

VOTE
Tuesday,
May 17

12 Noon—9 p.m.
Elementary Gym

BUDGET NEWS

Hoosic Valley Central Schools

LEARNING: A SHARED GOAL-A SHARED RESPONSIBILITY

May 2016

1.13% DECREASE TO THE TAX LEVY

The previous two years Hoosic Valley has developed budgets with a 0 percent increase to the tax levy. The 2016-17 proposed budget will **decrease the overall tax levy by 1.13%**. At the April 19th Board of Education meeting, the Board unanimously adopted a budget of \$20,885,539. This results in a decrease in the tax levy of \$100,000 or 1.13%, while maintaining current programs.

The 2016-17 budget proposal increases spending by \$410,028 or 2.00 percent over the current budget. Much of that increase is driven by increasing costs associated with employee benefits, as well as mandated programs and services. The District will recognize a savings as a result of one secondary science teacher retirement that will not be replaced and the reduction of two elementary positions. These reductions are based on continual declining enrollment. The proposed budget includes additional instructional programs to support upper elementary science and phonics in the primary grades. Enrichment of summer school with transportation will continue for students entering grades 1, 2 and 3. Part-time administrative assistance and part-time nursing assistance is included in the

2016-17 budget, as well as increasing the social worker position to full-time. Technology purchases include: new laptops for distance learning classes, desktop computers for technology classroom, an upgrade of the District's broadband internet connection service and new calculators to support the secondary math curriculum. Also included in the proposed budget is an allocation of \$100,000 of Capital expenditures to address facility work. This allocation will be used to replace the carpet in the auditorium and to repair the high school bus loop curb and pavement.

District residents are encouraged and invited to vote on the proposed budget on Tuesday, May 17, 2016. In addition to voting on the proposed budget, there will be a proposition to establish a Capital Reserve Fund, and a proposition to purchase four new school buses. Voters will elect two board members to the Board of Education. The vote will take place on Tuesday, May 17, 2016, from 12:00 Noon-9:00 p.m. in the Hoosic Valley Elementary gymnasium.

Amy V. Goodell, Superintendent of Schools

2016-17 Budget Summary

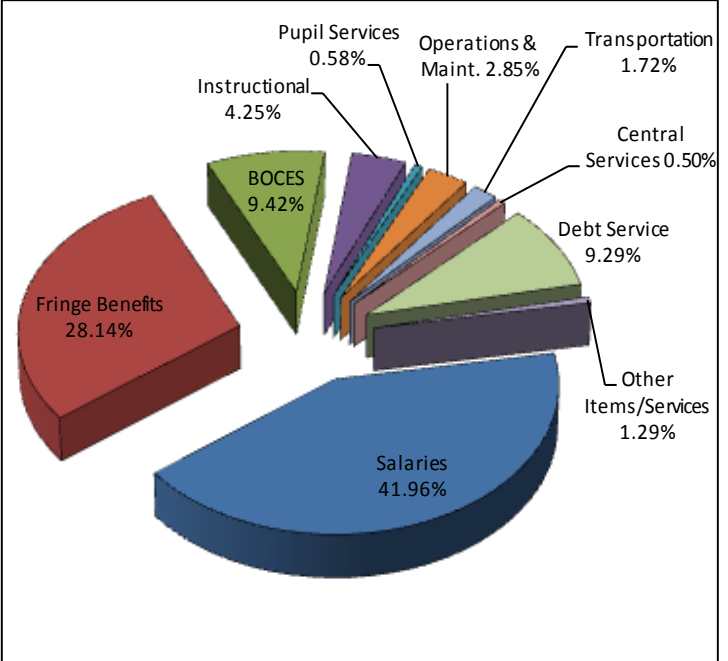
- ◆ **PROPOSED BUDGET: \$20,885,539**
- ◆ **BUDGET INCREASE: \$410,028 or 2%**
- ◆ **TAX LEVY DECREASE**
- ◆ **PROPOSITION NO. 2—PURCHASE FOUR (4) SCHOOL BUSES**
- ◆ **PROPOSITION NO. 3—CAPITAL FUND RESERVE**
- ◆ **PROPOSITION NO. 4—DIVER MEMORIAL LIBRARY AND THE VALLEY FALLS LIBRARY**
- ◆ **BOARD OF EDUCATION ELECTION**



