

News & Views

BUDGET 2016-2017

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Proposed Budget is Under Tax Limit

The proposed 2016-17 budget of \$22,632,957 is an increase of 2.29% over the 2015-16 adopted budget. The proposed tax levy of \$18.9 million is an increase of \$289,723 and almost at the district's 1.56% cap.

"Little has changed in the budget. We're maintaining programs, continuing to offer students the courses they'll need for success in the 21st century, as well as enhancing special education services to students," said Superintendent of Schools Patrick Dee. The proposed budget allows for the addition of a part-time special education teacher at the Jr. Sr. High School. A teaching aide position that was assigned to a special needs student is being eliminated as it is no longer needed. This occurred through attrition, not a lay-off. The final phase of the initiative that provides every student with an iPad or MacBook is also included in the proposed budget.

Lower retirement and health insurance costs continue to save the district money. Business Manager Kate DuBois explained, "Two years ago, retirees agreed to switch to a lower-cost health insurance provider producing more savings to the district. Plus, due to changes in the 2014 teacher contract negotiations that called for employees to contribute more toward their health insurance premiums, health insurance is not rising as much as it has in the past. Finally, this year the actual premium increase is only 1.4%."

On the revenue side of the budget, the district will receive a total of \$2.23 million in state aid. The Gap Elimination Adjustment (GEA) budget cuts for school districts have been permanently eliminated with the passing of the 2016-17 State budget.

"We're happy that the GEA has finally been eliminated," added Mr. Dee. "As a result, our district will receive an additional \$169,000 in funds next year." Approximately 84% of the district's budget is funded through property taxes. In our local BOCES, Lake George Central School District has the third lowest rate of \$6.59 per \$1,000. We are in the top 4% statewide for tax rates. The chart on the right shows the 2015 True Value Tax Rate of area school districts. True Value Tax Rate information is courtesy of the New York State Comptroller's Office.

Polls open at 9 a.m. Tuesday, May 17, in the elementary school gymnasium, and will remain open until 8 p.m. In addition to the budget, residents will also be asked to vote on the purchase of two (2) 65-passenger buses at a cost not to exceed \$224,958 and the creation of a capital reserve fund to set aside money for future capital projects. The proposed reserve fund would last for 10 years and be capped at \$2.5 million. Lastly, voters will be asked to vote for candidates for three open seats on the Board of Education.

True Value Tax Rate

School District Name	Full Value Tax Rate
Bolton Central School District	\$5.13
North Warren School District	\$6.39
Lake George School District	\$6.59
Whitehall School District	\$10.50
Hadley-Luzerne School District	\$10.65
Johnsburg School District	\$11.29
Corinth Central School District	\$11.54
Saratoga Springs City School District	\$12.71
Stillwater School District	\$12.89
Fort Ann School District	\$12.95
Hudson Falls School District	\$13.36
Glens Falls Common School District	\$14.14
Galway School District	\$14.62
Warrensburg School District	\$15.29
Queensbury School District	\$15.38
Salem School District	\$15.51
South Glens Falls School District	\$15.94
Cambridge Central School District	\$16.32
Argyle Central School District	\$16.36
Granville School District	\$16.36
Greenwich School District	\$16.98
Hartford School District	\$17.60
Mechanicville School District	\$17.66
Fort Edward School District	\$17.73
Glens Falls City School District	\$17.99
Ballston Spa Central School District	\$18.20
Schuylerville School District	\$20.26
Waterford-Halfmoon School District	\$26.03

<http://www.osc.state.ny.us/localgov/orptbook/index.htm>



Budget, Bus, Capital Reserve Fund, and Candidate Vote

The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2016-2017 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 17, 2016, 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.

School Board Election and Candidates

The election of three school board members for three-year terms will take place on Tuesday, May 17, from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. in the elementary gymnasium.

A total of six candidates returned petitions for three seats presently held by incumbents Steven Jackoski, Michele McKnight-Lambert, and Clark Perkett.

Names of the candidates will appear on the ballot as follows:

Scott Jeckel
Tom Seguljic
Marc Mularz
Clark Perkett
Courtney Richichi
John Kelleher

Eligible voters may cast three votes.

The three candidates receiving the highest votes will be declared elected to the three-year terms.

