

# City School District Lackawanna



245 South Shore Boulevard • Lackawanna, New York 14218 • [www.lackawannaschools.org](http://www.lackawannaschools.org)

**Annual Budget Vote Tuesday, May 18, 2021 • Noon to 9 p.m.**

## District's Voice Heard Once Again in Our State Capital

### This Allows for a *0% Tax Increase* to You, Our Residents

Dear Families:

As my third year as your Superintendent is nearing completion, I hope everyone is healthy and managing this unprecedented school year. I want to thank you for your overwhelming and continued support to our children and school district. As a graduate, resident, and your neighbor, I continually and carefully balance the needs of our students, while being fiscally responsible to you, our community.

If you recall from the 2019 school year, we advocated to the Senate and Assembly our concerns, needs, and suggestions for additional funding from New York State. They delivered more funding then and they came through again this year! I would like to thank Senators Tim Kennedy and Sean Ryan, along with Assembly Members Patrick Burke and Jon Rivera, who were all instrumental in our current and future funding from New York State.

The enormous support from our local leaders in Albany, who fought and advocated for our School District's increased **Foundation Aid** in the adopted 2021-2022 State Budget, will be felt for generations. The \$2.5 million dollars of additional Foundation Aid funding will allow us to hire nearly **20 new teaching positions** for next school year and present a **0% tax increase!** Some of the much-needed and new K-12 teaching positions included in this budget are: Social Studies, English, Math, English as a New Language, Art, Business, Music, Reading, Speech, School Psychologist, a new Foreign Language offering Arabic for Middle School/High School students, Physical Education/Health, and two (2) certified Librarians for our elementary schools! Also, we will be able to provide several new Advanced Placement classes and offer 17 college-bearing credit classes (8 are new) for our High School students.

In closing, I feel that we are fortunate to be part of a community that places such a high value on investing in our students and schools. We are shaping our youth, who will be our future leaders. Please learn more about our budget in this newsletter and on our website, [www.lackawannaschools.org](http://www.lackawannaschools.org), and participate in the Annual School Budget Vote on Tuesday, May 18, 2021 from 12 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Steeler Pride!

Keith E. Lewis  
Superintendent of Schools



Keith E. Lewis



### ON THE BALLOT PROPOSITION 1

**Proposed budget: \$61,509,816**

- Tax cap compliant eight years in a row.
- **NO tax levy increase**
- The proposed budget includes a \$100,000 (98% State aid back to the district) Capital Outlay Project to improve Physical Education instructional space and make other necessary upgrades at Martin Road Elementary School.

### 4 BOARD OF EDUCATION SEATS

Three (3) three-year terms and  
one (1) two-year term

### WHEN AND HOW DO I VOTE?

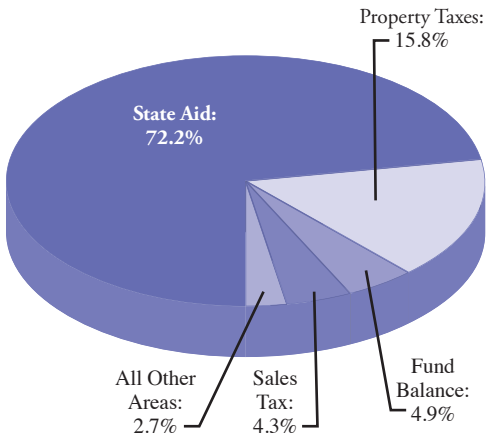
- Date: Tuesday, May 18, 2021
- Time: 12 to 9 p.m.
- Location: See Page 4 for your polling site.

### VOTER QUALIFICATIONS

- Citizen of the United States
- 18 years of age or older
- Resident of the school district for a period of 30 days prior to the vote

# Balancing the Budget

## PROJECTED REVENUES



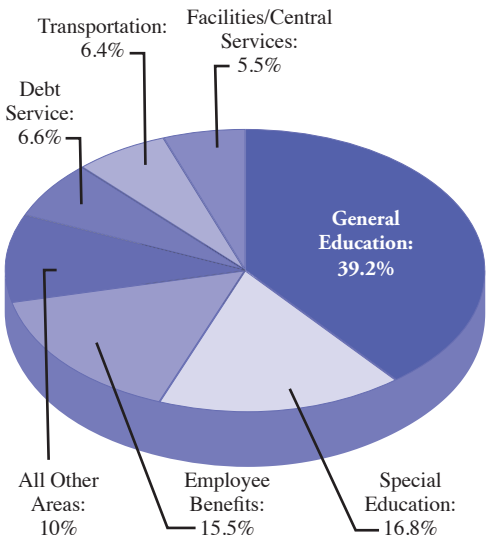
**"The \$2.5 million dollars of additional Foundation Aid funding will allow us to hire nearly 20 new teaching positions for next school year and present a 0% tax increase!"**

