A Message From the Superintendent

Dear Millbrook Community,

I would like to take this opportunity to commend our Board of Education, students, families, staff, and community members for your truly extraordinary efforts, hard work, and understanding of actions taken and decisions made to address the many complex effects the COVID-19 Pandemic has had and continues to have on our school district and everyone in it. Over the past few months, we have all been navigating and responding to an extremely challenging and unparalleled situation; and while it is exhausting and stressful, there are many silver linings that keep our spirits high and our energy positive. On a daily basis, our educators demonstrate innovative and impactful ways to teach, engage, and connect with their students. Families who reported not having access to internet services were given provisions to ensure continuity of learning for all. Students in grades 3 through 12 were offered a device to take home for remote learning. During this time our High School was identified as a Recognition School by The New York State Department of Education - a true testament to this team’s hard work, commitment, and care for our students.

Before COVID-19 amazing things were happening for and by students in Millbrook CSD including: 2020 Scholastic Awards, Mock Trials, Middle School Robotics Team, Girls Basketball Team - Class C Section IX Championship, Dutchess All-County Junior High School Music Festival, and more!

The entire Millbrook Central School District Team and Community have shown incredible dedication and perseverance during these trying times. This is truly a very special place.

This year you have the opportunity to elect two members of the Millbrook Central School District Board of Education as well as vote on the proposed budget for the 2020-2021 school year. After several months of review, the Board of Education adopted the proposed 2020-2021 school budget totaling $30,980,759. This budget results in a projected 2.27% tax levy increase from the current school year. The proposed 2020-2021 school budget results in a tax levy that is below the allowable tax levy cap.

A very special thank you to Brian Fried, Assistant Superintendent for Business, Finance, & Operations, and Ashley Burhans, District Treasurer, for their expertise in developing the budget and to Cheryl Sprague, District Clerk for coordinating the budget vote process.

Thank you for your ongoing support. Only together will we accomplish great things for our students and community.

Laura Mitchell  
The Proud Superintendent of Schools

Top Students for Class of 2020 Named

Valedictorian Halie Every plans to attend Villanova University to major in civil engineering. Halie has held positions in the following: Girl Scouts (9th-12th), Lacrosse (9th-12th), Cross-Country (11th-12th), Chorus/Band (9th-12th), and Environmental Club (9th-12th). Most recent honors and accomplishments include: National Honor Society (11th grade), RIT Computing Medal Award (11th grade), PLTW Civil Engineering Award (11th grade), and Rotary Youth Leadership Award (10th grade). She was accepted to more than a dozen colleges and universities.

Salutatorian Tessa Fountain plans to attend Union College. Tessa has held positions in the following: Drama Club (9th-12th), Jazz Band (9th-12th), Madrigals/Select Chorus (9th-12th), Sounds/Lights Tech Club (11th-12th), National Honor Society (11th-12th) and Mock Trial (10th-12th). She has also been involved in community theater for more than 10 years, dance classes for more than 13 years, and vocal and instrumental lessons. Recent accomplishments include: High honor roll (9th-12th), Area All State and Outstanding NYSSMA score for singing, History Awards, IB English Award and the French Award. She was accepted to six colleges and universities.

MHS Graduation “Drive In” on Campus

8:30 p.m. June 19 ★ Details to Come!
Elm Drive Students Coached on Proper Handwashing

Mrs. Wertz, Elm Drive’s nurse, coached students on proper handwashing in March. Armed with a stopwatch, special gel, and a mini ultra-violet flashlight, she coated students’ hands with clear gel, to simulate “germs.” After washing for 20 seconds with plenty of soap, students were instructed to dry their hands and to use the paper towel to avoid touching the knob when turning off the water. Then came the big reveal. Students were very successful. The flashlight revealed “glowing germs” at times, typically around the fingernails. Mrs. Wertz reminded students to scrub fingernails and to sing Happy Birthday silently twice to estimate 20 seconds of wash time. This training was also held last year.

Greetings to Elm Drive Elementary Students and Families.

We miss you so very much, and we wanted you to know how much you are loved!

Students Thank Medical Heroes

Teacher, Allison Schmid’s husband, Jeremy, is an RN, working on the COVID floor at Jacobi Medical Center. Fifth graders wrote to him and his 40 co-workers and made cards and posters.

Excerpts from Mrs. Link’s class: “What is it like working during this time? If you have family, do you have to sleep in a different room? I also want to tell you thank you so much for risking your life and helping our world during this time!”

“Thank you for what you do for everyone in these hard times. I hope you are happy and healthy and this letter will make you smile.”

“It must be very hard to take care of a lot of people at the same time. You are a hero to a lot of people...you are risking your lives to save other people and that’s very brave so thank you.”

