



Special BUDGET ISSUE 2016

Connection

A publication for the residents of the
Williamsville Central School District

www.williamsvillek12.org



The Art of Doodling - Students at Casey Middle School are using a classic toy in art class to hone their drawing skills. Earlier this year, Casey Art Teacher Todd Bosworth received a mini-grant from the Williamsville Education Foundation, Inc. to purchase a class set of Etch-A-Sketches, which he now uses to help teach contour line drawing. Pictured, fifth graders Josephine Flemming (left) and Ellee Wilson enjoy using this 'new' creative tool in art class. Last fall, the Foundation awarded \$8,500 to fund 21 requests from teachers across the District to enhance learning opportunities for students. (More photos on page 3).

For detailed information about the
2016-17 Proposed Budget, visit the District website:

www.williamsvillek12.org

Click the budget icon on the home page

ANNUAL DISTRICT BUDGET VOTE & SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION

**TUESDAY,
MAY 17, 2016**

7 a.m.- 9 p.m.

North High School Gym
1595 Hopkins Road



Budget-At-A-Glance

**2016-2017
Proposed Budget**
\$183,015,606

Budget-to-Budget Increase:
2.70%

Tax Levy Increase:
1.13%

(Below the state tax levy cap of 1.22%)

Estimated Tax Rate Increase:
0.74%
\$19.28 per \$1,000 of assessed value

Budget Highlights

- Increased support for academic programming, K-12
- Lower class sizes in first and second grades
- Added extracurricular opportunities for students
- Restored materials, supply, & equipment budgets
- BELOW state tax levy cap; lowest tax levy increase in six years





Dear Community Members,

I am pleased to submit the 2016-17 Proposed Budget for Williamsville Central Schools. The \$183 million budget represents our priorities as a premier school district and demonstrates a fiscally responsible approach for delivering a strong, well-rounded academic program that puts students first.

In developing the budget each year, we seek input from our stakeholders and invite public feedback on the draft spending plan during regular school board meetings and scheduled budget work sessions. The proposed budget reflects what we heard from parents, staff and faculty, school administrators, and community members. For example, class sizes are reduced in first and second grades; STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) resources are enhanced; specialized training in Reading Recovery is added for elementary teachers; school psychologist staffing is increased; summer hours are added for high school counselors; and athletic opportunities for students are expanded. Additional strategic enhancements address communication needs, more support for transition services to assist students with disabilities, and increased materials, supplies and equipment for the schools.

This year, building a budget within the parameters of the record-low state tax cap was particularly challenging. An increase in state aid, including the roll back of the gap elimination adjustment (GEA), has helped bridge the revenue gap. Combined with a conscientious effort to employ cost-saving measures wherever possible, the District is able to recommend a budget that results in the lowest tax levy increase in six years. The proposed 1.13 percent levy increase is below the state's mandated tax cap for Williamsville schools while the estimated tax rate increase for residents in the Town of Amherst will be less than one percent.

In addition to the budget, two additional propositions will be on the May 17 ballot. Proposition #2 seeks voter approval to establish a new capital reserve fund and allow the District to save toward future school building improvements. Proposition #3 would allow the District to spend money from existing Transportation Capital Reserve funds in order to purchase six new 72-passenger buses. New York State law requires school districts to secure voter approval in order to establish a capital reserve fund and save money toward a particular purpose. The law also requires voter approval before a school district can spend money from an established capital reserve fund. The propositions are tax-neutral and there will be no new taxes if they are approved by voters.

The recommended budget reflects our collective commitment to providing all students with a world-class education while delivering a strong return on investment for our community. We are proud of our track record as one of the top-ranked school districts regionally and we are equally proud to consistently earn high efficiency ratings from independent sources such as Business First, which ranked Williamsville number one in administrative efficiency among all Western New York school districts last year. It's important that our residents know how their tax dollars are used to support the high quality academic program provided by their local public schools.

Please take time to review the detailed information in this newsletter. You can also go to our website at www.williamsvillek12.org/budget. Thank you for all the ways you support our schools. I look forward to seeing you at the polls on May 17 at Williamsville North High School!

Sincerely,

Scott G. Martzloff, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools



Dear Neighbors,

Over the past several months, the Board of Education has worked with the Superintendent and the administrative team to develop a responsible budget that invests in our education system. The 2016-17 proposed budget reflects our continuing efforts to meet the highest standards of education while maximizing student and community benefits.

By abolishing the gap elimination adjustment (GEA), our elected state officials restored education aid to pre-recession levels. The GEA was passed by the New York State Legislature in 2010, when the state faced billion-dollar budget deficits. Each year since then, it was used to reduce the amount of funding that the state would pay to school districts. Williamsville schools were shorted nearly \$35 million in state aid under the pall of the GEA. Like districts across the state, we faced program cutbacks, staff reductions, and major cuts in materials, supplies and equipment. Conservative fiscal management and strong support from our stakeholders including employee groups, parents, and the public, allowed us to weather the storm.

