

# CHAPPAQUA SCHOOLS

PUBLISHED FOR THE RESIDENTS OF THE DISTRICT BY THE CHAPPAQUA BOARD OF EDUCATION

Dear Community Member:

On April 17th, the Chappaqua Board of Education adopted the 2007-08 school year budget to be presented to the voters on Tuesday, May 15th. This budget is the result of a process that began last summer when the Board and administrators met to begin developing strategic questions for 2006-07 that covered not only teaching and learning, but also financial goals. Our thinking focused on two questions essential to the mission of the Chappaqua schools. How can the district ensure that all students, in addition to acquiring content knowledge, learn to think deeply, support their thinking and apply problem-solving skills? How can we ensure continued excellence in our academic and extra curricular programs while moderating budget increases? These strategic questions framed the development of the proposed budget.



The proposed budget for 2007-08 totals \$101,989,545, an increase of \$4,970,332 or 5.1% over the budget for 2006-07. This historically moderate increase is the result of prudent planning, steady enrollment and the fact that there are no major instructional initiatives, large one-time or externally mandated cost increases or new debt. Over 65% of the budget to budget increase is due to contractual increases in salaries and employee benefits. Two new staff positions were added at the high school, a guidance counselor and a psychologist. The psychologist will work in the new Transitional Support Program at Greeley, as well as support the counseling needs of the entire school. The projected tax rate increase for the Town of New Castle is 4.10% and for the Town of Mt. Pleasant 3.30%.

In addition to the budget, this year residents will also vote on two propositions for capital repairs and improvements in the district. Funding for these propositions will be covered by state aid reimbursements and the use of existing district surplus funds, thereby resulting in no additional costs to the taxpayers. The first proposition authorizes \$2,128,000 for boiler, window and roof repairs and replacements at Horace Greeley High School and Bell Middle School. A one-time funding offer from New York State EXCEL aid will cover \$1,355,866 of the project costs. The remaining \$772,134 will be reimbursed to the district through building aid payments over a 15 year period. The second proposition authorizes the use of up to \$700,000 in existing district funds to replace the home and visitor bleachers at the high school competition field. The existing bleachers fail to meet current code, require continuous repair and present a safety concern.

The 2007-08 Budget Summary book provides detailed information and may be picked up during business hours at the Education Center, 66 Roaring Brook Road, at the reference desk at the Chappaqua Library and at each school building.

As always, we thank you for your support of public education in Chappaqua and urge you to vote on the school budget, school board candidates and the two propositions on Tuesday, May 15th from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. in the Horace Greeley High School gym.

