

HUNTINGTON UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT
P.O. BOX 1500
HUNTINGTON, NEW YORK 11743-0700
www.hufsd.edu

Dear Huntington Resident:

I am pleased to present this brochure describing our proposed budget for the 2010-11 school year. This budget, which was adopted by the Board of Education on April 19, maintains our historically strong academic program and a broad range of extra-curricular offerings to benefit all students.

In these incredibly difficult economic times, where districts are squeezed between increased operating costs and reduced state aid, developing a budget that limits the burden on our already beleaguered local taxpayers is a formidable task. We commend the efforts of all contributors across the district who have worked with the Board of Education to develop a budget that preserves our educational program while containing growth in costs.

What is most impressive is that in spite of these economic constraints, we continue to offer the outstanding educational program expected by our community. This includes a complete set of Regents, Honors and Advanced Placement courses. It also provides for college counseling services to assist students and parents and help them identify and apply for various sources of financial aid. At the elementary level it maintains the popular enrichment programs for students in grades four through six. We have also maintained a wide array of special education offerings.

In addition to core curriculum, the budget supports a comprehensive program of art, music and physical education instruction. It also provides funds for band, chorus, marching band, orchestra, student drama club productions, science fairs and the district art show. Funding is also included for interscholastic athletic teams at the high school and middle school and a trainer to safeguard the health and safety of our student athletes.

This budget protects our taxpayers' investment by providing money to purchase tools, equipment and materials needed to maintain our eight buildings. It allows authorized community groups to continue using our buildings and grounds for games, practices, meetings and performances.

Thank you for taking the time to read this brochure and for understanding our commitment to excellence in education. Most importantly, thank you for voting on Tuesday, May 18.

Sincerely,

Bill Dwyer

Bill Dwyer
President, Board of Education

2010-11 Huntington School Budget Highlights

- The proposed school budget continues Huntington's 353 year commitment to providing a first rate education for the young people of our community by improving our exceptionally strong academic program for more than 4,500 students in grades K-12.
- Provides for a complete set of Regents, honors and Advanced Placement courses in all academic areas and funds academic intervention services (AIS) for students who need additional assistance in meeting New York State graduation requirements.
- Allocates \$668,218 for new textbooks and workbooks, \$55,414 for new library books, \$90,000 for computer software, \$66,472 for instructional equipment, including computers.
- Funds 64 athletic teams for high school and middle school students, 94 coaching positions and a full-time athletic trainer.
- Provides an exceptional program of wholesome, adult supervised after school extracurricular activities, including about six dozen clubs for students.
- Supports a comprehensive program of art, music and physical education instruction, including band, chorus, marching band, orchestra and specialized art courses.
- Funds student drama club productions, concerts, science fairs and the district art show.
- Funds the nationally renowned Blue Devil marching band, including competitions.
- Maintains a strong program of special education classes and services for students.
- Maintains Huntington's full-day kindergarten program.
- Continues the SEARCH program for academically talented fifth and sixth graders.
- Funds student drama club productions, concerts, science fairs and the district art show.



Awesome Teenagers: Huntington High School Habitat for Humanity club members traveled to New Orleans on their spring vacation and spent a week working to rebuild the city devastated by Hurricane Katrina. Several hundred Huntington students are involved in community service activities this year.

Voter Information

Election Day:

Tuesday, May 18, 2010

6 a.m.— 9 p.m.

Huntington High School
Oakwood & McKay Roads
Huntington, New York

Board of Education:

Residents will have an opportunity to elect two members to the Huntington Board of Education on Election Day, Tuesday, May 18. The individuals will serve from July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2013.

Eligibility:

- U.S. citizen.
- 18 years of age or older.
- Resident of Huntington School District for at least 30 days.
- Registered to vote in a general election or with the school district.

Absentee Ballots:

Applications for absentee ballots may be applied for at the District Clerk's office at the Administrative Offices, 50 Tower Street, Huntington Station, at least seven days before the election if the ballot is to be mailed to the voter or up to the day before the election if the ballot is to be delivered personally to the voter. Absentee ballots must be returned by 5 p.m. on Tuesday, May 18 for them to be counted in the 2010 election and budget vote.

