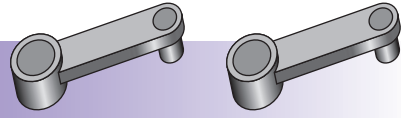


An eye on the BOTTOM LINE!



Residents will vote May 16 on a proposed \$8,602,827 budget for 2006-07 that reflects a 3.96 percent increase in spending, as compared to the 2005-06 budget.

The total tax levy is projected to increase from \$2,221,522 to \$2,251,039 or 1.33 percent. This would be the school district's third tax increase in 11 years – and only the fourth in 18 years. At this point, school officials cannot project the actual tax rates that would result from the proposed 2006-07 budget, because a key factor that affects the rates has not yet been determined:

- **Each individual township computes assessment values for every property in the municipality – and residents have the right to challenge those assessments.** Until those cases are settled, townships can not compute all of their assessed values. Town assessors submit assessment rolls to school districts by July 1.

Escalating costs

Payroll and employee benefits comprise 65 percent of the total budget appropriations. The district's contributions to employee retirement plans have risen dramatically. Workers Compensation expenses will have increased in double digits over the past two school years. In addition, the combined costs for oil and electricity are projected to rise 12.5 percent for the 2006-07 school year.

Educational Programs

- **All teaching positions have been retained in the proposed budget.** In addition to core teaching positions, the district also employs Career and Technical Education teachers to allow students to complete a five-unit sequence in CTE. The district has one full-time and one part-time guidance counselor available to meet with students.

- **Small class sizes at D.H. Robbins Elementary School.** This allows teachers to meet the individual needs of students. Remedial reading and mathematics teachers are available to help students who need additional support.
- **Programs for younger students.** The district will continue to offer both a Head Start program for children ages 3-4 and a pre-school program that runs three mornings per week.
- **Expanded course offerings.** A few of the new courses that will be offered to students in grades 6-12 include Fiber Arts, Arts and Crafts, Computer Aided Drawing I and II, Web Design, Geographical Information Systems, Creative Writing, Children's Literature, Film Studies, Career Connections, History of the Holocaust, Investment Strategies, Marine Science, and Public Speaking. Many of the new courses will be offered through distance learning. The district anticipates receiving eight distance learning classes from sites throughout the state. The use of video-conferencing will allow students to take virtual field trips and visit places such as the Philadelphia Zoo or the Smithsonian without leaving the classroom.
- **Extracurricular activities and sports remain intact.** All sports teams and clubs will be available for students in the 2006-07 school year.

Board of Education:

Incumbent James Richard is the only candidate on the ballot for a five-year term on the St. Johnsville Central School District Board of Education.

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POSTAL CUSTOMER

The annual budget vote for the

2006-07 fiscal year by the

qualified voters of St. Johnsville

Central School District will be

at D.H. Robbins Elementary School

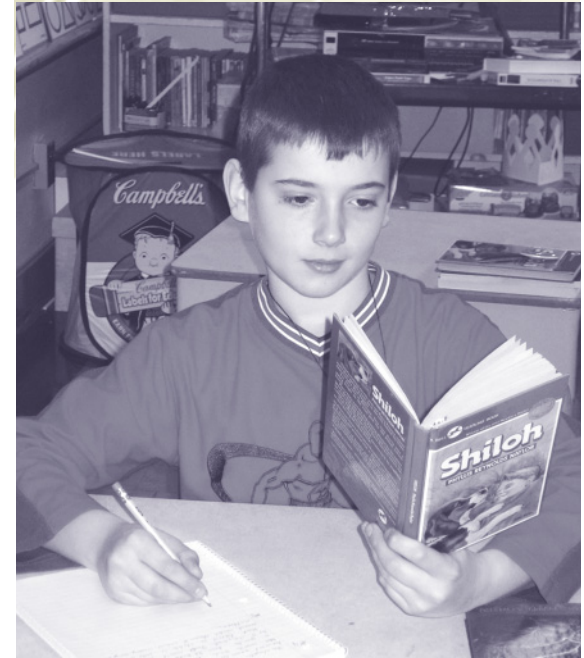
on Tuesday, May 16, 2006,

between the hours of 1 and 9 p.m.



