

The Grand Island Central School District BRIDGE

www.grandislandschools.org

The Community Newsletter for the Grand Island Central School District

Message From Your Superintendent

Dear Grand Island Families and Community:

Over the last five years, I have been continuously impressed with our incredible school system and the wonderful opportunities available for all of our students. I have also been impressed with our Board of Education and their commitment to the budget planning process. Each board member has been actively involved in the development of the budget, asking thoughtful questions and reviewing all aspects of our expenditures as well as anticipated revenues.



Brian Graham, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

As a result of the extensive planning, analysis and future projections, the Grand Island Central School District is committed to providing our families and community with the necessary budget information to make an informed decision on **Tuesday May 18, 2021**.

Our proposed budget balances the needs of both the taxpayers of the Grand Island School Community and our students through the development of a fiscally responsible budget designed to provide our students with the best diversified educational program.

The 2021-22 budget total is \$67,118,207. This budget will result in a tax increase for Grand Island homeowners of 3.21%, which is within the state's tax levy cap limit. The school tax bill on a \$150,000 home, with a basic STAR assessment reduction, is estimated to increase by \$95.25. It is important to note that the tax levy calculation includes capital expenditures from our 2019 approved capital project as well as our prior approved capital projects. Furthermore, the tax levy calculation includes our bus purchases and our contribution to the Erie 1 BOCES capital improvement project which was approved in June of 2019.

This fiscal plan upholds the goals of the Board of Education and maintains our current elementary class sizes; continues the implementation of our regular instructional program; maintains current transportation services; enhances our student support programs, improves upon a safe and secure campus and provides exceptional literacy support in our elementary schools. Moreover, it maintains the current interscholastic athletic and co-curricular programs and appropriates well-planned reserves to address potential future reductions in federal and state aid, while still considering the District's fiscal future.

Voting on the school budget as well as the Board of Education candidates will take place in our high school gymnasium on Tuesday, May 18, 2021. You may also request an absentee ballot by contacting our District Clerk. All absentee ballots must be received on Tuesday, May 18 by 5 p.m. You may also wish to review our budget presentation, which can be accessed on our website at www.grandislandschools.org. Your consideration of the 2021-22 school budget is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Brian Graham, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

The annual Community Perception Survey is now available on our website. Please consider taking a few moments to provide us with your valuable feedback and input on our district.

VOTE

Grand Island Schools 2020-2021 Budget/Trustee Vote

Tuesday, May 18, 2021

8 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Grand Island High School Gym

1100 Ransom Road
Grand Island, NY 14072

Find Out More

Copies of the district's proposed budget will be available online, the Grand Island Public Library and in the District Office as of May 3, 2021.

Please contact the district with questions about the budget development process. Visit the district website at www.grandislandschools.org for more information.

Voter Registration Information

Poll books will be used during this vote/election. If you have not registered for the primary or general election, please view resources on the district website, www.grandislandschools.org under the 2021-22 Budget Information page.

The Grand Island Board of Education supports this budget and encourages residents to call with questions or attend the regularly scheduled meetings. For further information call 773-8805 or visit www.grandislandschools.org.

Proposition No. 1 (2021-2022 Budget)

Shall the following resolution be adopted?

RESOLVED, that the budget for the Grand Island Central School District (the "District") for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2021 and ending June 30, 2022, as presented by the Board of Education in the amount of \$67,118,207, is hereby approved and adopted, and the required funds therefor are hereby appropriated and the necessary real property taxes required shall be raised by a tax on the taxable property in the District to be levied and collected as required by law.

YES NO

Proposition No. 2

Shall the following resolution be adopted?

RESOLVED: (a) That the Board of Education of the Grand Island Central School District, in the County of Erie, New York (the "District"), is hereby authorized to acquire various school buses and vehicles, and to expend therefore an amount not to exceed \$710,000; (b) that a tax is hereby voted in the amount of not to exceed \$710,000 to finance such cost, such tax to be levied and collected in installments in such years and in such amounts as shall be determined by said Board of Education; (c) that the District is authorized to issue serial bonds to finance all or part of said cost, and a tax is hereby voted to pay the interest on said bonds as the same shall become due and payable; and (d) that, in lieu of bonds, the District is authorized to enter into one or more installment purchase contracts for the purchase of some or all of said buses and vehicles, for a term of not to exceed five (5) years; and a tax is hereby voted to pay each installment on any such contract.

