



Special Budget Edition 2017

Freeport

PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Pride

www.freeportschools.org



PROPOSED 2017-2018 BUDGET

**TAX LEVY DECREASES
THIRD CONSECUTIVE YEAR**

*Continues to Support Outstanding
Programs and Services*



YOUR VOTE IS YOUR VOICE
REMEMBER TO VOTE ON
TUESDAY, MAY 16, 2017 • 6 A.M. – 9 P.M.





(From left) Board of Education Trustee Vilma I. Lancaster, Vice President Anthony J. Miller, President Michael C. Pomerico, Trustee Ronald J. Ellerbe and Trustee Ernest J. Kight.

2017-18 Budget Highlights

- **Additional staff to support students and programs**
- **Introduction of new course offerings**
- **Additional support services for students with special needs including BOCES services**
- **Addition of substantial capital improvement projects**
- **Increase districtwide technology, visual, lighting, sound, and other equipment allocations**
- **Increase in special maintenance projects districtwide**
- **Includes summer arts academy and after-school programs and clubs including Robotics**

Dear Neighbor,

Each year, the development of the annual proposed budget requires a critical analysis of our needs, revenues and our share of federal and state aid in order to support our goals for academic rigor, student achievement and college and career readiness. We must also remain mindful of our fiscal responsibilities to our community. We take seriously our responsibility for presenting the community with a budget that maintains and enhances our educational program and represents sound and solid fiscal responsibility. **For the third consecutive year and the fifth time in the past ten years, we are delighted to present a budget with a tax levy decrease.**

The proposed budget supports all current programs including the arts, athletics and student clubs as well as additions to enrich both instruction and our learning environment. These include additional staff to support students and programs, the introduction of new courses, expanded support services for students with special needs and necessary maintenance and capital improvement projects. We are proposing a new Capital Reserve Fund to replace our current one, which is due to expire in June 2018. This new fund will enable the district to make renovations at no additional cost to taxpayers and without increasing the tax levy on the annual budget.

Just as our Class of 2017 prepares for their future, we are continuously thinking about the future of our programs and facilities to ensure that our students graduate as competent global citizens. Providing them with the opportunities to excel academically and in the arts and athletics is at the core of our programming. Our student success on the national, regional and state levels has been a source of pride to our schools and community.

We continue to advocate on your behalf for our district's fair share of state and federal funds to ensure the aid is sufficient to meet the needs of all our students. We appreciate the support of our parents, staff, students, community members and elected officials in assisting us with these advocacy efforts.

We thank you for your support and continued commitment to our students' success. We encourage all residents to learn more about the budget and proposed Capital Reserve Fund by reading the details included in this newsletter. Please remember to vote on Tuesday, May 16, 2017.

Sincerely,

The Freeport Board of Education

Michael C. Pomerico, President; Anthony J. Miller, Vice President; Ronald J. Ellerbe, Trustee; Vilma I. Lancaster, Trustee and Ernest J. Kight, Jr., Trustee

The Freeport Public Schools take great pride in sharing some of our outstanding achievements during the 2016-17 school year.

OUR ACADEMICS:

- 40 students in Freeport High School's Classes of 2016 and 2017 were named Advanced Placement Scholars by the College Board.
- 93 Freeport High School students were inducted into the prestigious National Honor Society.
- For the first time, the State Education Department will award a Seal of Biliteracy to graduating seniors who have attained a high degree of proficiency in one or more languages in addition to English. Members of the Class of 2017 will be the first in the district's history to achieve this distinction on their diplomas.
- J.W. Dodd Middle School inducted 102 students into the prestigious National Junior Honor Society.
- The district was one of three across the state to be awarded the "Be the Change for Kids 2016 Innovation Award" for its nanotechnology curriculum.
- Through an ongoing partnership with the renowned Brookhaven National Laboratory, Freeport High School and J.W. Dodd Middle School participated in a teleconference with scientists from the Center for Functional Nanomaterials at BNL.
- 22 Freeport High School students placed in the Nassau County DECA Regional Competition, which was hosted by Freeport High School.
- Freeport High School students witnessed the historic counting of the electoral vote in Albany and attended the State of the State address.
- The J.W. Dodd Science Olympiad team earned four medals in competition against 43 schools in New York City, Connecticut, Virginia and Long Island.
- The J.W. Dodd Robotics Team A placed eighth out of 36 teams in the Regional Qualifier; Team B qualified to compete in additional events against other high school teams and won three out of six of those.
- The Authentic Science Research Program at Freeport High School is a four-year program where students practice original scientific research independently and with scientists and professionals within their field of research.
- The P-Tech Program at Freeport High School is a six-year high-intensity program that enables students to simultaneously earn a high school

CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2017 TOP TEN



(From left) Freeport High School Class of 2017 Top Ten seniors: Kristen Kumi (10), Erica Matos-DeLosSantos (9), Abbey Ebesu (8), Kaitlin McLaughlin (7), salutatorian Karissa Collins, valedictorian Kimberly Serna, Victoria Wright (3), Melissa Alvarez (4), Rajiv Chanda (5) and Ismary Jimenez (6).

- degree and an Associate's Degree in engineering through a partnership with SUNY Farmingdale.
- Through a partnership with SUNY Farmingdale, Freeport High School Dual-Enrollment Program students can earn college credits while attending high school.
- Through a partnership with SUNY Farmingdale, the Smart Scholars Program at Freeport High School allows students, who are currently on free and reduced lunch programs and whose parents never attended college, to earn college credits at no cost while still in high school.

OUR SPORTS PROGRAMS:

- The varsity football team won the Long Island Class I title championship and the Nassau County Class I championship.
- One sophomore placed first in the 200-freestyle event and fourth in the 500-freestyle at the Nassau County Swim Championships, earned All-County honors and placed 16th in the 200-freestyle in the New York State Swim Championships.
- Two varsity cheerleaders were honored by Newsday. One was named All-Long Island First Team, Nassau County Cheerleader of the Year and overall Long Island Cheerleader of the Year. The other was named All-Long Island First Team.
- One freshman qualified for the state swim championships in the 200 Individual Medley (4th in the county) and 100 Butterfly (3rd in the county).

- Three members of the indoor boys track team finished first at the Nassau County Championships.
- Five students on the varsity wrestling team placed at the Nassau County Wrestling Championships.

OUR MUSIC AND ARTS PROGRAMS:

- The music program at Freeport High School was recognized as a Gold Music Program of Excellence by the Long Island Music Hall of Fame.
- Three Freeport High School Select Chorale officers earned the prestigious honor of representing the district at the annual New York State School Music Association Winter Conference.
- 77 students across the district were named All-County musicians.
- The Freeport High School Select Chorale performed at several prestigious venues, including singing the national anthem at the governor's State of the State address at SUNY Farmingdale.
- 56 students in grades 5-12 participated in the Nassau Music Educators Association All-County concerts.
- One Freeport High School sophomore placed second in her division in the 2016 Arts Alive Long Island Poster Contest, which featured 200 submissions from 125 districts.

Grant Funding: More Than \$8.5 Million

- To date, during the 2016-17 school year, the district has been awarded more than \$8.5 million in competitive and allocated grant funding. These grants enable the district to provide crucial programs and services at no additional cost to taxpayers.

Expenditures

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	2016-17 BUDGET	2017-18 BUDGET	VARIANCE
ADMINISTRATIVE COMPONENT			
Board of Education	91,441	73,441	(18,000)
Superintendent's Office	427,046	460,993	33,947
Finance – Business Administration	986,756	932,714	(54,042)
Staff (Personnel, Legal & Public Information)	849,942	859,461	9,519
Central Services	1,242,025	1,358,208	116,183
Special Items	1,716,967	1,726,808	9,841
Curriculum Development & Supervision of Schools	467,065	445,345	(21,720)
Supervision – Regular School	8,030,162	8,321,873	291,711
Research Evaluation & Planning	47,369	48,790	1,421
Employee Benefits	4,463,495	4,382,959	(80,536)
Total Administrative Component	18,322,268	18,610,592	288,324
PROGRAM COMPONENT			
Legal	21,632	21,632	-
In-service Training	330,000	330,000	-
Teaching – Regular School	58,535,679	60,300,633	1,764,954
Children with Disabilities & Special Needs	25,658,963	26,471,540	812,577
Teaching – Special Schools	587,710	939,936	352,226
Instructional Media	2,835,436	3,036,767	201,331
Pupil Personnel Services	7,654,777	7,974,887	320,110
Pupil Transportation	9,089,928	9,226,145	136,217
Employee Benefits	30,660,933	29,679,207	(981,726)
Total Program Component	135,375,058	137,980,747	2,605,689
CAPITAL COMPONENT			
Operations & Maintenance	8,466,499	8,713,549	247,050
Employee Benefits	2,883,306	2,886,539	3,233
Interfund Transfers (Including Transfer to Capital Projects)	5,091,407	6,837,382	1,745,975
Total Capital Component	16,441,212	18,437,470	1,996,258
Grand Total	\$170,138,538	\$175,028,809	\$4,890,271

