

Educational Horizons

MAY 2013

www.pobschools.org PLAINVIEW-OLD BETHPAGE CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

2013-2014 Proposed Budget

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR BOARD OF EDUCATION

Dear Residents,

The Plainview-Old Bethpage Central School District has developed the proposed 2013-14 budget which **preserves** the district's distinguished academic and extra-curricular programs. The proposed budget increase is **2.98%**, with a corresponding tax levy increase of **2.89%**. This is under the amount calculated by the 'tax cap.' One of the ways that this has been achieved is that all staff members have taken a **pay freeze** for the 2013-14 school year. This will enable us to maintain our level of excellence in our academic offerings within the established fiscal parameters.



The proposed 2013-14 school budget supports the district's instructional goals to help prepare all students for college and careers in the 21st century. We are enhancing our support for instructional technology in an effort to prepare our students to meet these goals. Additionally, the proposed budget includes funds to strengthen the district's comprehensive security plan, including upgrades to all of our school buildings.

The proposed 2013-14 budget outlined on these pages maintains class size, as well as the outstanding programs and services that have enabled our students to excel. These include:

- | | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| ■ Research programs | ■ Special education summer program | ■ Co-curricular clubs/activities |
| ■ Advanced Placement courses | ■ Music and Art program | ■ DECA and Robotics |
| ■ Project Challenge enrichment | ■ Elementary global language program | ■ Partnership with North Shore-LIJ |
| ■ Life Skills program | ■ Interscholastic athletics | |

The proposed budget also provides for the completion of several much-needed capital projects:

- | | |
|--|--|
| ■ Partial roof replacement at POB Middle School and POBJFK High School | ■ Installation of an emergency generator |
| | ■ School safety upgrades Districtwide |

You may access the complete budget document on the District website (www.pobschools.org). Your involvement is essential to the continued success of our students. Please mark your calendar now and remember to vote on Tuesday, May 21.

Sincerely,

The Plainview-Old Bethpage Board of Education

Annual Budget Vote: Tuesday, May 21 • 6 a.m. to 9 p.m.



Plainview-Old Bethpage Central School District

Administrative Offices • 106 Washington Avenue • Plainview, NY 11803
www.pobschools.org

Board of Education

Amy Pierno, *President*

Ginger Lieberman, *Vice President*

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Dr. Lorna R. Lewis, *Superintendent of Schools*

**** ECRWSS ****

CURRENT RESIDENT
Plainview-Old Bethpage
Central School District

Non-Profit
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Permit 156

PROPOSITION I: ANNUAL SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET

REVENUE

	<u>Approved 2012-2013</u>	<u>Proposed 2013-2014</u>	<u>Change</u>
State Aid	\$13,950,614	\$14,616,680	\$666,066
Other Revenue	7,133,418	7,205,281	71,863
Tax Levy	<u>116,179,927</u>	<u>119,536,134</u>	<u>3,356,207</u>
Budget	\$137,263,959	\$141,358,095	\$4,094,136

The tax levy increase has been limited to 2.89%

EXPENDITURES

2012-2013 Approved Budget	\$137,263,959
2013-2014 Proposed Budget	\$141,358,095
Percentage Increase	2.98%
Tax Levy Increase	2.89%

Expenditures include mandated costs attributable to employee retirement systems, health insurance, transportation, utilities and capital expenses.

THREE-PART BUDGET EXPENDITURES

The State of New York requires all school districts make available a proposed budget broken down into three component parts. The three components of this budget format are Administrative, Instructional Program and Capital.

	<u>Approved 2012-2013</u>	<u>Proposed 2013-2014</u>	<u>Change</u>
Administrative	\$14,340,674	\$14,794,668	\$453,994
Instructional Program	106,770,605	109,897,311	3,126,706
Capital	<u>16,152,680</u>	<u>16,666,116</u>	<u>513,436</u>
Total	\$137,263,959	\$141,358,095	\$4,094,136

CAPITAL PROJECTS

Taking Care of the District's Physical Assets ...

The District has established the transfer to capital line for 2013-14.

