



Budget Newsletter

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Rush-Henrietta
Rush-Henrietta Central School District

May 2012

2012-2013 District Budget Proposal

Proposed Budget: \$103,900,495
Budget-to-Budget Change: 2.2%
Tax Rate Change: 1.94%

Developing a proposed budget is a complex task. As we developed a proposed 2012-2013 budget, we spoke with many community members to solicit their feedback. While the economy lags, the Rush-Henrietta Central School District continues to deal with rising mandatory expenses such as health insurance and retirement costs. After a careful analysis that included input from many community members, Board of Education members are prepared to present a proposed budget they believe is educationally sound and fiscally responsible.

Rush-Henrietta is proposing a modest budget-to-budget increase of 2.2 percent. Under this proposal, the true value tax rate would increase by 1.94 percent, well within the limits established under the state's new Tax Rate Cap. Rush-Henrietta's tax rate would remain the lowest among the 17 local suburban school districts. The Board of Education is pleased that the proposal maintains all educational programs for children.

Highlights of Proposed Budget:

- Maintains instructional programs and student services
- Preserves the district's successful small-class-size initiative
- Continues to use \$2.8 million in reserve funds to shield taxpayers from additional burden
- True value tax rate next year would be lower than it was in 2003-2004

What Does This Mean in Dollars and Cents?

- Taking into account the STAR exemption - for which all homeowners are eligible - a district resident owning a house assessed at \$100,000 would see school taxes increase by \$25.90 next year. For senior citizens with the enhanced STAR exemption, school taxes would increase next year by \$14.77.

Did You Know?

- Rush-Henrietta continues to methodically reduce non-staffing spending. In fact, the school district has reduced operating expenses by more than \$10 million during the past four years.
- Thanks to aggressive cost-cutting measures, if the proposed budget is approved, Rush-Henrietta's true value tax rate in 2012-2013 will be lower than it was during the 2003-2004 school year.
- Moody's Investors Service, which grades bonds based on the financial stability of an organization, upgraded Rush-Henrietta's bond rating from A1 to Aa3. In its most recent report, Moody's says it "expects the district's financial position to remain strong given its solid fiscal management that supports the maintenance of reserves that provide significant budgetary flexibility and financial cushion."
- Rush-Henrietta has had the lowest true value tax rate in Monroe County for many years. Under the proposed budget, Rush-Henrietta would have the lowest rate again next year.
- The proposed 2012-2013 budget contains a variety of wage and benefit reductions that affect all employees in our district's administrator, teacher, and support staff bargaining units.

VOTE MAY 15



From the Board of Education

May 1, 2012

Dear Community Resident:

On Tuesday, May 15, eligible voters in the Rush-Henrietta Central School District will have the opportunity to vote on the proposed 2012-2013 school budget adopted by the Board of Education. The proposal reflects our commitment to put forth a budget we believe is both educationally sound and fiscally responsible, and continues our commitment to provide a high-quality education for all children in our school district.

The budget development process begins each November when community members join teachers, staff members, and administrators to serve on the Budget Advisory Council. The council meets numerous times to review all aspects of the budget – including any new proposals – and makes recommendations to the superintendent regarding the proposed budget. Given the many unique challenges facing our community at this time, this volunteer work is more important than ever.

Throughout the budget-development process, stakeholders had opportunities to provide feedback at community forums and public hearings. In addition to seeking community input, the Board of Education and district administration conducted a comprehensive program and service review to determine how the budget supports the district's priorities. After a careful review, the Board of Education adopted the proposed budget for the community to consider. The proposal provides resources to support continuous improvement efforts that benefit both students and staff members.

The proposal ensures that all programs and services that our children receive this year will be available to them next year. One way we have accomplished this is by cutting more than \$10 million in operating costs during the past four years. Maintaining all of our programs and services at current levels requires a budget of \$103.9 million, an increase of 2.2 percent compared to last year. The factors driving this increase include rising fuel and utilities costs, contractual obligations, increased health insurance costs, state-imposed retirement system costs, and increased BOCES' services costs.

Thanks in part to our conservative planning during the past few years, we are able to propose this budget even when faced with a minimal increase in state aid. Given our expense and revenue assumptions, we project a true value tax rate increase of no more than 1.94 percent. (The actual tax rate is established after the state budget is approved and town assessments are finalized.) A homeowner with property assessed at \$100,000 and the basic STAR exemption would pay an additional \$25.90 next year, while a senior citizen with property assessed at \$100,000 and the enhanced STAR exemption would pay an additional \$14.77. Keep in mind that for five of the past six years, the final true value tax rate has actually been lower than the proposed rate. The one time it wasn't lower, the final tax rate was exactly as projected.

All eligible voters are urged to vote between 6 a.m. and 9 p.m. Tuesday, May 15, 2012, at the Transportation and Operations Center at the corner of Lehigh Station and Middle roads. If you have questions, please contact any board trustee listed below. We genuinely appreciate the strong support that our community continues to demonstrate for the delivery of quality programs and services that enable the district to guide student success . . . one child at a time.

