

Elmont Union Free School District
135 Elmont Road
Elmont, NY 11003-1609

BOARD OF EDUCATION

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Talking about
the Elmont
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of the Elmont School District**



(continued from front page)

tion based on improved efficiencies for district transportation; savings in the transportation vehicle budget — we repaired a vehicle to keep it on the road while maintaining health and safety, and we will extend the useful life of vehicles; a decrease from debt service savings by reduced borrowings to meet cash flow needs; and insurance savings are projected from our participation in the insurance cooperative.

Q. What is the impact of State mandates on the budget?

A. The budget includes additional spending of \$1,269,513 that is mandated for required cost increases. These mandated expenses from New York State, including the MTA Tax, represent 71 percent of the total budget increase. Without the mandated expense increases, the total budget would increase by less than 1 percent. The Board of Education continues to actively support new legislation that would reform State mandates and reduce costs to local taxpayers.

Q. What is the impact of State aid on the budget?

A. The tax levy reflects a \$1.8 million reduction in State aid proposed in the State Executive Budget. If final State aid adopted by the State Legislature restores all or a portion of the proposed State aid reduction, the Board of Education is committed to apply every State aid dollar restored to decrease school taxes.

Q. What is the proposed budget increase?

A. The Elmont School District's total budget-to-budget increase from 2009–2010 to 2010–2011 is 2.5 percent. This percentage includes mandated expenses that account for a 1.8 percent increase in the budget. If it were not for these mandated expenses, our budget increase would be only 0.7 percent: significantly less than a 1 percent budget increase.

Q. What is the difference between the proposed budget and a contingency budget?

A. If voters do not approve the proposed budget on May 18, the Board of Education will adopt a contingency budget in accordance with State guidelines. The estimated tax savings from a contingency budget for the average homeowner is 51 cents a day. A contingency budget would require reductions in equipment purchases, after-school and summer school programs, field trips, and capital improvements. Under a contingency budget, sports and youth organizations (such as GYO and SCOPE) would be charged a fee to use district facilities to cover associated costs including utilities, heating, and custodial and security services. Additionally, a contingency budget may result in increased class sizes, which means more students per classroom.

Voter Information

Voting Requirements

To participate in the May 18 annual budget vote and election of trustees:

- 1.** You must be a registered voter who is a United States citizen 18 years of age or older, and a district resident for at least 30 days prior to the vote.
- 2.** You need not register if, during the last four years, you either:
 - voted in a general election in Nassau County
 - voted in an Elmont School District election
 - registered with the Nassau County Board of Elections or
 - registered with the Elmont School District.

Who Needs to Register

If you are a new resident and last registered or voted in a county other than Nassau, you must re-register. *Last day to register: May 11, 2010.*

When and Where to Vote

Voting will take place on Tuesday, May 18 between 6 a.m. and 9 p.m. at all seven school buildings.

Absentee Ballots

Absentee ballots are available in the District Clerk's Office at the Elmont Road Administration Building. You may either call or come in to pick up an absentee ballot if you will be out of town or unable to vote in person on May 18, 2010. If you have any questions, please call 326-5500, ext. 12.

Our Schools:
Alden Terrace
Clara H. Carlson
Covert Avenue
Dutch Broadway
Gotham Avenue
Stewart Manor

ELMONT SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET VOTE

**Tuesday, May 18, 2010
6 a.m. – 9 p.m.**

Registered voters can vote at their designated school buildings.

See back cover for more voter information.

For the latest budget news, visit our Web site at www.elmontschools.org



The budget maintains programs that allow students to get creative using technology. Dutch Broadway's second graders followed step-by-step instructions to design their New Year's Resolutions project using the Print Shop computer program.

Elmont maintains academic excellence while holding the line on spending

Q. What is the proposed tax levy increase?

A. The proposed budget would increase the amount of money to be raised through school taxes by 2.7 percent. The Elmont School District ranks third among the 57 school districts in Nassau County for least spending, while maintaining excellent student achievement.

Q. What capital project and transportation components are included in this budget?

A. The budget allows us to make the necessary commitment to the district's infrastructure, which protects the safety and welfare of our students as well as our taxpayers' investment in our facilities and buses.

Specifically, there will be the completion of planned window replacements at the Covert Avenue School; needed repaving of the roadway, student areas, and parking field at the Dutch Broadway School; and roof, window replacement, masonry rehabilitation, flooring replacement and interior renovations at various schools. One student bus and one student van would be replaced to keep the transportation fleet current and avoid the cost of repairs and maintenance.

Q. How does this budget support academic achievement?

A. This budget will help to support Elmont's continued progress in academic achievement. The existing excellent

educational programs would be maintained. To minimize spending, no programmatic expansions have been included in the budget.

Q. What reductions have been made in this budget to minimize school taxes?

A. This budget was developed to maintain the existing educational programs while reducing expenditures to minimize the impact on Elmont taxpayers. The budget includes cost reductions of \$420,400 from: a districtwide reduction of three K–6 classroom teachers to reflect estimated changes in enrollment; a decrease in contract transporta-