Inspection of Budget:

The public may inspect a copy of the proposed budget on the district website (www.hufsd.edu), the District Clerk's office (District Office, 50 Tower Street) or at any school building between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. on school days beginning May 3, 2010.

Questions: Call the District Clerk at 673-2126

Your Vote Counts on Tuesday, May 18

Vote at Huntington High School 6 a.m. — 9 p.m.

Sample Ballot

On Election Day voters will be asked to vote on Proposition No. 1 to fund school district operations from July 1, 2010 - June 30, 2011:

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Huntington Union Free School District, Town of Huntington, Suffolk County, New York be authorized to expend \$108,786,539, the amount set forth in the proposed budget and to accumulate the balance proposed in the said budget during the school year beginning July 1, 2010, and to levy the necessary tax therefore.

So you know . . . Huntington juniors Adam Cerini, Conner Davis, Carolyn Fante, Alexandra Kiley, Michael O'Connor and Giancarlo Savoy have qualified for the 2011 National Merit scholarship program. This distinction places them among an elite group nationwide out of 1.5 million students who took the PSAT/NMSQT. They will vie for additional prestigious National Merit honors and financial awards beginning next fall.

Huntington School District

2010-'11 Proposed Budget

"A Tradition of Excellence Since 1657"

Description	Approved Budget 2009-'10	Proposed Budget 2010-'11	Amount Change
General Support <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Board of Education • Central Administration • Buildings Operation and Maintenance 	\$9,921,508	\$10,148,319	\$226,811
Instruction <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supervision • Curriculum • Salaries • BOCES 	\$60,048,482	\$61,309,758	\$1,261,276
Transportation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public, private and parochial school 	\$8,501,367	\$8,765,965	\$264,598
Employee Benefits	\$24,149,949	\$25,436,302	\$1,286,353
Debt Service/ Inter-fund Transfers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interest/Principal on bonds • Capital • Special Aid • TAN Borrowing 	\$2,382,953	\$3,126,195	\$743,242
Grand Total	\$105,004,259	\$108,786,539	\$3,782,280
Budget Increase		3.6%	

The district is committed to economizing wherever possible. During the development of this proposed budget, extensive reductions in spending totaling more than \$3.1 million were made. Despite these efforts, the district expects significant increases for mandated retirement system costs (\$1,350,000), student transportation (\$264,598), programs for students with disabilities (\$481,645) and employee health insurance (\$247,347). The district intends to continue exercising tight fiscal management and cost-cutting throughout the 2010-11 budget year.

Revenues

Description	2009-'10	2010-'11	Amount Change
State Aid	\$12,262,003	\$11,946,576	(\$315,427)
Miscellaneous Revenue	\$1,839,000	\$2,766,100	\$927,100
Appropriated Fund Balance	\$1,430,000	\$1,430,000	0
Property Taxes	\$89,473,256	\$92,643,863	\$3,170,607
Grand Total	\$105,004,259	\$108,786,539	\$3,782,280

Estimated Tax Rate to Fund the Budget

Description	2009-'10	2010-'11
Estimated tax rate per \$100 of assessed valuation for school district	\$193.97	\$200.84
Estimated percentage of increase (for school district taxes only)		3.54%
Projected increase per household based on average home assessment for school district		\$275 Before the STAR program
Total Assessed Value (tentative for 2010-2011)	\$46,128,234	\$46,128,234

The economic crisis that has gripped the world for more than a year has been felt right here in our community. As New York State tries to address historic multi-year fiscal deficits, school districts across Long Island and the state expect to lose significant amounts of state aid. The state is also shifting more school costs onto the backs of local taxpayers by changing educational expense reimbursement ratios and increasing payroll assessments levied by the two employee retirement systems. Locally, the property tax base is not growing and is expected to remain flat.

The district has worked to restrain spending in the 2010-11 budget and made reductions in dozens of areas in order to preserve the core academic and co-curricular program our community has long cherished.

When residents go to the polls on May 18, they can be confident this budget does not rely on fiscal gimmicks or unrealistic assumptions. It is the product of careful planning and will contribute to the district's long history of financial stability and educational excellence.

Huntington School Board Candidates

Richard McGrath



Richard McGrath is a Certified Public Accountant employed as National Sales Director with Thomson Tax and Accounting Inc, specializing in computerized tax processing. He is a 1975 Huntington graduate and received his Bachelor of Science degree in Accounting from Long Island University in 1979.

