

The STANDARD

A PUBLICATION OF THE DEER PARK UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT

BUDGET MAINTAINS ALL CURRENT PROGRAMS, STAYS WITHIN TAX CAP

Through prudent fiscal planning, we are delighted to present to our residents a 2016-17 budget that carries a 0.95 percent projected tax levy increase, which is within the district's tax cap. The proposed budget-to-budget increase is \$307,304, or 0.29 percent. Even with this minimal increase and fiscal challenges, we maintain all current programs and staff.

The district's overall decrease in state aid reflects a decrease in building aid as a result of older capital projects no longer generating building aid. However, we are grateful for the **FULL** restoration of the Gap Elimination Adjustment totaling \$969,506. This, along with a number of teacher retirements districtwide, has allowed us to maintain a cap-compliant budget that invests in the future of our students and to keep our reserves at an acceptable level.

In addition to preserving all of the programs that have led our students to flourish, we will remain focused on technology and 21st-century learning. The proposed budget also includes a number of capital improvements to our facilities, as well as the purchase of two large buses, two wheelchair vans and two rear axle vans.

The Board and administration have worked diligently to explore all possible efficiencies and ways to support both our students and our taxpayers. The budget that will be on the ballot meets our expectations and goals. All previous presentations and communications regarding the budget are available on the district's website, www.deerparkschools.org.

We thank you for your interest and participation in our district, and for joining us in strongly valuing education. Please remember to vote on Tuesday, May 17. Polls will be open from 7 a.m.-9 p.m. at Deer Park High School in the gymnasium.

Sincerely,

The Deer Park Board of Education

Eva J. Demyen,
Superintendent of Schools

Marguerite Jimenez,
Assistant Superintendent for Business
& Operations



CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

A continued focus of the Deer Park Schools is the focus on our facilities. Included in this year's budget is an array of facility upgrades, including:

- Creation of additional parking at JQA and JFK.
- Repairs to parking lot at JQA.
- Repointing brickwork at JQA.
- Repair of heat exchangers at Robert Frost and the HS.
- Addition of canopy over pre-K entrance at primary schools.
- Resurfacing of HS Tennis Courts.

REMEMBER TO VOTE

Tuesday, May 17, 2016
Deer Park High School
7 a.m.-9 p.m.

Points of Falcon Pride



ACADEMICS

- One student named a 2016 National Merit Scholarship Program Commended Student.
- 85 students named by College Board as Advanced Placement Scholars, including three National AP Scholars, 19 AP Scholars with Distinction and 13 AP Scholars with Honor.
- Three high school seniors nominated to attend the honors-only Congress of Future Science and Technology Leaders in Boston.
- Four high school students received trophies in the New York DECA State Career Conference in Rochester; 34 won trophies in DECA's Suffolk County Regional Competition.
- Frost math team participated in the annual Suffolk County MoMathlon at Brookhaven National Laboratory.
- 49 high school students inducted into National Honor Society; 73 middle school students inducted into National Junior Honor Society.
- JQA Primary students participated in St. Jude Math-A-Thon, raising more than \$8,900 to benefit St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.
- Three patriotic district students recognized as winners of the Deer Park Volunteer Fire Department's 9/11 Essay Contest.

ATHLETICS

- High school senior wins state wrestling championship.
- Several senior student-athletes signed National Letters of Intent for collegiate play at schools such as North Carolina State University and Wagner College.
- Several high school athletes earned All-County and All-League designation.
- Middle school girls soccer, boys soccer and football teams all finished the season undefeated.
- Senior track athlete won Suffolk County Section XI and Long Island championship titles for



high jump, and finished fourth overall in New York State Track and Field Championship Meet.

- High school football program received Suffolk County Officials Association Sportsmanship Award.
- Girls varsity soccer team made it to the quarterfinal round of the Class AA playoffs and earned leagues' Sportsmanship Award.
- High school bowler held high average in Suffolk County for second year in a row, named high school singles champion at the Suffolk County Singles Doubles Tournament and led Suffolk County All-State boys bowling team to state title for the fourth consecutive year.
- High school junior qualified to run in National Championship Meet, finishing fifth overall.
- All eight fall sports squads named New York State Scholar/Athlete Teams.

ARTS

- District again named a Best Community for Music Education by NAMM Foundation.
- Three seniors selected to perform with 2015 All-State music ensembles at NYSSMA Winter Conference concert in Rochester.
- Two high school students selected for Long Island's Best: Young Artists show at Heckscher Museum.
- Two May Moore students selected for exhibition in 80th annual "Colors of Long Island: Student Expressions" show at Long Island Museum.
- 14 high school students attended the 19th annual New York State Theatre Education Association Student Conference, and one was chosen to perform in the NYSTEA Student Showcase.
- High school saxophonist chosen for annual SCMEA Day of Jazz.
- 13 JFK students chosen to have artwork displayed at SCALA Children's Show at Babylon's Old Town Hall, and two high schoolers selected for All-County SCALA/BACCA Art Show Exhibition.
- Students performed at Deer Park Arts Council's inaugural "Dinner and a Show" event.
- Artwork by two seniors selected for LIU Post "Advanced Visions 12: High School Artists of Excellence" exhibit.
- Six string musicians from high school, Frost and JFK participated in 2016 Long Island String Festival Association concerts.
- Student painting featured at Town of Babylon's 17th annual Hispanic Heritage Month Festival.



