

BUDGET EDITION | MAY 2017 Excelsior

NEWSLETTER OF THE RAMAPO CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT



Message from the Board of Education

Dear Community Member,

The Ramapo Central School District's proposed budget for the 2017-2018 school year reflects the continued collaboration between and among the Board of Education, the District's administrative team and staff members toward the ongoing development and refinement of exemplary academic programs, interscholastic athletics and a wide range of extracurricular activities for the children of our community. We are pleased to continue to provide a variety of new initiatives in this proposed budget which align with our community-developed strategic goals and objectives.

For the 2017-2018 school year, the proposed spending plan provides new and expanded opportunities that include bilingual Kindergarten, expanded Special Education classes, new electives at Suffern Middle School including an expansion of the popular high school elective, AVID, and a variety of electives at Suffern High School including College Accounting, Interior Design, and Honors Anatomy and Physiology. In addition, the District is introducing a Universal Pre-Kindergarten program at Viola Elementary School, providing children from our District with a safe and nurturing learning environment led by our high quality Ramapo Central teachers.

For the 2017-2018 school year, the proposed spending plan provides new and expanded opportunities...

Beyond the budget proposition, voters are being asked to consider two other propositions. Proposition 2 asks voters for their approval to spend existing Capital Reserve Funds (approved by the community in 2007) to remove and replace original air handlers at Suffern High School and to design and install generators at Suffern High School, Suffern Middle School and the District's Administration Building.

Proposition 3 asks voters to approve the creation of a new Capital Reserve Fund to be established in order to fund future District-wide facility and property improvements, as well as other infrastructure improvements as they are needed. Approval of this proposition will only allow the District to create the fund. In order for the District to spend money from this fund, voter approval will be needed for each specific project.

Please remember to vote on Tuesday, May 16, 2017. The polls are open from 6am until 9pm. For voting information, please call (845) 357-7783 x11234.

Thank you for your ongoing support of our schools and students.

Sincerely,

The Board of Education



2017-2018 BUDGET AT A GLANCE

TAX LEVY INCREASE:

1.21%

BUDGET-TO-BUDGET INCREASE:

2.01%

TOTAL BUDGET:

\$137,285,470

VOTE ★ TUESDAY, MAY 16, 2017 6am-9pm

On the Ballot

Proposition #1

Shall the Annual Budget, in the amount of **\$137,285,470** be adopted and a tax levied, in accordance with law, to meet the same?

Proposition #2

Shall the Board of Education be authorized to (a) remove and dispose of existing air handlers at Suffern High School and to replace them with new air handlers and to (b) design and install generators at Suffern High School, Suffern Middle School and the Administration Building, all at an estimated cost of **\$1,705,000**, with such expenditure not requiring the levy of any new tax, with all such costs to be paid entirely from the already existing Capital Reserve Fund that was previously approved by the voters of the School District on May 15, 2007 and which now has an existing balance of **\$1,705,596.38**?

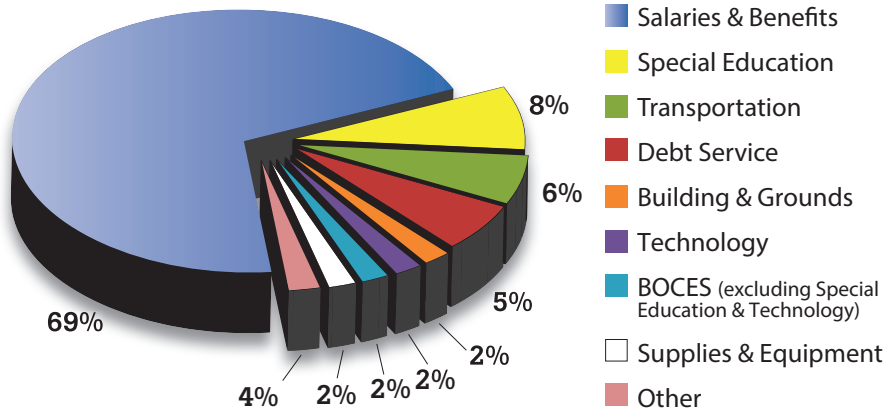
Proposition #3

RESOLVED: that a new Capital Reserve Fund be established in accordance with the provisions of Education Law Section 3651, to be designated "Capital Reserve Fund 2017" (the "Fund"), for the purpose of funding future District-wide facilities and property, capital improvements, and other infrastructure improvements or similar projects; the probable term of which will not exceed ten (10) years from the date of its establishment; the ultimate principal amount therein to total **\$10,000,000** exclusive of interest earnings thereon; such amount to be provided from the following sources: (i) the transfer, hereby approved, of the balance remaining in the Capital Reserve Fund heretofore approved by the qualified voters of the District on May 15, 2007, and no longer required for the purposes for which said Fund was established, and after the expenditure of funds as described in Proposition No 2, and (ii) unappropriated balances in the District's general fund in the current and future fiscal years sufficient to fund the balance of said **\$10,000,000** ultimate principal amount. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

QUESTIONS?