Mr. McGrath and his wife Laura Jean have twin seventeen year old boys, John and Kenny, who are in the 11th grade at Huntington High School. He is currently finishing his fourth term on the School Board and also serves on the district's Audit Committee.

In addition to his service as a school trustee, Mr. McGrath is also active in numerous local civic and charitable organizations. In his free time he is an avid runner, having recently completed his sixth New York City marathon.

John P. Paci III



John P. Paci III has enjoyed a successful investment banking career on Wall Street and is currently a managing director for Morgan Stanley. A 1990 Huntington graduate, he earned a Bachelor's degree in Business from Indiana University.

Following his college graduation, Mr. Paci played four years of professional football in the NFL and NFL-Europe, including stints with the New York Jets and the Washington Redskins. Mr. Paci and his wife Kelly have three young children.

Mr. Paci, who is completing his first term on the School Board, has also served on the district's Audit Committee. He is an active member of the Huntington Booster Club and has volunteered to coach and mentor high school student-athletes. He enjoys coaching his son and daughters in local athletic leagues.

This year's transportation budget reflects the costs associated with transporting 5,221 eligible students, including 4,311 to the eight buildings in the Huntington School District, 83 special education students to 17 additional sites and 910 students to 31 parochial and private schools on Long Island. The district currently contracts for 56 large buses and 74 vans to transport students.

Huntington School Board Candidates

Adam Spector



Adam Spector is a 20-year resident of Huntington, along with his wife, Meredith and two children, Jackson and Jamie. He received a Bachelor's degree in Management from Binghamton University and worked many years in New York's financial district as a corporate technology manager. He is the owner of a local technology consulting business, providing support services to families and businesses in the community.

Mr. Spector regularly attends School Board meetings and has a long history of being active in his children's schools and PTA executive leadership. He is currently treasurer of the Jack Abrams School PTA. He coaches soccer and volunteers in the community and schools.

In his free time, Mr. Spector enjoys golf, family activities, playing and listening to music, tackling household and landscaping projects and camping.

School Board Overview

The members of the Huntington School Board are elected by the residents of the community to manage and oversee all aspects of the district's educational program, personnel, properties and financial affairs. Trustees serve three year terms without any form of compensation. Members develop an annual budget and submit the proposal to voters for approval. They appoint administrators to conduct the day-to-day affairs of the district, faculty to provide instruction and support staff to ensure the smooth operation of the school system.

State Education Law provides school board members with the authority to establish the policies and regulations they feel are necessary to fulfill their responsibilities and to provide students with the education they are legally entitled to and deserve. The school board's oversight responsibilities include the admission of students, instruction, discipline, grading, classification of special education students, appointing and managing all employees, entering into contracts, purchasing, leasing, maintenance of buildings, property, equipment and supplies and every other area of district operation.

School board members meet regularly in executive session to discuss personnel and legal matters and in public to receive reports from officials, discuss policies and attend to the district's financial and educational affairs. An agenda is published prior to public meetings and residents are provided an opportunity to address trustees. Detailed minutes of each meeting are kept by the district clerk.

The school board is entrusted with the ultimate responsibility for the proper education of all young people within the district who are enrolled in the public school system and in safeguarding the financial and material resources provided by residents through the years.

Visit the Huntington School District's website for news and information about our schools and students at www.hufsd.edu.

School Budget Questions and Answers

How was the proposed budget developed?

School administrators and teachers, after careful planning and study, submitted budget requests in the fall. These requests were reviewed and reduced whenever possible and a draft budget was developed and submitted to the School Board, which examined the budget line by line, establishing priorities, eliminating positions, redefining goals and fashioning the proposed budget that is outlined in this brochure. The School Board held a series of meetings, discussing the budget and seeking public input.

Has the district done anything to trim spending and costs to hold down taxes?

During the budget process the administration and school board examined every single position and program. Efforts have been made to reduce costs, especially those not associated with classroom instruction. More than \$3.1 million in reductions were made to the budget during the early stages of its development. Budget requests were reduced and all areas of spending were subject to economizing. Targeted reductions were made to supply, equipment and overtime codes.

What will happen if the proposed school budget does not pass?

