

### District Annual Meeting - February 28<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 PM at FHUHS

The legal voters of the Slate Valley Unified Union School District (SVUUSD) consisting of the towns of Benson, Castleton, Fair Haven, Hubbardton, Orwell and West Haven are hereby warned and notified to meet at Fair Haven Union High School Band Room on Monday, February 28, 2022 at 5:30 PM. Participation will be in-person or virtual. Virtually connect by going to: <https://meet.google.com/ixc-bfdi-ptv> or by phone (US) +1 617-675-4444 PIN: 815 518 313 0854#

### Proposed Fiscal Year 2023 (2022-2023 School Year) Budget Overview

#### Budget Objectives

- Middle School for 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> Graders
- Social Emotional Learning
- Building Maintenance
- Educational Equity for All Students
- Efficiencies Throughout the System
- Value for Taxpayers

#### Building Maintenance

Through work with the Administration and the Building and Grounds Committee we have identified approximately \$12 million in building projects that are needed over the next 5-10 years. Each project is being prioritized based on need. While we have currently prioritized the budget on moving the middle school to the high school campus there are other projects that are in the plans. One of the projects that we are currently planning is for replacement of the elevator at the high school. A new elevator will replace the existing lift that is continually under repair and is undersized for current need. Additionally, we will be looking at window replacement in Benson, painting in Orwell and improvements to the Pre-K playground space at the Fair Haven Grade School. Funding for these projects will come from the regular budget along with reserve funds.

#### Projected Staffing Changes

FY23 Changes:

- Reduction of 14.8 FTE (Direct Instruction, Administration and Support Staff)
- Addition of 2 FTE (Student Support, Digital Arts Teacher)

Total Reductions: 12.8 FTE

Total Net Reductions in Staffing over 5 years (FY19-FY23: 33.45 FTE)

#### Proposed Expenditure Budget: \$26,270,047

	FY23 Budget Proposed	FY22 Budget	Change: Increase (Decrease)	
<b>Expenditure Budget</b>	\$26,270,047	\$26,280,385	(\$10,338)	(0.039%)

Note: The FY23 expenditure budget is \$223,591 less than the FY20 expenditure budget.

#### Proposed Local Revenue Budget: \$4,638,426

	FY23 Budget Proposed	FY22 Budget	Change: Increase (Decrease)
<b>Local Revenue Budget</b>	\$4,638,426	\$5,221,285	(\$582,859)
<b>Summary of Changes:</b>			
<b>Use of Prior Year Surplus</b>	\$1,204,087	\$1,799,336	(\$595,249)
<b>Special Ed. Revenue Sources</b>	\$2,736,404	\$2,760,764	(\$24,360)
<b>Transportation Revenue Sources</b>	\$421,000	\$373,750	\$47,250
<b>Other Sources</b>	\$276,935	\$287,435	(\$10,500)

### Education Spending Per Equalized Pupil

	FY23 Proposed	FY22	Change: Increase (Decrease)
<b>Expenditure Budget</b>	\$26,270,047	\$26,280,385	(\$10,338)
<b>Local Revenues</b>	\$4,638,426	\$5,221,285	(\$582,859)
<b>Education Spending</b>	\$21,631,621	\$21,059,100	(\$572,521)
<b>Equalized Pupils</b>	1,273.69	1,276.47	(2.78)
<b>Education Spending per Equalized Pupil based on Proposed Budget</b>	\$16,983.43	\$16,497.92	\$485.51 2.94%

### FY23 Proposed Budget Summarized by Functional Area

Function	Description of Functional Area	FY22 Budget 7/1/21 thru 6/30/22	FY23 Proposed Budget 7/1/22 thru 6/30/23	Change Increase(Decrease)
1100	Regular Direct Instructional Programs	\$ 13,065,073	\$ 13,186,766	\$ 121,693
1400	Athletic Programs	498,878	461,791	(37,087)
1500	Cocurricular Programs	90,321	76,031	(14,290)
2120	Guidance Services	756,290	768,570	12,280
2132	School Nurse Services	551,718	543,903	(7,815)
2140	Psychological Services	93,505	96,545	3,040
2150	Speech and Other Therapy Services	267,935	356,255	88,320
2160	Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy and Vision Services	123,279	71,134	(52,145)
2190	Other Student Services	634,012	675,111	41,099
2210	Improvement of Instruction	325,384	289,824	(35,560)
2220	Library Services	297,911	292,927	(4,984)
2230	Instruction Related Technology	571,920	545,082	(26,838)
2311	School Board and Legal Services	123,331	112,515	(10,816)
2320	Superintendent's Office	314,310	341,624	27,314
2410	School Administration	2,226,183	2,076,573	(149,610)
2490	Other Administration Support Services	75,581	81,467	5,886
2500	Other Central Services	212,916	220,202	7,286
2510	Fiscal Services	569,658	619,996	50,338
2580	Districtwide Technology Services	512,562	541,416	28,854
2600	Buildings and Grounds	2,365,455	2,579,748	214,293
4700	Building Improvements	600,000	600,000	-
2660	Security and Safety	228,763	201,881	(26,882)
2700	Transportation	1,403,000	1,339,250	(63,750)
3100	Food Service Programs	43,500	40,500	(3,000)
5000	Debt Service	328,900	150,936	(177,964)
	<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$ 26,280,385</b>	<b>\$ 26,270,047</b>	<b>\$ (10,338)</b>

