b>\$1,557,928</b>	\$1,516,476	\$(41,452)
<b>TRANSFER TO DEBT SERVICE</b> Includes debt service on capital bonds.	TOTAL	\$3,428,049	\$3,559,119	\$131,070
TRANSFER TO CAPITAL FUND Includes anticipated transfers for District-wide repair and remediation projects of	<b>TOTAL</b> accounted for in the Capital Fund.	\$625,000	\$250,000	\$(375,000)
	TOTAL CAPITAL	\$11,331,593	\$11,073,658	\$(257,935)
ADMINISTRATION (MANAGEMENT)				
BOARD OF EDUCATION/DISTRICT MEETING	Salaries	\$1,500	\$1,500	_
Includes cost of budget vote, meetings, publications, memberships,	Contract Services	55,000	51,500	(3,500)
consultants, workshops and BoardDocs.	Supplies & Materials	4,300	3,500	(800)
	BOCES Services	11,046	10,981	(65)
	District Meeting	12,500	12,500	_
	TOTAL	\$84,346	\$79,981	\$(4,365)
<b>DISTRICT CLERK</b> Includes stipend for district clerk (formerly included in Central Administration	n). Salaries	_	\$12,559	\$12,559
CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION	Salaries	\$490,228	\$435,101	\$(55,127)
Includes funds for the operation of the Superintendent's Office.	Contractual	24,700	14,500	(10,200)
	Supplies	7,500	5,000	(2,500)
	TOTAL	\$522,428	\$454,601	\$(67,827)
BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION	Salaries	\$600,168	\$641,437	\$41,269
Includes funds for the District Business Office including: accounting,	<b>Contractual &amp; Auditing</b>	108,015	108,315	300
payroll, accounts payable and receivable, bidding, audit and	Supplies	16,000	13,000	(3,000)
personnel functions for non-certified staff.	TOTAL	\$724,183	\$762,752	\$38,569
<b>LEGAL</b> Includes legal costs related to contractual negotiations, labor relations, regulat	<b>TOTAL</b> cory compliance, tax certiorari pro	<b>\$129,500</b> oceedings, etc.	\$105,000	\$(24,500)
PERSONNEL & PUBLIC INFORMATION	Salaries	\$183,570	\$186,453	\$2,883
Includes funds for advertising/recruiting of certified staff, employee	Equipment	500	500	-
record keeping and the Public Information Officer.	Contractual	6,000	6,000	_
	Supplies	3,000	2,500	(500)
	TOTAL	\$193,070	\$195,453	\$2,383
SPECIAL ITEMS	Insurance	\$296,000	\$301,350	\$5,350
Includes costs for liability and student accident insurance.	<b>Association Dues</b>	24,000	20,000	(4,000)
Also includes school association dues, sewer tax and BOCES	Sewer Tax	66,800	61,000	(5,800)
administrative fee.	BOCES Admin. Charge TOTAL	249,515 <b>\$636,315</b>	287,051 <b>\$669,401</b>	37,536 <b>\$33,086</b>
INSTRUCTION, ADMINISTRATION & IMPROVEMENT	Salaries	\$2,346,024	\$2,494,222	\$148,198
Includes costs for administration, evaluation and revision of the	Equipment	5,786	5,860	74
instructional program, including funds for student supervision and	Contract Services	208,588	179,903	(28,685)
operation of the principals' offices. Also includes staff development	Supplies	67,100	61,600	(5,500)
costs.	TOTAL	\$2,627,498	\$2,741,585	\$114,087
<b>EMPLOYEE BENEFITS</b> Represents contractually-required pension, health, employment taxes and other	<b>TOTAL</b> r employment-related costs.	\$1,646,213	\$1,655,143	\$8,930
	TOTAL ADMINISTRATION	\$6,563,553	\$6,676,475	\$112,922
		\$72,780,000		\$870,000
	IUIAL	412,160,000	773,030,000	3870,000

## 2015-16 & 2016-17 District Report Card

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



## Dear Community, Throughout

my first year as superintendent of the Pelham Public Schools, I have consistently been struck by

the strong commitment to teaching, learning and achievement exhibited by our students and teachers.