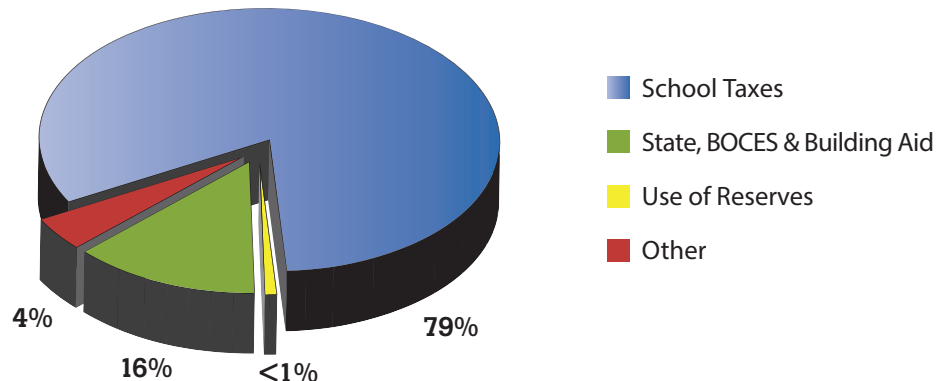
Click on Budget under Quick Links at www.ramapocentral.net or email budget@ramapocentral.net.

Anticipated Expenditures



Salaries & Benefits	\$94,045,045
Special Education	\$11,322,332
Transportation	\$8,139,500
Debt Service	\$6,949,558
Building & Grounds	\$3,418,864
Technology	\$2,743,128
BOCES (excluding Special Education & Technology)	\$2,926,899
Supplies & Equipment	\$2,695,175
Other	\$5,044,969
TOTAL	\$137,285,470

Anticipated Revenues



School Taxes	\$108,177,517
State, BOCES & Building Aid	\$22,939,936
Use of Reserves	\$313,017
Other	\$5,855,000
TOTAL	\$137,285,470

Educating for Personal Excellence

Ninety-six percent of our 2016 graduating seniors continued their education at more than 130 post-secondary institutions, which included Cornell University, Fashion Institute of Technology, Johns Hopkins University, Michigan State University, University of Pennsylvania, University of Southern California, and Yale University.

152 *Suffern High School* students earned AP Scholar awards for exceptional achievement.



Suffern High School Senior *Caitriona Keane* was named a 2017 National Merit Scholarship Semifinalist,

for placing in the top half of 1% of the 1.5 million students who qualified through their performance in the PSATs; *Adriana Owen**, *John Poulos*, *Adrian Ramon* and *Lucy Rice** earned National Merit Letters of Commendation for placing in the top 5% of the 1.5 million students who entered the competition. **not pictured*



Nineteen *Suffern Middle School* 8th graders were 2017 Black Achievement Award recipients.

Twenty-Seven *Middle School* and 20 *High School* students were recognized with RCC Hispanic Heritage Student Achievement Awards.



Suffern High School Senior, *Natalie Schedler* was chosen as a national medalist for the 2017

Scholastic Art & Writing Awards, from over 330,000 submitted pieces of art.

One *Suffern High School* student was selected as a NYSSMA All-State musician, and 29 were named NYSSMA Area All State performers. In addition, 49 Seniors and 24 Juniors were named All-County performers.



Thirteen *Suffern High School* AP Studio Art students were recognized as regional winners of the Scholastic

Art & Writing Awards.

For the third year in a row, the *Suffern* Robotics team advanced to the FIRST Tech Challenge World Championship.

Close to 200 students were involved in the spring musical production of *Fiddler on the Roof*. Congratulations on a spectacular show!



The second annual REACH STEAM Expo attracted more than 2000 attendees and showcased the

exceptional work being done throughout our K-12 classrooms in the areas of Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math.

The *Suffern High School* Academic League came in third place overall in the County-wide tournament.

Seven *High School* students received medals at the Lower Hudson Valley Regional Science Olympiad.



The accelerated math classes in 6th (pictured) and 7th grade participated in the 2017 NYS Math League

Contest. The top scorers from *Suffern Middle School's* 6th and 7th Grade groups took 2nd Place out of all participants in Orange, Rockland, and Westchester Counties and the 6th graders were ranked 16th in the State of New York!



Maker Spaces across our five elementary schools offer students the opportunity to create,

problem-solve, and collaborate on STEAM-related projects. Pictured here: *Cherry Lane Elementary School*

Montebello Elementary School student, *Sophie Schneider*, earned the NYS PTA Award of Merit for her Reflections visual arts entry.



Fifth graders across the District learned the benefits of planning and design through their Project Lead

the Way unit on Vex Robots.