Capital Reserve Fund Proposition

The capital reserve fund proposition is to request voter approval to establish a capital reserve fund to set aside money for future capital projects. The fund would last for 10 years and be capped at \$2.5 million.

Bus Proposition

The bus proposition is to request voter approval to purchase two 65c passenger buses.

The purchase of the transportation vehicle will be at a cost not to exceed \$224,958.

The approval of this proposition will allow the district to replace bus #98 and #100, and will maintain the 12-year replacement plan."



Expenditure Summary	Actual 2015-16 Budget	Proposed 2016-17 Budget	Change
Instructional Program Component			
Staff (Legal)	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$0
Teaching – Regular School	\$5,641,208	\$5,745,804	\$104,569
Special Education Programs	\$2,252,286	\$2,306,254	\$53,968
Occupational Education	\$608,152	\$639,670	\$31,518
Teaching – Special Schools	\$96,000	\$97,050	\$1,050
School Library and Audio Visual	\$251,002	\$257,674	\$6,672
Computer Assisted Instruction	\$763,977	\$804,874	\$40,897
Attendance Services	\$12,695	\$13,128	\$433
Guidance Services	\$296,386	\$305,794	\$9,408
Health Services	\$109,648	\$108,580	(\$1,068)
Psychological Services	\$167,975	\$174,628	\$6,653
Social Work Services	\$154,955	\$163,007	\$8,052
Co-curricular Activities	\$102,045	\$113,520	\$11,475
Interscholastic Athletics	\$276,233	\$313,640	\$37,407
Pupil Transportation	\$781,432	\$760,431	(\$21,001)
Census	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$0
Employee Benefits	\$5,454,444	\$5,414,374	(\$40,070)
Transfer to Special Aid Fund	\$25,000	\$20,000	(\$5,000)
Transfer to School Lunch Fund	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$0
Total Program Component	\$17,039,638	\$17,284,628	(\$244,990)
Administrative Program Component			
Board of Education	\$43,074	\$36,572	(\$6,502)
Central Administration	\$189,378	\$192,827	\$3,449
Finance	\$318,164	\$334,474	\$16,310
Staff	\$70,653	\$69,591	(\$1,062)
Printing, Mailing, Data Processing	\$99,700	\$101,000	\$1,300
Special Items	\$254,840	\$253,120	(\$1,720)
Supervision – Regular School	\$468,282	\$483,976	\$15,694
In-Service Training	\$145,530	\$148,565	\$3,035
Employee Benefits	\$684,911	\$684,542	(\$369)
Total Administrative Component	\$2,274,532	\$2,304,667	\$30,135
Capital Component			
Central Services	\$1,244,805	\$1,312,959	\$68,154
Special Items	\$4,500	\$4,500	\$0
Employee Benefits	\$788,395	\$781,335	(\$7,061)
Transfer to Debt Service Fund	\$696,512	\$944,869	\$248,357
Transfer to Capital Fund	\$77,013	\$0	(\$77,013)
Total Capital Component	\$2,811,226	\$3,043,663	\$232,437
Total Expenses	\$22,125,396	\$22,632,957	\$507,561

Revenue Summary	Actual 2015-16 Budget	Proposed 2016-17 Budget	Increase (Decrease)
Real Property Taxes	\$18,610,774	\$18,900,497	\$289,723
Interest and Penalty on Real Prop. Tax	\$2,500	\$1,000	(\$1,500)
Day School Tuition	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$0
Textbook, Admission & Charges	\$36,500	\$36,000	(\$500)
Interest and Earnings	\$13,000	\$19,000	\$6,000
Insurance Recoveries	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$0
Medicare Reimbursements	\$60,000	\$60,000	\$0
Refund of BOCES Services	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$0
Refund of Prior Year's Expenditures	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$0
Basic State Aid	\$974,795	\$1,101,971	\$127,176
BOCES State Aid	\$337,714	\$379,131	\$41,417
Excess Cost Aid	\$650,000	\$684,993	\$34,993
Software, Library and Textbook Aid	\$71,112	\$66,697	(\$4,415)
Appropriated Fund Balance	\$905,000	\$919,668	\$14,668
Appropriated Reserves	\$400,000	\$400,000	\$0
	\$22,125,395	\$22,632,957	\$507,562

