



SPRINGBOARD

UNION SPRINGS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

MAY 2020

Dear Community Member:

The proposed 2020-2021 Union Springs Central School District budget is a balance between the needs of our students and the economic realities of our state and nation. Putting this budget together involved a multitude of considerations, as with each day since mid-March, speculation about how much state aid our district will receive during the next school year has changed. The NYS Budget signed by Governor Cuomo, allows for aid to schools to be adjusted 4 times over the coming year (May 1, 2020, June 30, 2020, December 31, 2020, and March 31, 2021) as state revenues provide. At some point however, we have to recognize that as it currently stands, our district could potentially be facing a 20% reduction in state aid during the 2020-2021 academic year. For Union Springs, that number is just north of a \$2 million dollar reduction in revenue.

Certainly, a reduction of this magnitude out of a budget of our size, represents a significant impact to our finances and our ability to provide the level of services we have come to expect from our district. This budget reduces our staffing level, curtails spending on capital improvements, and limits our summer programming. This budget also draws on our use of our reserves which have been carefully built up over many years to ensure the financial stability of our district during tough economic times like this. We are grateful to have the ability to apply our reserves to offset some of these aid reductions, and we are confident in our ability to meet the financial challenges in the years ahead because of the thoughtful work of our Board of Education in ensuring the financial health of our district by managing these finances.

While this budget will indeed have an impact on our district and employees, we have tried to keep our cuts from diminishing the programmatic opportunities for students. This budget preserves athletic opportunities at the modified, junior varsity, and varsity level. This budget also continues funding for afterschool homework help, student clubs and activities, and targeted academic intervention services. This proposed spending plan supports students' access to pre-kindergarten programming and preserves the ability for our students to access high level coursework through our partnership with Cayuga Community College at the secondary level. Further, this budget allows us to replace aging student digital learning devices to ensure that should we need to continue with online instruction in some capacity in the months and years to come, that we have the ability to do so.

Nobody likes to present a budget that doesn't provide for every outcome we hope for with regard to our students. However, this budget keeps our district moving forward, acknowledges the limitations of state funding to support our school district, and proposes a 1.31% tax levy increase, well below our tax cap of 3.08%. We understand that our tax levy increase this year is slightly higher than usual. However, in light of the significant reduction in state aid and the increased costs projected next year with reopening school, voting by mail, sanitizing our physical spaces, reimagining spaces to support social distancing requirements, and our needs to support our students both in person and remotely, we are proposing a budget in which much has been done to minimize the tax impact to our school community.

In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, our school budget and board member vote will be conducted by mail this year. All ballots must be returned to the District Clerk by 5pm on June 9, 2020. A ballot and a postage paid return envelope will be provided to you by mail in late May. If you do not receive an absentee ballot and feel as though you should have, please contact our District Clerk, Valerie Castiglia, at 315-889-4100. We sincerely thank you for your continued support of our students and school community during this very difficult time, and we look forward to the return of our students come fall.



Educationally Yours,

Jarrett S. Powers, Ed.D.
Superintendent



DATE OF ELECTION

June 9, 2020

- Absentee vote by mail
- Ballots will be mailed to eligible voters in the district
- **Ballots must be received no later than June 9, 2020 at 5:00 p.m.**

BUDGET HEARING

JUNE 1, 2020

TIME: 6:30 p.m.

LOCATION: MS/HS Library

REGISTER TO VOTE:

If you need to register to vote, register through DMV online

What is the definition of "qualified voter"?

ANSWER: Education Law Section 2012 defines a "qualified voter" as a person at least eighteen (18) years of age, a United States citizen, a resident of the school district for thirty (30) days immediately preceding the election and not otherwise prohibited from voting under the provisions of Section 5-106 of the Election Law.

FOLLOW US:



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@UnionSpringsHS
@UnionSpringsMS
@UnionSpringsAJ
@USCSD_Wolves

ESTIMATED REVENUE

	2019-2020 BUDGET	2020-2021 PROJECTED
TOTAL STATE AID	\$11,462,951	\$9,345,700
TOTAL OTHER REVENUE	\$688,249	\$690,630
FUND BALANCE	\$0	\$100,000
RESERVES/TRANSFERS	\$0	\$520,055
LOCAL PROPERTY/TAX LEVY	\$7,578,889	\$7,678,225
TOTAL REVENUE	\$19,730,089	\$18,334,610

SUMMARY OF GENERAL FUND EXPENSE APPROPRIATIONS

	2019-2020 BUDGET	2020-2021 PROJECTED
ADMINISTRATION	\$2,302,141	\$2,258,797
PROGRAM	\$13,716,111	\$13,347,135
CAPITAL	\$3,711,837	\$2,728,678
TOTAL EXPENSE	\$19,730,089	\$18,334,610

ADMINISTRATIVE COMPONENT

	2019-2020 BUDGET	2020-2021 PROJECTED
BOE*	\$25,925	\$25,325
CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION	\$236,306	\$233,641
FINANCE	\$545,356	\$528,653
STAFF	\$173,196	\$177,526
SPECIAL ITEMS**	\$463,972	\$450,694
DISTRICT RESEARCH & PLANNING	\$61,025	\$65,055
SUPERVISION-REGULAR SCHOOL	\$395,255	\$375,227
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	\$401,106	\$402,676
TOTALS	\$2,302,141	\$2,258,797

