



Budget Newsletter



Rush-Henrietta
Rush-Henrietta Central School District

May 2014

2014-2015 District Budget Proposal

Proposed Budget: \$110,253,694
Budget-to-Budget Change: 2.5%
Tax Rate Change: 1.3%

Developing a proposed budget is a complex task. As we developed a proposed 2014-2015 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 budget-to-budget increase of 2.5 percent. Under this proposal, the true value tax rate would increase by no more than 1.3 percent, within the limits established under the state's new Tax Levy 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 for 5,300 students
- Preserves the district's successful small-class-size initiative
- Reinstates funding for Modified A girls soccer, expands visiting author program, increases instructional technology funding, adds teacher aide at Leary Elementary School and cleaner at Senior High School, and supports the Five-year Building Condition Survey, as mandated by New York state

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 \$17 next year. A senior citizen with the enhanced STAR exemption who owns a house assessed at \$100,000 would see school taxes increase by \$10 next year. In districts such as ours, which are staying within the tax cap, the state has said it will reimburse homeowners the amount of money their school taxes increase in 2014-2015.

Did You Know?

- Thanks to aggressive cost-cutting measures in recent years, if the proposed budget is approved, Rush-Henrietta's true value tax rate in 2014-2015 will be lower than it was during the 2004-2005 school year.
- Moody's Investors Service recently reaffirmed the district's Aa2 Bond Rating, citing the district's "sound financial position, stable tax base influenced by a degree of institutional presence, and a below average direct debt burden." The district's reserve funds were cited as a financial strength.
- 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.

VOTE MAY 20



From the Board of Education

May 1, 2014

Dear Community Resident:

On Tuesday, May 20, eligible voters in the Rush-Henrietta Central School District will have the opportunity to vote on the proposed 2014-2015 school budget adopted by the Board of Education. The proposal reflects our efforts to put forth a budget that is both educationally sound and fiscally responsible, and our continued 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 multiple times to review all aspects of the budget – including any new proposals – and makes recommendations to the superintendent. During the budget-development process, stakeholders provided feedback at community forums and public hearings. At the same time, 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 its proposed budget for the community to consider.

The Board of Education's proposed budget for 2014-2015 ensures that all programs and services that our children receive this year will be available next year, all while preserving our successful small-class-size initiative. The proposal also reinstates Modified A girls soccer, which was removed three years ago because of insufficient funding. It also calls for funding for instructional technology such as computers, a full-time cleaner at the Senior High School, a teacher aide at Leary Elementary School, an expanded visiting author program, and a state-mandated Five-year Building Condition Survey.

Maintaining all of our programs and services at current levels requires a budget of \$110.3 million, an increase of 2.5 percent compared to last year. Factors driving this increase include rising fuel and utilities costs, contractual obligations, increased health insurance costs, state-imposed retirement system costs, and increased costs for BOCES services.

It was little more than a year ago that Gov. Andrew Cuomo recognized the Rush-Henrietta Central School District for "implementing innovative strategies to improve the overall efficiency of school district management, while maintaining or improving student achievement." In our effort to become more efficient in recent years, we consolidated central office administrative responsibilities and positions; consolidated district printers into a single contract; revised the district's health insurance plan; and achieved district-wide energy savings by revising services. We will continue to look for these efficiencies in the coming years.

Given our expense and revenue assumptions, we project a true value tax rate increase of no more than 1.3 percent. As in previous years, this projected tax rate increase is among the lowest in Monroe County, while continuing to fund our current initiatives and school improvement priorities. A homeowner with property assessed at \$100,000 and the basic STAR exemption would pay an additional \$17 next year, while a senior citizen with property assessed at \$100,000 and the enhanced STAR exemption would pay an additional \$10. For the past seven years, the final true value tax rate has actually been lower than the proposed rate. The actual tax rate is established after town assessments are finalized.

