

THE PATCHOGUE - MEDFORD

SPECIAL BUDGET ISSUE

Messenger **PM**

Published by the Patchogue-Medford School District

2016-2017 Budget



Homecoming Celebration



Eagle Elementary Boosterthon



Tremont Elementary PTA Event



Class of 2016 Top Ten Students

School District Vote

Tuesday, May 17, 2016 7 a.m. - 9 p.m.

BUDGET HEARING: THURSDAY, MAY 5, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. at South Ocean Middle School

Dear Patchogue-Medford Community,

The members of the Board of Education are proud of the accomplishments made during the 2015-2016 school year and are excited about the future of our school district! Our superintendent, Dr. Michael Hynes, with the cooperation of all stakeholders, is shifting our education paradigm by focusing on the social, emotional and physical well-being of every child. This philosophical change will require teachers, administrators and support staff to continue to work collaboratively in order to improve the learning experience for our students.

Our school district continues to diligently address the challenges of State mandates, including the Common Core standards and the over-testing of our students. Innovative classroom models are being considered that will ensure that all district programs are sustained. In addition, we have adapted our response to the Annual Professional Performance Review process for teachers and administrators in an effort to establish a more appropriate model.

Our sound fiscal condition has afforded us the ability to incorporate these positive changes into our district. In fact, the Patchogue-Medford School District is in one of the best financial conditions that it has been in many years. The proposed budget for the 2016-2017 school year sustains all district programs, increases teaching staff by 10 full time teachers and includes an increase in support staff, while remaining below the New York State Tax Cap limit.

On Tuesday, May 17th, you will have the opportunity to vote on the 2016-2017 budget proposal, as well as Capital Reserve Fund expenditures. The polls will be open between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m. at the polling places listed on the back of the brochure.

Voting is a cherished right and your vote matters!

Sincerely,

Thomas P. Donofrio
President, Patchogue-Medford Board of Education

Proposed Expenditures

<u>INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAM BUDGET</u>	2015-2016	2016-2017
This is the instructional portion which includes all instructional areas and associated employee benefits, including transportation	Adopted Budget	Proposed Budget
General Instruction Includes salaries for teachers, teacher aides, substitutes, textbooks, supplies, materials, etc.	\$ 49,078,930	\$ 50,082,776
Students with Disabilities Programs Includes salaries for teachers, teacher aides, substitutes, textbooks, supplies, materials, etc. for programs serving students with disabilities	\$ 26,094,322	\$ 26,634,448
Occupational Education Represents BOCES vocational programs	\$ 1,283,900	\$ 1,456,840
Special School Includes summer school, adult education, and alternative high school *	\$ 863,679	\$ 886,417
Library & Media Includes the salaries for librarians, aides, books, supplies and audio visual	\$ 1,280,484	\$ 1,435,643
Computer Instruction Includes salaries for District Computer Technology Director, computer aides in each school, BOCES charges for computer support, programming and computer replacements	\$ 1,305,227	\$ 1,398,566
Student Support Services Includes salaries for counselors, nurses, psychologists, social workers, support staff, materials and supplies	\$ 5,601,300	\$ 5,753,643
Extracurricular and Athletics Extracurricular clubs and athletics salaries, stipends, chaperones, timers, supplies, and uniforms	\$ 1,539,284	\$ 1,681,171
Transportation Includes salaries and benefits for district drivers and the cost of contractual services for district routes and BOCES costs for some handicapped, private and parochial students **	\$ 8,055,954	\$ 9,043,313

* Adult Education programs are self-funded.

**The proposed budget includes year 1 of a 5 year contract extension for transportation services for big buses. The proposed budget includes year 3 of a 3 year contract for transportation services for mini buses.

