

# **Budget Bulletin**

Syosset Central School District

## **SCHOOL BUDGET VOTE** & TRUSTEE ELECTION

**TUESDAY, MAY 21** 

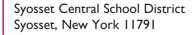
POLLS OPEN 6AM TO 9PM







*In compliance with Section 203 of the federal Voting Rights Act, election information is offered in English and Spanish.* 



Nonprofit Organization U.S. Postage PAID Permit No.36 Syosset, NY 11791



# **Budget Proposal Maintains All Programs** *While Remaining Below the "Tax Cap"*

maie Remaining Derow

Dear Syosset Community:

The Board of Education and Central Administration have worked diligently to develop a budget for the 2024-2025 school year that reflects the core values and institutional mission of our District. It sustains our excellent programs and supports for our students, invests in necessary facilities maintenance, and is fiscally responsible.

Despite the continuing challenge of rising costs, for the 12th year in a row, Syosset has created a budget with tax increases below the state-allowed limit. **This budget includes a property tax levy increase of 3.16%**, **which is approximately \$145,095 below the cap.** The proposed budget is balanced, and does not compromise our educational programs despite continued inflation, state budget uncertainty, a spike in state-regulated health insurance, and pension costs beyond our control.

The budget continues our commitment to the health and wellness of our students by maintaining a social worker in every school building. It also maintains our newly established Northwell Health Partnership, which provides our students with additional mental wellness supports both inside and outside of school. This budget will allow us to complete important facilities projects, including Districtwide electrical upgrades, roofing repairs, and paving that are necessary to maintain our aging facilities, and protect the health and safety of our students and staff. It also allows for the expansion of classroom space at South Woods to accommodate enrollment growth.

New York State has preserved our funding for the Universal Prekindergarten *(UPK)* program, which has allowed us to offer a seat to every interested student. We've also expanded our secondary course offerings in Chinese World Language, and added a high-tech Pre-Medical Anatomy and Physiology class to our high school course book. Our two newest sports teams, Challenger Bowling and Challenger Track & Field, provide inclusive opportunities for all students to be a part of the welcoming environment that is fundamental to the Syosset District.

The annual vote will be held on <u>**Tuesday, May 21st.</u>** The Board's facilities proposal will not be on the ballot. We encourage you to attend the public budget hearing on May 13th at South Woods Middle School beginning at 8:00pm to learn more about the budget and what it includes. In addition to the budget, residents will have the opportunity to vote for three candidates for the Board of Education.</u>

Thank you for your continued partnership with our District and the exceptional educational experience it provides for our students.

## The Syosset Board of Education

Carol C. Cheng, *President* Brian J. Grieco, *Vice President* Lynn Abramson Lisa A. Coscia Susan Falkove Anna Levitan Jack Ostrick Shany Park Thomas A. Rotolo







# **Points of Pride**

### Academics



- Syosset Central School District ranked top 25 in the nation;
- 6th Best School District in NY; 15th for Best Teachers in NY by <u>Niche.com</u>
- Awarded Gold Distinction by the College Board for offering 31 AP courses
  - Implemented NYSED Individualized Arts Assessment Portfolio pathway
    35 Syosset High School seniors named National Merit Semifinalists
- <u>Regeneron Science Research Scholars:</u> three semifinalists, one finalist
- Six 2024 U.S. Presidential Scholar candidates
- Syosset DECA is largest chapter in New York State; 167 students competed at state competition
- 374 students inducted into the National Honor Society
- Science Olympiad team heading to Nationals for second consecutive year
- FIRST Robotics Team earned first place at Long Island Regionals
- Virtual Enterprise Company "Smart Scents" advanced to National Business Plan Competition
- Districtwide multicultural expos to celebrate diversity and difference
- Cross-grade buddy programs to encourage inclusivity and acceptance
- Observed P.S. I Love You Day to stand up against bullying, Random Acts of Kindness Day to spread positivity, World Down Syndrome Day, Neurodiversity/Autism and Mental Health Awareness Months
- Kindness "E-Pledge" signed by all Elementary students in honor of Ethan Falkowitz
- High School partnership with Holocaust Memorial and Tolerance Center
- Student government-run fundraisers for various charities, including but not limited to: Ronald McDonald House, American Heart Association, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, Corey's Promise, American Parkinson Disease Association, Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, Operation Sweet Tooth, Sunrise Day Camp, Island Harvest, Becca's Closet



