

Jericho Budget Bulletin

May 2010

VOLUME 46 NUMBER 6



In Jericho High School's class of 2009, 100% of all seniors earned Regents diplomas and 84% of our graduates completed at least one Advanced Placement course. Jericho's percentages in both categories are among the highest in New York State.

Last year's student test results for the fourth and eighth grade New York State Assessments far surpassed the state norms and continue to be among the highest in the state.

Jericho High School Class Of '10 Exceptional College Acceptances

Nationwide, the increasing number of high school students applying to competitive colleges and universities has led to a substantial drop in the percentage of students being accepted into these schools. Jericho High School students, with assistance from our outstanding faculty and guidance program, is defying the trend this year with record-breaking numbers of students being accepted into top schools around the nation. At right are the number of students accepted into some selected schools for the fall of 2010.

Amherst College	1
American University	8
Barnard College	3
Boston University	14
Brown University	3
Carnegie Mellon University	5
Columbia University	9
Cornell University	32
Dartmouth College	6
Duke University	11
Harvard University	2
Harvey Mudd College	1
Haverford College	1
Indiana University	32
Johns Hopkins University	8
Middlebury College	2
MIT	4
New York University	30
Northwestern University	7
Princeton University	2
Stanford University	1
SUNY – Binghamton	45
Syracuse University	38
Tufts University	4
University of Chicago	6
University of Michigan	33
University of Pennsylvania	8
University of Wisconsin	17
Vanderbilt University	5
Villanova University	4
Washington University	8
Williams College	2
Yale University	4

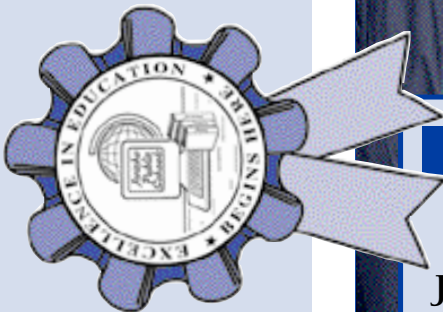


SCHOOL BUDGET VOTE

Tuesday, May 18, 2010

6 AM - 9 PM

Jericho Middle/High School Gym

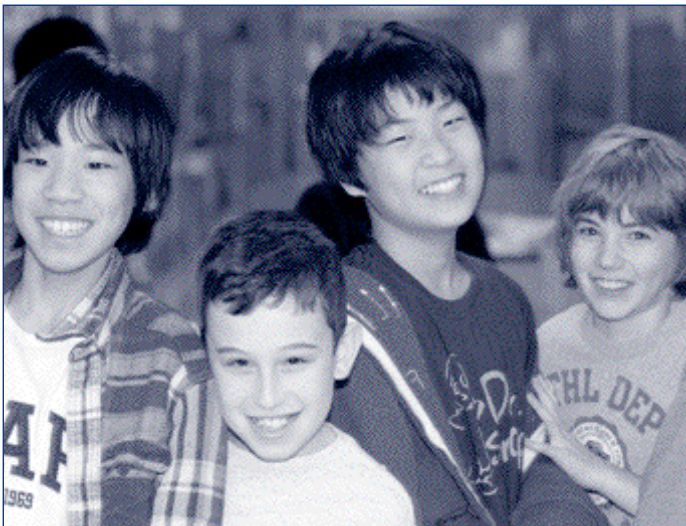


BUDGET VOTE

On Tuesday, May 18, 2010, qualified Jericho School District residents will be eligible to vote on the proposed 2010-2011 school budget. Voting will take place in the Jericho Middle/High School gymnasium between the hours of 6 a.m. and 9 p.m. In addition, one Board of Education seat and the proposed Jericho Public Library Budget will be on the ballot.

PROPOSED 2010-2011 BUDGET

The Board of Education unanimously adopted the proposed 2010-2011 school district budget at an open meeting on March 18, 2010. The \$108.9 million budget represents a 3.50% budget increase and a tax levy increase of 3.92%. Since January, the district has hosted a series of public workshops to review the financial status of the school district and create a budget for the coming year. The Board of Education and district administration requested input from members of the school community at these workshops. "We have worked tirelessly to create a budget that provides the highest quality instructional program while being extraordinarily mindful of the financial impact on our taxpayers," explains Superintendent Hank Grishman. "In an effort to achieve this delicate balance, the budget we are presenting contains an increase in the tax levy of 3.92%.



Jericho Middle School has been recognized as an exemplary school in terms of academic excellence, developmental responsiveness, social equity, and effective organizational structure and procedures. Electives for the coming year focus on various priorities of the school's mission. Seedlings, a new activities based class, is designed to foster an understanding of cultural differences in gender, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, spirituality/religion and many other forms of diversity.



