



News & Views

BUDGET 2021-22

Inside this Edition

Overview of the 2021-22 Proposed Budget	1
Highlights of Budgetary Changes	2
Summary of Expenses	2
Revenue Summary	3
Propositions on the Ballot	3
Candidates for the Board of Education	3
Proposed Budget vs. Contingency Budget	3
STAR Exemption Impact	3
Property Tax Report Card	4
Absentee Ballots	4

Mission

The Lake George Central School District will personalize opportunities that empower all students to be lifelong learners, leaders and global citizens.

Vision

To foster academic and personal excellence, responsibility and cultural awareness, we are dedicated to creating:

- An engaging and innovative learning environment for each student
- A comprehensive K-12 instructional program using best practices
- Student connections to extra-curricular opportunities
- An appreciation for diversity and local traditions

www.lkgeorge.org

Proposed Budget Maintains Programs While Containing Costs

The Lake George Central School District Board of Education is proposing a flat budget of \$23,909,749 for the 2021-22 school year. This is an overall budget-to-budget increase of \$0. The proposed tax levy is equal to the district's maximum allowable tax levy cap of 1.22%.

Lake George Central School District is pleased to present a budget that maintains opportunities for students, fulfills our promise to keep smaller class sizes, and solidifies the long-term financial sustainability of the district.

"Our goal from the beginning of the budget development process was to maintain our programs and small class sizes while keeping the tax burden on the community as low as possible," said Lake George School Business Administrator Mike Varney.

To achieve this goal, the district has taken advantage of attrition to significantly reduce spending in a thoughtful, balanced manner.

Long Term Sustainability

"In an effort to be proactive and collaborative with a close eye on sustaining our tradition of excellence in the future, we worked closely with the faculty association to offer a two-year retirement incentive. The incentive demonstrates our respect and appreciation to our employees. Furthermore, it allows our valued employees – and the district – to plan," said Lake George CSD Superintendent Lynne Rutnik. "We have a clear picture of our enrollment and staffing needs, and the retirement incentive allows us to see where some efficiencies can be made through attrition over the next couple of years while maintaining innovative and engaging programming for our learners."

"A total of 10 staff members have retired or announced their plans to retire at the end of the 2020-21 school year. The district is planning to fill five of these positions. We already know we will have participation in the retirement incentive next year," said Mr. Varney.

In addition to attrition, cost savings have been achieved by reducing the bus fleet by two buses and changes to lower cost health insurance options over the past three years.

"We could not have achieved these cost savings without the cooperation of our staff members, association leaders, and leadership team," said Mrs. Rutnik. "It was truly a collaborative effort to contain costs for residents and ensure future opportunities for students."

Innovative and Engaging Learning

The proposed budget includes significant technological advances that allow us to remain flexible and able to continue to deliver excellent instruction in today's world of hybrid and virtual learning at a moment's notice. These include:

Continued on page 2

We are lifelong learners, leaders, and global citizens.

Continued from page 1

- A virtual desktop interface that will allow multiple departments to access Microsoft and CAD software with the Macbooks
- Continued planned replacement of student and teacher Macbooks to maintain a robust 1-1 program
- Continuation of the Rock Solid, Leader in Me, OASIS, and Positive Coaching Alliance programs

Safeguarding the Community's Investment

To maintain the community's investment in our facilities, the district is planning to:

- Continue with scheduled replacement of carpeting and flooring in both buildings
- Replace the High School stage curtains
- Replace aging classroom furniture
- Maintain adequate supplies of PPE and other COVID-19 related supplies
- Sealcoat parking lots at both schools and the ES playground area
- Maintain increased custodial support for K-12 cleaning and sanitizing efforts surrounding COVID-19
- Replace one van to maintain our flexible transportation fleet



