

1245 Hillside Drive  
Watervliet, New York 12189

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Produced by the Watervliet City School District  
in cooperation with the Capital Region BOCES  
Communications Service.

**Voting Information**

➤ **You are eligible to vote** if you are a U.S. citizen, at least 18 years old, a resident of the school district for at least 30 days prior to the vote, and have not been convicted of a felony.  
➤ **You must be pre-registered to vote.** Bring proof of identity to the polls, such as a driver's license or non-driver's ID card. For information on pre-registering, call the business office at 629-3203.  
➤ **Absentee ballots.** Residents interested in voting by absentee ballot may pick up an application at the district office. Details about absentee ballots can be found on the district website: [www.watervlietcityschools.org](http://www.watervlietcityschools.org)

**Polling sites for Tuesday, May 16 vote**

For the school budget vote and Board of Education election on May 16, eligible voters will cast their ballots at one of two sites:

- District 1 – the Watervliet Elks Lodge, 501 4th Avenue  
All locations in the district south of the northernmost wall of the Arsenal and the entire area of Mannsville.
- District 2 – Watervliet Elementary School, 2557 Tenth Avenue  
All locations in the district north of the northernmost wall of the Arsenal.

**Also on the ballot:**

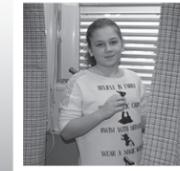
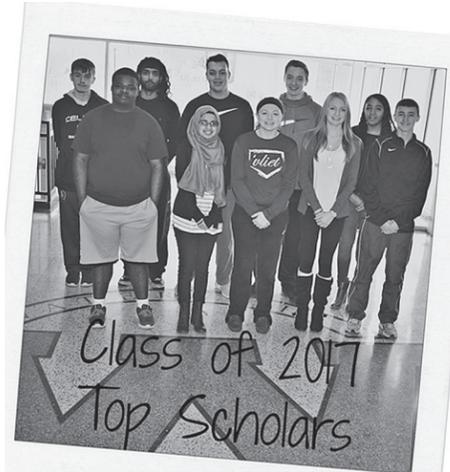
■ **Board of Education election:** Voters will elect two candidates to serve three-year terms on the Board of Education. Visit [www.watervlietcityschools.org](http://www.watervlietcityschools.org) for more information

**Watervliet High School top scholars**

Valedictorian Evan Tambolleo is graduating with a 98.9 grade point average and plans to study industrial engineering at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (RPI) in the fall. Salutatorian Brianna Johnson earned a grade point average of 96.5 and plans to study bio-medical engineering/pre-med at Johns Hopkins University.

Congratulations to the other eight students who round out the Top 10 scholars in the Class of 2017, including: Usva Asif, Jessica DelSignore, Makayla Darnetko, Owais Raza, Joshua Lindsay, Brandon Nichols, Aaron Fitch and Nathan Spain.

For more on the Class of 2017 Top 10 students, visit: [www.watervlietcityschools.org](http://www.watervlietcityschools.org).



**Remember to Vote on May 16**  
2017-18 School Budget Vote & Board of Education Election, 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.



**Grandparents Night**  
WES hosts annual Grandparents & Special Persons Night on May 15, 6 p.m.



**Public Budget Hearing**  
Tuesday, May 9 at 6 p.m., WJSHS conference room

# Watervliet

News and information from our schools

## CITY SCHOOLS

### Proposed budget invests in educational opportunities, tax levy increase meets "cap" Community to vote on \$26.7 million school budget proposal May 16

*On Tuesday, May 16, residents of the Watervliet City School District will vote on a proposed \$26,692,000 budget for the 2017-18 school year. The vote will take place from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. at two polling locations in the city: Watervliet Elementary School and the Watervliet Elks Lodge (see page 4 for more information).*

The proposed budget increases overall spending by 2.0 percent, or \$530,000 more than the current-year budget. It maintains all academic programs and provides additional

support in targeted areas to meet student needs.

The proposal carries a tax levy increase of 0.7 percent, which is slightly below the district's limit as determined by the state's tax "cap" formula. As a result, school budget approval will require a simple majority vote (50 percent plus one vote).

