

PRESERVING HIGH QUALITY ACADEMIC AND EXTRA-CURRICULAR PROGRAMS

When NYS Regent Judith Johnson visited Arlington this past fall, she praised our district for the diversity of our course offerings, the poise of our student leaders, and the dedication of our faculty and staff. She recognized Arlington as a model for more than 700 school districts across New York. To us, this came as no surprise. We are proud of our district and the quality of the academic and extra-curricular opportunities that we offer our students.

Our mission is to empower our students to be self-directed, lifelong learners, who willingly contribute to their community, and lead passionate, purposeful lives. To reach this ideal, we endeavor to continually provide new and enhanced programs for our students. We have implemented a daily enrichment and intervention block at our elementary schools that not only provides extra assistance for students who need it, but also provides thought provoking activities to challenge high achieving students. In 2019/2020, we look forward to continue offering our students experiential learning opportunities, including field trips, Makerspaces, and STEAM labs, so that they can see how what they are learning in the classroom relates to the “real world” around them.

This year we expanded our equity work. Educational equity ensures that students receive what they need in order to have the opportunity to be successful. Each school has a faculty and staff equity team to help us reach this goal. In 2019/2020, we plan to expand these teams to include parents and community members. Our middle and high school student equity teams continue to lend their voices and experiences to the table. Equity work values the input of all stakeholders.

Our high school continues to offer enriching, diverse courses to appeal to a variety of interests. In addition to a wide range of AP courses, we also offer classes in the culinary arts, technology and engineering, automotives, art, music, literature, fashion, business, and so much more. Our students have the opportunity to explore a variety of subjects as they prepare for college or careers. Additionally, there are over 50 clubs and 45 athletic teams at the high school, as well as numerous extra-curricular and athletic opportunities at the elementary and middle schools.

The proposed 2019/2020 Educational Plan and Budget preserves and enhances the high quality academic and extra-curricular programs that our community expects from an Arlington education. The budget includes four additional elementary school teachers to ensure that elementary class sizes remain reasonable and consistent across the district.

For the eighth consecutive year, the Board of Education has adopted a budget that is below our allowable tax levy cap. The proposed 2019/2020 Educational Plan and Budget is \$216,161,000, a 2.99% increase from the current school year. The tax levy increase is 2.15%, which is below our allowable 2.55% tax cap.

A complete copy of the 2019/2020 Educational Plan and Budget is available online and at all of our schools.

For more information, call 486-4460 or visit our website at www.arlingtonschools.org.

Please, remember to vote on Tuesday, May 21.



Pauline Herr
President,
Board of Education



Brendan Lyons, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools



Unified Basketball In Its 2nd Season

Arlington's unified basketball team is a competitive coed basketball program that joins general education partners with special education athletes in five-on-five games. The team, coached by special education teacher Richard Dima, played eight games this season. Unified sports are rooted in the principle that “inclusive activity is among the most conclusive ways to break down stereotypes and foster relationships”. On April 12, the Admirals beat John Jay High School 40 to 35.



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2019 BUDGET VOTE MAY 21ST • 6:00 AM – 9:00 PM



ARLINGTON CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
COMMUNICATOR

BUDGET ISSUE 2019



Arlington HS custodial worker Santesha V. Patterson recently signed copies of her newly published novel *Pressured* at the Newburgh Free Library. The book is based on her life growing up in Newburgh. In an interview with the staff of the *Arlingtonian*, Santesha said that the book's overriding message is that "even if you have a rough start in life, you can still have a beautiful ending." Santesha is pictured with John Bergin (left), Assistant Director and John Wilson (right), Director of School Facilities and Operations.



Engineers from IBM and Global Foundries visited several schools this spring for Engineers Week (EWeek). The purpose of EWeek is to increase students' understanding of and interest in engineering and technology careers. Volunteers help Beekman Elementary students make robotic arms.



The Arlington HS Jazz Machine won first place at the 2019 Mid-Atlantic Jazz Festival, besting fourteen bands from seven different states.



