Letter from Superintendent of Schools Dr. Mathis A. Calvin III

Dear Oswego City School District community,

As you are all aware, this year's budget vote is quickly approaching. With hard work and creative thinking, the Board of Education has adopted a budget that is:

- Fiscally sound - not excessive to taxpayers
- Flexible - provides for flexibility within budget codes
- Foolproof - provides for emergencies should they occur; and
- Flowing - has enough cash flow available should state aid be withheld

Additionally, this year's budget adheres to the Board of Education commitment to excellence by preserving all of our current programs and staff.

Highlights from the budget include the following:

- Total budget - This year's budget is $91,159,811 (a 2.9% increase from last school year)
- Tax cap compliant - This budget is tax cap compliant
- No budget cuts - There are no cuts to any of our programs or staff; and most important
- A 0% tax increase - This year's budget ensures a 0% tax rate increase for a second year (This involves an estimated rate of $17.91 for a property with a market value of $100,000.)

The support of our parents, staff and community are what makes Oswego City School District so successful. We are proud of the accomplishments of our students and staff and look forward to ensuring another year of success.

This year’s budget and Board of Education Member vote is set for May 18, 2021. Polls will be open from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. We encourage our entire community to please come out and take part in this vote.

With that said, the district is thankful for our community’s support.

Yours in Education,

Dr. Mathis A. Calvin III
Superintendent of Schools

Budget at a Glance
Each year, the school budget is divided into three components: program/instruction, capital and administration.

Program (78%)  
Program represents the largest portion of the school budget, as it involves the bulk of what helps the OCSD educational system and its staff members lead students into becoming fully prepared and life ready.

Capital (13%)  
This portion of the school budget is primarily centered on operations and maintenance. Debt service and specialty items also are included.

Administrative (9%)  
Instructional support is vital for OCSD’s operations. This portion of the budget is comprised of general support, instructional supervision and employee benefits attributed to each of those areas, including retiree benefits.

Basic STAR Exemption Impact
Three factors that determine the tax rate on your home include tax levy, equalization rates and property assessment. The tax levy is set by the school district in May; equalization rates are established by the New York State Office of Real Property Services in August and each respective town establishes assessments and equalization rates, but these are just estimates. Therefore, tax rates are not finalized until late August, at which time school tax bills are printed and mailed.

Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings Based on a Hypothetical Home Within the School District with a Full Value of One Hundred Thousand Dollars ($100,000).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Budget Proposed for the 2021-2022 School Year</th>
<th>$537</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

1The basic school tax relief (STAR) exemption is authorized by section 425 of the Real Property Tax Law.
WHAT WILL BE VOTED UPON?

Voters will cast ballots on propositions pertaining to the 2021-2022 Oswego City School District operating budget, two (2) Board of Education seats, the purchasing of new school buses, the Oswego School District Public Library, and one (1) library trustees.

**BUDGET**
This year’s proposed budget is $91,159,811.

**BOARD ELECTIONS**
Four local residents have submitted petitions to serve on the Oswego City School District Board of Education.

*The candidates are:* Tom Ciappa, Sallye Glennen, Sean Ohnmacht and Jacob Southworth

The two candidates receiving the most votes would each serve a three-year term to commence July 1, 2021.

**LIBRARY CHOICES**
Pursuant to state law, the Oswego City School District Public Library appears on the ballot alongside the district’s operating budget. The library and district budgets are not related and one does not affect the other.

*The candidates are:* Elizabeth Oberst and Casey Smith.

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**OVERVIEW OF 2021-2022 BUDGET**

### REVENUE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2021-2022 Proposed Revenue</th>
<th>2020-21 Revenue</th>
<th>$ Change</th>
<th>% Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Property Taxes</td>
<td>$26,643,448</td>
<td>$26,643,448</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PILOTS</td>
<td>$25,261,542</td>
<td>$24,957,492</td>
<td>$304,050</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Aid</td>
<td>$37,951,609</td>
<td>$33,488,205</td>
<td>$4,463,404</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Revenue</td>
<td>$1,303,212</td>
<td>$2,578,499</td>
<td>$-1,275,287</td>
<td>-49%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fund Balance &amp; Reserves</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$837,811</td>
<td>$-837,811</td>
<td>-100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>$91,159,811</strong></td>
<td><strong>$88,505,455</strong></td>
<td><strong>$2,654,356</strong></td>
<td><strong>2.999%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### EXPENDITURE COMPONENT BUDGET

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2021-22 Proposed Budget</th>
<th>2020-21 Budget</th>
<th>$ Change</th>
<th>% Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Administrative</td>
<td>$8,490,321</td>
<td>$8,281,323</td>
<td>$208,998</td>
<td>2.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital</td>
<td>$12,038,728</td>
<td>$12,010,948</td>
<td>$27,780</td>
<td>.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program</td>
<td>$70,630,762</td>
<td>$68,213,184</td>
<td>$2,417,578</td>
<td>3.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>$91,159,811</strong></td>
<td><strong>$88,505,455</strong></td>
<td><strong>$2,654,356</strong></td>
<td><strong>2.999%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**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 1 Buccaneer Boulevard, 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).
**SCHOOL DISTRICT VOTE: MAY 18, 2021**

**Proposition No. 1 - School Budget for 2021 – 2022**
Shall the Board of Education adopt a budget for the Oswego City School District in the amount of $91,159,811.00 for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2021?

