



The Beacon



Shining a light on the Baldwinsville Central School District

Issue 79

May 2010

2010-2011 Budget News

	<u>'09-'10</u>	<u>'10-'11</u>	<u>% Increase</u>
Budget	\$93,669,512	\$93,669,512	0%
Tax Levy	\$46,780,000	\$47,822,714	2.23%

PP VOTE: May 18, 2010 PP

Baker High School, 6:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Dear Baldwinsville Central School District resident:

This newsletter details the district's 2010-2011 budget proposal. The proposed budget is \$93,669,512, with no spending increase over the 2009-2010 budget. The proposed tax levy is up 2.23%, or \$1,042,714, which is approximately \$50 for a \$100,000 assessed property value. Despite the national and state economic crises, the Board of Education and the district's administrators and staff members are committed to continuing to provide Baldwinsville's students with the best possible education. We feel this budget balances our students' needs with the financial ability of the community to support those needs.

The district is facing a funding gap of approximately \$10 million for 2010-2011. There is a potential loss of \$4.4 million in state aid. We will also have a \$5.6 million increase in expenses that include benefits and salaries. We are anticipating a loss of about \$230,000 in interest income for 2010-2011, and there is still a possibility of the loss of approximately \$1.25 million in county sales tax after December of this year.

The future of our community, state and country depends on the education of our children, who are our future leaders. The Baldwinsville Central School District remains dedicated to providing its students with a quality education that will prepare them to be productive members of this community, state and nation, regardless of what vocation they follow. The Board of Education, district administrators, and district staff have worked collaboratively to present the community with a proposed budget that will continue to provide students with exceptional instruction and programs.

For details on the proposed budget, please attend the public budget hearing on May 11 at 7:00 p.m. in the cafeteria of Baker High School. The budget vote will take place in the auditorium of the high school on May 18, from 6:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

On behalf of the Board of Education,

Victor Jenkins, President

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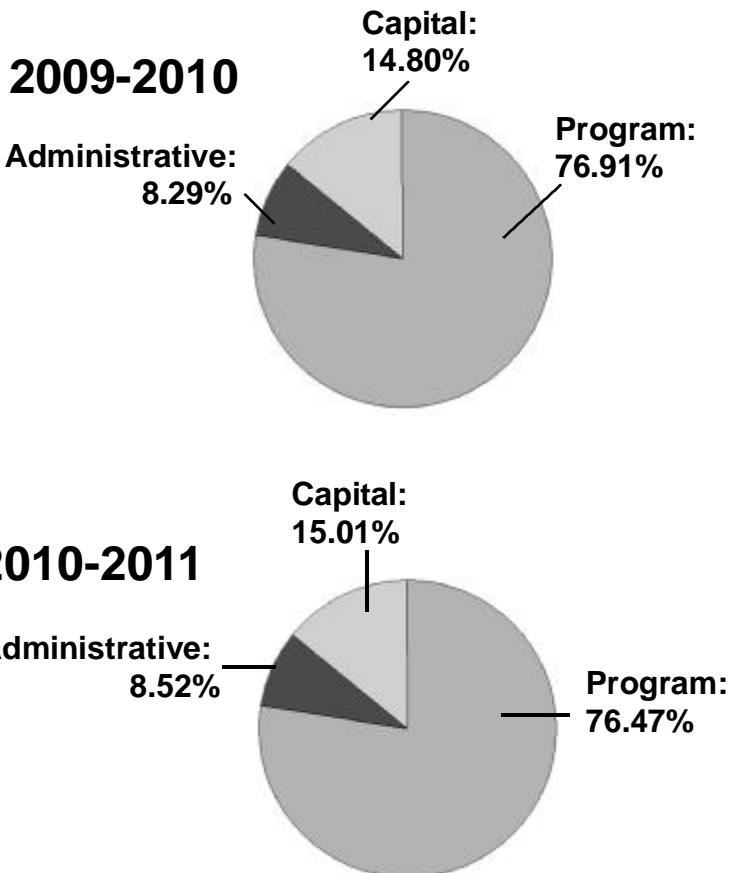
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Budget Expenditures

State law requires the 2010-2011 budget to be presented in three parts: program, capital and administrative. Please see page 5 for more details of the budget highlights and page 4 for more information on the projected tax impact.

