



News & Views

BUDGET 2013-2014

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The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2013-2014 by the qualified voters of the Lake George Central School District, Warren County, New York, will be held at the Lake George Elementary School in said district on Tuesday, May 21, 2013, between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. prevailing time in the elementary gymnasium, at which time the polls will be opened to vote by voting ballot or machine.

District Proposes Responsible 2013-14 Budget *Proposed Budget Increase Well Below Allowable Cap on Taxes*

The Lake George School District has crafted a responsible budget proposal for the 2013-14 school year that preserves all programs while continuing to achieve more with less.

The budget, totaling \$21,165,275 calls for a modest 1.95 percent increase in tax revenue, well below the allowable levy increase of 3.23 percent.

The district was able to achieve this prudent increase as a result of several factors: a \$147,000 boost in state aid, continued savings as a result of the last year's teacher contract and a district-wide adherence to fiscal restraint in spending.

The increase in state aid was a welcome surprise as initially our district's aid was to remain flat. The hike was a last minute addition to the state budget that passed at the end of March.

In addition to the revenue, the district is experiencing continued savings as a result significant contractual concessions made by LGEA. District staff is furthering our district's savings with their fiscally conservative approach to purchasing classroom materials.

These savings are allowing the district to reinstate the Jr.-Sr. High School Jump Start program. This program provides our students with the opportunity to develop and enhance their curricular skills and stay ahead of their studies throughout the summer.

This budget will set aside funds to hire an addition elementary school teacher, if necessary. Our goal is to keep elementary class sizes at an appropriate instructional level, and a new teacher would allow the district to do this.

At the proposed budget vote, set for Tuesday, May 21, at the elementary school, the residents will also be asked to vote on the candidates who will fill four open seats on the Board of Education. One of these is to fill an unexpired term, and the candidate who fills that seat will begin serving immediately.

Finally, voters will be asked to approve a proposition to purchase a full sized, 65c passenger bus and a 25 passenger handicapped accessible cut-away bus at a cost not to exceed \$162,000.

After voting, we would like to invite each resident to take a few minutes to complete an exit poll. Your views on the district and our budget are important to us.

For the convenience of our residents, we extended voting by one hour. Residents can now come to the Elementary School at 9 a.m. to vote. The polls close at 8 p.m. There will be an elementary school art show from 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm. You may want to plan accordingly to avoid lines.

Property Tax Exemption for Senior Citizens

Senior citizens aged 65 or older and those who qualify under the provisions of section 467 of the Real Property Tax Law are eligible for a partial exemption from their property taxes. For those who have been receiving such exemptions, the NYS Legislature has enacted changes starting in 1997. If you would like further information, please contact the town clerk in the town in which you reside.

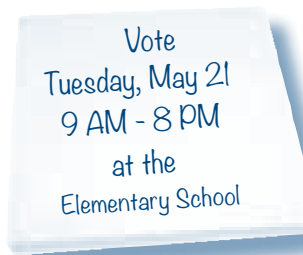
School Board Election and Candidates

The election of three school board members for three year terms and one board member for a one year term (due to a resignation) will take place on Tuesday, May 21, from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. in the elementary gymnasium.

A total of eight candidates returned petitions for four seats. Names of the candidates will appear on the ballot as follows:

Clark B. Perkett
James Ferris
Frann Flatley
Kathleen Gentner
Steven B. Jackoski
David J. King
Virginia Etu
Michele McKnight-Lambert

Eligible voters may cast four votes. The three candidates receiving the highest votes will be declared elected to the three-year terms and the fourth highest vote getter will be elected to the one-year term.



Bus Proposition

The bus proposition is to request voter approval to purchase two vehicles, a 65c passenger bus and a handicapped accessible cut-away bus, and to issue debt to pay for them.

The purchase of the transportation vehicles will be at a cost not to exceed \$162,000.

This proposition will not impact the tax levy for 2013/2014. However, the purchases will increase the tax levy in 2014/2015 by approximately \$35,000 (00.20% increase in 12/13 levy). The loan will be amortized over 5 years.

