



Soar with the eagles...

May 2011 Issue • www.wbschools.org

# Your West Babylon Schools

## Special Budget Issue

### A Message From Your Board of Education

Dear Residents:

For many months, the Board of Education and administration have been working on the 2011-2012 budget; nearly every Board of Education meeting since early November has included a budget discussion. Tough economic times have continued to impact New York State and the West Babylon community. The proposed budget balances the need to continue to provide a sound, high-quality education with the community's ability to fund these services to our students.

At a time when the demand for stronger educational programs and higher levels of academic performance is more intense than ever, the West Babylon School District has been informed by New York that, in 2011-12, state aid to our schools will be reduced by \$3.4 million. Additionally, the district is expected to receive approximately \$906,000 less in state aid than promised for the current year. That is an extraordinary loss of needed funding for a school district that has traditionally had one of the region's lowest per-pupil spending rates.

Unfortunately, with the recent loss of state-aid funds, adjustments had to be made, which are reflected in the proposed 2011-2012 budget. For the coming school year, the proposed budget has a negligible increase of less than one percent. Despite increases in mandated costs, such as retirement, insurance and social security, West Babylon has held the line on expenses.

from the current budget to offset expenses. Reductions have been made across most areas of spending – and unfortunately, as a result, 54 staff members will be laid off. Positions in the areas of teaching, instructional and disciplinary supervision, paraprofessionals, clerical workers, custodians and athletics will be eliminated.

We realize that taxpayers who have been affected by the economic conditions of the last few years cannot absorb the whole of state aid reductions. Through budget cuts and the use of the district's fund balance, the 2011-2012 tax levy is well below the tax-rate projection that was forecast when the state-aid cuts were announced. The Board of Education will apply approximately \$4.9 million in appropriated fund balance to reduce the tax rate. This represents a substantial increase in the amount of the district's savings applied to cover operating costs. With the prospect of financial challenges continuing beyond next year, the Board believes that this is the maximum amount that can be used without jeopardizing the district's future.

The dual objectives of the proposed 2011-2012 budget have been to preserve the academic core of West Babylon's learning programs and to restrict the imposition of significantly higher tax levies. In light of the state aid cuts, we hope – and believe – that the best possible balance between student needs and taxpayer interests has been accomplished in the 2011-2012 budget.

Sincerely,

The West Babylon Board of Education

In order to achieve this, the proposed 2011-2012 budget contains reductions

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Babylon, New York  
Permit No. 111

\*\*\*\*\*ECRWSS\*\*\*\*\*  
Residential Customer

West Babylon School District  
10 Farmingdale Road  
West Babylon, New York 11704

### Budget Highlights:

- Budget increase is less than 1 percent
- Class size within contractual guidelines
- Continued full-day kindergarten
- Maintains home school transportation (no late buses)
- College and Advanced Placement courses
- Modified music program
- Enrichment program (SAIL, robotics, science research)
- Junior high, junior varsity and varsity sports programs
- Secondary summer school and special education summer school
- A safe and healthy learning environment

Board of Education

Patrick M. Farrell, *President*  
Wendy DeGaetano, *Vice President*  
Lucy Campasano, *Trustee*

Carmine Galletta, *Trustee*  
Kathleen Jennings, *Trustee*  
Diane Klein, *Trustee*