Now, we are looking to restore and enhance programming for students including more support for STEM instruction and Reading Recovery; additional student services resources; reduced class sizes; increased classroom supplies; communication enhancements; and added extracurricular opportunities. Program continuation plus added program supports result in a budget-to-budget increase of 2.70 percent. The estimated tax levy increase is just over one-percent, which is below the mandated state tax cap, a target our school district has met every year since the cap was imposed. The estimated tax rate increase is below one-percent.

Two additional ballot propositions reflect a long-range planning strategy that allows the district to address facility and transportation needs without impacting taxes or the annual operating budget. The first proposition is similar to a family setting up a savings account to save up for home improvements such as new windows or a new roof. If approved by voters, the District would establish a new capital reserve fund to finance the cost of future facility projects. The second proposition authorizes the District to buy or lease new school buses, using money already set aside in a reserve fund established with voter approval years ago. In New York State, school districts must get voter approval to establish a reserve fund and then again to spend any money from the account when a need is presented.

We are all motivated to do what's best for children and prepare them to live successful, meaningful lives. The economic and social benefits of our investment in education makes us a stronger, more vibrant community that we are all proud to call home.

The members of the Board of Education stand ready to help residents understand the value of the proposed budget and the ballot propositions. It is important that you participate and cast an informed vote on Tuesday, May 17, at North High School, 1545 Hopkins Road, 7 a.m. - 9 p.m.

As always, thank you for your continued support for our schools.

Sincerely,

Ronald S. Shubert
President, Board of Education



Sebastian Strong – The third annual Run Forest Run 5K Race was held April 16 to benefit Sebastian Bradley, a second grader at Forest Elementary School who is battling brain cancer. There were 1,040 race participants who gathered on a perfect spring morning to show their love and support for Sebastian and his family. In addition to the 5K registration, fundraising included a basket raffle, silent auction, and food trucks. The final amount raised was being tallied when this newsletter went to press but according to Principal Keith Wing, it likely will top \$15,000. Pictured, Sebastian is shown with (from left) WKBW-TV reporter Rachel Elzufon; his Dad, Shane; race participant Koralyn Brown; and his Mom, Elizabeth. At right, runners and walkers amass at the school before the race.



Tinkering & Learning - Maple East Librarian Michelle Weber works with first graders Alina Shiff (left) and Brennan Kershner on a Snap Circuits Electronics Kit she purchased with mini-grant from the Williamsville Education Foundation, Inc. Ms. Weber has built a MakerSpace in the school library where young children are encouraged to learn in a do-it-yourself space where they can build, invent, and problem-solve. The Foundation granted 21 awards totaling \$8,500 in 2015-16 to enhance student learning opportunities across the school district.



Athletic Fields – Work has begun on the Williamsville North High School athletic fields, the first of the three high schools to undergo the conversion to artificial turf. In May 2015 voters approved an extensive athletic field improvement project to convert the majority of the playing fields to turf. North High is the first project on deck with work expected to be completed in September. The field projects at Williamsville East and Williamsville South are slated to begin in spring 2017. The view shown is looking across the North fields toward Hopkins Road.

General Support

The General Support category of the operating budget covers instruction-related managerial functions for the entire District. Included are funds which make it possible for the Board of Education and its Chief School Officer, the Superintendent of Schools, to carry out required responsibilities. Also included in this category are funds for the strictly regulated financial operation of the District; for operation and maintenance of the school buildings and grounds; for fire and liability insurances, personnel management, legal affairs and public information expenses; and for BOCES administrative charges.

Instruction

Instruction is the core of the school budget. This general category covers salaries for administrators, teachers, nurses, aides, related instructional personnel (library media specialists, school counselors, psychologists and social workers) and all materials, supplies, and equipment necessary to support the educational environment. Co-curricular and interscholastic athletic activities are also included in this general area of instruction.

Pupil Transportation and Other Community Services

Pupil Transportation - The District currently utilizes both its own employees and outside contractual services to provide regular transportation within and outside of the District for all students and for co-curricular and interscholastic athletic activities at other locations, as well as for instructional-related field trips. **Other Community Services** - This general category includes costs related to District census activities and for support for certain community use of facilities.

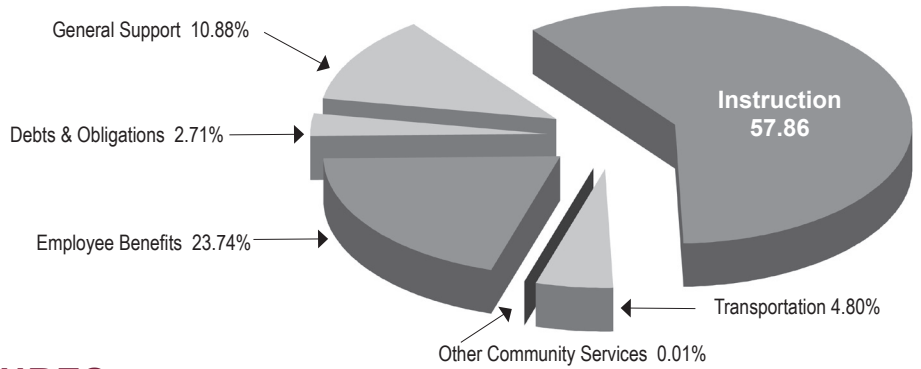
Employee Benefits

This category groups a variety of District benefit costs including required contributions to the State Retirement Systems, Social Security, Workers' Compensation, and an Unemployment Insurance Fund. Also included are medical and other contractual costs.