	2010-11 proposed budget	2009-10 final appropriation	Dollar difference	Percent difference
Program	\$71,630,318	\$72,037,089	\$-406,771	-0.57%
The program component is intended to provide every student with educational experiences and opportunities to foster the full development of his or her potential. This budget category includes all instructional personnel and programs: regular school, special education, library, media, instructional technology, guidance, student health services, school psychologists, attendance and census costs, music, co-curricular activities, athletics, in-district and out-of-district pupil transportation, and staff development.				
Capital	\$14,059,588	\$13,865,422	\$194,166	+1.4%
The capital component is intended to provide a safe and healthy learning environment for students, staff and the community. This budget category includes all personnel, equipment, supplies and materials for the operation and maintenance of district facilities. Any judgments and claims, refunds of real property taxes, and all payments of principal and interest on short- and long-term obligations are included in this category.				
Administrative	\$ 7,979,606	\$ 7,767,001	\$212,605	+2.7%
The administrative component is intended to provide the necessary support for district functions. This category includes all expenses for the Board of Education, superintendent, business office, auditor, tax collection, fiscal agent, legal services, personnel office, records management, public information, central printing and mailing, property and casualty insurance, school association dues, BOCES administrative share, and supervision of instruction.				
Total Budget	\$93,669,512	\$93,669,512	\$0	0%

Appropriations Comparisons



Major Influences on the 2010-2011 Budget:

Staff reductions:

- ✓ 19.6 Instructional & administrative staff
- ✓ 14.0 Special education summer staff
- ✓ 22.5 Instructional support staff
- ✓ 16.85 Non-instructional support staff
- ✓ 13.0 Athletic staff
- ✓ 7.0 Transportation staff

✓ 92.95 Reductions

✓ 30.00 Layoff Impact

Other Influences:

- ✓ Drop in state aid
- ✓ Increase in expenses

Budget Revenues

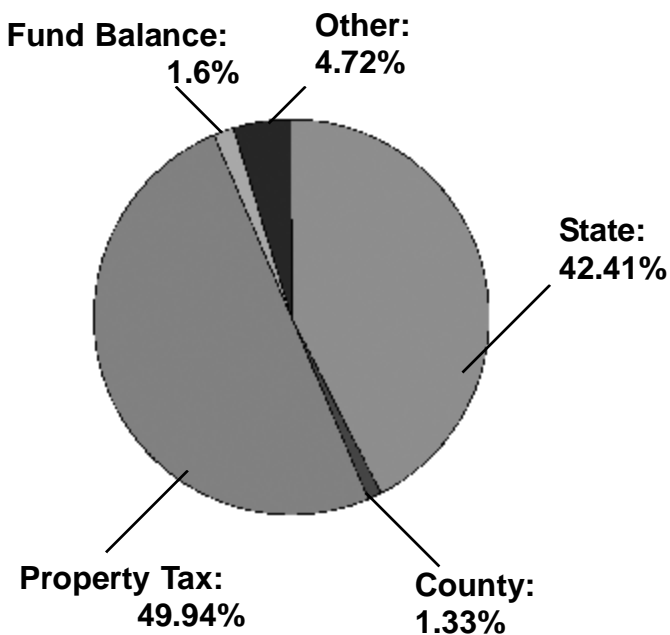
Non-Property Tax Revenues

Account	2009-2010	Estimated 2010-2011
In lieu of tax	\$2,929,412	\$2,929,412
County sales tax	\$1,250,000	\$1,250,000
Tuition -- other districts	\$50,000	\$50,000
Interest income	\$400,000	\$170,000
State aid (including BOCES aid)	\$35,200,000	\$32,145,681
State aid -- building aid	\$4,534,190	\$4,623,503
All other income	\$364,150	\$356,500
Subtotal	\$44,727,752	\$41,525,096

