

Batavia City School District 2017-18 Voting Summary

Current Challenges, Mandates, and Education Reform in NYS

- New York State standards require changes in curriculum, instruction, professional development and assessments
- Computer-based K-12 assessments
- APPR for principals and teachers
- Numerous unfunded State mandates

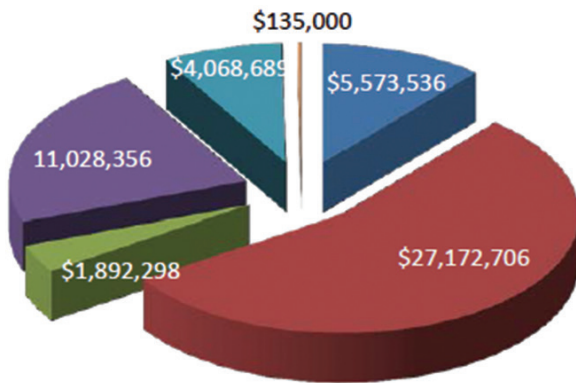
Proposed Budget Presents Spending Plan of \$49,870,585

- An increase in expenditures of 12.41% over last year due to accounting change to record Debt Service expenditures in the General Fund as recommended by NYS Office of the State Comptroller audit in 2016 (This is primarily offset by recording NYS Building Aid as revenues in the General Fund.)
- Tax Levy increase of 0.00% (This year's calculated allowable tax cap for simple majority vote is 4.0%.)
- The projected annual increase in school tax for a home assessed at \$85,000 would be \$0.00 (Note that, while the proposed tax levy is 0.00%, actual amounts are subject to change due to fluctuations in assessed valuations and New York State equalization rates, both of which will be finalized during the summer.)

District Continues to Earn Rebates for Homeowners

Because the District is containing the tax levy below the tax cap, District homeowners are once again, for the fourth consecutive year, eligible for a State property tax rebate, payable in autumn 2017 and mailed directly to homeowners from New York State.

Adopted Budgeted Expenses, 2017-2018



Appropriation Budget:

BUDGET AREA	Amount	% of Budget
General Support	\$ 5,573,536	11.2%
Instructional Support	\$ 27,172,706	54.5%
Transportation	\$ 1,892,298	3.8%
Employee Benefits	\$ 11,028,356	22.1%
Debt Service	\$ 4,068,689	8.1%
Interfund Transfers	\$ 135,000	0.3%

Expenditures Per Pupil: Batavia Compared to New York State

- *Batavia Expenditures Per Pupil*
- \$10,859 per General Education Student
- \$28,502 per Special Education Student
- \$19,241 Total Average Expenditures Per Pupil

- *NYS Expenditures Per Pupil*
- \$11,949 per General Education Student
- \$30,667 per Special Education Student
- \$22,536 Total Average Expenditures Per Pupil

Cost-Cutting and Cost-Control Measures

- Shared Services with Other Districts: Athletics, Nutritional Services Director
- Controlled Costs: Over the last ten completed fiscal years (2006-2007 to 2015-2016), payroll expenditures have increased a total of \$719,104 or an average of \$71,910 or 0.36% a year.

