

HARTFORD CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

HOME OF THE TANAGERS



HARTFORD CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

MAY 2013

BOARD OF EDUCATION ADOPTS SPENDING PLAN FOR THE 2013-2014 SCHOOL YEAR

The process to develop the budget for the 2013-2014 school year was a difficult challenge that forced the Board of Education and District Administration to balance the required state mandates and needs of our students, while, at the same time, appreciating the difficult economic issues New York State currently faces. While the District's allotment of State Aide has increased from the previous year, costs associated with TRS (*Teacher Retirement System*), ERS (*Employee Retirement System*), and Health-care have drastically increased due to the poor economic conditions within New York State. As a result, the District is looking to increase the tax levy by 2.93% (*the same percentage as the previous year*). Under New York State law, the percentage increase is well below the maximum allowable increase that requires a simple majority of votes. As a District our "2% Tax Cap" is actually 6%. Included within the total budget is the installation of a "Distance Learning" classroom which will open a variety of new and exciting opportunities for our students and the community. By taking part in the regions' Distance Learning cohort, our students will be able to enroll in classes offered within neighboring school districts that we are currently unable to provide and to put some classes that we can offer on the network to allow students in other districts to enroll and participate.

The Board of Education will also present two separate propositions:

Proposition I: to authorize the purchase of one 66-passanger bus, not to exceed \$112,000

Proposition II: to authorize the purchase one 7-passenger van, not to exceed \$22,500.

The District will be reimbursed for 90% of the total cost of these vehicles in the form of New York State Transportation Aide. Payments for vehicle purchases are spread out over the course of five years, starting the following year in which the vehicle is purchased. With each proposition an existing five-year repayment schedule (BAN) is completed allowing the district to purchase a new vehicle without increasing the overall budget.

BUDGET SUMMARY

Total Budget

\$10,584,823

One BOE SEAT

Two Propositions

Proposition I

66 Passenger Bus

Proposition II

7 Passenger Van

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A Message from Mrs. Mannix

Happy Spring to all! It is hard to believe we are already in the last quarter of the school year. As students, faculty and staff continue to work hard to meet higher standards, I would like to take this opportunity to bring some additional items to your attention:

- Common Core Learning Standards have been implemented this year, raising the standards for all students. You may have noticed this in the work your child/children have been bringing home.
- Teachers continue to analyze data to drive instruction, improve results and student performance.
- Our Pre-K program has a large academic focus in preparing students for Kindergarten. Typically, about 90% of our Kindergartners attended our Pre-K program.
- Elementary class sizes range from 14-18, allowing students more individual and small group instruction to enhance educational success.
- Reading with your child/children is one of the most important activities you can do at home to help support success in school. Just 15 minutes per day of reading outside of school can have a positive impact in the classroom.



With Spring also comes some exciting end of the year activities. I hope you will be available to join us for some of the following upcoming events:

- Local Spelling Bee for grades 4-8 – **May 7th** at 1:30
- Kindergarten Round-Up – **May 20th** (please contact Mrs. Getty if you have a child entering Kindergarten next year who is not currently in our Pre-K program)
- Grandparents' Breakfast – **May 24th** starting at 7:30am
- Elementary Awards Ceremony – **June 7th** at 9:00 (Academic Awards) and 1:30 (Special Area Awards)
- Tanager Voices Concert/Art Show – **June 12th** at 6:00pm
- Fifth Grade Moving-Up Ceremony – **June 18th** at 9:00
- Pre-K Graduation – **June 19th** at 1:00 (for both AM and PM classes)
- Kindergarten Graduation – **June 20th** at 9:00
- K-5 11:30 Dismissal on June 18th, 19th, 20th, and 21st

Dates Yet To Be Determined:

- Bike Rodeo for grades 2-5 (bikes and volunteers are needed)
- Field Day
- Classroom Field Trips



Remember, time is the best gift you can give your children. We appreciate your support throughout the school year. Together, we can continue to make a difference in the education of Hartford students. We always strive to provide the best possible education that provides a solid foundation for future success!