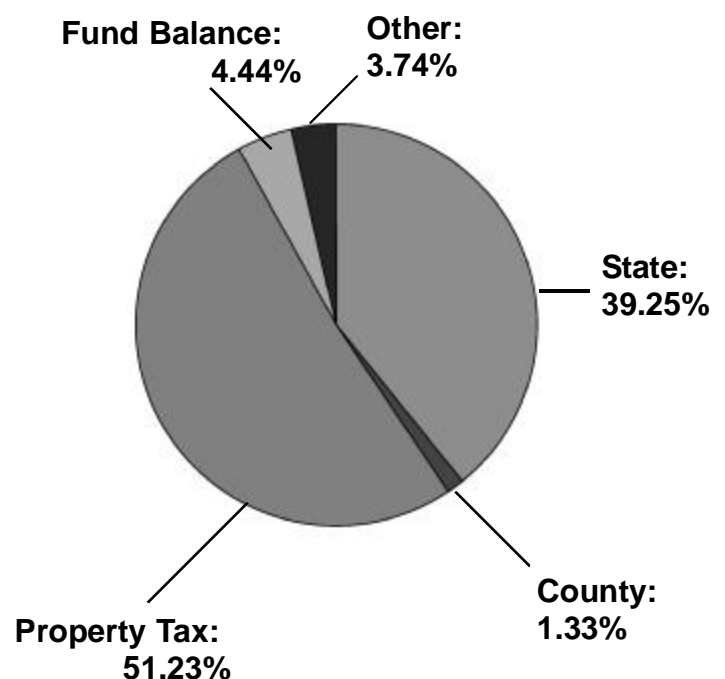
Real Estate Property Tax

Budget	\$93,669,512	\$93,669,512
Less: Estimated revenues	\$44,727,752	\$41,525,096
Less: Appropriated fund balance	\$1,500,000	\$1,500,000
Less: Appropriation from reserves	\$661,760	\$2,821,702
Amount to be raised by tax levy:	\$46,780,000	\$47,822,714

Revenues: 2009-2010



Revenues: 2010-2011



Additional Proposition; Tax Impact

In addition to voting on the 2010-2011 budget proposal, district residents are also asked to vote on two additional ballot items:



Proposition Two: Annual Bus Purchase

Annual bus purchase and replacement program

The bus fleet consists of 79 large (54-70 passenger) buses, 29 medium (15-48 passenger and wheelchair capable) buses, and seven 8-passenger buses. Large buses are used for about 12 years, the medium buses for about 10 years, and the 8-passenger buses for about 7 years. In order to maintain a consistent replacement schedule, approximately 11 to 14 buses should be replaced per year. However, given the economic pressure facing the district, we are proposing the purchase of fewer buses.

The district would like to purchase:

The total maximum cost of Proposition 2 = \$647,000

* Four 65-passenger buses

- State aid = \$517,600

* Two full framed 30-passenger buses

Local cost = \$129,400

Proposition Three:

Should the school district add a student member to the Board of Education? The public has the opportunity to allow a student to become a non-voting member of the Board of Education. The intent is to add a student voice to the Board.

Estimated Tax Rate

In Lysander and VanBuren, the tax rate is projected to increase by 2.23% as assessments are not expected to rise. The estimated tax rate will be as shown below. Please note that the district will not receive assessments and equalization rates for the towns of Van Buren, Lysander and Clay until August. At that time, **the actual tax levy and tax rates will be calculated.**

	Change in tax bill on a \$100,000 house, without STAR (no change in assessed value)	Change in tax bill on a \$100,000 house, with STAR (no change in assessed value)	Estimated tax rate increase
Lysander and VanBuren (assuming equalization rate remains at 100%)	\$50.91	\$35.64	+2.23%
Clay (assuming equalization rate remains the same)	\$50.91	\$35.64	+2.23%

About Equalization Rates

An equalization rate represents the average level of assessment in each community. For example, an equalization rate of 50% means that, on average, the property is being assessed at 50% of its market value. The equalization rates are determined by the New York State Board of Equalization and Assessment. One of the most important uses of the equalization rate is to divide the tax levy fairly among municipalities in the same school district. In the Baldwinsville Central School District, the municipalities are the towns of Lysander, Van Buren and Clay.

About “STAR,” School Tax Relief Program

The state’s School Tax Relief Program, or STAR, provides a basic exemption that allows property owners to receive a \$30,000 full-value exemption on their school tax bills. Senior citizens with incomes of less than \$36,400 gross are eligible for larger exemptions on a sliding scale; senior citizens with incomes of less than \$74,700 (not including IRA distributions) are eligible for the state’s “enhanced” exemption of \$60,100.