All eligible voters are urged to vote between 6 a.m. and 9 p.m. Tuesday, May 20, 2014, at the Transportation and Operations Center at the corner of Lehigh Station and Middle roads. A valid form of personal identification is required to vote. 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,

Diane E. McBride, President
Board of Education

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Celebrating Student Achievement

2013 New York State Regents Results

Regents Exam	# Tested	% Passing
ASL	37	91.9
English	428	88.6
French	76	100.0
German	46	87.0
Spanish	111	93.7
Integrated Algebra	498	90.0
Geometry	447	80.1
Algebra 2/Trigonometry	310	81.3
Earth Science	530	78.3
Biology	478	93.1
Chemistry	287	87.8
Physics	162	90.1
Global History and Geography	449	91.5
U.S. History and Government	421	95.0

Advanced Placement Results

Advanced Placement courses are offered in many academic areas. In Rush-Henrietta, our Senior High School students wrote 757 AP exams, and 538 (71 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.

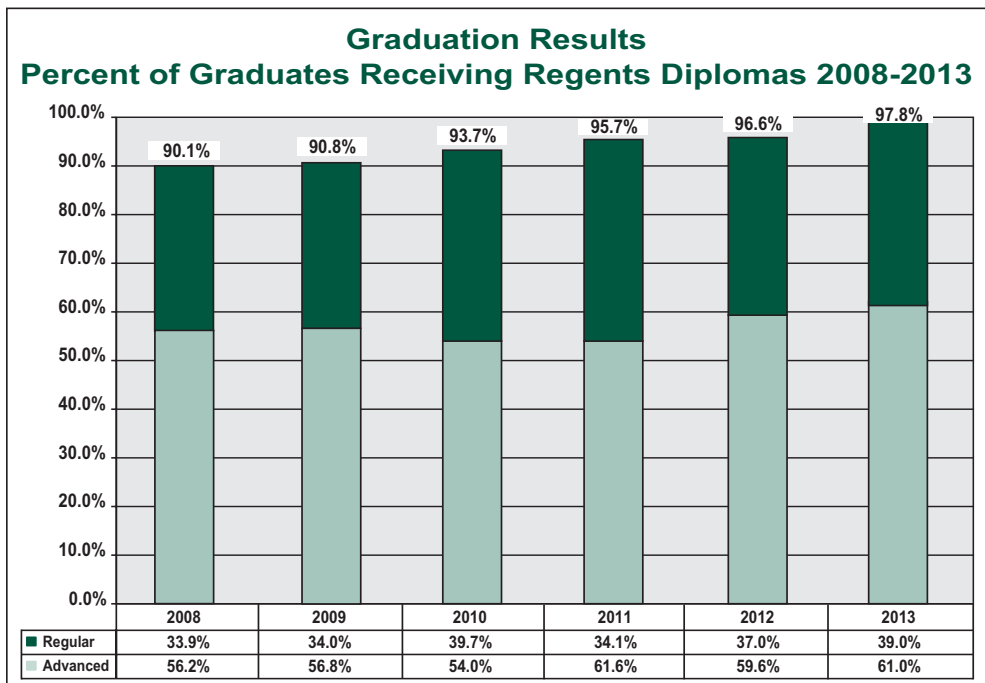


Rush-Henrietta continues to challenge its students to take more rigorous courses in an effort to increase their college readiness. For example, Rush-Henrietta requires all eighth graders to take Earth Science, a class typically taught elsewhere in ninth grade. This gives students the opportunity to take 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 2012-2013 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 Strategic Initiatives, 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 359-5042.





Rush-Henrietta Central School District - Budget Notice

Overall Budget Proposal

	Budget Adopted for the 2013-14 School Year	Budget Proposed for the 2014-15 School Year	Contingency Budget for the 2014-15 School Year*
Total Budgeted Amount, Not Including Separate Propositions	\$ 107,549,087	\$ 110,253,694	\$ 108,704,811
Increase/(Decrease) for the 2014-15 School Year		\$ 2,704,607	\$ 1,155,724
Percentage Increase/(Decrease) in Proposed Budget		2.5%	1.1%
Change in the Consumer Price Index		1.5%	
Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy	\$ 68,016,745	\$ 69,565,628	\$ 68,016,745
Total Permissible Exclusions	\$ 909,969	\$ -	
A. Proposed School Year Tax Levy, <u>Not</u> Including Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$ 67,106,776	\$ 69,565,628	
B. School Tax Levy Limit, <u>Not</u> Including Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$ 67,596,881	\$ 69,585,825	
Difference: A - B (Positive Value Requires 60% Voter Approval - See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions)	\$ (490,105)	\$ (20,197)	
Administrative Component	\$ 12,429,004	\$ 12,778,838	\$ 12,581,047
Program Component	\$ 84,585,161	\$ 86,563,142	\$ 86,012,050
Capital Component	\$ 10,534,922	\$ 10,911,714	\$ 10,111,714

