



Non-Profit Organization  
Carrier Route Sort  
**BULK RATE  
POSTAGE  
PAID**  
Permit No. 315  
Oswego, NY 13126

Board of Education

Lynda Sereno, *President*  
Thomas DeCastro, *Vice-President*  
Aimee Callen  
James Bell  
Brian Haessig  
Michael McLaughlin  
Samuel Tripp

Superintendent of Schools

Dr. Dean F. Goewey

Postal Patron

School District Budget Notice																		
	Budgeted 2016-2017 (A)	Proposed Budget 2017-2018 (B)	Percent Change (C)															
Total Budgeted Amount, not Including Separate Propositions	79,510,611	82,839,101	4.19%															
A. Proposed Tax Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount <sup>1</sup>	28,847,071	29,590,512																
B. Tax Levy to Support Library Debt, if Applicable	-	-																
C. Tax Levy for Non-Excludable Propositions, if Applicable <sup>2</sup>	-	-																
D. Total Tax Cap Reserve Amount Used to Reduce Current Year Levy, if Applicable	-	-																
E. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy (A + B + C - D)	28,874,071	29,590,512	2.48%															
F. Permissible Exclusions to the School Tax Levy Limit	2,518,659	3,689,210																
G. School Tax Levy Limit , <u>Excluding</u> Levy for Permissible Exclusions <sup>3</sup>	26,355,412	25,901,302																
H. Total Proposed Tax Levy for School Purposes, <u>Excluding</u> Permissible Exclusions and Levy for Library Debt, Plus Prior Year Tax Cap Reserve (E - B - F + D)	26,355,412	25,901,302																
I. Difference: (G - H); (negative value requires 60.0% voter approval)	-	-																
Public School Enrollment	3,732	3,670	-1.66%															
Consumer Price Index			1.26%															
<div><div><div>1 Include any prior year reserve for excess tax levy, including interest.</div><div>2 Tax levy associated with educational or transportation services propositions are not eligible for exclusion under the School Tax Levy Limit and may affect voter approval requirements.</div><div>3 For 2017-18, includes any carryover from 2016-17 and excludes any tax levy for library debt or prior year reserve for excess tax levy, including interest.</div></div><div><div>2017-2018 Property Tax Report Card</div><table><tr><th></th><th>Actual 2016-2017 (D)</th><th>Estimated 2017-2018 (E)</th></tr><tr><td>Adjusted Restricted Fund Balance</td><td>6,962,479</td><td>4,062,479</td></tr><tr><td>Assigned Appropriated Fund Balance</td><td>0</td><td>1,400,000</td></tr><tr><td>Adjusted Unrestricted Fund Balance</td><td>3,180,424</td><td>3,313,564</td></tr><tr><td>Adjusted Unrestricted Fund Balance as a Percent of the Total Budget</td><td>4.0%</td><td>4.0%</td></tr></table></div><div><div>* Should the district go to a contingency budget, the district must cut non-contingent items from the budget. In a contingent budget, there would be no purchase of new equipment unless purchase was deemed for health and safety reasons, no new capital expenditures, except in emergency situations, no non-essential maintenance, and outside organizations would have to pay for facilities use. The Board of Education must exercise its best judgment in determining what the minimum expenditures shall be within the limitations imposed by the administration and the contingent budget caps.</div></div></div>					Actual 2016-2017 (D)	Estimated 2017-2018 (E)	Adjusted Restricted Fund Balance	6,962,479	4,062,479	Assigned Appropriated Fund Balance	0	1,400,000	Adjusted Unrestricted Fund Balance	3,180,424	3,313,564	Adjusted Unrestricted Fund Balance as a Percent of the Total Budget	4.0%	4.0%
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Adjusted Unrestricted Fund Balance	3,180,424	3,313,564																
Adjusted Unrestricted Fund Balance as a Percent of the Total Budget	4.0%	4.0%																
<b>Maximum Basic Star Savings under the Proposed 2017-2018 Budget is \$619.00</b>																		
The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2017-18 by the qualified voters of the Oswego City School District, Oswego County, New York will be held at St. Paul's Church, Elim Grace Church, Scriba Fire Station and the Oswego Town Hall in said district on Tuesday, May 16, 2017 between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m., prevailing time, at which time the polls will be opened to vote by electronic voting machine.																		