St. Johnsville
Central School

Budget Vote



Tuesday, May 16

Budget Vote

on Tuesday, May 16

Residents of the St. Johnsville Central School District will go to the polls on **Tuesday, May 16** to vote on a proposed \$8,602,827 budget for the 2006-07 school year. That represents a 3.96% increase over last year's budget.

Voters will also elect one candidate to serve on the board of education.

Please take the time to learn about the proposed school budget and remember to vote on **May 16**.

Polls are open from 1 p.m. to 9 p.m.

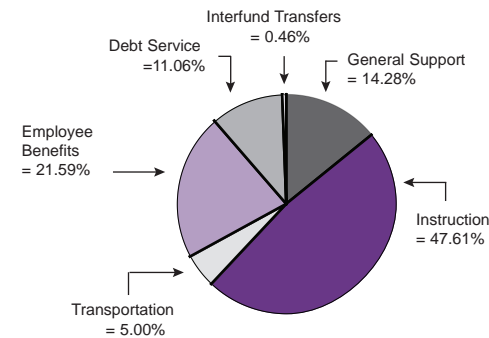
Voters must be U.S. citizens, age 18 or older and residents of the district for at least 30 days prior to the vote.

Advanced registration is NOT required.

The Proposed 2006-07 School Budget

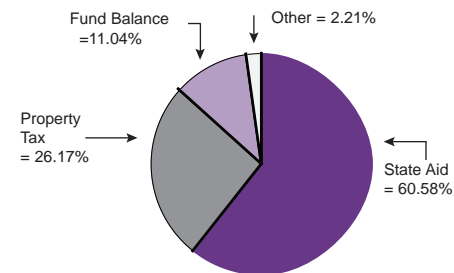
EXPENDITURES

	2005-06 Budget	Proposed Budget	Percent Change
General Support	\$1,163,175	\$1,228,539	5.62%
Instruction	3,974,708	4,095,702	3.04%
Pupil Transportation	437,250	429,800	(1.70%)
Employee Benefits	1,739,010	1,857,421	6.81%
Debt Service	930,988	951,365	2.19%
Interfund Transfers	30,000	40,000	33%
TOTAL	\$8,275,131	\$8,602,827	3.96%



REVENUES

	2005-06 Budget	Proposed Budget	Percent Change
State Aid	\$4,949,819	\$5,211,788	5.29%
Property Taxes	2,221,522	2,251,039	1.33%
Fund Balance	905,790	950,000	4.88%
Other	198,000	190,000	(-4.04%)
TOTAL	\$8,275,131	\$8,602,827	3.96%



Required format

School districts are required to provide information in the format below.

	Budget adopted for 2005-06	Budget proposed for 2006-07	Contingency budget for 2006-07
Total budgeted amount	\$8,275,131	\$8,602,827	\$8,587,827
Budget increase (decrease)	121,421	327,696	312,696
Percentage increase (decrease)	1.49%	3.96%	3.78%
Consumer Price Index increase	2.70%	3.70%	3.70%
Resulting estimated property tax levy for 2005-06	\$2,221,522	\$2,251,039	\$2,236,039

BUDGETS ARE COMPRISED OF THREE PARTS:

	2005-06	2006-07	2006-07
Administrative component	\$ 852,957	\$ 888,828	\$ 888,828
Program component	5,685,626	5,922,606	5,907,606
Capital component	1,736,548	1,791,393	1,791,393
Total	\$8,275,131	\$8,602,827	\$8,587,827

What happens if voters don't approve the 2006-07 budget?

Under state law, school boards can submit a budget to voters a maximum of two times.

If a budget is defeated twice, the board **must** adopt a contingency budget, which would put a cap on new spending. Based upon a formula, this year's spending cap is 4 percent. *(Some exclusions are allowed.)*

The budget adopted by the St. Johnsville Board of Education is below the contingent cap permitted by the New York State Education Department.

However, if the majority of residents vote no on the proposed budget, the board of education would have to cut \$15,000 to meet contingency budget rules.

If a contingency budget is put in place, under state law, there can be no more votes on a budget for this year.

Also, there can be no referendum to reinstate any of the specific components that were removed from the budget to meet the spending cap imposed by a contingency budget.

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.

	Adopted Budget 2005-06	Proposed budget 2006-07
Basic STAR tax savings	\$661	\$634
School tax increase (decrease)	\$112	(\$89)
Net Basic STAR tax savings	\$544	\$723