The approval of this proposition will allow the district to replace bus #94, a 2002 Thomas bus with 98,000 miles. The new handicapped bus would replace bus #99, a 2005 bus with 105,000 miles. To keep these buses operational, extensive repairs will be necessary.

| Expenditure Summary | Actual 2012-13 Budget | Proposed 2013-14 Budget | Change |
|---|-----------------------|-------------------------|-------------------|
| Instructional Program Component | | | |
| Staff (Legal) | \$75,000 | \$50,000 | (\$25,000) |
| Teaching – Regular School | \$5,248,668 | \$5,274,232 | \$25,564 |
| Special Education Programs | \$2,191,887 | \$2,139,756 | (\$52,131) |
| Occupational Education | \$476,972 | \$506,984 | \$30,012 |
| Teaching – Special Schools | \$55,000 | \$70,000 | \$15,000 |
| School Library and Audio Visual | \$233,895 | \$242,974 | \$9,079 |
| Computer Assisted Instruction | \$509,277 | \$533,890 | \$44,613 |
| Attendance Services | \$10,375 | \$11,855 | \$1,480 |
| Guidance Services | \$262,141 | \$266,905 | \$4,764 |
| Health Services | \$105,646 | \$108,781 | \$3,135 |
| Psychological Services | \$150,709 | \$153,700 | \$2,991 |
| Social Work Services | \$143,508 | \$141,539 | (\$1,969) |
| Co-curricular Activities | \$72,424 | \$95,659 | \$23,235 |
| Interscholastic Athletics | \$234,588 | \$247,853 | \$13,265 |
| Pupil Transportation | \$857,248 | \$797,446 | (\$59,802) |
| Census | \$1,200 | \$1,200 | \$0 |
| Employee Benefits | \$4,858,659 | \$5,557,836 | \$699,177 |
| Transfer to Special Aid Fund | \$45,000 | \$50,000 | \$5,000 |
| Total Program Component | \$15,532,197 | \$16,270,610 | \$738,413 |
| Administrative Program Component | | | |
| Board of Education | \$20,157 | \$18,977 | (\$1,180) |
| Central Administration | \$180,300 | \$186,166 | \$5,866 |
| Finance | \$300,477 | \$304,687 | \$4,210 |
| Staff | \$75,559 | \$70,676 | (\$4,883) |
| Printing, Mailing, Data Processing | \$91,300 | \$93,225 | \$1,925 |
| Special Items | \$237,514 | \$238,476 | \$962 |
| Supervision – Regular School | \$495,776 | \$491,291 | (\$4,485) |
| In-Service Training | \$90,470 | \$101,270 | \$10,800 |
| Employee Benefits | \$690,762 | \$667,124 | (\$23,638) |
| Total Administrative Component | \$2,182,315 | \$2,171,892 | (\$10,423) |
| Capital Component | | | |
| Central Services | \$1,093,594 | \$1,116,440 | \$22,846 |
| Special Items | \$4,500 | \$4,500 | \$0 |
| School Bus Purchase | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| Employee Benefits | \$970,294 | \$831,650 | (\$138,644) |
| Transfer to Debt Service Fund | \$726,012 | \$743,605 | \$17,593 |
| Transfer to Capital Fund | \$0 | \$26,578 | \$26,578 |
| Total Capital Component | \$2,794,400 | \$2,722,773 | (\$71,627) |
| Total Expenses | \$20,508,912 | \$21,165,275 | \$656,363 |

| Revenue Summary | Actual 2012-13 Budget | Proposed 2013-14 Budget | Increase (Decrease) |
|--|------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Real Property Taxes | \$17,615,544 | \$17,959,047 | \$343,503 |
| Interest and Penalty on Real Prop. Tax | \$4,000 | \$4,500 | \$500 |
| Day School Tuition | \$5,000 | \$5,000 | \$0 |
| Textbook, Admission, & Charges | \$11,500 | \$14,000 | \$2,500 |
| Interest and Earnings | \$145,000 | \$150,000 | \$5,000 |
| Insurance Recoveries | \$3,000 | \$3,000 | \$0 |
| Medicare Reimbursements | \$45,000 | \$60,000 | \$15,000 |
| Refund of BOCES Services | \$60,000 | \$60,000 | \$0 |
| Refund of Prior Year's Expenditures | \$14,000 | \$15,000 | \$1,000 |
| Basic State Aid | \$1,341,913 | \$1,342,324 | \$411 |
| BOCES State Aid | \$307,157 | \$284,406 | (\$22,751) |
| Excess Cost Aid | \$0 | \$205,888 | \$205,888 |
| Software, Library and Textbook Aid | \$76,798 | \$75,637 | (\$1,161) |
| Medicaid Assistance | \$30,000 | \$25,000 | (\$5,000) |
| Appropriated Fund Balance | \$800,000 | \$811,473 | \$11,473 |
| Appropriated Reserves | \$50,000 | \$150,000 | \$100,000 |
| Total Estimated Revenue | \$20,508,912 | \$21,165,275 | \$656,363 |