	<u>Approved 2012-2013</u>	<u>Proposed 2013-2014</u>
Transfer to Capital	\$ 930,140	\$ 1,434,966

- Partial roof replacement at POB Middle School and POBJFK High School
- Emergency generator installation
- School safety upgrades Districtwide



IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

Tuesday, May 7

Presentation of the Proposed Budget
(Public Hearing)

Tuesday, May 14

Voter Registration

Tuesday, May 21

Vote on Budget and Election of School
Board Members: 6 a.m. to 9 p.m.
at Jamaica Avenue School,
Old Bethpage Elementary School and
Plainview-Old Bethpage Middle School

PROPOSITION I: ANNUAL SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET

BUDGET COMPARISON BY FUNCTION

	Approved Budget 2012-2013	Proposed Budget 2013-2014	Dollar Difference	Percent of Budget
Category				
Expenditure Summary				
General Support				
Board of Education	\$ 176,643	\$ 166,894	\$ (9,749)	
Superintendent's Office	423,543	430,864	7,321	
Business Administration/Finance	1,200,343	1,174,657	(25,686)	
Personnel/Public Info/Legal	980,870	958,401	(22,469)	
Operations & Maintenance	10,076,423	10,097,046	20,623	
Insurance/BOCES	1,344,480	1,366,080	21,600	
Total General Support	\$ 14,202,302	\$ 14,193,942	\$ (8,360)	10.04%
Instruction				
Curriculum and Supervision	5,920,317	5,848,016	(72,301)	
Teaching - Regular K-12	47,267,470	46,570,472	(696,998)	
Special Education	15,297,591	14,926,633	(370,958)	
Occupational Education	282,973	164,506	(118,467)	
Continuing Ed & Summer School	170,958	164,760	(6,198)	
Instructional Technology & Library	2,754,056	3,189,666	435,610	
Pupil Services	8,830,070	8,674,892	(155,178)	
Total Instruction	\$ 80,523,435	\$ 79,538,945	\$ (984,490)	56.27%
Districtwide Support				
Main Transportation Contract	4,046,255	4,340,910	294,655	
Transportation - Other	3,566,604	3,536,011	(30,593)	
Community Services	184,916	204,788	19,872	
Employee Benefits	31,114,852	35,447,578	4,332,726	
TAN/EPC Contract	399,548	340,940	(58,608)	
School Food Service Transfer	25,000	25,000	0	
Summer Spec Ed Transfer	62,443	65,611	3,168	
Capital Transfer	930,140	1,434,966	504,826	
Debt Service - District	1,932,014	1,953,473	21,459	
Debt Service - Library Bond	276,450	275,931	(519)	
Total Districtwide	\$ 42,538,222	\$ 47,625,208	\$ 5,086,986	33.69%
Total Expenditures	\$ 137,263,959	\$ 141,358,095	\$ 4,094,136	100.00%
Revenue Summary (estimated)				
State Aid	\$ 13,950,614	\$ 14,616,680	\$ 666,066	
Local/Other Revenue	7,133,418	7,205,281	71,863	
Tax Levy	116,179,927	119,536,134	3,356,207	
Total Revenue	\$ 137,263,959	\$ 141,358,095	\$ 4,094,136	

PROPOSITION II: FUNDING OF A REPAIR RESERVE

In addition to voting on the 2013-2014 School District's budget, Plainview-Old Bethpage CSD residents are also asked to vote on Proposition II — a resolution to fund a repair reserve for the District. A repair reserve can be extremely useful and can be utilized to allow the District to perform unanticipated repairs that do not recur annually. Given the age of our infrastructure, the buildings require unexpected maintenance from time to time. For example, we may incur roof leaks, issues with our pools or the need for masonry repair to our exterior walls. The repair reserve fund would allow us to make these essential repairs and protect our infrastructure to ensure a safe school environment.

The Board of Education established the repair reserve in April 2013, and the next step in the process is for our voters to consider the approval of the funding. The repair reserve would be funded by unanticipated revenues and unexpended funds accumulated at the end of the current year and would not increase the proposed 2013-14 tax levy.

