

A YEAR LIKE NO OTHER

This year's budget vote and school board election will take place on Tuesday, May 18, 2021. Voters will be asked to decide on a proposed \$46,413,990 budget for the 2021-22 school year, which represents a spending increase of 2.06%. Related, this budget proposal features a tax levy of \$24,045,198, with an increase of 2.03%, which again falls under the New York State Tax Levy Limit (aka tax cap).

The 2020-21 school year, as you know all too well, has been unusual... and even surreal. From a budgetary perspective, unforeseen costs in certain areas such as PPE and

technology were coupled with unforeseen savings through programming which was not able to occur. Like you, we look forward to more predictable, more stable days ahead, and we hope that the 2021-22 school year brings little impact (programmatically or budgetarily) from COVID-19.

Last year's voting was conducted exclusively via absentee ballot but, as with many other things, some normalcy is returning to this process. On May 18th, in-person voting will return – at the same three customary locations (Momot Elementary School, Duken Administration Building, and Glasgow (Bailey) Elementary School). Some small COVID-related changes to the specific voting location within these buildings and to the directional flow of voters will be necessary, but these will be made clear via signage. Naturally, voters should be properly-masked, and should maintain proper distancing. As in the pre-pandemic era, voting will once again occur between 7a.m. and 8p.m..

Since March, 2020, district personnel have worked hard to balance the



often-competing interests of education and public health. Throughout this school year we've operated, at times, in each of the three established modes of instructional delivery (remote, hybrid, and in-person). We hope to sustain the current in-person mode through the end of this school year and then, if the virus and regulations permit, undertake a typical return to school in September, 2021. For all of your tremendous patience and efforts in the face of such difficult COVID circumstances over these past many months, we thank-you.

Sincerely,

Jay Lebrun

Facts & Figures

Change in Budget
2.06%

Change in Tax Levy
2.03%

Budget Hearing
Duken Building
Wednesday
May 5 @ 7:30pm



Federal Stimulus Funding – What We Know



Facts & Figures

Change in Budget
2.06%

Change in Tax Levy
2.03%

Budget Hearing
Duken Building
Wednesday
May 5 @ 7:30pm

**Budget Vote
& School Board
Election**
Tuesday, May 18
7am - 8pm



Throughout this past Winter, there was much discussion in Washington about stimulus support for municipalities (including school districts). In early April, accompanying the NYS budget State Aid projections, school districts received estimates of these stimulus funds. Though school districts are still working to understand more details from the Federal and State governments, some basic, initial details are now known. These stimulus funds will be distributed via two distinct grant programs: the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSA) grant, and the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act.

Our district's respective allocations are \$1,846,329 (CRRSA) and \$3,944,749 (ARP). Information about these grant programs is still emerging, but some details are already known. It is our

understanding that these are both multi-year grant programs, and that CCRSA will extend through 2023, while the ARP will extend through 2024. Though further guidance on the parameters of these grant programs is still needed, initial indications are that these funds should target: safely reopening schools, addressing student deficits/learning loss caused by the pandemic, addressing the needs of disadvantaged students, sustaining or expanding staffing, and providing extended learning opportunities such as Summer or after-school programs.

As more details become known, we will provide additional updates, including the areas of focus for our district, the timeline for accessing these funds, the system of soliciting community input, and the plans for phasing-out these programs or sustaining them through traditional funding sources once these grants conclude. What we do currently know is that these funds will be significant, and we will be presented with a transformative opportunity to address the negative impacts of the pandemic. Look for more information about these federal stimulus programs this Summer and Fall.

2021-22 BUDGET OVERVIEW

	2020-21 Budget	2021-22 Proposed	Change
Budget	\$45,476,805	\$46,413,990	2.06%
Revenues	\$44,176,805	\$44,913,990	1.67%
Applied Reserves	\$1,300,000	\$1,500,000	15.38%
Proposed Tax Levy	\$23,567,410	\$24,045,198**	2.03%

**The proposed tax levy is below the Tax Levy Limit, and the proposed budget therefore requires only a 'simple majority' for approval.



Projected Annual Tax Impact of the 2021-22 Budget

The tax impact estimates to the right do not assume any change in the total taxable assessed value for the City. This total valuation will not be known until June. Any increase in total taxable assessments will decrease the tax rate.

***Note: These estimates do not reflect any exemptions (ie. STAR).** Each taxpayer should further consider those exemptions for which they qualify.

Property Assessment*	Current Tax Bill \$23.3442 per \$1,000 Assessed Value	Projected Tax Bill \$23.8938 per \$1,000 Assessed Value	Annual Increase
\$50,000	\$1,164	\$1,187	\$24
\$100,000	\$2,328	\$2,375	\$47
\$156,300**	\$3,638	\$3,712	\$74
\$200,000	\$4,655	\$4,750	\$95
\$250,000	\$5,819	\$5,937	\$118
\$300,000	\$6,983	\$7,124	\$142
\$350,000	\$8,146	\$8,312	\$165

****Note:** The bold line represents the average home value in the City of Plattsburgh.

the **P**ulse of
Plattsburgh City Schools

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WHEN & WHERE TO VOTE

Tuesday
May 18, 2021
7 am - 8 pm

Glasgow Elementary
(Bailey Ave. Elementary)
50 Bailey Ave.
Plattsburgh, NY 12901

Duken Building
49 Broad St.
Plattsburgh, NY 12901

Momot Elementary
60 Monty St.
Plattsburgh, NY 12901

To find your polling location, visit: www.plattscsd.org/election-map/



ABSENTEE BALLOT

State voting regulations have been temporarily-amended so as to also allow voting by absentee ballot by any interested registered voter, who feels uncomfortable voting in-person due to the threat of COVID. Unlike last year, absentee ballots will not automatically be mailed to all eligible voters, so interested individuals should visit the district website (<https://www.plattscsd.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/Absentee-Ballot-Application.pdf>) or contact District Clerk Dawn Stetz at 518 957-6002 for more information.