



INVESTING IN THEIR FUTURE!

COLD SPRING HARBOR SCHOOL DISTRICT *Proposed School Budget 2020-2021*

Vote By Mail Only

VOTE DEADLINE
Ballots must be received in
the Office of the
District Clerk
By Mail NO LATER THAN
5:00 p.m. on June 9, 2020.
(75 Goose Hill Road,
Cold Spring Harbor)



Dear Community Member,

We hope you and your loved ones remain healthy and safe during this very difficult time for us all. As we navigate this crisis, it is hard to believe that our school buildings have been closed for over two months and will not reopen this academic year. The Board of Education would like to thank our teachers, leaders, support staff, and parents as they together have worked tirelessly to ensure the continued learning of our students.

In the coming days, every registered voter in our community will receive an absentee ballot to participate in the school budget vote and board member election. In addition, a separate ballot is included for the public library budget vote and trustee election. We strongly urge all residents to complete these ballots and immediately return them in the self-addressed business reply envelope. **All ballots must be received by the district clerk no later than 5 p.m. on June 9.**

With still so much uncertainty about the coming days, weeks, and months, the creation of this budget was especially challenging. As such, a spending plan was crafted that would provide the needed flexibility to quickly and appropriately address a myriad of scenarios for the next school year. Among them is a possible twenty percent mid-year reduction in state aid for all school districts. Despite this likely action, **the proposed budget increase is 1.16% and the tax levy is over \$1,000,000 less than the limit prescribed by law for the district,** understanding that our community is facing financial hardship.

Two additional propositions are on the ballot for your consideration. First, a transfer from the district's unassigned fund balance to replace existing faucets at the Jr./Sr. High School and the upper synthetic turf field, which has exceeded its useful life. Second, the creation of a new capital reserve fund to allow the district to save for future construction projects, which will lessen the need for new long-term borrowings. **Please remember that voter approval of either proposition will not increase the tax levy.**

The next few pages contain important details about next year's proposed spending plan, so that you may make an informed decision. Further information may be found at our website www.csh.k12.ny.us. **Please remember that your opinion matters and every vote counts!**

Thank you for your continued support.

Respectfully,
Cold Spring Harbor Board of Education

Points of Pride

★ US NEWS & WORLD REPORT 2020 Best High



Schools ranked Cold Spring Harbor High School within the top 2% nationally, earning a gold medal. The Best High Schools rankings evaluate data on more than 22,000 public high schools. CSH placed #1 in Suffolk County and #5 on Long Island, #28 within NY State, #247 nationally.

- ★ **Graduation Rate Data** - CSH was rated #1 High School in Suffolk County (2019) from the NY State Education Department with 87% of our students earning a Regents Diploma with Advanced Designation, which indicates college and career readiness. CSH also has a total graduation rate of 98%.
- ★ **National Merit Scholarship Awarded 4 Finalists, 8 Commended student status.**
- ★ **Chromebooks for every student:** The 1:1 model of instruction (one device for one student) for all grades 7-12.
- ★ **High School Speech and Debate Team** qualifies each year for the NY State Forensic League Championships, 2020 National Championship qualification, and *NSDA Charter Status* (highest honor).
- ★ **Dr. Robert Colascione** Harvard Club of Long Island Distinguished Teacher Award 2020
- ★ **Female Diversity Award Computer Science** awarded in 2019 & 2020
- ★ **GROK Literary Magazine** recognized for Excellence in Art and Literacy in 2018 and 2019



- ★ **STEM – CSH students selected for or participated in the following STEM programs:** • Partners for the Future, CSH Laboratory • Long Island Science and Engineering Fair • Barcode Long Island, DNA Learning Center • Women in Technology, BAE Systems • Toshiba ExploraVision - Spellman Clean Tech competition • NSPC Health Sciences competition • Stockholm Junior Water Prize competition • MIT Think competition • Gloria Barron Prize for Young Heroes competition • Numerous Summer Research Programs • Northwell Health Medical Marvels • Science Research Consortium • Northwell Health Spark Challenge • CSHL/BOCES Journal Club
- ★ **ART – CSH enjoyed one or more honors or awards in the following art competitions:** • All-County • Embracing Our Differences • Long Island Art Alliance “Arts Scholar-Artist Award” • Photographer’s Forum Competition • Tulip Festival • Long Island’s Best Young Artists Heckscher Museum • Long Island Museum “Colors” Exhibition K-12 • NAHS Art Honor Society • Scholastic Art • STEAM Fair Waterfront Environmental Center



★ MUSIC – CSH enjoyed one or more honors or awards in the following music competitions:

- All-State Honors Music Ensemble Members • Long Island Arts Alliance Scholar Artist Recipient • All County Honors Music Ensemble Members • Long Island String Festival Honors Music Ensemble Members • Tri-M Music Honor Society Program Inductees
- ★ **Lincoln Center Education:** We are the only Suffolk County school district associated with this unique program. Our elementary school affiliation with this highly respected and world-renowned Institute has benefited our students for over 20 years, focusing on works of art, dance, theater, film and architecture.
- ★ **DNA Learning Center, CSH Laboratory, CSH Whaling Museum and CSH Fish Hatchery:** CSH School District continues its collaboration with our distinguished neighbors. Various field trips, workshops, science fairs, tours, lectures and experiments are offered to our K-12 students annually.
- ★ **Athletic Achievements**
 - Scholar Athlete Teams – All Varsity Teams have qualified for the past 7 years
 - Girls Lacrosse – 2x NY State Class C Champions
 - Boys Lacrosse – 3x NY State Class C Champions
 - Football – Big 4 Conference Champions
 - Ice Hockey – NY State Finalists
 - NY State Wrestling Champion 2020
 - National Letters of Intent – 15 athletes sign Division I
 - Division III collegiate level – 7 athletes selected
 - Outstanding Athletic Facilities, host to numerous multi-school championship events



Budget Highlights

- Provides the needed **flexibility to quickly and appropriately address a myriad of scenarios** for the next school year.
- Results in a **tax levy \$1,038,607 below the limit dictated by law.**
- Addresses a possible **mid-year reduction of state aid**, estimated to be as high as 20%.
- Maintains all programs and initiatives.
- Preserves current class size guidelines.
- Continues the vast co-curricular, athletic and arts offerings.
- Provides additional flexible furniture options and expanded technology.
- Redefines the classroom experience by replacing outdated technology with the purchase of state-of-the-art *Promethean Boards*.
- Includes extensive professional development for teachers.
- Continues the 1:1 Chromebook initiative for all students at the Jr./Sr. High School.
- Continues the partnership with the Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory and DNA Learning Center.
- Funds arts programming, including a partnership with the Huntington Arts Council and Lincoln Center Education.
- Contains approval for new three-year transportation contracts.
- Appropriates \$900,000 in capital construction funds to provide additional authorizations for previously approved projects.

Voting Procedures

The vote will be held by mail only,
as per the Governor's directive.

- All qualified voters, who are registered to vote, **will receive two ballots, one for the School District and one for the Public Library**, in a single envelope by mail.
- Once completed, both ballots must be placed in the “Oath Envelope,” which **must be signed on the back.**
- The “Oath Envelope” must be placed in the self-addressed business reply envelope and mailed.
- **Ballots must be received in the Office of the District Clerk (75 Goose Hill Road, Cold Spring Harbor) by mail no later than 5:00 p.m. on June 9, 2020.**

Contact the District Clerk
(jstucchio@csh.k12.ny.us) with questions



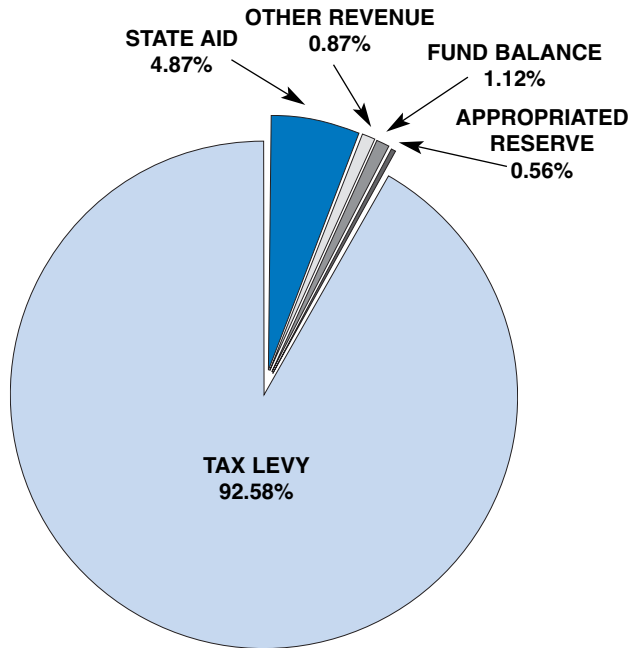
Contingency Budget

The Governor's Executive Order does not provide a revote date. Therefore, if the voters reject the proposed budget, the district would have to, by law, adopt a contingency budget. Under the tax cap legislation, the contingent budget cannot include any increase in the tax levy from the prior year. No increase in the tax levy would, most likely, necessitate reductions in staff, the elimination of some programs, and increased class sizes. Also, the district may not address any of the following: new equipment (including technology hardware), free public use of buildings and grounds, non-essential maintenance, capital expenses (except for emergencies), or budgetary support of the school lunch program.

