

Piscataway Board of Education

2018-2019 Preliminary Budget Presentation

Budget Guidelines

- Review all curricular and instructional programs for effectiveness and recommend initiatives
- Maintain class sizes in recommended Board policy
 - Grades K-3: 22-25 students per class
 - Grades 4-8: 22-28 students per class
- Continue district technology initiative
- Review special education programs to provide opportunities and cost-efficiency

Budget Guidelines

- Assure safety and security of students
- Recruit, retain, and compensate staff, consistent with negotiated bargaining agreements
- Monitor health benefit expenses and minimize cost increases
- Invest in capital improvements to maintain school buildings
- Maintain cost efficiency and use fund balance for capital reserve

State Aid History

2009-10 \$16,802,641

2010-11 \$11,974,697

- *\$4.8 million cut in state aid*

2017-18 \$16,906,426

- *Includes additional state aid announced in July 2017*
- *Finally restored state aid to pre-cut levels of 2009-2010*

2018-19 \$17,751,747

- *Increase of \$845,321*

Current State of Affairs

- Piscataway's state aid increased for the current and future budget year
 - 2017-2018: \$995,236 increase
 - 2018-2019: \$845,321 increase
- Board of Education returned 2017-2018 additional state aid to Pway taxpayers who have historically been overburdened by lack of state aid
- 2018-2019 state aid increases were haphazard with many districts still far below full funding and others receiving more than 100% of fair share.
- Full uncapped SFRA funding would entitle Piscataway to \$33,748,326

Current State of Affairs

- Despite aid increase, still underfunded. We receive \$2,444 per pupil instead of \$4,646 per pupil.
- Of the 24 school districts in Middlesex County, Piscataway ranks 16th in State Aid per pupil
- Dunellen, Middlesex, New Brunswick, North Brunswick, and South Brunswick all receive more state aid per pupil than Pway.
- Local school tax levy represents 78% of our operating budget

Revenue Background

Tax Levy Cap

- Tax levy can only increase 2% with minimal exceptions (i.e. health care costs, large spikes in enrollment).
- The District did not qualify for any exceptions in 2018-2019.

Banked Cap

- The ability to exceed the 2% tax levy cap is accumulated each year if the current tax levy increase is below the max of 2%
- There is approximately \$925,000 in banked cap available for the 2018-2019 budget year.
- District Administration is not requesting the use of banked cap in the 2018-2019 budget.

Property Ratables

- Following the 2008-2009 downturn in the economy and resulting decrease in property values at the beginning of the decade, property values have increased each of the past six years.
- Piscataway Township has begun an annual reassessment process whereby 25 percent of properties will be inspected each year and market values adjust accordingly.
- The 2018 ratable base increased from \$6.3 billion to \$7.3 billion; however, the residential property allocation remained stable.

Just to recap - What Drives Our Budget?

- State and Federal mandates
- Enrollment
- Staffing needs
- Strategic Plan
- Salaries and benefits
- CCSS and PARCC
- Technology
- Security

Enrollment Projections

- Student enrollment has remained stable during this decade
 - 2010-2011: 7,191 students
 - 2016-2017: 7,264 students
- District continues to engage a demographer to monitor enrollment trends due to large housing projects under development
- Demographic report projects over 7,500 students in 2021-2022, largely a result of residential development in town.

Curriculum Initiatives

- Introduction of PHS Academies
- Change in Middle School Master Schedule
- Change in Arbor School Schedule
- Grades 4-5 Honors program for math and ELA
- Go Math – grades K-6 and middle school
- Curriculum articulation and design
- Jump Ahead, Accuplacer, AP Summer Institute, Tier 3 Literacy Academy, after-school tutoring at all grades

Curriculum Initiatives

- Technology usage continues to increase in our classrooms: iPads, techbooks, etc.
- Infuse usable iPads to K-3 buildings – Building iPad Cart
- Laptops/iPads for staff at the Intermediate and Middle School levels to facilitate instruction.
- Storage servers to accommodate data and email.
- LEAP, STEM (grades 4-8), American Repertory Ballet, Behaviorists, Middle and High School Athletics

Special Education Programs

- Special Education enrollment continues to grow, resulting in the expansion in some of our existing programs
 - Add BCBA teacher to support the growth in the autistic population
 - Add SAIL/PATHS teacher to serve enrollment
 - Add job coaches to support high school students

2018-2019 Staffing Revisions

- Due to shifting enrollment trends, eliminate 4 elementary teacher positions through attrition. Add 7 teacher positions in Grades 4-12, resulting in a net increase of 3 teachers.

POSITION REDUCTIONS	POSITION ADDITIONS
4 Elementary School Teachers	2 Intermediate School Honors Program Teachers
	1 Middle School Teacher
	1 High School Foreign Language Teacher
	1 High School ESL Teacher
	1 BCBA Teacher
	1 SAIL/PATHS Teacher
	<i>Net 3 Teacher Additions</i>

Security Considerations

- Enhancements to mental health & wellness initiatives
- Upgrades to and expansion of surveillance cameras
- Public address amplifiers, especially in cafeterias, faculty rooms, gyms
- Consider addition of Class 3 security officers for k-8 schools
- Explore vestibule construction with use of capital reserve funding

Technology

- New iPads will be purchased for the rising 6th graders. iPad program will be expanded to the 4th grade at Arbor and MLK with class sets in each classroom.
- \$450,000 budgeted for the installation of projectors in classrooms throughout the district
- \$300,000 budgeted for laptop carts at PHS
- Wireless Access Point upgrades
- IT Security Threat Assessment