**OSWEGO**  
CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

**BUDGET  
NEWSLETTER**  
**MAY 2017**

WHEN & WHERE TO VOTE

OVERVIEW OF 2017-18 BUDGET

SCHOOL VOTE

PROPOSITIONS AND CANDIDATES

BUDGET NOTICE & BASIC STAR

The proposed 2017-2018 Oswego City School District budget is \$82,839,101. The budget process started early in the current school year. The Superintendent had listening sessions with all principals, teachers and support staff on the effects the previous budget cuts had on their buildings. While the District is facing another shortfall in revenue due to the declining PILOT agreement with Nine Mile I and II, the difficult decisions made in the previous year have mitigated the revenue shortfall. Superintendent of Schools Dr. Dean Goewey worked in conjunction with the Board of Education to thoughtfully add back programs and positions to the proposed budget that is being presented to the community for the May 16 vote.

The goal for the 2017-2018 budget has been to maintain quality student educational programming, while listening to the needs of the schools and departments. We want all of our students to be “Fully Prepared and Life Ready.”

The current tax rate is \$20.84 per thousand and the proposed tax rate would be \$21.35, resulting in an increase of \$51.74 total for a \$100,000 home. The District can only control the tax levy. Assessments are set by the assessors on July 1 with the equalization rates calculated in mid-August from the NYS Office of Real Property Services.

Voting will be conducted from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Tuesday, May 16, at four sites throughout the District. School district residents will cast their votes at the Scriba Fire Station, St. Paul’s Church, Elim Grace Church and the Oswego Town Hall.

**How Can I Learn More About the Budget?**  
Information about the proposed 2017-18 Oswego City School District budget will be available on the District website. Additionally, the staff of WBUC-TV will be interviewing the Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Dean Goewey, for a video presentation about the proposed budget. The program will be broadcast several times throughout the days approaching the vote on WBUC Channel 16 on Time Warner Cable.

**What Are the Propositions?**  
Residents will vote on the following propositions on May 16 that impact the School District and the public library.

- Proposition 1** will be the 2017-2018 \$82,839,101 OCSD Budget.
- Proposition 2** will be the purchase of (5) 66-passenger school buses and authorization of the issuance of \$600,000 in bonds.
- Proposition 3** will be to approve the annual appropriation of \$1,279,999, to operate the Oswego Public Library.

Voters will be asked to cast their ballot to elect three members to the Oswego City School District Board of Education and one member to Library Board.

**Letter from Superintendent of Schools Dr. Dean Goewey**  
It’s hard to believe that it has been a year since the development and proposal of the 2016-2017 Oswego City School District budget! For me, that work was both professional and deeply personal. As an Oswego resident and taxpayer, I continue to be intimately aware of our District’s history relative to budgeting and spending. As a parent of three Oswego City School District graduates, I understand the importance of extracurricular activities like sports, music and clubs. These lenses provide the insight from multiple perspectives that I need to build a budget with the Board of Education that is responsible to our community, our District and our children. Last year’s budget process was highly emotional but laid the foundation for future budgets that will be based on actual revenues, which include the assistance of our community.

As I have shared throughout the budget season through my bi-monthly budget updates at the meetings of the BOE and in presentations across our community, we again have a delicate balance this year with sustaining and providing a quality, core instructional and enrichment program and being financially responsible to our District and community. I know that the community has been listening as I have talked about the story behind the issues that brought us to this place. You have heard me talk and write about the declining PILOT agreement with Nine Mile I and II that provides \$4 million less for the 2017-2018 school budget than our current budget, and another \$400,000 less in the two remaining years of this PILOT! I know the community has heard me when I have talked and written about being the largest school district in our county and receiving one of the smallest state aid allocations of the nine component school districts, more than \$20 million less than each of the other two large school districts in our county. I have shared with the community my resistance to using reserves to artificially balance the budget in that the practice is not sustainable.