Sincerely,
Susan E. Banker, President
Board of Education

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Celebrating Student Achievement

2011 New York State Regents Results

Regents Exam	# Tested	% Passing
ASL	43	88.4
English	460	92.4
French	66	95.5
German	52	100.0
Spanish	165	97.6
Integrated Algebra	493	89.7
Geometry	500	80.8
Algebra 2/Trigonometry	369	64.5
Earth Science	562	81.1
Biology	500	87.2
Chemistry	330	83.6
Physics	159	77.4
Global History and Geography	491	84.1
U.S. History and Government	475	91.6

Advanced Placement Results

Advanced Placement courses are offered in many academic areas. In Rush-Henrietta, our Senior High School students wrote 881 AP exams, and 642 (72 percent) of the exams received a score of 3 or better. This continues a positive trend of more students taking advantage of our Advanced Placement offerings. Exams are graded on scores of 1 to 5; scores of 3 and above generally are accepted for college credit.



Rush-Henrietta continues to challenge its students to take more rigorous courses in an effort to increase their college readiness. For example, Rush-Henrietta requires all eighth graders to take Earth Science, a class typically taught elsewhere in ninth grade. This gives students the opportunity to take an extra year of science to prepare for college. Rush-Henrietta also offers more challenging math courses.

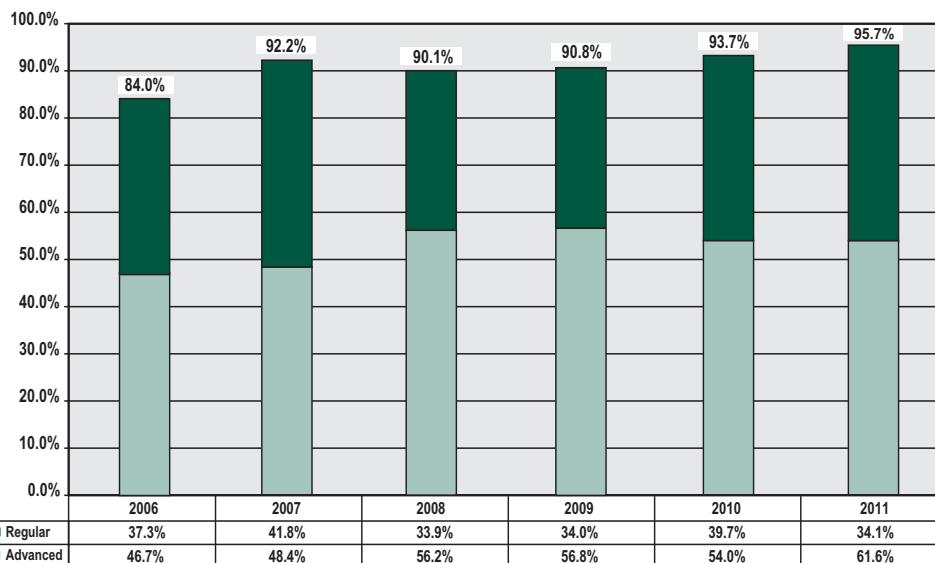
STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT DATA

The New York State Department of Education requires the district to make documents related to student achievement available prior to annual district budget votes. Information regarding the 2010-2011 School Report Cards Part 1, which provides accountability status for all schools within the Rush-Henrietta Central School District, and the Fiscal Accountability Supplement for the district, is available at www.rhnet.org/reportcards.

In addition, a hard copy of each report is available through the Office of Quality Assurance and Community Relations, located in the Parker Administration Building at 2034 Lehigh Station Road. To make an appointment to review these documents during regular business hours, please call 359-5018.

Graduation Results

Percent of Graduates Receiving Regents Diplomas 2006-2011





Rush-Henrietta Central School District - Budget Notice

Overall Budget Proposal

	Budget Adopted for the 2011-12 School Year	Budget Proposed for the 2012-13 School Year	Contingency Budget for the 2012-13 School Year*
Total budgeted amount	\$ 101,656,806	\$ 103,900,495	\$ 101,987,340
Increase/(Decrease) for the 2012-13 School Year		\$ 2,243,689	\$ 330,534
Percentage Increase/(Decrease) in each Proposed Budget		2.2%	0.3%
Change in the Consumer Price Index		3.2%	
School Tax Levy Limit		\$ 65,647,810	
Proposed School Year Tax Levy (without permissible exclusions to the School Tax Levy Limit)		\$ 65,606,594	\$ 63,771,818
Total Permissible Exclusions		\$ 78,379	
Proposed School Year Tax Levy (including permissible exclusions to the School Tax Levy Limit)	\$ 63,771,818	\$ 65,684,973	\$ 63,771,818
Administrative Component	\$ 11,691,924	\$ 11,967,937	\$ 11,759,937
Program Component	\$ 79,690,429	\$ 81,649,950	\$ 80,237,950
Capital Component	\$ 10,274,453	\$ 10,282,608	\$ 9,989,453

* The Contingency Budget information displayed above has been calculated in total and is a zero percent levy increase for the 2012-13 school year. Budget items excluded from the calculation include equipment expenditures and other non-contingent expenses. The actual appropriations under a contingency budget, should this be necessary, would be determined by the Board of Education and may include additional contingent expenditures if funding sources other than additional tax levy amounts are identified.