This school year, we have been astounded by our science research students, who continue to earn top honors in the most prestigious competitions, awed by our talented artists, actors and actresses, and inspired by our students' dedication to making the world a better place.

In 2014, the District embarked on a five-year Strategic Plan that was based on four pillars: 21st Century Learning, Social-emotional Wellness, Networks of Support, and Professional Learning. As we prepare to transition into the final year of that plan, we can be proud of the significant strides we have made and the dividends they are paying for our students.

Over the course of the past four years, the District has rolled out an ambitious set of initiatives that have quickly become part of the bedrock of our educational program. This includes new high school course offerings, such as Mandarin Chinese and AP Computer Science, introducing the International Baccalaureate Middle Years Programme in grades 6-10, and introducing mindfulness training through the School Yoga Project.

The implementation of this plan and these initiatives continues in the proposed 2018-19 school budget with proposals designed to improve the education for students across the elementary schools, middle school and high school.

In crafting this budget, the Board of Education and I took a hard look at our program to see where we could achieve savings, reallocate resources, and run our school district more efficiently. I am pleased to present voters with a budget that complies with the tax cap, continues to reduce our reliance on fund balance and

→ CONTINUED on page 8

## **Measuring Our Success**

## **OUR GRADUATES: Class of 2017**

"We've increased our efforts to proactively provide our students with opportunities for social-emotional learning. These powerful strategies can enhance a student's coping skills to face life's challenges in school, career and life."

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

Attending College	94.7%
4-Year Schools	85.2%
2-Year Schools	9.5%
Total Regents Diplomas Earned	32%
Regents Diplomas with Distinction Earned	65%
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.

## **Improving College Readiness**

4-Year Perspective

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

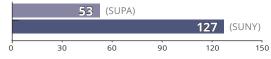
"High school students face tremendous pressures to participate and excel in rigorous learning experiences. School professionals and parents alike hold high expectations for children and the system. Institutions of higher education fuel many of these demands as well. Therefore, we must remain mindful of the delicate balance between academic and social-emotional development."

#### Dr. Steven M. Garcia,

Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction & Personnel



## Students enrolled in College Level Courses



Advanced Placement Tests	# Tested	Pelham Average Score	National Average Score
English Literature & Composition	115	2.6	2.7
English Language & Composition	146	3.1	2.8
U.S. History	101	3.1	2.6
European History	9	4.1	2.8
Psychology	31	3.7	3.0
U.S. Government & Politics	70	3.0	2.6
World History	99	3.6	2.8
Calculus AB	8	4.38	2.9
Calculus BC	37	3.62	3.6
Statistics	21	3.8	2.7
Biology	23	3.9	2.9
Chemistry	13	4.0	2.7
Physics I	87	3.0	2.4
Physics II	63	3.5	2.9
Environmental Science	7	4.5	2.7
Spanish Language	25	3.8	3.6
Studio Art - 2D	7	4.9	3.5

## 2015-16 & 2016-17 District Report Card

## **★Mean SAT Scores**

Critical Reading	2017
PMHS Mean Score	598
NYS Mean Score	528
Math	
PMHS Mean Score	591
NYS Mean Score	523

## **★Mean ACT Scores**

Test	PMHS	State
English	28.0	23.2
Math	26.2	24.0
Reading	27.3	24.6
Science	26.4	23.9
Composite	27.1	24.2

## ← CONTINUED from page 7

reserves, and most importantly enhances the educational program offered to our students.

