

Budget Edition

2005-2006

Budget balances educational and fiscal realities

On May 17, Schuylerville residents will go to the polls to vote on a proposed \$26.2 million budget for the 2005-06 school year.

The proposed spending plan results in a projected tax rate increase of 2 percent (plus or minus 2 percent). It represents a 4.88 percent increase over the current budget.

"The 2005-06 spending plan maintains all of our current educational programs, while also looking at some cost-saving measures to help offset increases in areas where we have little or no control, such as utilities," comments Superintendent Dr. Leon Reed.

Highlights

Here are some highlights of the proposed 2005-06 budget:

- ✓ All district employees are now paying a portion of their health insurance premiums.
- ✓ For the fourth year in a row, there is a freeze on spending for materials and supplies.
- ✓ Most educational programs are operating at



the same budgetary levels as last year. In essence, funding was "rolled over" from the levels allocated during the 2004-05 school year.

- ✓ The district is saving in special education costs by bringing students back into our schools rather than contracting with outside businesses for educational and transportation services.

- ✓ The district continues to save taxpayer dollars by joining buying consortiums that provide discounts on natural gas and electricity, as well as health insurance premiums. Similarly, many office and classroom supplies are purchased through a bidding process.

School Budget Vote and Board Elections

Tuesday, May 17, 2005

Elementary School

Noon - 9:00 p.m.



SCHOOLING • CARING • SUCCEEDING

"In all, this budget takes into consideration both educational and economic realities," concludes Reed. ▲

Ballot proposition

◆ **Proposition #1**

Purchase of Buses: Approval of this proposition would allow the district to fund replacement of school buses that are beyond their life expectancy. Two diesel buses would be purchased at a maximum cost of \$152,000. Approximately \$127,680, or 84 percent, of the cost is returned to the district in the form of state aid. There is no impact on 2005-06 taxes (the average impact over the five-year payoff period is less than 0.1 percent annually).

Board elections

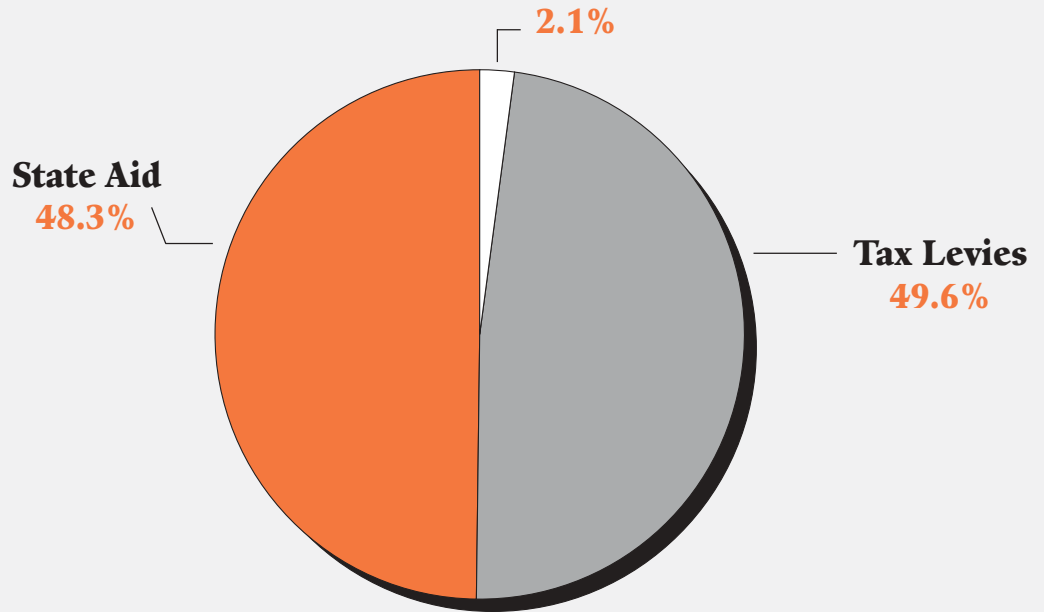
In addition to voting on the proposed budget and the proposition, you can vote in the Board of Education election. One Board seat, carrying a five-year term, is available. The two candidates running for the seat are:

◆ Incumbent **Stan Barber**, who resides at 188 Hayes Road in Schuylerville.