Basic STAR Exemption Impact

Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings based upon the standard \$30,000 exemption authorized by Section 425 of the Real Property Tax Law.

	Budget Proposed for the 2012-13 School Year
Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings	\$ 579

The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2012-2013 by the qualified voters of the Rush-Henrietta Central School District, Monroe County, New York, will be held at the Transportation & Operations Center in said district on Tuesday, May 15, 2012, between the hours of 6 a.m. and 9 p.m., prevailing time in the Transportation & Operations Center, 1133 Lehigh Station Road, Henrietta, N.Y. 14467, at which time the polls will be opened to vote by voting ballot or machine.

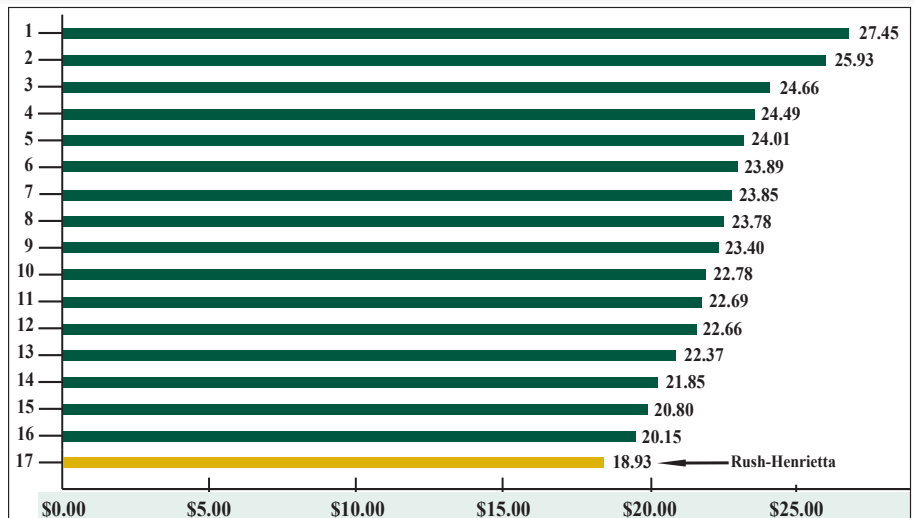
If you are a United States citizen, will be at least 18 years old by May 15, 2012, and have been a resident of the school district at least 30 days prior to the vote, you may vote. Proof of residency and personal identification is required.

R-H True Value Tax Rate: Still the LOWEST in Monroe County

Monroe County School District Comparison*

Tax rates are a means of comparing taxes between towns. The true value tax rate in the Rush-Henrietta Central School District is consistently among the **lowest** in Monroe County. Next year, Rush-Henrietta again would have the lowest tax rate.

* Data from "2012 Facts and Figures" published by the Monroe County School Boards Association



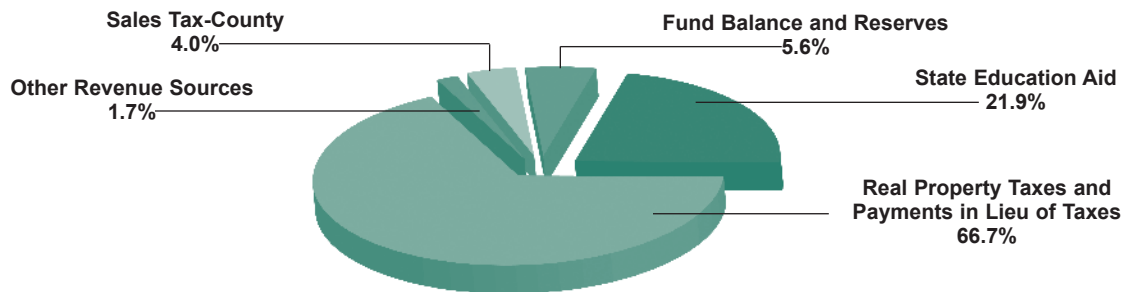


Rush-Henrietta Central School District Budget Proposal

2012-2013 Projected Revenue Statement

Revenue Source	2011-2012	2012-2013	% Change
State Education Aid	\$22,587,940	\$22,778,962	0.8
Real Property Taxes and Payments in Lieu of Taxes	67,180,950	69,284,973	3.1
Sales Tax-County	4,000,000	4,200,000	5.0
Other Revenue Sources	1,987,916	1,791,560	-9.9
Fund Balance and Reserves	5,900,000	5,845,000	-0.9
GRAND TOTALS	\$101,656,806	\$103,900,495	2.2

REVENUES AS A PERCENTAGE OF BUDGET



2012-2013 Proposed Expenditures

There are five expenditure categories in the 2012-2013 budget proposal, as outlined below, that support educational programs and school district operations.

