

Sag Harbor

Union Free School District

Budget Newsletter

This information is provided in Spanish in compliance with the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

Budget Issue 2021

PRESERVING PROGRAMS AND PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE **TAX LEVY REMAINS UNDER THE NEW YORK STATE CAP**

The Sag Harbor Board of Education and administration are proud to present a proposed budget with the lowest tax levy increase in seven years while also preserving all student programs, including extracurriculars and athletics. Additionally, the 2021-22 proposed budget includes funding for a full-day pre-K program at the Sag Harbor Learning Center and continues the district's investment in instructional technology and equipment. The proposed budget of \$44,871,539 carries a 1.22% budget-to-budget increase and a 1.48% tax levy increase.

"Despite the unique challenges presented to us by the COVID-19 pandemic, we felt it was important that our students continue to receive the high-quality education Sag Harbor is known for and our community expects," said Jeff Nichols, Superintendent of Schools. "We worked with the Board to craft a budget that maintains our investment in the most important aspect of our educational institution – our students. By expanding our prekindergarten program to full-time, we will be able to begin that investment with Sag Harbor's youngest learners."

What's on the Ballot?

In addition to the proposed budget, the Board and administration focused this budget season on long-term planning. Residents will cast ballots on the proposed budget plus three additional propositions and for two members of the Board of Education.

Proposition No. 2: Establishment of a Capital Reserve Fund

If approved, Proposition No. 2 would authorize the Board of Education to establish a Capital Reserve Fund to provide necessary flexibility in planning

and funding future capital projects, improvements, renovations, alterations and construction. These projects are identified as improvements rather than time-sensitive repairs. Funding for this reserve would be allocated from unappropriated (unused) fund balance from the end of the previous fiscal year. The total amount of funding for this reserve is capped at \$15 million. Residents must approve the use of the funds for specific capital projects in a separate vote.

"The maintenance of our school property is important to ensure the safety of our students and staff," said Jennifer Buscemi, School Business Administrator. "The creation of a Capital Reserve Fund allows for us to plan for the future without impacting the levy in our annual budget."

The establishment of the Capital Reserve Fund will have no additional impact on the 2021-22 school district budget or tax levy.

Proposition No. 3: Purchase of One Bus

Continuing with the district's commitment to its bus replacement plan, if approved, Proposition No. 3 would allow for the purchase of one new 2021 GMC/Chevy Chassis/Thomas Minotour Body Model School Bus at an estimated cost of \$58,766. The funds for the purchase would come from the Transportation Fleet Capital Reserve Fund, which was previously established and approved by Sag Harbor voters on May 16, 2017. Approval of this proposition would have no additional impact on the 2021-22 school budget or tax levy.

Proposition No. 4: Authorize the District Clerk to Conduct Voter Registration

Proposition No. 4, if approved by voters, would authorize the Sag Harbor UFSD district clerk to conduct the registration of voters between the hours of 8 a.m. and 3 p.m. when school is in session at the office of the district clerk, in accordance with Education Law.

Trustee Election

Voters will be asked to elect two members to the Board of Education to fill the positions currently held by Susan Schaefer and Jordana Sobey. The positions are for three-year terms beginning July 1, 2021, and expiring on June 30, 2024.

To learn more about the proposed budget, please read the contents of this newsletter or visit the district's website, www.sagharborschools.org. Polls will be open on Tuesday, May 18, from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. in the Pierson High School gymnasium.



VOTE

TUESDAY, MAY 18, 2021

Pierson High School Gym

7 a.m. - 9 p.m.