Debts & Obligations

This category groups a variety of district-wide costs which are not included in other areas such as long term debt payments.

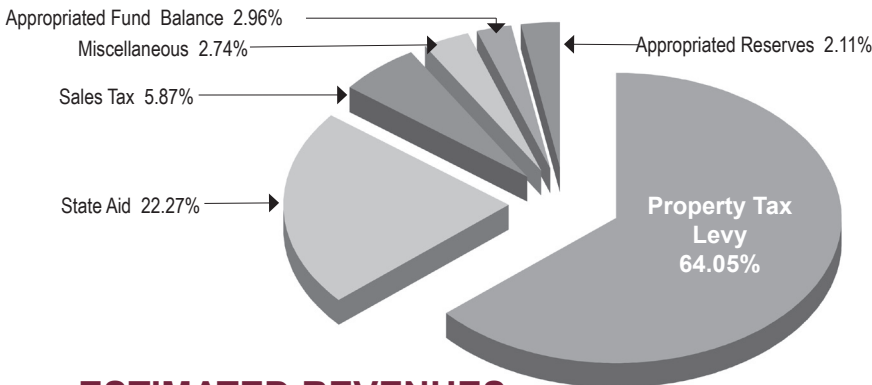
	2016-17 PROPOSED	2015-16 BUDGET
General Support		
Board of Education	\$ 106,064	\$ 85,047
Chief School Administrator	\$ 335,365	\$ 328,000
Finance	\$ 621,969	\$ 706,588
Public Information	\$ 241,693	\$ 164,542
Human Resources & Legal Services	\$ 1,417,422	\$ 1,200,544
Operations & Management	\$ 13,549,892	\$ 13,352,622
Central Printing & Mailing	\$ 505,305	\$ 498,320
Data Processing	\$ 877,671	\$ 894,435
Special Items	\$ 2,281,131	\$ 2,153,768
TOTAL GENERAL SUPPORT	\$ 19,936,512	\$ 19,383,866
Instruction		
Curriculum & Staff Development	\$ 1,454,056	\$ 1,029,708
Supervision: Regular School	\$ 4,300,984	\$ 4,182,235
Teaching: Regular School	\$ 65,807,425	\$ 62,944,232
Exceptional Education & Student Services	\$ 19,059,258	\$ 18,680,200
Occupational Education	\$ 2,370,955	\$ 2,297,142
Teaching & Supervision: Special Schools	\$ 594,444	\$ 594,194
School Library & Audio-Visual Services	\$ 1,496,820	\$ 1,445,358
Computer Assisted Instruction	\$ 3,061,431	\$ 3,101,871
Guidance Services	\$ 3,112,429	\$ 3,019,254
Other Pupil Services	\$ 2,689,819	\$ 2,393,023
Co-Curricular Activities	\$ 367,746	\$ 359,211
Interscholastic Athletics	\$ 1,578,910	\$ 1,553,187
TOTAL INSTRUCTION	\$ 105,894,277	\$ 101,599,615
Pupil Transportation & Community Services		
Pupil Transportation	\$ 8,772,196	\$ 8,685,031
Other Community Services	\$ 19,005	\$ 19,005
TOTAL	\$ 8,791,201	\$ 8,704,036
Employee Benefits		
New York State Retirement Systems	\$ 17,223,833	\$ 17,436,333
Social Security	\$ 6,969,654	\$ 6,769,654
Unemployment Insurance	\$ 105,000	\$ 105,000
Medical Insurance	\$ 18,519,830	\$ 18,625,713
Other Benefits	\$ 623,477	\$ 623,477
TOTAL EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	\$ 43,441,794	\$ 43,560,177
Debts & Obligations		
Long Term Debt	\$ 4,776,822	\$ 4,776,822
Special Aid Fund	\$ 175,000	\$ 175,000
TOTAL	\$ 4,951,822	\$ 4,951,822
GRAND TOTAL	\$ 183,015,606	\$ 178,199,516



PROPOSED EXPENDITURES

CURRENT YEAR EXPENDITURES

	Proposed 2016-17	% of Total	2015-16	% of Total
General Support	\$ 19,936,512	10.88	\$ 19,383,866	10.88
Instruction	105,894,277	57.86	101,599,615	57.01
Transportation	8,772,196	4.80	8,685,031	4.87
Other Community Services	19,005	0.01	19,005	0.01
Employee Benefits	43,441,794	23.74	43,560,177	24.45
Debts & Obligations	4,951,822	2.71	4,951,822	2.78
TOTAL	\$183,015,606	100%	\$178,199,516	100%