Funding for the expansion of Project Lead the Way (PLTW), a very successful high school engineering program, is included in the proposed budget. The third class in the PLTW sequence, Principles of Engineering, will be added next year.

EFFICIENCIES, COST SAVINGS AND BUDGET MANAGEMENT

For the past several years the district has implemented many cost-saving strategies including, but not limited to, the following: Bond refinancing resulting in a savings of \$955,000; purchasing computer equipment rather than leasing, saving approximately \$250,000 annually; joining a Worker's Compensation Co-operative resulting in savings of \$645,000 over the past 4 years; joining NYS Insurance Reciprocal (NYSIR) resulting in lower annual costs for the past 5 years saving more than \$400,000; and purchasing materials and supplies through co-operative bidding, resulting in an average savings of more than \$350,000 annually.

REVENUE LOSSES

One of the challenges that the district faced during the preparation of the 2010-11 budget is the possibility of a loss of approximately \$800,000 in State aid, as well as a projected loss of interest income of \$400,000 on the investment of school district funds.



SUMMARY OF PROPOSED 2010-2011 SCHOOL BUDGET (PROPOSITION #1)

ESTIMATED EXPENSES	2009-2010	%	2010-2011	%
INSTRUCTION	\$65,451,146	62.20%	\$67,316,394	61.80%
CENTRAL SERVICES	3,388,966	3.22%	3,508,888	3.22%
CAPITAL BUILDING IMPROVEMENTS	1,595,000	1.51%	1,250,000	1.15%
BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS	6,836,167	6.50%	7,129,939	6.55%
PUPIL TRANSPORTATION	5,981,127	5.68%	6,212,276	5.70%
COMMUNITY SERVICES	62,000	0.06%	62,000	0.06%
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	19,286,660	18.33%	20,769,379	19.07%
DEBT SERVICE & UNDISTRIBUTED	<u>2,631,138</u>	<u>2.50%</u>	<u>2,669,363</u>	<u>2.45%</u>
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$105,232,204	100%	\$108,918,239	100%

INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAM ENHANCEMENTS

The Jericho School District continually evaluates curricular offerings and instructional strategies in light of research, changes in technology, state requirements, national standards, local expectations, and the interests and needs of individual students at all levels of learning across the wide spectrum of talents and abilities. Educational program needs and priorities for the coming year were determined accordingly. The proposed 2010-2011 budget will support educational program enhancements, all of which are based on student need, interest and enrollment.

NEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL INITIATIVES:

✓ **Response to Intervention (RtI)** is a multi-tiered, problem-solving approach that identifies general education students struggling in academic and behavioral areas and provides them with systematically-applied strategies and targeted instruction at varying levels of intervention. All New York State school districts are required to develop a RtI Plan for students in kindergarten through grade four by September 2012. A committee of teachers and administrators is working to develop a three-tier system to assist students who are not meeting grade level standards in English language arts and mathematics or who are exhibiting difficulties with behavior.

✓ In order to augment teachers' resources to instruct comprehension at the elementary grades, **Making Meaning®** will be expanded at the elementary grades. The Making Meaning® program is a classroom-tested K-5 reading comprehension curriculum that combines the latest comprehension research with support for students' social development. The program uses nonfiction and fiction read-aloud books to teach students nine different comprehension strategies while also developing youngsters' social skills to create a supportive community of readers.



Making Meaning® is a K-5 reading comprehension curriculum that combines the latest comprehension research with support for students' social development.

NEW MIDDLE SCHOOL ELECTIVES BEING OFFERED:

- ✓ History at the Movies (7th and 8th grade)
- ✓ Seedlings (7th and 8th grade)
- ✓ Competitive Science (8th grade)

Course information is on the middle school website.

NEW HIGH SCHOOL COURSE OFFERINGS INCLUDE:

- ✓ Discrete Mathematics
- ✓ Ceramics and Sculpture
- ✓ St. John's University Dramatic Arts
- ✓ Tai Chi and Kung Fu
- ✓ St. John's University Sociology
- ✓ St. John's University Chinese IV
- ✓ St. John's University Photography
- ✓ Virtual Enterprise
- ✓ Principles of Engineering

(the third class of the Project Lead the Way sequence)

Course descriptions are on the high school website.



