



# Oceanside Schools

*Anchored Together*  
BY PURPOSE, PASSION, AND PEOPLE

## 2018-19 2.48% Budget Increase Within Tax Levy Limit



- Budget maintains excellent programs and class size guidelines while keeping expenses low and minimizing the impact of budget cuts on students
- Budget continues to support all extracurricular and community activity programs
- Outstanding student achievement in academics, athletics, the arts and activities
- Proposed Tax Levy Increase 2.90%

### **What Am I Voting On?** Tuesday, May 15, 2018

**Proposition 1:**  
School District Budget

**Proposition 2:**  
Public Library Budget

**Proposition 3:**  
Establish Capital  
Reserve

**Proposition 4:**  
Use of Surplus Funds

**Board of Education Election**  
(Three-Year Terms Expiring on June 30, 2018):  
Two seats: Seth Blau • Kimberly Grim Garrity (seat is open)

**Voter Registration:** Full propositions are on page 5, along with information on how to register or find out if you are already registered.

# How does this budget preserve the quality of our educational program?

Our school district remains a leader in educational excellence and student achievement, with programs that reflect the importance of technology and social emotional skills to prepare students for their future. The following are examples of some of our current and new initiatives:

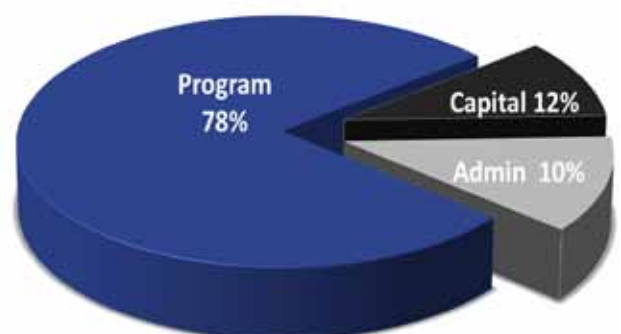
- An extensive history research unit in grade 8 that culminates in a project for local entry into the National History Day competition (OMS students earned a prestigious award in the school's first year participating)
- Students in grades 5-12 will have one-to-one devices (e.g. Chromebooks/iPads) to enhance learning, creativity and collaboration
- Digital Citizenship program implemented in K-12 (as appropriate by age) and continually updated



- New Makerspace curriculum in grades 1-3 and similar grade-appropriate opportunities K-12 for invention, design and problem-solving learning opportunities
- New Computer Science pathway beginning with coding in grade 6, offering increasingly advanced opportunities for students interested in programming at the high school level
- An upgraded state-of-the-art film production studio at the high school
- New Digital Production course at OMS added to already comprehensive Fine and Performing Arts program
- A stellar research program for grades 7-12 that has produced numerous awards for students in the Regeneron (formerly Intel), Siemens, and other prestigious competitions
- No Place for Hate, Caring Majority and other anti-bullying initiatives that exceed state law requirements
- Veterans Day Project that partners OHS Castleton students with veterans for projects related to flag and service dedication
- Based on positive feedback of Parent University, new initiatives to provide information and resources to parents are underway
- Extensive support programs for students who need additional help to be successful

- Project Lead the Way program to add year three of sequence in engineering coursework
- An award-winning Virtual Enterprise program that simulates running a corporation
- STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art and math) program for students in grades 3-6

## Instruction Comprises 78% of Budget



# What is the proposed budget for the 2018-19 school year?

The proposed expenditure budget to operate programs and services for students in 2018-19 is \$153,863,333. This represents a 2.48% budget-to-budget increase over the current school year.

The tax levy is the total amount of property taxes needed to balance revenues and expenditures after accounting for all other revenue sources including state aid. The District's 2018-19 school year tax levy is estimated at \$123,134,998. This represents an increase of 2.90% over the current year, in compliance with the District's allowable levy limit ("Tax Cap"). The Tax Cap, a law passed

---

## ***The 2018-19 tax levy increase is in compliance with the allowable tax levy limit***

---

in 2011, restricts how municipalities can raise revenue. Often referred to as a "2% Tax Cap," it is more accurately defined as a Tax Levy Limit. Each municipality is required to calculate its specific levy limit based on the state's multi-step formula, which contains certain exclusions that could result in tax levy increases above or below 2%.