Instruction: 57.0% — The instructional program is the largest category in the budget and is the focal point of our educational system. All services that provide, or directly affect, instruction to students are budgeted in this area. The following are included in this category: regular school program, special education, summer school and continuing education support services [school libraries, health, psychological and social work services, curriculum coordination & supervision, curriculum development, research & evaluation], BOCES instructional programs, student activities [interscholastic sports, intramurals, co-curricular activities] and required tuition payments for Rush-Henrietta students attending approved private and public school programs.

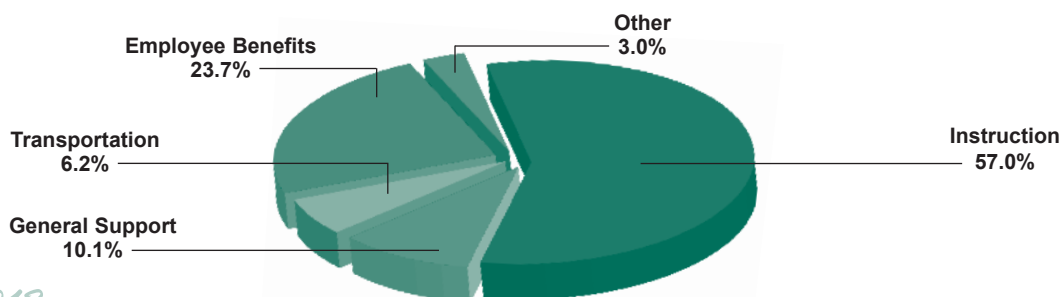
General Support: 10.1% — This part of the budget covers the areas that support the educational program through central administration, business operations, human resources, community relations, maintenance and repair of all district grounds and facilities, printing, mailing, district meetings, Board of Education and legal services.

Transportation: 6.2% — Includes bus transportation for more than 6,400 students to district, parochial and private schools; BOCES centers for vocational & special education programs; field trips and athletic team trips.

Employee Benefits: 23.7% — Included in the employee benefits category are social security, retirement, insurance and the risk fund which includes unemployment insurance, disability and life insurance.

Other: 3.0% — A small portion of the budget is for other expenditures that include bus purchase reserve fund, community services, summer handicapped education, school food services, and debt service.

EXPENDITURES AS A PERCENTAGE OF BUDGET





Rush-Henrietta Central Sch

2012-2013 Component Budget

Administrative Component: 11.5% of Budget

The Administrative Component provides for overall general support and management activities, including business office operations, payroll, purchasing, general administration, personnel, legal and auditing services. Cost for administration and supervision of each of the district's schools is also included in this component.

Function or Account	2011-2012	2012-2013	Increase/(Decrease)
Board of Education	101,926	106,320	4,394
Central Administration	314,877	315,555	678
Finance	542,366	558,839	16,473
Legal Services	73,535	75,676	2,141
Personnel	506,740	490,589	(16,151)
Public Information	219,692	202,860	(16,832)
Other Central Services	1,124,636	1,084,361	(40,275)
Other Special Items	1,304,266	1,260,167	(44,099)
Curriculum Development & Supervision	1,749,181	1,731,068	(18,113)
Supervision-Regular School	2,486,465	2,415,476	(70,989)
Supervision-Special School	288,197	293,279	5,082
Research, Evaluation & Planning	354,059	360,879	6,820
Employee Benefits	2,625,984	3,072,868	446,884
TOTALS	\$11,691,924	\$11,967,937	\$276,013

Program Component: 78.6% of Budget

The Program Component provides funding for the instruction of and educational support services for the district's students. Programs are offered in six elementary buildings, two middle schools, one Ninth Grade Academy and one high school. Funds are also included in this component for transporting students.

Function or Account	2011-2012	2012-2013	Increase/(Decrease)
Instruction	53,181,087	54,239,151	1,058,064
In-Service Training	167,898	174,883	6,985
Other District Transportation	4,628,209	4,810,193	181,984
Garage Building	183,005	185,582	2,577
BOCES Transportation	1,364,952	1,414,452	49,500
Community Services	1,000	1,000	0
Employee Benefits	19,564,278	20,224,689	660,411
Other Transfers	600,000	600,000	0
TOTALS	\$79,690,429	\$81,649,950	\$1,959,521

Capital Component: 9.9% of Budget

The Capital Component pays for maintaining buildings, for upkeep of property, and for electricity, gas heat, oil, water & sewer and telephone services. Funds are also included for "debt service" payments on capital projects (principal and interest payments) and for refund of taxes for claims against property assessments.