-Superintendent Keith E. Lewis

## Revenues at a Glance

REVENUES	BUDGETED 2020-21	PROPOSED 2021-22	YEAR-TO-YEAR CHANGE	PERCENT OF REVENUE
State Aid	\$41,304,590	\$44,388,800	7.5%	72.2%
Real Property Taxes	\$9,748,197	\$9,748,197	0.0%	15.8%
Erie County Sales Tax	\$2,385,000	\$2,650,000	11.1%	4.3%
NYS Tax on Consumer Utility Bills	\$540,000	\$450,000	-16.7%	0.7%
Medicaid Reimbursements	\$375,000	\$375,000	0.0%	0.6%
Other Payments in Lieu of Taxes	\$142,650	\$141,816	-0.6%	0.2%
Other Revenues	\$725,000	\$725,000	0.0%	1.2%
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$55,220,437</b>	<b>\$58,478,813</b>	<b>5.6%</b>	<b>N/A</b>
Appropriated Fund Balance	\$3,602,964	\$3,031,003	-15.9%	4.9%
<b>Revenues &amp; Fund Balance</b>	<b>\$58,823,401</b>	<b>\$61,509,816</b>	<b>4.6%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

## PROJECTED EXPENDITURES



**"Also in this budget is a \$100,000 (98% State aid back to the district) Capital Outlay Project for Martin Road Elementary. This will allow us to improve Physical Education instructional space and make other necessary upgrades."**

-Superintendent Keith E. Lewis

## Expenses at a Glance

EXPENDITURES	BUDGETED 2020-21	PROPOSED 2021-22	YEAR-TO-YEAR CHANGE	PERCENT OF BUDGET
Board of Education	\$74,100	\$73,975	-0.2%	0.1%
Office of the Superintendent	\$257,801	\$234,382	-9.1%	0.4%
Business Office/Finance	\$445,582	\$462,727	3.8%	0.8%
Legal/Personnel/Public Relations	\$519,762	\$447,444	-13.9%	0.7%
Facilities/Central Services	\$2,973,895	\$3,381,423	13.7%	5.5%
District Other/BOCES Capital	\$437,562	\$744,088	70.1%	1.2%
Admin. & Staff Development	\$1,427,377	\$1,300,418	-8.9%	2.1%
General Education	\$22,771,690	\$24,134,890	6.0%	39.2%
Special Education	\$10,162,545	\$10,315,920	1.5%	16.8%
Occupational Ed.	\$548,647	\$405,776	-26.0%	0.7%
Instructional Media Resources	\$763,331	\$998,459	30.8%	1.6%
Pupil Services	\$1,010,424	\$1,247,578	23.5%	2.0%
Transportation	\$3,814,548	\$3,945,735	3.4%	6.4%
Employee Benefits	\$9,088,303	\$9,508,149	4.6%	15.5%
Debt Service	\$4,333,834	\$4,068,852	-6.1%	6.6%
Interfund Transfers	\$194,000	\$240,000	23.7%	0.4%
<b>Total Appropriations</b>	<b>\$58,823,401</b>	<b>\$61,509,816</b>	<b>4.6%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

# 2021-22 Budget Notice



"I feel that we are fortunate to be part of a community that places such a high value on investing in our students and schools. We are shaping our youth, who will be our future leaders."

-Superintendent Keith E. Lewis

## Annual Budget Vote: Tuesday, May 18, 2021

### School District Budget Notice

	Budget Adopted for 2020-21 School Year	Budget Proposed for 2021-22 School Year	Contingency Budget for 2021-22 School Year*
Total Budgeted Amount, Not Including Separate Propositions	\$ 58,823,401	\$61,509,816	\$61,193,191
Increase/Decrease for the 2021-22 School Year		\$2,686,415	\$2,369,790
Percentage Increase/Decrease in Proposed Budget		4.57%	4.03%
Change in the Consumer Price Index		1.23%	
A. Proposed Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount	\$ 9,748,197	\$9,748,197	
B. Levy to Support Library Debt, if Applicable			
C. Levy for Non-Excludable Propositions, if Applicable **			
D. Total Tax Cap Reserve Amount Used to Reduce Current Year Levy			
E. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy (A + B + C - D)	\$ 9,748,197	\$9,748,197	\$9,748,197
F. Total Permissible Exclusions			
G. School Tax Levy Limit, <u>Excluding</u> Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$ 9,748,197	\$9,954,729	
H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, <u>Excluding</u> Levy to Support Library Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions (E - B - F + D)	\$ 9,748,197	\$9,748,197	
I. Difference: G - H (Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval - See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions) **	\$ 0	\$206,532	
Administrative Component	\$ 4,875,551	\$5,079,057	\$5,079,057
Program Component	\$ 46,685,190	\$49,104,775	\$48,943,150
Capital Component	\$ 7,262,660	\$7,325,984	\$7,170,984

\* Provide a statement of assumptions made in projecting a contingency budget for the 2021-22 school year, should the proposed budget be defeated pursuant to Section 2023 of the Education Law.

