



Superintendent's budget message: 'HCS is well positioned financially'

Dear residents,

I hope this newsletter finds you safe and healthy. I think we'd all agree that this past year has been an interesting one. It's been a school year that pushed us to work together in ways that we haven't had to do ever before. I think the HCS community has done an amazing job! I am humbled and proud to be a part of our school community. We have come together in immeasurable and innumerable ways that we can all feel very good about. Furthermore, we have established some outstanding building blocks upon which we will be able to continue creating an amazing future for our students, our school and our community. It is with a future-minded perspective that I share some information with you regarding the district's proposed budget for the 2021-2022 school year.

While the unknowns of the pandemic have created quite a bit of uncertainty for school districts, especially with respect to district finances both now and in the future, I can confidently tell you that HCS is well positioned financially. Like last year's budget process, there has been quite a bit of change with the financial support that school districts can expect. This was due to a couple of factors: the finalization of the NYS budget by our legislators and the restoration of proposed cuts in state aid; and the federal stimulus dollars that have been allocated through several federal relief packages.

Given our district's dependence on state aid, these changes needed to be carefully examined so that our planning could be appropriately completed. I am pleased to inform you that through the hard work of the board of education and the administration, we were able to establish a sound budget for the 2021-2022 school year. We are strongly positioned to maintain all positions and programs while at the same time looking for opportunities to grow and expand the services and experiences we offer to our students. This is excellent news for our students and our school community.

At its meeting on Monday, April 19, 2021, the board of education voted to approve a budget proposal totaling \$21,792,421. This represents an increase of 6.35% from the 2020-2021 budget and, while that seems like a significant increase, it is driven primarily by two items that should set

your mind at ease: an increase in our debt service due to the current capital project, which is almost entirely offset by state aid for the building project, and our need to increase the budget to account for the use of the federal stimulus money that must be used in the next year. Please be assured, too, that the district is staying within its allowable tax levy limit of 2.87%, which equates to \$124,991. Please allow me to point out a couple of items with respect to the revenue side of the budget that you will see in your review:

- Changes in projected state aid:
 - o The district's foundation aid (our main source of operating revenue) is projected to increase by a little over \$300,000.
 - o Several of our expense-driven aids (i.e. things like BOCES, transportation aid, and excess cost aid) are projected to decrease slightly for next year due to the reduction in services that was needed this past school year as a result of the pandemic and different school structures.
 - o Our building aid is projected to increase by almost \$730,000 as a result of the new capital project. Our building aid ratio is 93%, so this is nearly offsetting all of the increase in debt service on the expenditure side of the budget.
- Once again, we do not plan to use any of our restricted reserves as a means of balancing the budget for next year. This is excellent financial news for the district both now and for the future.
- You will notice a decrease of \$93,000 in the category of "Appropriated Fund Balance Capital Outlay Project." You might recall that the district budgeted for the onset of capital outlay projects last year to "seed" this annual improvement process. We have implemented the planned capital outlay and now these capital outlay projects can continue each year into the future with minimal to no impact on the budget (state building aid, again, offsets almost the entire amount of the expense). Our capital outlay for next year will include the upgrade of five (5) unit ventilators in the elementary school.

See "Superintendent's message," page 2



Superintendent's message, from the cover

On the expenditure side of the budget, we continue to work hard to control expense growth and I think you will see that reflected in the respective information. I also want to point out a couple of items with respect to expenditures in our budget proposal:

- The district has had to plan for the use of federal stimulus funds that are required to be used during the next year. These will be one-time purchases and should not be expected to impact budgets in future years.
- There is an increase of about \$761,000 in the "debt service." Again, this is related to the new capital project and will be offset by the receipt of state building aid of approximately 93% on this expense.

Most of the other items are rather standard year-to-year adjustments that occur; however, if there is something that you're wondering about, please don't hesitate to reach out to us for the information. There is also quite a bit of additional budget information on our website, so please feel free to peruse those documents. All of the budget presentations and related documents from the budget development process are provided - under the "District" drop-down, you will see a link to "Budget & Tax Information." Furthermore, please feel free to call me or School Business Administrator Joseph McLaughlin at 607-693-8112 with any questions.

I do want to take just a moment to provide you with information on how the annual budget vote and board of

education election will occur this year. This process will take on a much more traditional look, where qualified voters will come to the campus to complete a ballot. The vote date is Tuesday, May 18, from 1:30 – 8 p.m. in the elementary gymnasium. Be reminded that qualified voters who wish to vote by absentee ballot are able to request an absentee ballot from the district clerk, Tabaitha Rhodes.