Maintenance Projects

- Carpet/tile removal with new tile installation at PHS, Quibbletown, Eisenhower, Grandview, Knollwood and MLK
- Exit door replacements at Arbor, Conackamack and MLK
- Upgrade stage lighting control panel at Conackamack
- Refinish and paint PHS SBA gymnasium floor
- Refinish PHS Patton gymnasium floor
- Paint hallway lockers at Conackamack
- Dedicated staff person to paint hallways and classrooms throughout the District

Capital Projects

- Grandview Building Addition
- PHS Turf Field replacement, tennis court replacement and track/asphalt repairs
- PHS Patton Building 2nd floor roof replacement
- T. Schor water heater replacement
- Upgrade fencing at district schools

SDA ROD Grant Projects

- \$11 million of projects were approved in the last round of SDA ROD grant funding with the state funding 40% of the cost of those projects
- Capital reserve has been utilized for local funding without asking the taxpayers to exceed the 2% tax levy law limitations.
- Projects that improved safety, infrastructure and efficiency.
- PHS ADA Bathroom Upgrades
 - 5 bathrooms complete with remaining 3 bathrooms to completed by the conclusion of the school year

Ongoing Challenges

- Supports & interventions for underperforming students
- Technology is expensive and changes rapidly
- Shortage of qualified teachers in certain content areas
- Time & funding for professional development
- Need for comprehensive psychological support services for families
- Housing Projects under construction
- Facility upgrades & security

2017-2018 vs. 2018-2019 Budget Comparison

	2017- 2018 Budgeted	2018- 2019 Proposed	\$ Change	% Change
Revenues:				
General Fund Tax Levy	\$ 89,400,687	\$ 91,188,701	\$ 1,788,014	2.00%
Debt Service Tax Levy	\$ 3,592,375	\$ 3,607,275	\$ 14,900	0.41%
State & Federal Aid	\$ 21,219,572	\$ 22,094,402	\$ 874,831	4.12%
Local Revenue	\$ 1,365,000	\$ 1,440,000	\$ 75,000	5.49%
Fund Balance	\$ 4,698,414	\$ 6,000,000	\$ 1,301,586	27.70%
Transfers from Reserve	\$ 1,279,372	\$ 4,285,000	\$ 3,005,628	234.93%
Total Revenues	\$ 121,555,420	\$ 128,615,378	\$ 7,059,958	5.81%
Appropriations:				
Operating Fund	\$ 110,733,729	\$ 114,741,096	\$ 4,007,367	3.62%
Capital Outlay	\$ 3,612,425	\$ 6,607,755	\$ 2,995,330	82.92%
Charter Schools	\$ 306,584	\$ 326,024	\$ 19,440	6.34%
General Fund Operations	\$ 114,652,738	\$ 121,674,875	\$ 7,022,137	6.12%
Special Revenue Fund	\$ 3,310,307	\$ 3,333,228	\$ 22,922	0.69%
Debt Service Fund	\$ 3,592,375	\$ 3,607,275	\$ 14,900	0.41%
Total Appropriations	\$ 121,555,420	\$ 128,615,378	\$ 7,059,959	5.81%

General Fund Operations Analysis

<i>Appropriations:</i>	2017-2018 Budgeted	2018- 2019 Proposed	\$ Change	% Change
Salaries	\$ 67,570,095	\$ 70,105,626	\$ 2,535,531	3.75%
Benefits	\$ 20,242,511	\$ 20,178,000	\$ (64,511)	-0.32%
Purch. Prof. Svcs.	\$ 5,621,043	\$ 5,850,210	\$ 229,167	4.08%
Purch. Property Svcs.	\$ 1,940,014	\$ 2,144,423	\$ 204,409	10.54%
Other Purch. Svcs.	\$ 6,092,911	\$ 7,072,815	\$ 979,904	16.08%
Tuition	\$ 1,950,952	\$ 2,168,620	\$ 217,668	11.16%
Supplies	\$ 4,260,998	\$ 4,086,320	\$ (174,677)	-4.10%
Utilities	\$ 2,378,000	\$ 2,320,000	\$ (58,000)	-2.44%
Other Goods & Svcs.	\$ 677,206	\$ 815,082	\$ 137,876	20.36%
Capital Outlay	\$ 3,612,425	\$ 6,607,755	\$ 2,995,330	82.92%
Charter Schools	\$ 306,584	\$ 326,024	\$ 19,440	6.34%
Total Revenues	\$ 114,652,738	\$ 121,674,875	\$ 7,022,137	6.12%

Tax Levy Analysis

	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019
Tax levy	\$ 89,676,482	\$ 92,193,129	\$ 93,988,298	\$ 94,795,976
Avg Assessed Value	\$ 275,600	\$ 276,012	\$ 276,611	\$ 323,549
Tax on Average Household	\$ 4,027.76	\$ 4,059.58	\$ 4,102.25	\$ 4,191.51
Tax Increase on Average Household		\$ 31.83	\$ 42.67	\$ 89.26

Every \$100,000 of assessed value equates to \$1,295.48 of school tax for 2018-2019

Budget Calendar

- March 22, 2018 – Budget Presentation and Adoption of Tentative Budget
- March 29, 2018 – Budget Submitted to Executive County Superintendent for approval
- April 26, 2018 – Public Hearing and Final Budget Adoption
- April 27, 2018 – User-friendly Budget posted on the District website