



LOCKPORT CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Pride in Our Past, Faith in Our Future

www.lockportschools.org

**Budget
Issue**

BUDGET VOTE

June 9, 2020

**by
Absentee Ballot
Only**

**Absentee ballots
must be received at
130 Beattie Ave.
by 5:00 pm on
June 9, 2020.**

Voter Qualifications

- Citizen of the United States of America
- At least 18 years old
- Must be a registered voter with Niagara County Board of Elections

2020-21 Budget and School Board Election Message

In May, the Lockport City School District Board of Education adopted an expenditure budget for the 2020-2021 school year in the amount of \$105,509,809. The details of the budget were presented to residents during the public budget hearing on Wednesday, May 27, 2020. The Budget Vote and Board of Education Election date is Tuesday, June 9, 2020 by absentee ballot only. Highlights of the 2020-2021 budget include:

- the continuation of current programs and personnel to support students in meeting or exceeding New York State graduation requirements. The most recent graduation rate for Lockport High School is 89%.
- a 1.52% increase to the tax levy, which is the maximum allowable tax levy limit increase for our district. Since the inception of this law, the Lockport City School District Board of Education has always stayed within or below the calculated tax levy limit.
- the maintenance of positions and programs to keep the district in compliance with NYS Education Department mandates and services for a diverse population of students.



Back Row (standing): Trustees Kevin Pratt, Kyle Lambalzer, Leslie Tobin, Heather Hare and Thomas Fiegl. Front Row (seated): Vice President Karen Young, Superintendent Michelle T. Bradley, President John Linderman and Secretary Edward Sandell. Dr. Martha Kershaw (not pictured).

The **Budget Notice for the 2020-2021 proposed budget** is included on the back page of this newsletter. Information relating to further reductions, if necessary, for a **contingent budget** is included in the budget notice.

As our school district continues to navigate through challenging fiscal times resulting from COVID-19, we continue to carefully review expenditures and revenues in order to improve student achievement and sustain our shared mission of preparing Lockport students to be **college and career ready**. Please turn to page 3 of this newsletter to get a glimpse of what is happening in our schools.

The 2020-2021 school budget is, again, one that preserves quality and comprehensive educational programs for students, and is mindful of the financial challenges faced by community members. Thank you for your past support of capital improvement projects and budgets. All eligible citizens are encouraged to vote by Tuesday, June 9, 2020 by absentee ballot only.

CANDIDATES FOR THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

There are three, 3-year terms open for the Board of Education beginning July 1, 2020 and ending June 30, 2023 and one, 2-year term open for the Board of Education beginning July 1, 2020 and ending June 30, 2022. Voters will have the opportunity to elect four trustees. Those candidates who receive the first, second, third and fourth largest number of votes during the June 9, 2020 vote will be appointed as new trustees in July.



2020-21 BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

Please visit our website at www.lockportschools.org for more information regarding the 2020-21 budget.

PROPOSITION NO. 1

Shall the Board of Education be authorized to spend the sum of \$105,509,809 in the total amount set forth in the proposed budget during the 2020-21 school year and to levy the necessary tax?

☐ Yes ☐ No

BUDGET SUMMARY

Item	Amount	Item	Amount
Budget	\$105,509,809	Estimated True Value Tax Rate	\$22.912844
Budget Increase	\$2,782,089	Estimated True Value Tax Rate Increase	\$0.344142
Budget to Budget % Increase	2.71%	State Aid and Other Revenue	\$58,577,128
Tax Levy	\$39,880,629	Fund Balance and Reserve Use	\$7,052,052
Tax Levy Increase	\$598,803	Increase on \$100,000 Assessed Home with Basic STAR	\$24.09
Tax Levy % Increase	1.52%	Increase on \$100,000 Assessed Home with Enhanced STAR	\$10.39

Tax rates and STAR increases are estimates based on 2019-20 assessments, adjustments, exemptions and equalization rates.