EXPENDITURE SUMMARY

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

Proposed Budget 2016-2017			
Salaries	\$	8,762,962	41.96%
Fringe Benefits	\$	5,876,883	28.14%
BOCES	\$	1,966,944	9.42%
Instructional	\$	886,655	4.25%
Pupil Services	\$	121,650	0.58%
Operations & Maint.	\$	596,126	2.85%
Transportation	\$	359,596	1.72%
Central Services	\$	104,487	0.50%
Debt Service	\$	1,940,237	9.29%
Other Items/Services	\$	<u>269,999</u>	<u>1.29%</u>
Total	\$	20,885,539	100.00%

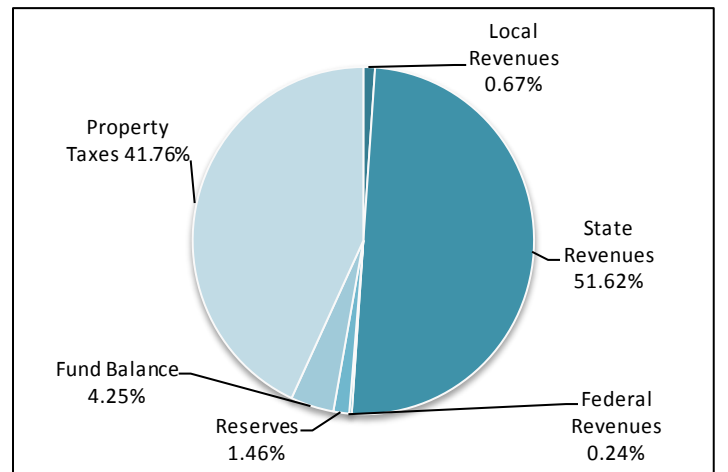


The Superintendent and Board of Education were able to maintain current programs and services. The largest part of the school budget remains salaries and benefits at 70%, the next are debt service and BOCES at about 9% each with the remaining 11% representing all other expenses such as energy, teacher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

REVENUE SUMMARY

The following pie chart represents the district revenues:

Proposed Budget 2016-2017			
Local Revenues	\$	140,803	0.67%
State Revenues	\$	10,780,005	51.62%
Federal Revenues	\$	50,000	0.24%
Reserves	\$	305,000	1.46%
Fund Balance	\$	887,389	4.25%
*Property Taxes	\$	<u>8,722,342</u>	<u>41.76%</u>
Total	\$	20,885,539	100.00%



State aid remains the largest portion of the revenue at 51.62% with local property taxes being 41.76%. The use of fund balance and reserves this year make up 5.71% 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 2016-17. The actual tax bill that you receive may vary slightly from last year due to any changes in assessment or equalization rates that the Board of Education has no control over.

BUS PURCHASE FOUR (4) NEW SCHOOL BUSES

The Board of Education seeks authorization to purchase two (2) 71-passenger school buses, one (1) 22-passenger school bus, and one (1) 21-passenger school bus with wheelchair station at a cost not to exceed \$336,765.05. The District currently has 21 bus runs carrying 994 students travelling 300,000 miles annually. These four 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 \$70,000 will be offset by \$53,000 of state aid.



CAPITAL RESERVE FUND

The Board of Education seeks permission to establish a Capital Reserve Fund. Its purpose is limited to the purchase of, and general improvement, reconstruction, renovations or additions to the District's buildings and site properties including the acquisition and installation of technology equipment over the next ten (10) years. The reserve will be funded from available fund balance as determined by the Board of Education.

THE DIVER MEMORIAL AND VALLEY FALLS LIBRARIES

The Diver Memorial Library and Valley Falls Library submitted a petition to the Board of Education for the following proposition to be placed before the voters on May 17th:

Shall the annual appropriation from the Hoosic Valley School District budget for library purposes be increased from \$25,000 to \$40,000 and be distributed equally to Diver Memorial Library and the Valley Falls Library.

The school district's only role is to collect and distribute the collected funds to the respective libraries. If you have any questions with regard to the library budgets, please contact them directly.