ESTIMATED REVENUES

CURRENT YEAR REVENUES

	Proposed 2016-17	% of Total	2015-16	% of Total
Property Tax Levy*	\$117,227,512	64.05	\$115,922,080	65.05
STAR Reimbursement	<i>Included in above</i>		<i>Included in above</i>	
State Aid	40,757,094	22.27	37,006,358	20.77
Sales Tax	10,750,000	5.87	10,525,000	5.90
Miscellaneous	5,007,000	2.74	5,172,078	2.90
Appropriated Fund Balance	5,424,000	2.96	5,424,000	3.04
Appropriated Reserve Funds:				
♦ Employee Benefits	400,000	0.22	400,000	0.22
♦ Workers' Compensation	600,000	0.33	600,000	0.34
♦ Repair Reserve	330,000	0.18	330,000	0.19
♦ Unemployment Reserve	70,000	0.04	70,000	0.04
♦ Retirement Reserve	2,450,000	1.34	2,450,000	1.38
♦ Health Insurance Reserve	0	0	300,000	0.17
TOTAL	\$183,015,606	100%	\$178,199,516	100%

2016-2017

COMPONENT BUDGET

Program: \$ 143,333,897

The Program Component includes all program expenditures, including the salaries and benefits of teachers and any school administrators or supervisors who spend a majority of their time performing teaching duties. Also, all transportation operating expenses including diesel fuel.

Capital: \$ 22,680,390

The Capital Component includes all transportation capital, debt service, and lease expenditures; costs resulting from court judgments, administrative orders or settled or compromised claims; and all facilities costs including lease expenditures, annual debt service and total debt for all District facilities financed by bonds and notes. Also, all expenditures associated with custodial/maintenance salaries and benefits, service contracts, supplies, utilities and maintenance repair of school facilities.

Administrative \$ 17,001,319

The Administrative Component includes Board of Education and central administrative expenses; salaries and benefits of the Superintendent and all certified school administrators and supervisors who spend the majority of their time performing administrative or supervisory duties; all expenditures associated with the Annual District Budget Vote; any consulting costs not directly related to student services and program planning; and all other administrative activities.

Total: \$ 183,015,606



Estimated 2016 School Tax Bill

School tax bill samples with Basic STAR subsidy applied

Property's Assessed Value	Actual 2015-16	Estimated 2016-17	Difference
\$100,000	\$1,332.90	\$1,342.96	\$ 10.06
\$150,000	\$2,289.85	\$2,307.04	\$ 17.19
\$200,000	\$3,246.80	\$3,271.12	\$ 24.32

Real Property Tax Rebate: Because the District's proposed budget complies with the state property tax cap, Williamsville homeowners may be eligible for a property tax rebate from the state. The new credit will be available as an advance payment to income-eligible taxpayers who own and reside in property receiving basic or enhanced STAR. Normally, taxpayers with household incomes up to \$200,000 will see a tax rebate of \$185.

Additional Propositions on May 17 Ballot

In addition to the 2016-17 proposed budget, voters will have the opportunity to decide on two other ballot propositions May 17. New York State law requires school districts to obtain voter approval in order to establish a capital reserve fund and save money toward a particular purpose. The law also requires school districts to obtain voter approval before spending any money from a capital reserve fund. In both cases, if the proposition is approved, there is no additional tax impact for homeowners.

Proposition #2 - 2016 Capital Reserve Fund: Seeks voter approval to establish a capital reserve fund for the purpose of saving money toward roof replacement and future infrastructure needs.

The District must continually address infrastructure needs to maintain aging school buildings at a level that supports a high quality, 21st century education program. This reserve fund would be similar to a family setting up a savings account with a particular goal in mind (e.g. a new car or a new roof). If approved, taxpayers would give the District permission to save unspent dollars from its annual operating budget in this account to pay for future facility needs.

Proposition #3 - Bus Replacement: Seeks voter approval to purchase or lease six new 72-passenger school buses using money from existing reserve funds, for a cost not to exceed \$695,000.

In 2002 and 2006, voters authorized the District to establish reserve funds for the purpose of saving money to pay for future bus and transportation facility needs. The last bus purchase made by the District was in 2013. If approved, taxpayers would give the District permission to spend money it has saved in these two funds to replace aging, high mileage vehicles with new buses.

Services to Non-public schools

Public school districts administer and distribute federal and state funds for services to resident students who attend non-public and parochial schools. In accordance with the law, the following services are offered to about 2,000 students who live in the Williamsville CSD and attend non-public schools:

- Transportation
 - Health Examinations
 - Hearing & Vision Screenings
 - Occupational, Physical, & Speech Therapy; Vision and Hearing Services*
 - Child Find Evaluations
 - Social Work Consult (upon request)
 - Library materials
 - Remedial Reading & Math, Grs. 1-8
 - Career & Technical Education
 - Computer Software
 - Textbooks
- *As recommended by the Committee on Special Education*

School Board Election

On May 17, five candidates are vying for three seats on the Williamsville Board of Education. Incumbent Anthony Laforana, III is joined by newcomers Mary Bieger, Shonda Brock, Teresa Leatherbarrow, and Suzanne Van Sice who are seeking election to a three-year term on the nine-member school board.