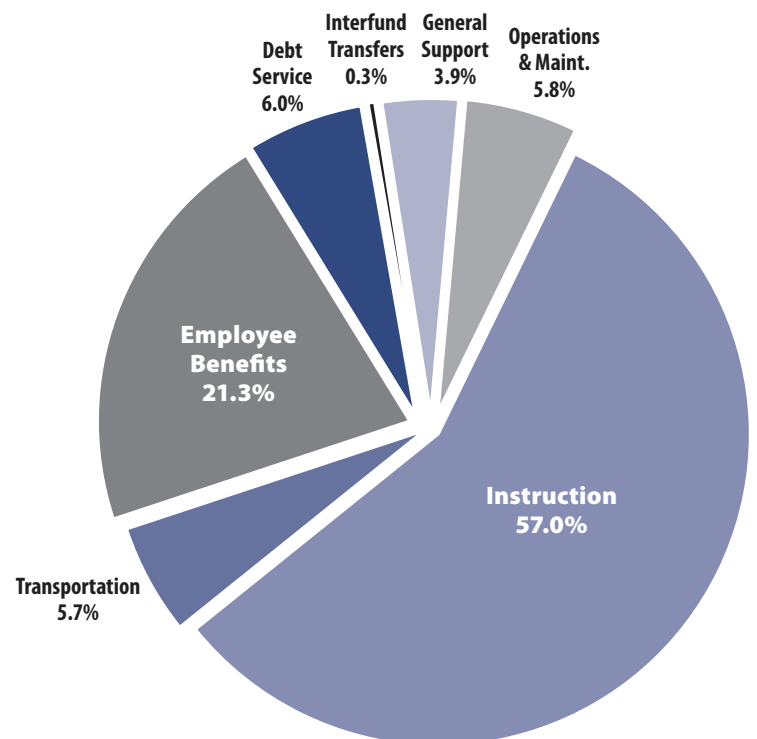
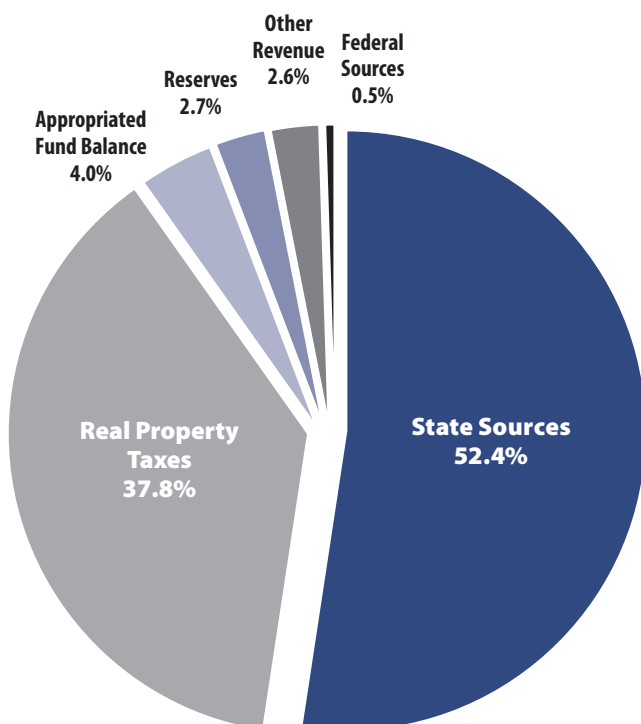
REVENUE AND EXPENDITURES

2020-21 Revenue Comparison

	2019-20 Budget	2020-21 Proposed	2020-21 Change
State Sources	\$54,902,184	\$55,254,677	\$352,493
Real Property Taxes	\$39,281,826	\$39,880,629	\$598,803
Appropriated Fund Balance	\$2,302,581	\$4,242,465	\$1,939,884
Reserves	\$2,680,713	\$2,809,587	\$128,874
Other Revenue	\$3,010,416	\$2,772,451	\$(237,965)
Federal Sources	\$550,000	\$550,000	-
Total Revenue	\$102,727,720	\$105,509,809	\$2,782,089

2020-21 Expenditure Comparison

	2019-20 Budget	2020-21 Proposed	2020-21 Change
General Support	\$4,139,554	\$4,051,701	\$(87,853)
Operations & Maint.	\$6,216,753	\$6,051,971	\$(164,782)
Instruction	\$58,434,433	\$60,253,526	\$1,819,093
Transportation	\$6,055,175	\$6,043,650	\$(11,525)
Employee Benefits	\$21,737,367	\$22,423,290	\$685,923
Debt Service	\$5,872,953	\$6,364,501	\$491,548
Interfund Transfers	\$271,485	\$321,170	\$49,685
Total Expenditures	\$102,727,720	\$105,509,809	\$2,782,089





Lions' Pride



John Pound Early Childhood Center



Universal Pre-Kindergarten students at John Pound Early Childhood Center demonstrate teamwork by building a castle with magnetic blocks.

Roy B. Kelly Elementary School



Roy B. Kelly's musical was Jungle Book Kids. Each year this event is monumental! Over 800 tickets were sold and approximately 90 students participated in this AMAZING show! Thanks to all who volunteered their time to the show.