YES NO

Board of Education Election

Candidates for three (3) seats as follows:

1. Glenn Bobeck (i)
2. Danielle Bruno
3. Joy LaMarca (i)
4. Leslie Madigan
5. James Mulcahy

Candidate biographies can be seen at www.grandislandschools.org/budget2021

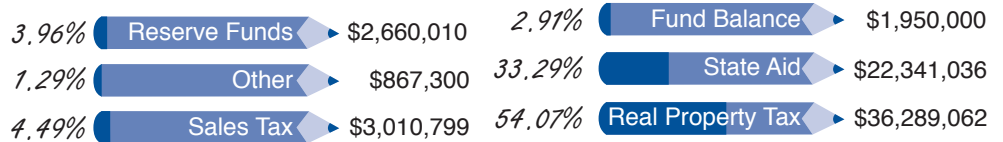
Budget Public Hearing

Monday, May 10, 2021 • 7 p.m.
Grand Island High School

2021-2022 Budget Proposal at a Glance

	2020-2021	2021-2022	\$ Change	% Change
ADMINISTRATION - 9% Consists of these examples and others: Daily operating activities which indirectly provide a benefit to students and staff.	\$5,534,530	\$6,043,128	\$508,598	9.19%
PROGRAM - 70% Consists of these examples and others: Activities which directly benefit students.	\$46,559,605	\$47,013,225	\$453,620	0.97%
CAPITAL - 21% Consists of these examples and others: Activities involving maintenance and up-keep of district buildings.	\$12,532,433	\$14,061,854	\$1,529,421	12.20%
TOTAL	\$64,626,568	\$67,118,207	\$2,491,639	3.86%

Where Does School Funding Come From?



What are some of the items included in the 2021-2022 proposed budget?

- Maintains our current elementary class sizes
- Continues the implementation of our regular instructional program
- Enhances our administrative team to allow for a 1.0 Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources and Curriculum
- Implements the practice of a \$100,000 capital outlay project annually
- Maintains the safety and security of the campus through the School Resource Officers and security cameras
- Maintains current transportation services
- Enhances the current interscholastic athletic and co-curricular programs with the addition of modified soccer

Local Impact

Our District spent \$63 million in 2019-20 to educate students. Below are estimates of the local impact.

	Direct	Spillover	Total
Employment	500	300	800
Income	\$31.4M	\$16.1M	\$47.5M
Income Tax	\$1.6M	\$0.8M	\$2.4M
Sales Tax	\$0.9M	\$0.5M	\$1.4M

The Grand Island School District directly employs about 500 people. The district's purchase of goods and services as well as employee personal spending is responsible for about 300 additional spillover jobs in the Western Region. The school district is responsible for a total of about 800 jobs. These jobs generate \$47.5 million in income. \$31.4 million is directly connected to Grand Island employees. Another \$16.1 million is generated by spillover spending that generates additional jobs. This income generates an estimated \$2.4 million in state income tax in total and \$1.4 million in sales tax.



2021-2022 Tax Information

	2020-2021 Actual	2021-2022 Proposed	Dollar Change	Percent Change
Assessed Value *	\$1,777,775,475	\$1,777,775,475	\$0.00	0%
Equalization Rate	85%	100%	0%	15%
Tax Levy	\$35,160,602	\$36,289,062	\$1,128,460	3.21%
Tax Rate	\$19.777864	\$20.412624	\$0.634760	3.21%

Tax Levy

The tax levy is the total amount of property taxes a school district must collect to balance its budget, after accounting for all other revenue sources including state aid. The tax levy is the basis for determining the tax rate for each of the cities, towns or villages that make up a school district.

Tax Rate

Tax rate is determined by your property's assessed value divided by 1,000, and multiplied by the tax rate. This rate is established using the Town of Grand Island Assessed Value.

*The 2021-2022 proposed tax rate is based on estimated assessment. Final assessment values for calculation of the 2021-2022 tax rate are not available at this time.

Contingent Budget Information

	Proposed Budget 2021-2022	Contingency Budget 2021-2022
Total Budget	\$67,118,207	\$65,989,747
Budget Increase/Decrease	\$2,491,639	\$1,363,179
% Increase/Decrease	3.86%	2.11%
Change in Consumer Price Index	1.23%	1.23%

What happens if the proposed budget is not approved?

If a proposed budget is defeated by voters, a school district - as in the past - has two options: to put the same or a revised budget up for a revote, or to adopt a contingent budget. If a proposed budget is defeated twice by voters, a district must adopt a contingent budget.

Does the law make any changes to the requirements for a contingent budget?

Certain existing contingent budget requirements remain in effect which prohibit spending in specific areas including community use of buildings, elimination of all proposed increases in staff, prohibit purchasing of new equipment (i.e. buses) and prevent any member of a bargaining unit which does not have a contract beyond June 30, 2021 from having an increase in salary in 2021-2022.

