

Budget Edition

2006-2007

On May 16, Schuylerville residents will go to the polls to vote on a proposed \$28.1 million budget for the 2006-07 school year.

The budget maintains all of our current educational programs; it adds new staff to help with increasing student enrollment, state mandates and special needs for students," says Superintendent Dr. Leon Reed. "We're able to control the increase in total taxes because of property growth in the district and additional state aid."

The proposed spending plan results in a projected average tax rate increase of approximately 2 percent. It represents a 7 percent increase over the current budget and a tax levy increase of 6.3 percent. There may be significant changes in individual homeowner's school taxes due to reassessments in the Town of Northumberland and possible significant changes in equalization rates in the other six towns. However, the average increase in total school taxes will be 2 percent or less for all taxpayers.

Highlights

Here are some highlights of the proposed 2006-2007 budget:

- ✓ One new English teacher and two new math teachers at the Jr.-Sr. High School, and two additional Elementary School classroom teachers, along



with 1.4 new special education teacher positions to accommodate increasing numbers of students.

- ✓ The addition of an intervention counselor to help at-risk students.

- ✓ New costs for internal auditor and internal special claims auditor as required by state law. Service will be provided by BOCES and the cost shared by several school districts.

- ✓ Budget takes into consideration estimated 9 to 10 percent increases in the costs of health insurance, retirement contributions and liability insurance. The district is also contending with record increases in the cost of natural gas, which increased 53 percent.

- ✓ 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. ▲

School Budget Vote and Board Election

Tuesday, May 16, 2006

Elementary School

Noon - 9:00 p.m.



SCHOOLING • CARING • SUCCEEDING

Propositions

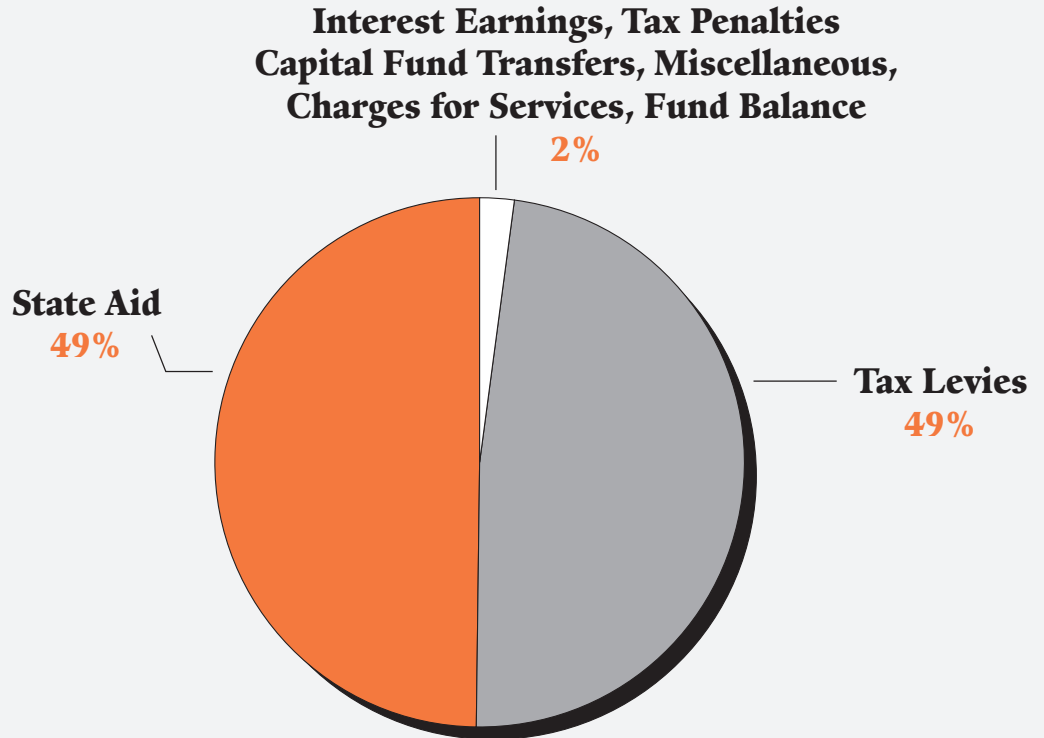
◆ **Proposition #1 Purchase of Buses:** Approval of this proposition would allow the district to fund replacement of school buses that are beyond their life expectancy. Two diesel buses would be purchased at a maximum cost of \$197,000. Approximately \$165,480, or 84 percent, of the cost is returned to the district in the form of state aid. There is no impact on 2006-07 taxes (the average impact over the five-year payoff period is less than 0.1 percent annually).

◆ **Proposition #2 Schuylerville Public Library:** Approval of this proposition would allow the district to collect \$75,000 in taxes on behalf of Schuylerville Public Library to cover the library's expenses.

