



PAW Prints

Menands | UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT

BUDGET 2020

BUDGET AT A **glance**

PROPOSED BUDGET

\$9,824,370

TAX LEVY INCREASE

\$234,917

3.36%

BUDGET VOTE:

Tuesday, June 9

- **By absentee ballot only**
- **Ballots have been sent to all registered voters**
- **Must be received by 5 p.m. on June 9**

Also on the ballot:

- **There is one open seat on the Menands Board of Education. Incumbent Bill Nevins is the sole candidate.**
- **Menands Public Library's proposed budget is \$142,007, reflecting no tax levy increase.**
- **There is one open seat on the library's Board of Trustees. Diana Praus is the sole candidate.**

Annual budget vote by absentee ballot June 9

Proposed 2020-21 budget maintains programs; keeps levy within limit

Menands residents will vote by mail on a proposed \$9.82 million spending plan for the 2020-21 school year. All absentee ballots are due to the district by 5 p.m. June 9.

Under the proposed budget, spending would increase by \$785,703 over the current year. A large portion of the increase can be attributed to costs associated with the capital project. These costs are offset by increased revenue in the form of state building aid, **not from local taxes** (see revenue summary, pg.2). Also contributing to the increase is greater transportation needs resulting from increased enrollment and issuance of new multi-year transportation contracts.

The proposed budget carries a tax levy increase of \$234,917, or 3.36%, which is within the allowable tax levy cap as calculated by the state's formula. As a result, a simple majority (50% plus one vote) is needed for approval.

The proposed budget maintains all existing programs and opportunities for students. It also continues to support the increasingly diverse student population and student needs, consistent with the district's mission and goals.

"Despite many challenges the district faces in responding to the current pandemic, it continues to be important to the Board of Education and administration to put forth a budget that-while continuing to



provide the quality programming our community has come to expect from Menands School-keeps the interest of taxpayers in mind," Superintendent Dr. Maureen Long said.

In the event of a defeated budget, the 2020-21 tax levy may not increase beyond the amount of the 2019-20 tax levy. The district would have to reduce the proposed budget by \$234,917, potentially affecting school programs, services, staffing and class sizes. This does not take into consideration any mid-year state aid cuts proposed by the Governor, which would require even further reductions.

Look inside...

- 2 ➤ Three-part budget
- 3 ➤ State-required budget notice
- 4 ➤ Board candidates



Menands | UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT

The three-part budget

All public schools in New York state are required to report appropriations in three categories: administrative, program and capital. The following data show how Menands budget breaks down under this formula:

PROGRAM BUDGET

2020-21	\$7,431,614	75.65%
2019-20	\$7,099,169	78.54%

The Program Budget includes:

teaching and instruction, instructional media, computer services, guidance/health services, co-curricular activities and athletics, special education and student transportation.

This budget includes a \$263,860 increase for transportation. The district recently completed a Request for Bid for transportation services. Durham Services LP and Star and Strand Transportation INC were selected as transportation providers for the district. The budget seeks approval for a five year contract with these providers.

CAPITAL BUDGET

2020-21	\$1,341,122	13.65%
2019-20	\$926,025	10.25%

The Capital Budget includes:

operation of plant, maintenance of plant and debt service principal/interest.

ADMINISTRATIVE BUDGET

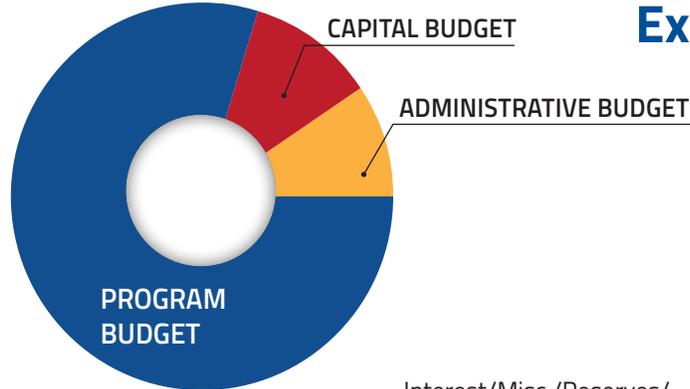
2020-21	\$1,051,634	10.70%
2019-20	\$1,013,473	11.21%

The Administrative Budget includes:

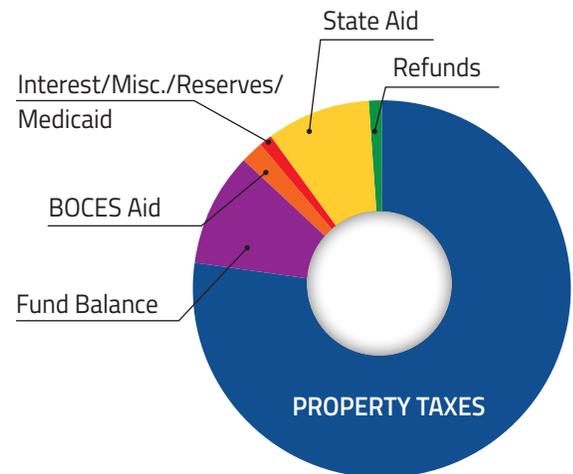
expenses related to business administration, purchasing, payroll, and BOCES administration under the superintendent; principal supervision, staff development, training and curriculum; and external, internal, claims auditing services and legal services.