Under the proposed budget, district officials estimate school taxes would increase \$28 more per \$100,000 of assessed property value in the City of Watervliet, and \$41 more per \$100,000 of assessed property value in Mannsville.

These tax estimates are based on current information. School tax rates are set after the district receives the final tax assessment roll from the city in August.

Watervliet will receive a net increase of \$276,000 in state aid next year, a 1.5 percent increase. That is less than the \$334,000 in aid originally projected because of a \$58,000 decrease in expense-driven aids for BOCES services and transportation after these costs came in under budget during this current school year.

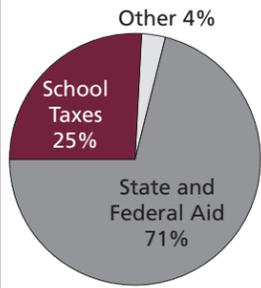
Superintendent of Schools Dr. Lori Caplan said the net funding increase, along with a reduction in pension costs and savings due to retirements and lower transportation costs, will allow the district to maintain all current programs and services, while providing a few additional teachers to support struggling learners and special education students at both schools.



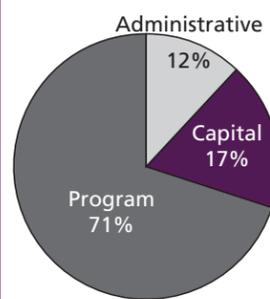
*Congratulations Class of 2017 valedictorian Evan Tambolleo and salutatorian Brianna Johnson! Read more about the top scholars on page 4, or visit [www.watervlietcityschools.org](http://www.watervlietcityschools.org) to learn more about Watervliet High School's top 10 graduating seniors.*

-continued on page 3

2017-18 Revenue Sources



2017-18 Projected Expenses



## Where Watervliet's education dollars come from

Source of Revenue	2016-17 Budget	Proposed 2017-18 Budget	\$ Change
Payments in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT)	\$90,000	\$182,000	\$92,000
Interest and Penalties on Taxes	30,000	31,000	1,000
Consumer Utility Tax	355,000	325,000	(30,000)
Charges for Services	38,000	48,000	10,000
Interest and Earnings	30,000	33,000	3,000
Miscellaneous	180,000	210,000	30,000
Total State Aid	18,346,000	18,622,000	276,000
Total Federal Sources	308,000	301,000	(7,000)
Interfund Transfers	-	-	-
School Taxes	6,785,000	6,790,000	5,000
Appropriated Fund Balance	-	150,000	150,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$26,162,000</b>	<b>\$26,692,000</b>	<b>\$530,000</b>

Visit [watervlietcityschools.org](http://watervlietcityschools.org) for a glossary of budget terms, as well as more information about the proposed 2017-18 school budget.

## How Watervliet's education dollars are spent

Budget Expense Category	Proposed Administrative 17-18 Budget	Proposed Program 17-18 Budget	Proposed Capital 17-18 Budget	Proposed Total 17-18 Budget	Total 2016-17 Budget	\$ Change
Board of Education	\$8,000	—	—	\$8,000	\$8,000	\$0
Central Administration	212,000	—	—	212,000	201,000	11,000
Finance	273,000	—	—	273,000	256,000	17,000
Staff	162,000	—	—	162,000	162,000	0
Central Services	562,000	—	751,000	1,313,000	1,334,000	(21,000)
Special Items	269,000	—	—	269,000	265,000	4,000
Administration & Improvement	951,000	—	—	951,000	931,000	20,000
Teaching-Regular School	—	6,626,000	—	6,626,000	6,352,000	274,000
Special/Occ. Ed Programs	—	3,942,000	—	3,942,000	3,758,000	184,000
Teaching-Summer School	—	53,000	—	53,000	53,000	0
Instructional Media	—	301,000	—	301,000	347,000	(46,000)
Pupil Services	—	1,303,000	—	1,303,000	1,203,000	100,000
Pupil Transportation	—	1,087,000	—	1,087,000	1,106,000	(19,000)
Employee Benefits	800,000	5,533,000	207,000	6,540,000	6,464,000	76,000
Debt Service	—	—	3,601,000	3,601,000	3,665,000	(64,000)
Interfund Transfers	—	—	51,000	51,000	57,000	(6,000)
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$3,237,000</b>	<b>\$18,845,000</b>	<b>\$4,610,000</b>	<b>\$26,692,000</b>	<b>\$26,162,000</b>	<b>\$530,000</b>

