

**VOTE**  
**Tuesday,**  
**May 15**

12 Noon—9 p.m.  
Elementary Gym

# BUDGET NEWS

Hoosic Valley Central Schools

LEARNING: A SHARED GOAL-A SHARED RESPONSIBILITY

May 2018

## 1.00% DECREASE TO THE TAX LEVY

The previous two years Hoosic Valley developed budgets with decreases to the tax levy. The 2018-19 proposed budget will for the third consecutive year decrease the overall tax levy by 1.00%. At the April 17th Board of Education meeting, the Hoosic Valley Board of Education unanimously adopted a budget of \$21,541,352. The proposed 2018-19 budget would result in a decrease in the overall tax levy of \$86,224 or -1.00% while maintaining current programs and adding a variety of additional programs. In 2018-19 Hoosic Valley Central School District will receive an additional \$361,797 or 3.27% in state aid, which the district will utilize to decrease the tax levy and fund additions to the budget.

The 2018-19 budget proposal increases spending by \$371,189 or 1.75% over the current budget. Much of that increase is driven by rising costs associated with employee benefits, as well as mandated programs and services. The district was able to minimize the increase in budget with reductions to expenditure codes due to several factors such as a salary savings after replacing staff as a result of the retirement of one Secondary Mathematics Teacher, the effective move to the employees' current health insurance plan, and a debt service savings from the refinancing of our bonds. The proposed budget includes the following continued support of previous years' programs and additions:

Facilitation of the District's Strategic Planning through the professional services of CASDA; additional technology professional development to support staff; a one year teacher on special assignment for the High School Library; funding to provide a School Resource Officer for the schools through a contract with Rensselaer County; curriculum map-

ping and benchmarking software coupled with professional development to support and guide instructional staff; continued support of Elementary Science Kits; an Elementary Instructional Phonics program; Elementary Reading Units of Study Program; continuation of enrichment summer school with transportation for students entering grades 1, 2, and 3; a Gifted & Talented School Day Program will be offered in addition to the continued Elementary After School Enrichment offerings; a one year STEAM teacher on special assignment to develop curriculum, coach teachers, and enhance learning sessions within the academic disciplines of Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics; a staff stipend for an Elementary Environmental Club; increases in embedded staff development to support teachers; an increase of the Elementary Band Teacher position from .4 FTE to .6 FTE; two additional Elementary General Education Teacher positions which will lower the class section sizes; two additional High School Special Education Teacher positions to support student program needs; availability for an additional High School Reading Teacher to serve our students; additional equipment for the High School Art program innovations (movement cameras & 3-D printing); and continued replacement of the Elementary & High School musical instruments, student desks, and student chairs.

The 2018-19 budget also includes an allocation of Capital expenditures to address facility work and equipment. Included in the budget is the replacement of the Building & Grounds tractor with attachments used to maintain the district's property. An allocation of \$100,000 will be used to fund the replacement of carpet in the Elementary Library, Elementary Offices, and High School Offices. Utilizing the aid received on previous bus purchases, the district is able to fund the \$324,010 purchase of two (2)- 72 passenger buses & two (2)- 22 passenger buses within the budget as a line item. Voter approval for the purchase of the buses is included within the overall approval of the budget.

District residents are encouraged and invited to vote on the proposed budget on Tuesday, May 15, 2018. Voters will elect two board members to the Board of Education. The vote will take place on Tuesday, May 15, 2018, 12:00 Noon - 9:00 p.m. in the Hoosic Valley Elementary gymnasium.

