



# *Sachem Central School District*

Samoset Administrative Office • 51 School Street • Lake Ronkonkoma, New York 11779

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## **2017-2018 Budget Preparation Fast-Facts**

- Sachem's current estimated enrollment is **13,439 students**.
- Sachem's current 2016-2017 budget is **\$306M**.
- Since the implementation of the Tax Cap for the 2012-2013 school year, Sachem has managed to control actual annual expenditure increases to an average of **1.10% per year**.
  - This is in spite of soaring benefit costs and the annual increases of unfunded mandates.
  - This has been accomplished through careful review of all areas of our budget with an eye towards finding efficiencies, decreasing costs whenever possible, preserving our vital programs, and addressing identified strategic priorities.
- The Office of the New York State Comptroller (OSC) recommends a minimum of **10% in total fund balance/reserves**. For Sachem this equates to **\$30.6M**.
  - For fiscal year ended June 2016 Sachem's total fund balance was **\$13.1M**.
    - This is **\$17.5M below** the recommended minimum.
    - This represents only **4.28%** of the total budget; not the **recommended 10%**.
  - The OSC's most recent fiscal stress score for Sachem (2015) was **"Significant Fiscal Stress."**
- Sachem's Combined Wealth Ratio (CWR) is **0.87**.
  - The CWR measures the district's wealth, or ability to support the school district, based on property value and income variables, relative to the New York State average, which is **1.00**. Sachem's wealth is below average.