

2005 - 2006

School Budget REVOTE



Warwick

June 23 budget revote Q and A

**PUBLIC VOTE
ON 2005-2006
WARWICK VALLEY
CENTRAL SCHOOL
DISTRICT BUDGET**

Thursday

June 23

7 a.m. - 9 p.m.

Where to vote:

District 1 : Pine Island
Elementary School

District 2 : Dorothy C.
Wilson Ed. Center -
Middle School Addition

District 3 : Kings
Elementary School

QUESTIONS?

**Call the budget
hotline: 987-9873**

Budget details available at:

- All district schools
(M-F 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.)
- District office
(M-F 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.)
- District Website:
www.warwickvalleyschools.com



Q How can the Board of Education present the same budget for a second vote? If it's defeated again, will there be yet another vote?

A According to New York State Education Law, the Board of Education can submit a proposed budget to voters twice. If the budget is defeated both times, the board must then adopt a contingency budget.

Q Why hasn't the Board of Education made any cuts to the proposed budget?

A The school board and administration spent many hours developing a budget that was tight financially, but still maintained the quality of education expected for students and the community.

This is the lowest proposed budget increase and tax increase in six years. Warwick already has one of the lowest cost-per-pupil expenditures in the mid-Hudson region.

Referring to the fact that the budget was defeated in May by such a slim margin, Board President Kurt Emmerich said, "I believe in giving the community a second chance to do the right thing. We can only do that by presenting the full budget again."

Q My expenses and taxes are already too high. If the school budget is defeated, at least

my property taxes won't go up next year, right?

A Wrong. Under an austerity plan, the school budget (and taxes) will still increase – just not as much. The state can't disallow all spending increases for schools because districts must, by law, continue to pay contractual salaries, benefits and obligations. Also, the same things that affect homeowners – high gas prices, high cost of health insurance, heating fuel costs, etc. – also affect schools.

The difference between the proposed budget and a defeated budget (austerity) is approximately \$2.70 per thousand in the tax rate. This translates to about \$108 per year or \$9 per month for the Warwick homeowner with a house assessed at \$40,000.

This \$9 per month reduction in the average homeowner's tax bill will be obtained by cuts to the budget that may have a serious impact on non-mandated education programs and sports and co-curricular programs

Q What does a fully funded education program mean to our community?

A Homeowners in Warwick have seen a large increase in the value of their homes in recent years. High property value in the community is due in no small part to the quality of the school district. Many families have relocated to Warwick not

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Warwick Valley School District Budget Notice

Overall Budget Proposal

| | Budget adopted for 2004 school year | Budget proposed for 2005 school year | Contingency budget estimate for 2005 school year* |
|---|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|
| Total budgeted amount | \$64,712,119 | \$69,750,788 | \$68,750,788 |
| Increase for 2005 school year | | \$5,038,669 | \$4,038,669 |
| Percentage increase in each proposed budget | | 7.79% | 6.24% |
| Change in consumer price index | | 2.70% | |
| Resulting estimated property tax levy for 2005-06 school year | | \$47,706,788 | \$46,706,788 |
| Administrative component | \$7,662,807 | \$8,198,436 | \$8,020,436 |
| Program component | \$47,410,590 | \$51,356,478 | \$50,708,591 |
| Capital component | \$9,638,722 | \$10,195,875 | \$10,021,762 |

*The estimate of the deleted non-contingent items include staff, supplies, equipment and services in the Administrative, Program and Capital components.

Basic STAR Exemption Impact

Estimated basic STAR exemption savings on a hypothetical home within the school district with a full value of one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000).

| | Budget adopted for 2004-05 school year | Budget proposed for 2005-06 school year | |
|--------------------------------|--|---|-------|
| | | Estimated Range | |
| Basic STAR tax savings | \$768 | \$762 | \$780 |
| School tax increase/(decrease) | \$185 | \$86 | \$132 |
| Net basic STAR tax savings | \$583 | \$676 | \$648 |

The vote on the annual budget for 2005-06 by the qualified voters of the Warwick Valley Central School District, Orange County, New York, will be held at Kings School, Pine Island School and the Dorothy C. Wilson Education Center at the Middle School in said district on Thursday, June 23, 2005, between the hours of 7 a.m. and 9 p.m., prevailing time in the Kings, Pine Island and Middle School, at which time the polls will be opened to vote by a voting ballot or machine.

just because it is a beautiful town and a great community, but also because of the high quality of education available to their children.

More opportunity for students in school-related activities usually means less opportunity to find trouble elsewhere. Were it not for the many opportunities available to students beyond the regular school day – sports, drama and musical performances, clubs and numerous after-school activities – students would be lacking for something productive to do. This might result in kids looking for things to do downtown and other local areas and could spell trouble for unsupervised youth and the community as a whole.

The realities of an austerity budget

What it may mean:

- larger class sizes
- full-day kindergarten may change to half-day
- cuts to sports programs
- elimination of bus stops on various routes
- no new instructional equipment
- cuts to the music program
- elimination of some high school electives
- cuts to the art program
- elimination of clubs and intramural sports
- no free use of school buildings by community organizations and civic groups

Dr. Joseph L. Natale
Superintendent

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Central School District
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