In closing, our students and our schools always benefit from the support provided by the entire community. This includes the support of our annual budget, which ensures that our students always have the best opportunities we can provide for learning and growth. The board and I are appreciative of the support demonstrated over the years – thank you! We continue to work diligently to be good stewards of the district's resources and, moreover, we will always take the best care possible of our students.

Thanks for all that you do to support our school and thank you for your consideration of the proposed 2021-2022 budget.

Best wishes to you and your family!

Go Hornets!

Yours in education,

Michael J. Rullo

ART NEWS

Student pop art looks good enough to eat

Pop Art is an art movement that started in the UK and United States in mid- to late-1959. The movement challenged traditional fine art. Artists created paintings and sculptures representing common place items such as soup cans, comic strips, and food. Artist Andy Warhol was famous for his painting of Campbell's soup cans. Wayne Thiebaud was known for his paintings of cakes and pies. Ann McDonald's 3D Studio class used a variety of materials to create Pop Art inspired food items. Some looked good enough to eat!



Artwork by Ethan Marvin (banana), Hannah Livermore (donut), Mackinze Meisner (cupcake), Angel Austin (ice cream) and Gary Petroski (cookies)



Artwork by Aubree Eberly-Robinson (pizza), Cody Randall (taco) and Taylor Hood (fork)



Artwork by Kaiden Franklyn (hamburger), Hunter Smith (corn dog) and Nick Rooker (pringles)



Photography students capture well-known truism with clarity and color

As we all know, oil and water don't mix. When you combine those two items with a glass dish, colorful backdrops, and special lighting you can come up with some incredible photographs. The photography class positioned clear Pyrex dishes over colored paper, added water, oil and liquid watercolor to create these awesome photos.



Courtney Waterman



Owen Ellsworth



Sophia Wright



Tara Liddle

Giant 3D letters offer artistic challenge for 7th grade students



Aiden Quick



Aryan Cower



Cassidy Bolster



Xander Quick



Eli Fellows



Jessalyn Powell



Leigha Wolbert



Thakir Whitaker



2021-2022 three-part budget proposal

| | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------|
| Administrative | \$2,101,794 | 9.64% |
| Program | \$15,554,209 | 71.37% |
| Capital | \$4,136,418 | 18.98% |
| Total | \$21,792,421 | - |

Administrative Component

| | Description | 2020-21 Budget | 2021-22 Budget | Change |
|----------------------------|--|--------------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| Board of Education | School board association memberships and conferences, election supplies and services and other board of education related expenses | \$37,500 | \$37,750 | \$250 |
| Chief School Officer | Superintendent's and clerical salaries, supplies and contracted service costs | \$204,341 | \$209,290 | \$4,949 |
| Finance | Business office salaries and services, BOCES services | \$302,562 | \$297,577 | \$(4,985) |
| Staff | Legal costs, personnel office, supplies and services, public information supplies and services | \$121,895 | \$125,907 | \$4,012 |
| Special Items | Insurance costs, BOCES administrative costs, labor alliance | \$213,621 | \$206,821 | \$(6,800) |
| Administration-Instruction | Salaries of principals, director of instruction, special education director and associated clerical salaries and supplies. | \$575,145 | \$608,676 | \$33,531 |
| Employee Benefits | Related benefits for administrative employees (FICA, health insurance, retirement costs, workers compensation) | \$590,934 | \$615,773 | \$24,839 |
| TOTALS | | \$2,045,998 | \$2,101,794 | \$55,796 |