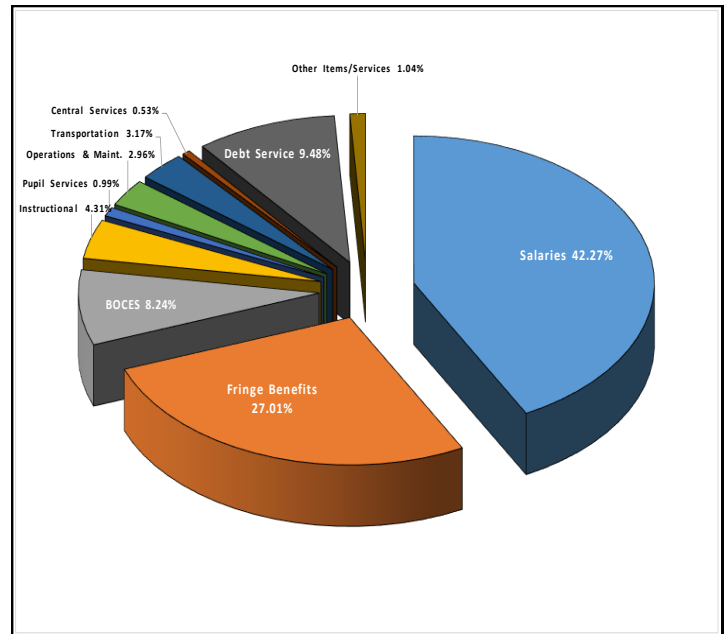
### 2018-19 Budget Summary

- ◆ **PROPOSED BUDGET: \$21,541,352**
- ◆ **BUDGET INCREASE: \$371,189 or 1.75%**
- ◆ **TAX LEVY DECREASE : -1.00%**
- ◆ **BUS PURCHASES INCLUDED IN THE BUDGET**
- ◆ **PROPOSITION NO. 2: DIVER MEMORIAL LIBRARY AND THE VALLEY FALLS LIBRARY**
- ◆ **BOARD OF EDUCATION ELECTION**



# EXPENDITURE SUMMARY

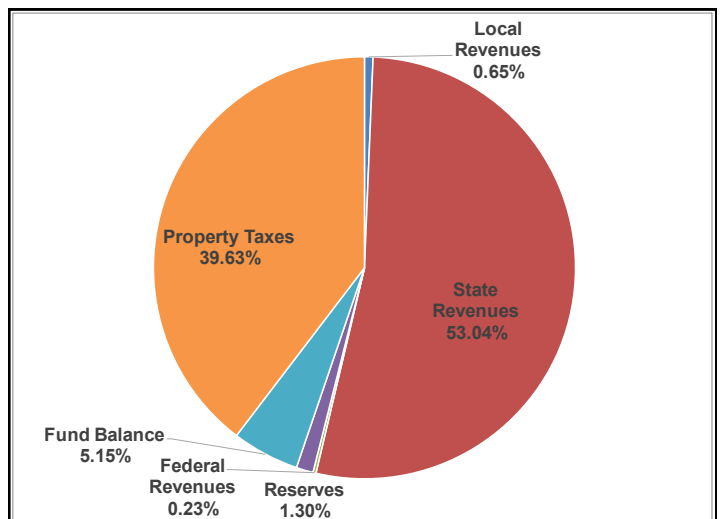
The following pie chart represents how the expenses of the district are allocated:



The Superintendent and Board of Education were able to maintain current programs and services. The largest part of the school budget remains salaries and benefits at 69.28%, the next are debt service at 9.48% and BOCES at 8.24% with the remaining 13% representing all other expenses such as energy, teacher supplies, repairs to buildings and district contractual obligations.

# REVENUE SUMMARY

The following pie chart represents the district revenues:



State aid remains the largest portion of the revenue at 53.04% with local property taxes being 39.63%. The use of fund balance and reserves this year make up 6.45% and just under 1% being comprised of items such as admission fees, investment income, BOCES refund and others. The district also receives federal funds of approximately \$560,000; these grants are used to fund necessary programs for our district.

\*The tax levy will NOT increase, but will decrease for 2018-19. The actual tax bill that you receive may vary slightly from last year due to any changes in assessment or equalization rates which the Board of Education has no control over.

