

QUALITY PROGRAMS, VITAL CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS, FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY

For the sixth consecutive year, the Board of Education has adopted a budget that is below our allowable tax levy cap. The proposed 2017/2018 Educational Plan and Budget is \$205,055,000, a 1.90% increase from the current school year. The tax levy increase is 1.52%, well below our allowable 2.84% tax cap.

As we have promised over the past several years, our goal continues to be sustainability—budgeting now, but looking ahead toward the future. The proposed plan preserves the high quality academic and extra-curricular programs that are the foundation of an Arlington education.

PROPOSITION AIMS TO ACCOMPLISH PIVOTAL CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS WITH \$0 ADDITIONAL TAX IMPACT

In addition to the budget, there are two propositions on this year's ballot. The first is the annual bus proposition to purchase new buses and maintenance vehicles (see page 4 for details). The second proposition is for a transportation and maintenance facilities project. Last year our community approved a capital reserve fund for construction and renovations. This fund allows the district to make vital capital improvements without having to raise additional taxes.

Built in the 1950s, our bus garages are too low and do not have enough bays for our mechanics to safely and efficiently maintain modern buses. We currently lease space on Tucker Drive in Poughkeepsie to do repair work. In addition, we are renting trailers to house our transportation staff, and leasing space for our receiving department. Our Operations and Maintenance department does not have enough storage, so expensive equipment is stored outside in the rain, snow, and heat. The proposed project addresses these issues by renovating and expanding our Arlington and LaGrange bus garages.

There are a number of safety, efficiency, and cost benefits to making these improvements. The project will improve traffic flow around each site, making it safer for students, visitors, and employees. Paving parking lots will slow down the effects of rust on our buses, extending the life of our fleet. Our mechanics will be able to work more efficiently, leading to faster repairs, improved safety, and fewer code violations. Long-term savings through the elimination of rented spaces, as well as the storage to allow for bulk purchasing, will save over \$127,000 per year.

The total cost of this project cannot exceed \$18.5 million dollars. We will use \$8.5 million from the capital reserve fund that voters approved last year. State building aid will cover the remaining \$10 million cost of the renovations. Because the capital reserve fund will cover the local share of this project, there will be NO additional tax impact to complete these repairs. Please see page 2 for additional details.

A complete copy of the 2017/2018 Educational Plan and Budget is available online and at all of our schools. For more information, call 486-4460 or visit our website www.arlingtonschools.org. Please remember to vote on May 16.



Steven Rossi
President,
Board of Education



Brendan Lyons, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

BUDGET SNAPSHOT

Budget Element		Year over Year Change
Spending	\$205,055,000	1.90%
State Aid Revenue	\$60,552,443	2.53%
Other Revenue	\$3,036,881	-18.83%
Assigned Fund Balance	\$5,000,000	25.00%
Tax Levy Revenue	\$136,465,676	1.52%

WANT MORE BUDGET DETAILS?

Visit the Arlington website www.arlingtonschools.org

- Voting locations—street listing
- Absentee ballot application
- Complete budget details
- Full proposition details
- Superintendent's budget presentations
- Board of Education candidate bios

2017 BUDGET VOTE MAY 16TH • 6:00 AM – 9:00 PM



ARLINGTON CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
COMMUNICATOR

BUDGET 2017

ARLINGTON TRANSPORTATION AND MAINTENANCE FACILITIES PROJECT

MAKING NEEDED CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS—\$0 ADDITIONAL TAX IMPACT

Why are these improvements needed?

Last year Arlington taxpayers approved a capital reserve fund to allow the District to set monies aside for the purpose of constructing additions and making improvements to district facilities. We indicated that we planned to use the money for improvements to our transportation, operation and maintenance, and receiving facilities. The District has been studying the need for these renovations since 2004.

Built in the 1950s, our existing garages are too low and do not have enough work bays to accommodate our modern bus fleet. We currently lease space on Tucker Drive to repair our buses safely and efficiently. In addition, we are renting trailers to house our transportation staff, and leasing space for our receiving department. Our operations and maintenance department does not have adequate storage, so expensive equipment is stored outside, exposed to the elements. Making needed additions and repairs to our own facilities will allow us to move these operations back to District property to eliminate rental costs, safely repair our buses, and better protect our maintenance equipment.

What does the project include?

- Two additional lift bays (includes washing facility) at the Arlington garage
- Six additional lift bays (includes body shop, paint booth and washing facility) at the LaGrange garage
- Maintenance and Operations building for secure storage of District equipment
- Enhanced traffic flow (separate bus and auto traffic as much as possible)
- Paved bus parking
- Additional fuel stations to improve efficiency
- Renovations for secured parts room and storage room for fluids and hazardous materials
- Renovations for offices and staff support spaces
- Leased facilities no longer required (savings of ~ \$127,000/year)

What are the benefits?