Proposed Expenditures

<u>INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAM BUDGET CONTINUED</u>	2015-2016 Adopted Budget	2016-2017 Proposed Budget
Employee Benefits	\$ 33,228,063	\$ 32,400,193
Mandatory retirement system payments, social security, workers' compensation insurance and contractual health, life and dental insurance benefits		
Community Services	\$ 967,543	\$ 996,457
Includes all expenses for child care offered through the District for before-and-after school, and summer programs. These expenses are offset by revenues from the fees for child care services *		
TOTAL PROGRAM:	\$ 129,298,686	\$ 131,769,467
<u>CAPITAL BUDGET</u>		
The Capital section of the budget contains all debt service, operations and maintenance costs, including utilities, employee benefits and maintenance of building and grounds		
Operations, Maintenance and Security	\$ 11,450,451	\$ 12,145,832
Includes salaries, equipment, repairs, preventative maintenance expenses, maintenance expenses and supplies		
Employee Benefits	\$ 3,398,890	\$ 3,425,791
Mandatory retirement system payments, social security, workers' compensation insurance and contractual health, life and dental insurance benefits		
Debt Service	\$ 108,278	\$ 96,667
Interest on short term debt of the district		
Transfers	\$ 12,709,297	\$ 13,202,905
Transfer to Debt Service to pay down the long term debt in accordance with payment schedules; transfer to Special Aid Fund as necessary for summer Special Education program; transfers to the School Lunch and Capital Project Funds		
TOTAL CAPITAL:	\$ 27,666,916	\$ 28,871,195
<u>ADMINISTRATIVE BUDGET</u>		
The Administrative portion of the budget provides for the support of the other components of the budget		
Board of Education	\$ 182,196	\$ 187,910
Includes memberships, travel, conferences, supplies, notices, District Clerk, voting costs and associated expenses		
Central Administrative Support	\$ 2,035,838	\$ 2,138,294
Includes salaries and expenses of the Superintendent, business office, fiscal agent fees, personnel, treasurer, advertising, and audit		
Legal Services and Insurance	\$ 1,492,868	\$ 1,445,601
Cost of attorney services and general liability insurance		
Other Central Services	\$ 2,458,876	\$ 2,578,986
Includes BOCES charges for administration and data services, postage and mailing fees		
Instructional Educational Support	\$ 5,923,656	\$ 6,322,782
Includes salaries and expenses of administrators and their support staff		
Employee Benefits	\$ 4,009,863	\$ 4,019,596
Mandatory retirement system payments, social security, workers' compensation insurance and contractual health, life and dental insurance benefits		
TOTAL ADMINISTRATIVE:	\$ 16,103,297	\$ 16,693,169
TOTAL BUDGET	\$ 173,068,899	\$ 177,333,831

* Child care for before-and-after school and summer programs are self-funded.

District Highlights



ACADEMIC AND PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS FOR 2015-2016

- ★ Implemented Lego Robotics Program in all elementary and middle schools;
- ★ Tower Gardens implemented in elementary, middle, and high school Life Skills program which led to enhanced "real world" learning opportunities for students (top right);
- ★ Additional Advanced Placement course offering - AP Statistics;
- ★ Implemented a new side-by-side Dual Language Program in three elementary schools;
- ★ Partnered with St. Joseph's College and Tim Bishop to provide a mentoring program;
- ★ Partnered with the YMCA to pilot an after school program at Saxton Middle School;
- ★ Partnered with Suffolk Community College to provide a Saturday STEP Program;
- ★ Select staff members trained in Nonviolent Crisis Intervention;
- ★ All school psychologists trained in the structure, function and facilitation of Committee on Special Education Meetings.



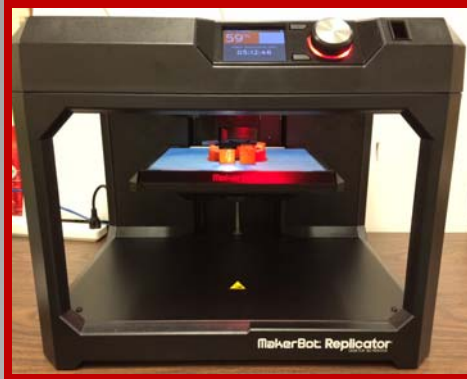
NEW PROGRAMS AND INITIATIVES FOR 2016-2017

- ★ Expansion of Advanced Placement course offerings - AP Capstone;
- ★ Enhanced professional development to support social and emotional growth of students;
- ★ Expansion of school psychological and social work services;
- ★ Expansion of assistive technology training and tools;
- ★ Wellness initiative – piloting fitness stations at Medford Elementary School and South Ocean Middle School.



