

*Sachem Central School District*  
Administrative Offices  
51 School Street  
Ronkonkoma, N.Y. 11779

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Ronkonkoma, N.Y.

# **Sachem**

## **2013-14 Proposed School Budget**

**OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE SACHEM CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**MAY 2013**

### ***A Message From Your Board President***

Dear Residents,

This year's budget process has certainly presented many challenges. The two main sources of revenue to fund school districts are taxes and State Aid. Sachem will be receiving the same level of State Aid we received approximately eight years ago. Despite this disappointing news, the Board of Education and administration have worked cooperatively and tirelessly to create a budget that continues to maintain that delicate balance of providing excellent opportunities for our students while remaining sensitive to the needs of our taxpayers. We have encouraged and demonstrated participation, transparency and interdependence as we have been traveling to all parts of our district and meeting with members of our community since January.

I sincerely believe that we have listened carefully and developed a budget that holds our children as our highest priority. Last year's budget went up 1% on the expenditure side and this year we have developed a budget that has only increased .58% on the expenditure side. This was accomplished while also continuing to provide all of the programs and opportunities that our community asked us to maintain. If the community supports and passes this budget, there will be no change in the elementary class sizes, full day kindergarten, the GATE program, Science Research, all of our current Music and Athletic groups/teams, Cheerleading, Arrowettes, Marching Band, Robotics and all of our current clubs and activities that our students enjoy each and every day. A passed budget would also mean that we would not have to close schools or sell the Waverly soccer fields.

The Sachem Central School District is proud of our outstanding reputation. We are recognized near and far for our academic excellence and for our

great success in music, the arts, athletics and so many other student activities. Our students, families and staff members give every ounce of their time and talents in a mutually respectful relationship to maintain our stellar reputation and the level of excellence that Sachem has enjoyed for almost sixty years. Our students continue to outperform Suffolk County, Long Island and New York State on all assessments. The same can be said for our graduation rate, the percentage of students graduating with a Regents Diploma, and those who graduate with Advanced Designation. Long before New York State focused on post-graduation goals, Sachem has always prepared our students to meet with success in college, careers and the military. Our graduates can be found in leadership roles around the world, and they often recognize with great pride the impact that Sachem has had on them.

The development of the proposed 2013-2014 budget was a difficult process, but we believe we have carefully considered and respected all members of our Sachem Family. Sachem continues to be a great place to learn, work and live. We believe that the 2013-2014 budget will maintain our level of excellence and our outstanding reputation. Most importantly we believe that our students, staff members, families and residents will still be very proud to say, WE ARE SACHEM!

Thank you for your continued help and support. Please make it a top priority to understand our budget information, and please remember to vote on TUESDAY, MAY 21.

Sincerely,

Robert Scavo, President of Sachem Board of Education

### ***Sachem Central School District***

**Sachem Administrative Offices**  
51 School St. Ronkonkoma, N.Y. 11779

#### **2012-2013 BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Robert Scavo, President  
Sal Tripi, Vice President

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Michael J. Isernia, Esq. \* Teri Ahearn \* Dorothy Roberts \* Douglas Duncan Jr.  
**Superintendent: James J. Nolan**

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## **A. Budget to Budget Increase**

**\*2012-2013 Budget**

**\$291,358,344**

**\*2013-2014 Proposed Budget**

**\$293,041,954**

**Increase/(Decrease)**

**\$1,683,610**

**% Increase = .58% = Less than 1%**

## **What's IN on a passed budget at 7.49 %?**

- 1. No change in elementary class size**
- 2. Full day kindergarten**
- 3. GATE program**
- 4. Science research program**
- 5. All interscholastic athletics**
- 6. All extra curricular clubs**
- 7. Full elementary library program**
- 8. Music Program**
- 9. No closing of buildings**
- 10. No sale of Waverly fields**
- 11. Cheerleading, Arrowettes and Marching Band**

## **B. Reductions to meet tax cap at 3.14%**

**(Would occur if the 7.49 budget is defeated)**

- 1. Increase elementary/secondary class size**
- 2. Half day Kindergarten**
- 3. Elimination of the GATE program**
- 4. Elimination of the science research program**
- 5. Varsity level sports only**
- 6. Elimination of extra curricular clubs**
- 7. 50% reduction non-mandated music programs**
- 8. Elim. cheerleading, Arrowettes, marching band**
- 9. 50% reduction in elementary library program**

## **C. Reductions to attain zero tax levy increase**

**(Would occur if 7.49 and 3.14 budgets are both defeated)**

- 1. All reductions to meet the tax cap**
- 2. Elimination of Kindergarten**
- 3. Closing of schools**
- 4. Reduction in occupational education**
- 5. Sale of Waverly soccer fields**

**\*State Aid: Sachem is currently receiving the same level of state aid it received eight years ago.**  
**Have questions? Please contact Bruce Singer, Associate Superintendent: BSinger@Sachem.edu or 631-471-1321**  
**Visit Sachem.edu for more detailed budget information**

## **Inside The Numbers**

<b>Tax Rate Change</b>	<b>Reduction in Budget</b>	<b>Avg. Annual Tax Change Per homeowner</b>	<b>Avg. Daily Tax Change</b>
<b>Proposed budget, 7.49%</b>	<b>See box A above</b>	<b>\$484</b>	<b>\$1.33</b>
<b>Tax Cap, 3.14%</b>	<b>See box B above</b>	<b>\$202</b>	<b>\$0.55</b>
<b>0.00%</b>	<b>See box C above</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>

**BUDGET VOTE: Tuesday, May 21, 2013 \* 6:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.**

**AT ALL SACHEM ELEMENTARY SCHOOL BUILDINGS**

\*Registration to vote on Sachem's budget and in the Board of Education election is in-person only at all the schools and at district office during normal business hours. \*There are two special voter registrations: Wednesday, May 8 from 7:30 to 9:00 p.m. in the Board of Education Room at Samoset and Saturday, May 11 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in the District Clerk's Office (Room 105) at Samoset. \* In order to request an absentee ballot, a person must be a registered voter and complete the application for an absentee ballot. These applications are available from the District Clerk.