

VOTE
Tuesday,
May 16

12 Noon—9 p.m.
Elementary Gym

BUDGET NEWS

Hoosic Valley Central Schools

LEARNING: A SHARED GOAL-A SHARED RESPONSIBILITY

May 2017

1.15% DECREASE TO THE TAX LEVY

The previous year Hoosic Valley developed a budget with a decrease to the tax levy. The 2017-18 proposed budget will for the second consecutive year decrease the overall tax levy by 1.15%. At the April 10th Board of Education meeting, the Hoosic Valley Board of Education unanimously adopted a budget of \$21,170,163. The proposed 2017-18 budget would result in a decrease in the overall tax levy of \$100,000 or -1.15% while maintaining current programs.

The 2017-18 budget proposal increases spending by \$284,624 or 1.36 % over the current budget. Much of that increase is driven by rising costs associated with employee benefits, as well as mandated programs and services. The district will recognize a salary savings after replacing staff as a result of the retirement of one Secondary Guidance Counselor and one Elementary teacher. The proposed budget includes the following continued support of previous year's programs and additions: Two full-time Certified Teacher Building Substitutes (one for each school), an additional Network Technician/ Engineer and Instructional Technology Director/Training stipend to support the instructional progression of technology, Elementary Science kits to support the Elementary Science Curriculum, an Elementary Instructional Phonics program, Elementary Reading

Units of Study Program, continuation of enrichment summer school with transportation for students entering grades 1, 2, and 3, increased Elementary After School Enrichment offerings through BOCES and Cornell Cooperative Extension, Technology purchases including new student desktop computer workstations for the Library, Guidance Office, and the Tech classroom, additional Chrome book devices for secondary classes, calculator purchases to support the secondary mathematics curriculum, uniform and equipment purchases for athletics, additional equipment for Graphic Design Foundation of Art Class and Health Class CPR training, replacement of Musical Instruments, and continued replacement of the Elementary and High School student desks and chairs. The 2017-18 budget also includes an allocation of \$175,000 of Capital expenditures to address facility work. This allocation will be used to fund the asbestos abatement and demolition of the Wanko Building.

District residents are encouraged and invited to vote on the proposed budget on Tuesday, May 16, 2017. In addition to voting on the proposed budget, there will be a proposition to amend the Capital Bus Purchase Reserve Fund to increase the overall funding, and a proposition to purchase five new school buses. Voters will elect two board members to the Board of Education. The vote will take place on Tuesday, May 16, 2017, 12:00 Noon-9:00 p.m. in the Hoosic Valley Elementary gymnasium.

2017-18 Budget Summary

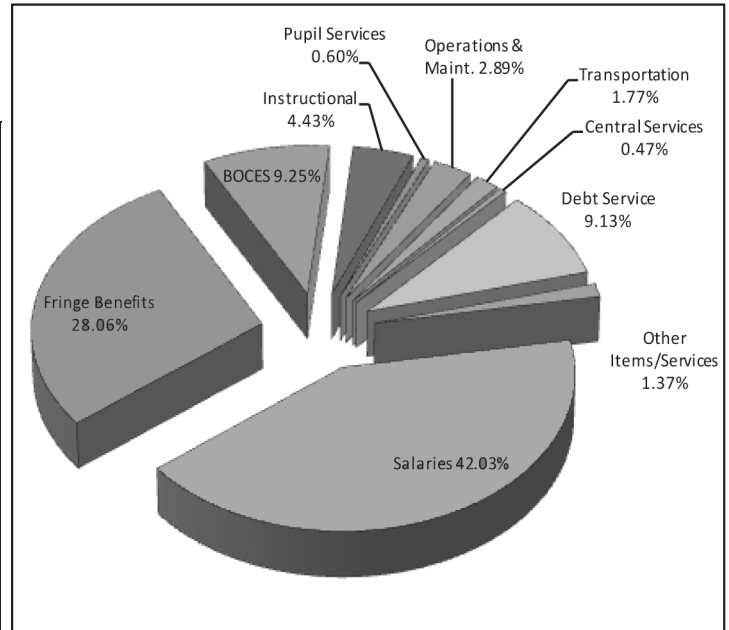
- ◆ **PROPOSED BUDGET: \$21,170,163**
- ◆ **BUDGET INCREASE: \$284,624 or 1.36%**
- ◆ **TAX LEVY DECREASE**
- ◆ **PROPOSITION NO. 2—BUS PURCHASE RESERVE FUND**
- ◆ **PROPOSITION NO. 3—PURCHASE OF 5 PASSENGER SCHOOL BUSES**
- ◆ **BOARD OF EDUCATION ELECTION**