* The Contingency Budget information displayed above has been calculated in total, should the proposed budget be defeated pursuant to Section 2023 of the Education Law. 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.

	Description	Amount
Separate Propositions that are not included in the Total Budgeted Amount:	Bus purchases using Bus Reserve (no tax levy impact)	\$ 1,400,000
	Capital improvements using Capital Reserve (no tax levy impact)	\$12,000,000

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.

	Under the Budget Proposed for the 2014-15 School Year
Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings	\$ 595

The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2014-2015 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 20, 2014, between the hours of 6:00 am and 9:00 pm, 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.

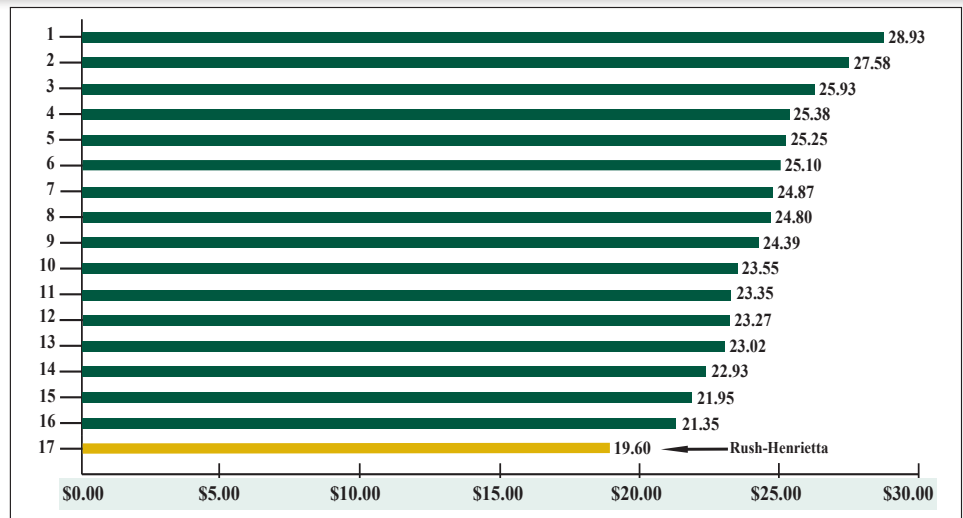
If you are a United States citizen, will be at least 18 years old by May 20, 2014, and have been a resident of the school district at least 30 days prior to the vote, you may vote. Proof of residency and personal identification is required.

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 "2014 Facts and Figures" published by the Monroe County School Boards Association