Expenditure Summary	2020-21	2021-22	Change
ADMINISTRATIVE COMPONENT			
Salaries	\$953,321	\$995,613	\$42,292
Equipment	\$4,000	\$0	(\$4,000)
Contractual	\$391,349	\$378,406	(\$12,943)
Materials & Supplies	\$21,341	\$18,921	(\$2,420)
BOCES Services	\$382,700	\$382,800	\$100
Benefits	\$617,046	\$645,222	\$28,176
TOTAL	\$2,369,757	\$2,420,962	\$51,205
PROGRAM COMPONENT			
Salaries	\$9,462,729	\$9,352,606	(\$110,123)
Equipment	\$102,801	\$128,751	\$25,950
Contractual & Tuition	\$939,497	\$1,082,183	\$142,686
Materials & Supplies	\$512,339	\$481,462	(\$30,877)
BOCES Services	\$1,490,405	\$1,396,763	(\$93,642)
Transfers (Cafeteria & Special Aid)	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$0
Benefits	\$6,137,159	\$6,069,448	(\$67,711)
TOTAL	\$18,694,930	\$18,561,213	(\$133,717)
CAPITAL COMPONENT			
Salaries	\$612,852	\$665,186	\$52,334
Equipment	\$45,000	\$47,500	\$2,500
Contractual	\$606,600	\$581,600	(\$25,000)
Materials & Supplies	\$134,683	\$157,580	\$22,897
BOCES Services	\$42,000	\$42,000	\$0
Transfers (Debt Service)	\$994,112	\$985,078	(\$9,034)
Benefits	\$409,815	\$448,630	\$38,815
TOTAL	\$2,845,062	\$2,927,574	\$82,512
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$23,909,749	\$23,909,749	\$0

Where Does the Money Go?

People 76%

- Salary and Benefits
 - Current Faculty and Staff
 - Legacy Costs

Services 16%

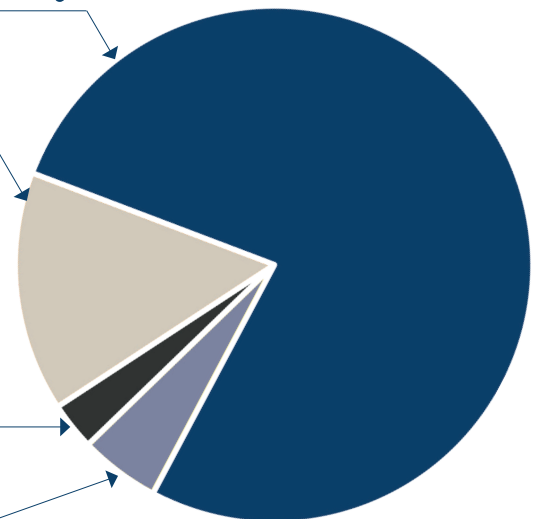
- BOCES Services
 - Cost Share Among Districts
 - Generates State Aid
- Contractual
 - Maintenance
 - Professional Services
- Tuition

Equipment, Materials, Supplies 4%

- Classroom
- Office
- Facilities and Maintenance

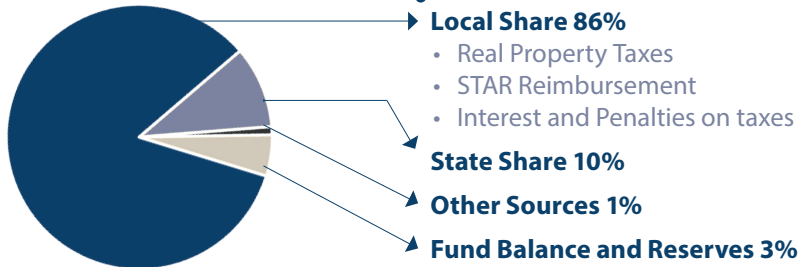
Interfund Transfers 4%

- Debt Service
- School Lunch Fund
- Special Aid Fund - Extended School Year



Revenue Summary	2020-21	2021-22	Change
Real Property Tax Items	\$20,214,000	\$20,461,142	\$247,142
Other Charges for Services	\$37,000	\$35,000	(\$2,000)
Other Revenues	\$215,000	\$207,000	(\$8,000)
State Aid	\$2,151,002	\$2,425,113	\$274,111
Appropriated Reserves	\$350,000	\$350,000	\$0
Appropriated Fund Balance	\$942,747	\$431,494	(\$511,253)
TOTAL REVENUE	\$23,909,749	\$23,909,749	\$0

Where Does the Money Come From?