It is important to understand that the new law applies to the tax *levy*, **not** to tax rates or individual tax bills. A number of factors determine a homeowner's school taxes. Shifts in assessed values, property classes (which represent how the tax levy is distributed among commercial properties, utilities and different types of residential properties), STAR exemptions from year-to-year, along with the school tax levy, will contribute to the calculation of a homeowner's school tax bill.

If the voters do not approve the proposed budget on May 15, the Board of Education may authorize a second vote or adopt a contingency budget which



by state law cannot exceed the 2017-18 tax levy.

The 2018-19 budget includes principal and interest costs associated with the District's multi-year capital improvement bond project. Completed projects include districtwide security improvements and roof reconstruction projects, floor tile replacements, classroom casework, new dual-fuel boilers, masonry repairs, site work, new doors, hardware and bathroom partition upgrades at a number of school buildings, installation of a new sound system on the main HS field, and wifi access at OHS.

---

## ***Propositions 3 and 4 do not add any costs to the budget nor will they impact taxes.***

---

This year's Budget Vote includes four propositions. Propositions 1 and 2 are the proposed 2018-19 budget and the library budget.

Proposition 3 requests voter approval to establish a Capital Reserve so that the district can set aside funds for construction projects and/or large equipment purchases **without any additional cost to the taxpayer**. Each proposed expenditure is subject to voter approval and the Capital Reserve

[\(continued page 4\)](#)



(continued from page 3)

is restricted in its term and aggregate dollar value.

Proposition 4 concerns the Use of Surplus Funds. In 2014, Oceanside residents approved borrowing \$30 million for improvements to school district buildings (the "Project.") Due to delays beyond our control in securing state approval, prices have increased, exceeding the initial Project estimate by \$750,000.

To complete the Project, the district must obtain voter approval to use existing and available 2017-18 funds that were budgeted but not spent.

This expenditure will not require any new taxes and will not increase the budget or the tax levy since it uses funds already in the current year's budget.

In other words, the approval of Proposition 4 would be at ***no additional cost to the taxpayer.***

## Where are they now? Our Alumni Are...

**Practicing law, medicine,  
and accounting**

**Producing award-  
winning documentary films**

**Working out solutions in  
renewable energy,  
infrastructure, economics,  
and other problems**

**Right here in Oceanside,  
raising their families in  
the school community  
they love**



# Budget and Voting Information

## IMPORTANT DATES:

**Budget Hearing - School #6 Auditorium**  
Wednesday, May 2, 2018, 7:30 pm

**Copy of proposed Budget statement** and texts of any resolutions available at each school Monday through Friday from April 30-May 15, 2018

**Budget Vote & School Board Election**  
Tuesday, May 15, 2018

## VOTER ELIGIBILITY & REGISTRATION:

**Residents are registered and eligible to vote if they:** (1) Voted at or registered for a School District election subsequent to January 1, 2014 OR (2) Are validly registered to vote with the County Board of Elections for the General Election. **Registration of voters shall take place** year round between 9 am and 4 pm weekdays at the District Clerk's office, 145 Merle Ave., except during the five working days prior to any school district election. **Applications for absentee ballots** may be obtained from the District Clerk. Please mail your completed application to the District Clerk at least seven days before the election OR deliver by hand the day before the election. The ballot must be received by the District Clerk no later than 5 pm on the day of the election. For more information, please call the District Clerk at 678-1215 or visit our website at [oceansideschools.org](http://oceansideschools.org) and click on Voter Information.

**NOTE:** Voters must vote at one of four schools (#5 Gym, #6 Cafeteria, #7/OHS Aux. Gym, or #8 Gym) within their election district. To find your voting location, visit our website at [oceansideschools.org](http://oceansideschools.org), click on District and select Voter Information.

## PROPOSITIONS:

**Proposition 1 - School District Budget:** Resolved, that the statement of estimated expenses (budget) presented by the Board of Education of Ocean-side Union Free School District, Town of Hempstead, County of Nassau, State of New York, for the School Year 2018/2019 in the amount of \$153,863,333 for the purposes stated, be and same is approved, and said total amount, exclusive of public monies and other lawful income shall be raised by the levy on the taxable property within the school district and collected during the ensuing year as provided by law.

**Proposition 2 - Library Budget:** Resolved, that the Board of Education of Oceanside Union Free School District shall increase its contract with the Oceanside Library Association for the period July 1, 2018 to and including June 30, 2019 providing free library services as is particularly described in said written contract for the sum of \$132,390 and that sum, together with the sum of \$4,492,352 heretofore authorized, for a total sum of \$4,624,742 to be appropriated to meet the payments due under said contract and that taxes shall be levied, assessed, and collected against the taxable property of the School District for the ensuing year for above purposes.