JERICHO **SCHOOL REPORT CARD**

2009-2010 School Year

100%

REGENTS DIPLOMA PASS RATE
(JERICHO HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS)

95%

REGENTS DIPLOMA PASS RATE
WITH ADVANCED DESIGNATION
(JERICHO HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS)

96%

4-YEAR COLLEGE ENROLLMENT RATE
(JERICHO HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS)

98%

ENGLISH REGENTS PASS RATE
(JERICHO HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS)

100%

MATH A REGENTS PASS RATE
(JERICHO HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS)

92%

MATH B REGENTS PASS RATE
(JERICHO HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS)

99%

INTEGRATED ALGEBRA
(JERICHO HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS)

93%

8TH GRADE ELA ASSESSMENTS
(MEET OR EXCEED STANDARDS)

97%

8TH GRADE MATH ASSESSMENTS
(MEET OR EXCEED STANDARDS)

96%

4TH GRADE ELA ASSESSMENTS
(MEET OR EXCEED STANDARDS)

100%

4TH GRADE MATH ASSESSMENTS
(MEET OR EXCEED STANDARDS)

IMPROVEMENTS IN TECHNOLOGY AND INFORMATION PROCESSING

The proposed budget includes funds for the following improvements in technology and information processing :

- ✓ Replacement of 300 workstations throughout the district.
- ✓ Purchase of 37 SMART Boards. Every elementary classroom will be equipped with this technology.
- ✓ Naviance, a web-based tool for post-high school planning, will be added. This program contains data on colleges throughout the country and keeps track of recent Jericho HS college applications, student statistics and admissions decisions. Naviance will be accessible to counselors, students and parents (with a JHS approved registration code) from any computer with web access. This program enables the transmission of high school transcripts and letters of recommendation to most colleges.



During the 2010-11 school year, the district will purchase 37 additional SMART Boards. Every elementary classroom will now be equipped with this technology.

EXPANDING OPTIONS FOR SPECIAL NEEDS STUDENTS

The budget increase will enable the district to improve options for students with special needs. Co-teaching will be expanded to 1st grade at Jackson and 8th grade at the middle school (co-teaching will be in grades 6-7-8 next year), and introduced to 4th grade at Cantiague. This model raises the level of effectiveness with a general education and special education teacher in the classroom. It is also more efficient as it reduces the number of aides assigned to the classroom or to an individual student and reduces pull-out services. Additionally, a grade K-1 self-contained class will open at Jackson next year to support autistic students.

Tuitions are included in the budget for children with special needs placed either in other public schools, private placements, or BOCES programs. In addition, the costs for increased professional services (OT, PT, ABA, and speech) for students in Jericho Schools, as well as students who attend private schools within the school district, are part of the budget.

Special education services continue to have a substantial impact on the budget. The district strives to provide essential academic support to all children, including those with a variety of disabilities. The State Education Department insists that these students meet the same rigorous requirements for a Regents diploma as all other students. "The fact that 100% of the 2009 Jericho High School graduating class received a Regents diploma is a clear indication that our tax dollars used to support every student are being well spent," said Board President Barbara Krieger.

UNFUNDED MANDATES

The New York State Legislature mandates that school districts offer a wide range of services. There are approximately 78 unfunded mandates in the areas of administration, business, facilities, health, instruction, IT, personnel, private schools and transportation that NY State has compelled school districts to provide. Although NY State views these services as important, they do not provide Jericho with the appropriate financial resources to support them. While the intent of these mandates may be positive, they translate into added time, personnel and costs.

Services for ELL (English Language Learners) students are incorporated into the proposed budget. The U.S. Office of Education and the New York State Education Department mandate considerable services for all beginning ELL students. All English Language Learners in grades K-12 receive comprehensive ELL support.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

The proposed budget includes \$1,100,000 to cover capital improvements. Next year's projects include: Replacement of the track at the MS/HS with new drainage, paving at the elementary schools and in the transportation area at the MS/HS, and a security system upgrade.

BUDGET HEARING & SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION

A Public Hearing on the Budget will be held on Tuesday evening, May 11, 2010, in the High School Little Theater at 7:30 p.m. Community members are encouraged to attend.