Program Component

| | Description | 2020-21 Budget | 2021-22 Budget | Change |
|--------------------------------------|---|---------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| Teaching | Teacher salaries, textbooks, supplies, equipment, contracted services (BOCES), support staff costs and substitute costs for general education and special education | \$8,350,925 | \$8,570,281 | \$219,356 |
| Library & Audiovisual | Library and A-V salaries, library books, supplies and services | \$97,860 | \$99,578 | \$1,718 |
| Computer Assisted Instruction | Computer equipment and software, BOCES instructional programs, technology services | \$635,983 | \$694,355 | \$58,372 |
| Guidance | Salaries, supplies, and contracted services for the guidance department | \$130,224 | \$142,638 | \$12,414 |
| Educational Related Support Services | Nurses office, psychologist, speech pathologist salaries, supplies and contractual expenses | \$312,989 | \$340,735 | \$27,746 |
| Co-Curricular Activities | Salaries, supplies and services to support student clubs and activities | \$48,700 | \$60,234 | \$11,534 |
| Interscholastic Athletics | Salaries, supplies and services to support girls and boys athletic teams | \$229,116 | \$225,247 | \$(3,869) |
| Transportation | Bus driver and support staff salaries, supplies and services for transporting students. | \$1,005,729 | \$1,014,960 | \$9,231 |
| Employee Benefits | Related benefits for program employees (FICA, health insurance, retirement costs, workers compensation) | \$4,307,415 | \$4,356,181 | \$48,766 |
| Interfund Transfers | | \$150,000 | \$50,000 | \$(100,000) |
| TOTALS | | \$15,268,941 | \$15,554,209 | \$285,268 |

Capital Component

| | Description | 2020-21 Budget | 2021-22 Budget | Change |
|---------------------------------|---|---------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| Operation and Plant Maintenance | Custodial and maintenance salaries and supplies, contract services, plant utilities (heat, electric etc.) | \$1,055,236 | \$1,125,027 | \$69,791 |
| Buses | Cost associated with purchasing buses | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| Employee Benefits | Related benefits for capital component employees (FICA, health insurance, retirement costs, workers compensation) | \$293,524 | \$323,515 | \$29,991 |
| Debt Service | Costs for short and long term debt of the district | \$1,826,763 | \$2,587,876 | \$761,113 |
| Other Transfers | | \$- | \$100,000 | \$100,000 |
| TOTALS | | \$3,175,523 | \$4,136,418 | \$960,895 |
| GRAND TOTALS | | \$20,490,462 | \$21,792,421 | \$1,301,959 |



Revenue

| | 2020-21 Current Budget | 2021-22 proposed budget | percent change | Dollar change |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|----------------|--------------------|
| Tax Levy | \$4,355,877 | \$4,480,868 | 2.87% | \$124,991 |
| Other Revenue | \$627,423 | \$671,857 | 7.08% | \$44,434 |
| State aid | \$14,914,162 | \$16,139,696 | 8.22% | \$1,225,534 |
| Appropriated Reserves | \$0 | \$0 | 0.00% | \$0 |
| Appropriated fund balance | \$593,000 | \$500,000 | -15.68% | \$(93,000) |
| TOTALS | \$20,490,462 | \$21,792,421 | 6.35% | \$1,301,959 |

Expenditures

| | 2020-21 Current Budget | 2020-21 proposed budget | percent change | Dollar change |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|----------------|--------------------|
| Instructional Salaries | \$4,762,977 | \$4,911,068 | 3.11% | \$148,091 |
| Non-Instructional Salaries | \$1,926,883 | \$1,952,008 | 1.30% | \$25,125 |
| Equipment** | \$42,750 | \$100,750 | 135.67% | \$58,000 |
| Contractual Expenses | \$1,734,725 | \$1,736,100 | 0.08% | \$1,375 |
| Materials and Supplies | \$473,110 | \$564,150 | 19.24% | \$91,040 |
| BOCES | \$4,381,381 | \$4,495,000 | 2.59% | \$113,619 |
| Debt Service | \$1,826,763 | \$2,587,876 | 41.66% | \$761,113 |
| Benefits | \$5,191,873 | \$5,295,469 | 2.00% | \$103,596 |
| Transfers | \$150,000 | \$150,000 | 0.00% | \$0 |
| TOTALS | \$20,490,462 | \$21,792,421 | 6.35% | \$1,301,959 |

Summary of property tax history

Six-year tax levy review

| Year | Tax levy | Increase |
|---------|-------------|----------|
| 2016-17 | \$3,857,206 | 3.02% |
| 2017-18 | \$3,939,554 | 2.13% |
| 2018-19 | \$4,060,911 | 3.08% |
| 2019-20 | \$4,257,293 | 4.84% |
| 2020-21 | \$4,355,877 | 2.32% |
| 2021-22 | \$4,480,868 | 2.87% |



2021 board election

There are three (3) seats on the Harpursville Central School District Board of Education up for election this year: two five-year terms (incumbent Michelle Noyes is seeking re-election, Jessica Hartman is seeking the other), and one one-year term created by a resignation last year (Kacie Huston is seeking this seat).