Revenues

State Aid (Including Building Aid)	68,870,189	73,563,873	4,693,684
Charges for Services	520,000	500,000	(20,000)
Use of Money and Property	240,000	175,000	(65,000)
Sale of Property/Compensation for Loss	140,000	100,000	(40,000)
PILOT (including LIPA)	1,394,958	1,414,013	19,055
Miscellaneous	367,951	348,896	(19,055)
Transfers from Reserves and Capital Fund	3,100,000	3,600,000	500,000
Fund Balance Usage	8,000,000	8,000,000	-
NYS Schools for the Deaf and Blind	380,000	280,000	(100,000)
Total Non-Tax Revenue	83,013,098	87,981,782	4,968,684
Tax Levy Revenue	87,125,440	87,047,027	(78,413)
Total Revenues	\$170,138,538	\$175,028,809	\$4,890,271

Expenditure Breakdown

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	2016-17 BUDGET	2017-18 BUDGET	VARIANCE
ADMINISTRATIVE COMPONENT			
Board of Education Provides supplies for the five-member, unsalaried Board of Education; District Clerk expenses, including digitizing of district records; and district meetings and the annual budget and trustee vote, including voting machines, legal advertisements and fees for election inspectors.	91,441	73,441	(18,000)
Superintendent's Office Provides for the Superintendent of Schools, who is the district's chief executive officer; support staff; and supplies.	427,046	460,993	33,947
Finance — Business Administration Provides for the Executive Director for Business and support staff in payroll, purchasing, accounting and other business-related services; annual professional audit, internal auditor and internal claims auditor; some legal advertising; and bank and brokerage fees in connection with debt service.	986,756	932,714	(54,042)
Staff Provides for the Assistant Superintendent for Personnel and clerical staff. Includes legal services; negotiations services and public information services, plus printing and distributing <i>Freeport Pride</i> , school calendar and individual brochures.	849,942	859,461	9,519
Central Services Provides for central printing, mailing and switchboard staff; data processing staff; and equipment and supplies.	1,242,025	1,358,208	116,183
Special Items Provides for insurance — general liability, property and student accident insurance, as well as fire insurance. Also includes Freeport's mandated share of BOCES costs, distributed among all Nassau districts, and Board of Education membership dues to various professional organizations.	1,716,967	1,726,808	9,841
Curriculum Development & Supervision of Schools Costs for the overall supervision of educational programs at the district level; salaries for the Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction and secretary; and the Executive Director and secretary.	467,065	445,345	(21,720)
Supervision — Regular School The direct costs for the overall administration and supervision of the educational programs at the building levels and salaries for the building principals, assistant principals, directors, coordinator and office staff are accounted for here.	8,030,162	8,321,873	291,711
Research, Planning, Assessment and Evaluation Covers research, planning, assessment, evaluation and community services.	47,369	48,790	1,421
Employee Benefits Cost of mandated and contractual employee benefits, including retirement, Social Security, Workers' Compensation and health insurance.	4,463,495	4,382,959	(80,536)
Total Administrative Component	18,322,268	18,610,592	288,324
PROGRAM COMPONENT			
Legal Costs cover retainer fees for counsel provided to the district; negotiation services; and the legal opinion required for tax anticipation note borrowing.	21,632	21,632	-
In-service Training This reflects the continued commitment to in-service training and staff development. Through these programs, the district maintains and improves the skill of its staff through specialized training.	330,000	330,000	-
Teaching — Regular School The major portion of the budget. Salaries of all teachers, substitute teachers and teacher assistants; textbooks for public, private and parochial students; supplies; equipment; service contracts; BOCES vocational programs; district music programs; repairs and other mandated expenses.	58,535,679	60,300,633	1,764,954
