

Board of Education

2024-2025

Budget Hearing Presentation

May 8, 2024

Kenneth R. Bossert, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools

John J. O'Keefe, Assistant Superintendent for Business

Brian C. Ernst, School Business Administrator



GREAT NECK PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Where Discovery Leads to Greatness

Budget Vote & Trustee Election

➤ May 21, 2024 – Annual Election and Budget Vote

- **6:00 AM – 9:00 PM at EM Baker, Lakeville, Saddle Rock, or South High** (**Please note the time change*)
- In order to vote, you must be **18 years of age or older**, a **citizen of the U.S.**, and have lived in the District for **at least 30 days**
- Register to vote at the Phipps Administration Building on school days from 8:00 am to 3:00 pm, or at the Nassau County Board of Elections
- You must be **registered to vote by May 16th** to vote May 21st
- Qualified voters can obtain applications for absentee ballots by contacting the District Clerk's Office (516) 441-4007, or by emailing districtclerk@greatneck.k12.ny.us

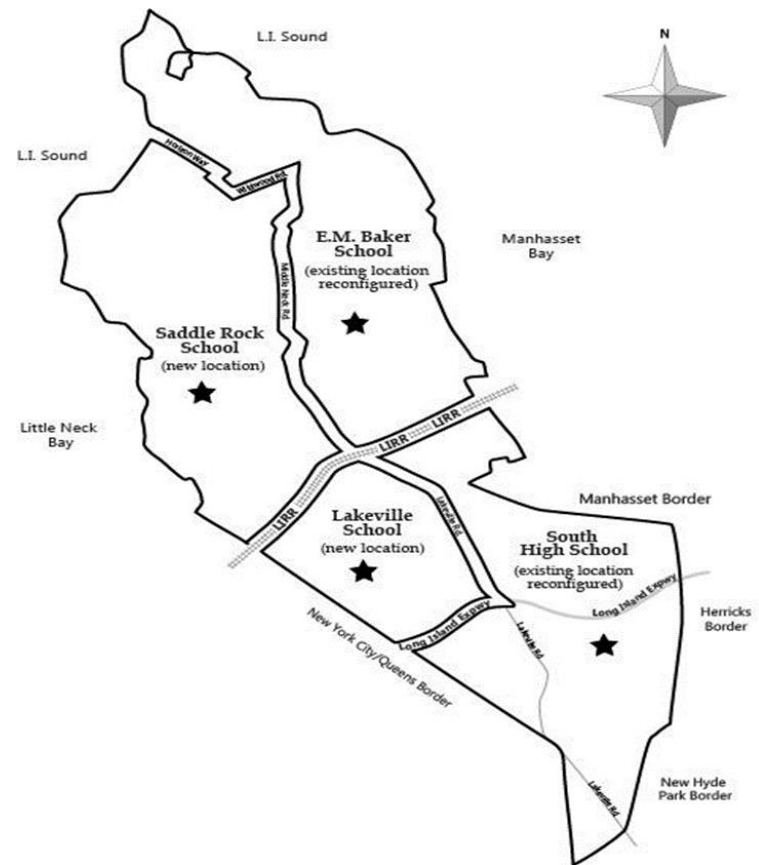
Residents who are unsure of their polling location can use the online Poll Place Finder tool on the District website (www.greatneck.k12.ny.us/voting) or call the

District Clerk on school days

from 8:00AM – 3:00 PM (516-441-4007)

GREAT NECK PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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2024-25 Budgetary Highlights

The Race for Excellence has no Finish Line !