Budget Highlights

The 2010-2011 budget proposal continues the district's efforts to move ahead in areas such as instructional technology integration, continued K-12 curriculum development, advanced data analysis for instructional decisions, Safe School legislation training, and professional development. In general, the budget seeks to support the district's long-range plan, which strives to provide quality academic programs, maintain facilities, and continue to provide a quality education while being fiscally responsible to taxpayers.

Program Highlights

- m** Continue to offer college-credit courses at the high school;
- m** Maintain most existing student program opportunities (instructional and extra-curricular);
- m** Continue to minimize the number of displaced students;
- m** Maintain effective class sizes;
- m** Support differentiated instruction to meet the learning needs of each student;
- m** Continue the district's data-analysis process; and
- m** Ensure continued improvement in teaching through the district's mentoring program and other professional development initiatives.



Technology

In the area of technology, the budget continues to support ongoing needs in the district to include general network hardware and software upgrades, centralization and virtualization of our server and backup capacity, the programmed replacement of older equipment and installation of various peripheral instructional equipment to include video projectors, SMART Boards, Sympodiums, visual presenters, instructional television and other presentation devices.



Equipment and Maintenance

The budget supports the district's cleaning and preventative maintenance program and the community use of buildings. It also supports necessary repairs, including building infrastructure and roadway and parking lot repairs, mechanical and electrical repairs, HVAC upgrades, athletic field maintenance, and energy conservation upgrades. Examples of new equipment include lawn maintenance and athletic field equipment, and building maintenance and floor care equipment.



School Board Elections

The order of the four candidates is ***the order in which they will appear on the ballot***. Three seats on the Board of Education are up for election. They are for three-year terms. The three candidates who receive the three highest vote totals will be elected to the three-year terms.

Lawrence Ordway



Lawrence "Micha" Ordway of Mariner Trail, Baldwinsville, settled in the community after meeting his wife, Kristen (Boivin), whose family are long-time residents of Baldwinsville. Micha and Kristen currently reside in Seneca Estates, a subdivision of Lysander, with their son, Grady, and daughter, Ava. Micha has served on the District's Capital Improvement Committee, Code of Conduct Committee, Audit Committee and Policy Committee. He is also a founding member of the Central New York Community Foundation's Future Fund of Central New York, a not-for-profit organization committed to promoting social and economic development in Central New York. Micha previously served on the Board of Directors for the Baldwinsville Public Access Channel, Channel 98, and is the past Chairman of the Onondaga County Bar Association High School Mock Trial Program. He is a member of the Syracuse law firm of Green & Seifter, Attorneys, PLLC, where he concentrates in commercial litigation, labor and employment, mediation land use and constitutional law. Micha's wife, Kristen, is an elementary school teacher in another district.

Joan Reeves



Joan Reeves has been a Board of Education member since 1981. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Reeves of Baldwinsville. In the past she served for 12 years as vice president of the Board and as president for 5 years. She has served on various subcommittees, including legislative, transportation, negotiations, contract, policy, facilities, audit, and BCEPT. She currently serves on the facilities and BCEPT committees. She also serves on the Onondaga Madison School Boards Association Board of Directors and is a member of the OCM BOCES Board of Education. Joan has been employed by Plainville Farms in charge of purchasing, regulatory compliance, and product development for the company. Her interests include reading, volunteering, and spending time with friends and family. She believes that giving back to the community is important. She attended SUNY Oneonta and Oswego and pursued additional education at Bryant and Stratton and Cornell. Joan has three children, all of whom are graduates of Baldwinsville schools. Jamie is a Project Manager for Springfield Public Schools, Ryan is pursuing a degree in computer science, and LT. Eric Reeves is a NFO with the United States Navy, stationed in Anacortes, WA.

Kenneth Dwyer



Kenneth Dwyer is a lifetime resident of Baldwinsville and a 1994 graduate of Baker High School. He holds a B.S. in Criminal Justice from SUNY Brockport and his certification in Technology Education from SUNY Oswego. In 2001, after three years in Law Enforcement, Ken started his own business in photography (Dwyer Photography) which specializes in weddings, maternity and newborn photography. He and his wife Christy are the parents of a 4-year-old son and a 2-year-old daughter.