Function or Account	2011-2012	2012-2013	Increase/(Decrease)
Operation of Plant	4,371,442	4,262,942	(108,500)
Maintenance of Plant	1,974,431	1,914,972	(59,459)
Refund of Taxes	100,000	100,000	0
Other Special Items	144,310	143,217	(1,093)
Employee Benefits	1,203,185	1,333,452	130,267
Transfer to Capital Fund	557,010	600,000	42,990
Debt Service	1,924,075	1,928,025	3,950
TOTALS	\$10,274,453	\$10,282,608	\$8,155

GRAND TOTALS	\$101,656,806	\$103,900,495	\$2,243,689
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School District Budget Proposal

2012-2013 Proposed Expenditures

Instruction: 57.0% of Budget

	2011-2012	2012-2013	% Change
Salaries	43,462,498	43,710,111	0.57
Equipment	195,748	185,694	-5.14
Supplies & Materials	1,213,276	1,161,751	-4.25
Textbooks & Software	501,740	462,220	-7.88
Contractual Expenses	1,242,983	1,384,598	11.39
BOCES	10,125,654	10,058,319	-0.66
Tuition	1,484,988	2,252,043	51.65
TOTALS	\$58,226,887	59,214,736	1.70

General Support: 10.1% of Budget

	2011-2012	2012-2013	% Change
Salaries	4,188,164	4,156,869	-0.75
Equipment	112,515	121,952	8.39
Supplies & Materials	657,331	630,381	-4.10
Contractual Expenses	3,845,467	3,703,885	-3.68
BOCES	1,974,744	1,902,411	-3.66
TOTALS	10,778,221	10,515,498	-2.44

Transportation: 6.2% of Budget

	2011-2012	2012-2013	% Change
Salaries	2,875,099	2,986,459	3.87
Equipment, Supplies & Materials, Contracts	1,934,737	2,009,316	3.85
BOCES, Public, Contract Transportation	1,366,330	1,414,452	3.52
TOTALS	\$6,176,166	6,410,227	3.79

Employee Benefits: 23.7% of Budget

	2011-2012	2012-2013	% Change
Social Security	3,940,536	3,880,223	-1.53
Retirement	6,614,193	6,871,692	3.89
Insurance	12,838,718	13,879,094	8.10
TOTALS	\$23,393,447	24,631,009	5.29

Other: 3.0% of Budget

	2011-2012	2012-2013	% Change
Bus Purchase Reserve Fund	557,010	600,000	7.72
Community Service	1,000	1,000	0.00
Summer Handicapped Education	400,000	400,000	0.00
School Food Services	200,000	200,000	0.00
Debt Service	1,924,075	1,928,025	0.21
TOTALS	\$3,082,085	3,129,025	1.52

GENERAL FUND TOTALS	101,656,806	103,900,495	2.21
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Because

Since January, the Board of Education and Superintendent Ken Graham have been engaging the community in an open and frank dialogue about financial issues impacting our community and Rush-Henrietta Central School District. Board members and Dr. Graham have been answering questions on the district website at www.rhnet.org/budgettalk. If your topic hasn't been addressed, please share it by visiting the website and clicking the Contact Us button. We look forward to hearing from community members and seeing you during the budget vote on Tuesday, May 15. Among the questions and answers posted online:



What is the property tax cap?



In 2011, New York state enacted legislation that establishes a property tax cap that limits how much a local government or school district can increase its property tax levy each year. The law is now in effect. Under this law, the growth in the property tax levy, the total money to be raised through property taxes charged on a municipality's taxable assessed value of property, will be capped at 2 percent or the rate of inflation, whichever is less, with some exceptions. Local communities have the ability to override the cap, but Rush-Henrietta has not chosen to do that. This legislation is often referred to as the "2 percent tax cap." This is misleading, though, because the law does not restrict a proposed tax levy increase to 2 percent. In addition to the base 2 percent limit, school districts are able to add the value of new property development. The state also allows school districts to add to the cap for certain exemptions, including voter-approved local capital expenditures; increases in the state-mandated employer contribution rates for teacher and employee pensions that exceed 2 percent; and court orders and judgments resulting from tort actions of any amount that exceeds 5 percent of a district's current levy. Tax certioraris are not exempt. Although this law was publicized as a 2 percent tax cap, there are many factors outlined in the law that will cause the final cap to be lower or higher than 2 percent, and this amount varies in each individual school district.



I keep hearing how "unfunded mandates" are driving costs for school districts. What does this mean and what unfunded mandates are included in the Rush-Henrietta budget?



Unfunded mandates are legal requirements placed upon school districts without the specific funding source to offset their cost. Both the federal and state governments impose unfunded mandates upon school districts. A good example of unfunded mandates is for special education costs where the federal government mandates that appropriate, least-restrictive educational services be provided to special

education students "regardless of cost." The state has imposed further special education requirements that add to this expense so it now costs more than three times as much to educate a special education student as it does a general education student. Another example of federal mandates is reflected in transportation. Bus prices have increased more than 25 percent during the past four years because of mandated pollution control and upgraded communications equipment. Employee wages and benefits also are affected by state mandates. In addition to these major unfunded mandates, there are hundreds of smaller ones requiring much administrative cost to implement and ensure compliance. State lawmakers can provide mandate relief by doing the following:

- Reform New York's Triborough Amendment so school districts are not required to pay wage increases under an expired contract.
- Reduce costs of special education by eliminating state mandates that exceed federal requirements.
- Establish statewide maximum health care contributions for school districts.
- Allow schools to leverage the aggregate purchasing power of large, national procurement cooperatives and contracts entered into by other state and local governments.
- Reduce or eliminate some of the hundreds of reports and compliance issues required annually by the state.