On April 6, the LaGrange Middle School cafeteria was transformed into an art gallery for the annual Arlington Arts Fair. Thank you to the PTSA Council for co-sponsoring the event, which features artwork from students in grades K–12. This student discusses his artwork with Superintendent of Schools Dr. Brendan Lyons.



Arlington High School had 20 Gold Keys, 23 Silver Keys, 43 Honorable Mentions and 175 Participation Certificates for a total of 261 entries in this year's Scholastic Arts Awards. Participating in the awards helps students understand that their expression and art has value, not just for themselves, but for others as well. Silver Key winner Allison Hoyos poses with her "This is Me" drawing.



Keshav Ramji placed second at the NYS Science Fair for Computational Biology/Bioinformatics (he also won a special award from Yale University) for his Novel Machine Learning Based Web Application for Detection of Early Warning Indicators and Risk Levels of Lyme Disease. In addition, Haider Qureshi and Krishna Koka placed second in the state for Biomedical Engineering, and Emme Magliato and Spencer Koonin placed third for Environmental Engineering.



Congratulations to the 2019 valedictorian, Sabrina Goldfischer, and the salutatorian, Lucas Zhou. They are pictured here with (left to right) the Class of 2019 House Principal Lynn LeFevre, Guidance Counselor Kelley Marshall, Sabrina, Lucas, Guidance Counselor Kim Ale, and AHS Executive Principal Dr. Paul Fanuele.

ARLINGTON CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET NOTICE

OVERALL BUDGET PROPOSAL

	Budget Adopted for the 2018/19 School Year	Budget Proposed for the 2019/20 School Year	Contingency Budget for the 2019/20 School Year*
Total Budgeted Amount, Not Including Separate Propositions	\$209,894,000	\$216,161,000	\$212,362,814
Increase/Decrease for the 2019/20 School Year		\$6,267,000	\$2,468,814
Percentage Increase/Decrease in Proposed Budget		2.99%	1.18%
Change in the Consumer Price Index		2.44%	
A. Proposed Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount	139,467,921	142,467,840	
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)	139,467,921	142,467,840	139,467,921
F. Total Permissible Exclusions	\$4,961,998	\$4,953,489	
G. School Tax Levy Limit, Excluding Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$134,777,675	\$138,072,065	
H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, Excluding Levy to Support Library Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions (E – B – F + D)	\$134,505,923	\$137,514,351	
I. Difference: G – H (Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval – See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions) **	\$271,752	\$557,714	
Administrative Component	\$17,264,690	\$18,452,724	\$17,535,792
Program Component	\$162,961,430	\$167,110,209	\$165,527,355
Capital Component	\$29,667,880	\$30,598,067	\$29,299,667

* The following is a statement of assumptions made in projecting a contingency budget for the 2019/20 school year, should the proposed budget be defeated, pursuant to Section 2023 of the Education Law. The projected contingency budget for the 2019/20 school year would be the proposed budget less \$3,798,186. 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 and Equipment	\$1,975,500

	Under the Budget Proposed for the 2019/20 School Year
Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings ¹	\$915

The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2019/2020 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 21, 2019 between the hours of 6:00am and 9:00pm, 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.

2019 SCHOOL BOARD ELECTIONS

On May 21, voters will also elect three members to the Arlington Board of Education. The terms of Christine Baxter, Kerri Fasulo, and Mark Tornatore will expire on June 30, 2019. There are five candidates running for three seats. Those elected to the Board will serve a three-year term beginning July 1, 2019. For further details on each candidate, please visit www.arlingtonschools.org. The candidates are listed in the order that they will appear on the ballot.



MARION QUINN

I am running for the BOE

as a lifelong resident of the district, a parent of two AHS graduates, and a former Arlington educator. I would like to give back by working to ensure that all Arlington students continue to have the opportunities to reach their maximum potential as vibrant community members. I realize the challenge of providing a top-notch education in a fiscally responsible way and look forward to maximizing district resources to meet the needs of all residents.