School Board Elections

Steve Schweitzer



Steve Schweitzer has been a resident of Baldwinsville since 1993. He earned a Bachelor of Engineering degree from the State University of New York Maritime College and a Master of Science degree in mechanical engineering from the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. He is a licensed professional engineer and a senior project engineer with an energy services company working in the field of energy efficiency and renewable energy technology. Steve and his wife, Kim, have two children, a daughter, Krystina, who graduated from Baker High School in 2007 and currently attends the Wegmans School of Pharmacy at St. John Fisher College, and a son, Paul, who is a member of the Class of 2010 at Baker High School and will attend LeMoyne College in the fall. Steve also serves as a volunteer firefighter with the Moyers Corners Fire Department, where he holds the rank of lieutenant.

Contingent Budget

What happens if the budget is defeated?

State laws regarding defeated school budgets were changed in 1998 as follows:

- 1.) There is a limit of two votes.
- 2.) The Board of Education may adopt a contingent budget after the first vote, and it must adopt a contingent budget if the second vote does not pass.
- 3.) Under state law, a contingent budget would require budget cuts of nearly \$400,000 in equipment. Plus, community use of facilities would be limited to those who could pay the full cost for such use. Further cuts may be required to conform to spending caps and would come from programs as determined by the Board of Education at the time of adoption.

Copies of the budget can be reviewed in the district business office at 29 E. Oneida St., Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Who can vote?

To be eligible to vote, you must be:

- 1.) Eighteen years of age or older;
- 2.) A citizen of the United States; and
- 3.) A resident of the district for 30 days prior to the vote.

Absentee ballots

Absentee ballots can be obtained by calling the district office at 638-6055, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Mark your calendar

R ***Public hearing:***
Tuesday, May 11
7:00 p.m., Baker H.S.

R ***Annual vote:***
Tuesday, May 18
6 a.m. to 9 p.m., Baker H.S.

R ***Absentee Ballots:***
Can be obtained by
calling 638-6055.

District Highlights



m Academic Excellence:

Student Performance on NYS

Assessments:

A majority of students in grades 3-8 score at or above a level 3 (latest available results are from the 2007-2008 school year).

ELA – Scoring at or above level 3

Grade 3 – 80%	Grade 6 - 78%
Grade 4 – 82%	Grade 7 - 81%
Grade 5 – 91%	Grade 8 - 67%

Math- Scoring at or above level 3

Grade 3 – 93%	Grade 6 - 90%
Grade 4 – 90%	Grade 7 - 92%
Grade 5 – 93%	Grade 8 - 85%

National Merit Recognition:

Semifinalists - 2
Commended students - 3

AP Scholars:

54 students from Baker High School earned the designation of AP Scholar from the College Board in recognition of their achievements on the college-level Advanced Placement exams last spring.

m Artistic Achievement:

Scholastic Art Awards

Gold Key - 9
Silver Key - 8

Honorable Mention - 18

m Athletic Honors:

Scholar-athletes:

Nearly every varsity athletic team in Baldwinsville receives the Scholar/Athlete Team Award from the New York State Public High School Athletic Association for achieving a team composite grade average of 90% or better.

Regional Champions:

Varsity Football
Girls' Varsity Volleyball

m Music Honors:

Each year, student musicians are invited to participate in the county and state music festivals. This school year was no exception.

All-State:

Baker High School - 6

Area All-State:

Baker High School - 12
Durgee Junior High - 13

All-County:

Baker High School – 39
Durgee Junior High - 32
Ray Middle School - 1
Elementary Schools - 23

***The Beacon* is an official publication of the Baldwinsville Central School District.**

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Jeanne Dangle

Superintendent of Schools

Dawn Wilczynski

Assistant Superintendent for Instruction

James Rodems

Assistant Superintendent for Management Services

William McKee

Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources

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Lawrence Ordway, VP

Cindy Cronin

James Goulet

Greg Hudson

Colin Kahl

Mark Manning

Joan Reeves

Burrill Wells

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