School District Budget Notice

Overall Budget Proposal	Budget Adopted for 2020-21 School Year	Budget Proposed for 2021-22 School Year	Contingency Budget 2021-22 School Year*
Total Budgeted Amount, Not Including Separate Propositions	\$23,909,749	\$23,909,749	\$23,662,607
Increase for the 2021-22 School Year		\$0	(\$247,142)
Percentage Increase in Proposed Budget		0%	(1.03%)
Change in the Consumer Price Index (CPI)		1.23%	
A. Proposed Tax Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount	\$20,210,000	\$20,457,142	
B. Levy to Support Library Debt, if Applicable	\$0	\$0	
C. Levy for Non-Excludable Propositions, if Applicable**	\$0	\$0	
D. Total Tax Cap Reserve Amount Used to Reduce Current Year Levy	\$0	\$0	
E. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy (A + B + C - D)	\$20,210,000	\$20,457,142	\$20,210,000
F. Permissible Exclusions to the School Tax Levy Limit	\$928,666	\$918,189	
G. School Tax Levy Limit, <u>Excluding</u> Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$19,432,303	\$19,538,953	
H. Total Proposed Tax Levy for School Purposes, Excluding Permissible Exclusions and Levy for Library Debt, Plus Prior Year Tax Cap Reserve (E - B - F + D)	\$19,281,434	\$19,538,953	
I. Difference: (G - H); (Negative Value Requires 60% Voter Approval - See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions)**	\$150,969	\$0	
Administrative component	\$2,369,757	\$2,420,962	\$2,330,071
Program component	\$18,694,930	\$18,561,213	\$18,452,462
Capital component	\$2,845,062	\$2,927,574	\$2,880,074

* Pursuant to Section 2023 of the Education Law, should the proposed budget be defeated, all equipment and non-contingent items would be removed and the district would maintain a level tax levy.

**Separate propositions that are not included in the Total Budgeted Amount: purchase one 60-passenger bus \$110,000

Basic STAR Exemption Impact

Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings Based on a Hypothetical Home Within the School District with a Full Value of One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000) using 100% equalization rate.	Under the Budget Proposed for the 2021-22 School Year
Estimated Basic STAR tax exemption savings	\$201

Propositions

2021-22 School Budget

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Lake George Central School District, Town of Lake George, County of Warren, be and hereby is authorized to expend the sum of \$23,909,749 during the 2021-22 school year and to levy the necessary tax therefore.

Proposition 1: Bus Purchase

RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the Lake George Central School District is hereby authorized to: 1) acquire one (1) 60-passenger bus at a maximum aggregate cost of not to exceed \$110,000; 2) expend such sum for such purpose; 3) levy the necessary tax therefore, to be levied and collected in annual installments in such years and in such amounts as may be determined by the Board of Education taking into account state aid; and 4) in anticipation of the collection of such tax, issue bonds and notes of the District and/or enter into installment purchase agreements at one time or from time to time in the principal amount not to exceed \$110,000, and levy a tax to pay the interest on said obligations when due.

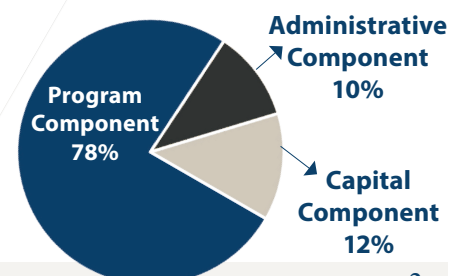
Election of Two BOE Members

Residents will vote to elect two members to the Board of Education. Each seat is a three-year term that begins on July 1, 2021. The seats are currently held by Tricia Connor Biles and Katie Bruening, whose terms expire on June 30, 2021.