EXPENDITURE SUMMARY

The following pie chart represents how the expenses of the district are allocated:

Proposed Budget 2017-2018		
Salaries	\$8,898,744	42.03%
Fringe Benefits	\$5,939,425	28.06%
BOCES	\$1,958,904	9.25%
Instructional	\$936,652	4.43%
Pupil Services	\$127,050	0.60%
Operations & Maint.	\$611,516	2.89%
Transportation	\$374,796	1.77%
Central Services	\$99,787	0.47%
Debt Service	\$1,932,387	9.13%
Other Items/Services	<u>\$290,902</u>	<u>1.37%</u>
Total	\$ 21,170,163	100.00%

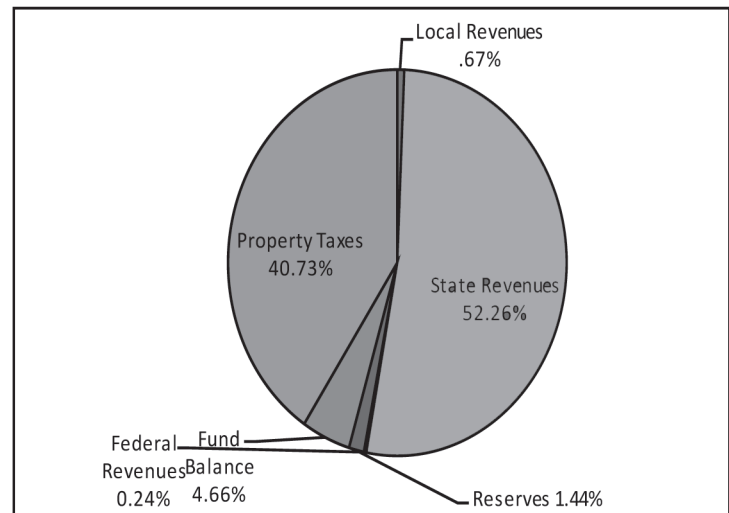


The Superintendent and Board of Education were able to maintain current programs and services. The largest part of the school budget remains salaries and benefits at 70%, the next are debt service and BOCES at about 9% each with the remaining 11% representing all other expenses such as energy, teacher supplies, repairs to buildings and district contractual obligations.

REVENUE SUMMARY

The following pie chart represents the district revenues:

Proposed Budget 2017-2018		
Local Revenues	\$140,803	0.67%
State Revenues	\$11,064,554	52.26%
Federal Revenues	\$50,000	0.24%
Reserves	\$305,000	1.44%
Fund Balance	\$987,464	4.66%
Property Taxes	<u>\$8,622,342</u>	<u>40.73%</u>
Total	\$ 21,170,163	100.00%



State aid remains the largest portion of the revenue at 52.26% with local property taxes being 40.73%. The use of fund balance and reserves this year make up 6.00% and just under 1% being comprised of items such as admission fees, investment income, BOCES refund and others. The district also receives federal funds of approximately \$450,000; these grants are used to fund necessary programs for our district.

*The tax levy will NOT increase, but will decrease for 2017-18. The actual tax bill that you receive may vary slightly from last year due to any changes in assessment or equalization rates which the Board of Education has no control over.

CAPITAL BUS PURCHASE RESERVE FUND

The Board of Education seeks permission to amend the Capital Reserve Fund, known as the “Bus Purchase Reserve Fund” to increase the maximum amount for the Fund to \$2,000,000 and to increase the duration to ten (10) years from the approval of the amendment. The Fund purpose is limited to buying new school buses for the next ten (10) years. It will be funded from transportation state aid and available fund balance as determined by the Board.



BUS PURCHASE FIVE (5) NEW SCHOOL BUSES

The Board of Education seeks authorization to purchase three (3) 72-passenger school buses, and two (2) 22-passenger school buses at a cost not to exceed \$464,665.01. The District currently has 21 bus runs carrying 951 students traveling 300,000 miles annually. These five new buses will be financed with the use of the Bus Purchase Reserve Fund and a bond anticipation note over five years. The annual payment of approximately \$92,000 will be offset by \$73,000 of state aid.



WHAT IS A TAX LEVY?