Jerry Nocera, *Trustee*  
Peter Scarlatos, *Trustee*  
Diane Thiel, *Trustee*



# 2011-12 Proposed Budget



ACCOUNT GROUP	2010-2011 Budget	2011-2012 Proposed	\$ Change
<b>ADMINISTRATIVE COMPONENT</b>			
BOARD OF EDUCATION	\$82,166	\$72,590	(\$9,576)
CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION	\$345,877	\$345,205	(\$672)
FINANCE	\$890,504	\$826,668	(\$63,836)
STAFF	\$517,868	\$568,486	\$50,618
CENTRAL SERVICES	\$918,849	\$908,849	(\$10,000)
SPECIAL ITEMS ADMINISTRATION	\$747,587	\$743,859	(\$3,728)
AND IMPROVEMENT	\$2,435,313	\$2,375,651	(\$59,662)
<b>TOTAL ADMINISTRATION</b>	<b>\$5,938,165</b>	<b>\$5,841,309</b>	<b>(\$96,856)</b>
<b>PROGRAM COMPONENT</b>			
SPECIAL ITEMS	\$175,000	\$187,820	\$12,820
TEACHING	\$32,222,898	\$31,367,461	(\$855,438)
SPECIAL APPORTIONMENT PROGRAMS	\$13,024,376	\$12,903,421	(\$120,956)
TEACHING	\$145,984	\$145,984	\$0
INSTRUCTIONAL MEDIA	\$1,850,584	\$1,882,991	\$32,407
PUPIL SERVICES	\$4,110,225	\$3,823,211	(\$287,013)
PUPIL TRANSPORTATION	\$3,484,581	\$3,301,080	(\$183,500)
COMMUNITY SERVICES	\$39,590	\$39,590	\$0
UNDISTRIBUTED	\$21,859,479	\$24,913,421	\$3,053,942
INTERFUND TRANSFERS	\$250,000	\$250,000	\$0
<b>TOTAL PROGRAM</b>	<b>\$77,162,716</b>	<b>\$78,814,979</b>	<b>\$1,652,262</b>
<b>CAPITAL COMPONENT</b>			
CENTRAL SERVICES	\$5,700,663	\$5,358,265	(\$342,398)
SPECIAL ITEMS	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$0
DEBT SERVICE	\$4,335,282	\$3,950,957	(\$384,325)
<b>TOTAL CAPITAL</b>	<b>\$10,045,945</b>	<b>\$9,319,223</b>	<b>(\$726,723)</b>
<b>GRAND TOTALS</b>	<b>\$93,146,827</b>	<b>\$93,975,510</b>	<b>\$828,683</b>

## 2011-12 Budget Reductions

- Elementary classroom teachers
- Elementary art
  - Music
- Special education inclusion services
  - Athletics
- assistant coaches
- Sports supplies and materials
- Transportation for field trips
- Supervision of instruction
- Deans in the secondary schools
- Custodial staff
- Clerical staff
- Transportation for late day runs

<b>Budget Summary</b>				
Component	2010-2011 Budget	2011-2012 Proposed	Increase/ (Decrease)	% Change
Administration	\$5,938,165	\$5,841,309	(\$96,856)	
Program	\$77,162,716	\$78,814,979	\$1,652,262	
Capital	\$10,045,945	\$9,319,223	(\$726,723)	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$93,146,827</b>	<b>\$93,975,510</b>	<b>\$828,683</b>	<b>0.89%</b>

**For detailed school district BUDGET INFORMATION, Visit Our Website: [www.wbschools.org](http://www.wbschools.org)**

**SCHOOL BUDGET VOTE: TUESDAY, MAY 17, 2011 • 7 A.M. – 9 P.M.**

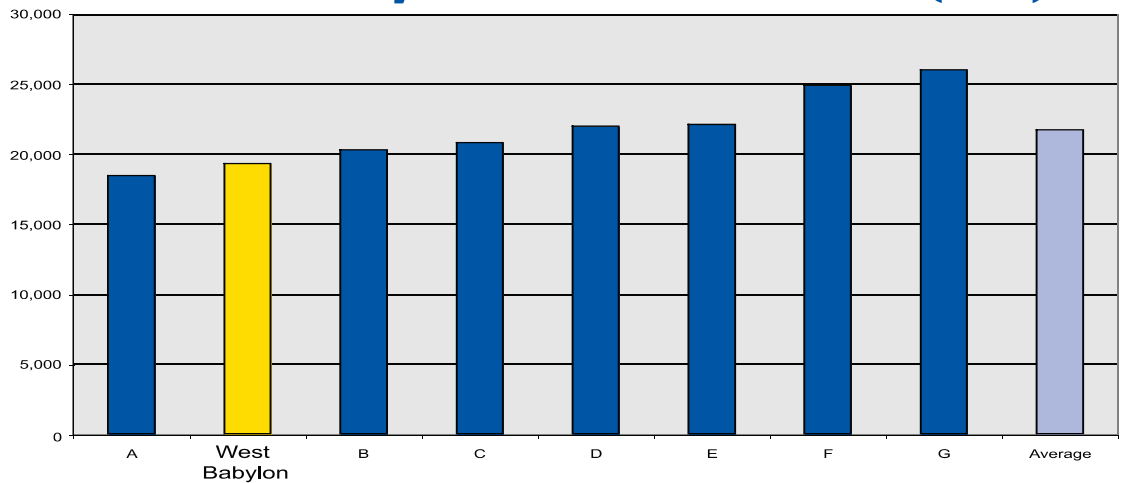
# Revenue

	<b>CURRENT YEAR 2010-11</b>	<b>PROPOSED BUDGET 2011-12</b>	<b>\$ Change</b>
<b>State Aid</b>	\$28,873,408	\$25,462,942	(\$3,410,466)
<b>Other Revenue</b>	\$1,365,259	\$1,365,259	\$0
<b>Appropriated Fund Balance and Reserves</b>	\$4,502,771	\$4,969,144	\$466,373
<b>Tax Levy</b>	\$58,405,389	\$62,178,165	\$3,772,776
<b>Budget</b>	\$93,146,827	\$93,975,510	\$828,683

