

Jericho Budget Bulletin

May 2015

VOLUME 51 NUMBER 4



In Jericho High School's class of 2014, 100% of all seniors earned Regents diplomas and 89% received Regents Diplomas Awarded with Distinction. Also, 89% of our graduates completed at least one Advanced Placement course. Jericho's percentages in these categories are among the highest in New York State.

Jericho's BOE Adopts Budget Within Tax Levy Limit

The Board of Education unanimously adopted the proposed 2015-2016 school district budget at an open meeting on March 26, 2015. The \$121,185,238 budget represents a 1.35% budget increase and a tax levy increase not to exceed 1.61%, which is below the New York State Tax Levy Cap.

Since January, the district hosted a series of public workshops to review the financial status of the school district and create a budget for the coming year. The Board of Education and district administration requested input from members of the school community at these workshops.

If the budget is not approved with a simple majority, the district can resubmit the original budget or a revised budget in June.

On the Ballot

Also on the ballot in May is Proposition #2: Capital Reserve Recommendation. Approving this proposition would allow the district to establish a capital reserve fund, and enable the district to set aside funds for future construc-

tion projects. Approval of this proposition would have **NO** additional impact to the budget or tax levy.

Maintaining Programs

While preparing the budget, many strategies were considered, including keeping a multi-year perspective. This year, there were no reductions to programs and nothing was removed from the budget that impacts students. Also kept in consideration is the district's plan to continue technology replacement and also expand technological initiatives districtwide.

Included in the budget are plans to continue tablet initiatives throughout the district, replace over 380 desktops and 60 laptop computers, replace projectors, smartboards and printers as needed; increase network speed, reliability, and storage; and purchase additional iMacs for video editing classes.

New courses will be added at the high school in September including Public Speaking, AP Physics II, Advanced Computer

Programming/Coding, Mathematical Problem Solving, Robotics, and Video III. The elementary school will be continuing the robotics program that was introduced this year. There will also be continued support of the co-teaching program at all levels.

Board of Education Seats

There are two open seats on the Board of Education this year. Shawn Gladstone, who was first elected to Jericho's Board of Education in 2006, announced that she is not seeking re-election. Current Board President Bill Ferro and Daborah Lee both submitted successful petitions and will be on the ballot in May.

Additional Information

Copies of the presentations that were made at the budget workshops are available at www.jerichoschools.org. Questions related to the budget can be e-mailed to Denise Nash at dnash@jerichoschools.org or by calling 516-203-3600 ext. 3202.



SCHOOL BUDGET VOTE

Tuesday, May 19, 2015

6 AM - 9 PM

Middle/High School Gym

ON THE BALLOT: PROPOSITION #2

During the May 19 budget vote, residents will have the opportunity to vote on a Capital Reserve Recommendation. As presented at our budget workshops, approving this proposition would allow the district to establish a capital reserve fund, and enable the district to set aside funds for future construction projects.

Creating this capital reserve fund does not require raising additional taxes. It requires voter authorization to fund a capital reserve and additional voter authorization to expend from a capital reserve. A capital reserve fund provides long-range funding and guidance for future capital improvement requirements.

Information on Proposition #2

- Shall the Board of Education be authorized to establish a Capital Reserve Fund, known as the “Facilities Improvement Program - Jericho Public Schools II.”
- The maximum amount of the aforesaid Capital Reserve Fund shall be \$10 million.
- The term is ten years
- The funds are to be transferred from monies remaining in the general fund and/or from existing reserves as allowed by General Municipal and Education Law.



Capital Improvements

Funds are allocated in the proposed budget (\$900,000) to begin/continue district-wide projects such as: courtyard refurbishment, phone system upgrades, parking lot and asphalt replacement, emergency generator, asbestos abatement, replacement of HVAC rooftop units, and boiler/burner/building management system upgrades.

MS/HS

Auditorium Update

Last May the voters of the Jericho School District approved a proposition to fully renovate the HS/MS Auditorium with the goal of beginning the renovation this summer. Earlier this school year, there was an issue with the integrity of the ceiling in the auditorium. Out of concern for the health and safety of the students and staff, the District decided to close the auditorium for the remainder of the school year.