### Athletics



- All 23 Fall and Winter Varsity teams earned NYS Scholar Athlete Distinction: more than 75% of student athletes have 90+ GPA
  - Athlete Honors: All-State (17), All-Long Island (14), All-County (92)
- Girls Tennis: County Champions, Long Island Champions, NYS finalists
- <u>Gymnastics:</u> County Champions, All-American team
- <u>Unified Bowling</u>: Conference 2 Champion
- **Nassau County Champions:** Girls Cross Country, Girls Basketball, Girls and Boys Swimming & Diving, Girls Winter Track, Boys Volleyball
  - **Coach Accolades:** Mike Acquaro, Nassau County Boys Volleyball Coach of the Year; Mike Cipollino, Newsday's Boys Swimming & Diving Coach of the Year; Greg Cardona, Nassau County Boys Basketball Association Coach of the Year; Mike Ferreira and Ryan Pearsall, Nassau County Girls Basketball Association Coach and Assistant Coach of the Year

#### • <u>Music</u>:

2024 Best Community for Music Education for the 23rd year District awarded NYSSMA Presidential Citation 46 NYSSMA All-State Musicians

300 NMEA All-County Musicians performed at the Tilles Center Two SHS ensembles performed at NYSSMA Winter Conference Four Middle School Groups to perform at Lincoln Center competition <u>Arts:</u>

Newly renovated High School student lobby art gallery Two students named LI Arts Alliance Scholars, one award of merit 16 Student artists featured at the Nassau County Juried Art Exhibit

## Performing Arts:

Full feature theater productions at secondary and elementary levels Theatre Association of NYS recognitions for *Peter and the Starcatcher* Spring Musical *Chicago: High School Edition* saw nearly 2,000 attendees



# **District Budget Summary**

	Budget 23-24	Proposed 24-25
1010 Board Of Education	46,700	46,700
1040 District Clerk	101,146	102,500
1060 District Meetings	37,500	60,000
1240 Chief School Administrator Office	370,950	375,414
1310 Business Administration Office	595,439	603,440
1320 Auditing	119,470	118,700
1345 Purchasing	590,518	639,996
1380 Fiscal Agent	7,000	7,000
1420 Legal Fees	422,600	422,600
1430 Personnel Office	756,998	969,301
1480 Community Relations	198,500	200,060
1620 Custodial Operations	11,623,982	11,610,658
1621 Maintenance Operations	6,191,347	6,136,194
1631 Security Operations	3,825,677	4,370,443
1670 Central Printing	570,136	612,239
1680 Central Data Processing	2,416,671	2,697,232
1910 Allocated Insurance	1,463,556	1,683,095
1981 Admin Charge - BOCES	881,000	938,044
1983 BOCES Capital Expenses	231,827	240,297
1989 Unclassified	50,000	50,000
2010 Curriculum Development/Supervision	3,111,059	3,060,322
2020 Supervision	6,907,685	7,046,237
2070 Inservice Programs	283,000	253,000
2110 General Education Programs	85,399,588	87,597,878
2250 Special Education Programs	31,986,210	32,266,318
<b>2230</b> Occupational Education	590,000	590,000
2310 Continuing Education	118,752	
2310 Continuing Education 2320 Summer School	527,370	120,224 418,372
2610 Library Media Program	2,899,633	3,058,257
2630 Computer Assisted Instruction	4,736,647	4,787,301
2805 Attendance Offices	283,054	264,113
2810 Guidance Offices	3,480,562	3,800,102
2815 Health Services	2,159,027	2,219,539
	2,700,786	2,219,539
2820 Psychological Services 2825 Social Work Services	567,488	581,350
	· · · · ·	
2850 Co-Curricular Activities	2,124,289	2,560,399
2855 Interscholastic Athletics	3,124,748	3,268,060
5510 District Transportation	322,320	326,542
5540 Contract Transportation	13,248,600	13,304,600
7140 Community Services/Recreation	297,127	283,205
8070 Community Services/Census	21,131	21,131
9010 Retirement System - ERS	3,215,023	3,992,855
9020 Retirement System - TRS	12,421,680	12,961,115
9030 Social Security	11,230,134	11,882,141
9045 Life Insurance	230,000	230,000
9060 Health Insurance	39,305,569	43,584,259
9065 Dental Insurance	930,000	930,000
9070 Other Benefits	1,634,300	1,634,300
9760 Tax Anticipation Notes	1,133,417	1,024,306
9901 Transfer to Other Funds	4,747,444	4,707,225
9950 Transfer to Capital Fund*	4,325,000	4,325,000
Total General Fund	274,562,660	285,744,550

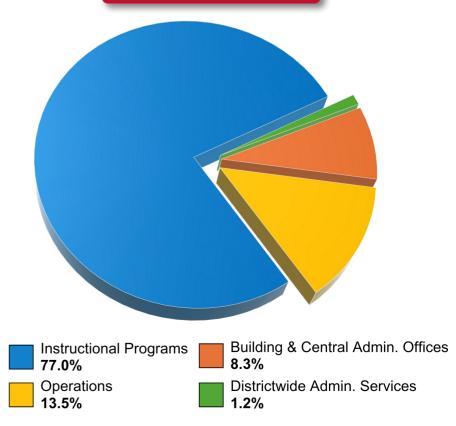
\*The \$4,325,000 Transfer to Capital Fund includes allocations for electric service/distribution replacement at the HS and HBT, districtwide roofing and masonry, flooring and paving and electrical upgrades, and classroom renovations, including office conversion to classrooms at South Woods.