*School budget election mailings, graduation, training, association dues, board clerk, supplies and materials

**Central Printing & Mailing (BOCES), Central Data Processing (BOCES), Insurance, BOCES Administrative, Rent & Capital Projects

CAPITAL COMPONENT

	2019-2020 BUDGET	2020-2021 PROJECTED
CENTRAL SERVICES	\$1,316,443	\$1,091,606
\$100K CAPITAL OUTLAY PROJECT	\$100,000	\$0
CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION	\$10,000	\$12,000
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	\$234,484	\$241,233
DEBT SERVICE	\$2,050,910	\$1,383,839
TOTAL	\$3,711,837	\$2,728,678

PROGRAM COMPONENT

	2019-2020 BUDGET	2020-2021 PROJECTED
TEACHING-REGULAR SCHOOL	\$6,164,541	\$5,555,687
PROGRAMS FOR STUDENTS W/ DISABILITIES	\$2,106,068	\$2,345,912
LIBRARY	\$214,296	\$223,607
COMPUTER IT	\$863,270	\$932,768
GUIDANCE	\$267,124	\$273,602
HEALTH SERVICE	\$92,703	\$85,643
PSYCH SERVICES	\$121,010	\$116,161
ATHLETICS	\$333,217	\$193,160
TRANSPORTATION	\$653,654	\$691,904
BENEFITS	\$2,900,228	\$2,928,691
TOTALS	\$13,716,111	\$13,347,135

CANDIDATES FOR BOARD OF EDUCATION:

Voting for 4; (3) three year terms and (1) one year term

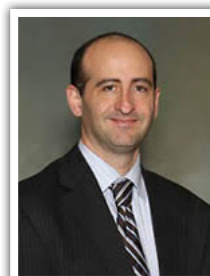
The candidates with the three highest votes receive the 3 year terms, the fourth highest vote candidate receives the 1 year term of office



Ann Marie Daum



Mary Seitz



Daniel Testa



Erin Tones

PROPOSITION #1

BUDGET VOTE

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Union Springs Central School District shall be authorized to expend the sum set forth in the budget for the 2020-2021 school year in the total amount of \$18,334,610 and to assess and levy upon the taxable property of the District the necessary tax thereof.

PROPOSITION #2

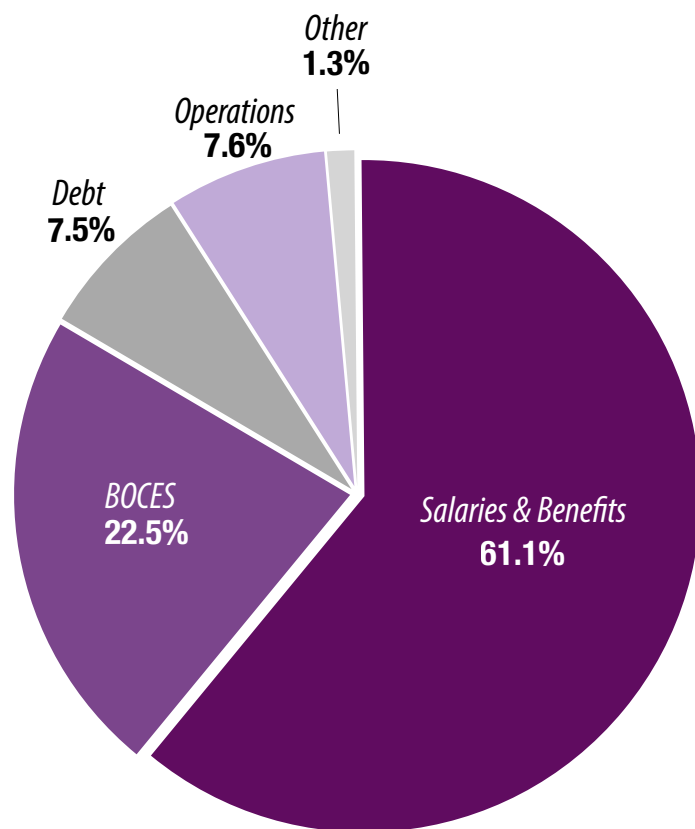
BUS PROPOSITION

Due to the uncertainty of the state aid amount and the timeliness of receiving these funds the Board of Education is asking for community approval to borrow these funds. This proposition will support the purchase of a large 66 passenger bus by borrowing funds and spreading both the cost and the aid over 5 years. Student transportation is an essential part of school operations and the district continues to upgrade its fleet by replacing aging vehicles.

Shall the following resolution be adopted:

RESOLVED, that the Union Springs Central School District, is hereby authorized to purchase and finance student transport vehicles, and expend a total sum not to exceed \$130,000 which is estimated to be the total maximum cost thereof, and said amount, or so much thereof as may be necessary, shall be raised by the levy of a tax upon the taxable property of said School District and collected in annual installments as provided by Section 416 of the Education Law; and, in anticipation of such tax, obligations of said School District, in the principal amount not to exceed \$130,000, shall be issued.

COST CATEGORIES AND PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL BUDGET



QUESTIONS?

Please call the District Office at (315) 889-4100.

UNION SPRINGS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

239 Cayuga Street
Union Springs, NY 13160

US Postage Paid
Union Springs, NY
Permit #3
Non-Profit Organization

*****ECRWSS*****

Rural Route or Boxholder