We are recommending that the repair reserve not exceed \$1,000,000, and this reserve would be utilized only upon approval by the Board of Education based on a public hearing requesting the reserve's use.

BUDGET Q & A

Does the Board of Education set the tax rate?

No, the Nassau County Assessor's Office sets the tax rate. The Board of Education sets only the budget amount and the amount of the corresponding tax levy (the total amount of tax dollars needed to support the budget). The 2013-14 proposed budget is increasing by 2.98 percent, and the tax levy is increasing by 2.89 percent.

Is the District proposing a tax levy increase greater than the Maximum Allowable Levy amount?

No, the District's tax levy limit under the tax cap legislation is set at 3.08 percent; however, the proposed tax levy increase is 2.89 percent. The proposed tax levy is \$216,659 less than the allowable limit.

Last year was the first year of the two percent tax cap. Why did my property tax bill increase more than two percent?

The tax cap legislation, which is commonly referred to as the 'Two Percent Tax Cap,' is determined by an eight-step formula provided by the state with various factors for each individual school district. This calculation has been posted on the District's website. There are certain exemptions and exclusions that, in some cases, may increase the allowable tax levy greater than two percent. Furthermore, the tax cap legislation is applied to the school district's tax levy, not individual property taxes.

THE IMPACT OF THE TAX LEVY CAP ON A CONTINGENT BUDGET

Since the District's proposed tax levy is less than the allowable tax levy limit, a simple majority is required for the 2013-14 budget approval. In the event that the proposed budget was not approved by the voters, the Board of Education has an option of proposing a second budget vote in June, or they may adopt a contingency budget. If the second proposed vote is not approved by the voters, then the District will need to adopt a contingency budget. The rules for contingency budgets have changed. There is no longer a spending cap on contingent budgets. Instead, there is now a zero-percent cap on the tax levy increase for a contingent budget. In other words, a district would have to levy the same amount, or less, in taxes as the current year's tax levy without adjustments for any increases, mandated or not. This would result in the District removing over \$3.3 million from the proposed budget.

DISTRICT ACHIEVEMENTS

District Notables

- 97% of graduates receiving a Regents Diploma, 71% with Advanced Designation
- 96% of graduates pursuing post-secondary education
- 88% of students taking the Advanced Placement exams scored a 3 or better
- Over 900 Advanced Placement test administrations
- National Merit Scholarship winner from POBJFKHS

Science and Math

- 2 Intel Science Talent Search semi-finalists, 23 total projects submitted by POB students
- 5 Siemens Math, Science and Technology Competition semi-finalists, 14 projects submitted
- 15 team entries (43 POB students) for the Siemens *We Can Change the World*, Google Science Fair, the Molloy College Research Fair and the Long Island Science Congress
- 4 students chosen for the Junior Science and Humanities Symposium in Engineering
- 3 finalists at the New York State Science and Engineering Fair
- 3 students present at Intel International Science & Engineering Fair in Phoenix, AZ
- 7 Long Island Science and Engineering Fair semi-finalists
- 6 entries submitted to the Toshiba Exploravision Competition - 1 semi-finalist team
- First-place finish at the Long Island Psychology Fair
- Partnership with North Shore-LIJ and Hofstra designed to engage students interested in health-related careers
- New Career Academy: Health-Related Careers Course
- Second place team at the North Shore-LIJ Medical Marvels Competition
- 93 freshman entries to DuPont Challenge Science Essay Competition
- 8 finalists in the Al Kalfus Long Island Math Fair Competition
- Integration of TI-Nspire wireless devices into physics classes

Extracurricular Activities

- POBJFK wins Moot Court Tournament
- 88 students qualify for the DECA International Competition
- Empty Bowls Festival for Island Harvest raised 2,400 pounds of food
- *Mix-it-Up Day* event addressing bullying and acceptance
- Community Service Club hosted Senior Citizen Tea for community residents and POB Senior Groups
- POBOTS, our Robotics Club, competed in the NYC FIRST Robotics Competition, making it to the semi-final round
- SADD Club held Fall blood drive with over 100 students donating blood
- METMUNC hosted Model UN Conference with 200+ students from over 10 schools