Mrs. Bieger is an elementary school teacher in the Kenmore-Tonawanda Union Free School District. She and her husband, Timothy, have three sons with a sixth grader at Heim Middle, a first grader at Heim Elementary, and a preschooler.

A senior sales consultant for St. Jude Medical Inc., Mrs. Brock has four children including two sons who are Williamsville East graduates. She and her husband, Carlton, also have a daughter at Transit Middle School and a son at Maple East Elementary.

First elected to the Board in 2013, Mr. Laforana, III is a Physical Education Teacher at the Stanley Makowski Early Childhood Center in Buffalo. He and his wife, Jean, have three sons attending Williamsville schools with a sophomore at East High, and sixth and eighth graders at Transit Middle.

The mother of three, Mrs. Leatherbarrow is an elementary teacher at International School #45 in Buffalo Public Schools. She and her husband, Jack, have a daughter at Williamsville North, a son at Heim Middle, and a daughter at Heim Elementary School.

Mrs. Van Sice is a special education teacher for Lockport City School District. She and her husband, Maurice, have a daughter in eighth grade at Casey Middle School and a son in fourth grade at Dodge Elementary.

The three top vote-getters will be elected to a three-year term on the Board of Education, beginning July 1, 2016. To learn more about the candidates, visit the District website at www.williamsville12.org.

Ms. Carrie Kahn, who has served as president, vice president and parliamentarian during her three terms on the school board, and Dr. Mohan Devgun, who has served two terms and was Board parliamentarian for one year, are not seeking reelection.

Absentee ballots available

Qualified voters who are unable to vote in person on May 17, 2016 for the annual school district vote and school board election due to illness, travel or other reason specified by law may use an absentee ballot to cast their vote.

Applications for absentee ballots are available at the District Office, 105 Casey Road, E. Amherst, New York, during regular business hours, Monday- Friday. Completed applications must be returned to the District Clerk's Office no later than 5 p.m. on May 10, 2016 for an absentee ballot to be mailed to the voter, or one day before the annual election if the ballot is to be personally delivered.

A list of all persons to whom absentee ballots have been issued will be available in the District Clerk's office. The list will also be posted at the polling place on the date of the Annual District Vote. If you have any questions about absentee ballots, please call Mrs. Mitzie Serafin, District Clerk, at 626-8092.

The North High School Drama Club's annual Chicken BBQ

May 17, 2016
on vote day
from 3 pm until sold out!
Lower Cafeteria
Meals are \$10

**Includes 1/2 chicken, coleslaw,
potato salad, roll & butter**



57-Years Teaching Music – Dr. Roy Clare began his teaching career on September 7, 1958 at Williamsville's first junior high school using a chalkboard and a record player. Fast forward nearly six decades and now he uses a smart board and MP3 players. In an 2009 interview celebrating his 50th year of teaching, he said, "Teaching never gets old. There's always a new way to do what you do." Dr. Clare, who has spent his entire teaching career in Williamsville and has taught dozens of second-generation students, will retire at the end of June. He is pictured with some of his seventh grade students (from left): Cole Gradl, Hoziar Zangana, Grace Nusall, and Sarah Jiang.

PTSA Council Service to Youth Awards 2016

The Williamsville PTSA Council will honor three individuals who have shown sustained and extraordinary service to the children of the Williamsville Central School District at the 59th Annual Service to Youth Awards Celebration on Monday, May 9 at 6 p.m., East High School, 151 Paradise Rd.



**SUPPORT STAFF
AWARD**
*Debbie Lund
Teacher Aide,
South High School*

Debbie Lund has been an educational aide at Williamsville South High School for the past 21 years. She works with special education students in the school resource room to assist them as they tackle the challenges of the curriculum. With a degree in education, past experience as a reading teacher, and an innate ability to teach, Debbie brings flexibility and a genuine love for her students. Her willingness to go above and beyond is exemplary, evidenced by attending classes during her free periods to increase her knowledge base, and her willingness to take work home to further increase her familiarity with the content. She is very respectful toward students and creates a comfortable situation for them to seek her assistance. She is highly regarded by Special Education team members who describe her as reliable, enthusiastic, kind, patient, witty, and knowledgeable.

In addition to her role as an educational aide, Debbie has been a co-advisor to the Interact Club for the past seven years. Interact is a service club affiliated with Rotary International that aims to connect youth with their community by supporting those in need. As an active advisor, Debbie assists students in planning and implementing a variety of community events and programs. Some of the past activities

she has helped coordinate include: preparing a home for a refugee family; cooking meals for families staying at the Ronald McDonald House; providing recreation activities and companionship to residents of local nursing homes; holding a school-wide baby shower to collect baby items for those in need; providing gifts for children at Gateway; purchasing and packing holiday gifts for families of deployed servicemen; and hosting holiday parties for residents of the Buffalo City Mission's Cornerstone Manor.

Karrie Frank, a Special Education teacher at South who, along with several others, nominated Debbie for this award, said: "Deb's heart is in serving others and as advisor to Interact, she fosters this commitment in the students she works with."

When her two adult children, Kari Beth and Michelle, attended Williamsville schools, Debbie was active in school activities, serving as the facilitator and coordinator for the Country Parkway Parents as Reading Partners annual program, and volunteering for the school store at East High as well as prom, and post-prom events. She and her husband, Carl, reside in East Amherst.