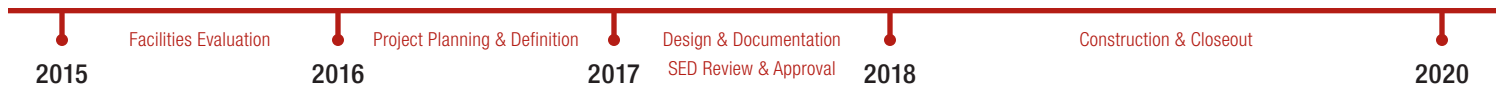
There are a number of safety, efficiency, and cost benefits to making these improvements. The project will improve traffic flow around each site, making it safer for students, visitors, and employees. Paving the parking lots will slow down the effects of rust

on our buses, extending the life of our fleet. Our mechanics will be able to work more efficiently, leading to faster repairs, improved safety, and fewer code violations. Working in our own facilities will give us greater control versus renting space. The Tucker Drive bus facility has been sold to a new owner, making the status of the District lease unknown. Long-term savings through the elimination of rented spaces, reduced travel and mileage, as well as the storage to allow for bulk purchasing will save over \$127,000 per year.

How is the District completing these improvements with \$0 additional tax impact?

We estimate that the project will cost \$18.5 million (\$18,495,000), which is the maximum allowable expenditure for this project. We will use \$8.5 million from the capital reserve fund that voters approved last year. State building aid will cover the remaining \$10 million cost of the renovations. Because the capital reserve fund will cover the local share of this project, there will be NO additional tax impact to complete these repairs. •

PROPOSED PROJECT TIMELINE



Without adequate storage space, our maintenance department stores expensive equipment outside, exposed to rain and snow.



Our outdated bus garages are too low to accommodate our modern bus fleet



We currently rent trailers to house our transportation staff, lease space for our receiving department, and rent space on Tucker Drive to repair our buses safely. Eliminating these rentals will save more than \$127,000 a year.



Paving the parking lots will slow down the effects of rust on our buses, extending the life of our fleet.

ARLINGTON CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET NOTICE

OVERALL BUDGET PROPOSAL

	Budget Adopted for the 2016/17 School Year	Budget Proposed for the 2017/18 School Year	Contingency Budget for the 2017/18 School Year*
Total Budgeted Amount, Not Including Separate Propositions	\$201,225,000	\$205,055,000	\$203,679,039
Increase/Decrease for the 2017/18 School Year		\$3,830,000	\$2,454,039
Percentage Increase/Decrease in Proposed Budget		1.90 %	1.22 %
Change in the Consumer Price Index		1.26 %	
A. Proposed Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount, Net of Reserve			
	\$134,423,212	\$136,465,676	
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)			
	\$134,423,212	\$136,465,676	\$135,089,715
F. Total Permissible Exclusions			
	\$4,867,615	\$6,056,984	
G. School Tax Levy Limit, Excluding Levy for Permissible Exclusions			
	\$131,869,623	\$132,182,256	
H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, Excluding Levy to Support Library Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions (E – B – F + D)			
	\$129,555,597	\$130,408,692	
I. Difference: G – H (Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval – See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions) **			
	\$2,314,026	\$1,773,564	
Administrative Component			
	\$16,110,274	\$16,559,246	\$16,502,243
Program Component			
	\$152,221,354	\$157,440,383	\$157,260,945
Capital Component			
	\$32,893,372	\$31,055,372	\$29,915,852

* The following is a statement of assumptions made in projecting a contingency budget for the 2017/18 school year, should the proposed budget be defeated pursuant to Section 2023 of the Education Law. The projected contingency budget for the 2017/18 school year would be the proposed budget less \$1,375,961. These reductions would be made by eliminating all new equipment (except state-aided equipment), reducing staff, reducing programs, eliminating certain raises, eliminating certain materials and supplies for students, reducing extracurricular activities, and reducing capital expenditures.

** 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
Proposition #2: Purchase of School Buses & Equipment	\$2,008,500
Proposition #3: Transportation and Maintenance Facilities Project	\$18,495,000

	Under the Budget Proposed for the 2017/18 School Year
Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings ¹	\$914

The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2017/2018 by the qualified voters of the Arlington Central School District, Dutchess County, New York, will be held at School Election District #1–Arthur S. May School, School Election District #2–Traver Road Primary, School Election District #3–Overlook Primary, School Election District #4–Noxon Road Elementary, School Election District #5–Beekman Elementary, and School Election District #6–Vail Farm Elementary school(s) in said district on Tuesday, May 16, 2017 between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m., prevailing time in the Arlington Central School(s), at which time the polls will be opened to vote by voting ballot or machine.