Within this budget, we are proposing three new positions, a Foreign Language Elementary School teacher to expand Spanish instruction into 4th grade, a Secondary Supervisor of Special Education that will allow our clinicians to spend more time serving the needs of our children, and a high school social worker, who will provide additional support for the socialemotional wellness of our students. This budget also expands course offerings at PMHS, continues the professional development for our staff to implement the IB MYP, and expands our curricular and extracurricular offerings alike.

While much of our focus is rightfully on our academic program, this year we are also seeking to improve our facilities through a bond referendum. The two bond propositions were formulated following more than 18 months of study and are proposed to address issues related to capacity, security, accessibility, and infrastructure.

Please continue to visit our website for more information about the budget and bond, and most importantly, make sure to vote on May 15.

Sincerely,

Cheryl H. Champ, Ed. D. Superintendent of Schools

## **NYS Testing Grade 3-12**

"Our teachers and administrators use multiple measures to assess learning and growth. NYS exams should be a useful diagnostic tool to assist our understanding of student learning. Unfortunately, constant changes in standards and exam structures pose challenges for educators and parents in looking at NYS test scores as a meaningful gauge of student growth or achievement."

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

## ★2016-17 HS Regents Exams

# Tested	% Attaining Proficiency	% Attaining High Proficiency
216	97%	81% (level 5)
232	96%	67%
212	100%	80%
163	95%	13% (level 5)
207	83%	19% (level 5)
239	96%	64%
204	91%	32%
	Tested 216 232 212 163 207 239	Tested         Proficiency           216         97%           232         96%           212         100%           163         95%           207         83%           239         96%

## **★2016-17 Pelham Middle School Regents Exams**

Exam	# Tested	% Attaining Proficiency	% Attaining High Proficiency
Common Core Algebra I	113	100%	58% (level 5)
Earth Science	226	92%	63%

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; 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 2015-16 % Attaining Proficiency	PELHAM 2016-17 % Attaining Proficiency	NYS 2016-17 % Attaining Proficiency
Common Core English Language Arts*	66%	67%	40%
Common Core Math*	71%	68%	40%

<sup>\*</sup>The Common Core tests as well as attaining Proficiency and level 5 (Regents) are more challenging compared to previous State Exams.

## Colleges Our 2013 - 2017 Graduates **Are Attending**

62% of the class of 2017 are attending the top three tiers of schools.

Academy of Art Adelphi University Allegheny College American University Amherst College Anderson University Arizona State University Art Institute of Philadelphia

**Auburn University Bard College** Barnard College **Barry University Bates College Boston College Boston University** Bowdoin College **Brandeis University Bridgewater State University** 

**Brown University Bucknell University** Cabrini College Carleton College

Carnegie Mellon University Case Western Reserve University Catholic University of America

Champlain College

Citadel, the Military College of South

City University of New York (CUNY): Baruch, Borough of Manhattan Community College, College of Staten Island, Hunter, John Jay College of Criminal Justice, LaGuardia Community College, Macaulay Honors, New York City College of Technology, Queens, Queensborough Community College, Stella & Charles

**Guttman Community College** Claremont McKenna College

Clemson University

Coastal Carolina University Colby College

Colgate University College of Charleston College of Mount Saint Vincent College of New Rochelle College of the Holy Cross College of Saint Rose College of Westchester

College of William & Mary Colorado College Columbia University Cooper Union Concordia College Connecticut College Cornell University Cuesta College

Culinary Institute of America

Dartmouth College Davidson College Dean College

**Delaware State University** Dickinson College Dominican College **Drexel University Duke University** 

Elon University **Emory University Endicott College** 

Eugene Lang College, The New School for Liberal Arts Fairfield University Five Towns College 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

Gettysburg College Grinnell College Hamilton College Hampshire College Harvard University Haverford College

Hobart & William Smith Colleges

Hofstra University **Howard University** Iona College Ithaca College

James Madison University Johns Hopkins University Johnson & Wales University Keene State College Kent State University

Kenyon College King's College La Salle University

Laboratory Institute of Merchandising

Lafayette College Landmark College Lehigh University LIM College

Long Island University, C.W. Post Loyola University Maryland 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 Muhlenberg College