EXPENDITURES

2016-2017 PROPOSED BUDGET

	PRESENT 2015-2016 BUDGET	PROPOSED 2016-2017 BUDGET	PERCENT CHANGE
GENERAL SUPPORT			
BOE/ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS	\$68,933	\$68,985	0.08%
CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION	318,302	324,498	1.95%
FINANCE	1,088,298	1,091,103	0.26%
STAFF	549,262	548,306	-0.17%
CENTRAL SERVICES	7,112,280	7,174,949	0.88%
SPECIAL ITEMS (BOCES, Insurance)	1,012,473	1,028,946	1.63%
TOTAL GENERAL SUPPORT	\$10,149,548	\$10,236,787	0.86%
INSTRUCTION			
ADMINISTRATION & IMPROVEMENT	\$4,037,485	\$4,235,976	4.92%
TEACHING	33,554,106	33,940,235	1.15%
SPECIAL APPORTIONMENT PROGRAMS	13,052,885	13,236,030	1.40%
SPECIAL SCHOOLS	55,270	56,176	1.64%
INSTRUCTIONAL MEDIA	2,471,241	2,478,617	0.30%
PUPIL SERVICES	7,253,389	7,447,523	2.68%
TOTAL INSTRUCTION	\$60,424,376	\$61,394,557	1.61%
TRANSPORTATION			
TOTAL PUPIL TRANSPORTATION	\$4,536,280	\$4,957,623	9.29%
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS AND INTERFUND TRANSFERS			
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	\$28,609,000	\$28,762,171	0.54%
INTERFUND TRANSFERS	625,000	630,000	0.80%
TOTAL EMPLOYEE BENEFITS AND INTERFUND TRANSFERS	\$29,234,000	\$29,392,171	0.54%
DEBT SERVICES			
TOTAL DEBT SERVICES	\$2,984,937	\$1,655,307	-44.54%
GRAND TOTALS	\$107,329,141	\$107,636,445	0.29%



An annual budget contains estimates of revenues and expenditures, and the actual financial results will differ from the budget. As noted by the Office of the State Comptroller, "A certain amount of the budget should be set aside for contingencies (either with a line item, or through the use of fund balances or reserves), to allow for the smooth operation of government in case of emergencies or minor errors in calculating revenues or expenditures." In the event that any surplus funds are available at the end of the fiscal year, the Board of Education will determine the best use of these funds, which may include using these funds to reduce taxes, maintain programs, fund the unappropriated undesignated reserve as allowed by law at a maximum of 4 percent of the subsequent year's budget and/or fund other reserves.

ESTIMATED REVENUES

ACCOUNT NAME	2015-2016 BUDGET	2016-2017 PROPOSED
PAYMENTS IN LIEU OF TAXES	\$4,345,402	\$4,112,228
LOCAL REVENUES	\$3,140,100	\$3,152,550
STATE AID TOTAL	\$27,528,461	\$27,213,344
USE OF RESERVES	\$701,607	\$779,389
FUND BALANCE	\$4,000,000	\$4,125,000
TAX LEVY	\$67,613,571	\$68,253,934
TOTAL REVENUES	\$107,329,141	\$107,636,445

2016-2017 ESTIMATED TAX LEVY/RATE

Expenditures	\$107,636,445
Revenues	\$34,478,122
Use of Fund Balance	\$4,125,000
Use of Reserves.....	\$779,389
Tax Levy.....	\$68,253,934
Tax Levy % Increase	0.95%
Projected 2016-2017 Tax Rate.....	\$204.28
Present 2015-2016 Tax Rate.....	\$200.15
Tax Rate Increase	\$4.13
Estimated Tax Rate % Increase	2.06%

*****ECRWSS***
Postal Customer**

ON YOUR BALLOT

PROPOSITION II ELECTION OF THREE BOARD OF EDUCATION TRUSTEES

- John Gouskos (Incumbent) Keith Rooney (Incumbent) Kristine Rosales (Incumbent)

FAQs

Q: What are a school district budget's main components?

A: There are two accounting segments that comprise the district budget – expenditures and revenues. Expenditures are calculated for instruction, central services, transportation and other categories listed in the “Expenditures” chart. The district derives revenue to fund expenditures from the tax levy, state aid, payments in lieu of taxes (PILOTs) from Suffolk County for businesses operating in Deer Park, interest on account balances, BOCES reimbursements and related services as seen on the “Estimated Revenues” chart. The budget must be structured to balance expenditures with anticipated revenues.

Q: What is the difference between the tax levy and the tax rate?

A: The tax levy is the amount of money the Board of Education requests from the Town of Babylon in order to balance the budget after state aid and other revenues are taken into consideration. The tax rate is not set by the Board of Education. The town assessor calculates the assessed valuation of the properties in the Town of Babylon from which the tax rate is calculated. It is important to note that the tax levy limit applies only to the school district's tax levy, not the tax rate or an individual tax bill.

Q: What is a contingency budget?

A: Should voters defeat the proposed budget on May 17, the budget may be presented for one more vote prior to July. If the Board opts not to have a second vote, it can immediately adopt a contingency budget, which would force the district to operate with a zero percent tax levy increase under the state's tax cap law. If a second proposed budget is defeated, the district must, by law, adopt at zero percent.



VOTER INFORMATION

Voter Eligibility and Registration:

Deer Park residents are urged to vote in all school district elections. To cast your ballot in the May 17 budget vote and Board trustee election, you must be:

- A citizen of the United States.
- 18 years of age or older (we encourage eligible students to exercise their right to vote).
- A resident of the Deer Park School District for 30 days prior to vote.
- Registered to vote with the Suffolk County Board of Elections, or registered with the school district.

Registration is required if you have not voted within four years in a general election or school election. Registration will be held on:

- Thursday, May 5, Deer Park High School, 4-8 p.m.
- Monday, May 9, Administration Building, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.
- Tuesday, May 10, Administration Building, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

For more information, or to obtain an application for an absentee ballot, contact the district clerk at 631-274-4013 or visit the district's website, www.deerparkschools.org, to download a form.