North Park Junior High School



Mrs. Runfola's class celebrating North Park Junior High School's 80th birthday in front of their hallway decorations.

Anna Merritt Elementary School



Members of the Anna Merritt Elementary School learning community distribute learning packets to students during the COVID-19 pandemic.

George Southard Elementary School



George Southard Elementary School students collected over 1700 pairs of new socks for local homeless shelters during their "Sock It To The 100th Day of School" activity.

Lockport High School



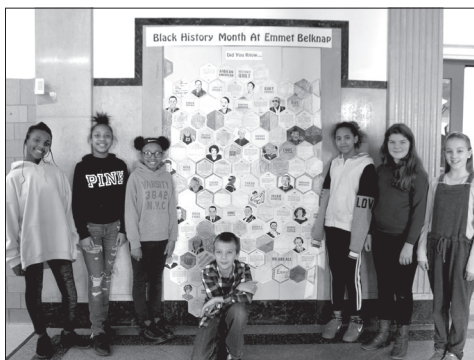
Lockport High School drama students attend a special performance and talk session with cast members from Hello Dolly at Shea's Performing Arts Center.

Charles Upson Elementary School



Kindergarteners at Charles Upson Elementary School dressed up for 100 days of school.

Emmet Belnap Intermediate School



Emmet Belnap Intermediate School students in Mrs. Govenettio's 6th grade classroom researched, designed, and put together a "Black History Quilt" recognizing African American leaders as part of Black History Month activities.

Lockport High School West at Charlotte Cross



Lockport High School West at Charlotte Cross students demonstrate teamwork and cooperation to accomplish a task ... they are LION STRONG!

Lockport City School District

130 Beattie Avenue
Lockport, NY 14094

Board of Education

John A. Linderman, *president*
Karen Young, *vice president*
Edward P. Sandell, *secretary*
Thomas W. Fiegl
Heather Hare
Martha Kershaw, EdD.
Kyle Lambalzer
Kevin W. Pratt
Leslie Tobin

Superintendent

Michelle T. Bradley

Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Management Services

Deborah A. Coder

Assistant Superintendent for Personnel

Lisa M. Schrader

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Lockport City School District Budget Notice OVERALL BUDGET PROPOSAL	Budget Adopted for the 2019-20 School Year	Budget Proposed for the 2020-21 School Year	Contingency Budget for the 2020-21 School Year *
Total Budgeted Amount, Not Including Separate Propositions	\$102,727,720	\$105,509,809	\$104,816,148
Increase/Decrease for the 2020-21 School Year		\$2,782,089	\$2,088,428
Percentage Increase/Decrease in Proposed Budget		2.71%	2.03%
Change in the Consumer Price Index		1.81%	
A. Proposed Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount	\$39,281,826	\$39,880,629	
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)	\$39,281,826	\$39,880,629	\$39,281,826
F. Total Permissible Exclusions	\$0	\$0	
G. School Tax Levy Limit, <u>Excluding</u> Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$39,281,826	\$39,880,629	
H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, <u>Excluding</u> Levy to Support Library Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions (E - B - F +D)	\$39,281,826	\$39,880,629	
I. Difference: G - H (Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval - See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions) **	\$0	\$0	
Administrative Component	\$9,605,324	\$9,628,002	\$9,602,502
Program Component	\$79,763,927	\$82,120,054	\$81,562,893
Capital Component	\$13,358,469	\$13,761,753	\$13,650,753
* Statement of Assumptions pursuant to Section 2023 of the Education Law. If the proposed budget is defeated, the Board of Education will need to reduce the overall tax levy by \$598,803. This reduction would impact many non-mandated areas which could include the reduction of enhanced program offerings, the increase in walking limits for students to State guidelines, the reduction of support staff positions, the reduction of extra-curricular offerings and the elimination of intramural sports. Additionally, community use of the buildings will be subject to a user fee under State Education guidelines.			

** List Separate Propositions that are not included in the Total Budgeted Amount: (Tax Levy associated with educational or transportation services propositions are not eligible for exclusion and may affect voter approval requirements)

Description

Amount

n/a

\$0

	Under the Budget Proposed for the 2020-21 School Year
Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings ¹	\$687.39
The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2020-21 by the registered voters of the Lockport City School District, Niagara County, New York, will be held via Absentee Ballot. If you are a registered voter with the Niagara County Board of Elections and did not receive an Absentee Ballot in the mail, please call 716-478-4828.	

¹The basic school tax relief (STAR) exemption is authorized by section 425 of the Real Property Tax Law.