Projected Tax Levy Increase

1.48%

PROPOSED BUDGET EXPENDITURES 2021-22

	2020-21 Approved Budget	2021-22 Proposed Budget	\$ Change	% Change
Admin & Program Support				
Board of Education/District Clerk/Annual Meeting/ School Association Dues	\$126,670	\$99,726	\$(26,944)	-21.27%
Chief School Administrator	\$348,589	\$367,026	\$18,437	5.29%
Business/Finance/Legal/Auditing/Insurance	\$1,144,607	\$1,238,901	\$94,294	8.24%
Personnel/Curriculum Development/Supervision	\$1,432,026	\$1,287,823	\$(144,203)	-10.07%
Security	\$253,268	\$234,673	\$(18,595)	-7.34%
Public Information/Central Printing and Mailing/ Central Data Processing	\$609,482	\$676,603	\$67,121	11.01%
BOCES Services - Administrative Charges/Research and Planning	\$144,803	\$163,566	\$18,763	12.96%
SUBTOTAL	\$4,059,445	\$4,068,318	\$8,873	0.22%
Programs for Students				
Teaching/Co-Curricular/Educational Support	\$15,652,730	\$16,266,110	\$613,380	3.92%
Special Education and Related Services	\$5,191,392	\$4,833,100	\$(358,292)	-6.90%
Occupational Education	\$149,463	\$171,972	\$22,509	15.06%
Technology/Instructional Media	\$1,013,909	\$993,407	\$(20,502)	-2.02%
Athletics	\$884,586	\$883,226	\$(1,360)	-0.15%
Pupil Transportation*	\$1,629,588	\$1,695,502	\$65,914	4.04%
Transfer to Special Aid/Lunch Fund	\$197,000	\$200,000	\$3,000	1.52%
SUBTOTAL	\$24,718,668	\$25,043,317	\$324,649	1.31%
Employee Benefits				
Retirement/Social Security/Compensated Absences	\$4,359,897	\$4,619,342	\$259,445	5.95%
Workers' Compensation/Unemployment/Disability	\$90,104	\$130,455	\$40,351	44.78%
Health and Dental Insurance/125 Plan Admin.	\$6,210,609	\$6,364,357	\$153,748	2.48%
SUBTOTAL	\$10,660,610	\$11,114,154	\$453,544	4.25%
Capital Budget				
Debt Services	\$2,128,993	\$1,911,432	\$(217,561)	-10.22%
Operations and Maintenance	\$2,714,707	\$2,734,318	\$19,611	0.72%
Transfer to Capital Fund	\$50,000	\$-	\$(50,000)	-100.00%
SUBTOTAL	\$4,893,700	\$4,645,750	\$(247,950)	-5.07%
TOTAL BUDGET	\$44,332,423	\$44,871,539	\$539,116	1.22%

* Proposed Pupil Transportation budget provides funding for transportation services that cannot be covered by the Sag Harbor UFSD transportation bus fleet. The 2021-2022 school year will be the fifth year of a five-year contract extension with the district's current transportation contractor.

PROPOSED BUDGET REVENUES 2021-22

	2020-21 Approved Budget	2021-22 Proposed Budget	\$ Change	% Change
Summary of State Aid				
Foundation Aid	\$1,031,032	\$1,314,565	\$283,533	27.50%
BOCES Aid	\$157,847	\$187,713	\$29,866	18.92%
Transportation Aid	\$51,979	\$77,572	\$25,593	49.24%
Software, Library, and Textbook Aid	\$60,781	\$76,480	\$15,699	25.83%
Public High Cost Aid	\$1,610	\$9,701	\$8,091	502.55%
Private Excess Cost Aid	\$5,926	\$7,411	\$1,485	25.06%
Building Aid	\$10,192	\$11,392	\$1,200	11.77%
High Tax Aid	\$165,430	\$165,430	\$-	0.00%
Payments in Lieu of Taxes (PILOTS)	\$160,140	\$160,000	(\$140)	-0.09%
Student Fees (Driver's Education)	\$24,500	\$24,500	\$-	0.00%
Non-Resident Tuition	\$821,945	\$1,000,000	\$178,055	21.66%
Charges for Shared Services/Facilities Usage	\$435,645	\$450,000	\$14,355	3.30%
Grants, Interest, Miscellaneous Revenue	\$76,000	\$80,000	\$4,000	5.26%
General Fund Tax Levy	\$39,737,613	\$40,325,730	\$588,117	1.48%
Appropriated Fund Balance	\$1,591,783	\$981,045	(\$610,738)	-38.37%
TOTAL REVENUE	\$44,332,423	\$44,871,539	\$539,116	1.22%



ON THE BALLOT

PROPOSITION NO. 1 – Budget 2020-2021

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Sag Harbor Union Free School District, Sag Harbor, New York, be and is hereby authorized to expend the sums set forth in the proposed budget for the 2021-2022 school year in the total amount of \$44,871,539 and to levy the necessary tax therefor.