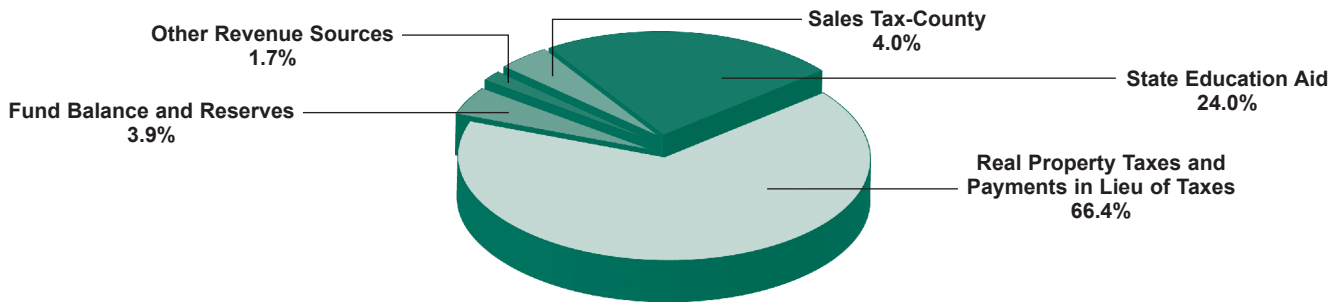


Rush-Henrietta Central School District Budget Proposal

2014-2015 Projected Revenue Statement

Revenue Source	2013-2014	2014-2015	% Change
State Education Aid	\$24,950,700	\$26,418,538	5.9
Real Property Taxes and Payments in Lieu of Taxes	71,616,745	73,194,427	2.2
Sales Tax-County	4,390,203	4,478,279	2.0
Other Revenue Sources	1,791,439	1,912,450	6.8
Fund Balance and Reserves	4,800,000	4,250,000	-11.5
GRAND TOTALS	\$107,549,087	\$110,253,694	2.5

REVENUES AS A PERCENTAGE OF BUDGET



2014-2015 Proposed Expenditures

There are five expenditure categories in the 2014-2015 budget proposal, as outlined below, that support educational programs and school district operations.

Instruction: 54.4% — 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 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.

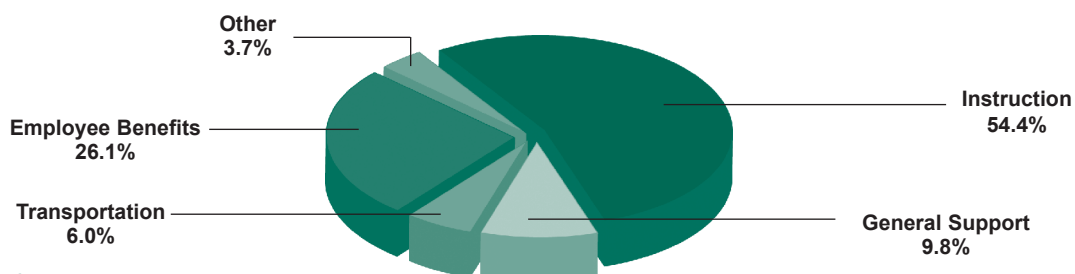
General Support: 9.8% — This part of the budget covers the areas that support the educational program through central administration, business operations, human resources, community relations, maintenance and repair of all district grounds and facilities, printing, mailing, district meetings, Board of Education and legal services.

Transportation: 6.0% — 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: 26.1% — Included in the employee benefits category are social security, retirement, insurance and the risk fund which includes unemployment insurance, worker's compensation insurance, disability and life insurance.

Other: 3.7% — A small portion of the budget is for other expenditures that include bus purchase reserve fund, community services, continuing education, special education extended year, school food services, and debt service.

EXPENDITURES AS A PERCENTAGE OF BUDGET





Rush-Henrietta Central Sch

2014-2015 Component Budget

Administrative Component: 11.6% 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	2013-2014	2014-2015	Increase/(Decrease)
Board of Education	108,172	119,296	11,124
Central Administration	322,538	328,986	6,448
Finance	667,641	723,882	56,241
Legal Services	76,622	77,471	849
Personnel	495,200	416,683	(78,517)
Public Information	187,400	184,078	(3,322)
Other Central Services	1,121,238	1,165,205	43,967
Other Special Items	1,255,364	1,235,080	(20,284)
Curriculum Development & Supervision	1,654,784	1,775,911	121,127
Supervision-Regular School	2,570,871	2,577,498	6,627
Supervision-Special School	281,028	281,391	363
Research, Evaluation & Planning	305,094	395,742	90,648
Employee Benefits	3,383,052	3,497,615	114,563
TOTALS	\$12,429,004	\$12,778,838	\$349,834

Program Component: 78.5% of Budget

The Program Component provides funding for the instruction of and educational support services for the district's students. Programs are offered in five 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	2013-2014	2014-2015	Increase/(Decrease)
Instruction	54,514,853	54,765,573	250,720
In-Service Training	177,454	224,025	46,571
District Transportation	4,922,136	5,164,696	242,560
Garage Building	184,698	186,926	2,228
BOCES Transportation	1,242,319	1,312,961	70,642
Community Services	217,300	189,400	(27,900)
Employee Benefits	22,326,401	23,719,561	1,393,160
Other Transfers	1,000,000	1,000,000	0
TOTALS	\$84,585,161	\$86,563,142	\$1,977,981