District Highlights (Continued)

3-D printer located in secondary technology education classrooms



Student laptops for use in the high school library



TECHNOLOGY IMPROVEMENTS IN 2015-2016

- ★ Purchased student laptops for use in the high school library (pictured above right);
- ★ Purchased four 3-D printers for technology education classrooms (pictured above left);
- ★ Updated Wi-Fi connectivity in school libraries;
- ★ Purchased 20 shared iPads for Medford Elementary Scholastic applications.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS IN 2015-2016

- ★ Installation of display screens at Tremont Elementary School, Saxton Middle School, and South Ocean Middle School;
- ★ Upgraded stage lighting and repaired curtains in the high school auditorium (stage lighting scheduled for Spring 2016);
- ★ Purchased stage curtains, upgraded lighting and rigging repair at River Elementary School (pictured below right, stage rigging repair and lighting scheduled for Spring 2016);
- ★ Upgrade stage lighting at South Ocean (scheduled for Spring 2016);
- ★ Purchased stage curtains, and rigging repair at Tremont Elementary School (rigging repair scheduled for Spring 2016);
- ★ Replacement of necessary lockers at the high school (pictured below left).



TECHNOLOGY PROJECTS SCHEDULED FOR 2016-2017

- ★ Various Smart Schools related upgrades including: high school infrastructure, student laptops for elementary school libraries, elementary and middle school computer lab upgrades, high school media arts computer lab upgrades;
- ★ Purchase of two laptops and color printers for middle school art classrooms;
- ★ District-Wide wireless security enhancements.

CAPITAL PROJECTS SCHEDULED FOR 2016-2017

- ★ Completion of Oregon Middle School roof recoating;
- ★ Choral risers for all schools as part of interfund transfers to Capital Fund;
- ★ Preparations for roof recoatings at Barton, Bay, Canaan, Eagle, Medford, and Tremont Elementary Schools and Saxton Middle School;
- ★ Preparations for some window replacements at Medford Elementary School.

Questions and Answers

What is the Capital Reserve Fund and why was it established?

A voter proposition was placed on the ballot in May 2015 for the establishment of a Capital Reserve Fund. The purpose of the Fund is to enable the District to fund capital projects without financing the costs or increasing taxes. **The District funded the reserve for the 2015-2016 school year utilizing additional State Aid that was received from the State Education Department after the budget was adopted.** The proposition authorized the fund to be established in the 2015-2016 school year in the amount not to exceed five million dollars plus any interest earning accumulated. The Capital Reserve Fund enables the District to make capital repairs without incurring borrowing costs. It also significantly increases revenues since the projects return \$0.733 cents for every dollar spent.

Are there any additional propositions to be presented for voter approval?

Now that the voters have approved the establishment of a Capital Reserve, a voter proposition will be presented that will authorize the District to spend five million dollars from the Capital Reserve Fund in order to recoat roofs at the following buildings: Barton, Bay, Canaan, Eagle, Medford, Tremont, and Saxton. In addition, the south windows at Medford are scheduled to be replaced, as well as any ancillary work required in connection with such projects. The District will not exceed a spending level of \$5 million dollars, and intends to recoat as many roofs as possible without exceeding the \$5 million dollar threshold.

Are there any staffing changes proposed for the 2016-2017 school year?

Included in the proposed budget are ten additional teaching positions, one additional administrative position, two additional technology support positions, and four additional clerical positions. There are no proposed staff reductions for the 2016-2017 school year.

Are there any special initiatives proposed for the 2016-2017 school year?