## THE DIVER MEMORIAL AND VALLEY FALLS LIBRARIES

The Diver Memorial Library and Valley Falls Library submitted a petition to the Board of Education for the following proposition to be placed before the voters on May 15th:

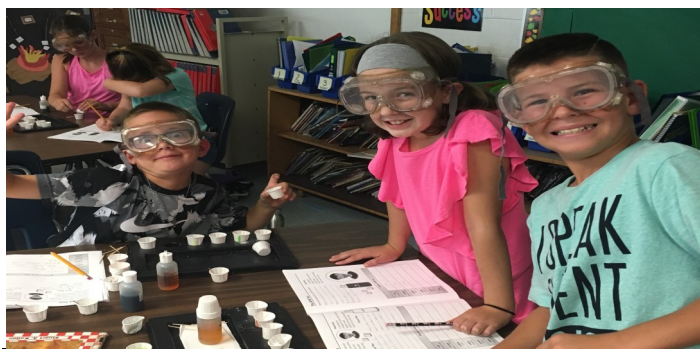
*Shall the annual appropriation from the Hoosic Valley School District budget for library purposes be increased from \$40,000 to \$50,000 and be distributed equally to Diver Memorial Library and the Valley Falls Library?*

The school district's only role is to collect and distribute the collected funds to the respective libraries. If you have any questions with regard to the library budgets, please contact them directly.



## BUS PURCHASE FOUR (4) NEW SCHOOL BUSES

The Board of Education seeks authorization to purchase two (2) 72-passenger school buses and two (2) 22-passenger school buses within the budget as a line item. The \$324,010.06 cost of the buses is listed in the account code A5510.210 PURCHASE OF BUSES within the budget. The District currently has 21 bus runs carrying 921 students travelling 300,000 miles annually. These four new buses will be financed utilizing the aid received on previous bus purchases and an allocation of the appropriated fund balance. The District will receive approximately 75% of the overall cost of the buses purchased in 2018-19 in state aid amortized over the five succeeding years.



## WHAT IS A TAX LEVY?

The tax levy is the total amount of taxes a school district raises to fund its budget, after accounting for all other revenue sources. The tax levy is the basis for determining the tax rates for each municipality within a school district. Tax rates are also impacted by changes in town assessments and state equalization rates. Even though the tax levy for 2018-19 has reduced from last year, your individual tax bill may be slightly different.

## CONTINGENT BUDGET AND THE PROPERTY TAX LEVY "CAP" LAW

The New York State tax levy cap law has changed the rules for contingent budgets. Under the law, there is a **0 percent cap on the tax levy increase**. In a contingent budget, school districts would have to levy the same amount of taxes as in the current year or less, without any adjustments for state pension rate increases, contractual obligations or any other costs, mandated or not.

If the voters defeat the Hoosic Valley proposed budget on May 15, the district will have two options:

1. Resubmit the same proposed or revised budget for a re-vote on June 19; or
2. Adopt a contingent budget

If the resubmitted spending plan is voted down for a second time, Hoosic Valley Central School MUST adopt a contingent budget which would result in a reduction of \$536,945 to the proposed spending plan.

Under a contingent budget, Hoosic Valley would be prohibited from spending money in certain areas, including community use of school facilities (unless all costs are reimbursed to the district), new equipment purchases, non-essential maintenance, capital expenditures (except in emergencies), salary increases for non-instructional, nonunionized employees, and certain student supplies. The contingency rules also cap the growth of the administrative component of the budget.

(Information provided through Capital Region BOCES Communications Service and Questar III's State Aid Planning and Communication Services Publication dated January 2016.)

## TAX SAVINGS UNDER THE STAR PROGRAM

Qualified homeowners can receive a partial property tax exemption under the School Tax Relief (STAR) program. STAR exemptions apply only to school district taxes. There are two types of STAR exemptions available based on the age and income of the homeowners:

**Basic STAR** — Available to homeowner's primary residence only, and for households with an income of less than \$500,000. The estimated Basic STAR exemption for Hoosic Valley residents for **2018-19 ranges between \$504 to \$531**. Basic STAR requires a one time application that remains in effect until ownership of the home changes.