**Proposition No. 2 - Purchase of Transportation Vehicles**
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 16, 2021, which authorizes (a) the purchase of two (2) 30-passenger Bluebird Microbus gas buses, two (2) 65-passenger Bluebird Vision gas school buses, three (3) 64-passenger Cummins/Diesel Thomas C2 buses and three (3) 64-passenger Detroit/Diesel Thomas C2 buses, at a total combined maximum estimated cost not to exceed $1,125,000; (b) the issuance of up to $1,125,000 serial bonds of the School District to pay the cost thereof; (c) the issuance of obligations of the District in a principal amount that may exceed the District’s constitutional debt limit; (d) the pledge of School District’s faith and credit for payment of bond anticipation notes and such bonds; and (e) the levy of taxes on the taxable real property in the School District to be collected in annual installments to pay debt service on such obligations, be approved?

**Proposition No. 3 - Oswego City Public Library**
“Shall the Oswego SD Public Library Board of Trustees be authorized to levy and collect an annual tax, separate and apart from the annual school district budget, in the amount of $1,361,215 (an increase of 2% or $26,690) for the continuing support and maintenance of the Oswego SD Public Library, with this appropriated amount to be the annual appropriation until thereafter modified by a future vote by the taxpayers of the Oswego City School District?”

* 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.

**Candidates for the Board of Education**
Vote for up to 2

- Tom Ciappa
- Sallye Glennen
- Sean Ohnmacht
- Jacob Southworth
- Elizabeth Oberst
- Casey Smith

**Library Trustee**
Vote for 1

- Mary Smith

**POLLS WILL BE OPEN FROM 9 A.M. - 9 P.M.**
On Tuesday, May 18, voters from throughout the Oswego City School District will be going to the polls to decide upon the proposed 2021-2022 budget and elect two members to the Oswego City School District Board of Education.

Election District No. 1
Location of polling place: SCRIBA FIRE STATION
5618 State Route 104E
Oswego, NY 13126
Who will vote here: Scriba and Volney
(Oswego City School District residents only)

Election District No. 2
Location of polling place: ST. PAUL’S CHURCH
50 E. Mohawk Street
Oswego, NY 13126
Who will vote here: Ward 2, Ward 4 and Ward 6

Election District No. 3
Location of polling place: ELIM GRACE CHURCH
340 W. First Street
Oswego, NY 13126
Who will vote here: Ward 1, Ward 3, Ward 5 and Ward 7

Election District No. 4
Location of polling place: OSWEGO TOWN HALL
2320 County Route 7
Oswego, NY 13126
Who will vote here: Oswego Town and Town Of Minetto
(Oswego City School District residents only)

**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 18, 2021 voting day
4. Be a registered voter in their school election district

Anyone with questions regarding voting and budget information should contact Superintendent Dr. Mathis A. Calvin III at (315) 341-2001 or mcalvin@oswego.org or District Clerk Karen Canale at (315) 341-2001 or kcanale2@oswego.org.

**Can I Vote?**
Provide a statement of assumptions made in projecting a contingency budget for the 2021-22 school year, should the proposed budget be defeated pursuant to Section 2023 of the Education Law.

Should the budget be defeated all new equipment that does not constitute ordinary contingent expenses will be eliminated. No new capital expenditures except in emergency situations; no non-essential maintenance and outside organizations would have to pay for facilities use.

| Overall Budget Proposal | Budget Adopted for the 2020-21 School Year | Budget Proposed for the 2021-22 School Year | Contingency Budget for the 2021-22 School Year *
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Budgeted Amount, Not Including Separate Propositions</td>
<td>88,505,455</td>
<td>91,159,811</td>
<td>91,002,811</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increase/Decrease for the 2021-22 School Year</td>
<td>2,654,356</td>
<td>2,497,356</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percentage Increase/Decrease in Proposed Budget</td>
<td>2.999 %</td>
<td>2.8%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Change in the Consumer Price Index</td>
<td>1.23%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. Proposed Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount</td>
<td>26,643,448</td>
<td>26,643,448</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. Levy to Support Library Debt, if Applicable</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. Levy for Non-Excludable Propositions, if Applicable **</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D. Total Tax Cap Reserve Amount Used to Reduce Current Year Levy</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy (A + B + C - D)</td>
<td>26,643,448</td>
<td>26,643,448</td>
<td>26,643,448</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F. Total Permissible Exclusions</td>
<td>1,083,222</td>
<td>1,916,533</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G. School Tax Levy Limit, Excluding Levy for Permissible Exclusions</td>
<td>26,041,988</td>
<td>27,958,521</td>
<td></td>
</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>25,560,266</td>
<td>24,726,955</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I. Difference: G – H (Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval – See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions)**</td>
<td>481,722</td>
<td>3,231,566</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administrative Component</td>
<td>8,281,323</td>
<td>8,490,321</td>
<td>208,998</td>
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