Visual Arts

- Over 300 students exhibited in the annual Elementary Art Expo
- Juror's Award at the Advanced Visions AP art exhibit, C.W. Post
- 48 student awards honored at the ASA All-County art exhibition at Adelphi University
- Over 30 students invited to exhibit at the Tilles Center
- 10 honorees juried at Heckscher Museum of Art's *Long Island's Best* exhibition
- 15 *Best in Show* awards at the Long Island Media Arts Show
- 9 honorees, 1 award of excellence at the High Arts Showcase at the Melville Art-Trium
- 7 awards in *Embracing our Differences* at the Holocaust and Tolerance Center
- LIAA Scholar-Artist winner in Visual Arts
- Photographic Society of America Youth Showcase, Photographer's Choice Award
- 6 LIATA Showcase exhibitions
- 1 ASA Scholarship Award
- 1 ASA Leadership Award

Music

- 540 students participating in NYSSMA Evaluation Festivals
- 4 ensembles participating in NYSSMA Major Organization Evaluation Festival at Hofstra
- 130 students selected for participation in NMEA All-County Ensembles
- 13 students participated in the LISFA Ensembles
- 17 students selected for NYSSMA All-State
- LIAA Scholar-Artist Award of Merit Winners for Music and Theater
- Participation in the *Newsday* Marching Band Festival, TOBAY Pearl Harbor Day Ceremony, Memorial Day Parade
- 1 NYSCAME Leadership Award
- 3 participants in SCMEA Day of Horn
- 1,800 students participating in performing ensembles Districtwide

Arts-in-Education

- 56 programs presented throughout the district by the PTA units
- Teacher workshop/student residency programs presented in collaboration with the Great Neck Arts Center through the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts (Washington D.C.) Partners in Education program
- Student and teacher performances/workshops in collaboration with the Huntington Arts Council *Journey Program*

Athletics

- 98 teams in 21 sports Districtwide
- A cumulative total of 1,750 students participate in interscholastic athletics annually
- 1,472 athletic contests and events each year
- 85 high school athletes won Nassau County Section VIII honors ranging from All-Conference to All-American in 21 different sports
- 2 All-State gymnasts
- 1 National Football Foundation Hall of Fame Scholar Athlete
- 13 Scholar Athlete teams as of the winter season

WHAT'S ON THE BALLOT?

PROPOSITION I: Annual School District Budget

Authorization to spend up to \$141,358,095 to support educational programs in the 2013-14 school year.

PROPOSITION II: Funding of a Repair Reserve

Authorization to fund a repair reserve not to exceed \$1,000,000 to be used for unanticipated maintenance **with no increase to the proposed tax levy.**

BOARD OF EDUCATION CANDIDATES

ELECTION OF MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

The three candidates receiving the highest number of votes will be elected as members of the Board of Education for the three-year terms commencing July 1, 2013, and expiring on June 30, 2016. You may vote for a separate write-in candidate for each vacancy. You may not write in the same candidate for more than one vacancy.

VOTE FOR THREE (3):

KEVIN REA • GARY BETTAN • SETH GREENBERG • EMILY SCHULMAN



BUDGET VOTE INFORMATION

Tuesday, May 21, 2013 • 6 a.m. - 9 p.m.

Jamaica Avenue School • Old Bethpage School • POB Middle School

Voter Eligibility: In order to vote, you must be a United States citizen, 18 years of age or older, and must have been a District resident for at least 30 days prior to the vote. Eligible voters include those who have voted in federal, state, county or school District elections within the past four years; those who are registered with the Nassau County Board of Elections; and residents who registered during the school District's registration period.

Absentee Ballot: Applications for absentee ballots must be received by the District Clerk one week prior to the vote. If an absentee voter intends to pick up the ballot in person, that application must be filed with the District Clerk by 5 p.m. on the day of the vote. Persons designated by the Nassau County Board of Elections as "permanently disabled" will automatically receive an absentee ballot by mail.

Voter Registration Date: Tuesday, May 14, 2013, noon to 9 p.m. at Jamaica Avenue School, Old Bethpage Elementary School and Plainview-Old Bethpage Middle School.