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	2013-2014	2014-2015	Increase/(Decrease)
Operation of Plant	4,187,042	4,214,441	27,399
Maintenance of Plant	1,917,560	1,944,431	26,871
Refund of Taxes	150,000	210,000	60,000
Other Special Items	150,377	142,936	(7,441)
Employee Benefits	1,469,367	1,538,181	68,814
Transfer to Capital Fund	720,000	920,000	200,000
Debt Service	1,940,576	1,941,725	1,149
TOTALS	\$10,534,922	\$10,911,714	\$376,792

GRAND TOTALS	\$107,549,087	\$110,253,694	\$2,704,607
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School District Budget Proposal

2014-2015 Proposed Expenditures

Instruction: 54.4% of Budget

	2013-2014	2014-2015	% Change
Salaries	43,920,234	45,051,619	2.58
Equipment	234,201	466,564	99.22
Supplies & Materials	1,162,665	1,124,110	-3.32
Textbooks & Software	425,436	254,176	-40.26
Contractual Expenses	1,359,732	1,316,885	-3.15
BOCES	10,911,999	10,537,932	-3.43
Tuition	1,489,817	1,268,854	-14.83
TOTALS	\$59,504,084	60,020,140	.87

General Support: 9.8% of Budget

	2013-2014	2014-2015	% Change
Salaries	4,288,768	4,316,081	0.64
Equipment	144,025	146,186	1.50
Supplies & Materials	640,418	647,665	1.13
Contractual Expenses	3,582,480	3,717,322	3.76
BOCES	1,983,463	1,935,235	-2.43
TOTALS	10,639,154	10,762,489	1.16

Transportation: 6.0% of Budget

	2013-2014	2014-2015	% Change
Salaries	3,069,747	3,287,697	7.10
Equipment, Supplies & Materials, Contracts	2,037,087	2,063,925	1.32
BOCES, Public, Contract Transportation	1,242,319	1,312,961	5.69
TOTALS	\$6,349,153	6,664,583	4.97

Employee Benefits: 26.1% of Budget

	2013-2014	2014-2015	% Change
Social Security	3,873,304	3,833,090	-1.04
Retirement	8,888,171	9,532,403	7.25
Insurance	14,417,345	15,389,864	6.75
TOTALS	\$27,178,820	28,755,357	5.80

Other: 3.7% of Budget

	2013-2014	2014-2015	% Change
Bus Purchase Reserve Fund	720,000	920,000	27.78
Community Service	217,300	189,400	-12.84
Transfer to Special Education Extended School Year	400,000	400,000	0.00
Transfer to State Schools (Blind & Deaf)	400,000	400,000	0.00
School Food Services	200,000	200,000	0.00
Debt Service	1,940,576	1,941,725	0.06
TOTALS	\$3,877,876	4,051,125	4.47
GENERAL FUND TOTALS	107,549,087	110,253,694	2.51



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 20. Among the questions and answers posted online:

Q What is the property tax cap?

A In 2011, New York state established a property tax cap that limits how much a local government or school district can increase its property tax levy each year. 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. Sometimes, a district is allowed to propose a tax rate increase in excess of 2 percent based on a complicated, eight-step formula created by the state. For example, in addition to the base 2 percent limit, school districts are able to add the value of new property development. They also can 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. Local communities have the ability to override the cap, but Rush-Henrietta has not chosen to do that. Although this was publicized as a 2 percent tax cap, there are many factors outlined in the law that cause the final cap to be lower or higher than 2 percent, and this amount varies in each school district. For the 2014-2015 school year, the state is allowing Rush-Henrietta to propose a 2.3 percent increase in the tax levy; this is based on the rate of inflation of 1.46 percent, plus a growth factor for all of the new housing and commercial development within the district. Because of new development, the tax rate increase is only 1.3 percent.

Q 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?