Jessica Hartman

Dear Harpursville community,

My name is Jessica Hartman and I would like to take this opportunity to express my interest, and ask for your vote, in serving on the Harpursville Board of Education. As a Harpursville alum who has now built a family in the district for the past 13 years, I am invested in the community, the future of our community and our students. Through the years, I have committed myself to being involved in various roles within our district. I have coached youth field hockey and am currently

...serving as the treasurer for both the Town of Colesville Youth Commission and Harpursville Youth Baseball. In addition, I am a 2nd grade teacher with over 10 years of experience in the classroom. At the forefront, I am passionate about education and am committed to helping students learn while advocating for opportunities to encourage them to reach their fullest potential. I have served one year on the board of education and would like to continue as a member to be involved in the process of making decisions that help every child succeed, as well

...as adhere to uniting our community. As a representative of our district, I plan to lead with respect, transparency and integrity. On May 18th, I would be humbled to receive your support and your vote. Our students and our community are worth it. Thank you in advance for your time and consideration.



Kacie Huston

Hello friends and families of Harpursville. My name is Kacie Huston and I am running for the one-year term seat open on the Harpursville School Board.

Harpursville is my hometown. My husband and I are graduates of Harpursville Central School. I attended Broome Community College earning my associate degree. I then continued my education at Marywood University earning my Bachelor in Art Education.

After college, we made the decision to build a home and stay in our hometown so we could work within our family business. Now, we work together managing our own family business while raising our two daughters, Viviana and Mirabel.

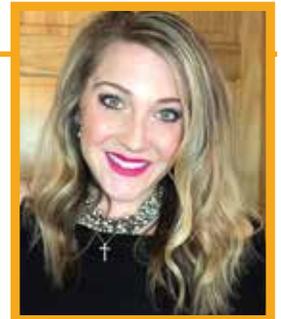
Looking back, I am so grateful for my experience here at HCS. My passion

...was art and my pride was being a Harpursville Hornet! In high school, I was the founding president of the first Harpursville Chapter of the National Art Honor Society. This organization is still available to our students today. I grew up playing sports and volunteered for many clubs and committees within our school. These are just a few examples of opportunities I hope will still be available for our children for many years to come.

In the past few years, I have given more of my time collaborating and volunteering with other parents, teachers and administrators on several committees to help enrich opportunities for our students. I helped find and implement The New York State Mentoring Program in the elementary school to instill and encourage confidence in our youth, as well as

...help start the Harpursville Parent Teacher Student Association serving my allowed term as co-president.

As a strong supporter of our community and school, I look forward to working alongside the current board members to ensure our students have a sense of hope and optimism about their future. This opportunity gives me a chance to give back to my community. I will be able to apply my experience, my knowledge and passion for our children's education in a more active role. I would be humbled to have your support. I appreciate your time and consideration and hope you come out and vote.



BUDGET VOTE & BOARD ELECTION INFORMATION

May 5, 2021 - Budget hearing and board meeting via Zoom is scheduled for 6 p.m.

Register in advance here:

https://hcs-stier-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJApf--vrj8iG9cBuxt7vIHvtjD2MDYO_glc

Registrants will receive a confirmation email containing information on how to join the session.

May 18, 2021 - Budget vote and board member election

(in-person) 1:30-8 p.m. at W. A. Olmsted Elementary, new gym. Please plan to follow all current COVID guidelines when voting in person.



Michelle Noyes

Hello, my name is Michelle Noyes. I am seeking your vote for a second term on the Harpurville School District Board of Education. For those of you who do not know me, I moved to Harpurville in 2005 when I married my husband of almost 16 years. Our blended family is comprised of two sons, Jordan Bakley and Christian Noyes, and a daughter, Cassie Bakley, all of whom graduated from Harpurville. I worked at Harpurville School District for nine years and I currently work at Winsor Acres.

The past five years have been a learning process for sure, understanding the budget process, becoming familiar with school policies, and so much more. I have attended New York state conventions and local conferences that provide information on financial/budget topics, legal topics, political issues, and board of education related topics, information which I then take back to the Board.

I am willing to dedicate my time to the district by helping to be a part of the decision making process of

keeping our district fiscally sound. I am also prepared to ensure that all employees have a healthy and safe working environment along with the resources they need to have to accomplish their tasks for their specific job; most importantly, to make decisions that ensure our students receive a quality education and become lifelong learners; after all, learning never ends.