The superintendent has developed an Educational Philosophy for the 2016-2017 school year. Included in the plan are a series of initiatives designed to support the social, emotional and physical well-being of all children. In order to support this endeavor, the budget includes funding to hire additional social workers and psychologists in the elementary and middle schools, professional development opportunities for teachers, drug prevention assemblies for students at the secondary level, as well as any related supplies and materials required. The additional social workers and psychologists are included in the additional ten teachers scheduled to be hired in the 2016-2017 school year. The budget also includes the purchase of pilot Fitness Stations at Medford Elementary School as well as South Ocean Middle School. The Fitness Stations are part of a drive to improve student health and wellness by identifying innovative opportunities for students to exercise during the school day as well as with their families after school hours.

How does the tax cap impact the tax rate?

The 2% tax cap (with exclusions) implemented by the Governor and the Legislators does not cap the tax rate, it caps the tax levy. The levy is one component to calculating the tax rate. The assessed valuation is the other component used to calculate the tax rate. **The legislation only addressed one component of the calculation (the levy).** Depending on whether assessed valuation remains the same or declines, the estimated tax rate increase could range from 2.82% to 4.91%. The assessed valuation is determined by the Town and is provided to school districts in the Fall.

Does the proposed budget pierce the property tax cap?

The proposed Budget does **not** pierce the property tax cap.

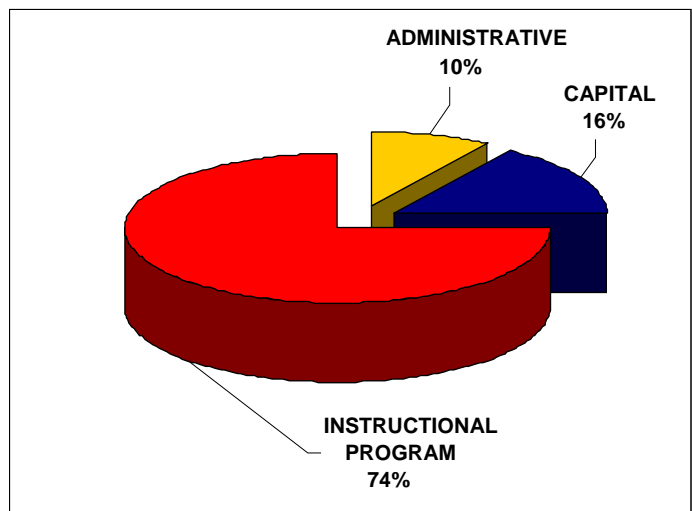
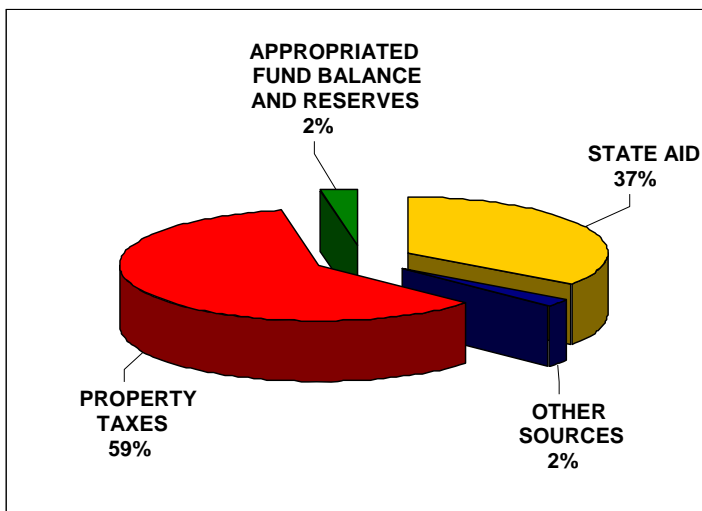
What happens if the proposed budget is not approved?

If the budget fails on May 17, 2016, the Board may either recommend a re-vote on June 21, 2016 or adopt a contingency budget. If the Board chooses to adopt a contingency budget, it will require approximately \$1.7 million dollars of additional cuts, which will include reductions of some of the proposed additional staff. In addition, all equipment purchases would be eliminated from the General Fund budget. Interfund transfers of \$893,455 would also be eliminated.