This gave the district an opportunity to begin demolition of the space earlier than anticipated.

The seats have been removed and the general contractor requested that the asbestos tiles be removed from the floor over Memorial Day weekend. The area will be sealed and air quality testing will take place throughout the weekend to be sure the building is safe for staff and students on Tuesday. Staff from Jericho's Building and Grounds department will be on hand throughout the weekend to oversee the progress. Completing this portion of the work now will allow contractors an additional week during the summer and early fall to complete the project in a timely manner.

The Board voted to approve four bids on the Middle School/High School project. Renovations are on schedule and estimated completion is early fall. We are all very excited for this much needed renovation, and look forward to a grand re-opening next school year.



The auditorium with the seats removed.



JERICHO ACCOLADES

100%

**REGENTS DIPLOMA PASS RATE
(JERICHO HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 2014)**
* * * *

89%

**REGENTS DIPLOMA PASS RATE
WITH ADVANCED DESIGNATION
(JERICHO HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 2014)**
* * * *

97%

**4-YEAR COLLEGE ENROLLMENT RATE
(JERICHO HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 2014)**
* * * *

**US NEWS & WORLD REPORT RANKED
JERICHO HIGH SCHOOL 71ST IN NATION**
* * * *

**JERICHO WAS RANKED 3RD BEST PUBLIC SCHOOL
DISTRICT IN NEW YORK BY NICHE RANKINGS**
* * * *

**JERICHO HIGH SCHOOL HAD 28
NATIONAL MERIT COMMENDED STUDENTS**
* * * *

**3 STUDENTS WERE NAMED INTEL SEMIFINALISTS
& 2 WERE NAMED FINALISTS IN 2015**
* * * *

**NAMED BEST COMMUNITY IN AMERICA FOR
MUSIC EDUCATION FOR 16TH YEAR IN A ROW**
* * * *

**NYS SCHOLAR ATHLETE SCHOOL OF DISTINCTION
FOR 10 CONSECUTIVE YEARS**
* * * *

2015-2016 BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

BUDGET STRATEGIES:

- Remain committed to being a premier district and continue to deliver a high quality, 21st Century education
- Commitment to our District’s mission and goals
- Keep a multi-year perspective on the budget
- Long-range planning for our educational programs and facilities
- Maintain and renovate our facilities
- Continue technology replacement plans and expand technological initiatives district-wide
- Continue to pursue efficiencies in all areas of the school district.

COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY 2015-16:

- Continue tablet initiative throughout the district
- Replace over 380 desktops and 60 laptops
- Replace projectors, Smartboards and printers as needed
- Increase network speed and reliability
- Increase network storage
- Synchronize data between network servers
- Purchase additional iMacs for video editing classes

EDUCATIONAL ENHANCEMENTS:

New High School Course Offerings:

- Public Speaking
- AP Physics 2
- Adv. Computer Programming/Coding
- Mathematical Problem Solving
- Robotics
- Video III



Not Going to be in Jericho on May 19 and Want to Vote?

Absentee Ballot Applications are available online at www.jerichoschools.org. Click on the “Vote” logo at the bottom of the page. Applications must be received by the district clerk at least seven days before the election if the ballot is to be mailed to the voter, or the day before the election if the ballot is to be delivered personally to the voter. More information is available online.

ELEMENTARY PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS CONTINUING IN 2015-16

- Band & Orchestra for Grades 4 & 5
- Library
- Student Leaders/Safety Patrol
- Cultural Arts
- Science Labs
- World Languages
- Co-Teaching Program
- ELA & Math After-School Support Grades 3-5
- Social/Emotional Literacy Components
- Robotics Program

BUDGET HEARING & SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION

A Public Hearing on the Budget will be held on Tuesday evening, May 12, 2015, in the High School Little Theater, at 7:30 p.m. Community members are encouraged to attend.