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

2017 SCHOOL BOARD ELECTIONS

ON MAY 16, VOTERS WILL ALSO ELECT THREE MEMBERS TO THE ARLINGTON BOARD OF EDUCATION.

The terms of Peter Bodnar, Jennifer Eraca, and Pauline Herr will expire on June 30, 2017. The three incumbents are running to fill these seats. Those elected to the Board will serve a three-year term beginning July 1, 2017.

Below are candidate statements explaining why they wish to serve on the Board of Education. For further details on each candidate's educational background, career history, and community involvement, please visit www.arlingtonschools.org. The candidates are listed in the order that they will appear on the ballot.



PAULINE HERR

I am committed to Arlington's mission statement and to keeping an open mind to the educational

opportunities offered to us, as well as those we construct ourselves. I attend various learning opportunities afforded to me through the New York and Dutchess County School Board Associations, as well as the yearly New York Library Association Conference. These, along with listening and study, assist me in providing our students with the best educational experiences possible.



JENNIFER ERACA, ED.D.

Serving on the BOE has been a privilege. Having served for 4 years, I have witnessed

programs implemented and best practices employed. I have grown personally and professionally having experienced the value of consensus and the spirit of community. I have a deep understanding of the systems needed to maintain and grow Arlington. As a result, I am an effective conduit of community views as it relates to the oversight of education policies and protocols.



PETER BODNAR

I am running again for the Arlington Board of Education for my children and yours. I am an Arlington

graduate and I know how excellent the schools have been. When I worked as a substitute teacher, I was able to see where the district is now and what is being asked of our dedicated teachers. As a Board member, I have worked for the betterment of all our children and for the teachers, who are dedicated to providing the best education possible.

WE
BELIEVE
that a
community
thrives
when all
members
embrace
their
interdependence
with
compassion
and empathy.

2017/2018 BUS PROPOSITION

ON MAY 16, VOTERS WILL CONSIDER THE PURCHASE OF THE FOLLOWING VEHICLES:

- 10 Seventy-two (72) Passenger Buses
- 3 Thirty (30) Passenger Vans
- 1 Wheelchair Van
- 3 Seven (7) Passenger Mini Vans
- 7 Twenty (20) Passenger Vans
- 3 Maintenance and Service Vehicles/Equipment

This year's bus replacement proposition for \$2,008,500 is the same as last year. Bus costs totaling \$1,883,500 are eligible for state transportation aid at the rate of 61.8%, so the local share is \$719,497.

DID YOU KNOW?

Arlington's fleet of 247 buses and vans travel over 2.6 million miles per year. There are 708 routes this school year. We currently transport approximately

8,315 Arlington students, 531 private and parochial students, 361 special education students, and 22 homeless students.

The district is required by law to transport students to nine private schools within district boundaries, to 37 schools for special needs students, and to another 16 out of district private and parochial schools. To save money, we continue to forge agreements with surrounding districts and with BOCES to share busing for special needs students.

PROPANE BUS UPDATE

Last year, Arlington began transitioning to propane fueled 72-passenger buses. Propane buses are cleaner, easier and cheaper to maintain. The fuel cost per mile was better than anticipated. Students, parents, and staff are making positive comments about the reduced noise and the absence of foul-smelling diesel fumes. •

WHAT IF THE BUS PROPOSITION DOES NOT PASS?

Arlington maintains a schedule for bus replacements. If we do not replace buses in one year, then we need to replace more buses in subsequent years. This interrupts budget sustainability and predictability. Operating older buses increases our repair costs and has the potential to increase the number of buses taken out of service by the DOT. We want to avoid making cuts to our educational programs due to additional costs incurred from added repairs or the need to lease buses. •

2017 BUDGET VOTE
MAY 16TH
6:00 AM – 9:00 PM



Arlington has a rich arts in education program, supported by our PTAs. Upon completion of a poetry unit with teaching artist, Jackie Sweeney, these first graders proudly displayed the poems they wrote using similes and onomatopoeia (the creation of words that imitate natural sounds, such as Boom! Bang! Crash!).



The 2017/2018 preserves Arlington's rich array of extra-curricular and athletic programs.



Arlington High School offers a rich array of courses to allow students to explore their interests. Culinary arts students made handmade filled chocolates for Valentine's Day. Students learned how to temper chocolate, fill molds properly to avoid fat bloom (the whitish coating that can appear on chocolate), and how to paint on colored chocolate.

WHAT HAPPENS IF THE BUDGET IS DEFEATED?

Under state law, if the school budget is defeated, the Board of Education has three choices:

1. Put the same budget up (without change) for a re-vote on June 20
2. Present a revised budget for a vote in June
3. Adopt a contingency budget.

If the budget is defeated a second time, the board must adopt a contingency budget. For Arlington, this means cutting \$1.38 million dollars from the proposed budget.