KELLY CAHILL CHENSKI

My husband

and I moved to the area so our children could attend the Arlington Central School District. Our family has enjoyed the benefits of the academic, arts and athletic programs offered through the district. I would like to become more involved on a strategic level, and represent our school community. With my professional background, I offer valuable legal and education experience. My goal is to be fiscally responsible while continuing to support Arlington excellence.



AELAN MOSDEN

I want to make Arlington

students and staff our highest priority, as well as reduce wasteful spending dictated by an ever-expanding administration. In addition, administrators need to be accountable for their actions when they violate the rights of our students and staff. My experiences with Arlington have shown me that improvements and efficiency in Special Education, with targeted supports and staff training, are necessary to ensure a quality education for all students, while cutting costs.



KERRI FASULO

I believe in public education

and I support the Arlington mission. Our school district offers abundant opportunities for children to learn and grow into independent thinkers. We must work hard to protect and preserve what our district has to offer. It is an honor that I take very seriously, to work as a voice for our community to ensure children and teachers have access to the resources they need.



MARK TORNATORE

I am running for the board

of education after being part of this district for 43 years. I think I have a unique perspective to bring to the board. I am proud that I have been an advocate for parents, taxpayers, students, teachers and the many other employees of our district. I would like to see our district implement pre-K so that our students may improve their skills, advance further with their schooling, and reduce costs for additional services.

2019/2020 BUS AND EQUIPMENT PROPOSITION

ON MAY 21, VOTERS WILL CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING VEHICLE AND EQUIPMENT PURCHASES

- 14 Sixty-Six (66) Passenger Buses
- 4 Thirty (30) Passenger Vans
- 2 Transport Trailers for Student Events
- 2 Floor Scrubbing Machines
- 6 Seven (7) Passenger Mini Van
- 3 Twenty (20) Passenger Vans
- 3 Utility Trucks

This year's bus and equipment proposition is for \$1,975,500 bonded over five years. Bus costs totaling \$1,740,501 are eligible for state transportation aid at the rate of 63% so the local share is \$643,985.

DID YOU KNOW?

Arlington's fleet of 253 buses and vans travel over 2.9 million miles per year. There are 720 routes this school year. We currently transport approximately 7,952 Arlington students, 465 private and parochial students, 351 special education students, and 55 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.

SAFETY AND FLEET AGE

Arlington's Transportation Department's primary responsibility is to provide students with safe transportation to and from school. This requires us to maintain safe, reliable vehicles that meet all NYS Department of Transportation (DOT) requirements. In order to maintain our fleet in a fiscally responsible manner, we adhere to a year-to-year schedule for replacing our older buses. This provides cost predictability for the District and for our taxpayers. We need to replace buses after 10–12 years that have excessive mileage or undercarriage rusting. Purchasing new vehicles through a bond maximizes state aid and our buying power.

WHAT IF THE BUS PROPOSITION DOES NOT PASS?

As noted above, 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. •

2019 BUDGET VOTE
MAY 21ST
6:00 AM – 9:00 PM

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 18
2. Present a revised budget for a vote on June 18
3. Adopt a contingency budget

If the budget is defeated a second time, the board must adopt a contingency budget. Under the new tax cap law, a district that adopts a contingency budget may not increase its current tax levy by any amount—which would impose a 0% cap. For Arlington, this means cutting an additional \$3.8 million from the proposed budget.

If forced to develop a 0% contingency budget, Arlington must eliminate the purchase of all new equipment (excluding instructional technology) and will consider reductions in the following areas:

- Reducing classroom teachers, thereby increasing class sizes
- Reducing extracurricular activities and interscholastic sports
- Reducing non-mandated programs and staff

In addition, the District will remove several capital projects from the general budget. We identified the need for these improvements in the 2016 five-year facilities study. These projects generate state building aid, which will lower taxes and support future budgets over the next fifteen years.



The Overlook Primary School International Festival featured food, artifacts, performances, or information from 24 different countries, celebrating the diverse backgrounds of students and their families.

