

North Shore Schools: 2009-10 Proposed Budget

The Most Conservative Budget Increase in 15 Years

(4/28/09)

The Trustees remained very sensitive to the current economic climate and gave careful consideration to community input as they completed their review of the 2009-10 budget proposal. Increases in the budget are limited to those that meet the following budget goals:

- Maintain class sizes at the Nassau County average
- Maintain scope and quality of current educational programs
- Cover growth in enrollment
- Protect the health and safety of North Shore students
- Maintain condition of our buildings and grounds

Proposition 1: 2009-10 Proposed Budget

- **The budget for 2009-10** is \$83,682,596, or a 3.39% increase from last year - *the most conservative budget increase in 15 years.*
- **A contingency budget cap** would allow for a budget of \$83,335,018, a 2.97% increase over last year. *The difference between the contingency budget and the proposed 2009 -10 budget is less than 1%.*
- **There is approximately a \$2 difference per month between the proposed 2009-10 budget and a contingency budget for the average North Shore home owner.** Please Note: A contingency budget is the maximum budget permitted by the State to cover the costs of all essential services should the school budget not pass.

BUDGET SUMMARY:

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|--|---|--|
| 2008-09 Budget \$80,933,386 | 2009-10 Proposed Budget \$83,682,596 (3.39% increase over last yr) | Contingency Budget Cap \$83,335,018 (2.97% increase over last yr) |
| Estimated school property tax for a \$700,000 home: | | |
| 2008-09 Taxes \$7,201/year | 2009-10 Proposed Budget \$7,306 /year | Contingency Budget Cap \$7,280/year |
| A difference of approximately \$2 per month | | |

If the proposed budget does not pass, the New York State contingency budget cap for 2009-10 may result in:

- Elimination of teaching positions
- Reduction of funds for school security
- Removal of up to 25% of budgeted funds for all interscholastic athletics, extracurricular arts and clubs
- All North Shore Schools will have to be closed during "non-school" hours (No Parent Association Programs or activities during after school hours or on weekends)
- Elimination of all new technology equipment

Impact:

- Class sizes larger than county average
- Cuts in academic/instructional programs
- Decrease in school security (specifically during hours before/after-school and weekends)
- Decrease in opportunities for participation in athletics, extra-curricular activities and the arts
- Elimination of community education programs

Also on the Ballot: Approval to Utilize Existing Funds in the Capital Reserve (Proposition 2)

In their continued effort to proactively plan ahead to control long-term costs, Trustees are asking the permission of District residents to utilize existing funds in the Capital Reserve Fund for the following projects:

- Replacement of the internal ceilings in the older portions of the HS, MS, GH and GWL
- Replacement of the original boilers at the MS
- Replacement of the MS Library and Cafeteria roofs

Last year, the Capital Reserve Fund was established with approval from residents to help provide long-term savings for our community. Since this money is already in the Capital Reserve Fund, this will not increase taxes for our residents.

Absentee Ballots: Applications for Absentee ballots are available at all North Shore district school buildings and must be completed and returned to the Central Office, 112 Franklin Avenue, Sea Cliff, before an actual ballot may be issued.

The deadline for returning absentee ballots by mail or personal delivery is May 19 at 5:00 pm.

Registration Requirements: You must be a U.S. Citizen, be 18 years old by the end of the year, a district resident for at least 30 days prior to the vote and not claim the right to vote elsewhere. **To vote, you must be registered and have attained the age of 18 by the date of the vote.**

Voter Registration: Will take place at North Shore High School on:

Saturday, May 2nd, 10 am - 3 pm
Monday, May 4th, 3 pm - 8 pm

If you are a new resident, you must re-register to vote.

IMPORTANT DATES: Meetings are held on Thursdays. Sessions begin at 8 PM in the H.S. Alumni Room, unless otherwise noted. Public Participation is Welcome!

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| Apr | 20 | BOE Candidate Petitions Due |
| | 21 | BOCES Meet Candidates Night |
| | 23 | BOE Meeting at HS Alumni Room |
| May | 7 | Town Meeting/Budget Reading |
| | 19 | Budget Vote, HS Gym, Tuesday |

Remember to Vote

Tuesday, May 19, 2009

High School Gymnasium, 7 am - 10 pm

For budget info, visit www.northshoreschools.org or call Superintendent Dr. Edward Melnick at (516) 277-7801 or please e-mail him at: melnicke@northshoreschools.org