Children with Disabilities & Special Needs Cost associated with services and teaching of students with handicapping conditions, as per state and federal laws, and covers pupils placed out of the district as well as in the district. Includes salaries, out-of-district tuition, hearings and evaluations.	25,658,963	26,471,540	812,577
Teaching — Special Schools Teaching salaries and supplies connected with Adult Education, Summer School, Summer Arts Academy and elementary and secondary programs.	587,710	939,936	352,226
Instructional Media Costs of books, reference information and materials for the district libraries, audio, visual and media services to classrooms; and salaries of technicians and clerical staff. Includes videoconferencing and computer-assisted instruction.	2,835,436	3,036,767	201,331
Pupil Personnel Services Provides for student needs such as guidance services, school nurse/teachers and physicians, psychological counseling and social work assistance. Includes central registration and attendance monitoring to ensure education of only Freeport district residents, and associated legal fees. Covers salaries, fees, equipment and supplies related to interscholastic athletic programs and co-curricular activities.	7,654,777	7,974,887	320,110
Pupil Transportation Costs of contracted bus transportation to district schools, and to private, parochial and handicapped school sites. Includes transportation for field trips and athletic, music and academic competitions.	9,089,928	9,226,145	136,217
Employee Benefits Cost of mandated and contractual employee benefits, including retirement, Social Security, Workers' Compensation and health insurance.	30,660,933	29,679,207	(981,726)
Total Program Component	135,375,058	137,980,747	2,605,689
CAPITAL COMPONENT			
Operations & Maintenance Protects the district's investment in all school buildings and more than 40 acres of grounds, and salary for the director for buildings and grounds, custodial, grounds and maintenance staffs. Cartage, water, fuel and electricity are included.	8,466,499	8,713,549	247,050
Employee Benefits Cost of mandated and contractual employee benefits, including retirement, Social Security, Workers' Compensation and health insurance.	2,883,306	2,886,539	3,233
Interfund Transfers Cost of capital construction projects; transfer to Debt Service to pay current debt obligations, transfer to cafeteria to offset expenditures; and charges for district's share of summer special education programs	5,091,407	6,837,382	1,745,975
Total Capital Component	16,441,212	18,437,470	1,996,258
Grand Total	\$170,138,538	\$175,028,809	\$4,890,271

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT PROPOSITION NO. 3

Establishment of a Capital Reserve Fund – Facilities Improvement Program 2017

The district is seeking voter approval to authorize the establishment of a new Capital Reserve Fund to be known as the Facilities Improvement Program 2017 for the purpose of funding future facility repairs and renovations. This fund will replace an existing Capital Reserve Fund, which is scheduled to expire in June, 2018.

The maximum amount of the fund will be \$25 million plus investment income. Funds are to be transferred from potential surplus monies remaining in the general fund, in a sum not to exceed \$2.5 million annually over ten years. Once the fund is established, voter approval is required to approve projects and expend the funds.

Why Establish a New Capital Reserve Fund?

- *The district will be able to maintain facilities while deferring proposing a bond referendum, which would increase costs to taxpayers.*
- *There will be no additional cost to taxpayers.*
- *Money will fund repairs and renovations too costly to include in the annual budget without significantly increasing taxes.*
- *Once the fund is established, voter approval will be required to expend the funds.*