If forced to develop a contingency budget, Arlington must eliminate the purchase of all new equipment (excluding instructional technology) and remove the following capital projects from the budget:

- Flooring at Titusville Intermediate School
- Roofing repairs at Arthur S. May and Arlington High School
- Bathroom renovations at Arlington High School

We identified the need for these improvements in the 2016 five-year facilities study. These projects will also generate state building aid, which will lower taxes and support future budgets over the next fifteen years. •

TAXING BELOW THE CAP

ARLINGTON'S TAX LEVY IS BELOW THE TAX LEVY CAP FOR THE FIFTH CONSECUTIVE YEAR

	Tax Levy	Increase	% Increase
17/18 Tax Levy Cap	\$138,239,240	\$3,816,028	2.84%
17/18 Arlington Proposed Tax Levy	\$136,465,676	\$2,042,464	1.52%

Arlington's proposed 2017/18 Levy is \$1,773,564 Below the Allowed Tax Levy Cap.

CUMULATIVE TAXPAYER SAVINGS NEAR \$9 MILLION SINCE 2012/2013

	Tax Cap	Proposed Levy	Tax Levy Cap	Proposed Levy	Levy Annual Difference	Accumulated Taxpayer Savings
12/13	3.87%	2.0%	\$130,627,318	128,273,603	\$-2,353,715	\$-2,353,715
13/14	2.22%	2.0%	\$131,121,764	\$130,837,382	\$-284,382	\$-2,638,097
14/15	2.22%	2.0%	\$133,744,276	\$133,454,129	\$-290,147	\$-2,928,244
15/16	2.76%	1.48%	\$137,136,051	\$135,423,212	\$-1,712,839	\$- 4,641,083
16/17	.97%	-.74%	\$136,737,238	\$134,423,212	\$-2,314,026	\$-6,955,109
17/18	2.84%	1.52%	\$ 138,239,240	\$ 136,465,676	\$-1,773,564	\$-8,728,673



On April 1, the LaGrange Middle School cafeteria was transformed into an art gallery for the annual Arlington Arts Fair. Thank you to the Arlington PTSA Council for co-sponsoring this event, which features artwork from students in grades K-12. Left: LaGrange Middle School art teacher Eric Cline discussed the techniques and concepts behind the artwork in the school's "Art Museum." Middle: A Traver Road Primary School student shows Superintendent of Schools Dr. Brendan Lyons his artwork. Right: Arlington High School art teacher Sean Bayliss set up a portraiture station to raise money for the Charles Burchfield Scholarship Fund.

**OUR
MISSION
IS**

to empower
all students
to be
self-directed,
lifelong
learners,
who
willingly
contribute
to their
community,
and lead
passionate,
purposeful
lives.



**ARLINGTON CENTRAL
SCHOOL DISTRICT**

144 Todd Hill Road
LaGrangeville, NY 12540

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CAR-RT Pre-sort

DON'T FORGET TO VOTE!

TUESDAY, MAY 16, 2017 • 6:00 AM TO 9:00 PM

VOTER REGISTRATION

To be eligible to vote, you must be a U.S. citizen, 18 years of age or older, and a resident of the district for 30 days prior to the vote. If you are registered to vote for a general election, you are registered to vote in all school district elections.

VOTING LOCATIONS

Make sure you know where to vote! An Arlington street listing is available on the 2017/2018 Budget Vote page at www.arlingtonschools.org.

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| District 1 – Arthur S. May School | District 4 – Noxon Road Elementary |
| District 2 – Traver Road Primary | District 5 – Beekman Elementary |
| District 3 – Overlook Primary | District 6 – Vail Farm Elementary |

TO VOTE BY ABSENTEE BALLOT

Absentee ballots are available to residents who will be out town or who are unable to go to the polls due to illness or disability. To vote by absentee ballot, you must first fill out an application. Contact the district clerk at 486-4460 ext. 20212 or download an application from the Arlington website at www.arlingtonschools.org.

If you would like an absentee ballot mailed to you, we must receive your application by May 9. If you plan to pick up your ballot, we must receive your application by May 15. The district clerk must receive completed absentee ballots by 5:00 p.m. on May 16.

QUESTIONS?

If you have questions about the budget or about your voting location, information is available at all district schools, at www.arlingtonschools.org, or by calling 486-4460 ext. 20212.

Dr. Brendan Lyons, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Steven Rossi · President
Pauline Herr · Vice President
Christine Baxter
Peter Bodnar
Jennifer Eraca Ed.D
Kerri Fasulo
Charles McLeod, Jr.
Edward McCormick
Mark Tornatore
Margie Flynn · Clerk of the Board

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

144 Todd Hill Road
LaGrangeville, NY 12540
845-486-4460

Visit Our District Website at
www.arlingtonschools.org