

Mendham Borough Public Schools
12 Hilltop Road Mendham, New Jersey
Important News about the 2012 Mendham Borough Schools Budget

Dear Mendham Borough Community Member:

Our **immediate goal** is to make this newsletter so reader-friendly that you choose to read it from cover to cover. We know that it is important for you to understand your school budget, which is an essential foundation for meeting the community's educational goals for its student members.

Our **longer-range, overarching goal** is to reinstate and maintain the quality of education that has been a hallmark of Mendham Borough over many years. It's a proud tradition to have raised so many fine, contributing people so very well.

The County Business Administrator analyzes every school budget for educational fidelity and fiscal responsibility. In approving this budget, he wrote, *"It was evident that the budget reflects the careful consideration of the administration and the board. The district's educational program was preserved and the tax levy increase was minimal."*

While being committed to education of the highest quality, we recognize the importance of fiscal responsibility. This budget was set at a 1.0% increase, 4.99% lower than sanctioned by the State.

The property tax checks we all write for the education of our community's children remain large, and it is only if we know that the resulting education is of **high quality** that we may find a measure of acceptance. As in all communities that expect and foster excellence, Mendham Borough's property values are bolstered by its schools' strong reputations.

Our focus remains on students and learning. If you want to review other data, please call 973-543-7075 x 234 (business office) or -2295 (central office).

Respectfully,

Bridget Poole,
Board President

Janie Edmonds,
Superintendent of Schools

April 2012

Mendham's cap the 2012-2013 school year was 2.0% plus a "banked cap" of 3.99% from similar restraint in 2011-2012.

RESTORING AND BUILDING OUR SCHOOL SYSTEM

Restoration of programs lost to state-aid cuts and the 2010 budget defeat continues. The **budget for 2012-2013** returns full support of sports, extra-curricular programs and the musical, reinstating the prior activity fee. All music teachers and the middle school guidance counselor have full-time status. The budget restores the LDT-C₂/Supervisor of Special Services as a district employee. It provides part-time support for our sole technology employee.

Raising Standards and Expanding Opportunities:

We move forward. We return to the long-range technology plan's four-year, hardware replacement cycle. We expand access to student progress information and use of Google's free school programs. Electronic report cards will be aligned with new national "Common Core" standards.

Building Professionalism:

Professional development supports the evolving needs of student learning. We will continue to send teachers to the University of Virginia to study differentiation of instruction. We support our 2006 Teachers College Reading and Writing (TCR&W) initiative, started in 2006 similarly.

Our plan for administrative professional development for evaluation of teaching staff started four years ago. It is aligned with requirements of the new *EE4NJ* with emphasis on inter-rater reliability. A state-approved model (Danielson) has been in place for six years.

Three full-day, in-service days and two half-day, in-service days continue. Some training will continue to be done in cooperation with other districts.

We are well under way in building a shared template for World Language curriculum for all WMRHS sending districts. This work will continue and expand.

Protecting our investments – capital and maintenance projects

Updating HVAC systems at Mountain View (MtV) will continue.

A classroom lighting retrofit at MtV, reducing energy usage, improving lighting levels, and removing all magnetic ballasts will happen.

Replacement of perimeter outdoor lighting at Hilltop with LED technology, aided by utility company rebates that exceed half of the cost is slated.

Investigation and repair of minor, continuing water infiltration at both schools will be done.

Planning for the future:

We remain eager to engage in long-term strategic planning, delayed this year to let the next superintendent lead it. The most ambitious efforts concerning planning for the future involve identifying an amazing superintendent and creating a foundational strategic plan.

² Learning Disabilities Teacher-Consultant, a valuable position required by the State.

**Visit www.mendhamboro.org for Budget Information:
PowerPoint Budget Presentation 2012-2013 BUDGET
Budget Information**

- User Friendly Budget
- Letter from the BOE
- Q&A Mendham Borough
- Job Descriptions

Questions, Comments, Suggestions?

We welcome your ideas, comments and suggestions. Please contact any of the following borough school administrative and elected officials:

Mrs. Bridget Poole, Board President 973-543-6222

Boe.bpoole@mendhamboroschools.org

Mr. John Vitale, Chair Finance 973-543-2400
Committee

Boe.jvitale@mendhamboroschools.org

Dr. Janie Edmonds, Superintendent 973-543-2295

edmonds@mendhamboroschools.org

Mrs. Donna Palmiere, Business Admin. 973-543-4804

palmiere@mendhamboroschools.org

REVENUE SUMMARIES			EXPENSE SUMMARIES		
2012-2013		% of Budget	2012-2013		% of Budget
State Aid	\$237,375	2.3%	Instruction	\$4,938,316	47.2%
Restricted Aid (NonPublic)	\$68,042	.6%	Benefits	1,577,441	15.1%
Federal Aid (IDEA & NCLB)	\$150,144	1.4%	Business	174,496	1.7%
Miscellaneous (Interest, Rent, Tuition)	\$75,425	.7%	Debt Service	926,681	8.9%
Balance Appro. (Fund Bal)	\$114,269	1.1%	Student Services	643,697	6.1%
Debt Service	\$926,681	8.9%	Plant Operations	762,120	7.3%
Local Tax Levy	<u>\$8,890,779</u>	<u>85.0%</u>	Administration	756,218	7.2%
			Special Revenue	218,186	2.1%
			Transportation	249,326	2.4%
			Capital Reserve/Outlay	<u>216,234</u>	<u>2.0%</u>
Total Budget	\$10,462,715	100%	Total Budget	\$10,462,715	100%

PER PUPIL SPENDING COMPARISON

	2011-2012 PROPOSED	2012-2013 PROPOSED
Chester Township	\$13,310	\$14,563
Harding Township	\$19,930	\$19,259
<i>Mendham Borough</i>	<i>\$11,865</i>	<i>\$12,906</i>
Mendham Township	\$14,693	\$15,747
Washington Township	\$13,574	\$14,264

Tax levy is 1.0%. Please see the next page.

<u>FISCAL YEAR TAX LEVY</u>		<u>CALENDAR YEAR TAX LEVY</u>	
11-12 Levy	\$9,724,732.53	2011 Levy	\$9,635,768.55
12-13 Levy	\$9,817,460.05	2012 Levy	\$9,771,096.29
Difference	\$ 92,727.52	Difference	\$ 135,327.74
.95% Increase		1.4% Increase	

<u>CALENDAR YEAR TAX RATE</u>	
2011 Rate	\$.00746
2012 Rate	<u>\$.00758</u>
Change	\$.00012

<u>AVERAGE ESTIMATED SCHOOL TAX INCREASE</u>		
(Includes Debt Service)		
	Tax Increase for Average Property Value	Tax Increase
<u>Average Property Value 2011</u> \$704,652 (Assessed Property Value x .00758 =Total Tax)	\$84.28	\$11.96 per \$100,000 of assessed value
* Must be calculated individually on your own assessment		

Mendham Borough Board of Education

- Bridget Poole, President
- Susan Vinci, Vice President
- Steven Andrew
- Alice Boushie
- William Corbett
- Michael Craver
- Paul Fechhelm
- AnneMarie Hornyak
- John E. Vitale
- Dr. Janie P. Edmonds, Superintendent
- Donna Palmiere, Business Administrator