Middle/High School Report

At the time you are receiving this newsletter, there will be less than ten-weeks remaining in the school year and the middle/high school classes are busy preparing for our final and Regents exams. Throughout the school year, our students, faculty, and staff have been involved in a number of activities including: the Turkey Trot, numerous middle school and high school dances, dime-a-dips, the sixth grade pig roast/ silent auction, band and chorus concerts, National Honor Society Inductions, volunteering endeavors with the Key Club, trips with the Outings Club, etc. Needless to say, the Middle/High School has been very busy. Notwithstanding the busyness, the students within the Middle/High School continue to excel. Specifically, during the 2012-2013 school year I am proud to report:

- We are currently offering 7 College and 2 Advanced Placement courses
- 36% of all Junior and Senior students are enrolled in at least one Advanced Placement and/or College level course
- On average, 50% of all students in grades 6-12 have qualified for an academic honor for the quarterly marking periods
- 22 students were selected for Vocal “All-County” in the fall
- The Varsity Volleyball and Girl’s Varsity Basketball teams were recognized as a “Scholar Athlete Team” (overall team GPA of at least 90%)
- The Varsity Volleyball team was a State Finalist for the second year in a row
- Grades 6-8 Math and ELA results matched or exceeded the state-wide average in 2011-2012 (*results are not yet available for 2012-2013*)



As a faculty and staff we are continuing to work to ensure the success of all our students and there is no greater joy for the faculty then to see all our students experience some level of achievement.

I would encourage all our parents and guardians to remain active in their students’ education and to contact the Main Office with any questions. Over the next couple of weeks the Board of Education will be selecting an individual to serve as the new Middle/High School Principal. It has been my privilege and honor to have served as Principal over the past six years and I look forward to continuing my relationship with the students, faculty and staff, and community as the Superintendent.

Arch Cook



Revenue Summary

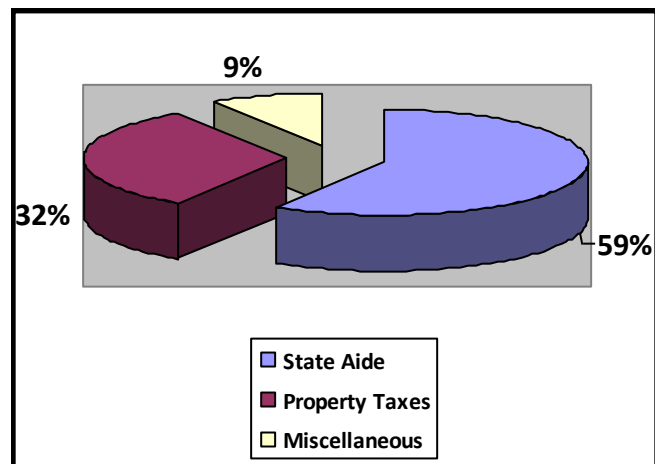
	2012-2013 Budget	2013-2014 Budget	Dollar Change
State Aid	\$5,870,805	\$6,173,140	\$302,335
Fund Balance	\$724,303	\$650,000	-\$74,303
BOCES Refund	\$39,000	\$39,000	\$0
Interest from the Building Project	\$163,893	\$83,854	-\$80,039
Miscellaneous	\$189,000	\$176,650	-\$12,350
Medicaid	\$0	\$6,500	\$6,500
Distance Learning	\$0	\$64,000	\$64,000
Sub-Total	\$6,987,001	\$7,193,144	\$206,143
Tax Levy	\$3,260,156	\$3,355,679	\$95,523
Total Revenue	\$10,247,157	\$10,548,823	\$301,666

School Districts receive revenues through two primary sources: State Aid and property taxes.

State Aide is made up of "Foundation Aid" and "expense driven aid".

Foundation Aid is an unrestricted aid category provided to school districts in New York State.