Expenditures



Revenues



REVENUE SUMMARY

	2019-20 Budget	2020-21 Proposed	Dollar Increase/Decrease	% Change 2019-20 to 2020-21
Property Taxes	\$7,001,177	\$7,236,094	\$234,917	3.36%
State Aid	\$881,920	\$1,433,097	\$551,177	62.50%
BOCES Aid	\$159,438	\$183,137	\$23,699	14.86%
Transfer from Reserves	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$0	0.00%
Misc/Donations Commissions	\$1,500	\$1,400	(\$100)	- 6.67%
Refund prior year	\$94,590	\$86,600	(\$7,990)	- 8.45%
Interest/Earnings	\$17,000	\$1,000	(\$16,000)	- 94.12%
MEDICAID	\$18,000	\$18,000	\$0	0%
Assigned Fund Balance	\$815,042	\$815,042	\$0	0%
TOTAL	\$9,038,667	\$9,824,370	\$785,703	8.69%

* A portion of the tax levy will be paid by the state under the School Tax Relief (STAR) program.

A report of tax exemptions, showing how much of the total assessed value on the final assessment roll or rolls used in the budgetary process is exempt from taxation, is included with the budget document, which is available at Menands School, 19 Wards Lane Menands NY 12204 or www.menands.org.



Overall Budget Proposal	Budget Adopted for the 2019-20 School Year	Budget Proposed for the 2020-21 School Year	Contingency Budget for the 2020-21 School Year *
Total Budgeted Amount, Not Including Separate Propositions	\$9,038,667	\$9,824,370	\$9,589,453
Increase/Decrease for the 2020-21 School Year		\$785,703	\$550,786
Percentage Increase/Decrease in Proposed Budget		8.69%	6.09%
Change in the Consumer Price Index		1.81%	
A. Proposed Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount	\$7,001,177	\$7,236,094	
B. Levy to Support Library Debt, if Applicable			
C. Levy for Non-Excludable Propositions, if Applicable **			
D. Total Tax Cap Reserve Amount Used to Reduce Current Year Levy			
E. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy (A + B + C - D)	\$7,001,177	\$7,236,094	\$7,001,177
F. Total Permissible Exclusions	\$450,238	\$449,685	
G. School Tax Levy Limit, <u>Excluding</u> Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$6,689,454	\$6,786,409	
H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, <u>Excluding</u> Levy to Support Library Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions (E - B - F + D)	\$6,550,939	\$6,786,409	
I. Difference: G - H (Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval - See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions) **	\$138,515	\$0	
Administrative Component	\$1,013,473	\$1,051,634	\$994,080
Program Component	\$7,099,169	\$7,431,614	\$7,266,222
Capital Component	\$926,025	\$1,341,122	\$1,329,151

* In the event of a defeated budget, the 2020-21 tax levy may not increase beyond the amount of the 2019-20 tax levy. Menands Union Free School District would have to reduce the proposed budget by \$ 234,917 potentially affecting school programs, services, staffing and class sizes. It must also exclude non-contingent items such as student supplies, certain equipment purchases and free community use of school facilities.

** The District is seeking no additional propositions at this time. The budget does seek approval of five year contracts with Durham Services LP and Star and Strand Transportation INC. for student transportation.

Description	Amount
N/A	

Under the Budget Proposed for the 2020-21 School Year

Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings ¹	\$538
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The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2020-21 by the qualified voters of the Menands Union Free School District, Albany County, New York, will be held by absentee ballot. Registered voters will automatically be mailed an absentee ballot with a prepaid return envelope. Ballots must be returned to the district by 5 p.m. June 9 to be counted.

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



19 Wards Lane
Menands, New York 12204

EDDM
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Permit #421

Superintendent

Dr. Maureen A. Long

Principal

Mrs. Antonietta Schroeder

Board of Education

Jeff Masline, *President*

William Nevins, *Vice President*

Courtney Jaskula

Jennifer Wilson

John Diefenderfer

*Produced in cooperation with the
Capital Region BOCES Communications Service.*

**Residential Customer
Menands, NY 12204**

Voter Eligibility

➤ You are eligible to vote if you are a U.S. citizen, 18 years old or older and a resident of the school district for at least 30 days prior to the vote.

Absentee Ballots

➤ Per Gov. Cuomo, this year's budget vote and board election will take place exclusively by absentee ballot. An absentee ballot with a prepaid return envelope has been mailed to all registered voters in the district. Ballots must be received by the District Office no later than 5 p.m. on June 9.

Questions

➤ Contact Jeanne Mentipty at 518-465-4561 or visit the district website at www.menands.org.



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Statement from Bill Nevins, BOE Candidate

My name is William Nevins. My family has been a part of the Menands community since 1934. I currently live here with my wife Claudine and children Liam, Lilly and Caileigh, Menands class of 2021 (Yes triplets).

I have served one term on the Menands board of education, currently Vice President. During that time I have focused on balancing a budget by offering the most opportunity for children, while respecting taxpayers.

I believe my experience as a business owner will continue to provide meaningful contributions to the school board.

I believe that being active has a great impact on our community and I want the children on Menands School to continue to have access to the highest level of education.

Statement from Diana Praus, Menands Library Board Candidate

I have been a resident of Menands for the past thirty-some years. I am a retired K-12 educator. I love to read, and so does my husband. We both appreciate the Menands Library. It is small and personable. If we want a book or something the library doesn't have, we can always request it. More than that, to me the library represents a key component of village life. I am a staunch supporter of the library.

I hope to continue to serve our community in this capacity with your support.