Board members are elected at large; the two people receiving the highest number of votes will be declared elected to the Board of Education for full 3-year terms.

Candidates in the order in which they will appear on the ballot:

Steven Johnson
Tricia Connor Biles
Katie Bruening
Ellen Reinhold



Board of Education:

Tricia Connor Biles - President
Maryanne MacKenzie - Vice President
Jeannine Bieber
Katie Breuning
Rosemarie Earl
Lin King
Melissa Seale



381 CANADA STREET
LAKE GEORGE, NEW YORK 12845
www.lkgeorge.org

Superintendent of Schools
Lynne Rutnik

News & Views is published by the Lake George Central School District to encourage interest in education and to keep the district residents informed of the school's activities and programs.

*Produced in cooperation with
WSWHE BOCES Communication Services*

LAKE GEORGE CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

NON-PROFIT ORG
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
ALBANY, NY
PERMIT NO. 164

Absentee Ballots

Absentee ballots for the budget vote, election of two (2) school board members, and the bus proposition are available to district residents who will be unable to vote in person on Tuesday, May 18, 2021.

Applications for absentee ballots are available online at www.lkgeorge.org (click "2021-22 Budget Information"), or can be picked up in the Superintendent's Office until Monday, May 17, 2021. Absentee ballots delivered by hand must be received by 5 p.m. on Tuesday, May 18, 2021.

For more information, contact the school district clerk located in the Superintendent's Office in the Jr.-Sr. High School at 518-668-5456, ext. 1207 or email: bartons@lkgeorge.org.

Budget Vote & Board Election
Tuesday, May 18, 2021 • 9 am-8 pm
Elementary School Gym
69 Sun Valley Drive, Lake George

Voters must be: United States citizens, 18 years of age or older and district residents for 30 days prior to the vote. A resident can only have one legal residence, which is his or her place of permanent residence.

Property Tax Report Card

	Budgeted 2020-21	Proposed Budget 2021-22	Percent Change
Total Budgeted Amount, not including Separate Propositions	\$23,909,749	\$23,909,749	0%
A. Proposed Tax Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount	\$20,210,000	\$20,457,142	
B. Tax Levy to Support Library Debt, if Applicable			
C. Tax Levy for Non-Excludable Propositions, if Applicable			
D. Total Tax Cap Reserve Amount Used to Reduce Current Year Levy, if Applicable			
E. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy (A + B + C - D)	\$20,210,000	\$20,457,142	1.22%
F. Permissible Exclusions to the School Tax Levy Limit	\$928,666	\$918,189	
G. School Tax Levy Limit, <u>Excluding</u> Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$19,432,303	\$19,538,953	
H. Total Proposed Tax Levy for School Purposes, <u>Excluding</u> Permissible Exclusions and Levy for Library Debt, Plus Prior Year Tax Cap Reserve (E - B - F + D)	\$19,281,334	\$19,538,953	
I. Difference (G - H); (negative value requires 60% voter approval)	\$150,969	\$0	
Public School Enrollment	672	665	(1.04%)
Consumer Price Index			1.23%
	Actual 2020-21	Estimated 2021-22	
Adjusted Restricted Fund Balance	\$3,171,136	\$3,522,400	
Assigned Appropriated Fund Balance	\$1,099,475	\$781,494	
Adjusted Unrestricted Fund Balance	\$956,390	\$956,390	
Adjusted Unrestricted Fund Balance as a Percent of the Total Budget	4%	4%	

*Please note that this Property Tax Report Card presentation is in accordance with NYS Education Law sections 1608, 1716(7) and 2601-a(3).