Budget Summary

Summary of Expenditures				
	Adopted 2015-2016 Budget	Proposed 2016-2017 Budget	Change	% of Budget
Instructional Program	\$ 129,298,686	\$ 131,769,467	\$ 2,470,781	74%
Capital	\$ 27,666,916	\$ 28,871,195	\$ 1,204,279	16%
Administrative	\$ 16,103,297	\$ 16,693,169	\$ 589,872	10%
Total	\$ 173,068,899	\$ 177,333,831	\$ 4,264,932	100%

2016-2017	
Budget to Budget Change	Tax Levy Change
\$4,264,932	\$1,567,772
2.46%	1.51%



Estimated Revenues	2015-2016	2016-2017
STATE AID Foundation Aid, Transportation Aid, Building Aid, Excess Cost Aid, BOCES Aid, Textbook, Hardware and Software Aid	\$ 61,720,756	\$ 66,157,205
OTHER SOURCES Admissions, BOCES refund, other refunds of expenses, taxes other than property taxes, donations, interest earnings, Medicaid reimbursement	\$ 4,121,225	\$ 3,681,936
PROPERTY TAXES Includes STAR payments from the State	\$ 103,563,276	\$ 105,131,048
APPROPRIATED FUND BALANCE AND RESERVES	\$ 3,663,642	\$ 2,363,642
TOTAL REVENUES	\$ 173,068,899	\$ 177,333,831

Proposition 1 - Budget

“Shall the Patchogue-Medford School District budget for fiscal 2016-2017 be adopted and the requisite portion thereof raised by taxation on the taxable property of the district?”

Proposition 2 - Capital Reserve Fund

“Shall the Board of Education of the Patchogue-Medford Union Free School District be authorized to expend funds already deposited in the capital reserve fund established by the voters of the School District at the Annual Meeting held on May 19, 2015 (“Reserve Fund”) pursuant to Section 3651 of the Education Law for the following capital improvement projects: recoating the roof at the Eagle Elementary School, Saxton Middle School, Barton Elementary School, Tremont Elementary School, Medford Elementary School, Bay Elementary School and Canaan Elementary School and to replace the South Windows at the Medford Elementary School, and any ancillary or related work required in connection with such projects and to expend from the Reserve Fund therefor, including preliminary costs and costs incidental thereto an amount not to exceed the estimated total cost of Five Million (\$5,000,000.00) Dollars?”

Voter Qualifications

To be eligible to vote in school district elections, a person must:

- Be at least 18 years of age;
- Be a resident of the school district for at least 30 days prior to May 17, 2016;
- Be a citizen of the United States and;
- Be a registered voter with the Board of Registry or with the Suffolk County Board of Elections.

District Polling Places

- District No. 1: South Ocean Middle School
- District No. 2: Medford Elementary School
- District No. 3: Saxton Middle School
- District No. 4: Tremont Elementary School
- District No. 5: Eagle Elementary School

Absentee Ballots

Absentee ballot applications may be obtained at the Administrative Center, 241 South Ocean Avenue, Patchogue or via the District web site (www.pmschools.org). Ballots will be issued upon the satisfactory completion of the application form. The deadline for filing absentee ballot application, if the ballots are mailed to the resident is May 10, 2016 by 4:30 p.m. The deadline for filing absentee ballot applications, if the ballots are to be personally delivered to residents, is May 16, 2016 by 4:30 p.m. All absentee ballots must be filed with the District Clerk by 5 p.m. on Tuesday, May 17, 2016.

Voter Registration

Any school day at the Administrative Center, 241 South Ocean Avenue, Patchogue, New York 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Contact the District Clerk (687-6370) for further information.

Deadline to register with the School District Board of Registry is Friday, May 6, 2016 by 4 p.m.



Qualified voters with disabilities who seek information about access to polling places may, in advance of the day of the vote, contact the District Clerk at (631) 687-6370 for information about accessibility.

Patchogue-Medford Schools
241 South Ocean Avenue
Patchogue, New York 11772
www.pmschools.org

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