Expense Driven Aid is monies that the District will receive based on our prior year spending. Items that fall within the category of expense driven aid are: textbooks, software, hardware and technology, and library.



2013-2014 Expenditure Summary

Administrative expenditures are all the costs associated with district supervision.

The Administrative expenses are approximately 8% of the overall budget.

Program expenditure are all the costs directly related to student instruction, including instructional salaries and health benefits.

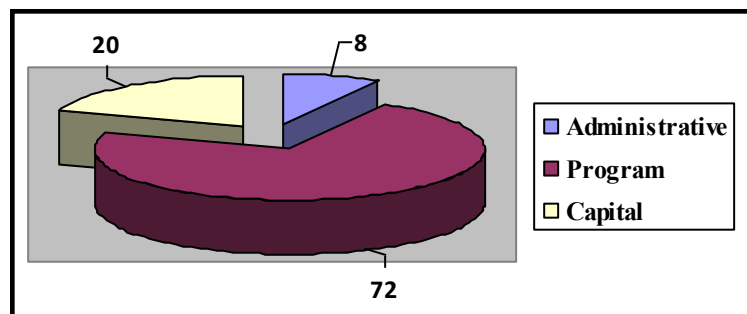
The Program expenses are approximately 72% of the overall budget.

Capital expenditures are all the costs associated with the maintenance of district facilities.

The Capital expenses are approximately 20% of overall budget.

ADMINISTRATIVE	2012-13	2013-14	Change
Board of Education	\$1,473	\$1,475	\$2
Central Administration	\$156,878	\$147,546	-\$9,332
Business Ad. and Finance	\$119,426	\$123,643	\$4,217
Staff and Public Information	\$20,500	\$17,500	-\$3,000
Central Services	\$37,821	\$38,700	\$879
Special Items	\$104,312	\$105,818	\$1,506
Curriculum Development	\$0	\$0	\$0
Supervision: Regular day	\$259,268	\$243,415	-\$15,853
Employee Benefits	\$169,611	\$168,888	-\$723
Total Administrative	\$869,289	\$846,985	-\$22,304
PROGRAM	2012-13	2013-14	Change
In-service Training	\$27,158	\$16,920	-\$10,238
Instruction: Regular Education	\$3,393,629	\$3,570,445	\$176,816
Instructional Media	\$254,952	\$254,961	\$9
Pupil Personnel	\$254,514	\$250,935	-\$3,579
Interscholastic and Co-curricular	\$149,705	\$163,914	\$14,209
Transportation Services	\$604,812	\$575,898	-\$28,914
Employee Benefits	\$2,430,971	\$2,749,908	\$318,937
Total Program	\$7,115,741	\$7,582,981	\$467,240

CAPITAL	2012-13	2013-14	Change
Central Services	\$544,781	\$540,179	-\$4,602
Employee Benefits	\$117,663	\$118,008	\$345
Debt Service	\$1,599,683	\$1,460,670	-\$139,013
Total Capital	\$2,262,127	\$2,118,857	-\$143,270



2013-14 Property Tax Report Card

	Budgeted	Proposed	Percent Change
	2012-2013	2013-2014	
	(A)	(B)	(C)
Total Proposed Spending	\$10,247,157	\$10,548,823	2.94%
Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, Including Tax Levy to Support Library Debt ¹	\$3,260,156	\$3,355,679	2.93%
Permissible Exclusions to the School Tax Levy Limit ¹	\$193,865	\$307,833	
Proposed School Year Tax Levy (not including Permissible Exclusions to the School Tax Levy Limit) ¹	\$3,066,291	\$3,047,846	
School Tax Levy Limit (not including Levy for permissible exclusions)	\$3,177,198	\$3,145,415	
Difference	-\$110,907	-\$97,569	
Public School Enrollment	444	440	-0.90%
Consumer Price Index			2.1%
Adjusted Restricted Fund Balance	\$0	\$0	
Assigned Appropriated Fund Balance	\$724,705	\$657,000	
Adjusted Unrestricted Fund Balance	\$550,000	\$463,000	
Adjusted Unrestricted Fund Balance as Percent of the Total Budget	5.37%	4.39%	

¹ All proposed levies should exclude any prior year reserve for excess tax levy, including interest.