**VOLUNTEER
AWARD**
Denise Williams

Denise Williams is known as the 'go-to' volunteer, the "YES" person who generously gives of her time, talent, and energy to support students and the school community. Currently co-president of the Williamsville East PTSA, Denise's involvement in Williamsville schools began at Country Parkway Elementary when the oldest of her four children, Dana, entered kindergarten in 1999. Since then, Denise's contributions as a volunteer have had a district-wide impact, enhancing the school experience for countless students over the past 16 years.

Denise has held many positions on the PTSA Executive Board while at both Country Parkway and East High School. At Country Parkway, she served as PTA President, Vice President, and chairperson of many events and activities. When her children were at Transit Middle School, she continued her active role by chairing the Transit Bash Refreshment Committee, the Bus Driver Appreciation program, and the Annual Fall BBQ and Bake sale for multiple years running. She logged untold hours in the school store over eight years, and frequently volunteered for school events including movie and sports nights and middle school dances.

During the past eight years at East, Denise has served as the PTSA Council Rep, Booster Club Liaison, Post Prom Committee Co-Chair, and annual Bake Sale Coordinator. She has been a mainstay at parent nights, career day, and student orientations. Of particular significance, Denise led East's Commons Courtesy program, a new initiative aimed at fostering positive behavior and courtesy among students

in the commons area during the school day. In nominating Denise for the award, Joni Taubman, a teacher's aide at East High and former East PTSA co-president, said: "I have always been impressed with her energy, willingness to do the hard work, and readiness to take on the responsibility for large tasks while still tending to small details. Everything she does is done well."

Denise served as a team leader on the Shared Decision Making Teams at Country Parkway and East High, and was a member of the district-wide search committee to find a new Instructional Specialist for Health, PE, and Athletics in 2013. A year later, she joined the District's Athletic Field Work Group as an East parent representative, involved in developing plans for converting the high school playing fields to artificial turf. Her roles in such high-profile, district-level committees speaks to the respect she has engendered over the years and reflects her vested interest in making a positive difference for students by embracing the opinion that, "Although this may not affect my kids while they are in school, it will benefit the community as a whole so it makes sense to do it!"

Thankfully, Denise's involvement in our schools will continue for at least a couple more years with twins Cameron and Conner now sophomores at Williamsville East. Her older children both attend Hobart-William Smith Colleges where Dana (WEHS '12) is a senior, and Cort, Jr. (WEHS '15) is a freshman. With the support of her husband, Cort, Denise will continue to raise her hand and say 'yes' to volunteering.

Service to Youth Awards continued...

**PROFESSIONAL
AWARD**
*Patricia Langton
Principal,
Heim Elementary*

Patricia Langton has been the principal at Heim Elementary for 13 years, and an educator in the Williamsville Central School District for 21 years. She began her career in Williamsville as an English teacher at Casey Middle and North High schools, then took on the role as the District's Instructional Specialist for ELA, English as a Second Language, and Reading before becoming a school principal. Described as family-oriented, involved and tireless, Mrs. Langton is the driving force behind the child-centered community at Heim Elementary where she is focused on making sure every student thrives both emotionally and academically.

A staunch supporter of the

PTA, Mrs. Langton was instrumental in helping the Heim Elementary PTA win the highly coveted National PTA School of Excellence Award, 2004-07. She ensures that parents feel part of the educational process, working closely with the PTA to provide activities that promote learning and open communication with families. This strong partnership benefits students tremendously through wellness programs, author visits, a winter carnival, the annual bike rodeo, art shows, Pick a Reading Partner (PARP), and spirit days, to name a few. "She has an open door policy and is very approachable to all parents and staff," said Karen Place, president of the Heim Elementary PTA. "Her willingness to always inspire others to advance or improve themselves makes her an extraordinary educator."

Mrs. Langton is a stalwart for character education and stresses the importance of community service. Book projects for the Buffalo City Schools, food and clothing drives to help the needy, and an annual shoe drive for children in Nicaragua are among the many projects she has embraced at Heim Elementary. The safety, educational and emotional needs of children are at the forefront of every decision, and she is always willing to hear ideas and discuss concerns that arise. For example, Mrs. Langton helped create and introduce a new school mascot, Hero, to foster a sense of unity and belonging within the school community. More recently, she instituted an allergy awareness program to teach students about food allergies and how to help keep their friends safe.

When asked to recount a favorite memory, Mrs. Langton says both the first and last days of school rise to the top. On the first day, the Heim Elementary staff welcomes students and parents as they arrive to begin a new school year, excited about the learning adventure that lies ahead. Then, on the last day of school, the entire staff gathers outside to wave good-bye as the buses roll out one final time until September. "Many parents are expressing gratitude for what we have done for their child during the year," Mrs. Langton said.

When Heim fourth graders were asked why Mrs. Langton deserved the Service to Youth Award, words such as 'caring', 'positive', 'encouraging', and 'awesome' were used repeatedly, with one student saying, "Mrs. Langton is a kind, responsible principal who knows how to learn and have fun!"