Legislative mandates add millions of dollars of cost into our school district budget each year.



How are Rush-Henrietta students performing? Are my taxes making a difference?



You absolutely are making a difference! For the past seven years, academic achievement of Rush-Henrietta students has improved! Please see page 3 of this newsletter to see the difference you are making.



You Asked...

Q *How will the proposed budget affect homeowners?*

A The Board of Education's \$103.9 million budget proposal calls for a 1.94 percent increase in the true-value tax rate. A homeowner with property assessed at \$100,000 and the basic STAR exemption would pay an additional \$25.90 next year. A senior citizen with property assessed at \$100,000 and the enhanced STAR exemption would pay an additional \$14.77.

Q *What is a contingency budget and how is it determined?*

A If voters fail to approve the district's proposed budget, state law requires the district to follow a contingency budget. The amount of the contingency budget is determined by the Board of Education but must be within constraints established by law and the New York State Education Department. The largest constraint is that the property tax levy (amount of taxes raised from local property owners) cannot be any higher than the prior year's levy. In other words, a zero-dollar increase in the total amount of property taxes raised by the levy. Under these new rules, a contingency budget would present much more of a challenge than in the past. Other rules require that certain non-contingent spending items such as equipment purchases, student supplies and the cost of community use of district facilities be removed from the budget. Although the law requires no increase in the property tax levy, the Board of Education could fund increased expenditures from other revenue sources, reserves and use of fund balance. While the budget notice on page 4 shows a potential amount of contingency budget, the actual amount may be different as it is determined by the Board of Education but must be within the constraints discussed above.

Q *What are the major factors impacting the development of the proposed 2012-2013 budget?*

A Like all school districts, Rush-Henrietta is grappling with the new economic realities associated with a national recession experts say started in 2007. Despite careful and conservative planning, much of the financial landscape remains unclear. The major factors under consideration for the development of the 2012-2013 budget include retirement costs, health care costs, fuel costs, potential changes in state aid allocations or reductions, contractual obligations, and BOCES' charges.

Q *What is Rush-Henrietta doing to control costs?*

A The school district has explored many cost-saving measures during the past few years. Most significantly, the proposed 2012-2013 budget contains a variety of wage and benefit reductions that affect all employees in our district's administrator, teacher, and support staff bargaining units. These changes were possible because our employees understand the fiscal challenges facing our community. They have demonstrated their willingness to make sacrifices that benefit the preservation of academic programs. In addition, Rush-Henrietta continues to attempt to control spending in other areas. For example, we continue to install energy-efficient equipment such as high-efficiency school boilers and energy-efficient windows, and continue to examine bus runs to make them more efficient. The district also will further reduce its reliance on school physician services, instead using the services of a school nurse practitioner. Did you know that Rush-Henrietta works with other local school districts to save money, especially through cooperative bidding. To learn more, please watch a brief video at www.rhnet.org/bestforless.

Q *How are school taxes determined?*

A Your school taxes are determined by three factors—the school tax levy, property assessments, and equalization rates.

- The school tax levy is the total dollar amount the district must collect from property owners to support the annual operating budget.
- In terms of property assessments, Rush-Henrietta uses property values provided by the four towns in the school district – Brighton, Henrietta, Pittsford, and Rush – to levy taxes. Each property within a town is assigned a value by the town assessor.
- Each year, the New York State Office of Real Property Services evaluates each town's assessment practices and sets specific equalization rates to ensure a fair tax burden distribution across the district. For this reason, an 8 percent increase in property assessments in one town does not mean that all four towns within our school district would experience the same increase. If the school tax levy increase is greater than the increase in property assessments for the district as a whole, the district's true value tax rate increases.

For more information about school district finances or the budget development process, please consult the district website at www.rhnet.org/budgettalk. Or, contact Andy Whitmore, executive director of school finance, at 359-5037 or awhitmore@rhnet.org.



On May 15, 2012, Eligible Voters Will Vote On...

Proposition 1

BUDGET PROPOSITION

Shall the following proposition be adopted?

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Rush-Henrietta Central School District be authorized to expend the sum set forth in the estimate of amount of money required for school purposes during the fiscal year 2012-2013 in the total amount of \$103,900,495 and to levy the necessary tax therefore.

Proposition 2

BUS EXPENDITURES

Shall the following proposition be adopted?

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Rush-Henrietta Central School District be authorized to expend the sum of up to \$1,100,000 from the 2009 Bus Reserve Fund for the purchase and replacement of vehicles for the transportation of district students.

Proposition 3

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES

Shall the following proposition be adopted?