The tax levy is the total amount of taxes a school district raises to fund its budget, after accounting for all other revenue sources. The tax levy is the basis for determining the tax rates for each municipality within a school district. Tax rates are also impacted by changes in town assessments and state equalization rates. Even though the tax levy for 2017-18 has reduced from last year, your individual tax bill may be slightly different.

CONTINGENT BUDGET AND THE PROPERTY TAX LEVY “CAP” LAW

The New York State tax levy cap law has changed the rules for contingent budgets. Under the law, there is a **0 percent cap on the tax levy increase**. In a contingent budget, school districts would have to levy the same amount of taxes as in the current year or less, without any adjustments for state pension rate increases, contractual obligations or any other costs, mandated or not.

If the voters defeat the Hoosic Valley proposed budget on May 16, the district will have two options:

1. Resubmit the same proposed or revised budget for a revote on June 20; or
2. Adopt a contingent budget.

If the resubmitted spending plan is voted down for a second time, Hoosic Valley Central School **MUST** adopt a contingent budget which would result in a reduction of \$252,500 to the proposed spending plan.

Under a contingent budget, Hoosic Valley would be prohibited from spending money in certain areas, including community use of school facilities (unless all costs are reimbursed to the district), new equipment purchases, non-essential maintenance, capital expenditures (except in emergencies), salary increases for non-instructional, nonunionized employees, and certain student supplies. The contingency rules also cap the growth of the administrative component of the budget. (Information provided through Capital Region BOGES Communications Service and Questar III's State Aid Planning and Communication Services Publication dated March 2014.)

For more information on New York's Property Tax Levy Cap visit:
<http://sap.questar.org/taxlevycap.php>

TAX SAVINGS UNDER THE STAR PROGRAM

Qualified homeowners can receive a partial property tax exemption under the School Tax Relief (STAR) program. STAR exemptions apply only to school district taxes. There are two types of STAR exemptions available based on the age and income of the homeowners:

Basic STAR – Available to homeowner's primary residence only, and for households with an income of less than \$500,000. The estimated Basic STAR exemption for Hoosic Valley residents for 2017-18 ranges between \$542 to \$548. Basic STAR requires a one time application that remains in effect until ownership of the home changes.

Enhanced STAR – Provides an increased benefit for the primary residence of senior citizens (age 65 and older) with a qualifying income. Enhanced STAR requires an annual application with proof of income, typically by March 1.

The exemption figure for Basic and Enhanced STAR is set by the State and is different in every town. Check with your town assessor for an exact figure. For detailed information about the STAR program, including eligibility, visit the New York State Department of Taxation and Finance website at:

<http://www.tax.ny.gov/pit/property/star/index.htm>

**HOOSIC VALLEY CENTRAL SCHOOL
3-PART BUDGET 2017-18
GENERAL FUND APPROPRIATION**

Code	Function or Account	Budget 2017-18	Admin.	Program	Capital
1099.0	Board of Education	\$25,456	\$ 25,456		
1299.0	Central Administration	\$210,021	\$ 210,021		
1399.0	Finance	\$368,013	\$ 368,013		
1420.0	Legal Services	\$43,500	\$ 43,500		
1430.0	Personnel	\$2,970	\$ 2,970		
1480.0	Public Information	\$515	\$ 515		
1620.0	Operation of Plant	\$1,017,505			\$ 1,017,505
1621.0	Maintenance of Plant	\$72,250			\$ 72,250
1699.0	Other Central Services	\$95,757	\$ 95,757		
1998.0	Special Items	\$190,284	\$ 52,428		\$ 137,856
2010.0	Curr. Dev. and Supervision	\$6,000		\$ 6,000	
2020.0	Supervision Regular School	\$508,291	\$ 508,291		
2060.0	Research, Evaluation, & Planning	\$1,000	\$ 1,000		
2099.0	In Service	\$78,944		\$ 78,944	
2199.0	Teaching Reg. School	\$4,452,277		\$ 4,452,277	
2250.0	Programs for Handicapped Children	\$2,821,338	\$ 91,196	\$ 2,730,142	
2270.0	Special Needs	\$0		\$ -	
2299.0	Occupational Education	\$627,489		\$ 627,489	
2399.0	Teaching - Special Schools	\$42,060		\$ 42,060	
2699.0	Computer Assisted Inst.	\$607,419		\$ 607,419	
2899.0	Pupil Personnel Services	\$737,903		\$ 737,903	
5510.0	Pupil Transportation	\$1,130,359		\$ 1,126,359	\$ 4,000
5530.0	Garage Building	\$59,000		\$ 59,000	
5540.0	Contract Transportation	\$0		\$ -	
8990.0	Community Services	\$0			
9098.0	Employee Benefits	5,939,425	\$ 531,278	\$ 5,081,812	\$ 326,335
9898.0	Debt Service	\$1,932,387			\$ 1,932,387
9951.0	Interfund Transfer	\$200,000		\$ -	\$ 200,000
9999.99	TOTAL GENERAL FUND	\$21,170,163	1,930,425	\$15,549,405	\$3,690,333
			9.12%	73.45%	17.43%