Sincerely,

**The Chappaqua Board of Education**

Susan Habermann, President

Lisa Davis, Vice President

Janet Benton

Rob Gursha

Jay Shapiro

# Vote

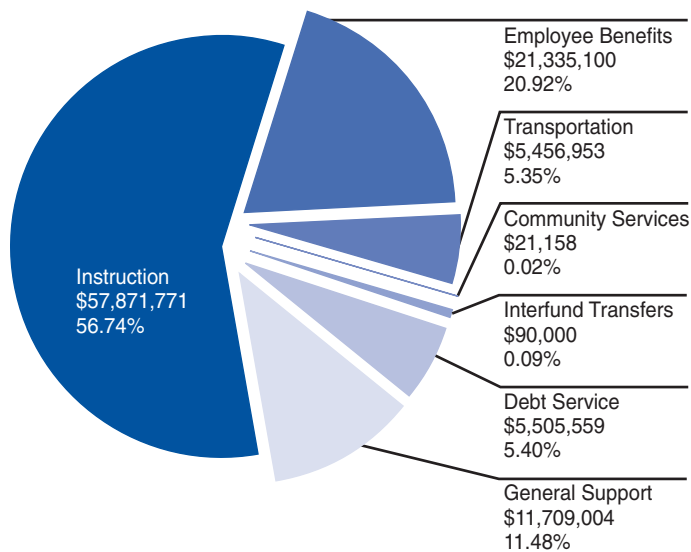
May 15

7 AM—9 PM

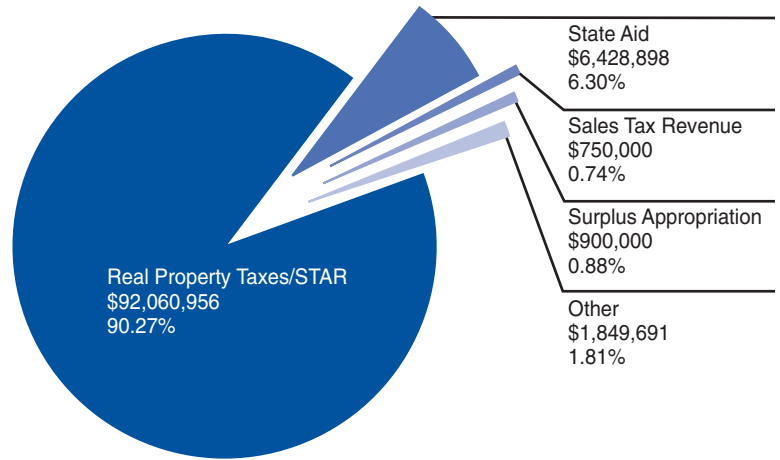
Greeley Gym

# Budget Information

## 2007-08 General Fund Expenditures



## 2007-08 General Fund Revenues



| Budget Summary                     |                          | 2006-07<br>Approved Budget | 2007-08<br>Proposed Budget | %<br>Change    |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------|
| <b>General Support</b>             | Board of Education       | \$68,013                   | \$62,100                   | -8.69%         |
|                                    | Central Administration   | \$336,888                  | \$345,935                  | 2.69%          |
|                                    | Finance                  | \$1,029,212                | \$1,263,866                | 22.80%         |
|                                    | Staff                    | \$681,384                  | \$426,291                  | -37.44%        |
|                                    | Operations & Maintenance | \$7,650,031                | \$8,242,563                | 7.75 %         |
|                                    | Special Items            | \$1,205,160                | \$1,368,249                | 13.53%         |
|                                    | <b>Total</b>             | <b>\$10,970,688</b>        | <b>\$11,709,004</b>        | <b>6.73 %</b>  |
| <b>Instruction</b>                 | Supervision              | \$5,105,713                | \$5,403,523                | 5.83 %         |
|                                    | Regular School           | \$31,884,056               | \$34,322,705               | 7.65 %         |
|                                    | Special Schools          | \$292,229                  | \$311,565                  | 6.62 %         |
|                                    | Special Apportionment    | \$10,308,914               | \$9,840,864                | -4.54 %        |
|                                    | Instructional Media      | \$3,593,746                | \$3,682,350                | 2.47 %         |
|                                    | Pupil Services           | \$2,554,200                | \$2,908,708                | 13.88 %        |
|                                    | Pupil Activities         | \$1,404,320                | \$1,402,056                | -0.16 %        |
|                                    | <b>Total</b>             | <b>\$55,143,178</b>        | <b>\$57,871,771</b>        | <b>4.95 %</b>  |
| <b>Transportation</b>              |                          | <b>\$5,203,948</b>         | <b>\$5,456,953</b>         | <b>4.86 %</b>  |
| <b>Community Services</b>          |                          | <b>\$21,249</b>            | <b>\$21,158</b>            | <b>-0.43 %</b> |
| <b>Undistributed</b>               | Interfund Transfers      | \$190,000                  | \$90,000                   | -52.63%        |
|                                    | Employee Benefits        | \$20,052,856               | \$21,335,100               | 6.39 %         |
|                                    | Debt Service             | \$5,437,294                | \$5,505,559                | 1.26 %         |
| <b>Total</b>                       |                          | <b>\$25,680,150</b>        | <b>\$26,930,659</b>        | <b>4.87 %</b>  |
| <b>General Fund Appropriations</b> |                          | <b>\$97,019,213</b>        | <b>\$101,989,545</b>       | <b>5.12 %</b>  |

# School District Budget Notice

State Law requires that all residents receive this information in the following format:

\*Revised 5/8/2007

## Overall Budget Proposal

|  | Budget Adopted<br>for the 2006-07<br>School Year | Budget Proposed<br>for the 2007-08<br>School Year | Contingency Budget<br>for the 2007-08<br>School Year <sup>1</sup> |
|--|--|---|---|
| Total budget amount  | \$97,019,213                                     | \$101,989,545                                     | \$100,763,016   |
| Increase/decrease for the 2007-08 school year                        |  | \$4,970,332                                       | \$3,743,803   |
| Percentage increase in each proposed budget                          |  | 5.12 %  | 3.86 %  |
| Change in the consumer price index                                   |  | 3.20 %  |   |
| Resulting estimated property tax levy<br>for the 2007-08 school year |  | \$92,060,956                                      | \$90,834,427  |
| Administrative component   | \$10,556,184                                     | \$11,068,020                                      | \$11,050,000*   |
| Program component  | \$71,194,268                                     | \$75,613,022                                      | \$74,598,564*   |
| Capital component  | \$15,268,761                                     | \$15,308,503                                      | \$15,114,452*   |

<sup>1</sup> Statement of assumptions made in projecting a contingency budget for the 2007-08 school year, should the proposed budget be defeated. The contingency budget would require nearly \$1,226,529 in cuts from the proposed 2007-08 budget. Reductions would be made across the budget, including instructional staffing, office and custodial staff, aides, athletics, administrative staff, equipment and supplies, and special programs.