Athletic Highlights:

- The Girls Swim Team was named County and League Champions
- Girls Tennis and Boys Soccer teams were League Champions
- Girls Soccer advanced to the Section Finals
- Boys Volleyball was named League Champions and Section Champions
- Boys Hockey team advanced to the Section Championships
- *Peter Oliveto* won the Section 1, Division 1 Championship title in Wrestling

Field Hockey player, *Alyssa Sanchez*, and Soccer player *Zac Lloyd* were named *Suffern Senior Athletes of the Season*.

The following students were named *The Journal News* Scholar Athletes: *Alyssa Sanchez* (Field Hockey), *Rachel Ludwikowski* (Cross-Country), *Antony Misko* (Track and Field); *Myles Solan* (Track & Field), *Caleigh Cahoon* (Basketball)

Congratulations to *Myles Solan* for being named *The Journal News* Rockland boys indoor track athlete of the year.



The District launched a video campaign highlighting its commitment to "21st Century Learning" this year. The nine videos focus on the abundance of opportunities our students have in each of our buildings. They can be viewed on our YouTube channel, our District Facebook page or our website.

You can vote

IF YOU ARE...

- a U.S. citizen;
- at least 18 years old;
- a resident of the District for 30 days prior to the vote; and,
- registered to vote

WHEN:

Tuesday, May 16, 2017 • 6am-9pm

WHERE:

Voters must report to their assigned school budget election district.

Cherry Lane Elementary School
1 Heather Drive, Suffern

Hillburn Administrative Building
45 Mountain Avenue, Hillburn

R.P. Connor Elementary School
13 Cypress Road, Suffern

Sloatsburg Elementary School
11 Second Street, Sloatsburg

Suffern Middle School
80 Hemion Road, Suffern

Not sure where to vote?

Visit ramapocentral.net to confirm your polling place and determine if you are registered to vote, or call (845) 357-7783 x11234.

School District Budget Notice

OVERALL BUDGET PROPOSAL	Budget Adopted for the 2016-17 School Year	Budget Proposed for the 2017-18 School Year	Contingency Budget for the 2017-18 School Year *
Total Budgeted Amount, Not Including Separate Propositions	\$134,580,881	\$137,285,470	\$135,996,113
Increase/Decrease for the 2017-18 School Year		\$2,704,589	\$1,415,232
Percentage Increase/(Decrease) in Proposed Budget		2.01%	1.05%
Change in the Consumer Price Index		1.26%	
A. Proposed Tax Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount	\$106,888,160	\$108,177,517	
B. Levy to Support Library Debt, if Applicable		\$0	
C. Levy for Non-Excludable Propositions, if Applicable**		\$0	
D. Total Tax Cap Reserve Amount Used to Reduce Current Year Levy		\$0	
E. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy (A + B + C + D)	\$106,888,160	\$108,177,517	\$106,888,160
F. Total Permissible Exclusions	\$2,811,093	\$2,764,281	
G. School Tax Levy Limit, Excluding Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$104,713,624	\$105,413,236	
H. Total Proposed Tax Levy for School Purposes, Excluding Permissible Exclusions and Levy for Library Debt Plus Prior Year Tax Cap Reserve (E - B - F + D)	\$104,713,624	\$105,413,236	
I. Difference: G - H (Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval - See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions)	\$636,557	\$0	
Administrative Component	\$12,297,437	\$13,057,564	\$12,424,930
Program Component	\$105,016,522	\$105,979,812	\$105,444,471
Capital Component	\$17,266,922	\$18,248,094	\$18,126,712

* Statement of assumptions made in projecting a contingency budget for the 2017-18 school year, should the proposed budget be defeated, pursuant to Section 2023 of the Education Law. **The contingent budget excludes appropriate equipment and certain student supplies.**

Description	Amount
Proposition 2: Transfer of funds from the 2007 Capital Reserve for replacement of existing air handlers at Suffern High School and purchase and installation of generators at Suffern High School, Suffern Middle School and the Administrative Center at Hillburn.	at no additional costs to taxpayers
Proposition 3: Establishment of new capital reserve to be funded over the next ten years in an amount not to exceed \$10 million exclusive of interest earnings thereto.	at no additional costs to taxpayers

	Under the Budget Proposed for the 2017-18 School Year
Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings ¹	\$1,626

The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2017-2018 by the qualified voters of the Ramapo Central School District, Rockland County, New York, will be held in said district on Tuesday, May 16, 2017 between the hours of 6am and 9pm, prevailing time in Hillburn Administrative Building, Suffern Middle School, Cherry Lane Elementary School, R.P. Connor Elementary School and Sloatsburg Elementary School at which time polls will be opened to vote by voting ballot or machine.

¹ The basic school tax relief (STAR) exemption is authorized by Section 425 of the Real Property Tax Law.



SCHOOL BUDGET VOTE:
Tuesday, May 16, 2017 • 6am-9pm

RESIDENT
Ramapo Central School District
TIME-SENSITIVE MATERIAL

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BOARD OF EDUCATION

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