If voters defeat the budget on May 18, the Huntington Board of Education will meet and decide what will happen next. There could be a second vote, either for the same budget or an alternate one. The school board could develop and adopt a contingency or austerity budget and implement such a budget for the 2010-11 school year. Should the district operate under an austerity budget, certain items, including the purchase of equipment and capital expenditures, cannot be included. This year, the difference between the proposed budget and an austerity budget amounts to \$3,564,539. If a second budget vote is held and that budget fails, too, trustees must adopt an austerity budget for the next school year.

Why does the budget go up every year?

It costs money to run a school system and, unfortunately, these costs keep rising. Salaries, benefits, supplies, equipment and bus transportation, all contribute to higher expenses. The district also must replace outdated textbooks and purchase new workbooks and library books to provide a well-rounded education. Today's higher academic standards and graduation requirements necessitate many more courses and support services than were needed 15 years ago. Yet, despite higher costs and millions of dollars in mandates, state aid is declining.

Has the public been allowed to provide input throughout the budget process?

All School Board budget development meetings have been open to the public. At each session taxpayers have been given the opportunity to offer their opinions, suggestions, comments and criticisms. The views of residents as expressed at School Board meetings have been carefully considered and used in preparing and refining the proposed budget. As elected representatives, School Board members are always available to listen to the public. The PTA has also provided input during the budget process.

How does this budget improve the district's classroom education?

This budget contains the teachers needed to help students meet all New York State requirements. Classrooms at every grade level will be provided with the books, supplies and materials that students and teachers need to be successful. Teachers will be offered staff development workshops to keep their skills and instructional methods sharp and to stay on the cutting edge of curriculum and instruction. The budget provides the teaching positions needed to continue Huntington's legendary academic program, including an exceptional elementary grade level program and an extensive set of Regents, honors and Advanced Placement courses for students in grades 7-12.

Focus on Huntington's Top Students

Rebecca Silverman



Huntington senior Rebecca Silverman is valedictorian of the Class of 2010. She will give an address at the school's 149th commencement exercises in June.

"My four years here have been amazing and I am so pleased to have been a member of an extremely talented class," said Ms. Silverman, who is president of the high school's student government.

The teenager grew up in a world of books, largely devoid of television. The volumes helped her develop an impressive vocabulary and sparked a love for learning.

Huntington's teachers hold her in high regard. "She is a student driven toward perfection in everything she does," English teacher Michael Schwendemann said.

"She has very strong convictions and is always ready to help in any worthy project that will make a difference in someone else's life," Principal Carmela Leonardi said. "A true scholar with a perfect score of 5 on all six AP exams taken thus far, Rebecca leads in our school with her mind and her heart." Ms. Silverman is interested in pursuing environmental science studies in college.

Alanna Tieman



After an impressive four year run, Huntington senior Alanna Tieman has been named salutatorian of the Class of 2010. The achievement carries with it an opportunity to address June's commencement exercises.

"Alanna is bright, hard working and caring," Principal Carmela Leonardi said. "She has balanced her scholarly achievements in all academic areas, especially science, with her interest in athletics and music."

Ms. Tieman has competed in the epee style for the Blue Devil fencing team and is also a member of the crew team. She plays clarinet in the high school marching band and is a member of the Key club, the National Honor Society, English Honor Society, Math Honor Society, Art Honor Society and is the treasurer of the Science Honor Society.

"I am very happy to receive this honor," Ms. Tieman said. This year she is enrolled in a series of very demanding courses, including AP Literature, AP Economics, AP Government, AP Physics, AP Calculus BC and band.

"I plan to major in the sciences, most likely biology," Ms. Tieman said about her college plans.

A campaign to save energy dollars continues to provide impressive results. Between February 2001 - January 2010 the district avoided \$2,916,618 in energy costs through a variety of conservation efforts. The drive has not impacted classroom instruction. After school hours, weekends and vacation periods have been targeted and energy awareness efforts have raised the consciousness of all employees. At Huntington High School alone, \$1,428,975 in costs were averted.



Students in Huntington High School's fashion design program were invited to the nation's capital by First Lady Michelle Obama to help celebrate the donation of her inaugural gown to the Smithsonian National Museum of American History. Last year the students sent Mrs. Obama inaugural gown designs they created for her. Touched by the gesture and the obvious hard work that went into the designs, the First Lady invited the group to attend what has traditionally been an extremely private and exclusive event.