**Enhanced STAR** — Provides an increased benefit for the primary residence of senior citizens (age 65 and older) with a qualifying income. Enhanced STAR requires an annual application with proof of income, typically by March 1.

The exemption figure for Basic and Enhanced STAR is set by the State and is different in every town. Check with your town assessor for an exact figure. For detailed information about the STAR program, including eligibility, visit the New York State Department of Taxation and Finance website at:

<http://www.tax.ny.gov/pit/property/star/eligibility.htm>



**HOOSIC VALLEY CENTRAL SCHOOL**  
**3-PART BUDGET 2018-19**  
**GENERAL FUND APPROPRIATION**

Code	Function or Account	Budget 2018-19	Admin.	Program	Capital
1099.0	Board of Education	\$27,218	\$ 27,218		
1299.0	Central Administration	\$215,820	\$ 215,820		
1399.0	Finance	\$369,048	\$ 369,048		
1420.0	Legal Services	\$42,500	\$ 42,500		
1430.0	Personnel	\$2,970	\$ 2,970		
1480.0	Public Information	\$14,275	\$ 14,275		
1620.0	Operation of Plant	\$1,060,014			\$ 1,060,014
1621.0	Maintenance of Plant	\$69,960			\$ 69,960
1699.0	Other Central Services	\$92,909	\$ 92,909		
1998.0	Special Items	\$203,497	\$ 69,747		\$ 133,750
2010.0	Curr. Dev. and Supervision	\$6,000		\$ 6,000	
2020.0	Supervision Regular School	\$520,400	\$ 520,400		
2060.0	Research, Evaluation, & Planning	\$1,300	\$ 1,300		
2099.0	In Service	\$90,096		\$ 90,096	
2199.0	Teaching Reg. School	\$4,434,746		\$ 4,434,746	
2250.0	Programs for Handicapped Children	\$2,759,780		\$ 2,759,780	
2270.0	Special Needs	\$0		\$ -	
2299.0	Occupational Education	\$616,968		\$ 616,968	
2399.0	Teaching - Special Schools	\$23,060		\$ 23,060	
2699.0	Computer Assisted Inst.	\$644,565		\$ 644,565	
2899.0	Pupil Personnel Services	\$839,905		\$ 839,905	
5510.0	Pupil Transportation	\$1,461,887		\$ 1,133,877	\$ 328,010
5530.0	Garage Building	\$58,500		\$ 58,500	
5540.0	Contract Transportation	\$0		\$ -	
8990.0	Community Services	\$0			
9098.0	Employee Benefits	5,818,882	\$ 545,817	\$ 5,031,735	\$ 241,330
9898.0	Debt Service	\$2,042,052			\$ 2,042,052
9951.0	Interfund Transfer	\$125,000		\$ 25,000	\$ 100,000
9999.99	TOTAL GENERAL FUND	\$21,541,352	1,902,004	\$15,664,232	\$3,975,116
			8.83%	72.72%	18.45%