- ✓ Fiscally prudent budgeting within the Tax Levy Cap limits
- ✓ Maintains District staffing to support student needs
- ✓ Expands bilingual counseling and supports for our English Language Learners
- ✓ Sustains support for Universal Pre-Kindergarten Programs at Parkville and John F. Kennedy
- ✓ Upholds funding for Fine and Performing Arts, Intramurals, Co-Curricular Activities, Extra-Curricular Clubs, and Inter-Scholastic Athletics
- ✓ Continued investments in security upgrades throughout the District
 - ❑ **Additional:** Security cameras and electronic door access controls, as well as a pledge to secure retired law enforcement personnel for all Guard positions whenever possible
- ✓ Continued funding for new and replacement equipment throughout the District
 - ❑ Classroom, Instructional Technology, TV Studio, Library, Security, Facilities, Transportation, Athletics
- ✓ Continued funding for Capital Expenditures – Investment of \$7.653M
 - ❑ **J.F. Kennedy** - Replace several sections of aging and deteriorated roofing; **North Middle** – Install a new fire sprinkler water main system separate from domestic water supply; **North High** – Complete renovation of Library *, Replace aging and deteriorated roofing and skylights in the Commons area of the building; **South High** - Replace entire main gymnasium floor; **Parkville**- Complete renovation and reconfiguration of the OT/PT room; **Transportation Department** - two new school buses, one 24-passenger and one 30-passenger

** (The Library renovation was originally a component of the 2017 Bond Proposition, but inflationary factors over the last seven years have left insufficient funds to complete the project. This budget will fill that gap and allow the work to be completed.)*



Proposed Budget Fast Facts

Proposed budget is balanced and fiscally prudent; developed within the challenges of various inflationary factors

➤ Proposed 2024-2025 Budget - **\$281,995,500**

- ❑ This is a \$9,857,200 increase over current budget
 - Represents a 3.62% Budget-to-Budget increase
 - ❖ Great Neck's 13-year* average Budget increase is 2.95%

➤ Proposed 2024-2025 Tax Levy - **\$236,985,206**

- ❑ This represents a **3.26%** increase
 - This is Within the NYS Tax Cap limits and therefore only requires a Simple Majority Vote
 - ❖ Great Neck's 13-year* average Tax Levy increase is 2.19%

** Since the Inception of the Tax Cap in the 2012-2013 School Year*



Proposed 3-Part Expenditure Budget

	2023-2024 Budget	2024-2025 Proposed Budget
ADMINISTRATION		
Board Operations	\$ 199,964	\$ 215,710
Central Administration	\$ 391,654	\$ 490,834
Business Administration/Finance	\$ 2,134,647	\$ 2,090,241
Personnel/Communications/Legal	\$ 1,724,534	\$ 1,576,635
Data Processing/Network Support	\$ 1,375,495	\$ 1,720,882
District Insurance/BOCES Admin/Copiers	\$ 2,149,926	\$ 2,578,885
Curriculum And Instruction	\$ 8,668,036	\$ 8,844,759
Benefits	\$ 2,382,442	\$ 2,456,566
	Sub-Total Administration	Sub-Total Administration
	\$ 19,026,698	\$ 19,974,512
PROGRAM		
Curriculum and Instruction	\$ 77,336,720	\$ 79,338,831
Special Education	\$ 33,407,222	\$ 35,812,431
Curriculum and Professional Development	\$ 215,200	\$ 240,889
Occupational Education	\$ 608,000	\$ 360,000
Special Programs - Summer Ed / Adult Ed / Community Ed / Recreation	\$ 2,421,895	\$ 2,467,949
Library Media / Television Studio Program	\$ 2,064,854	\$ 2,213,441
Instructional Technology	\$ 2,815,910	\$ 2,960,500
Pupil Services - Nursing / Social Workers / Psychologists / Guidance / Registrar	\$ 9,941,008	\$ 10,238,960
Interscholastic Athletics and Co-Curricular Activities	\$ 3,240,156	\$ 3,337,904
District Transportation	\$ 16,797,521	\$ 17,482,512
Benefits	\$ 63,017,254	\$ 65,706,076
Interfund Transfers	\$ 2,824,173	\$ 2,180,968
	Sub-Total Program	Sub-Total Program
	\$ 214,689,913	\$ 222,340,461
CAPITAL		
Facility Operations	\$ 22,555,688	\$ 23,154,735
Purchase of Buses	\$ 95,000	\$ 180,000
Benefits	\$ 3,286,343	\$ 3,217,968
Debt - Principal & Interest	\$ 5,655,325	\$ 5,654,824
Capital Projects	\$ 6,829,333	\$ 7,473,000
	Sub-Total Capital	Sub-Total Capital
	\$ 38,421,689	\$ 39,680,527
TOTAL BUDGET	\$272,138,300	\$281,995,500