New England Conservatory of Music New York Institute of Technology

New York University Northeastern University Northwestern University Nova Southeastern University Nyack College

	_	_	
DMILE	Students	in Post	Schools
PIVITS		III DESU	36110013

Class	Most Competitive	Highly Competitive	Very Competitive	Total
2017	30%	10%	22%	62%
2016	27%	20%	29%	76%
2015	24%	22%	28%	71%
2014	28%	13%	28%	69%

Percentage in top 3 tiers of schools according to Barron's Profile of American Colleges

Oberlin College Occidental College Ohio University Pace University

Pennsylvania College of Technology Pennsylvania State University

Polytechnic Institute of NYU

Pomona College **Pratt Institute** Princeton University Providence College **Purdue University** Queen's University Quinnipiac University Rhode Island School of Design Richard Bland College

Roger Williams University

Rollins College

Rutgers University, New Brunswick Sacred Heart University Saint Joseph's University Saint Leo University Saint Michael's College San Francisco Art Institute

Sarah Lawrence College Savannah College of Art & Design

Skidmore College Smith College

Southeastern University

Southern New Hampshire University

Springfield College St. John's University St. Lawrence University St. Thomas Aquinas College Stanford University State University of New York

(SUNY): Binghamton University, Brockport, Buffalo State, Canton, Cobleskill, Cortland, Delhi, Dutchess Community College, Environmental Science & Forestry, Farmingdale

State, Fashion Institute of Technology, Fredonia, Geneseo, Hudson Valley Community College, Maritime, New Paltz, Oneonta, Oswego, Potsdam, Purchase, Stony Brook University,

Sullivan County Community College, Tompkins Cortland Community

College, University at Albany, University at Buffalo, Westchester Community College

Syracuse University Texas A&M University Texas Tech University **Towson University** 

Trinity College, Connecticut

**Tufts University Tulane University** Union College

United States Air Force United States Naval Academy University of Alabama University of Arkansas University of British Columbia

University of California, Berkeley

University of Chicago

University of Colorado at Boulder

University of Connecticut University of Delaware University of Denver University of Hartford

University of Illinois at Urbana-

Champaign

University of London Royal Holloway University of Maryland, College Park University of Massachusetts,

Amherst University of Miami University of Michigan University of Minnesota University of Mississippi University of Missouri University of New Hampshire

University of New Haven

University of North Carolina at

Chapel Hill

University of North Carolina at

Charlotte

University of Notre Dame University of Oregon University of Pennsylvania University of Pittsburgh 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 Utah University of Vermont University of Virginia

University of Wisconsin, Madison

Vanderbilt University Vassar College

Villanova University Virginia Commonwealth University

Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State

University

Wake Forest University Washington & Lee University Washington University in St. Louis

Wesleyan University West Virginia University

Western New England University

Western University Williams College Yale University

# 2018 Bond Referendum Building Today for Pelham Tomorrow

## **Proposition 1:** Facilities Upgrades

PROJECT COST: \$52,900,000 Annual Estimated Tax Impact: \$79 per \$100,000 assessed home value (full impact anticipated to be phased in by 2022-23)\*

#### New Hutchinson School



- Construction of new Hutchinson School on corner of Fifth Street and Third Avenue
- Addresses identified issues with current school, such as façade/building envelope, basement level classes, capacity, ADA accessibility, portable classrooms, and safety and security
- \$42.4 million cost includes design/construction contingencies, cost escalation, removal of the old school, and full site restoration, including a field similar in size to the current one

#### **Renovation at PMHS/PMS**



- Current District offices will be converted into 6 classrooms, a dedicated orchestra rehearsal room and separate orchestra storage room
- Two science rooms will be upgraded to provide space and resources for the science research program, computer science and physics
- Will provide greater flexibility in scheduling at both schools and address capacity concerns