"Now, there's a special reason why I invited these students here," Mrs. Obama said at the ceremony. "They sent me this book of beautifully designed inaugural gowns of their own creations, and I had so much fun looking through all the designs. You all are obviously a very talented and beautiful and handsome group of people. And I am so pleased to be able to share this special day with you. You make us proud."

The Huntington students, along with fashion program teachers Amy Worth and Kristin Singer and department director Joan Fretz, participated in mentoring sessions at the Smithsonian, met with inaugural gown designer Jason Wu, as well as famous designer Tory Burch, and went on a private tour of the U.S. Capitol building.

Huntington senior Everett Coraor put the district's science program in the national spotlight when he was named a semi-finalist in the 2010 Intel Science Talent Search competition.

Mr. Coraor began research on "Experimental Insights into Evolved Lavas on Olympus Mons, Mars," at Stony Brook University during the 2008/09 school year and continued to work independently through last summer and into his senior year. His mentors have been Stony Brook Professor Dr. Donald Lindsley and Huntington science teacher Lori Pyzocha.

"Everett worked tirelessly on this project and his dedication and commitment to it have yielded great results for himself and the Huntington community," said David Casamento, district director of science and instructional technology.



The proposed budget also provides transportation, textbooks and related services as required by New York State law to about 1,000 Huntington School District residents who are students attending private and parochial schools.

Budget Focus: About the Transfer to Capital

The Huntington Board of Education has approved a reorganization of grades four, five and six, effective September 2010. All fourth and fifth graders will attend Woodhull Intermediate School while Jack Abrams Intermediate School will become a district sixth grade center. To provide for additional instructional space at Woodhull, the district is moving forward with plans to lease three modular classrooms for use there.

For the first time in many years, the district is including a budget line called “a transfer to capital.” This transfer will cover the capital expenses related to the siting and installation of the three modular classrooms. The funding for this budget line comes from unused monies in the 2003 capital reserve account. Because of tight fiscal management, economizing and very favorable project bids, monies that voters previously approved for use in funding various capital projects, were not needed. If the budget is approved on May 18, the Board of Education will be able to use a portion of these surplus monies to lease and install the three modular classrooms.

Expenses for the installation of the modular rooms includes transportation of the units to Woodhull School from the vendor, construction of a concrete foundation slab, connections to all utilities and handicapped accessibility. Installation is expected some time in the fall after school has begun. These units will be fully heated and air conditioned and include their own sanitary facilities. They have essentially the same square footage as a typical Woodhull School classroom. Under the state law governing a contingency budget, if Huntington’s budget is defeated twice, this “transfer to capital” will not take place. However, Woodhull will still house all fourth and fifth graders.



Copies of the proposed budget are available for public inspection at all eight buildings in the district, on the district website at www.hufsd.edu, at the central administrative offices located at 50 Tower Street in Huntington Station and at the Main Street and New York Avenue branches of the Huntington Public Library. Call 673-2111 for more information or to request a copy.



The Huntington School District is a melting pot that mirrors America, with students and teachers of every race, creed and ethnic background. It is in this environment our young people are challenged academically, artistically, musically and athletically and where they grow socially and culturally. Friendships are forged, frequently lasting a lifetime. New experiences are enjoyed and personal horizons are broadened. Our schools reflect the community and are a model of brotherhood and understanding. Our diversity makes us stronger.

Huntington Union Free School District
P.O. Box 1500
Huntington, NY 11743

www.hufsd.edu

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Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction

School Budget Vote and Trustee Election
Tuesday, May 18, 2010
6 a.m. — 9 p.m.
at Huntington High School

****ECRWSS****
To: POSTAL CUSTOMER

Huntington Union Free School District

The Faces of Huntington's Schools



Our Mission: Recognizing the strengths of our district's traditions, its history of community support, the diversity of our population and our commitment to educational excellence, the mission of the Huntington Union Free School District is to educate students by effectively teaching an enriched body of knowledge through the active participation of all students, building upon their unique talents and abilities to produce creative, self-assured, responsible citizens who are capable of critical thought and action.