PROPOSITION No. 2 – ESTABLISH A FACILITIES IMPROVEMENT CAPITAL RESERVE FUND

Shall the Board of Education of the Sag Harbor Union Free School District be authorized pursuant to Section 3651 of the Education Law to establish a reserve fund to be known as the “Facilities Improvement Capital Reserve Fund” for the purpose of providing the following capital improvements: instructional and non-instructional space improvements/renovations/upgrades, (including but not limited to classroom improvements/renovations/upgrades and/or additions to existing facilities), auditorium renovations, gymnasium renovations, cafeteria renovations, library/multi media center renovations, exterior renovations/reconstruction, computer/technology upgrades, security system upgrades, plumbing improvements/renovations/upgrades, electrical improvements/renovations/upgrades, HVAC improvements/renovations/upgrades, energy efficiency improvements/renovation/upgrades, including the installation of solar power, improvements/renovations/upgrades, renovations required for compliance with ADA requirements, vocational and career preparation renovations, portable classroom replacement and/or purchase, roof/gutter/leader replacement, window replacement, masonry/concrete replacement, interior and exterior door/entry ways replacement, toilet room renovations, lighting upgrades, floor replacement, wall replacement, boiler replacements, elevators, carpentry renovations, purchase of buildings/land, site renovations/reconstruction, press box/dugout/field house improvements/renovations/upgrades, bleacher improvements/renovations/upgrades, upgrades of signs, athletic field renovations/reconstruction, playground renovations, lockers/locker room renovations, public address/clock system replacement, sound system upgrades, telephone system upgrades, hazardous material remediation, storage space renovations, furnishings and equipment, including the purchase of vehicles, all of the foregoing to include all labor, materials, equipment, apparatus and incidental cost related thereto?

The maximum amount of the Facilities Improvement Capital Reserve Fund shall be \$15,000,000, plus investment income. The Facilities Improvement Capital Reserve Fund shall be for a probable term of fifteen (15) years. The source of funding for the Facilities Improvement Capital Fund shall include: (1) transferring the remaining balance of \$2,943,535, plus interest, from the Facilities Renovation Reserve Fund, which fund shall be closed; and (2) thereafter, in any year during the probable term of the Reserve Fund authorized by the Board of Education in an amount not to exceed \$1,500,000 in any year, which such sums to be obtained from the end of year surplus funds and/or budget appropriations.

PROPOSITION No. 3 – PURCHASE NEW 2021 SCHOOL BUS

Shall the Board of Education of the Sag Harbor Union Free School District be authorized to purchase one (1) new 2021 GMC/Chevy Chassis/Thomas Minotour Body Model School Bus at an estimated maximum cost of \$58,766.00 Dollars, and to appropriate and spend such amount from the Transportation Fleet Capital Reserve Fund, which was previously established following a proposition of the voters of the District on May 16, 2017?

PROPOSITION No. 4 – DISTRICT CLERK CONDUCT REGISTRATION OF VOTERS

Shall the District Clerk of the Sag Harbor Union Free School District be authorized to conduct the registration of the voters between the hours of 8:00 am and 3:00 pm when school is in session at the office of the District Clerk in accordance with Education Law §2014(2)?

Elect Members to the Board of Education

To elect two (2) members of the Board of Education for three (3) year terms commencing July 1, 2021, and expiring on June 30, 2024, to fill the positions held by Susan Schaefer and Jordana Sobey whose terms expires on June 30, 2021.

☐ Ryan Winter

☐ Jordana Sobey