Mrs. Langton is retiring at the end of this school year and looks forward to spending time with her family and, no doubt, having some fun.



Driver Education

Williamsville's Driver Education program will hold two summer sessions at Williamsville East High School, 151 Paradise Rd. The first session runs from Wednesday, July 6 to Thursday, July 28. The second session will be held from Friday, July 29 to Monday, August 22. Unlike regular summer school, Driver Ed classes are held daily, including Fridays.

The course combines the benefits of practical driving along with defensive driving techniques for safe and responsible operation of a motor vehicle. Students must be 16 years of age and hold a valid NYS learner's permit or driver's license. Students must attend all sessions; any missed classes must be made up. The fee is \$450.

More information is available online at www.williamsvillek12.org or by calling 626-8294.

WOW!

The Williamsville Community Education program offers full-day programming options for children entering grades 1 through 6. This popular enrichment program called Weeks of Wonder (WOW) will run from July 5 through August 5 at Mill Middle School. For more information about WOW, please call the Community Education office at 626-8080.

Summer School '16

Summer School 2016 will offer remedial programming for elementary and middle school students plus review and new course offerings for high school students who reside in the District. The high school program will be held at Williamsville East High School, 151 Paradise Rd., from July 6 through August 16. Classes will not be held on Fridays except for July 8. Regents Exams will be administered August 17-18.

The elementary and middle school programs are referral-only and will be housed together at Country Parkway Elementary, 35 Hollybrook. Classes will run July 6-August 16 with no Friday classes except for July 8. The elementary program is held from 8:00 to 11:45 a.m. while middle and high school classes are held from 7:30 a.m. to 1:04 p.m.

Williamsville's summer school program is open to all District residents, whether a child attends public, private or parochial school. A detailed newsletter with course offerings will be mailed to households in mid-May.

SAMPLE BALLOT



Tuesday, MAY 17, 2016



.....
PROPOSITION #1 - BUDGET

SHALL IT BE RESOLVED: That the Budget for the year 2016-17 presented by the Board of Education be approved? YES NO

.....
PROPOSITION #2 - CAPITAL RESERVE FUND PROPOSITION

RESOLVED:

That the Board of Education of the Williamsville Central School District, in the County of Erie, New York (the "District"), is hereby authorized to establish a capital reserve fund in accordance with the provisions of Education Law section 3651, to be designated "Capital Reserve Fund-2016", for the purpose of funding future District-wide improvements, including but not limited to building roofing replacement and other related infrastructure improvements or similar projects; the probable term of which will not exceed (15) years from the date of its establishment; the ultimate principal amount therein to total \$18,000,000 plus interest earnings thereon; such amount to be provided from transfers of unappropriated balances in the District's general fund in the current and future fiscal years.

YES NO

.....
PROPOSITION #3 - BUS PURCHASE/LEASE PROPOSITION

RESOLVED:

That the Board of Education of the Williamsville Central School District, in the County of Erie, New York (the "District") is hereby authorized and directed to expend funds in an amount not exceeding six hundred ninety five thousand dollars (\$695,000) from the Transportation Capital Reserve Funds to lease or purchase replacements for six 72 passenger buses.

YES NO

.....
PROPOSITION #4 - VOTE FOR ANY THREE BOARD MEMBERS

Election of three (3) board members, the highest three vote recipients, each for a term of three (3) years beginning July 1, 2016, and concluding June 30, 2019.

1A
Shondra Brock

2A
Teresa Anne Leatherbarrow

3A
Anthony J. Laforvara, III

4A
Suzanne Van Sice

5A
Mary Bieger

Voter
★ ★ ★ ★
Eligibility

Per New York State law, in order to vote in the District Budget Vote and School Board Election, you must be:

- 18 years of age
- A citizen of the United States
- A resident of the District for at least 30 days prior to the vote

You do not need to be a registered voter. However, ID and proof of residency are required.



SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET NOTICE



OVERALL 2016-17 BUDGET PROPOSAL

New York State requires the following presentation of 2016-17 Budget Information:

Overall Budget Proposal	Budget Adopted for the 2015-16 School Year	Budget Proposed for the 2016-17 School Year	Contingency Budget for the 2016-17 School Year *								
Total Budgeted Amount, Not Including Separate Propositions	\$178,199,516	\$183,015,606	\$181,259,022								
Increase/Decrease for the 2016-17 School Year		\$4,816,090	\$3,059,506								
Percentage Increase/Decrease in Proposed Budget		2.70 %	1.72%								
Change in the Consumer Price Index		0.12 %									
A. Proposed Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount, Net of Reserve	\$115,922,080	\$117,227,512									
B. Levy to Support Library Debt, if Applicable											
C. Levy for Non-Excludable Propositions, if Applicable **											
D. Total Tax Cap Reserve Amount Used to Reduce Current Year Levy											
E. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy (A + B + C - D)	\$115,922,080	\$117,227,512	\$115,470,928								
F. Total Permissible Exclusions	\$	\$									
G. School Tax Levy Limit, <u>Excluding</u> Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$116,038,080	\$117,332,512									
H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, <u>Excluding</u> Levy to Support Library Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions (E - B - F + D)	\$115,922,080	\$117,227,512									
I. Difference: G - H (Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval - See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions) **	\$116,000	\$105,000									
Administrative Component	\$17,076,192	\$17,001,319	\$16,987,119								
Program Component	\$138,746,429	\$143,333,897	\$141,654,513								
Capital Component	\$22,376,895	\$22,680,390	\$22,617,390								
<p>*The contingent budget included a reduction of equipment dollars as required under New York State law. Further, under the Tax Levy Limit law the district may not increase its tax levy under a contingent budget more than the authorized levy of the previous year. The result is that the contingent budget includes a decrease of \$1,756,584.</p>											
<p>**List Separate Propositions that are not included in the Total Budgeted Amount: (Tax Levy associated with educational or transportation services propositions are not eligible for exclusion and may affect voter approval requirements)</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Description</th> <th>Amount</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>There are no propositions that are applicable to this law.</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>				Description	Amount	There are no propositions that are applicable to this law.					
Description	Amount										
There are no propositions that are applicable to this law.											

NOTE: Please submit an electronic version (Word or PDF) of this completed form to: emscmgts@nysed.gov

Under the Budget Proposed for the 2016-17 School Year

Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings¹

\$586

The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2016-2017 by the qualified voters of the Williamsville Central school district, Erie County, New York, will be held at North high school in said district on Tuesday, May 17, 2016 at 7:00 am through 9:00 pm, prevailing time in the North high school gym, at which time the polls will be opened to vote by voting ballot or machine.

¹The basic school tax relief (STAR) exemption is authorized by section 425 of the Real Property Tax Law.

2015-16 Board of Education

Mr. Ronald S. Shubert, *President*
Mr. Shawn Lemay, *Vice President*
Mr. Michael J. Schmidt, *Parliamentarian*
Dr. Mohan Devgun
Ms. Carrie Kahn
Mr. Anthony LaFornara, III
Dr. Patricia M. Losito
Mr. Mark Mecca
Mrs. Toni Vazquez

Dr. Scott G. Martzloff, *Superintendent*
Mrs. Rita M. Wolff, APR, *Editor*
Mrs. Amy Vohwinkel, *Graphic Designer*



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New Online Process Streamlines Student Registration

Beginning July 1, families new to the Williamsville Central School District who are registering a child for school will be able to complete the required registration form online and schedule an appointment with the Central Registrar electronically.

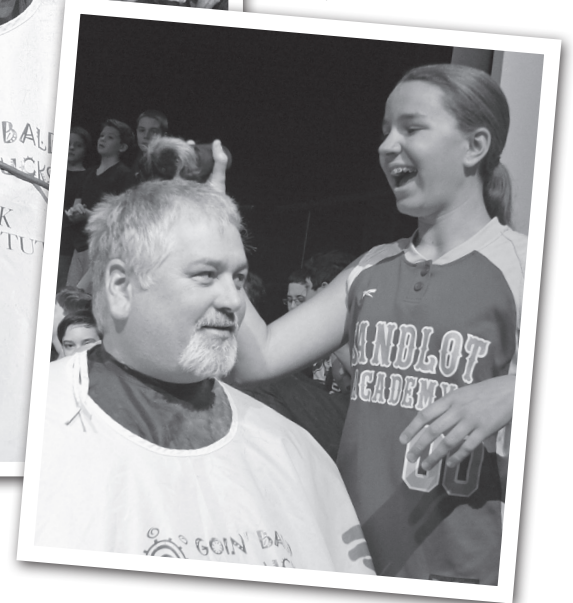
Parents will simply visit the District website, www.williamsvillek12.org, and click on the "Register a Student" link located on the left hand menu. After filling out the new online form, the applicant will be presented with a calendar where they may select a date and time for an appointment. The Office of Student Services will follow-up with parents to confirm the meeting.

Families new to the District are encouraged to register their child as soon as possible upon relocation. Early registration allows parents the time they may need to collect required documentation, which includes two proofs of residency, their child's original birth certificate and immunization records as well as other documents. It also allows schools time to develop the schedule of classes in which the student will be enrolled, as well as to plan and adjust staffing for the upcoming school year.

More information about student registration is available online, or you may call the Central Registrar's office at (716) 626-8001.



Bald for Bucks! In late February, Transit Middle School went Bald for Bucks to benefit Roswell Park Cancer Institute. With 83 team members participating, the Timberwolves raised more than \$58,000 for cancer research and patient support programs at Roswell. Pictured, fifth grader Cole Botzenhart sits very still as Amherst Police Officer Edgar Walker does the honors. Below, sixth grader Emma Wisniewski shears Transit Middle custodian John Doerfler.



For detailed information about the 2016-17
Proposed Budget visit the District website:
www.williamsvillek12.org
Click the budget icon on the home page

★ ★ ★ ★ ★
VOTE
★ ★ ★ ★ ★

MAY 17, 2016
7 a.m. - 9 p.m.
North High Gym
1595 Hopkins Rd.