◆ **Denise Zdobonikow**, who resides at 1017 Route 29 in Schuylerville. ▲

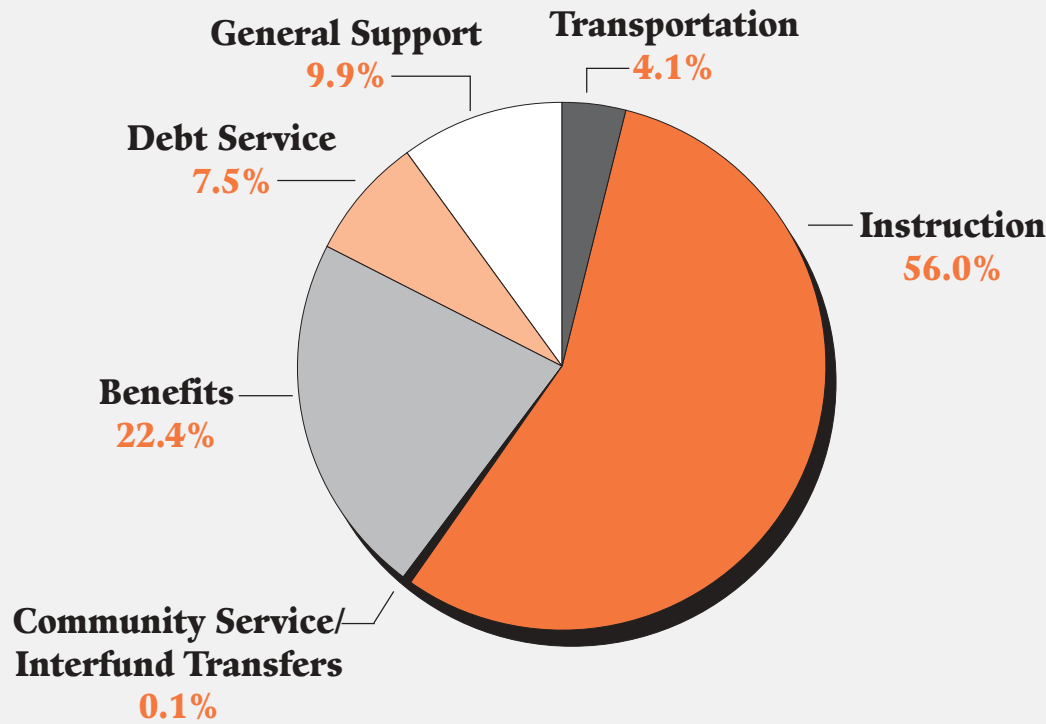
Revenues - where does the money come from?

**Interest Earnings, Tax Penalties
Capital Fund Transfers, Miscellaneous,
Charges for Services, Fund Balance**



Income Sources	Proposed 2005-06 Budget	2004-05 Budget	Difference
Tax Levies	\$12,671,454	\$11,958,655	\$712,799
State Aid	13,001,976	12,470,087	531,889
Interest Earnings/ Tax Penalties/ Capital Fund Transfers	86,000	94,500	-8,500
Misc./Charges for Services	305,193	320,193	-15,000
Fund Balance	\$175,000	175,000	0
TOTAL	\$26,239,623	\$25,018,435	\$1,221,188

Expenditures - how is the money invested?