A 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 40 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.
- Reduce or eliminate some of the hundreds of reports and compliance issues required annually by the state.

Legislative mandates continue to add millions of dollars of cost into our school district budget each year. At the same time, the state is giving Rush-Henrietta \$3.1 million less in formula aid next year than it did five years ago. This is because of the Gap Elimination Adjustment, which reduced our district's aid to help the state balance its budget. Unfortunately, the additional state aid we will receive next year will not make up for prior reduced state aid, but will help pay the district's share of new state initiatives and mandates. Much of this reduction in aid has had to be made up by the local taxpayers.

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

A You absolutely are making a difference! For the past eight 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 \$110.3 million budget proposal calls for a 1.3 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 \$17 next year. A senior citizen with property assessed at \$100,000 and the enhanced STAR exemption would pay an additional \$10.

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 2014-2015 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 2014-2015 budget include retirement costs, health care costs, and mandated special education costs.

Q What is Rush-Henrietta doing to control costs?

A The school district has explored many cost-saving measures during the past few years that have resulted in substantial savings. In 2013, Gov. Andrew Cuomo recognized the Rush-Henrietta Central School District for "implementing innovative strategies to improve the overall efficiency of school district management, while maintaining or improving student achievement." We accomplished this by consolidating central office administrative responsibilities and positions; consolidating district printers into a single contract; revising the district's health insurance plan as well as the contract for maintenance staff; and achieving district-wide energy savings through revising services." We continue to attempt to control spending in other areas. The district continues to install energy-efficient equipment such as high-efficiency school boilers and energy-efficient windows, and continues to examine bus runs to make them more efficient. In addition, Rush-Henrietta works with other local school districts to save money, especially through cooperative bidding.

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, assistant superintendent for school finance and operations, at 359-5037 or awhitmore@rhnet.org.



On May 20, 2014, 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 2014-2015 in the total amount of \$110,253,694 and to levy the necessary tax therefore.

Propositions 2, 3, and 4 will NOT affect the tax rate.

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 \$1,400,000 to be funded by 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 \$12,000,000 to be funded by \$3,599,150 from the 2011 Capital Reserve and \$8,400,850 from the 2012 Capital Reserve Fund 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; freezer/cooler replacement and renovation; lighting upgrades; classroom upgrades; climatic conditions projects; clock system upgrades; fire alarm system upgrades; computer and media-related cabling; building exterior and interior upgrades and repairs; telephone and public address systems; bathroom renovations; purchase of equipment; 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 3 will provide funds to renovate the auditorium at Roth Middle School, as well as replacing the decades-old windows there with energy-efficient glass. It also provides funds to upgrade the Senior High School auditorium and to repave the district-owned service road that connects Erie Station Road and Telephone Road near Burger Middle School.

Proposition 4

2014 CAPITAL RESERVE FUND

Shall the following proposition be adopted?

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Rush-Henrietta Central School District 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 2014 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 Two 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 20, 2014, eligible voters in Rush-Henrietta will elect two candidates to the Board of Education. The following information is provided by each candidate. A random drawing determined ballot order of candidates.



DIANE E. MCBRIDE

ADDRESS: 95 Shady Creek Road, Rochester, NY 14623

DISTRICT RESIDENT: 56 years

FAMILY: Spouse, James; Children, Elizabeth (31), David (29), and Amy (26) (all R-H graduates)

EDUCATION: Rush-Henrietta Central School District, Regents Diploma; Monroe Community College, A.A.S.

EMPLOYMENT: Pieters Family Life Center/Heritage Christian Services, Receptionist

PREVIOUSLY: Adjunct Instructor at Monroe Community College, Preschool Teacher at Pinnacle Lutheran School

HONORS/ACTIVITIES: Member, Monroe County School Boards Association and New York State School Boards Association; Rush-Henrietta Education Foundation liaison and Policy Committee; received Master of Boardmanship and

Board Mastery awards from NYSSBA; past vice president and current president of the Board of Education; member and music/worship leader, Pinnacle Lutheran Church