PLANNING AHEAD

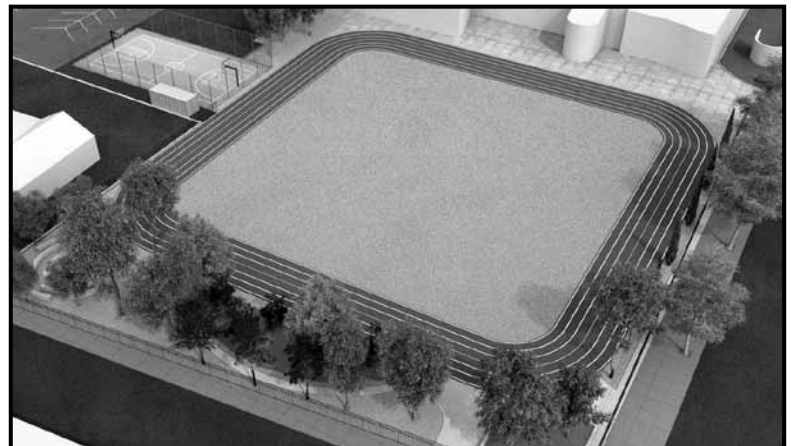
Potential Projects as Needed per the District's Long-Term Plan

Districtwide

- *Bathroom, cafeteria and science lab renovations*
- *Installation of new, more efficient generators and air conditioning starting with common areas*
- *Replacement of roofs*
- *Add entry vestibules*
- *Provide accessibility as needed in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act*
- **Freeport High School** – *replace bleachers, field renovations and new scoreboard*
- **J.W. Dodd** – *exterior improvements*
- **Caroline G. Atkinson** – *auditorium renovation and reconstruction of athletic fields*
- **Bayview** – *auditorium renovation and replace safety surfacing at playground and fencing*



Proposed Dodd renderings



Major Projects Funded by the Current Capital Reserve Fund

The current capital reserve fund is scheduled to expire in June, 2018. Following voter approval, this fund supported numerous districtwide repairs and renovations at no additional cost to the taxpayers.

DISTRICTWIDE

- Boiler, locker, ceiling tile and window replacement
- Security system upgrades

FREEPORT HIGH SCHOOL

- Renovation of Performing Arts Center
- Installation of turf field, track and lighting and cafeteria air conditioning

JOHN W. DODD MIDDLE SCHOOL

- Science room renovations (3) – summer 2017

BAYVIEW AVENUE SCHOOL

- Bathroom renovations (2) – summer 2017
- Installation of new irrigation system – spring 2017

CAROLINE G. ATKINSON INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

- Auditorium lighting upgrade
- Casework – 12 classrooms and flooring – summer 2017
- Bathroom renovations (3) – summer 2017

NEW VISIONS SCHOOL

- Playground upgrade – summer 2017

COLUMBUS AVENUE SCHOOL

- Bathroom renovations (2) – summer 2017

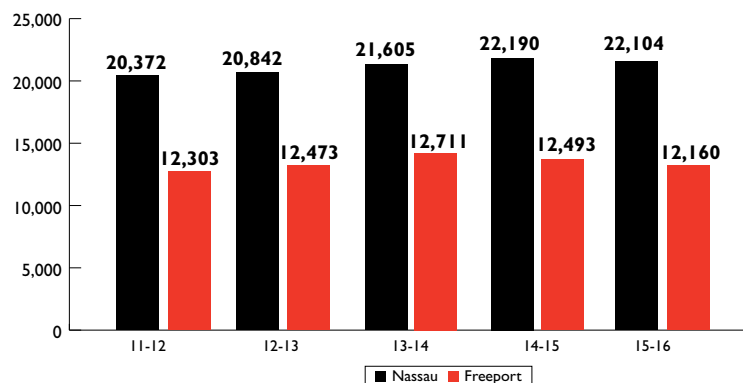
LEO F. GIBLYN SCHOOL

- Bathroom renovation (1) – summer 2017



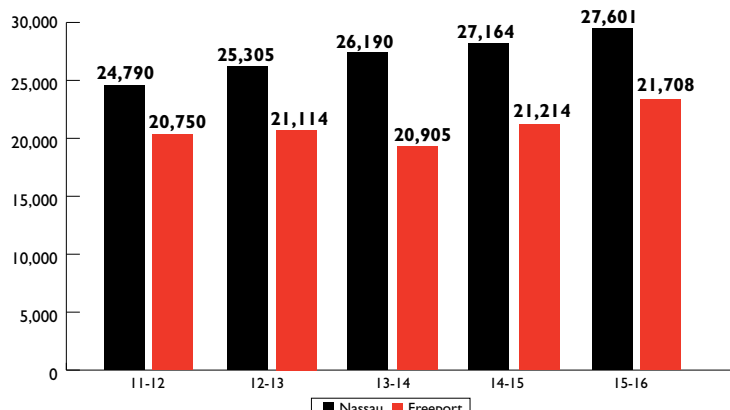
Tax Levy Per Pupil

Freeport Collects \$9,900 Less Tax Levy Per Pupil Than Nassau County Avg.