## Basic STAR Exemption Impact

Estimated Basic STAR<sup>2</sup> Exemption Savings Based on a Hypothetical Home Within the School District with a Full Value of One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000).

|                              | Budget Adopted<br>for the 2006-07<br>School Year | Budget Proposed<br>for the 2007-08<br>School Year |
|------------------------------|--|---|
| Basic STAR tax savings       | \$1,423  | \$1,625   |
| School tax increase/decrease | \$96   | \$(6)   |
| Net Basic STAR savings       | \$1,327  | \$1,631   |

The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2007-08 by the qualified voters of the Chappaqua Central School District, Westchester County, New York, will be held at the Horace Greeley High School in said district on Tuesday, May 15, 2007 between the hours of 7:00 am and 9:00 pm, prevailing time in the Horace Greeley High School, at which time the polls will be opened to vote by voting machine ballot or machine.

<sup>2</sup> The basic school tax relief (STAR) exemption is authorized by section 425 of the Real Property Tax Law.

# Capital Improvement Propositions

## EXCEL Aid Proposition

Proposition 1 authorizes the borrowing and expenditure of \$2,128,000 for boiler, window, and roof repair and replacement work at Bell Middle School and Horace Greeley High School. Both schools will get new boilers to replace aging and inefficient equipment. New roofing will be installed in selected areas at both schools where current roofs are failing, resulting in water damage to the buildings. New energy efficient windows will replace leaking and inoperable windows at Bell and in L Building at Greeley.

The District will initially take out a Bond Anticipation Note (BAN) for \$2,128,000. After the capital projects are reviewed by the State Education Department, the District will receive \$1,355,866 in EXCEL Aid, a one time funding offer for school infrastructure improvements, which will be used to pay back a portion of the BAN. The District will then either take out a 15 year bond for the remaining \$772,134 or use surplus District funds, depending upon which is more financially advantageous at the time. The District will receive building aid payments on the projects totaling \$772,134 over the

next 15 years, which will offset the cost of bonding or the use of surplus funds, thereby making this proposition essentially "no cost" to the taxpayers. The capital projects are expected to be completed over the summer of 2008.

## Bleacher Replacement Proposition

Proposition 2 authorizes the expenditure of up to \$700,000 in existing district surplus funds to replace the home and visitor bleachers at the Horace Greeley High School competition field. The bleachers fail to meet current code, are in need of continuous repair, and constitute a growing safety concern. The \$700,000 project cost includes the removal and disposal of the existing bleachers, preparation of the site, installation of new concrete footings, and the purchase and installation of the new bleachers. New bleachers will maintain the current seating capacity and configuration as well as the existing press box.

## Chappaqua Central School District

DO NOT SIGN THIS BALLOT

May 15, 2007

DO NOT SIGN THIS BALLOT

YES NO

### SCHOOL BUDGET RESOLUTION

RESOLVED: That the Board of Education of Chappaqua Central School District be and hereby is authorized to expend the sum of \$101,989,545 set forth in the School District Budget for the School Year 2007-2008, and that the necessary tax be levied therefor.

YES NO

### LIBRARY BUDGET RESOLUTION

RESOLVED: That there is hereby appropriated the sum of \$2,762,436 for the Chappaqua Central School District Public Library for the School Year 2007-2008, and that the necessary tax be levied therefor.

YES NO

### EXCEL PROPOSITION

#### RESOLVED:

(a) That the Board of Education of the Chappaqua Central School District, in the County of Westchester, New York (the "District"), is hereby authorized to construct improvements to various District school buildings (the "EXCEL Project") and to expend therefor an amount not to exceed \$2,128,000; (b) that the District expects to receive aid from the State of New York sufficient to pay substantially all of the cost thereof; (c) that to finance the cost thereof prior to the receipt of such aid, the District may issue obligations, and a tax is hereby authorized to be levied and collected in installments in such years and amounts as shall be determined by the Board of Education of the District to pay such obligations as the same become due and payable; and (d) the amount of taxes hereby authorized shall be offset and reduced by any and all amounts of such aid received by the District, and the District expects that the aggregate amount of such aid will be sufficient to pay substantially all costs of the Project and the financing thereof.

YES NO

### BLEACHER REPLACEMENT PROPOSITION

#### RESOLVED:

(a) That the Board of Education of the Chappaqua Central School District, in the County of Westchester, New York (the "District"), is hereby authorized to expend from funds on hand and available therefor an amount of not to exceed \$700,000 to replace bleachers at Horace Greeley High School competition field including the original equipment, machinery, furnishings, apparatus, and all ancillary and related site and other work required in connection therewith.

TO ELECT TWO Members of  
THE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
For a Term of Three Years  
(Vote for TWO)

1A  
Jeffrey Mester

1B  
Harvey Kerrich

1C  
Jay Shapiro

TO ELECT ONE TRUSTEE  
SCHOOL DISTRICT LIBRARY  
For a Term of Five Years  
(Vote for ONE)

2A  
Gerry Golub

2B  
Evelyn Bloom

### CHAPPAQUA CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

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