Board election

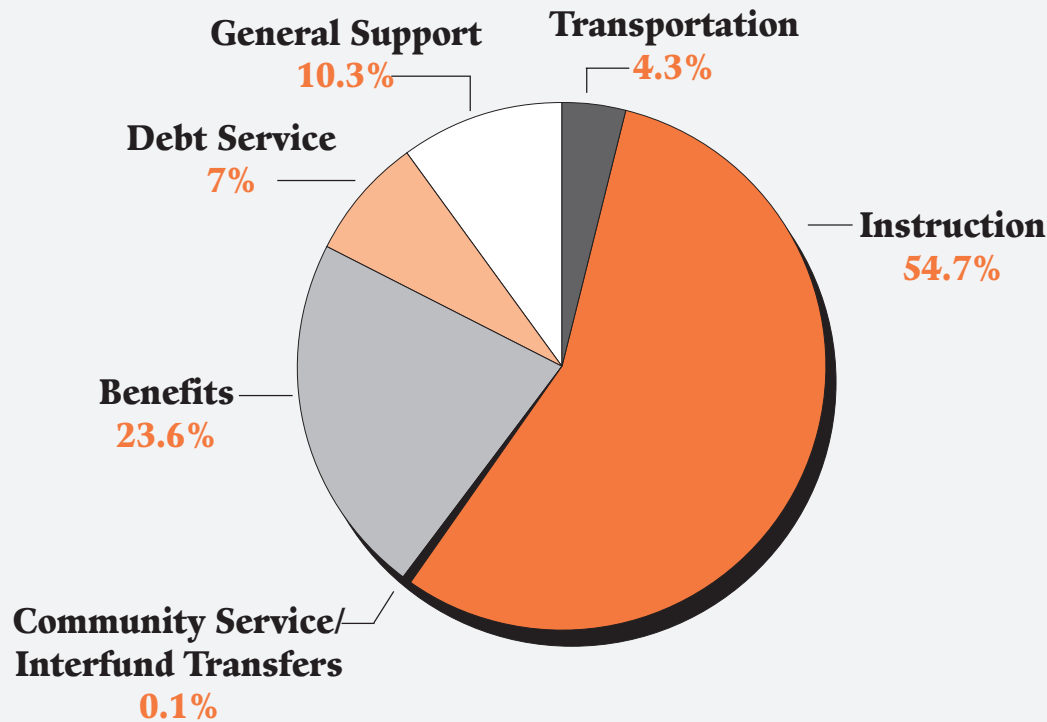
In addition to voting on the proposed budget and propositions, you can vote in the Board of Education election. One Board seat, carrying a five-year term, is available. If more than one candidate runs, information on all candidates will be sent in a separate mailing. ▲

Revenues — where does the money come from?



Income Sources	2005-06 Budget	Proposed 2006-07 Budget	Difference
Tax Levies	\$12,977,792	\$13,795,791	\$817,999
State Aid	12,695,638	13,821,670	1,126,032
Interest Earnings/ Tax Penalties/ Medicaid Reimbursements	181,000	196,000	15,000
Misc./Charges for Services	210,193	201,391	- 8,802
Fund Balance	175,000	175,000	0
TOTAL	\$26,239,623	\$28,189,852	\$1,950,229

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 2006-07 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	2005-06 Budget	Proposed 2006-07 Budget	Difference
Instruction	\$14,653,150	\$15,425,257	\$772,107
Benefits	5,876,185	6,640,446	764,261
General Support	2,613,888	2,907,615	293,727
Pupil Transportation	1,080,963	1,199,157	118,194
Debt Service	1,972,106	1,974,046	1,940
Community Service	3,331	3,331	0
Interfund Transfers	40,000	40,000	0
TOTAL	\$26,239,623	\$28,189,852	\$1,950,229

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 \$1,024.28 in 2005-06. The projected reduction in 2006-07 taxes is \$781.40. For more information, call the Business Office at 695-3255, extension 3251 or contact your town assessor. ▲

Budget Notice

	Budget adopted for 2005-06 school year	Budget proposed for 2006-07 school year	Contingency budget for 2006-07 school year
Total budgeted amount	\$26,239,623	\$28,189,852	\$27,753,277
Increase for 2006-07 year		\$1,950,229	\$1,513,654
Percentage increase in each proposed budget		7.43%	5.77%
Change in Consumer Price Index (CPI)		3.4%	
Resulting estimated property tax levy for 2006-07 school year*		\$13,785,791	\$13,359,216
Administrative component	\$2,339,866	\$2,527,637	\$2,527,637
Program component	\$20,075,629	\$21,603,162	\$21,166,587
Capital component	\$3,824,128	\$4,059,053	\$4,059,053

* 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 2006-07 school year, the tax levy is projected to increase 6.3 percent while average tax rates are projected to increase by 2 percent. The actual tax rate increase will depend on equalization rates and property growth.

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 2005-06 school year	Budget proposed for 2006-07 school year
Basic STAR savings	\$817.28	\$835.40
School tax increase/decrease	-\$207.00	\$54.00
Net Basic STAR savings	\$1,024.28	\$781.40

The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2006-07 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 16, 2006 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.



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