GRAND PRIZE WINNERS

In January, we reported that the AHS “AquaPals,” a research team in the high school’s Science Research class, was one of eight teams from across the country to earn \$10,000 in scholarships and grants in the Lexus Eco Land/Water Challenge for their project on aquaponics. By expanding their project locally, nationally, and globally, the AquaPals have won the \$30,000 grand prize! Advisors Maribel Pregnall and Tricia Muraco helped guide the team to success.

The AquaPals sent “aqua-care” packages, containing vital resources to establish aquaponics systems, to farmers in Kenya, Indonesia, and Morocco. They wrote a 35-page aquaponics manual to send to 14 farmers across eight countries. Closer to home, the AquaPals donated aquaponics systems to local elementary schools to start hands-on experiences with science in the classroom. They set up an aquaponics system at Poughkeepsie High School. This system was self-engineered and constructed side-by-side with Poughkeepsie High School students. The AquaPals also donated a system to a farm in Gardiner, NY to expand their sustainable practices for year-round production.

In an effort to protect the Hudson River, the AquaPals led a student-letter writing campaign, sending over 130 letters to local, state, and federal

representatives and government agencies. They urged our public officials to ensure that General Electric remains accountable for cleaning up the PCB contamination in the Hudson River.

Congratulations to the AquaPals! To learn more about Aquaponics and the amazing work the AquaPals are doing to promote this sustainable food source and to protect our environment, visit <https://ahsaquapals.wixsite.com/aquablog>. •



The AquaPals (left to right) Jacob Gaines, Krishna Koka, Spencer Koonin, Shannon Gibson, Emme Magliato, and Tyler Locke won the \$30,000 grand prize in the Lexus Eco Challenge.

TAXING BELOW THE CAP

ARLINGTON'S TAX LEVY IS BELOW THE TAX LEVY CAP FOR THE 8TH CONSECUTIVE YEAR

	Tax Levy	Increase	% Increase
19/20 Tax Levy Cap	\$143,025,554	\$3,557,633	2.55%
19/20 Arlington Proposed Tax Levy	\$139,467,921	\$2,999,919	2.15%

Arlington's Proposed 2019/20 Levy is \$557,714 Below the Allowed Tax Levy Cap.

CUMULATIVE TAX AVOIDANCE OVER \$9.5 MILLION SINCE 2012/2013

	Tax Cap	Proposed Levy	Tax Levy Cap	Proposed Levy	Levy Annual Difference	Accumulated Taxpayer Savings
12/13	3.87%	2.00%	\$130,627,318	\$128,273,603	\$-2,353,715	\$-2,353,715
13/14	2.22%	2.00%	\$131,121,764	\$130,837,382	\$-284,382	\$-2,638,097
14/15	2.22%	2.00%	\$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	0.97%	-0.74%	\$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
18/19	2.40%	2.20%	\$139,739,673	\$139,467,921	\$-271,752	\$-9,000,425
19/20	2.55%	2.15%	\$143,025,554	\$142,467,840	\$-557,714	\$-9,558,139

OUR MISSION IS

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

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ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

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

Visit Our District Website at
www.arlingtonschools.org



ARLINGTON CENTRAL
SCHOOL DISTRICT

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LaGrangeville, NY 12540

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DON'T FORGET TO VOTE!

TUESDAY, MAY 21, 2019 • 6:00 AM TO 9:00 PM

VOTER ELIGIBILITY

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 2019/2020 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 14. If you plan to pick up your ballot, we must receive your application by May 20. The district clerk must receive completed absentee ballots by 5:00pm on May 21.

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.

BUDGET SNAPSHOT

Budget Element		Year over Year Change
Spending	\$216,161,000	2.99%
State Aid Revenue	\$63,089,980	3.28%
Other Revenue	\$3,599,814	0.02%
Assigned Fund Balance	\$5,743,000	0.00%
Tax Levy Revenue	\$142,467,840	2.15%
Interfund Revenue from completed Capital Projects	\$1,260,366	N/A

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