2024-25 State Aid (as of April 19, 2024)

AID CATEGORY	2023-24	2024-25
	<u>ADOPTED</u>	<u>ADOPTED</u>
	STATE BUDGET	STATE BUDGET
FOUNDATION AID	\$ 9,045,116	\$ 9,046,163
UNIVERSAL PRE-KINDERGARTEN *	\$ 1,334,724	\$ 1,334,724
BOCES	\$ 1,037,784	\$ 1,327,351
HIGH COST EXCESS COST	\$ 347,349	\$ 289,601
PRIVATE EXCESS COST	\$ 601,509	\$ 654,174
SOFTWARE, LIBRARY, TEXTBOOK	\$ 682,092	\$ 685,858
TRANSPORTATION INCL SUMMER	\$ 759,911	\$ 786,105
BUILDING AID	\$ 574,007	\$ 711,750
HIGH TAX AID	\$ 452,843	\$ 452,843
SUPPLEMENTAL PUBLIC EXCESS COST	\$ 33,711	\$ 33,711
TOTAL AID	\$ 14,869,046	\$ 15,322,280

Represents an \$453,234 increase over current year, but \$98,976 less than the budget adopted by the District on April 18th

* REMEMBER: State Aid for the Universal Pre-Kindergarten (UPK) program is accounted for in the Special Aid Fund, and therefore NOT available as a funding source for the General Fund Budget

2024-25 Proposed Revenue Budget

REVENUES	BUDGET 2023-24	PROPOSED BUDGET 2024-25	PERCENT CHANGE
State Aid *	\$ 13,508,940	\$ 14,086,532	4.28%
Miscellaneous **	\$ 15,523,624	\$ 17,925,555	15.47%
Appropriated Fund Balance	\$ 4,175,007	\$ 4,099,419	-1.81%
Appropriated Reserves ***	\$ 9,431,806	\$ 8,898,788	-5.65%
Amount to be Raised by Real Property Tax	\$ 229,498,923	\$ 236,985,206	3.26%
TOTAL BUDGET	\$ 272,138,300	\$ 281,995,500	3.62%

* Does not include the State Aid for the Universal Pre-Kindergarten (UPK) program that is accounted for in the Special Aid Fund

** Included in Miscellaneous Revenue is approximately \$1.9M in accrued interest from the Debt Service Fund

*** Recommended Reserve Utilization as Follows:

• Unemployment Reserve	\$ 60,000
• Workers' Compensation Reserve	\$1,400,000
• Employee Retirement System Reserve	\$3,888,788
• Teacher Retirement System Reserve	\$2,400,000
• Employee Benefit Accrued Liability Reserve	\$1,150,000
	<u>\$8,898,788</u>



GREAT NECK PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Where Discovery Leads to Greatness

Budget Vote & Trustee Election

PROPOSITION NO. 1 - 2024-2025 SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET Yes / Si No / No
RESOLVED, that the annual budget for the GREAT NECK PUBLIC SCHOOLS for the fiscal year 2024-2025 in the total amount of \$281,995,500 as proposed by the Board of Education shall be approved and the necessary tax be levied thereof upon the taxable property of the School District.