**Proposition 3 – Capital Reserve Fund:** Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Oceanside Union Free School District, is hereby authorized to establish a capital reserve fund, in accordance with the provisions of Education Law section 3651, for the purpose of funding future districtwide improvements, property acquisition, renovations and/or alterations, including but not limited to construction and/or replacement of districtwide facilities and property, capital improvements related to future enrollment growth needs, other infrastructure improvements and similar projects, districtwide purchases, improvements and/or replacement of technology and telecommunications equipment, infrastructure and software, and associated expenses. Such Capital Reserve Fund shall be for a probable term of ten (10) years and will commence on June 30, 2018 and expire on June 30, 2028. The Capital Reserve Fund will be capitalized in a total amount not to exceed \$20,000,000, plus accrued interest, during the term of the fund. The source of funding of the Capital Reserve fund will be an annual transfer of surplus money, if any, from the District's General Fund's unassigned fund balance as may be available as of the end of each fiscal year from June 30, 2018 through and including June 30, 2028, and any other sources permitted by law.

**Proposition 4 – Use of Surplus Funds:** Whereas, the voters of Oceanside Union Free School District, in the County of Nassau, New York have heretofore on February 11, 2014 approved the expenditure of not to exceed \$30,000,000 for the construction of alterations and improvements to District buildings and sites (the "2014 Project"), and thereafter the Board of Education authorized the issuance of not to exceed \$30,000,000 bonds to finance such expenditure, and the levy of a tax in installments to pay said bonds and the interest thereon; and Whereas, it has now been determined that the cost of the 2014 Project has increased by \$750,000 and it is necessary and in the best interest of the District to obtain voter approval to expend not to exceed \$750,000 of available 2017-18 funds of the District to complete the 2014 Project. Now, therefore, be it Resolved that the Board of Education of the Oceanside Union Free School District, in the County of Nassau, New York, is hereby authorized to expend not to exceed \$750,000 of available 2017-18 funds of the District to complete the alterations and improvements to District buildings and sites heretofore approved by the voters on February 11, 2014. This expenditure shall not require the levy of any additional taxes.





# Points of Pride

Space limits the number of achievements we can share here. These are just a few highlights.

## RECOGNITION

- OMS Named A National School to Watch
- NYS Elementary Principal of the Year
- Program of Excellence Award - Integrated Program
- Collaborators of Excellence - Integrated Program Staff
- Special Education Administrator of the Year
- Social Studies Supervisor of the Year
- Most (24) Nationally Board Certified Teachers on LI
- Best Music Education Community in America
- Award-winning Big History and Philosophy programs

## ACHIEVEMENTS

- SAT Scores exceed state and national averages
- \$400K+ in scholarships *to date* for OHS Class of 2018
- 166 Advanced Placement Scholars
- Finalists/semifinalists in science research competitions
- #1 NYS Marching Band
- #1 Online Publication (tie) for Sider Press
- World Interest Model UN Club in Top 25 nationally
- Student work published in New York Times & Teen Ink
- OMS students won prestigious National History Day award
- 600+ students K-12 recognized at Board of Education Honors throughout the year
- 179 All-State, Honors Band, and other music awards
- #1 County Football team + player awards
- Two Coaches of the Year
- Nine athletes went to state championships
- National Cheer Competition invitation
- Dozens of student-athletes committed to colleges
- PTA Reflections, Young Authors, Math Olympiad Winners

## READY FOR A CHANGING WORLD

- No Place for Hate in several schools, inspired by OMS
- Building students' intelligence in all domains (academic, emotional, social, etc.)
- Learning extends beyond classrooms as students tackle real-world problems in their communities, e.g. Driver-Pedestrian Safety campaign
- Students collaborate with peers across LI, US and the world via videochats, other tech and face-to-face
- Students raise approximately \$100K/year for charity