The foundation that was laid with last year’s budget, which included very difficult reductions in staffing and programs, coupled with conservative spending practices have put our District on the road to an era of rebuilding. The great news is that this budget includes important instructional teaching positions, important support personnel and equipment, unique learning opportunities for all children and many sports and clubs. These additions to the 2017-2018 budget will have a positive impact on our most important mission: teaching and learning!

We are putting a budget forth for the 2017-2018 school year of \$82,839,101. Although this is a larger budget than the current year, it is less than the 2015-2016 budget and restores many great opportunities for children. This budget includes a 2.47% tax rate increase. This year’s 2.47% increase would increase a school tax bill for a \$100,000 home by \$51.74.

This spending plan is the result of very difficult work and a dedication to the fiscally responsible approach of moving our District forward through this era of rebuilding and regrowth. The District administration and school board are dedicated to making the tough decisions that are absolutely necessary and also to our responsibility to sustain a quality educational program for our children. The significant loss of revenues, the crippling state aid formula for small city schools and the increased cost of doing business such as health care has created an urgency for us to work smarter and leaner. This budget reflects that philosophy.

**Dr. Dean F. Goewey**  
*Superintendent of Schools* 

What will be Voted Upon?

Voters will be casting ballots on the budget, the bus proposition, and candidates for the Board of Education as well as the Public Library funding and election to the library board.

- BUDGET

(Oswego City School District for 2017-2018.)  
This year’s proposed budget is \$82,839,101.
- BOARD ELECTIONS

Five local residents have submitted petitions to serve on the Oswego City School District Board of Education.  
The candidates include: **Samuel Tripp, John Sheffield, Brian Chetney, Brandon Lagoe and Michael McLaughlin.**
- LIBRARY CHOICES

There will also be a proposition to vote on the library budget and to elect one member to the library board.  
The candidate is: **Catherine Santos.**

Information about the budget is available on the Oswego City School District website (www.oswego.org).

*Non-Discrimination Notice*  
*The Oswego City School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age in its programs, activities, employment, and admissions, and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups.*  
*The following people have been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Dr. Robert Duffy, Ed.D, District Coordinator. They can be reached by calling (315) 341-2014 or by mail at 120 East First Street Oswego, NY 13126. Inquiries concerning the application of the OCSD non-discrimination policies may also be referred to the U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights (OCR), 32 Old Slip, 26th Floor, New York, NY 10005, telephone (646) 428-3800 (voice) or (800) 877-8339 (TTY).*

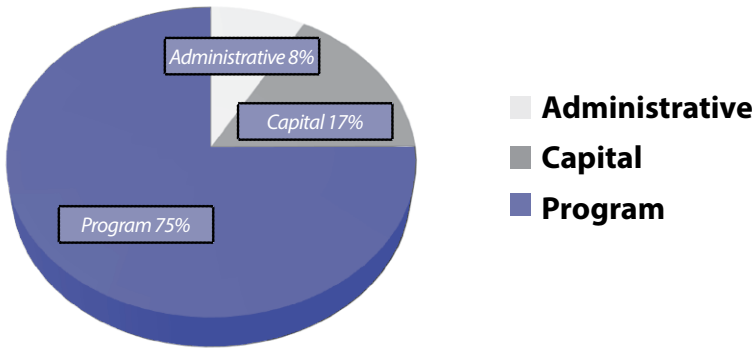
Overview of 2017-2018 Budget

Revenue

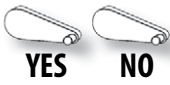
	2016-17 Budget	2017-18 Proposed Budget	\$ Change	% Change
Property Taxes	28,874,071	29,590,912	716,841	2.5%
PILOTS	25,211,929	21,775,180	-3,436,749	-13.6%
State Aid	23,200,611	24,516,759	1,316,148	5.7%
Other Revenue	2,224,000	2,656,250	432,250	19.4%
Fund Balance	0	1,400,000	1,400,000	100%
Reserves	0	2,900,000	2,900,000	100%
TOTAL	79,510,611	82,839,101	3,328,490	4.2%