There is one open seat on the Board of Education this year. Joseph Lorintz, who is completing his second three-year term, is running unopposed for the open seat.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

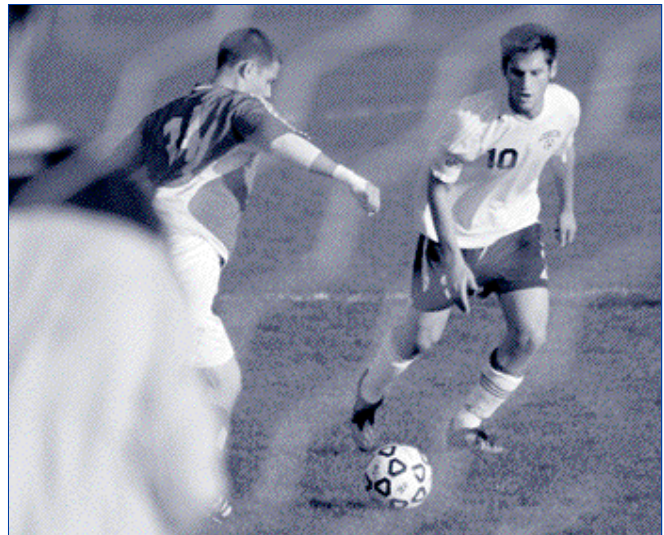
Complete copies of the proposed 2010-2011 Jericho School District Budget are available on the district website and in the Central Administration Office at 99 Cedar Swamp Road. Reference copies are available for inspection at all district schools and the Jericho Public Library. Please do not hesitate to contact the Office of the Superintendent of Schools at 203-3600, extension 3201, with any questions. For information or questions regarding registration, voting and absentee ballots, please call 203-3600, extension 3214.



The proposed budget includes funds to cover the replacement of the track with new drainage at the middle/high school.

PROSTATE CANCER SCREENINGS

Free PSA screenings (a simple blood test) for the early detection of Prostate Cancer will be offered at Jericho Middle/High School on May 18th during the School Budget Vote and Board Elections between 10 AM-2 PM. Long Island Cruizin' for a Cure and South Nassau Communities Hospital are teaming up with the school district to provide this community service for Jericho residents. Test results will be mailed directly to your physician. Please be sure to bring the name, address and telephone number of your physician to register for screening.



The New York State Public High School Athletic Association presented Jericho High School with the NYSPHSAA 2008-2009 "School of Distinction" Award. Jericho qualified for this prestigious award after 100% of all varsity teams were declared Scholar/Athlete Teams with academic averages above 90%. Only 13 high schools in New York State qualified for this prestigious award for the 2008-2009 school year. This is the fifth year in a row that Jericho has been designated a "School of Distinction," one of only two schools in the state to achieve this honor.

Budget Bulletin

School Budget Vote & Board Election Public Library Budget Vote

& Board Election:

Tuesday, May 18, 2010

6 AM - 9 PM

Jericho Middle/High School Gym

Jericho Union Free School District

Jericho, New York 11753

(516) 203-3600

Board of Education

Barbara Krieger, *President*

Joseph H. Lorintz, *Vice President*

William Ferro

Shawn Gladstone

Claire M. Hochheiser

Superintendent of Schools

Henry L. Grishman

Newsletter Editor

Mary Marks



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SUMMARY OF PROPOSED 2010-2011 LIBRARY BUDGET (PROPOSITION #2)

ESTIMATED EXPENSES	2009-2010	2010-2011
LIBRARY MATERIALS	\$383,500	\$437,500
PROGRAMMING	\$87,500	\$94,600
PROPERTY IMPROVEMENTS	\$8,000	\$10,000
FURNITURE & EQUIPMENT	\$76,000	\$63,000
OPERATING EXPENSES	\$642,600	\$577,050
SALARIES & BENEFITS	\$3,232,000	\$3,424,500
CAPITAL RESERVE	\$60,000	\$10,000
GASB 45	\$10,000	\$10,000
MTA TAX		\$8,850
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$4,499,600	\$4,635,500
LESS TOTAL ANTICIPATED INCOME	\$106,200	\$68,900
TOTAL TO BE RAISED BY TAXES	\$4,393,400	\$4,566,600

Percentage Increase in the Library Tax Levy 3.94 %

Candidate running for one open Library Board seat

David Diamond

*Copies of the complete Jericho Library Proposed 2009-2010 Budget are
available at the Jericho Public Library for inspection.*

May 2010

Voting Qualifications

Only persons who are qualified voters as of May 18, 2010 shall be permitted to vote in the election held on May 18, 2010 on matters affecting the Jericho School District and the Jericho Public Library.

A qualified voter is defined as:

- ◆ A citizen of the United States
- ◆ At least eighteen years of age
- ◆ A resident in the Jericho Union Free School District for thirty days or more preceding the budget vote at which he/she offers to vote.

Persons disqualified from voting under the provisions of Section 5-106 of the Election Law are not eligible to vote in school district elections.

NEW VOTERS MAY REGISTER AND VOTE ON THE DAY OF THE ELECTION. THEY WILL BE ASKED TO PROVIDE PROOF OF RESIDENCY AND AGE.