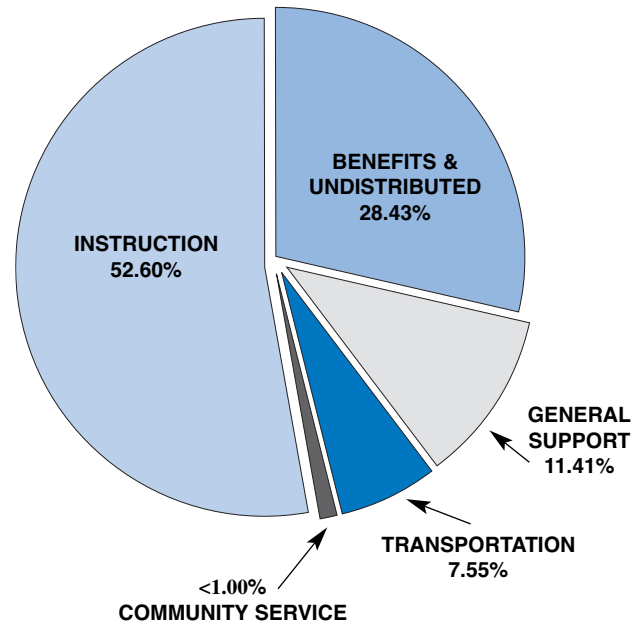


Anticipated Revenues & Proposed Expenditures

Anticipated Revenues



Proposed Expenditures



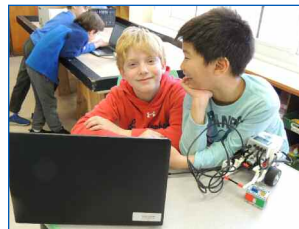
Budget Summary

Proposed Expenditures	Budget 2019/20	Budget 2020/21	Change
General Support	\$7,942,096	\$8,113,587	\$171,491
Instruction	\$37,657,949	\$37,396,801	\$(261,148)
Transportation*	\$4,536,114	\$5,368,572	\$832,458
Community Services	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$0
Undistributed Expenses**	<u>\$20,137,658</u>	<u>\$20,212,789</u>	<u>\$75,131</u>
Total Expenditures	\$70,274,817	\$71,092,749	\$817,932

*The proposed budget includes line items for the approval of five 3-year transportation contracts (large bus, mini-bus, athletic trips, field trips, and summer transportation). Included is the first year of the 3-year contracts, the total 3-year estimated cost of which is \$5,518,202, \$8,098,508, \$1,472,679, \$343,728, and \$204,300, respectively.

**For details, please see the Transfer to the Capital Fund information.

Anticipated Revenues	Budget 2019/20	Budget 2020/21	Change
State Aid	\$3,976,303	\$3,459,560	\$(516,743)
Other Revenue	\$636,995	\$619,064	\$(17,931)
Appropriated Fund Balance	\$550,000	\$795,000	\$245,000
Appropriated Reserves	\$250,000	\$400,000	\$150,000
Real Property Tax Levy	<u>\$64,861,519</u>	<u>\$65,819,125</u>	<u>\$957,606</u>
Total Revenues	\$70,274,817	\$71,092,749	\$817,932



Questions & Answers

Facts about the Propositions

Proposition 2 – Capital Expenditure

What are the projects proposed in Proposition 2?

If approved by the voters, \$750,000 remaining at the end of the 2019-2020 fiscal year will be used to complete the following projects:

Jr./Sr. High School

- Replacement of the upper synthetic turf field.
- Installation of faucets to comply with new safety standards.

Will Proposition 2 increase my taxes?

NO! There will be no additional cost to taxpayers. The project will be funded entirely with money remaining at the end of the 2019-2020 fiscal year.

Will we receive state building aid on the projects?

Yes, the state will reimburse the district approximately 17.5% of the total approved project cost over its useful life.



Proposition 3 – Capital Reserve Fund IV

What is a capital reserve fund?

Proposition 3 will authorize the district to establish a fund for the purpose of maintaining school facilities. If approved by the voters, the capital reserve cannot have more than \$15 million in deposits plus accrued interest during its 15-year life. At the discretion of the Board of Education, funds remaining at the end of the fiscal year may be deposited in the reserve.

Will Proposition 3 increase my taxes?

NO! There will be no additional cost to taxpayers. The reserve will be funded entirely with money remaining at the end of a fiscal year.

Will we still receive state building aid on the projects?

Yes, projects funded by the capital reserve are still eligible for state building aid. Currently, the state reimburses the district approximately 17.5% of the total approved project cost over its useful life.

Can the district spend the capital reserve fund at any time?

No! In order to expend funds from the reserve, the district must obtain voter approval for a specifically advertised construction project.

Why do we need a new capital reserve fund?

As an integral part of the district's long-term capital improvement plan, the capital reserve allows the district to save funds for future construction needs that did not exist or were not included in the 2019 bond proposal. Utilizing the capital reserve lessens the needs for additional long-term borrowings and saves the district money.

CAPITAL PROJECTS

****TRANSFER TO THE CAPITAL FUND**

TOTAL APPROPRIATION: \$900,000

The following additional funding authorizations to previously approved projects are proposed:

- The reconstruction of the Field House locker rooms, previously approved by the voters in May 2019.
- The replacement of the Performing Arts Center house lighting, previously approved by the voters in May 2018.
- The construction of a stand-alone grounds storage building on the Jr./Sr. High School campus, previously approved by the voters in May 2013.
- The district-wide installation of new interior doors with Armored One glass and security hardware, previously approved by the voters in November 2019.