PROPOSITION NO. 2 - 2024 CAPITAL RESERVE FUND Yes / Si No / No
Shall the Board of Education of the Great Neck Union Free School District be authorized to establish, pursuant to Education Law section 3651, a Capital Reserve Fund to be known as the “Capital Reserve Fund - 2024” for the purpose of the following Districtwide capital improvements ... (continued)

(Abbreviated Summary - Please see the next slide for complete proposition language)

PROPOSITION NO. 3 - 2024-2025 PUBLIC LIBRARY BUDGET Yes / Si No / No
SHALL, the annual budget for the GREAT NECK LIBRARY be approved for the fiscal year 2024-2025 in the total amount of ten million, three hundred fourteen thousand, three hundred six-two dollars (\$10,314,362) and the necessary tax in the amount of ten million, one hundred sixteen thousand, nine hundred eighty-seven dollars (\$10,116,987) be levied thereof upon the taxable property of the Library District.

**Board of Education Trustee
Seat of Grant Toch**
Vote for One (1)
Three (3) Year Term
7/1/24 to 6/30/27

Grant Toch

**Board of Education Trustee
Seat of Steven Chen**
Vote for One (1)
Three (3) Year Term
5/21/24 to 6/30/27

Steven Chen

Proposition #2 - Capital Reserve

For the Community's Consideration:

This proposition will appear on the May 21st ballot to establish a new **Capital Reserve Fund**.

Shall the Board of Education of the Great Neck Union Free School District be authorized to establish, pursuant to Education Law section 3651, a Capital Reserve Fund to be known as the "Capital Reserve Fund - 2024" for the purpose of the following Districtwide capital improvements: interior renovations, including classroom, library/multi media center, auditorium and non-instructional space renovations and additions, playground/greenhouse renovation/replacement, door and hardware replacement, ADA upgrades, roof replacements, ceiling, wall, window and floor replacements, scoreboard/electronic signage replacement, carpentry, electrical, lighting, plumbing, boiler, HVAC and exhaust system replacement/upgrades, security system/alarm replacements/upgrades, cafeteria/kitchen renovations, generator replacement/installation, tennis court renovations/replacement, swimming pool renovations, toilet room renovations, masonry and concrete renovations including water proofing, sitework renovations/reconstruction, athletic field renovations, reconstruction and upgrades, locker room renovations, gymnasium reconstruction, purchase of buildings/land, parking lot renovations, drainage renovations and upgrades, computer/technology upgrades, telephone system upgrades, hazardous material remediation, furnishings and equipment incidental to said projects, all of the foregoing to include all labor, materials, equipment, apparatus and incidental cost related thereto.

The ultimate amount of the "Capital Reserve Fund – 2024" shall not exceed Forty Million Dollars (\$40,000,000), plus interest thereon; the probable term shall be ten (10) years; the funds are to be transferred from: (a) the School District's existing capital reserve known as "Capital Reserve Fund – 2015" in the amount of \$1,223,537 plus any accrued interest and, (b) unreserved undesignated fund balance remaining in the general fund in a sum not to exceed \$8,000,000 from the 2023-2024 budget and thereafter in an annual amount of not more than \$8,000,000 for each remaining year of the probable term.

Upon the establishment and funding of said reserve, the Superintendent of Schools or his designee shall be directed to deposit monies of this reserve fund in a separate bank account to be known as the "Capital Reserve Fund - 2024."

Yes / Si

No / No

... Simply stated, it is a proposition asking the voters to approve a new reserve account to fund yet to be determined future capital expenditures, limited to a 10-year term, with maximum contributions not to exceed \$40M, with annual contributions limited to \$8M maximum.

The proposition will also allow the remaining funds from the Capital Reserve – 2015 to be transferred to this new reserve.

***REMEMBER:** There is no cost impact to the taxpayers if a Proposition for a Capital Reserve is approved by the community.

Additional Information & Details

Please visit the District's website at:

<https://www.greatneck.k12.ny.us/budget24-25> or

"Quick Link" on District's Home Page



Here you will find:

- ✓ All prior presentations
- ✓ Budget Postcard
- ✓ Budget Newsletter
- ✓ Budget Book
- ✓ Property Tax Report Card
- ✓ NYSED School Report Card
- ✓ Other Important Documents

Still have Questions?