School District Budget Notice

| Overall Budget Proposal | Actual 2012-13 Budget | Proposed 2013-14 Budget | Contingency 2013-14 Budget* |
|---|------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Total Budgeted Amount, Not Including Propositions | \$20,508,912 | \$21,165,275 | \$20,821,773 |
| Increase for the 2012-13 school year | | \$656,363 | \$312,861 |
| Percentage increase in each proposed budget | | 3.20% | 1.53% |
| Change in the Consumer Price Index | | 2.1% | |
| Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy | \$17,615,544 | \$17,959,047 | \$17,615,544 |
| Total Permissible Exclusions | \$648,081 | \$824,589 | |
| A. Proposed School Year Tax Levy, Not including Levy for Permissible Exclusions or Levy to Support Library Debt | \$16,967,463 | \$17,134,458 | |
| B. School Tax Levy Limit, Not Including Levy for Permissible Exclusions | \$17,112,420 | \$17,360,716 | |
| Difference A - B (Positive Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval) | \$-144,957 | \$-226,258 | |
| Administrative Component | \$2,182,315 | \$2,171,892 | \$2,132,892 |
| Program Component | \$15,532,197 | \$16,270,610 | \$16,071,938 |
| Capital Component | \$2,794,400 | \$2,722,773 | \$2,616,943 |
| *Contingency amounts are less than the legally allowable contingency amount to allow for the tax levy to remain at the prior year's levy. | | | |

Basic STAR Exemption Impact

Budget Proposed for the 2013-14 School Year

| | |
|------------------------------------|-------|
| Estimated Basic STAR** Tax Savings | \$191 |
|------------------------------------|-------|

The basic school tax relief (STAR) exemption is authorized by section 425 of the Real Property Tax Law. See Bus Proposition on Page 2.

BOARD OF EDUCATION:

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 Naomi O'Reilly
 James Powell



LAKE GEORGE CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

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www.lkgeorge.org

News & Views is published four times during the school year by the Lake George Central School District to encourage interest in education and to keep residents informed of the school's activities and programs.

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Property Tax Report Card

| | 2012-13 Budget | 2013-14 Budget | Percent Change |
|---|---------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------|
| Total Spending | \$20,508,912 | \$21,165,275 | 3.20% |
| Proposed School Tax Levy | \$17,615,544 | \$17,959,047 | 1.95% |
| Permissible Exclusions to School Tax Levy Limit ¹ | \$648,081 | \$824,589 | |
| Proposed School Tax Levy (not including permissible exclusions) ¹ | \$16,967,463 | \$17,134,458 | |
| School Tax Levy Limit (not including permissible exclusions) ¹ | \$17,112,420 | \$17,360,716 | |
| Public School Enrollment | 908 | 901 | |
| Consumer Price Index | | 2.1% | |
| | Actual 2012-13 | Estimated 2013-14 | |
| Adjusted Restricted Fund Balance | \$2,455,006 | \$2,924,000 | |
| Assigned Appropriated Fund Balance | \$1,091,251 | \$961,473 | |
| Adjusted Unrestricted Fund Balance | \$817,995 | \$843,779 | |
| Adjusted Unrestricted Fund Balance as a Percent of the Total Budget | 4% | 4% | |

¹Note that these items apply only to Column B -- Proposed Budget for 2013-14 for this year.

Absentee Ballots

Absentee ballots for the budget vote, election of four school board members, and the bus proposition are available to district residents who will be unable to vote in person on Tuesday, May 21.

Applications for absentee ballots are available online at www.lkgeorge.org (click on Board of Education), or can be picked up in the Superintendent's Office until Monday, May 20. A signed request for an absentee ballot can be made by mail, but it must be received in the district clerk's office by Tuesday, May 14. Absentee ballots delivered by hand must be received by 5 p.m. on Tuesday, May 21.

For more information, contact the school district clerk located in the Superintendent's Office in the Jr.-Sr. High School at 668-5456, ext. 1207 or dougallp@lkgeorge.org.

LAKE GEORGE CENTRAL SCHOOL BUDGET VOTE AND BOARD ELECTION

Tuesday, May 21, from 9 AM-8 PM
Elementary School Gym
69 Sun Valley Drive

Voters must be: United States citizens, 18 years of age or older and district residents for 30 days prior to the vote. A resident can only have one legal residence, which is his or her place of permanent residence.