



# Hastings Happenings

JUNE 2022 SPECIAL REVISED BUDGET EDITION

## A MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Dear Hastings Residents,

Our Board is pleased to present a revised 2022-23 school budget. We believe this budget reflects a best effort to balance the desires of a variety of stakeholders across our community in support of the continued success of our children and the Hastings-on-Hudson school district.

Hastings was recently afforded an opportunity to see how budget choices create a real impact. On June 1st, many students, staff and residents gathered to help open the new addition to Hillside Elementary, which includes four classrooms, a resource room, a music room for instrumental lessons, an elevator and a cafeteria/multipurpose space that will transform how Hillside operates. Those teachers who worked from carts will now have their own space. Rooms whose purpose changed annually will now be designated spaces. Grade-levels that were spread across the building will now be gathered together to foster interaction, collaboration and community. Fully 75% of Hillside staff will be moving into spaces new to them.

This is one example of how a number in a budget can beget changes that are deeply and durably felt. In many ways, this is the gold standard for our spending and a goal our district continues to elevate with this 2022-23 budget. Details of the revised budget are within these pages and flow from our administration's careful consideration of all our students, at each step on their educational path, and through all three of our schools. As noted in our earlier letter, our Board endorses this budget as an opportunity for all residents to share in the support of our students' goals.

## PROPOSED REVISED BUDGET AT-A-GLANCE

2021-22 Adopted budget .....	\$52,823,911
2022-23 Proposed budget.....	\$55,293,555
Budget-to-budget increase .....	\$2,469,644
	(or) 4.68%
Tax Levy change.....	1.92%
Tax Rate .....	-0.63%

### How does this compare to the budget proposed on May 17?

Total reductions	\$528,163
	(\$55.8 million reduced to \$55.29 million)
Total Budget Change .....	5.68%
	reduced to 4.68%
% Tax Levy.....	3.10% reduced to 1.92%

Please spend time reviewing the information enclosed in this newsletter. The full budget is available on our website: [www.hohschools.org](http://www.hohschools.org). Please be in touch if you have questions – board trustees and the superintendent are always available, and our contact information can be found on the back page of this newsletter.

Voting for the budget will take place at the Cochran Gym at Hastings High School on June 21, 7 a.m. – 9 p.m. If you would prefer to vote by absentee ballot, please contact our District Clerk at 914.478.6201 or at [delabarreram@hohschools.org](mailto:delabarreram@hohschools.org).

Sincerely,  
Board of Education Trustees

**VOTE — TUESDAY, JUNE 21, 7 A.M. - 9 P.M. COCHRAN GYMNASIUM, HASTINGS HIGH SCHOOL**

# HASTINGS-ON-HUDSON UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT PROPOSED 2022/23 BUDGET

APPROPRIATIONS	ADOPTED BUDGET 2021/22	ESTIMATED END OF YEAR 2021/22	PROPOSED BUDGET 2022/23	BUDGET CHANGE
General Support	\$4,820,931	\$5,017,900	\$5,042,356	\$221,425 4.59%
Instruction	\$32,853,290	\$32,056,457	\$33,857,411	\$1,004,121 3.06%
Pupil Transportation	\$1,372,700	\$1,450,500	\$1,499,505	\$126,805 9.24%
Undistributed	\$13,776,990	\$13,372,610	\$14,894,283	\$1,117,293 8.11%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$52,823,911</b>	<b>\$51,897,467</b>	<b>\$55,293,555</b>	<b>\$2,469,644</b>
<b>% BUDGET CHANGE</b>				<b>4.68%</b>
REVENUES	ADOPTED BUDGET 2021/22	ESTIMATED END OF YEAR 2021/22	PROPOSED BUDGET 2022/23	BUDGET CHANGE
State Aid	\$5,708,311	\$5,825,000	\$6,403,146	\$694,835 12.17%
Misc. Receipts	\$1,275,000	\$2,350,000	\$1,675,000	\$400,000 31.37%
Appropriated Balance	\$534,843	\$534,843	\$854,843	\$320,000 59.83%
Retirement Reserve	\$650,000	\$650,000	\$850,000	\$200,000 30.77%
Reserve for Tax Certiorari	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$0 0.00%
Property Taxes	\$44,555,757	\$44,555,757	\$45,410,566	\$854,809 1.92%
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>\$52,823,911</b>	<b>\$54,015,600</b>	<b>\$55,293,555</b>	<b>\$2,469,644</b>
<b>% TAX LEVY CHANGE</b>				<b>1.92%</b>
Assessed Valuation	\$2,051,718,310		\$2,154,060,446*	\$102,342,136
Tax Rate	\$21.71		\$21.08	-\$0.63
Tax Rate Change				-2.90%

\*Assessed valuation is subject to change.