# Proposed Budget 2018-19

	Actual Budget 2017-18	Proposed Budget 2018-19
<b>ADMINISTRATION</b>		
Board of Education; Central Administration; Building Administration Personnel Administration; Auditing; Legal Counsel; Insurance		
<b>Total Administration</b>	<b>\$15,504,337</b>	<b>\$15,734,595</b>
<b>INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAM</b>		
Professional Development for Teachers and Support Staff	359,304	383,190
Salaries for Teachers and Support Staff	61,725,976	61,933,737
Support for Instruction (Equipment, Supplies, Texts, BOCES, Library Media)	3,683,700	3,777,731
Special Programs (Special Education, Adult Education, Recreation, Summer School, Enrichment)	15,443,233	16,097,247
Transportation	6,068,403	6,338,964
Employee Benefits, Separation Payments & Interfund Transfers	29,387,924	30,584,219
<b>Total Instruction</b>	<b>116,668,540</b>	<b>119,115,088</b>
<b>CAPITAL</b>		
Buildings and Grounds, including Custodial Staff; Debt Service		
<b>Total Capital</b>	<b>17,971,764</b>	<b>19,013,650</b>
<b>Total Expenditure Budget</b>	<b>\$150,144,641</b>	<b>\$153,863,333</b>
		2.48%
<b>Less Estimated Revenue and Fund Balance</b>		
Appropriated Fund Balance	\$3,000,000	\$2,750,000
State Aid	21,846,708	22,663,355
PILOT Payments	2,388,774	2,399,509
Rental Income	45,478	46,000
Tuition, Fees, Admissions	320,000	100,000
Miscellaneous Revenue	141,624	145,000
Interest Income	75,000	85,000
Dept. of Community Activities Revenue	2,290,609	2,330,609
Unneeded Authorization from Capital Fund	50,000	-
Medicaid Reimbursement	100,000	75,000
Reimbursement for Environmental Trips	216,412	133,862
Total Estimated Fund Balance and Revenues	<b>\$30,474,605</b>	<b>\$30,728,335</b>
Amount to be Raised by Taxes (Tax Levy)	<b>\$119,670,036</b>	<b>\$123,134,998</b>
		2.90%
<b>Total Revenue Budget</b>	<b>\$150,144,641</b>	<b>\$153,863,333</b>

**Important Note:**

*Oceanside's Tax Levy meets the legal NYS Tax Levy Limit, resulting in a simple majority vote needed on May 15, 2018 to pass the school district budget.*

## Oceanside Union Free School District Board of Education

Kimberly Grim Garrity, *President*  
Sandie Schoell, *Vice President*  
Seth J. Blau  
Michael D'Ambrosio  
Donald Maresca  
Mary Jane McGrath-Mulhern  
Robert M. Transom

Dr. Phyllis S. Harrington  
Superintendent of Schools

Donna Kraus  
Public Information Coordinator; Editor

Administrative Offices:  
145 Merle Avenue, Oceanside, NY 11572.

*Please call 678-7525 with any questions*

Visit our website @ [oceansideschools.org](http://oceansideschools.org)

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
Oceanside, N.Y.  
Permit No. 417

## ECRWSS POSTAL PATRON

# Learning Without Limits

*“To develop a complete mind: study the science of art; study the art of science. Learn how to see. Realize that everything connects to everything else.” – Leonardo da Vinci*

We believe that the four walls of a classroom need not limit learning. Students should take their learning into their lives, every day, and it should benefit them today and in the future. Here are some of our efforts to expand what a classroom can be:

*Family STEAM Day, a STEAM-driven curriculum unit and classroom Makerspaces:* Elementary school students explore the intersection of science, technology, engineering, art and math.

*The Global Read Aloud /World Read Aloud Day:* Students and teachers K-12 read aloud together and collaborate with classrooms around the world reading the same book.

*Big Ideas for Little Kids:* Storybooks serve as a springboard for thinking about complex ideas, asking questions that drive understanding, listening to other people, and learning to support one's point of view. High school students conduct the discussions with students as young as age five.

*Driver and Pedestrian Safety Campaign -* High School students collaborated with students K-8, to create posters asking drivers and walkers to share the road safely and respectfully. The high school students hung the posters throughout Oceanside in time for Halloween trick or treating.

*Videoconferences:* Scheduled videoconferences with NASA scientists, museum curators and classrooms throughout the U.S. and across the globe take students to places that a typical school day couldn't otherwise accommodate.

*Materials Processing & Design -* students create beautiful, functional wooden objects from jewelry boxes to furniture.

*Bridges -* A six-year pilot program begun with last year's seventh grade students, to explore and discuss current U.S. issues in politics, socio-economics, race, immigration and more. Students meet and collaborate with Lawrence Road Middle School in Uniondale.

*Community Book Talks -* Bringing students, their families and teachers together over a shared text.