School District Budget Notice

Overall Budget Proposal	Budget Adopted for 2015-16 School Year	Budget Proposed for 2016-17 School Year	Contingency Budget 2016-17 School Year*
Total Budgeted Amount, Not Including Separate Propositions	\$22,125,395	\$22,632,957	\$22,343,234
Increase for the 2016-17 School Year		\$507,561	\$217,838
Percentage Increase in Proposed Budget		2.29%	0.98%
Change in the Consumer Price Index (CPI)		0.12%	
A. Proposed Tax Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount	\$18,610,774	\$18,900,497	
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)	\$18,610,774	\$18,900,497	\$18,610,774
F. Permissible Exclusions to the School Tax Levy Limit	\$690,916	\$859,827	
G. School Tax Levy Limit, Excluding Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$17,933,504	\$18,050,647	
H. Total Proposed Tax Levy for School Purposes, Excluding Permissible Exclusions and Levy for Library Debt, Plus Prior Year Tax Cap Reserve (E - B - F + D)	\$17,919,858	\$18,040,670	
I. Difference: (G - H); (Negative Value Requires 60% Voter Approval - See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions)**	\$13,646	\$9,977	
Administrative component	\$2,274,532	\$2,304,667	\$2,292,167
Program component	\$17,039,638	\$17,284,628	\$17,113,305
Capital component	\$2,811,226	\$3,043,663	\$2,937,763

* 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 not eligible for exclusion and may affect voter approval requirements)

Description	Amount
Purchase of two (2) 65c passenger school buses	\$224,958
Establish 10-year capital reserve	\$2,500,000

Basic STAR Exemption Impact

Budget Proposed for the 2016-17 School Year

Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings¹

\$204

The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2016-2017 by the qualified voters of the Lake George Central School District, Warren County, New York, will be held at LGCS D elementary school in said district on Tuesday, May 17, 2016 between the hours of 9:00 am and 8:00 pm, prevailing time in the LGCS D elementary school, 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.

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LAKE GEORGE CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

381 CANADA STREET
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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

	Budgeted 2015-16 (A)	Proposed Budget 2016-17 (B)	Percent Change (C)
Total Budgeted Amount, not including Separate Propositions	\$22,125,395	\$22,632,957	2.29%
A. Proposed Tax Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount ¹	\$18,610,774	\$18,900,497	
B. Tax Levy to Support Library Debt, if Applicable			
C. Tax Levy for Non-Excludable Propositions, if Applicable ²			
D. Total Tax Cap Reserve Amount Used to Reduce Current Year Levy, if Applicable			
E. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy (A + B + C - D)	\$18,610,774	\$18,900,497	
F. Permissible Exclusions to the School Tax Levy Limit	\$690,916	\$859,827	
G. School Tax Levy Limit, <u>Excluding</u> Levy for Permissible Exclusions ³	\$17,933,50	\$18,050,647	
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)	\$17,919,858	\$18,040,670	
I. Difference (G - H); (negative value requires 60% voter approval)	\$13,646	\$9,977	
Public School Enrollment	811	800	-1.36%
Consumer Price Index			0.12%

¹ Include any prior year reserve for excess tax levy, including interest.

² Tax levy associated with educational or transportation services propositions are not eligible for exclusion under the School Tax Levy Limit and may affect voter approval requirements.

³ For 2016-17, includes any carryover from 2015-16 and excludes any tax levy for library debt or prior year reserve for excess tax levy, including interest.

	Actual 2015-16 (D)	Estimated 2016-17 (E)
Adjusted Restricted Fund Balance	\$2,999,216	\$2,975,000
Assigned Appropriated Fund Balance	\$905,000	\$919,668
Adjusted Unrestricted Fund Balance	\$870,728	\$905,318
Adjusted Unrestricted Fund Balance as a Percent of the Total Budget	3.94%	4.00%

*Please note that this Property Tax Report Card presentation is in accordance with NYS Education Law sections 1608, 1716(7) and 2601-a(3).

Absentee Ballots

Absentee ballots for the budget vote, election of two school board members, and the bus proposition are available to district residents who will be unable to vote in person on Tuesday, May 17.

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 16. 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 10. Absentee ballots delivered by hand must be received by 5 p.m. on Tuesday, May 17.

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 email bartons@lkgeorge.org.

LAKE GEORGE CENTRAL SCHOOL BUDGET VOTE AND BOARD ELECTION

Tuesday, May 17, 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.