Voter qualifications

To vote on the school budget and in the Board of Education election, you must be at least 18 years of age, a resident of the district for at least 30 days prior to the vote and a U.S. citizen. ▲

Absentee ballots

If you would like an application for an absentee ballot, please call the Superintendent's Office at 695-3255, extension 3242. You are eligible to use an absentee ballot if you are unable to vote because you are: out of the district for work-related or military reasons, in jail, hospitalized, permanently disabled, sick and confined to home, or on vacation and out of the district. ▲

For more details

This publication provides a summary of the proposed 2005-06 budget. If you'd like more details, please call the Business Office at 695-3255, extension 3251. You can also stop by the Administration Building to review the district's plain language budget and/or the School Report Card. ▲

Budget Category	Proposed 2005-06 Budget	2004-05 Budget	Difference
Instruction	\$14,672,154	\$14,353,311	\$318,843
Benefits	5,876,181	5,144,956	731,225
General Support	2,594,888	2,455,926	138,962
Pupil Transportation	1,080,963	1,101,755	-20,792
Debt Service	1,972,106	1,919,156	52,950
Community Service	3,331	3,331	0
Interfund Transfers	40,000	40,000	0
TOTAL	\$26,239,623	\$25,018,435	\$1,221,188

The Budget Notice - A State Requirement

The budget information in the charts at the right is complex and difficult to understand. We apologize for this. Current laws require the district to present this information in a format prescribed by the state.

The STAR Program

It is important to point out that STAR is a property tax relief program for individual homeowners. It is *not* a source of funding for school districts and therefore does not prevent tax rates from rising.

However, the net taxes paid by district homeowners are reduced due to STAR. Based on state guidelines, net taxes were reduced by \$695.90 in 2004-05. The projected reduction in 2005-06 taxes is \$739.70. For more information, call the Business Office at 695-3255, extension 3251 or contact your town assessor. ▲



BOARD of EDUCATION

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 Stan Barber
 Jack Macica
 Nancy North
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Superintendent

Leon J. Reed

Editor: Kim Smithgall

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Budget Notice

	Budget adopted for 2004-05 school year	Budget proposed for 2005-06 school year	Contingency budget for 2005-06 school year
Total budgeted amount	\$25,018,435	\$26,239,623	\$25,995,356
Increase for 2005-06 year		\$1,221,188	\$976,921
Percentage increase in each proposed budget		4.88%	3.90%
Change in Consumer Price Index (CPI)		2.7%	
Resulting estimated property tax levy for 2005-06 school year*		\$12,671,454	\$12,427,187
Administrative component	\$2,203,583	\$2,335,866	\$2,314,127
Program component	\$19,191,768	\$20,097,629	\$19,910,520
Capital component	\$3,623,084	\$3,806,128	\$3,770,709

* The increase in the tax **levy** is different from the increase in the tax **rate**. The tax **levy** is the total dollars the district collects. The tax **rate** is used in calculating what each property owner will pay in school taxes. For the 2005-06 school year, the tax **levy** is projected to increase 5.96% while average tax rates are projected to increase by 2 percent (plus or minus 2 percent). The actual tax rate increase will depend on equalization rates, property growth and the amount of aid received from the state.

If the proposed budget is defeated and the district goes to a contingency budget, the Board will attempt to reduce the budget proportionally across all non-mandated programs and services.

Basic STAR Exemption Impact

Estimated Basic STAR exemption savings based on a hypothetical home within the school district with a full value of \$100,000. Calculations outlined below are in a format prescribed by the state.

	Budget adopted for 2004-05 school year	Budget proposed for 2005-06 school year
Basic STAR savings	\$792.90	\$815.70
School tax increase/decrease	\$97.00	\$76.00
Net Basic STAR savings	\$695.90	\$739.70

The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2005-06 by the qualified voters of the Schuylerville Central School District, Saratoga County, New York, will be held at Schuylerville Elementary School in said district on Tuesday, May 17, 2005 between the hours of noon and 9:00 p.m., prevailing time in the Schuylerville Schools, at which time the polls can be opened to vote by voting machine or absentee ballot.

Schuylerville

CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

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