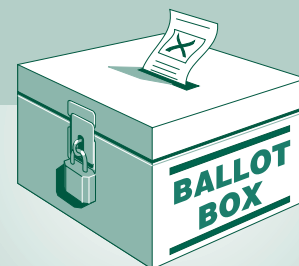
Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Rush-Henrietta Central School District be authorized to expend the sum of up to \$5,600,000 from the 2011 Capital Reserve Fund to complete the funding for the district's Phase III Capital Project at the Senior High School and to expend up to \$2,000,000 from the 2009 Capital Reserve (until exhausted) and 2011 Capital Reserve funds for the rehabilitation and reconstruction of the school facilities and districtwide systems, including, without limitation, the Burger, Crane, Fyle, Leary, Roth, Sherman, Sperry, Vollmer, Webster, and Winslow schools; the Parker Administration Building; the West Henrietta Education Building; and the Transportation and Operations Center building, such projects to include, without limitation, sidewalk, parking lot, and bus loop replacement; carpet and flooring replacement; HVAC; ADA compliance; health, safety, and security projects; door and window replacement; lighting upgrades; science laboratories; climatic conditions projects; clock system upgrades; fire alarm system upgrades; computer and media related cabling; media and network projects; building exterior and interior upgrades and repairs; telephone and public address system replacements and renovations; classroom upgrades; ceiling replacement; bathroom renovations; locker upgrades and repairs; water heater replacements; boiler replacements; food service equipment replacement; roof replacement; auditorium refurbishment; office renovations; site improvements; electronic building security systems and security cameras; energy conservation; and structural projects.

Proposition 4

2012 CAPITAL RESERVE FUND

Shall the following proposition be adopted?

Resolved, that the Board of Education be authorized to establish a reserve fund for the purpose of construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation, repair and equipping of school buildings, and facilities and site improvements, in accordance with Education Law Section 3651, to be designated as the 2012 Capital Reserve Fund, over a probable term of 10 years, but to continue for its stated purpose until liquidated according to Education Law or until its funds are exhausted, the ultimate amount of such fund to be \$10,000,000, the source of which shall be determined by the Board of Education to be transferred from any and all state aid and any and all federal and state funds available by grant or otherwise generated by projects for construction, renovation, reconstruction, rehabilitation or repair of school facilities, any identified fund balance, to be transferred from the general fund unassigned fund balance, any identified surplus funds in previously established capital reserve funds, transfers from other reserve funds, and interest earnings.





Candidates Vie for Three Board of Education Seats

The school district is governed by a seven-member Board of Education elected by the eligible voters of the district. Members are volunteer public officials who serve without pay. As elected representatives of district residents, and as officers of the state of New York, board members must carry out duties required by the state Legislature, the Board of Regents, and the state Commissioner of Education. The board establishes policies for the operation of the district. On Tuesday, May 15, 2012, eligible voters in Rush-Henrietta will elect three candidates to the Board of Education. The following information is provided by each candidate. A random drawing determined ballot order of candidates.



PAMELA J. REINHARDT

208 Alverstone Way, West Henrietta, N.Y. 14586
Resident of the district for 51 years

FAMILY: Spouse, Steve Sr., and two sons, Steve Jr. [27] and Christopher [23]

EDUCATION: Rush-Henrietta Senior High School; Monroe Community College, Associates, Business
EMPLOYMENT: Premium Mortgage Corp., Contoller
HONORS/ACTIVITIES:

R-H board member since 2003; member of various Monroe County School Boards Association boards; past co-chair of Monroe County School Boards Association Legislative Committee; current vice president of Rush-Henrietta Board of Education. **STATEMENT:** I have been privileged to be a member of the Rush-Henrietta Board of Education for more than nine years. I've had the opportunity to be involved in pursuing solutions to some of our most pressing concerns. New York state mandates regarding student achievement, school district accountability, and budget concerns have been a few of the issues the board has dealt with during the past few years. I'm proud to say that RH has been a leader in many of these areas. I am currently the board vice president, a member of the BOE Audit Committee, and an active member of the Monroe County School Boards Association Legislative Committee. I am asking the public to re-elect me to the Board of Education. I would be honored to continue to serve this community as its representative, to ensure that our children get the very best education we can give them.



ROSIE B. MITCHELL

25 Temple Road, Henrietta, N.Y. 14467
Resident of the district for 22 years

FAMILY: Spouse, John, and two children, Jasmine [22] and Jason [17]

EDUCATION: Stillman College, B.S., Biology; Atlanta University, MBA

PRIOR EMPLOYMENT: Xerox Corporation, Finance Manager, 23 years

HONORS/ACTIVITIES: Community Representative, District Finance and Audit Committee, 2010-present; Chairperson, Budget Advisory Council, 2011-2012; Member, Budget Advisory Council, 2007-2011; Member, NGA/SHS PTO; Member and Deaconess, Mt. Vernon Baptist Church; President, Board of Directors, Friends of RH Singers Inc., 2007; Lean Six Sigma (LSS) Green Belt; Chairperson, Emerging Young Leaders Program, 2010-present. **STATEMENT:** As a longtime resident of Henrietta, I am enthusiastic about the privilege to serve the Rush-Henrietta School District. John and I have two children who attended school in the district, Jasmine, a senior and scholar student in college, and Jason, who is a senior at the High School. They both have received a competitive education at R-H. Given the current economic environment, I plan to bring my education and financial experience to the Board. This would be an opportunity to help ensure that we continue to provide a budget that's financially responsible and educationally sound. It is important that we provide an education that challenges our students and prepares them to meet the demands of life after school. I try to live by the motto, "To whom much is given much is required." Therefore, I would be honored to serve the Rush-Henrietta School District.