Expenditures Per Pupil

Freeport Spends \$5,900 Less Per Pupil Than Nassau County Avg.



Our Financial Integrity

- The tax levy has been decreased for three consecutive years.
- Freeport's Standard and Poor's bond rating is AA, a rating earned by only a few of the 300 districts in New York State.
- Freeport spends approximately \$5,900 less per pupil and collects approximately \$9,900 less in tax levy per student than the average school district in Nassau County.
- By refinancing outstanding bond payments, the district saved taxpayers \$6.5 million in interest costs and also shortened the payback period by three years for one of the outstanding bond issuances.
- Through the current Capital Reserve Fund 2009, the district completed \$8.5 million of capital projects at no additional cost to taxpayers.
- In the past few years, through an Energy Performance Contract and an EXCEL bond, the district has implemented more than \$25 million in capital improvement projects at no cost to taxpayers.
- Using the interest free Quality School Construction Bond program, the district completed \$5 million of additional capital improvement projects, saving taxpayers approximately \$1.4 million in interest costs.



Budget Message From the Freeport Memorial Library

The Freeport Memorial Library Board asks you to vote on Tuesday, May 16. The proposed budget will assure that the library can continue to provide books, magazines, e-books, audiobooks, DVDs, CDs, Nooks, Roku Streaming Sticks, concerts, lectures, tutoring, workshops, children's programs, computers, multi-function copiers, and much more.

Yearly highlights include the annual Youth Services Fall Festival, the Summer Reading Club for adults and "Outside the Lines," which brought programs into the community. The Teen Resource Activity Center is busier than ever with students using our recently purchased Chromebooks and Kindle Fire HD tablets.

The Business Resource Information Center continues to provide free counseling in English and Spanish to entrepreneurs and owners of small businesses.

We participate in New York Heritage, a digitization project, which allows online access to historical materials. We cosponsored, with the Long Island Arts Council at Freeport, a concert on the Nautical Mile Esplanade.

The library is governed by a Board of Trustees, with guidance and support from the Friends of the Library, the Art and Music Advisory Committees, and a dedicated staff of librarians, paraprofessionals, student pages and volunteers.

We are always offering new and exciting services, and seeking to respond to community needs through our outreach programs and our recent community survey. We work diligently to bring the best possible library experience

to the entire community, and we welcome suggestions and active participation from library patrons.

We continue to hold down costs, but ongoing recurring expenses require us to request a modest increase of less than 2 percent.

Improvements are ongoing, including a recently completed window restoration and replacement project in the 1924 Memorial building, upgrading our Wi-Fi system and replacing the ceiling and lighting in the Children's Room.

Our facility is open 70 hours a week, and many of our services are available online 24/7 including databases such as Overdrive, a source to download e-books and audio books; Lynda.com, providing comprehensive courses covering technical skills, creative techniques, business strategies, and more; and Zinio, which provides digital access to popular magazines.

2017-18 Library Proposal

	2016-17 Current Budget	2017-18 Proposed Budget	Increase/ (Decrease)
Non-tax revenue	\$143,200	\$144,400	\$1,200
Taxes	\$5,868,278	\$5,984,200	\$115,922
TOTAL BUDGET	\$6,011,478	\$6,128,600	\$117,122

Copies of the proposed library budget are available at the library.

Q. What is provided for in the 2017-18 budget?

A. The district's highest priority continues to be student achievement and academic rigor. This budget maintains all existing academic programs and services including the arts, athletics and all clubs. Due to greater than predicted enrollment increases, and to meet ESL and special education mandates, the budget includes 10 teaching positions, 6 teaching assistant positions, 1 teacher aide position and 2 athletic coaching positions.