# Hoosic Valley Central School District Budget Notice

Overall Budget Proposal	Budget Adopted for the 2017-18 School Year	Budget Proposed for the 2018-19 School Year	Contingency Budget for the 2018-19 School Year *				
Total Budgeted Amount, Not Including Separate Propositions	\$ 21,170,163	\$21,541,352	\$21,004,407				
Increase/Decrease for the 2018-19 School Year		\$371,189	(\$165,756)				
Percentage Increase/Decrease in Proposed Budget		1.75%	(0.78)%				
Change in the Consumer Price Index		2.13%					
A. Proposed Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount	\$8,622,342	\$8,536,118					
B. Levy to Support Library Debt, if Applicable	\$0	\$0					
C. Levy for Non-Excludable Propositions, if Applicable **	\$0	\$0					
D. Total Tax Cap Reserve Amount Used to Reduce Current Year Levy	\$0	\$0					
E. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy (A + B + C - D)	\$8,622,342	\$8,536,118	\$8,536,118				
F. Total Permissible Exclusions	\$31,133	\$93,160					
G. School Tax Levy Limit, <u>Excluding</u> Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$8,787,633	\$8,819,320					
H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, <u>Excluding</u> Levy to Support Library Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions (E – B – F + D)	\$8,591,209	\$8,442,958					
I. Difference: G – H (Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval – See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions) **	\$196,424	\$376,362					
Administrative Component	\$1,930,425	\$1,902,004	\$1,895,504				
Program Component	\$15,549,405	\$15,664,232	\$15,633,047				
Capital Component	\$3,690,333	\$3,975,116	\$3,475,856				
<p>* Provide a statement of assumptions made in projecting a contingency budget for the 2018-19 school year, should the proposed budget be defeated pursuant to Section 2023 of the Education Law.</p> <p>** List Separate Propositions that are not included in the Total Budgeted Amount: (Tax Levy associated with educational or transportation services propositions are not eligible for exclusion and may affect voter approval requirements)</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; margin-top: 10px;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 60%;">Description</th> <th style="width: 40%;">Amount</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>N/A</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>				Description	Amount	N/A	
Description	Amount						
N/A							
<p>NOTE: Please submit an electronic version (Word or PDF) of this completed form to:  <a href="mailto:emscmgts@nysed.gov">emscmgts@nysed.gov</a></p>			<p>Under the Budget Proposed for the 2018-19 School Year</p>				
<p>Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings<sup>1</sup></p>			<p><b>\$504 to \$531 (Four Towns)</b></p>				

The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2018-19 by the qualified voters of the Hoosic Valley Central School District, Rensselaer County, New York, will be held at Elementary School in said district on Tuesday, May 15, 2018 between the hours of 12:00pm and 9:00pm, prevailing time in the Elementary School gymnasium, at which time the polls will be opened to vote by voting machine.

1. The basic school tax relief (STAR) exemption is authorized by section 425 of the Real Property Tax Law.

### **School Board Elections**

Two Board seats are open for two (2) four year terms commencing on July 1, 2018 and expiring on June 30, 2022 for the Board of Education. The candidates receiving the most votes will receive the seats, commencing July 1, 2018.

Due to a candidate withdrawing their petition for the Board of Education election, the District is legally required to procedurally extend the deadline to file a nominating petition until 5:00 pm on May 7, 2018. On May 8, 2018 the District will post the final list of candidates that submitted a petition on the District website.

### **Can I vote by absentee ballot?**

Qualified district residents who are unable to go to the polls on May 15 can cast their votes by absentee ballot. For an application, call the district office at 753-4458. If the ballot is to be mailed, the application for the ballot must be received by May 7. If the ballot is to be delivered in person, the application must be received by May 14. All completed ballots must be received by the district clerk no later than 5:00 p.m. on May 15.

### **Voter Qualification**

To be a qualified voter at the District Budget Vote you must be:

1. A United States Citizen
2. Eighteen (18) years of age or older
3. A legal resident of the school district for thirty (30) days preceding the vote.

For budget information visit district website:  
[www.hoosicvalley.k12.ny.us](http://www.hoosicvalley.k12.ny.us)

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

<b>MAY 8</b> PTO "Meet the Board Candidate Night" 6:30 p.m. Elem. Library	<b>MAY 15</b> <b>BUDGET VOTE</b> 12 Noon–9 p.m. Elem. Gym	<b>MAY 15</b> <b>Learning Fair</b> 6:30 p.m. Elem. Gym
---	--	---

Hoosic Valley Central School District  
Schaghticoke, NY 12154

CRRT  
Bulk Rate  
Non-Profit Organization  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
Schaghticoke, NY 12154  
Permit No. 1

### **Board of Education**

Timothy Salisbury, President  
David Paul, Vice-President  
Maureen Mayer  
Christine Pepe  
Michael Reilly  
James J. Ryan  
Rebecca Van Vorst

Amy V. Goodell, Superintendent  
Anthony Cammarata, School Business Administrator

**POSTAL CUSTOMER**

**Learning: A Shared Goal, A Shared Responsibility**