Please call (516) 441-4020 or reach out via email:

jokeefe@greatneck.k12.ny.us

GREAT NECK PUBLIC SCHOOLS
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2024 - 2025 FINAL BUDGET

Adopted: April 18, 2024

BOARD OF EDUCATION
Rebecca Sassouni, President
Grant Toch, Vice President
Joanne Chan, Trustee
Steve Chen, Trustee
Donna Peirez, Trustee

SUPERINTENDENT
Kenneth R. Bossert, Ed.D.

ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENTS
John J. O'Keefe, Business
Joseph G. Hickey, Ed.D., Special Education
Stephen C. Lando, Ed.D., Secondary Instruction
Diana Haanraads, Elementary Instruction

Suzanne Mallozzi, District Clerk
Stacey Pedone, District Treasurer

Discovery
GREAT NECK PUBLIC SCHOOLS
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VOL. 45-1 • BUDGET EDITION, MAY 2024

2024-25 PROPOSED SCHOOL BUDGET
Proposed 3.26% Tax Levy Increase is Within the Property Tax Cap Limit

The Board of Education has adopted the proposed 2024-25 school budget in the amount of \$201,965,500. This amount is a 3.62% increase over last year's budget. The proposed tax levy increase is 3.26%, which is within the property tax cap limit. "I appreciate the support of the Board of Education to bring forward a budget that stays within the tax levy cap and not only preserves, but enhances our District's programs, services, and staffing," says Superintendent of Schools Kenneth R. Bossert, Ed.D. "The race to excellence has no finish line, and this proposed budget will maintain our position as a leader in public education."

Financial considerations on this year's ballot reflect the District's priority to plan responsibly for the short and long-term needs of our schools through sound budgeting strategies and sustainable measures.

"Despite multiple years of very high inflation rates, we continue to budget within the property tax cap while investing in the existing and new programs, services, and social and emotional support that all of our students require to achieve their best," says Board Vice President Grant Toch.

The first item on the ballot is the proposed 2024-25 operating budget, which was developed to maintain and build upon our award-winning programs and exceptional support services for all students.

"The District's budget is amongst the most important investments the community collectively makes with its tax dollars," explains Assistant Superintendent for Business John O'Keefe. "We remain very mindful of that by making the most effective use of resources and developing a budget in a responsible and transparent manner that best supports students and taxpayers alike."

The second proposition for voter consideration is the creation of a Capital Reserve Fund. Establishing this Fund would enable the District to put aside any year-end savings to finance future building improvements without having to borrow money. Capital Reserves protect our investment in facilities and support safe, state-of-the-art learning environments for future generations—without any additional cost to taxpayers. Details about the Capital Reserve Fund can be found on page 2 of this newsletter.

"Upon review, I support each of the annual district operating budget and the capital reserve proposition as valuable proposals for Great Neck's bright future; each will continue communal support of our preeminent school communities, inclusive of all learners, buildings, and instructional leaders," states Board President Rebecca Sassouni.

BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

The proposed 2024-25 budget will:

- Maintain all programs and staffing across elementary and secondary schools.
- Preserve optimal class sizes across all grade levels.
- Uphold funding for fine and performing arts, intramurals, co-curricular activities, extra-curricular clubs, and interscholastic athletics.
- Continue investments in security upgrades districtwide, including added security cameras and electronic door access controls, as well as a pledge to secure retired law enforcement personnel for guard positions when possible.
- Expand bilingual counseling and supports for English Language Learners.
- Provide ongoing professional development for faculty and staff.

SCHOOL BUDGET VOTE
Tuesday, May 21, 2024 • 6 AM-9 PM
at E.M. Baker • Lakeville • Saddle Rock • South High

NEW VOTING HOURS

Budget Vote & Trustee Election

Tuesday, May 21, 2024

6:00 AM – 9:00 PM

(Please note the time change)*

EM Baker, Lakeville, Saddle Rock, or South High

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Please Remember to Vote



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