## BUDGET HISTORY

School Year	Budget	Budget-to-Budget	Tax Rate Change	Tax Rate per \$1,000
2018-19	\$50,518,586	4.26%	0.86%	\$21.04
2019-20	\$51,283,825	1.51%	0.43%	\$21.12
2020-21	\$51,660,159	0.73%	1.23%	\$21.38
2021-22	\$52,823,911	2.25%	1.45%	\$21.71
2022-23	\$55,293,555	4.68%	-2.90%*	\$21.08*

\*Estimate

## HOW WILL THIS BUDGET AFFECT TAXES?

The increase of 1.92% to the tax levy translates into an approximate increase of \$41.68 per \$100,000 of assessed value.

## VOTER INFORMATION

**Tuesday, June 21  
7 a.m. to 9 p.m.  
Cochran Gymnasium, HHS**

In order to vote, you must be:

- A citizen of the United States.
- 18 years old as of June 21, 2022.
- A resident of the District for 30 days prior to June 21, 2022.
- Previously registered or have voted in either a School or General Election in the last four (4) calendar years, or on June 14, 2022, in the high school lobby.

### Absentee Ballots

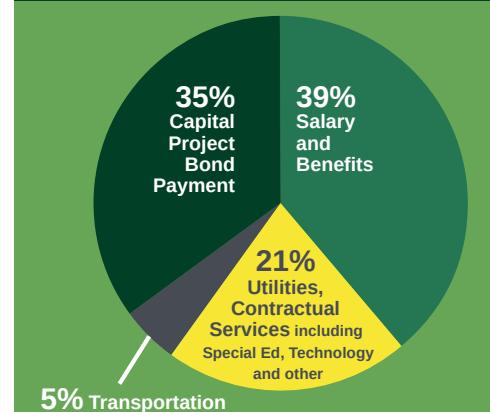
Absentee Ballot applications can be downloaded from the District website at [bit.ly/hoh-absentee](http://bit.ly/hoh-absentee)

Absentee ballots applications should be submitted in original form, with original signature. They must be submitted by June 14, 2022 if the ballot is to be mailed to the voter and by June 17, 2022 if the ballot will be personally picked up by the voter.

Absentee ballots must be received by the District Clerk by 5:00 PM on June 21, 2022 in order to be counted.

For more information contact: Melissa DeLaBarrera, District Clerk 914-478-6201, [delabarreram@hohschools.org](mailto:delabarreram@hohschools.org)

## HOW THE BUDGET INCREASE IS ALLOCATED



# SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET NOTICE

Overall Budget Proposal	Budget Adopted for the 2021-22 School Year	Budget Proposed for the 2022-23 School Year	Contingency Budget for the 2022-23 School Year *
Total Budgeted Amount, Not Including Separate Propositions	\$ 52,823,911	\$55,293,555	\$54,438,746
Increase/Decrease for the 2022-23 School Year		\$2,469,644	\$1,614,835
Percentage Increase/Decrease in Proposed Budget		4.68 %	3.06%
Change in the Consumer Price Index		4.7%	
A. Proposed Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount	\$44,555,757	\$45,410,566	
B. Levy to Support Library Debt, if Applicable	\$	\$	
C. Levy for Non-Excludable Propositions, if Applicable **	\$	\$	
D. Total Tax Cap Reserve Amount Used to Reduce Current Year Levy	\$	\$	
E. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy (A + B + C - D)	\$44,555,757	\$45,410,566	\$44,555,757
F. Total Permissible Exclusions	\$430,865	\$1,252,847	
G. School Tax Levy Limit, Excluding Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$44,124,892	\$45,215,645	
H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, Excluding Levy to Support Library Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions (E - B - F + D)	\$44,124,892	\$44,157,719	
I. Difference: G - H (Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval – See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions)**	\$0	\$1,057,926	
Administrative Component	\$4,797,303	\$4,973,480	\$4,858,480
Program Component	\$43,492,721	\$44,800,078	\$44,060,269
Capital Component	\$4,533,887	\$5,519,997	\$5,519,997

\* Provide a statement of assumptions made in projecting a contingency budget for the 2022-23 school year, should the proposed budget be defeated pursuant to Section 203 of the Education Law.