## **Prospect Hill Security & ADA Accessibility Upgrades**



- Creation of a double-door security vestibule will bring Prospect Hill in line with safety and security features already in place at the other elementary schools
- New elevator on south side of the main entrance to access three classroom levels
- Interior lift to access gym
- Bathroom upgrades

## Replacement of PMHS Annex Roof & Parapets



- Includes replacement of roof/parapets on annex which connects the high school and middle school and are original to the building's construction in 1964
- Addresses water intrusion/leaking
- Project also includes some masonry repointing on Pelham Middle School

\*Tax impacts based on 2017-18 base proportions and assessment roll

## **Proposition 2:** Athletic Facilities & Fields

(If Proposition 2 passes, it will only be implemented if Proposition 1 also passes)

PROJECT COST: 4,624,892 Annual Estimated Tax Impact: \$7 per \$100,000 assessed home value (full impact anticipated to be phased in by 2022-23)\*

### **Turfing of Glover**





- Installation of synthetic turf on practice fields (Varsity, A and B) and adjoining baseball fields will allow for more frequent use and extended playing seasons for a variety of sports
- Turf field will include improved drainage, allowing for use in some inclement weather conditions

### **Glover Tennis Court Replacement**



 Replacing the tennis courts at Glover will address cracking and uneven surfaces that have developed over the years

#### Prospect Hill Field Irrigation & Renovation



 This project would improve drainage and usability at Prospect Hill field

Note: The fields/athletic facilities projects in Proposition 2 are expected to qualify for state building aid when paired with projects in Proposition 1.

## **Bond 2018 Tax Impact**

Visit **pelhamschools.org/bond** to use our online tax calculator



## Estimated Annual Tax Impact per \$100,000 Assessed Home Value\*

Proposition 1	Proposition 2	Propositions 1 & 2 Combined**
\$79	\$7	\$86

## **Estimated Annual Tax Breakdown by Assessed Home Value\***

Home Value	Proposition 1	Proposition 1 & 2 Combined**
\$500,000	\$393/yr	\$429/yr
\$800,000	\$628/yr	\$687/yr
\$1.2 million	\$942/yr	\$1,031/yr

<sup>\*</sup>Estimated annual tax impact based on 2017-18 base proportions and assessment roll. The interest rate used is the current Municipal Market Data (MMD) + 50 basis points to allow for changing rates. Estimated annual tax impacts are calculated based on net local share, which includes the reimbursement of state building aid.

## A Note on State Building Aid

The estimated tax impacts are based on the net local share, accounting for state building aid reimbursement and interest cost.

The District will receive approximately 39% reimbursement in state building aid for the aidable portions of these projects in subsequent years. According to project estimates for Proposition 1, we expect to receive approximately \$13.9 million in state building aid.

The fields/athletic facilities projects in Proposition 2 are expected to qualify for state building aid when paired with projects in Proposition 1. We expect to receive approximately \$2.2 million in state building aid for Proposition 2.

The total building aid the District would expect to receive for Propositions 1 and 2 combined is approximately \$16.1 million.

<sup>\*\*</sup> If Proposition 2 passes, it may only be implemented if Proposition 1 also passes.

## PELHAM Public Schools

Pelham, New York 10803





@PelhamSchoolsNY Pelham School District pelhamschools.org Cablevision 77, Fios 42

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#### **BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Madeline Smith, Pres	633-4504
Christa D. Acampora, Vice Pr	es380-6888
Susan Bratone Childs	740-5187
Jessica DeDomenico	654-8585
Thomas F. Imperato	738-3828
Peter S. Liaskos	(917) 885-9628
Stephen Molineaux	(917) 304-0776

#### SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Cheryl H. Champ, Ed. D.....738-3434, ext. 1155

Alex Wolff

DESIGNER **PHOTOGRAPHER** 

Beth Pollock Deborah Karson

## **ECRWSSEDDM Postal Customer** Pelham, NY 10803



School Budget & School Board Election May 15: PMHS Gym, 7 am - 9 pm

## **Mark Your Calendar**

#### **TENURE RECOGNITION**

May 22, Reception: 7:30 pm, HS Library; Meeting: 8:15 pm, MS Library. Receiving tenure are:

Teachers: Nicole Giordano, Jeannette Golkowski, Madison Martineau, Scott Avena, Laura Battema (Calabrese), Adrienne Flynn, Ariadne Livaditis, Neil Schleifer; Psychologists: Elizabeth Belanfante, Sarah DeSoye; Administrators: Judd Rothstein, Thomas Callahan.

#### **RETIREE RECOGNITION**

June 5, Reception: 7:30 pm, HS Library; Meeting: 8:15 pm, MS Library. Retiring are:

> Mr. Anthony Mandile Ms. Regina Ricci Mrs. Rosemary Matthews Ms. Stevie Pollock Dr. Paul Farrell Ms. Joan Walder

## **UNCONTESTED** SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION

Two candidates are running uncontested for the two open seats on the Board of Education. They are Eileen Miller and Jessica R. Young.

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 Champ (numbers listed above).

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

WATCH Cablevision Ch. 77 or FiOS Ch. 42.

#### **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 Registration Information**

The budget and bond/school board member election will take place on Tuesday, May 15, 2018 in the PMHS gym. Polls will be open from 7:00 am - 9:00 pm. Eligible voters must be registered to vote.\*

#### **VOTER QUALIFICATIONS**

- be 18 years of age or older on the day of the vote
- be a United States citizen
- be a resident of the Pelham School District for at least 30 days prior to the day of the vote
- not be in jail or on parole for a felony conviction
- not claim the right to vote elsewhere
- be registered to vote with either the County Board of Elections or with the School District Board of Registration.
- \*You are registered if you are on the Westchester County voters' list and voted at least once during the last 4 years or you have personally registered with the District.

#### IF YOU ARE NOT REGISTERED

You can register in person with the School District Board of Registration on the following date in the District Office at 18 Franklin Place:

Monday, May 7, 4:00 pm - 8:00 pm

You can register with the County by filling in a voter registration form available from the Town Clerk (738-0777), the Superintendent's Office (738-3434, x-1155) or download a form at: citizenparticipation.westchestergov.com/ voting/register-to-vote. Once the form is printed, sign it in blue or black ink. Only an original copy can be submitted. Digital or portable-document-file-generated (ie. Adobe Acrobat) signatures are not acceptable. The form must then be mailed or delivered to the Westchester County Board of Elections per the instructions and address provided on the form.

#### **QUALIFICATIONS FOR ABSENTEE BALLOTS**

If a voter won't be able to get to the polls on May 15 from 7:00 am - 9:00 pm, for one or more of the following reasons, absentee ballots are available:

- Unavoidably absent from Westchester County on May 15
- Unable to appear at the polls due to illness or disability
- A patient in a Veterans' Administration Hospital
- Detained in jail awaiting grand jury action or confined in prison after conviction for an offense other than a felony

#### **TO VOTE BY ABSENTEE BALLOT**

- 1 file an application
- 2 fill in the ballot after receipt
- 3 return the ballot.

Applications for absentee ballots are available at the Superintendent's office, at pelhamschools.org/voter\_registration, or by calling the District Clerk at 738-3434. If ballots are to be mailed to the voter, completed applications must be returned to the District Clerk at 18 Franklin Place. Pelham, NY 10803 no later than 4:00 p.m. E.S.T. on May 8.

If applications are delivered personally, they must be turned in to the District Clerk at 18 Franklin Place by 4:00 p.m. on May 14. You will be given a ballot that must be returned by 5:00 p.m. on May 15.

Stevie Pollock, the District Clerk, is located at 18 Franklin Place. Please call her for all questions on the vote and election at 738-3434.