Q. What is the budget increase and what are the major factors impacting the proposed budget?

A. This is the third consecutive year and the fifth time in the past ten years that the district has proposed a budget that resulted in a **tax levy decrease**. The proposed budget represents a budget-to-budget increase of 2.87 percent, which will support additional staffing needs, contractual salary increases, special education/BOCES tuition costs,

transportation, technology upgrades and other mandated costs.

Q. How will my school taxes be affected by this budget?

A. For the 2017-18 budget, the tax levy will **decrease by .09 percent**, which is once again below the tax levy cap for the third consecutive year. There should be no increase in your school taxes for next year. However, if individual homeowners do see an increase in their tax bill, it will not be because of the school budget. Factors not within the control of the school district could impact tax bills including changes in home market values, assessed valuations and shifts in the tax distribution from one class of taxpayer to another. Therefore, any increase in a homeowner's tax bill for the 2017-18 school year would **not** be attributable to the school district budget.

Q. What happens if the proposed budget is not approved?

A. The proposed budget represents a **.09 percent decrease** in the tax levy.

If voters do not approve the proposed budget, the Board of Education has the option of proposing the same budget or a revised budget for a revote in June. If the budget is defeated a second time, the board is required by law to adopt a contingency budget, which cannot increase the tax levy above the current year's amount. As the proposed budget represents a tax levy decrease, there will not be a change in the tax levy and proposed budget.

Q. Why establish a new capital reserve fund?

A. There will be no additional cost to taxpayers. The district will be able to maintain facilities while deferring proposing a bond referendum, which would increase costs to taxpayers. Money will fund repairs and renovations too costly to include in the annual budget, without significantly increasing taxes. Once the fund is established, voter approval will be required to expend the funds.

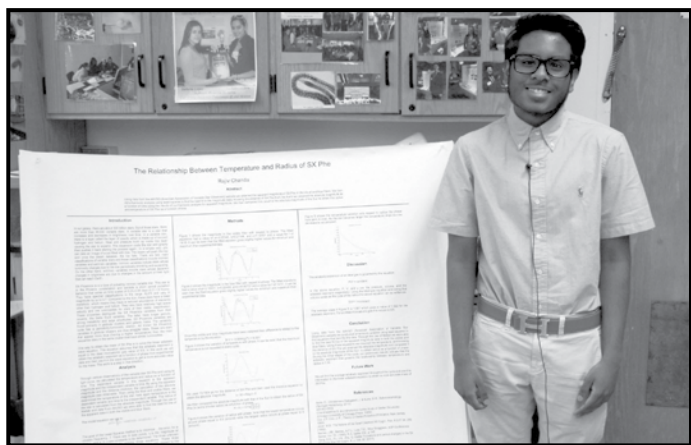
**TAX LEVY DECREASES
THIRD CONSECUTIVE YEAR**

Did You Know *About Our* PROGRAMS OF DISTINCTION?



Nanotechnology K-12 Science Curriculum –

Freeport was the first school district on Long Island to have its nanotechnology program approved by the Center for Functional Nanomaterials at Brookhaven National Laboratory. Through the high school's advanced science research program, students are introduced to nano-enabled lab activities and work with BNL scientists. This real-world experience enables them to explore college and career paths beyond the typical high school classroom.



Authentic Science Research Program – This four-year high school program affords students the opportunity to practice authentic and original scientific research independently and with scientists and professionals within their field of research. All students are required to compete in local and regional science competitions and, once they advance, in national and international science competitions.

P-Tech – This six-year high-intensity program enables students to simultaneously earn a high school degree and an Associate's Degree in engineering through a partnership with

SUNY Farmingdale. Students in the program also have the opportunity to take high-level college courses in mathematics and science.



Dual-Enrollment – Through a partnership with SUNY Farmingdale, students can earn college credits while attending high school. Freeport High School teachers have been vetted by SUNY Farmingdale to teach the courses.

Smart Scholars – This program, through a partnership with SUNY Farmingdale, allows students who are currently on free and reduced lunch programs and whose parents never attended college, to earn college credits at no cost while still in high school. Freeport High School teachers have been vetted by SUNY Farmingdale to teach the courses.