Reductions in administrative expenditures, public relations, teaching positions and staff, professional development, equipment, and overtime.

\*\* List Separate Propositions that are not included in the Total Budgeted Amount: (Tax Levy associated with educational or transportation services propositions are not eligible for exclusion and may affect voter approval requirements)

Under the Budget Proposed for the 2022-23 School Year

Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings1	\$1,708
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The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2022-23 by the qualified voters of the Hastings on Hudson school district, Westchester County, New York, will be held at Hastings High School in said district on Tuesday, June 21, 2022 between the hours of 7:00am and 9:00pm, prevailing time in the Hastings High School Cochran Gym, 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.

## WHAT WERE THE BUDGET CHANGES SINCE MAY 17?

More than half a million dollars in cuts were made from multiple areas to bring this new budget proposition down by 1% to \$55.29 million. By combing through each expense category and trimming expenditures we have been able to maintain all programming and extra-curricular activities. Some proposed expenses have been deferred and others canceled so that the district's full complement of educational opportunities is maintained.

The full budgeted amount of \$875,244 to pay for the first installment of the capital bond remains unchanged. This bond is financing the addition at Hillside Elementary School, opened on June 1; the refurbished auditorium and music suite in the Farragut Complex; new boilers, new roofing and other projects in both buildings. The year 2022-23 is the first year that payments for this bond begin and accounts for 35% of the \$2.4 million budget increase.

### Curriculum and development, instructional expenses and professional learning ..... \$360,257

This includes reductions in professional development including project-based learning, and literacy work, as well as cuts in supplies and equipment.

### Facilities and maintenance..... \$82,500

This includes reductions in maintenance improvements and architectural services for master planning, as well as cuts in overtime and summer cleaning plans

### Governance, supervision and management.. \$85,406

This includes cuts in contractual services, memberships, supplies, and conferences and reductions in sub coverage for offices.

## SPECIAL EDUCATION STAFFING EXPLAINED

After thoughtful deliberation, the Board of Education has decided to retain the proposed plan for the position of Assistant Director of Special Education for a number of reasons, not the least of which is that it saves the district \$30,000 per year.

This position would allow the special education department administrators to expand strategic planning and implementation, as well as program oversight and evaluation, to promote best practices for students. The expanded capacity will provide for more attention to Transition Coordination, CPSE chairing, social emotional development and family/community outreach. This role would also allow the department to continue to implement and expand on the support that has been provided by the current Inclusion Facilitator, a position that will not need to be filled.



Hastings-on-Hudson  
Union Free School District  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
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## What Is a Contingent Budget?

Under state law, school boards can submit a budget to voters up to two times. Since the first budget was defeated on May 17, a second budget defeat would force the district to adopt a Contingent Budget pursuant to Section 2023 of the Education Law.

In such circumstances, the school district is restricted to what are defined as "ordinary contingent expenses" — in other words, expenditures that are necessary to operate the regular instructional program, preserve the health and safety of students and staff, and protect the district's property.

A Contingent Budget mandates that there will be no increase over the prior year's tax levy. The funds associated with the capital component of the budget are not included in the Contingent Budget and those expenses will remain unchanged.

In our case, a Contingent Budget would require that a further \$854,809 be cut from this second proposed budget.

## Contingent Budget Reductions Will Be as Follows

A detailed listing will be shared at the June 9 BOE meeting, which is after this newsletter has gone to print. Please see the website for full details.

Reduction in Personnel Costs .....	\$440,000
Reduce Communications Position .....	\$90,000
Reduce Portrait of a Learner .....	\$25,000
Eliminate Equipment .....	\$30,500
Reduce Interfund Transfer .....	\$70,000
Reduce Occupational Education .....	\$60,000
Reduce Tech Purchases .....	\$90,000
Reduce Professional Development .....	\$40,000

## Contingent Budget Highlights

**Contingent Budget** — \$54.43 million

**Total Budget Change** — 4.68% reduced to 3.06%

**% Tax Levy** — 1.92% reduced to 0%

**Tax Rate** — Negative \$0.63 reduced to Negative \$1.03