The district anticipates utilizing approximately \$4,969,144 in appropriated fund balance in the 2011-12 school year. This is the largest amount of fund balance applied to offset our loss in state aid. The district utilized a large portion of its savings (reserves) to minimize the impact of the Governor's cuts on the taxpayer. This leaves us with reduced savings for the future, which will have to be managed carefully.



## Total Expenditures Per Pupil (2008-2009) Town of Babylon School Districts (A-G)



## How Do I Estimate My Monthly Change in Taxes?

Multiply your assessed value by \$11.04 (Tax Rate Change) and divide by 100, then divide by 12.

<b>Taxable Assessed Value of home</b>	<b>Tax Rate</b>	<b>\$ Change</b>	<b>Annual Home Tax Increase</b>	<b>Increase Cost per Month</b>
3,500	182.02	\$11.04	\$386.56	\$32.21
4,500	182.02	\$11.04	\$497.01	\$41.42
5,000	182.02	\$11.04	\$552.23	\$46.02
5,500	182.02	\$11.04	\$607.46	\$50.62
6,000	182.02	\$11.04	\$662.68	\$55.22
6,500	182.02	\$11.04	\$717.90	\$59.83
7,000	182.02	\$11.04	\$773.13	\$64.43

**REMEMBER TO VOTE!**

**TUESDAY, MAY 17, 2011 • 7 A.M. – 9 P.M.**

# District Achievements

- 93% of graduates receive a Regents Diploma
- 54% of graduates receive an Advanced Regents Diploma
- 100% of students participating in career and technical education programs pass required Regents exams
- Elementary-level New York State English Language Arts assessment scores meet NYS targets and are competitive with NYS Similar Schools and Suffolk County averages
- Elementary-level New York State Mathematics assessment scores meet NYS targets and are competitive with NYS Similar Schools and Suffolk County averages
- JHS New York State English Language Arts assessment scores meet NYS targets and are competitive with NYS Similar Schools and Suffolk County averages
- JHS New York State Mathematics assessment scores meet NYS targets and are competitive with NYS Similar Schools and Suffolk County averages
- Approximately one quarter of West Babylon High School students participate in Advanced Placement and college-level courses
- Elementary through high school students participate in regional science and robotics competitions
- Students exhibit at regional art fairs and competitions at which they have been recognized for the quality and creativity of their work
- High-level student-performances in Math Olympiad, Science Olympiad, Russian Olympiad, Poetry Out-Loud and Wordmasters Competition
- Elementary, junior high school and high school student participate in All-County and All-State music festivals
- Students qualify to perform in several hundred solos at NYSSMA festivals
- Students perform numerous activities to improve social emotional learning and wellness in their schools
- Students perform thousands of hours of community service
- 5 varsity teams in the playoffs as of the winter season
- 32 All-League athletes, 12 All-Division athletes, 5 All-Conference athletes, 7 All-County athletes, 1 All-State athlete as of the winter season



## Voter Information

### Voter Registration Information

Through May 12, every school building will serve as a registration site between the hours of 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. Voters may also register to vote at the district clerk's office in the administration building during these hours. To verify your registration status, please call the district clerk at (631) 376-7008.

### Absentee Ballots

Applications for absentee ballots can be obtained at the district clerk's office until May 16. If you need the application mailed, please call the district clerk's office at (631) 376-7008 no later than May 9. Absentee ballots MUST be returned by 5 p.m. on May 17.

### Budget Hearing

**Date:** May 10, 2011 • **Time:** 7 p.m.

**Place:** Administration Building Board Room

### Budget Vote

**Date:** May 17, 2011 • **Time:** 7 a.m. to 9 p.m.

**Place:** Residents north of Sunrise Highway will vote at Santapogue Elementary School. Residents south of Sunrise Highway will vote at the administration building.

**For further information, please call the district clerk's office at (631) 376-7008.**