Fun Fridays for Alden

Fun Fridays focusing on strengthening and supporting students’ social & emotional well-being. After reading Whatcha Got via Epic!, student shared something that is valuable to them with classmates using Flipgrid.
**PROPOSITION 1 - MILLBROOK CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT’S SCHOOL BUDGET 2020-2021**

Shall the Board of Education of the Millbrook Central School District be authorized to expend the sum of $30,980,759 for School District purposes for the 2020-2021 school year (the Budget) and to levy the necessary tax therefor?

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### School Budget Notice

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Overall Budget Proposal</th>
<th>Budget Adopted for 2019-2020 School Year</th>
<th>Proposed Budget for 2020-2021 School Year</th>
<th>Contingency Budget for 2020-2021 School Year*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Budgeted Amount, Not Including Separate Propositions</td>
<td>$29,999,745</td>
<td>$30,980,759</td>
<td>$30,422,857</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increase/Decrease for the 2020-2021 School Year</td>
<td>$981,014</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percentage Increase/Decrease in Proposed Budget</td>
<td>3.27%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Change in the Consumer Price Index</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. Proposed Tax Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount</td>
<td>$24,616,610</td>
<td>$25,174,523</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. Levy to Support Library Debt, if Applicable</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. Levy for Non-Excludable Propositions, if Applicable**</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D. Total Tax Cap reserve Amount Used to Reduce Current Year Levy</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy (A + B + C + D)</td>
<td>$24,616,610</td>
<td>$25,174,523</td>
<td>$24,616,610</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F. Total Permissible Exclusions</td>
<td>$1,632,185</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>G. School Tax Levy Limit, Excluding Levy for Permissible Exclusions</td>
<td>$22,984,743</td>
<td>$23,489,013</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, Excluding Levy to Support Library Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions (E – B – F + D)</td>
<td>$22,984,425</td>
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<tr>
<td>I. Difference: G - H; (Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval)**</td>
<td>$318</td>
<td></td>
<td>$0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Administrative Component</td>
<td>$3,543,575</td>
<td>$3,932,439</td>
<td>$3,632,172</td>
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<td>Program Component</td>
<td>$22,032,658</td>
<td>$22,549,937</td>
<td>$22,592,902</td>
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<td>Capital Component</td>
<td>$4,423,512</td>
<td>$4,498,383</td>
<td>$4,197,783</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

This budget includes: 1) An interfund transfer to the capital fund of $275,000 for the purposes of funding electrical upgrades at Alden Place and Elm Drive Elementary Schools; 2) An interfund transfer to the cafeteria fund of $35,000 to continue to pay down cafeteria debt; 3) An appropriation for Year 1 of a 3-year transportation contract extension with First Student. Annual increases will not exceed the regional CPI for the 12-month period ending on May 31st. The projected expenses for home-to-school routes are $2,133,988 for ’20-’21, $2,176,668 for ’21-’22, and $2,220,201 for ’22-’23. The total equals $6,530,857.

*Assumptions Made in Projecting a Contingency Budget for the 2020-21 school year, should the proposed budget be defeated pursuant to Section 2023 of the Education Law, are the elimination of all equipment items from the budget (including classroom, library, athletic, custodial, maintenance and administrative items); the possible elimination of various student supplies, sports teams and teaching positions, no increase to Board appointees, amounting to a total reduction of combined instruction, capital and administrative expenses of $557,902.

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### Some Heroes Wear Capes; Some Wear Aprons

Since schools closed, Millbrook’s Food Services has been preparing meals to families in need. More than 2,300 meals are delivered each week, in collaboration with First Student Transportation.

Millbrook staff members are featured at the start of a Dairy Association video made to honor those who have been working so hard to keep the kitchens open and serving families. The video shows food preparation and distribution in several school districts, labeling all as “School Nutrition Heros.” To view the video, visit: https://bit.ly/3e0OChL

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**Also on the Ballot - Board Candidates**

Two (2) Board of Education seats are up for election on the June 9, 2020 ballot. Each of the seats is for a three (3) year term. Voters may vote for up to two (2) of the candidates listed:

★ Chris Rosenbergen   ★ Howard Shapiro

Order of candidates’ names are in alphabetical order by executive order.

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1. From tax.ny.gov/pit/property/star/sd13.htm. The basic school tax relief (STAR) exemption is authorized by section 425 of the Real Property Tax Law.
MMS is Staying Connected

Think like a Proton
& Stay Positive

"I'll never complain ever again about school!" - Stella Aaspund,
3:12 pm on Tuesday, April 21st, 2020

"I'd much rather be in school" - Lucas Jeffer

WE ARE MILLBROOK STRONG
MISS YOU!