Summer Enrichment Expanded for 2019

This is the district’s third year offering the Summer Enrichment Program, which is designed to prevent “summer slide” in literacy and fluency. For two years, the elementary program ran at max capacity with a wait list. Considering the positive impact it’s had on students, the program is set to expand in 2019 to include students currently in grades pre-K through 8.

The four-week program, which is a blend of academics and recreational activities, gives parents a fun, safe place to send their children for part of the summer. The program is held from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. every weekday between July 8 and August 2. Breakfast, lunch, dinner and snacks are provided to all students.

Proposed budget decreases tax levy for fourth year in a row Also adds 32 (FTE) teaching positions.

Polling Places & Election Districts
For more information on polling places and election districts, call the Schenectady City School District’s Clerk of the Board at 518-370-8100, ext. 40105.

- Yates Elementary
  725 Salina Street 12308
- Schenectady High School
  1445 The Plaza 12308
- Former Elmer Elementary
  90 Emmer Avenue 12308
- Paige Elementary
  104 Elliott Avenue 12308
- Woodlawn Elementary
  3311 Wells Avenue 12304
- Mont Pleasant Middle School
  1121 Forest Road 12303
- Fulton Early Childhood Center
  408 Eleanor Street 12304
- MLK Jr. Elementary School
  918 Stanley Street 12307
- Former Elmer Elementary
  90 Emmer Avenue 12308
- Paige Elementary
  104 Elliott Avenue 12308
- Woodlawn Elementary
  3311 Wells Avenue 12304
- Former Mont Pleasant
  Middle School
  1121 Forest Road 12303
- Fulton Early Childhood Center
  408 Eleanor Street 12306
- MLK Jr. Elementary School
  918 Stanley Street 12307

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Year-to-year Tax Levy

- 2015-16
- 2016-17
- 2017-18
- 2018-19
- 2019-20

- 43,000,000
- 44,500,000
- 46,000,000
- 47,500,000
- 49,000,000
- 50,500,000
- 52,000,000
- 53,500,000
- 55,000,000
- 56,500,000

Budget Vote
TUESDAY, MAY 21, 2019
12 P.M. - 9 P.M.
Polls are open noon - 9 p.m. at the district’s eight polling locations.

In the budget development process, the district set the goal of restoring critical programming for our students while maintaining our fiscal responsibility. After careful consideration, the proposed 2019-20 budget represents a 4.12% increase over the current year’s budget, and adds $4.6 million in spending on educational programming and services. As a result of the budget’s inclusion of areas where money could be spent, for example, the addition of $2.3 million in administrative positions would not be permitted. There would also be mandated charges for the use of school facilities by outside organizations.

The proposed budget also calls for positions that strengthen our efforts to be trauma-sensitive with the addition of 4.5 FTE social workers, a psychologist, and an instructional support teacher. The addition of an equity and cultural responsive education supervisor will help the district forge ahead in bringing awareness to and making the shift to culturally responsive education.

The proposed 2019-20 budget also includes provisions that are not included in the total budget amount and adds $4.8 million in spending on educational programming and services. As a result of the budget development process, the district set the goal of restoring critical programming for our students while maintaining our fiscal responsibility.

Polaris residents will head to the polls on Tuesday, May 21, 2019, to vote on a proposed $202,446,363 spending plan that will boost programs and services, and reduce the tax levy approximately $750,000, or 1.44%

The proposed 2019-20 budget represents a 4.12% increase over the current year’s budget, and adds $4.6 million in spending on educational programming and services. As a result of careful planning and spending, the district anticipates a slight boost in New York State Foundation Aid, this is the fourth consecutive year that the district is lowering the tax levy.

The budget includes the addition of 49 full-time equivalent (FTE) positions, including 32 (FTE) teachers, and a number of positions that serve to expand and support the general education, intervention, and social emotional learning. The district also added 12 teacher internships.

Six additional teaching positions at Schenectady High School fill a need for additional sections in math, social studies, ELA, earth science, visual arts, and technology. The new offerings will include career and technical education supports, and case management are examples of services and interventions offered through the GEC. During the budget development process, the district set the goal of restoring critical programming for our students while maintaining the tax levy for our community.

Polls are open noon - 9 p.m. at the district’s eight polling locations.

ORIGIN FEATURES

**OVERALL BUDGET PROPOSAL**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Estimated Basic STAR Exemption savings</td>
<td>$724</td>
</tr>
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</table>

**REVENUES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sale of 90 Elmer Avenue</td>
<td>$450,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**EXPENDITURES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Local Revenue</td>
<td>$1,875,498</td>
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<tr>
<td>Federal Sources</td>
<td>$747,700</td>
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<tr>
<td>Payments in Lieu of Taxes</td>
<td>$22,533,576</td>
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<tr>
<td>State Aid (all forms)</td>
<td>$101,755,242</td>
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<tr>
<td>Utility Sales Taxes</td>
<td>$2,400,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Priorty on Taxes</td>
<td>$500,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Revenue</td>
<td>$2,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interfund Transfers</td>
<td>$225,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Refund Prior Year Expense</td>
<td>$25,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Estimated Local Property Tax Levy</td>
<td>$22,918,152</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOTAL** $194,437,449 $202,446,363

**Under the Budget Proposal for the 2019-20 School Year**

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

**General Education Continuum:**

In May of 2017, voters approved a budget that allowed for the implementation of the General Education Continuum, a systemic pattern of tiered interventions and supports for general education students who need additional assistance. It mirrors supports provided to students with disabilities and offers a broad range of interventions best designed to meet the needs of each student. Respite, co-teaching, integrated and targeted supports, and case management are examples of services and interventions obtained through the GCC. During the current school year, the GCC serves nearly 3,000 students. The services and interventions are designed to address both the opportunity and gap. For example, 53 percent of students in GCC co-teaching classes have demonstrated accelerated growth.

Included in the proposed 2019-20 budget are 11.5 (FTE) teaching positions that will support the General Education Continuum. These positions represent an increase in both the number of co-teachers, and positions that serve to expand the reach of the GCC to more students. The addition of a “Grad Lab” teacher and an engagement dean will help struggling high school students stay on the path to graduation.

**General Education Continuum:**

The proposed budget also calls for positions that strengthen our efforts to be trauma-sensitive with the addition of 4.5 (FTE) social workers, a psychologist, and an instructional support teacher. The addition of an equity and cultural responsive education supervisor will help the district forge ahead in bringing awareness to and making the shift to culturally responsive education.

**Other Additions**

The proposed budget also calls for positions that strengthen our efforts to be trauma-sensitive with the addition of 4.5 (FTE) social workers, a psychologist, and an instructional support teacher. The addition of an equity and cultural responsive education supervisor will help the district forge ahead in bringing awareness to and making the shift to culturally responsive education.

**Proposition: Sale of Former Elmer Ave School**

When voters visit the polls Tuesday, May 21, a separate resolution on the ballot (Proposition #1) will ask for authorization for the district to sell the building at 90 Elmer Avenue, the former Elmer Avenue Elementary, for at least $450,000.

The district believes now is an appropriate time to sell the property because the cost to make the necessary renovations to the building is large and could not be offset by building aid from the state. As part of our long-range planning, we deemed it prudent to close the building and use our financial resources on other buildings. If the proposition is voted down the district would need to pursue options such as a higher purchase price or leasing it to an outside organization.

A national award-winning district

Voters will also elect three candidates to the Board of Education. For more info on Board of Education candidates and the 2019-20 school budget, please visit: www.schenectady.k12.ny.us