There are two open seats on the Board of Education this year. Shawn Gladstone, who was first elected to Jericho's Board of Education in 2006, announced that she is not seeking re-election. Current Board President Bill Ferro and Daborah Lee both submitted successful petitions and will be on the ballot in May.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Complete copies of the proposed 2015-2016 Jericho School District Budget are available on the district website and in the Central Administration Office at 99 Cedar Swamp Road. Reference copies are available for inspection at all district schools and the Jericho Public Library. Please do not hesitate to contact the Office of the Superintendent of Schools at 203-3600, extension 3201, with any questions. For information or questions regarding registration, voting and absentee ballots, please call 203-3600, extension 3214.

Follow us on Twitter!

Follow Jericho School District on Twitter at [Twitter.com/JerichoUFSD](https://twitter.com/JerichoUFSD) for district-wide information, as well as election results on May 19.

Athletics Highlights

- The Jericho Athletic Program currently consists of: 29 Varsity Teams, 15 Junior Varsity Teams, and 24 Middle School Teams (Girls Badminton added for 2015-16 year)
- Participation: 353 High School students participated on 18 fall teams; 249 High School students participated on 13 winter teams; 191 Middle School students participated on 10 fall teams; 241 Middle School students participated on 13 winter teams. 324 High School students are currently participating on 14 spring teams; 185 Middle School students are currently participating on 8 spring teams
- A New York State Scholar Athlete School of Distinction for 10 consecutive years. The most by any school district in New York State.
- 8 teams were named Scholar Athlete State Champions in 2014-15.
- Boys Fencing won the Large School Division Championship in 2015.
- Boys Badminton captured 5 consecutive Nassau County Championships.
- In the past 8 years, the Jericho Athletic Program has won:
 - *12 Nassau County Championships
 - *20 Conference Championships
 - *2 individual athletes earned State Championship honors in their respective sports
 - *13 individual athletes received All-State honors



With an Eye and Ear Toward the Arts: Art and Music Highlights

- 7 Jericho musicians selected to perform at NY All-State Conference
- Student selected for All-National
- Jericho art students represented at Nassau Art Supervisors Association
- Art display panels in lobby for student and faculty projects
- 26 concerts in ten months;
- Pit orchestra for musicals
- 550 plus NYSSMA entries
- 85 All-County Students - 30 LISFA Musicians
- Berklee & Herricks Jazz Festivals
- Music In the Parks Festivals
- Fundraising concerts – Tri-M Music Honor Society
- Jericho hosts NYSSMA Piano Festival
- National Art Honor Society & Tri-M National Music Honor Society



SUMMARY OF PROPOSED 2015-2016 SCHOOL BUDGET

(PROPOSITION #1)

ESTIMATED EXPENSES	2014-2015	%	2015-2016	%
INSTRUCTION	\$70,883,319	59.28%	\$73,137,958	60.35%
CENTRAL SERVICES	\$3,541,182	2.96%	\$3,608,245	2.98%
CAPITAL BUILDING IMPROVEMENTS	\$900,000	0.75%	\$900,000	0.74%
BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS	\$7,681,216	6.42%	\$7,879,787	6.50%
PUPIL TRANSPORTATION	\$6,280,414	5.25%	\$6,276,796	5.18%
COMMUNITY SERVICES	\$56,000	0.05%	\$65,000	0.05%
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	\$27,842,340	23.29%	\$26,903,814	22.20%
DEBT SERVICE & UNDISTRIBUTED	\$2,387,913	2.00%	\$2,413,638	1.99%
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$119,572,384	100%	\$121,185,238	100%

PROPOSED 2015-16 BUDGET

The Board of Education unanimously adopted the proposed 2015-2016 Jericho School District Budget at an open meeting on March 26, 2015. The \$121,185,238 budget represents a 1.35% budget increase and a tax levy increase not to exceed 1.61%, which is below the New York State Tax Levy Cap.

Since January, the district hosted a series of public workshops to review the financial status of the school district and create a budget for the coming year. The Board of Education and district administration requested input from members of the school community at these workshops. "We have worked collaboratively to create a fiscal plan that continues the highest quality instructional program; expands investment in technology; and is extremely mindful of our taxpayers," explains Jericho Superintendent Hank Grishman.



Jericho Middle School was re-designated a National School to Watch, one of only 300 Middle Schools in the Nation to earn this designation!

