

Frequently Asked Questions and Comments About School Budgets:

What's in this budget for students?

The major portion (over 74%) of the budget addresses the programs and services provided to meet the educational needs of our students based on the district's commitment to provide a solid academic program as well as extra-curricular activities and opportunities that promote and enhance student learning.

All current programs have been maintained including extracurricular activities and the 5-8 after-school program. An additional special education teacher and teaching assistant have been added to provide services for additional students who receive special programs.

Why is there a need for an increase in the tax levy?

Mandated costs associated with regulations of the NYS Department of Education and contractual costs continue to increase. Examples include:

- Contractually obligated salary, health insurance and retirement benefit increases for employees
- Increased rates for BOCES services needed for program mandates
- In-service training to meet new regulations
- Mandated programs and reporting requirements based on State and Federal Guidelines

What is being done to keep costs down?

The district continues to:

- Carefully evaluate and participate in many BOCES programs and shared services, which provide cost effective services with reimbursable aid.
- Investigate and use grant funding for special programs
- Reap the benefits of energy efficient savings through building upgrades funded by Capital Improvement Projects.

I do not have children in school. Why should I pay school taxes?

- Well-educated citizens benefit the entire community.
- Good schools increase property value.
- Someone paid taxes so that you could have educational opportunities. Today's children deserve the same chance.

How will this budget affect my taxes?

Based on a 2.82% tax increase it is estimated that school taxes on a \$50,000 assessed home will increase by \$28.36 and on a \$100,000 assessed home the estimated increase will be \$56.71. (If you applied for the STAR exemption with your town assessor, it is estimated that you will pay an \$11.34 increase on a \$50,000 assessed home and a \$39.70 increase on a \$100,000 assessed home.) Because the district is staying within the allowable tax levy cap, taxpayers will qualify for the property tax relief credit program. This program provides a rebate to property owners.

Who can vote on this budget?

In order to vote, the person must be eighteen (18) years of age, a U.S. citizen, and a resident of the District for at least thirty (30) days prior to the date of the vote.

Heuvelton Central School
PO Box 375, 87 Washington Street
Heuvelton, NY 13654

PRSR STD
ECRWSS
U.S. Postage
Paid
EDDM Retail

Current Occupant

HEUVELTON CENTRAL SCHOOL BUDGET NEWSLETTER



Dear Heuvelton School District Residents:

On March 22, 2017 the Heuvelton CSD Board of Education adopted a \$14,075,941 proposed budget for the 2017-2018 school year, which is an increase of 6.2% over the current budget. The 2017-2018 proposed budget requires a 2.82% tax levy increase. This amount is within the district's allowable tax levy cap, which qualifies taxpayers for the property tax relief credit program. The Board believes that this budget successfully balances the district's ability to provide a quality education for our students while staying within the tax cap.

Total Budget
\$14,075,941

Increase over 2016-2017
\$821,804 or 6.20% more

Estimated Tax Levy Increase
2.82%

In addition to the proposed budget, voters will be asked to weigh in on one other proposition the day of the Budget Vote, which includes the election of two individuals for five-year terms on the Board of Education. (Please see page 3 of this newsletter for information regarding the two candidates: Mr. Andrew Martin and Mr. Christopher Riordan.)

This budget newsletter has been prepared to provide an overview of the proposed budget. If you are interested in examining the complete Proposed Three-Part Budget for the 2017-2018 School Year, you may contact District Clerk, Tessa Herron, by telephoning 315-344-2414, extension 28891 or visit the school's website at www.heuvelton.schoolfusion.us.

There will be a budget hearing on May 3rd at 7:00 p.m. in the LGIR (Large Group Instruction Room – just past the HS Art room) in which I will provide an overview on expenditures and anticipated revenue. There will be time at the end of the presentation for questions and comments regarding the proposed budget. In the meantime, feel free to contact my office with questions if you are unable to make the budget hearing.

It has been a pleasure to serve as your Superintendent for the past eleven years. While I look forward to spending more time with my family in retirement, I am so very grateful to have had the opportunity to serve the Heuvelton Central School District. I sincerely appreciate your continued involvement and support for the district's students and the programs offered at Heuvelton Central School. Please remember to vote on May 16th.

Sincerely,

Susan E. Todd, Superintendent

Budget Hearing, Wednesday, May 3, 2017, 7:00 p.m. in the Large Group Instruction Room



Budget Vote, Tuesday, May 16, 2017
Polls will be open from 1:00-8:00 p.m. in the Poulton Auditorium



THREE PART PROPOSED BUDGET SUMMARY

Summary of Proposed Administrative Budget

	<u>2016-2017</u>	<u>2017-2018</u>
Salaries (Superintendent, 7/12 Principal, PreK-6 Principal, 4 Secretaries, Building & Grounds Supervisor, Manager & Head of Transportation)	\$565,919	\$582,066
*Benefits	322,341	377,111
Equipment	2,600	2,600
Contractual	107,100	112,755
Materials & Supplies	6,300	6,400
BOCES (Range of Services contracted through Board of Cooperative Educational Services)	<u>498,424</u>	<u>511,422</u>
Total Administrative Budget	\$1,502,684	\$1,592,354

Summary of Proposed Capital Budget

Salaries (7 Custodial Staff and Substitute custodians)	\$231,580	\$245,845
*Benefits	192,639	242,008
Equipment	60,000	20,000
Contractual	373,395	330,600
Materials & Supplies	70,000	70,000
BOCES (Services related to building operations)	20,159	23,915
Debt Service	<u>965,000</u>	<u>1,120,000</u>
Total Capital Budget	\$1,912,773	2,052,368