Equipment (except related to health and safety), capital outlay construction and other non-contingent items pursuant to Sec. 2023 of NYS Ed. Law, are removed. In addition, a contingency budget is subject to a cap on the administrative portion of the budget, with a zero percent cap on tax levy growth.

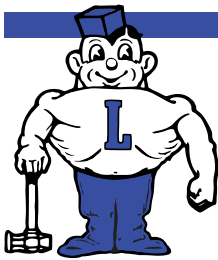
** List Separate Propositions that are not included in the Total Budgeted Amount: (Tax Levy associated with educational or transportation services propositions are not eligible for exclusion and may affect voter approval requirements)	Description	Amount
	None	

	Budget Proposed for the 2021-22 School Year
Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings <sup>1</sup>	\$335

The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2021-22 by the qualified voters of the Lackawanna City School District, Erie County, New York, will be held at various locations in said district on Tuesday, May 18, 2021 between the hours of noon and 9 p.m., prevailing time in the various polling places listed, at which time the polls will be opened to vote by voting machine.

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

**Please remember to come vote on the 2021-2022 budget and to elect four (4) members to the Board of Education.**



# Lackawanna

City School District

245 South Shore Boulevard  
Lackawanna, New York 14218

Non-Profit  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Permit No. 366  
Buffalo, NY

## Board of Education

Leonard F. Kowalski - *President*

Nicholas M. Sobaszek - *Vice President*

Mona Abdulla

Kimberly Bukaty

Anthony R. Catuzza

Mark E. Kowalski

Mohamed Munassar

Keith E. Lewis - *Superintendent of Schools*

## EXPERIENCE LACKAWANNA CITY SCHOOLS!

The Lackawanna City School District invites students to find their passions, cultivate their skills and achieve success after graduation.

### Our District offers:

- 100% NYS certified teachers
- Social workers and/or school counselors at each building
- Bully prevention and character education programs
- Steeler Community Service Day
- Kindergarten and Pre-K Reading programs
- Student-run bookstores and healthy bistro
- Dozens of community partners who aid in programming
- Health and Wellness Committee
- 25 sports programs with updated facilities
- Approved higher education courses through local colleges
- Parent engagement teams and themed Family Nights

## POLLING PLACES

There will be **EIGHT** polling sites for the Budget Vote and School Board Election:

### • First Ward

- |                         |  |
|-------------------------|--|
| - 1st District          | Bocce Court, 175 Madison Ave.                                    |
| - 2nd District          | Lackawanna Community Development Club House, 80 Steelawanna Ave. |
| - 3rd and 4th Districts | St. Anthony's Church, 306 Ingham Ave.                            |
| - 5th District          | Queen of Angels Church, 144 Warsaw St.                           |

### • Second Ward

- |                              |  |
|------------------------------|--|
| - 1st and 5th Districts      | VFW Weber Post, 2909 South Park Ave.   |
| - 2nd, 3rd and 4th Districts | Queen of Angels Church, 144 Warsaw St. |

### • Third Ward

- |                                   |                                      |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| - 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 5th Districts | McKinley School, 245 S. Shore Blvd.  |
| - 4th District                    | VFW Weber Post, 2909 South Park Ave. |

### • Fourth Ward

- |                                   |  |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| - 1st District                    | Matthew Glab Post, 1965 Abbott Rd.     |
| - 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th Districts | Senior Citizens Center, 230 Martin Rd. |

## RIGHT TO REQUEST AN EVALUATION OF A CHILD FOR DISABILITIES

Effective July 1, 2015, all parents and child guardians in the District must be made aware of their rights regarding referral evaluation of their child for the purpose of special education services or programs that are available. Parents and child guardians should go to [www.p12.nysed.gov/specialed/publications/policy/parentguide.html](http://www.p12.nysed.gov/specialed/publications/policy/parentguide.html) for information relating to a parent's guide to special education in New York State for children ages three (3) through twenty-one (21) years of age. If you have any questions, please also feel free to contact Julie Andreozzi, Principal of Special Education for the Lackawanna City School District, by calling (716) 821-5610, ext. 7736; faxing (716) 821-5627; or emailing [jandreozzi@lackawannaschools.org](mailto:jandreozzi@lackawannaschools.org).

**Annual Budget Vote: Tuesday, May 18, 2021**