SECONDARY PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

CONTINUING IN 2015-16

MIDDLE SCHOOL

- Middle School Teaming/Student Team Advisors
- OLWEUS Anti-Bullying Program
- BRAVE Program/BRAVE Ambassadors
- Co-teaching Program
- A variety of electives offered to students
- Diversity Day
- Wise Start
- Chinese Language
- Mathletes/Math Olympiad/American Math Competition
- Mathcounts Long Island Champions
- National History Day/Science Olympiad
- S.A.D.D. Students Against Destructive Decisions
- V.A.L.U.E. Credit Program-Community Service
- Mentoring Program
- Project A.I.M. (HS students mentoring 6th grade students)
- Participation in Nassau County Anti-bias Consortium
- Personal Best Initiative

HIGH SCHOOL

- Broad array of Advanced Placement opportunities
- Science / Social Science / Pre-Calculus Research
- BOLT (Building Outstanding Leaders for Tomorrow)
- Project Lead the Way
- Virtual Enterprise
- Co-Teaching Program
- New Media Communications

Numerous HS competitions including some of these examples:

- National History Day, Ethics Bowl, Mock Trial, Mock UN, Debate
- NCTE Writing Awards, Poetry Out Loud, Teen Ink, Walt Whitman Poetry, Hofstra Journalism
- National Spanish/Italian/French/Latin Exams, Italian Poetry, Language Essay Competitions
- Intel, Siemens, Dupont, Toshiba, Explora Vision, National Science Bowl, MIT Think, Brain Bee, LI Science & Engineering Fair, VEX Robotics, Science Olympiad
- Extensive World Language Program: culture trips to Italy, Spain, China, and Montreal

Budget Bulletin

School Budget Vote & Board Election Public Library Budget Vote & Board Election:

Tuesday, May 19, 2015

6 AM - 9 PM

Jericho Middle/High School Gym

Jericho Union Free School District

Jericho, New York 11753

(516) 203-3600

Board of Education

William Ferro, *President*

Joseph H. Lorintz, *Vice President*

Shawn Gladstone

Barbara Krieger

Gina Levy

Superintendent of Schools

Henry L. Grishman

Newsletter Editor

Denise Nash



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Please visit us at our website
jerichoschools.org



May 2015

SUMMARY OF PROPOSED 2015-2016 LIBRARY BUDGET (PROPOSITION #3)

ESTIMATED EXPENSES	2014-2015	2015-2016
LIBRARY MATERIALS	\$451,250	\$440,250
PROGRAMMING	\$92,500	\$85,000
PROPERTY IMPROVEMENTS	\$9,000	\$9,500
FURNITURE & EQUIPMENT	\$65,500	\$65,500
OPERATING EXPENSES	\$648,725	\$685,725
SALARIES & BENEFITS	\$3,738,750	\$3,821,600
CAPITAL RESERVE	\$5,000	\$5,000
GASB 45	\$10,000	\$10,000
MTA TAX	\$9,050	\$0
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$5,029,775	\$5,122,575
LESS TOTAL ANTICIPATED INCOME	\$74,500	\$69,200
TOTAL TO BE RAISED BY TAXES	\$4,955,275	\$5,053,375

Percentage Increase in the Library Tax Levy 1.98 %

The proposed levy will be within the allowable threshold as prescribed in Chapter 97 of the Laws of 2011

One incumbent candidate running for one open Library Board seat:

David Diamond

Copies of the complete Jericho Library Proposed 2015-2016 Budget are available at the Jericho Public Library for inspection.

Voting Qualifications

Only persons who are qualified voters as of May 19, 2015 shall be permitted to vote in the election held on May 19, 2015 on matters affecting the Jericho School District and the Jericho Public Library.

A qualified voter is defined as:

- *A citizen of the United States
- *At least eighteen years of age
- *A resident in the Jericho Union Free School District for thirty days or more preceding the budget vote at which he/she offers to vote.

Persons disqualified from voting under the provisions of Section 5-106 of the Election Law are not eligible to vote in school district elections.

NEW VOTERS MAY REGISTER AND VOTE ON THE DAY OF THE ELECTION. THEY WILL BE ASKED TO PROVIDE PROOF OF RESIDENCY AND AGE.