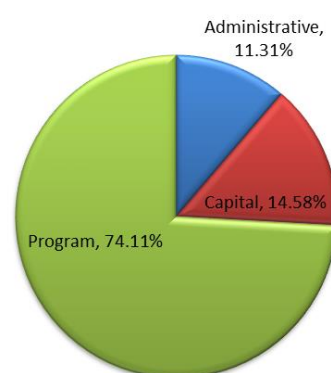
Summary of Proposed Program Budget

Instruction Regular School	\$3,220,193	\$3,274,824
Special Apportionment Programs	1,667,284	1,698,452
Occupational Education	475,759	485,027
Instruction School Library	151,149	156,640
Instruction Computer	294,000	284,250
Guidance	166,385	170,333
Health Services	55,807	60,559
Psychological Services	113,026	120,178
Co-Curricular/Interscholastic	205,640	229,932
Pupil Transportation	669,091	554,438
Community Services	6,655	6,660
Interfund Transfers	14,000	14,000
*Benefits	<u>2,799,691</u>	<u>3,375,926</u>
Total Program Budget	9,838,680	10,431,219
Total Combined Budget	\$13,254,137	\$14,075,941

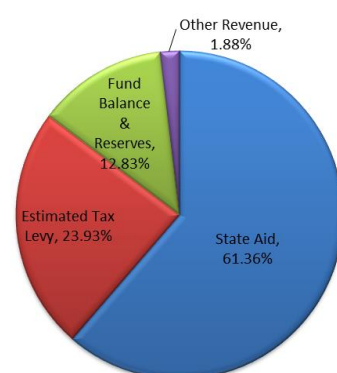
* Benefits Include: Employee Retirement System Contributions (ERS), Teacher Retirement System Contributions (TRS), FICA (Federal Insurance Contribution Act) Federal tax for Social Security and Medicare, Workers Compensation Insurance, Unemployment Insurance and Health Care Insurance

BUDGET SUMMARY AT A GLANCE

EXPENDITURES



REVENUES



ANTICIPATED REVENUES

Revenue Sources

	<u>2016-17</u>	<u>2017-18</u>
Other Payments in Lieu of Taxes	\$1,000	\$1,000
Interest & Penalties on Taxes	5,000	5,000
Charges for Services	1,500	1,500
Use of Money & Property	48,000	100,800
Other Revenue	<u>106,483</u>	<u>106,000</u>
Local Sources	161,983	214,300
State and Federal Sources		
Foundation Aid, BOCES, Excess Cost	\$8,362,341	\$8,566,833
Textbook, Software, Library, Hardware Aid	<u>69,729</u>	<u>70,159</u>
State & Federal Sources	\$8,432,070	\$8,636,992
Interfund Transfers	\$ 0.00	\$50,000
Estimated Tax Levy	\$ 3,275,986	\$ 3,368,347
Appropriated Fund Balance	\$ 1,144,764	\$ 1,584,860
Appropriated Reserves	\$ 239,334	\$ 221,442
Total Combined Revenue	\$ 13,254,137	\$ 14,075,941

2017-2018 PROPOSITIONS

Proposition One: School Budget

RESOLVED: That the proposed budget of expenditures of the Heuvelton Central School District for the 2017-2018 school year in the amount of \$14,075,941 and for the purposes shown in the statement of estimated expenditures adopted by the Board of Education be and the same hereby is approved and the amount thereof shall be raised by a tax upon the taxable property of the school district after first deducting monies available from State Aid and other sources as provided by Law.

Proposition Two: Election of Two Individuals to the Board of Education

Andrew (Andy) Martin graduated from Heuvelton Central School in 1993 and attended Clarkson University graduating in 1997 with a B.S. Civil Engineering and Concentration in Structural Engineering. He is a NYS Licensed Professional Engineer and Certified Code Enforcer. Mr. Martin is currently the Director of Facilities Planning at SUNY Potsdam. Andy has served on the Heuvelton Board of Education for the past ten years--serving as President of the Board this past year and during the 2011-12 and 2012-13 school years. Mr. Martin also served as Vice President during the school years of 2013-14, 2014-15 and 2015-16. Andy expressed the following as to why he wishes to offer his service again as a Board Member in the Heuvelton CSD:

"As a graduate of HCS, I was able to obtain the foundation and skills to prepare myself for college and my career as an engineer. As a parent, I want to be able to provide those same opportunities for my children. By serving on the Board, I consider myself a stakeholder in their education, as well as the education of the other students. Having served the past 10 years on the Board, I feel that we have set policies in place that allow our school to compete with others academically and technologically, while remaining fiscally sound. We have been able to help maintain the high quality of education at HCS, and further improve it by always looking forward. It's very rewarding to have played a part in the lives of all of these kids that walk across that stage . . . That alone is enough reason to serve on the Board."

Mr. Martin and his wife Amber have two daughters who attend Heuvelton Central School: Lara age thirteen and Lakan who is ten-years-old.

Christopher W. Riordan graduated from Heuvelton Central School in 2002. He continued his education at St. Lawrence University earning a Bachelor's of Science in Mathematics in 2006 and then a Master degree in Education in 2007. Presently, Chris is finishing administrative coursework and will soon begin his internship to become a school building leader.

Mr. Riordan is currently the Education Supervisor at the St. Lawrence Psychiatric Center. He is responsible for supervising teachers as well as communicating with local school districts to best maintain continuity of education with a child's home school district while they are hospitalized. Chris will complete his 10th year at SLPC in June.

Mr. Riordan has been living in the Heuvelton CSD since 1994. He and his wife Jenelle have two children. Their son Liam is six and their daughter Haley will soon be three. Chris is looking to serve on the Board of Education to give back to the community that afforded him so many opportunities while growing up in Heuvelton.