However, under the new law, a district that adopts a contingent budget may not increase its current tax levy by any amount which would impose, in effect, a zero percent cap. Districts will not be allowed to increase the tax levy to the extent needed to fund expenditures excluded from the tax cap (no growth factor, nor capital, court order/judgements, or pension expenditures.).

Our Successes

Sidway Elementary School -

Our focus is on early literacy and the conceptual development of early math skills. Literacy is taught through a workshop model, where differentiation is at its best. Sidway opened a new community playground this spring, thanks to the support of faculty, staff, students and the community. There are 4 literacy specialists at Sidway, trained in Reading Recovery, delivering the most effective reading support for students.

Huth Road Elementary School -

The Huth Road faculty work hard to adapt to the many changes they have faced in the last year. Our dedicated professionals are determined to find ways to bring academic success to all students. Building strong relationships has always been the keystone to a strong academic program. Our faculty continues to find ways to strengthen their relationships with students in whatever instructional model we are using.

Kaegebein Elementary School -

Our teachers and students continue to move through this school year with fluidity while adapting to the changes brought about by the pandemic. We were thrilled to welcome our elementary students back for in-person instruction five days a week! We are delighted to be able to provide our 100% Virtual Vikings with the resources and support necessary to promote the continuum of successful learning.

Veronica E. Connor Middle School -

The Middle School continues to move forward in light of an ever-changing academic environment. Our teachers continue to search for ways to provide engaging instruction that meets the needs of students in-person and at home. Many of our clubs and activities have continued within a virtual platform. We are looking forward to increasing in-person activities within the appropriate safety protocols.

Grand Island High School -

The High School would like to thank our parents and community members for all of their support as we have navigated through the pandemic. We are proud to have resumed many of our after-school clubs, activities and competitive sports. We continue to seek ways to return as many students as possible to in-person learning, as well as provide a diverse program and rigorous curriculum to prepare students for college and careers.



Non-profit Org
US Postage
PAID
Permit No. 8
Grand Island, N.Y.

1100 Ransom Road • Grand Island, NY 14072
www.grandislandschools.org

Board of Education

- Ashli Dreher, President
- Susan Marston, Vice President
- Glenn Bobeck
- Jay Grover
- Joy LaMarca
- Robin McCreary
- Nicole Novak

Superintendent

Brian Graham, Ed.D.



Resident

Visit www.grandislandschools.org and Follow us on Twitter @GrandIslandCSD

Overall Budget Proposal

	Budget Adopted for the 2020-21 School Year	Budget Proposed for the 2021-22 School Year	Contingency Budget for the 2021-22 School Year
Total Budgeted Amount, Not Including Separate Propositions	\$64,626,568	\$67,118,207	\$65,989,747
Increase/Decrease for the 2021-2022 School Year		\$2,491,639	\$1,363,179
Percentage Increase/Decrease in Proposed Budget		3.86%	2.11%
Change in the Consumer Price Index		1.23%	
A. Proposed Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount	\$35,160,602	\$36,289,062	
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)	\$35,160,602	\$36,289,062	\$35,160,602
F. Total Permissible Exclusions	\$446,076	\$709,445	
G. School Tax Levy Limit, Excluding Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$34,714,526	\$35,579,617	
H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, Excluding Levy to Support Library Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions (E - B - F + D)	\$34,714,526	\$35,579,617	
I. Difference: G - H (Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval)	\$0	\$0	
Administrative Component	\$5,534,530	\$6,043,128	\$6,007,465
Program Component	\$46,559,605	\$47,013,225	\$46,128,428
Capital Component	\$12,532,433	\$14,061,854	\$13,853,854

Statement of assumptions made in projecting a contingency budget for the 2020-21 school year, should the proposed budget be defeated pursuant to Section 2023 of the Education Law: The contingent budget is calculated using the NYS Contingent budget formula which excludes non-contingent budget items. In addition, a contingency budget would require the district to charge for the use of its facilities.

Separate Proposition for Vehicle Purchase	Description	Amount
	Vehicle Purchase	\$710,000
Under the Budget Proposed for the 2021-22 School Year		
Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings*		\$522

The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2021-2022 by the qualified voters of the Grand Island Central School District, Erie County, New York, will be held at the High School in said District on Tuesday, May 18, 2021 between the hours of 8:00am and 9:00pm, prevailing time in the High School Gymnasium, at which time the polls will be opened to vote by voting ballot or machine.

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