Student of the month March 2021

| Student Name | Subject |
|---------------------|-------------------------------|
| Caden Hurlburt | French I |
| Hanna Whitman | French II |
| Joshua Powell | French III |
| Colton Sakowsky | French IV |
| Vanessa Card | Jr. High PE |
| Hunter Smith | Sr. High PE |
| Hope Kolb | Health 7 |
| Tristin Daniels | Geometry |
| Sara Brown | CL Precalculus |
| Victoria Whidden | CL Calculus II |
| Lukas McKnight | ELA 7 |
| Brayden Hendrickson | ELA 11 |
| Makenna Lowe | ELA 11 Honors |
| Alana Nannery | Career & Financial Management |
| Victoria Whidden | CL Microeconomics |
| Sadie Backus | Health |
| Caidence Ryder | CL Microsoft Office |
| Jonathan Prince | Computers 8 |
| Emily Kane | Jr. Chorus |
| Jordan LaVergne | Sr. Chorus |
| Conner Rudolph | Piano |
| Elizabeth Ives | Living Environment |
| Emily Gillette | Social Studies 7 |
| Andrew Fowler | Social Studies 8 |



| Student Name | Subject |
|-------------------|-------------------------|
| Hunter Smith | Global 9/10 |
| Autumn Bolster | Global 10 |
| Cross Brown | Great Films |
| Leigha Wolbert | Math 7 |
| Gracie Bomboy | Foundations of Geometry |
| Conner Rudolph | Pre-Algebra |
| Ethan Hendrickson | Algebra I |
| Dillon Williams | Algebra Lab |
| Cassidy Bolster | Art 7 |
| Aiden Quick | Art 7 |
| Owen Ellsworth | Ceramics |
| Hunter Scott | CL Ceramics |
| Cooper Smith | 2D Studio |
| Cody Randall | 3D Studio |
| Tara Liddle | Photography |
| Rilley Gent | Technology 7 |
| Marcus Daniels | Technology 8 |
| Austin Baker | World of Technology |
| Cody Randall | Materials Processing |
| Nicholas Petroski | DDP |
| Trinity Brewster | Global Studies |
| Imani Harris | Economics |
| Summer Rutherford | CL Sociology |



| Student Name | Subject |
|---------------------|-----------------------------|
| Zachary Pike | CL US History & Government |
| Sara Brown | Social Studies 7 |
| Brayden Hendrickson | US History & Government |
| Madison Fleming | Chemistry |
| Ephram Rowe | Science 8 |
| Aarron Clinton | HS Health |
| Ryan Akulis | Sr. High PE |
| Marcus Daniels | Jr. High PE |
| Allena Rowe | Earth Science |
| Brendan Pike | ELA 9 |
| Kandyce Sophie | ELA 9 |
| Sara Brown | CL Approaches to Literature |
| Anickin Sprague | English 10 |
| Sophia Konidis | Algebra II |
| Brandi Thorne | Foundations of Algebra II |
| Paige Smith | Foundations of College Math |
| Trinity Brewster | Algebra I |
| Jonathan Prince | Math 8 |
| Gabrielle Pawela | Math Honors 7 |
| Jonathan Prentice | Math 7/8 |
| Kaylee Hines Heier | ELA 8 |



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 Russell Weist

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 ECRWSS

Superintendent

Michael Rullo



Welcome to new School Resource Officer Mike McEwan

Officer McEwan has been navigating campus and getting to know staff and students for a few weeks now. Many thanks to the Broome County District Attorney's office for again supporting our schools with a resource officer.

We wish Officer Z a wonderful retirement and hope that you will join us in providing a warm welcome to Officer McEwan.

Welcome to HCS, Officer Mike!



IMPORTANT DATES

May 5 - Budget hearing (virtual)

May 18 - Budget vote, board elections

Referendum, 2021-22 proposed budget: RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of Harpursville Central School District is hereby authorized to spend the sum of \$21,792,421 for the 2021-2022 school year and levy the necessary tax therefore.

See page 6 for details

Budget Snapshot

| | Total | Increase |
|--|--------------|----------|
| Budget | \$21,792,421 | 6.35% |
| Tax Levy | \$4,480,868 | 2.87% |
| Tax Levy Limit | \$4,480,868 | 2.87% |
| Average Tax Rate* | \$15.70 | \$0.44 |
| Annual cost increase for home assessed at \$50K: \$21.90** | | |
| *per \$1,000 assessed. **estimated using last year's equalization, tax rates, etc. | | |