Class of 2017 Students: First Eligible to Earn Seal of Biliteracy –

The New York State Board of Regents has adopted a program to award the New York State Seal of Biliteracy to eligible graduating seniors who have met the requirements established by the state and have attained a high degree of proficiency in one or more languages in addition to English. The intent of the NYSSB is to identify high school graduates with language and literacy skills for employers, provide universities with additional information about applicants seeking admission, prepare students with 21st century skills and recognize the value of world and home language instruction in schools.

Freeport has elected to participate in the program and hopes to award the Seal of Biliteracy to members of the Class of 2017.



Freeport School District
Postal Customer
Freeport, NY 11520

What's on the Ballot?

PROPOSITION ONE: SCHOOL BUDGET

Resolved, that the annual school budget of \$175,028,809 be adopted and the necessary amount be raised by a tax upon the taxable property located in the Freeport Union Free School District, Town of Hempstead, Freeport, New York, for the school year 2017-18.

PROPOSITION TWO: FREEPORT MEMORIAL LIBRARY BUDGET

Resolved, that the Freeport Memorial Library Budget in the amount of \$6,128,600 be adopted and the necessary amount be raised by a tax upon the taxable property located in the Freeport Union Free School District, Town of Hempstead, Freeport, New York, for the Freeport Memorial Library in 2017-18.

PROPOSITION THREE: ESTABLISHMENT OF A CAPITAL RESERVE FUND KNOWN AS THE FACILITIES IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM 2017

Establish a Capital Reserve Fund known as the Facilities Improvement Program 2017 for the purpose of districtwide repairs and renovations. The maximum amount of the fund shall be \$25 million, plus investment income. The probable term is 10 years; the funds are to be transferred from surplus monies remaining in the general fund including a sum not to exceed \$2.5 million from the 2016-17 budget and in an annual amount of no more than \$2.5 million for each remaining year of the probable term. Monies will be deposited into a separate bank account known as the Facilities Improvement Program 2017 at no additional cost to taxpayers. (Please see pages 6 and 7 for more details.)



ELECTION OF SCHOOL BOARD TRUSTEES:

The election of two (2) trustees to the Board of Education will take place. The term shall be for a full term of three years beginning July 1, 2017 and ending June 30, 2020.

Who Can Vote?

Only registered voters can participate in the Freeport School District budget vote. A qualified voter must be:

- 18 years of age
- a U.S. citizen
- a resident of the Freeport School District for 30 days prior to the election
- a duly registered voter

When and Where to Vote

Voting will be held at Archer Street, Bayview Avenue, Leo F. Giblyn, Columbus Avenue and Caroline G. Atkinson schools and the Albany Avenue Field House, 55 Albany Ave., Freeport, on Tuesday, May 16, from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Absentee Ballots

Registered voters who require an absentee ballot may pick up an application at the district clerk's office or the Freeport Memorial Library. They may also call 516-867-5200 or 516-867-5209 to receive an application by mail.

Applications for absentee ballots must be received by the district clerk at least seven days before the election if the ballot is to be mailed to the voter. If the ballot is to be filled out in the district clerk's office, voters have until the day before the election to pick up the ballots.

All ballots must be delivered to the district clerk by 5 p.m. on the day of the election.

Persons registered permanently disabled with the Nassau Board of Elections will automatically receive an absentee ballot.

Information about the budget is available in Spanish at the Administration Building and each school building.

This year, all voting will be done electronically. There will be people at the polling places to provide assistance as needed.

VOTE
Tuesday, May 16, 2017
from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m.

- **Tax levy decrease is .09 percent.** This is the third consecutive year and the fifth time in the past ten years the proposed budget resulted in a tax levy decrease.
- Capital reserve fund projects at no additional cost to taxpayers.
- Maintains and enhances core existing programs and instruction.
- Continues to support full-day kindergarten, summer school, science research, music, the arts, clubs and sports.

If you have any questions regarding Freeport Public Schools' polling sites, go to www.freeportschools.org to view the district voting sites and boundaries map, or call 516-867-5200.



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