2017-18 Budget, from page 1

"As a district, we are slowly trying to rebuild programs and provide the opportunities that our students need and deserve," said Dr. Lori Caplan. "That includes reinstating some programs, like modified sports, that had been eliminated in recent years to reduce costs."

The program and staffing increases proposed in the 2017-18 school budget include the following:

### Staffing

- Add full-time classroom teacher, WES
- Increase two part-time reading teachers (1 at WES, 1 at WJSHS) to full-time
- Add full-time English as a New Language teacher, WJSHS
- Add full-time special education teacher (WCSD)

### Athletics

- Reinstate modified sports including: football, boys/girls soccer, boys/girls basketball, boys/girls cross country, wrestling, baseball, softball & boys/girls outdoor track

### Academic program

- Purchase textbooks to fully implement "Go Math" K-8 curriculum
- Summer "K-8 Enrichment Academy" through ExTRA grant
- Increase the number of slots available to attend BOCES Career & Technical Education program from 8 to 12 students

## PROPOSITION 3: PUBLIC LIBRARY

Also on the May 16 ballot:

- A separate proposition to support the Watervliet Public Library through a separate library tax in the amount of \$150,000. The Watervliet Public Library proposition authorizes the school district to levy the tax to support the library's programs and services.

**NOTE: As a separate proposition, this is NOT part of the school district's budget. The proposed library tax is voted on separately and does not benefit the school budget.**

### Watervliet 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	\$26,162,000	\$26,692,000	\$26,687,000
Increase/Decrease for the 2016-17 School Year		\$530,000	\$525,000
Percentage Increase/Decrease in Proposed Budget		2.02 %	2.00%
Change in the Consumer Price Index		1.26%	
A. Proposed Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount, Net of Reserve	\$6,785,000	\$6,790,000	
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)	\$6,785,000	\$6,790,000	\$6,785,000
F. Total Permissible Exclusions	\$0	\$0	
G. School Tax Levy Limit, Excluding Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$6,788,400	\$6,793,870	
H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, Excluding Levy to Support Library Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions (E - B - F + D)	\$6,785,000	\$6,790,000	
I. Difference: G - H (Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval - See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions) **	\$3,400	\$3,870	
Administrative Component	\$3,211,000	\$3,237,000	\$3,237,000
Program Component	\$18,299,000	\$18,845,000	\$18,840,000
Capital Component	\$4,652,000	\$4,610,000	\$4,610,000

\*If the proposed budget is defeated on May 16, the Board of Education can present the same budget to voters a second time; present a revised budget to voters; or adopt a contingent budget. If the budget is again defeated, the board must adopt a contingent budget. Under the tax levy limit law, school districts can levy a tax no greater than that of the prior year, or a 0 percent increase, in a contingent budget. The Watervliet City School District would be required to eliminate an additional \$5,000 in proposed spending for the 2017-2018 school year.

\*\* 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 3: Library tax is a separate proposition to fund the public library and is NOT a part of the school district's budget.	\$150,000

## PROPOSITION 2: 5-YEAR BUS LEASE

On May 16, voters will also decide:

- Five-year bus lease: The district's current lease on its three buses expires June 30. This proposition would allow the district to bid for the lease of three new buses to continue to provide the current level of transportation services for students.

Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings <sup>1</sup>	Under the Budget Proposed for the 2017-18 School Year
	\$455 City of Watervliet \$432 Town of Colonie

The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2017-2018 by the qualified voters of the Watervliet City School District, Albany County, New York, will be held at two polling locations: Watervliet Elementary School and the Watervliet Elks Club, in said district on Tuesday, May 16, 2017 between the hours of 11 a.m. and 8:00pm, at which time the polls will be opened to vote by digital voting machine.

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