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 2016-17 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's 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 17, the district will have two options:

1. Resubmit the same proposed or revised budget for a revote on June 21; 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 \$209,581 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 BOCES 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 2016-17 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 2016-2017
GENERAL FUND APPROPRIATION**

Code	Function or Account	Budget			Capital
		2016-17	Admin.	Program	
1099.0	Board of Education	\$24,565	\$24,565		
1299.0	Central Administration	\$208,445	\$208,445		
1399.0	Finance	\$349,809	\$349,809		
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	\$1,006,173			\$1,006,173
1621.0	Maintenance of Plant	\$63,250			\$63,250
1699.0	Other Central Services	\$90,947	\$90,947		
1998.0	Special Items	\$157,223	\$20,104		\$137,119
2010.0	Curr. Dev. and Supervision	\$5,000		\$5,000	
2020.0	Supervision Reg. School	\$536,490	\$536,490		
2060.0	Research, Eval. & Planning	\$1,000	\$1,000		
2099.0	In Service	\$68,757		\$68,757	
2199.0	Teaching Reg. School	\$4,404,104		\$4,404,104	
2250.0	Special Education	\$2,829,866	\$90,301	\$2,739,565	
2270.0	Special Needs	\$0			
2299.0	Occupational Education	\$648,310		\$648,310	
2399.0	Teaching - Spec. Schools	\$41,875		\$41,875	
2699.0	Computer Assisted Inst.	\$554,322		\$554,322	
2899.0	Pupil Personnel Services	\$744,123		\$744,123	
5510.0	Pupil Transportation	\$1,108,175		\$1,104,175	\$4,000
5530.0	Garage Building	\$54,000		\$54,000	
5540.0	Contract Transportation	\$0			
8990.0	Community Services	\$0			
9098.0	Employee Benefits	\$5,876,883	\$528,524	\$5,031,063	\$317,296
9898.0	Debt Service	\$1,940,237			\$1,940,237
9951.0	Interfund Transfer	\$125,000			\$125,000
9999.99	TOTAL GENERAL FUND	\$20,885,539	\$1,897,170	\$15,395,294	\$3,593,075
			9.08%	73.71%	17.20%



Hoosic Valley Central School District Budget Notice

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	\$20,475,511	\$20,885,539	\$20,685,092
Increase/Decrease for the 2016-17 School Year		\$410,028	\$209,581
Percentage Increase/Decrease in Proposed Budget		2%	1.02%
Change in the Consumer Price Index		0.12%	
A. Proposed Tax Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount			
	\$8,822,342	\$8,722,342	
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)			
	\$8,822,342	\$8,722,342	\$8,722,342
F. Permissible Exclusions to the School Tax Levy Limit			
	\$125,047	\$72,839	
G. School Tax Levy Limit, <u>Excluding</u> Levy for Permissible Exclusions			
	\$8,704,823	\$8,773,095	
H. Total Proposed Tax Levy for School Purposes, <u>Excluding</u> Permissible Exclusions and Levy for Library Debt, Plus Prior Year Tax Cap Reserve (E - B - F + D)			
	\$8,697,295	\$8,649,503	
I. Difference: (G - H); (Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval - See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions) **			
	\$7,528	\$123,592	
Administrative Component			
	\$1,841,006	\$1,897,170	\$1,884,479
Program Component			
	\$15,154,871	\$15,395,294	\$15,322,608
Capital Component			
	\$3,479,635	\$3,593,075	\$3,478,005

* Provide a statement of assumptions made in projecting a contingency budget for the 2016-17 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 Construction Reserve Fund	TBD
Purchase passenger School Buses Two (2) 71- passenger School Buses, One (1) 22- passenger School Bus, and One (1) 21- passenger Wheel Chair Station School Bus	\$336,765.05

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

	Under the Budget Proposed for the 2016-17 School Year
Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings ¹	\$542 to \$548 (Four Towns)

The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2016-2017 by the qualified voters of the Hoosic Valley Central School District, Rensselaer County, New York, will be held at the Elementary School in said district on Tuesday, May 17, 2016 between the hours of 12:00 pm and 9:00 pm, 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.

School Board Candidate

There are two candidates running for two (2) four-year terms commencing July 1, 2016 and expiring on June 30, 2020 for the Board of Education. The candidates receiving the most votes will receive the seats commencing July 1, 2016.

Petitions turned in:

Michael Reilly

David M. Paul

Can I vote by absentee ballot?

Qualified district residents who are unable to go to the polls on May 17 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 10. If the ballot is to be delivered in person, the application must be received by May 16. All completed ballots must be received by the district clerk no later than 5:00 p.m. on May 17.

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 11	MAY 17	MAY 17
PTO "Meet the Board Candidate Night" 7:00 p.m. Elem. Library	BUDGET VOTE 12 Noon-9 p.m. Elem. Gym	Learning Fair 7:00 p.m. Elem. Gym

For budget information visit district website:

www.hoosicvalley.k12.ny.us

Hoosic Valley Central School District
Schaghticoke, NY 12154

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

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

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