Expenditure Component Budget

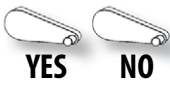
	2016-17 Budget	2017-18 Proposed Budget	\$ Change	% Change
Administrative	6,537,039	6,811,281	274,242	4.2%
Capital	14,123,806	13,859,855	-263,951	-1.9%
Program	58,849,766	62,167,965	3,318,199	5.8%
TOTAL	79,510,611	82,839,101	3,328,490	4.2%



School District Vote: May 16, 2017

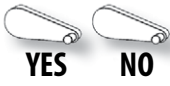


**Proposition No. 1 - School Budget for 2017 – 2018**  
Shall the Board of Education adopt a budget for the Oswego City School District in the amount of \$82,839,101 for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2017?



**Proposition No. 2 - Purchase of Buses**  
Shall the bond resolution adopted by the Board of Education of the City School District of the City of Oswego (the “School District”) on March 7, 2017, which (1) authorizes the purchase of five (5) 66-passenger school buses, at a total estimated maximum cost of \$600,000; (2) authorizes the issuance of obligations of the School District for such purposes in a principal amount up to \$600,000; (3) provides for the levy of taxes on the taxable real property within the School District to be collected in annual installments to pay principal and interest on such obligations; (4) pledges the School District’s faith and credit for payment of such obligations; and (5) delegates certain powers to the chief fiscal officer of the School District with respect to such obligations, be approved?

Candidates for the Board of Education Vote for up to 3						Library Trustee Vote for 1		
 Samuel Tripp	 John Sheffield	 Brian Chetney	 Brandon Lagoe	 Michael McLaughlin		 Catherine Santos		



**Proposition No. 3 - Public Library Vote**  
Shall the annual proposition be approved authorizing an annual appropriation of \$1,279,999.00 to operate the Oswego School District Public Library, and to support and maintain such library, which sum shall be raised annually by tax upon the taxable property of the Oswego City School District until changed by further vote of a majority vote of the electors of the Oswego City School District and shall be levied and collected yearly as are other general taxes?  
*\*The school district is obligated by law to place a proposition for library taxes on the ballot when requested by the library trustees. However, the library is a separate legal entity with its own funding and budget. Any money collected through taxation goes directly to the library and is for the sole purpose of library operations and programs.*

Polls Will be Open from 9:00 A.M. - 9:00 P.M.

Tuesday, May 16, the voters from throughout the Oswego City School District will be going to the polls to decide upon the proposed 2017-2018 budget, and elect three members to the Oswego City School District Board of Education.

<b>Election District No. 1</b> Location of polling place: SCRIBA FIRE STATION,  5618 State Route 104E, Oswego, NY 13126 <i>Who will vote here:</i> Ward 10 – Scriba and Volney (Oswego City School District Residents Only)	<b>Election District No.2</b> Location of polling place: ST. PAUL’S CHURCH,  50 E. Mohawk Street, Oswego, NY 13126 <i>Who will vote here:</i> Ward 2 (Fitzhugh Park School), Ward 4 (Education Center), or Ward 6 (Charles E. Riley)	<b>Election District No.3</b> Location of polling place: ELIM GRACE CHURCH,  340 West First Street, Oswego, NY 13126 <i>Who will vote here:</i> Ward 1 (McCrobie BLDG), Ward 3 (Frederick Leighton School), Ward 5 (Kingsford Park School) or Ward 7 (Oswego Middle School)	<b>Election District No. 4</b> Location of polling place: OSWEGO TOWN HALL,  2320 County Route 7, Oswego, NY 13126 <i>Who will vote here:</i> Ward 8 - Town of Minetto and Ward 9 - Town of Oswego (Oswego City School District Residents Only)
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Can I Vote?

- To be entitled to vote in the Oswego City School District a person must:
1. Be a citizen of the United States

2. Be 18 years of age or older

3. Be a resident of New York State and the Oswego City School District for 30 days preceding the May 16, 2017 voting day

4. Be a registered voter in their school election district

Anyone with questions regarding voting and budget information should contact Superintendent Dr. Dean F. Goewey, Superintendent of Schools at 315-341-2001 or dgoewey@oswego.org or District Clerk Karen Canale at 315-341-2001 or kcanale2@oswego.org.