Hoosic Valley Central 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	\$ 20,885,539	\$21,170,163	\$20,917,663
Increase/Decrease for the 2017-18 School Year		\$284,624	\$32,118
Percentage Increase/Decrease in Proposed Budget		1.36%	0.15%
Change in the Consumer Price Index		1.26%	
A. Proposed Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount			
	\$8,722,342	\$8,622,342	
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)			
	\$8,722,342	\$8,622,342	\$8,622,342
F. Total Permissible Exclusions			
	\$72,839	\$31,133	
G. School Tax Levy Limit, <u>Excluding</u> Levy for Permissible Exclusions			
	\$8,773,095	\$8,787,633	
H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, <u>Excluding</u> Levy to Support Library Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions (E - B - F + D)			
	\$8,649,503	\$8,591,209	
I. Difference: G - H (Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval - See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions) **			
	\$123,592	\$196,424	
Administrative Component			
	\$1,897,170	\$1,930,425	\$1,923,925
Program Component			
	\$15,395,294	\$15,549,405	\$15,493,655
Capital Component			
	\$3,593,075	\$3,690,333	\$3,500,083

* Provide a statement of assumptions made in projecting a contingency budget for the 2017-18 school year, should the proposed budget be defeated pursuant to Section 2023 of the Education 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
Capital Bus Purchase Reserve	TBD
Purchase passenger School Buses	
Three(3) 72-passenger School Buses, and Two (2) 22- passenger School Buses	\$464,665.01

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

Under the Budget Proposed
for the 2017-18 School Year

Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings¹

\$542 to \$548 (Four
Towns)

The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2017-18 by the qualified voters of the Hoosic Valley Central School District, Rensselaer County, New York, will be held at Elementary School in said district on Tuesday, May 16, 2017 between the hours of 12:00 pm and 9:00pm, prevailing time in the Elementary School gymnasium, at which time the polls will be opened to vote by voting machine.

1. The basic school tax relief (STAR) exemption is authorized by section 425 of the Real Property Tax Law.

Hoosic Valley Central School District
Schaghticoke, NY 12154

CRRT
Bulk Rate
Non-Profit Organization
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
Schaghticoke, NY 12154
Permit No. 1

POSTAL CUSTOMER

Board of Education

James Ryan, President
David Paul, Vice-President
Michael Reilly
Timothy Salisbury
Rebecca Van Vorst
Michelle Wiegert
Craig Wilson

Amy V. Goodell, Superintendent
Anthony Cammarata, School Business Administrator

Learning: A Shared Goal, A Shared Responsibility

School Board Candidate

There are six candidates running for two (2) four-year terms commencing July 1, 2017 and expiring on June 30, 2021 for the Board of Education. The candidates receiving the most votes will receive the seats commencing July 1, 2017.

Petitions turned in:

Maureen Gifford - Mayer
Christine Pepe
Susan Martin - Cipolla
Joel Beecroft
Michelle Wiegert
Craig Wilson

Can I vote by absentee ballot?

Qualified district residents who are unable to go to the polls on May 16 can cast their votes by absentee ballot. For an application, call the district office at 753-4458. If the ballot is to be mailed, the application for the ballot must be received by May 9. If the ballot is to be delivered in person, the application must be received by May 15. All completed ballots must be received by the district clerk no later than 5:00 p.m. on May 16.

Voter Qualification

To be a qualified voter at the District Budget vote you must be:

1. A United States Citizen
2. Eighteen (18) years of age or older
3. A legal resident of the school district for thirty (30) days preceding the vote.

UPCOMING EVENTS

MAY 10	MAY 16	MAY 16
PTO "Meet the Board Candidate Night" 7:00 p.m. Elem. Library	BUDGET VOTE 12 Noon-9 p.m. Elem. Gym	Learning Fair 6:30 p.m. Elem. Gym

For budget information visit district website:
www.hoosicvalley.k12.ny.us