SUE A. SMITH

400 Farrell Road Ext., West Henrietta, N.Y. 14586
Resident of the district for 34 years

FAMILY: Spouse, Gregory, and two children, Leisha [32] and Ben [30], both R-H alumni

EDUCATION: B.A., SUNY Binghamton

EMPLOYMENT: Management Assistant, Academic Services, Monroe Community College

HONORS/ACTIVITIES: Current: R-H Board of

Education trustee and member of the Policy and Finance and Audit Committees; Liaison to the MCSBA Labor Relations and Information Exchange Committees; Budget Advisory Committee member
Past: District Parent Advisory Council representative and chairperson; Space Committee member; Raising the Bar Committee member; Redistricting Committee member; Fyle Elementary, Burger Middle & R-H Senior High parent volunteer; R-H Office of Instruction, Secretary to the Assistant Superintendent for Instruction; Rush-Henrietta Education Foundation, Grant Making Committee member; Cystic Fibrosis Family Connection, trustee and vice president; Cystic Fibrosis Foundation Rochester Chapter, board member; Boy Scout Troop 7, parent volunteer. **STATEMENT:** The past three years have been the most economically challenging Rush-Henrietta has seen since the mid-90s. Despite those challenges the district has continued to offer a sound educational program and has made steady progress in improving student academic success. This progress, particularly in the critical areas of reading/writing, math and science, is vital in ensuring that *all* of our students are well prepared to succeed in their college or career experiences. Although the coming years will continue to present significant fiscal challenges, meeting the educational needs of our diverse student population must remain our priority. Consistent and informed leadership will help us overcome the challenges ahead. I believe that my many years of effective service and my deep commitment to this community have prepared me well for this work. I would be honored to continue serving our community as a member of the Board.



WILLIAM SM HALL SR.

59 Derrick Drive, West Henrietta, N.Y. 14586
Resident of the district for 7 years

FAMILY: Spouse, Tanisha, and three children, William [15], Aiden [5], and Taylor [2]

EDUCATION: St. John Fisher, Bachelor's degree; Simon School of Business

EMPLOYMENT: J.P. Morgan Chase Bank, Vice President/Branch Manager

HONORS/ACTIVITIES: Golf, Coaching, Church, Family

STATEMENT: I have a passion for coaching, teaching, and giving back to the school and the community. I will bring fresh, new, young ideas. I will help push us into the new century. I'm a dedicated perfectionist who will bring that same goal to this role.

Rush-Henrietta Rush-Henrietta Central School District

2034 Lehigh Station Road
Henrietta, New York 14467
(585) 359-5000
www.rhnet.org

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2011-2012 Board of Education

Mrs. Susan E. Banker, President
Mrs. Pamela J. Reinhardt, Vice President
Mr. Robert C. Bower
Mrs. Jean M. Chaduari
Mrs. Diane E. McBride
Mrs. Sue A. Smith
Mrs. Phyllis P. Wickerham

Superintendent of Schools

Dr. J. Kenneth Graham, Jr.

Published by the Office of Quality Assurance and Community Relations

Mrs. Denise Anthony, Assistant Superintendent

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VOTE MAY 15

Voter Eligibility

- **Personal identification will be required.**
- You must be a United States citizen.
- You must be at least 18 years old by May 15, 2012.
- You must be a resident of the school district at least 30 days prior to the vote.
- You do not have to own property in the district.

Absentee Ballots

Absentee ballots are available to eligible residents of the district who are unable to vote in person on Tuesday, May 15, 2012, for reasons specified by law. *Voters must complete an application for an absentee ballot in order to receive one.* Applications are available by phone or in person at the District Clerk's Office, Parker Administration Building, 2034 Lehigh Station Road.

*If you have questions regarding voter eligibility
or absentee ballots, please call
Karen Flanigan, district clerk, at 359-5010.*

2012-2013 Proposed Budget: Striving for a Fiscally Sound, Educationally Responsible Budget

- Maintains instructional programs and student services
- Preserves the successful small-class-size initiative
- Uses \$2.8 million from reserve funds
- True value tax rate remains lowest in the county



RUSH-HENRIETTA CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

TUESDAY, MAY 15, 2012
6 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Vote at the Transportation
and Operations Center
1133 Lehigh Station Road

Voters will elect three members
to the Board of Education
and vote on the following
four propositions:

PROPOSITION NO. 1
BUDGET PROPOSITION
\$103,900,495

PROPOSITION NO. 2
BUS EXPENDITURES

PROPOSITION NO. 3
CAPITAL EXPENDITURES

PROPOSITION NO. 4
CAPITAL RESERVE FUND