STATEMENT: *As a current board member, I have the privilege of working as part of a team of dedicated individuals. It is our responsibility to provide the educational and financial resources so that all Rush-Henrietta students can be successful. Giving back to the students of this community is something I am very passionate about. I would like the opportunity to continue working with the board and the superintendent, and for the community, ensuring continued educationally sound programs, while providing fiscal responsibility.*



ROBERT C. BOWER

ADDRESS: 465 Rush Henrietta Townline Road, Rush, NY 14543

DISTRICT RESIDENT: 32 years

FAMILY: Spouse, Susan; Children, Melissa (32), Katie (28), Emily (24), and Matthew (20)

EDUCATION: Northwood University, BBA

EMPLOYMENT: Dorschel Automotive Group, Sales Manager in the Toyota Sales Department

HONORS/ACTIVITIES: NGA/SHS PTO member; Budget Advisory Council member, 2005-2007; Budget Advisory Council chairperson, 2007-2011; RHCSA Parent University presenter; Member and elder, John Calvin Presbyterian Church; 2011 Henrietta Chamber of Commerce Business Person of the Year nominee

STATEMENT: *As a longtime resident of the Rush-Henrietta School District, I am very proud of our district and enthusiastic about continuing with the opportunity to give back. My wife, Sue, and I have four children. All are R-H grads who received wonderful educations at all levels in our district. As I near the end of my first term on the Board of Education, I believe more strongly than before that to be a productive board member a person needs to be knowledgeable in how a district functions organizationally, financially, and educationally. These past three years have helped me to gain a broader insight into these areas. Also, I firmly believe that a board member must be principled and have the best interest of the student body and the community at heart.*

Rush-Henrietta Renovation Work Moving Ahead

Rush-Henrietta is making steady progress in finishing its Phase II and Phase III facility renovations projects. We want to provide the community, which approved this work in 2005 and 2011, with an update on our progress.

At the Senior High School, we have completed many of the Phase III renovations approved by the community in 2011. All of the outdoor work at Elmer Gordon Stadium and adjacent athletic fields is finished and an expanded, state-of-the-art gymnasium opened this winter.

Now, work continues on transforming the space where the old gymnasium stood. The wooden floor was removed and a concrete floor has been added. This

space features a new fitness center, team locker rooms, a wrestling room, and a team room; all will be open for use late this summer. A second floor has been added for a new counseling center, conference room, and office space. This work will be completed by late November. At that time, the district will turn the existing counseling center into new classroom space.

Down the street, the conference room is being added to the Parker Administration Building. The community approved this work in 2005 as part of the Phase II renovations proposal to improve Burger Middle School, Roth Middle School, the Senior High School, and the administration building. Construction costs skyrocketed

after the vote and the district chose to complete all work directly impacting students and their schools. This meant the plans the community approved for a new administration building had to be modified. That's why the building has appeared unfinished as you drive down Lehigh Station Road – the foyer and conference room near the entrance were never built. They are now being constructed and these projects will be completed during the summer.

If you have any questions regarding the completion of the renovations, please call Andy Whitmore, assistant superintendent of school finance and operations, at 359-5037 or awhitmore@rhnet.org.

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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2013-2014 Board of Education

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

Superintendent of Schools

Dr. J. Kenneth Graham, Jr.

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**VOTE
MAY 20**

Voter Eligibility

- **Personal identification will be required.**
- You must be a United States citizen.
- You must be at least 18 years old by May 20, 2014.
- 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 20, 2014, 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.*

2014-2015 Proposed Budget: Striving for a Fiscally Sound, Educationally Responsible Budget

- Maintains instructional programs and student services
- Preserves the successful small-class-size initiative
- True value tax rate remains lowest in the county



RUSH-HENRIETTA CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

TUESDAY, MAY 20, 2014
6 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Vote at the Transportation
and Operations Center
1133 Lehigh Station Road

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

**PROPOSITION NO. 1
BUDGET PROPOSITION
\$110,253,694**

**PROPOSITION NO. 2
BUS EXPENDITURES**

**PROPOSITION NO. 3
CAPITAL EXPENDITURES**

**PROPOSITION NO. 4
2014 CAPITAL RESERVE FUND**

**Propositions 2, 3, and 4 will NOT
affect the tax rate.**