A detailed report of the FY23 proposed budget expenditures compared to the FY22 budget, and actual expenditures for FY21 and FY22 year to date can be found by going to the Slate Valley UUSD website: [www.slatevalleyunified.org](http://www.slatevalleyunified.org). The website also has a link to the FY23 budget presentation which contains additional information regarding the budget and estimated tax rates.

### Expenditure Budget Comparison to Prior Years

Comparison to FY22			
FY23 Proposed Budget	FY22 Budget	\$ Change	% Change
\$26,270,047	\$26,280,385	\$10,338 decrease	0.039% decrease

Comparison to FY20			
FY23 Proposed Budget	FY20 Budget	\$ Change	% Change
\$26,270,047	\$26,493,638	\$223,591 decrease	0.84% decrease

Education Spending Per Equalized Pupil		
FY23 Proposed	FY22	Percent Change
\$16,983.43	\$16,497.92	2.94% increase

### Homestead Tax Rate:

The Tax Commissioner in his annual letter to the Legislature, recommended a yield based on “statutorily prescribed parameters” of \$13,846. A significant factor in setting the yield this year was an unprecedented surplus of nearly \$90 million in the Education Fund from FY22. The Vermont Legislature will finally set the yield and there is much discussion in Montpelier with regard to how to use the \$90 million. If the surplus is not applied by the Legislature toward the yield, the resulting amount is \$12,937. The District has decided to use the more conservative yield of \$12,937 in its estimates of tax rates. Despite using a lower yield and based on the information that we have at this time, we are projecting that the equalized tax rate will be less than the FY22 tax rate by 12.5 cents. The equalized tax rate is further adjusted for each town’s common level of appraisal (CLA). The tax rate is an estimate until such time as the Legislature sets the yield.

FY23 <u>Estimated</u> Equalized Tax Rate			
FY23	FY22	Change in Equalized Tax Rate	
\$1.3128	\$1.4378	\$0.1250	8.70% decrease

Town	FY23 <u>Estimated</u> Equalized Tax Rate	CLA (Common Level of Appraisal)	FY23 <u>Estimated</u> Homestead Tax Rate	DECREASE in <u>Estimated</u> Tax Rate (\$)	DECREASE in <u>Estimated</u> Tax Rate (%)
Benson	\$1.3128	99.04%	\$1.3255	\$0.1226	8.47%
Castleton	\$1.3128	90.55%	\$1.4498	\$0.0840	5.48%
Fair Haven	\$1.3128	104.95%	\$1.2509	\$0.0446	3.45%
Hubbardton	\$1.3128	89.07%	\$1.4739	\$0.0321	2.13%
Orwell	\$1.3128	100.67%	\$1.3040	\$0.1527	10.48%
West Haven	\$1.3128	97.03%	\$1.3530	\$0.1359	9.13%

### Income Sensitivity:

Some taxpayers pay their education property taxes based on household income. The FY23 household income cap percentage is 2.19%. In FY22 it was 2.36%. The following are the percent of homestead taxpayers by town that paid their property taxes based on income in tax year 2021.

Town	% Based on Income	Town	% Based on Income
Benson	64.13%	Hubbardton	77.25%
Castleton	68.16%	Orwell	75.68%
Fair Haven	64.89%	West Haven	81.25%

## **School Budget Vote - March 1, 2022**

Benson, Castleton, Fair Haven, Hubbardton, West Haven, and Orwell

**Article 6:** Shall the voters of the School District authorize a transfer from the general fund surplus balance in the amount of \$820,000 to the capital improvements and repairs reserve fund?

**Article 7:** Shall the voters of the School District approve the school board to expend \$26,270,047, which is the amount the school board has determined to be necessary for the ensuing fiscal year? It is estimated that this proposed budget, if approved, will result in education spending of \$16,983.43 per equalized pupil. This projected spending per equalized pupil is 2.94% higher than spending for the current year.

### **Methods of Voting**

- Absentee Ballot (Please contact your Town Office)
- In Person (Following CDC Guidelines)

Hard Copies of the SVUUSD Annual Report and Proposed Budget will be available at the Town Clerk Offices.

For a digital copy, visit: [www.slatevalleyunified.org](http://www.slatevalleyunified.org)

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