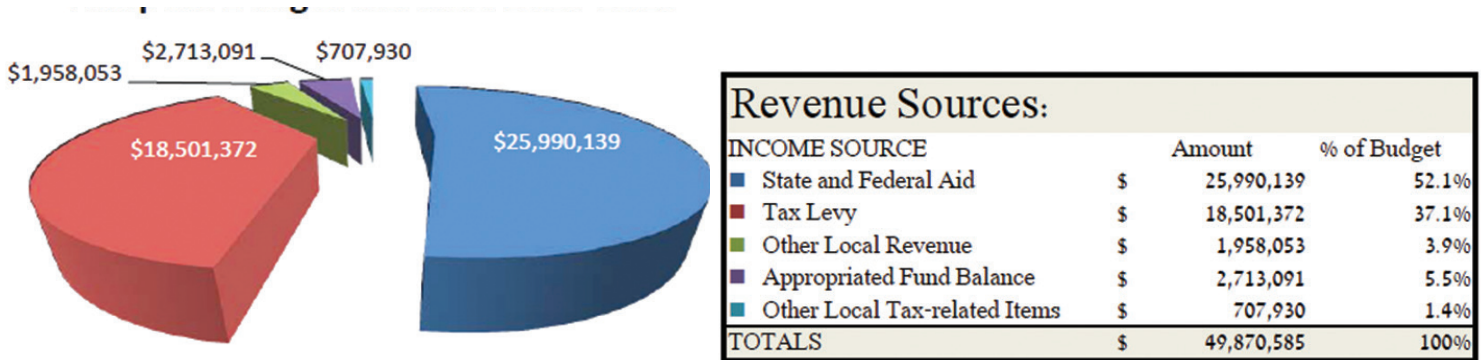
Non-Mandated Programs Preserved

- Kindergarten and Pre-K
- K-12 Art Classes
- K-5 Music Program
- Instrumental Lessons (Grades 3+)
- Performing Ensembles
- School Plays/Musicals
- Extracurricular Clubs
- Interscholastic Athletics
- Counselors at JK and JAX
- AP and College Credit Courses
- College and Career Center
- BHS Link Crew/BMS Connect
- Librarians at JK and JAX
- Teacher Aides, Computer Lab Aides, Security Aides, and Bus Aides
- Extended Day Wellness
- Junior Achievement
- ACE (Gifted & Talented)

Enhancements to Programs

- 1 BMS Computer/Keyboarding Teacher
- 1 Jackson Teacher Aide
- 1 John Kennedy Teacher Aide
- 1 Jackson Security Aide
- 1 John Kennedy Security Aide
- 1 John Kennedy Custodian
- 1 District Assistant Director of Facilities
- \$100,000 NYS aidable Capital Outlay Project for BHS cost-efficient lighting upgrades

Adopted Budget Revenue, 2017-2018



Understanding the Tax Levy

- Residents vote on the overall proposed budget; they do not vote specifically on the tax levy.
- The tax levy is the money needed to balance the budget after expenditures, revenue, and appropriated fund balance have been finalized.
- The NYS Tax Cap Law for school districts uses a formula to re-calculate every year each district’s allowable levy for a simple majority vote. The law does not limit the amount a district can raise through property taxes, but rather determines at what level a district must have a supermajority (60% or more) rather than a simple majority (50% plus one) approval for the proposal.
- Prior to the Tax Cap Law, our District’s ten-year average of tax levy increases was 1.66%.
- Since the Tax Cap Law was enacted in the 2012-2013 fiscal year, Batavia City School’s six year average allowable tax cap has been \$600,411 or 3.29%. The actual tax levy average increase over this same six year period has been \$119,311 or 0.66%. Four of the six years there has been no increase in the tax levy.
- Over the last 10 years, the tax levy has averaged an increase of \$108,106 or 0.62%
- For 2017-2018, the District’s allowable tax cap (for simple majority vote) is 4.0%; the Budget Proposal calls for a flat tax levy (0.00%).

District Continues to Pursue Alternative Funding

- Rental of space at Robert Morris
- Use of Reserves: The Proposed Budget calls for using \$2.713 million from surplus Fund Balance and NYS Employees Retirement Reserve
- The District competes annually for State and federal grants and anticipates \$2.5 million for 2017-2018. This money contributes to targeted programs to improve learning for disadvantaged students, supplement professional development opportunities, and provide an early jump on school success through Universal PreKindergarten
- The Batavia City School District Foundation enables donors to receive a tax deduction for contributions while creating an alternative funding source for District initiatives.

Issues on the Ballot

- Budget Proposal for 2017-2018
- Two Board of Education vacancies
- Establish a ten-year, \$7,500,000 capital reserve fund to plan for future local-share costs of capital projects

Vote May 16, 2017, between 7am and 9pm at these locations

- For residents living North of Route 5 (Main Street) vote at Robert Morris School Building; 80 Union Street
- For residents living South of Route 5 (Main Street) vote at Batavia High School; 260 State Street
- If you need clarification on where to vote, check the street-by-street guide on our website or call the Business Office, 343-2480x1002.