## Revenues

	Budget 23-24	Proposed 24-25
State Aid	34,057,838	34,774,418
Restricted Reserves	5,885,023	7,202,290
Appropriated Fund Balance	2,225,000	2,900,000
Other Local Revenues	3,110,903	4,736,611
PILOTS	9,711,431	9,619,694
General Fund Tax Levy	219,572,465	226,511,537
Total Revenue	274,562,660	285,744,550

## **Expenditures**



# Voter Guide

#### **Proposition #1**

#### SCHOOL BUDGET FOR 2024-2025

RESOLVED, that the proposed budget approved by the Board of Education for the fiscal year 2024-2025 be adopted and the necessary amount thereof shall be raised by a levy of a tax upon the taxable property of the Syosset Central School District.

# BOARD OF EDUCATION BALLOT Vote for three

Lisa A. Coscia
Brian J. Grieco
Shany Park
Parisa Montazaran Osmanovic
Write-in Candidate

#### **Proposition #2**

#### SYOSSET PUBLIC LIBRARY BUDGET FOR 2024-2025

RESOLVED, that the proposed budget approved by the Board of Trustees for the fiscal year 2024-2025 be adopted and the necessary amount thereof shall be raised by a levy of a tax upon the taxable property of the Syosset Central School District.

# SYOSSET PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES BALLOT Vote for two

Antonella D'Agostino	
Alene Shorin	
Write-in Candidate	

### **Voting Information**

The annual budget vote and election of Board of Education trustees will be held on <u>Tuesday, May 21 from 6am to 9pm</u> at Robbins Lane Elementary School, H.B. Thompson Middle School, and Syosset High School. The table below shows where residents must vote based on their elementary school attendance zone:

Elementary school attendance zone	Voting site
Robbins Lane, South Grove	Robbins Lane Elementary School
A.P. Willits, Baylis	H.B. Thompson Middle School
Walt Whitman, Berry Hill, Village	Syosset High School

If you are a resident who does not have children enrolled in the District, go to <u>syossetschools.org</u> to find your designated polling location. Go to the District tab and click on the "Voter Information" menu option.

#### Voter Registration

Voter registration will take place on **Monday, May 13 from 4pm to 8pm** at South Woods Middle School.

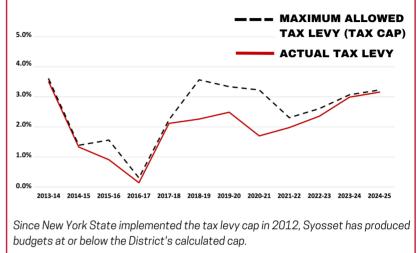
#### Voter Eligibility

To vote in the annual school district election, voters must be a U.S. citizen, 18 years of age or older and a District resident for at least 30 days prior to the vote. Eligible voters include those who have voted in school district elections within the past four years, those who are registered with the Nassau County Board of Elections and those who registered on one of the 2024 registration dates.

#### Absentee Ballots

Applications are available on the District's website. Absentee ballot applications must be mailed back to the District no later than the seventh day before the election or delivered in person back to the District no later than the day before the election.

## SYOSSET CSD TAX CAP HISTORY





# Q: What is the estimated tax levy increase of the proposed budget?

A: The proposed budget would increase the school tax levy by 3.16%. This is below the state-mandated tax cap set at 3.23%. The total proposed budget of \$285,744,550 carries a budget-to-budget increase of 4.07% for the 2024-25 school year.

#### Q: What does the 2024-25 budget support?

A: The proposed budget preserves all current academic offerings, as well as all extracurricular and co-curricular programs. It also includes classroom space expansion at South Woods Middle School and facilities maintenance work districtwide.

#### Q: What happens if the budget is defeated?

A: If the budget is defeated on May 21st, the District will be faced with three options. The Board could choose to submit the same budget for a revote, submit a revised version of the defeated budget, or adopt a contingency budget. If a proposed budget is defeated twice, a contingency budget must be adopted, and state law would mandate that the District revert to a 0% tax levy increase for the 2024-25 year. That would require the District to make approximately \$7 million in reductions to the proposed budget.