² For 2013-2014, include any carryover from the 2012-2013 and excludes any tax levy for library debt or prior year reserve for excess tax levy, including interest.

Basic STAR Exemption Impact

Estimated Basic Exemption based on a within the	Budget Proposed for the 2013-14 School Year		STAR Savings home Hartford
	Basic STAR Tax Savings	\$509	

Overall Budget Proposal

	Budget Adopted for 2012-13	Budget Proposed for 2013-14	Contingency Budget for 2013-14 *
Total Budgeted Amount (Not in- cluded Separate Propositions)	\$10,247,157	\$10,548,823	\$10,453,300
Increase/Decrease for the 2013-14 School Year		\$301,666	\$206,143
Percentage Increase/Decrease in Proposed Budget		2.9%	2.0%
Change in the Consumer Price Index		2.1%	
Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy (Including Levy to Support Library Debt)	\$3,260,156	\$3,355,679	\$3,260,156
Total Permissible Exclusions	\$193,865	\$307,833	
Proposed School Year Tax Levy (Not Including Levy for Permissi- ble Exclusions or Levy to Support Library Debt)	\$3,066,291	\$3,047,846	
School Tax Levy Limit (Not In- cluding Permissible Exclusions)	\$3,177,198	\$3,145,415	
Difference (Positive Value Re- quires 60% Voter Approval)	-\$110,907	-\$97,569	
Administrative Component	\$869,289	\$846,985	\$837,615
Program Component	\$7,115,741	\$7,582,981	\$7,500,508
Capital Component	\$2,262,127	\$2,118,857	\$2,115,177
*Statement of assumptions made in projecting a contingency budget for the 2013-14 school year, should the proposed budget be de- feated pursuant to Section 2023 of the Education Law.			

Description	Amount
Proposition I: 66 Passenger Bus (Financed with a BAN)	\$112,000
Proposition II: 7 Passenger Van (Financed with a BAN)	\$22,500

The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2013-2014 by the qualified voters of the Hartford Central School District, Washington County, New York, will be held at the Hartford Central School(s) in said district on Tuesday, May 21, 2013 between the hours of 12:00p.m. and 9:00p.m., prevailing time in the Ella Colvin Gymnasium, at which time the polls will be opened to vote by voting ballot or machine.

HARTFORD CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

PO Box 79

4704 State Route 149

Hartford, New York 12838

518-632-5222

Superintendent

Andrew Cook

Middle/High School Principal

James Polunci (Interim)

Elementary Principal

Bethellen Mannix

Board of Education

Brian Getty, President

Janine Thomas, Vice President

Philip Jessen

Beth Steves

Adam Fish

VOTING INFORMATION

Budget Hearing

Tuesday, May 14th

6:00p.m. in the School Cafeteria

Annual Vote

Tuesday, May 21st

Noon - 9:00p.m.

Ella Colvin Gymnasium

HFA "SCOOPS FOR SCHOLARS" and Open House

*Come meet visit with your child's teachers
and enjoy an ice cream sundae!*

Tuesday: May 21st

5:00p.m.—7:00p.m.

ABSENTEE VOTING

District residents who are unable to vote in person or will be out of town, may apply for an absentee ballot through the Office of the District Clerk within the District Office. Please call 632-5222 with any questions or for more information.

VOTING QUALIFICATIONS

A person shall be entitled to vote at the Annual School District Meeting and the Annual School Election who is: a citizen of the United States; eighteen years of age; and a resident within the District for a period of thirty days next preceding the meeting at which he/she offers to vote.

You do not need to be registered to vote.