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2010-2011 School Budget



Estimated Expenditures

CODE	ACCOUNT NAME	2009/2010 CURRENT BUDGET	2010/2011 PROPOSED BUDGET	INCREASE (DECREASE)
ADMINISTRATION				
1099	Board of Education	\$ 114,300	\$ 113,300	\$ (1,000)
1299	Central Administration	359,189	363,579	4,390
1399	Finance	690,789	683,992	(6,797)
1420	Legal Services	72,000	72,000	-
1430	Personnel	273,688	264,889	(8,799)
1699	Other Central Services	926,064	936,150	10,086
1998	Special Items	952,497	955,800	3,303
2010	Curriculum Dev. & Supv.	401,114	401,742	628
2020	Supv. Regular School	2,593,581	2,642,128	48,547
9098	Employee Benefits	1,515,519	1,538,966	23,447
Administration Sub-Total		\$ 7,898,741	\$ 7,972,546	\$ 73,805
Percent of Total		11.09%	10.92%	
CAPITAL				
1620	Operation of Plant	4,494,991	4,570,161	75,170
1621	Maintenance of Plant	1,174,413	1,429,753	255,340
5510	Purchase of Buses	210,000	175,000	(35,000)
9098	Employee Benefits	1,382,078	1,436,698	54,620
9760	Debt Service	2,115,532	2,068,025	(47,507)
9950	Transfer to Capital Fund	1,250,000	1,250,000	-
Capital Sub-Total		\$ 10,627,014	\$ 10,929,637	\$ 302,623
Percent of Total		14.92%	14.97%	
PROGRAM				
1420	Legal Services	180,000	180,000	-
2070	In-Service Training	46,700	39,000	(7,700)
2199	Regular Instruction	21,108,642	21,846,232	737,590
2250	Special Education	8,285,180	8,284,573	(607)
2270	Other Instruction	3,110,222	3,234,706	124,484
2330	Special Schools	177,900	175,000	(2,900)
2699	Instructional Media	1,484,115	1,417,678	(66,437)
2899	Pupil Personnel Services	2,213,999	2,257,570	43,571
5599	Transportation	2,855,910	2,901,896	45,986
9098	Employee Benefits	12,988,354	13,519,150	530,796
9901	Transfer to Other Funds	250,000	250,000	-
Program Sub-Total		\$ 52,701,022	\$ 54,105,805	\$ 1,404,783
Percent of Total		73.99%	74.11%	
GRAND TOTAL		\$ 71,226,777	\$ 73,007,988	\$ 1,781,211

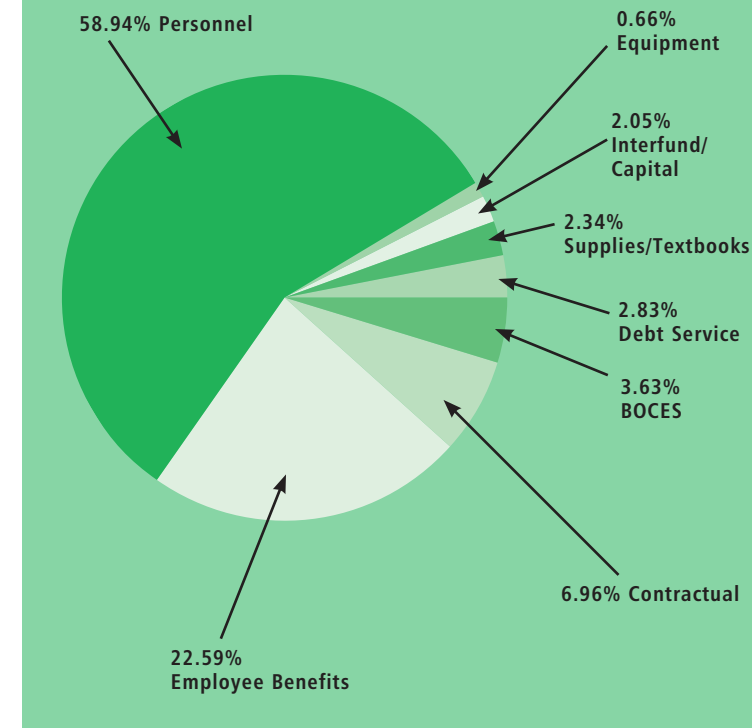
A complete budget information packet is available in all schools and at the Elmont Library.

Estimated Revenues

SOURCE	2009/2010 CURRENT BUDGET	2010/2011 PROPOSED BUDGET	INCREASE (DECREASE)
SCHOOL			
Local Sources*	\$ 918,500	\$ 927,300	\$ 8,800
State Sources	19,067,444	17,267,242	(1,800,202)
Interfund Transfers/Appropriated Fund Balance	6,220,000	8,568,898	2,348,898
Tax Levy	45,020,833	46,244,548	1,223,715
Total Revenues	\$ 71,226,777	\$ 73,007,988	\$1,781,211

* Includes payments in lieu of taxes.

Estimated Expenditures



Senior Citizen Tax Exemptions

The Board of Education understands the difficulty that tax levy increases can place on our senior citizens and has approved senior citizen tax exemptions. These exemptions can reduce property taxes by up to 50 percent based on a senior citizen's annual income. That means that a senior citizen with low income would pay only HALF the amount of the school tax that he or she would otherwise pay. Senior citizens can apply for this exemption by contacting the Nassau County Department of Assessment at 571-1500.

How does this Affect the Average Homeowner?

The Average Elmont Home is Valued at\$ 326,970

Tax Levy Increase 2.7%

Estimated Average Annual Dollar Impact.....\$78

That's Less Than 22 Cents a Day!

STAR

All New York State residents who reside in their own homes can reduce their school property taxes through a New York State School Tax Relief Program exemption, regardless of age or income. Senior citizens may receive enhanced STAR credit. Residents must apply to the Nassau County Department of Assessment (571-1500) to be eligible, and seniors must reapply for the enhanced exemption each year. For more information visit www.orps.state.ny.us/star.

Setting the Tax Rate

The proposed budget represents the funds needed for the coming school year. The Board of Education's responsibility is to present the total dollar amount to be raised by taxes to the Nassau County Board of Assessors, which determines the tax rate for each property class. The tax levy increase for the 2010-2011 proposed budget is 2.7 percent—among the lowest in Nassau County.

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