

Forward Thinking and Community Engagement: Keys to the Future Success of Rhinebeck's Schools

Last school year, the Rhinebeck Central School District extended an invitation to community stakeholders to participate in a Citizens Advisory Committee on Long Range Planning (CAC-LRP). A group of volunteer school and community respondents was formed to assist the Board of Education in identifying innovative and creative solutions as part of a cohesive strategy to continue to provide high-quality, comprehensive programs and services to the community's children. The current challenges, for many New York State school districts, in meeting this goal are posed by declining enrollment, limited financial support from New York State, and the limits on local financial support of elementary and secondary education allowed under New York's tax levy cap limit legislation.

The CAC-LRP has met a number of times during this school year and has provided the Board of Education with their best thinking in pursuit of those goals that will lead to the formulation of a long-range plan to address those challenges. The Board is currently engaged in the process of reviewing, discussing, and researching the ideas generated by the CAC-LRP for inclusion in a multi-year long-range plan to guide the school district to future viability and success.

Also, through careful planning and hard work over the past several years, the Board of Education has been successful in strengthening the District's financial stability. Due to ongoing and prudent expenditure assessment and personnel decisions, while continuing to offer high quality academic programs for our students, the Rhinebeck Central School District has been removed by the Comptroller's Office from the list of New York school districts in financial distress, while it continues to be recognized locally and nationally as a premier school district in New York State and in the United States.

1-3	PROPOSITION & CANDIDATES
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THE RESOURCE

The Rhinebeck Central School District

Spring
2019

Serving the Students and Communities of Rhinebeck, Milan, Clinton, Hyde Park, Stanford & Red Hook

Regarding the proposed 2019-20 budget, the Board of Education and the administrative staff have developed a fiscal plan to balance anticipated expenditure increases with a dedication to maintaining the quality of education that the community expects and deserves for its children and their future. Passage of the proposed 2019-20 school budget will result in:

- The ongoing improvement of the District's financial position to remain within the tax levy cap limit in 2019-20 and in future years;
- The maintenance of appropriate staffing levels to support and improve the level of programs/services to meet the educational, social, and emotional needs of our current and anticipated student population; and
- The support and improvement of student programs and services for which Rhinebeck schools are known, both regionally and nationally.

The Rhinebeck School District is fortunate to have local organizations that have partnered actively with the District to enhance the quality of programs that students receive. The Rhinebeck Alumni Association, The Rhinebeck Parent-Teacher-Student Organization (PTSO) The Rhinebeck Science Foundation, and CultureConnect are school-supportive and youth-centric organizations in our community dedicated to supporting unique, focused, and valuable learning experiences for our children. We appreciate and thank them for their commitment to our community's youth and their educational experiences.

The Rhinebeck Board of Education continues to encourage all interested community members to participate by offering to serve on a committee, by attending a Board meeting, a Board work session, or a Board Coffee Hour during the year to become informed about and discuss the issues. To further understand how our budget works, we have provided a Budget 101 document on our website to assist anyone who wishes to understand how a school budget is put together and to comprehend its various components.

A link to access the Budget 101 document and other information related to the budget process can be found at: rhinebeckcsd.org/budget

VOTE

May 21, 2019
2pm - 9pm

Bulkeley Middle
School Cafeteria

The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2019-20 by the qualified voters of Rhinebeck CSD, Dutchess County, NY will be held at Bulkeley Middle School in said district on Tuesday, May 21, 2019 between the hours of 2-9pm, prevailing time, in the Bulkeley MS cafeteria, at which time the polls will be opened to vote by voting ballot or machine.

Rhinebeck High School has been named by US News and World Report again this year as one of 2019's "Best High Schools" in New York State. Rhinebeck is ranked #102, one of 287 New York State high schools recognized as "Best High Schools," an improvement over last year's ranking of #130 out of 1,263 high schools. This places Rhinebeck High School in the top 8% of high schools statewide. Nationally, Rhinebeck High School was ranked #1,191 out of 20,500 US high schools, an improvement over last year's ranking at #1,423, placing RHS in the top 6% of schools nationwide.

Absentee Ballots

If a voter is unable to vote on the day of the budget, the voter has the option to submit an absentee ballot adhering to the following procedures.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that pursuant to Section 2018-a of the Education Law, applications for absentee ballots for the School District Election and Vote may be obtained at the office of the District Clerk (45 North Park Road, Rhinebeck, NY).

The application must be received by the District Clerk at least seven (7) days prior to the election if the ballot is to be mailed to the voter, or the day before the election if the ballot will be picked up personally by the voter at the office of the District Clerk. Absentee ballots must be received at the Office of the District Clerk by no later than 5:00 p.m., prevailing time, on the day of the Election and Vote, May 21, 2019.

A list of all persons to whom absentee ballots shall have been issued will be available for inspection to qualified voters of the District at the Office of the District Clerk on weekdays when school is in session during regular office hours, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., prevailing time, until the day of the Election and Vote, and at the Business Office (45 North Park Road, Rhinebeck, NY) on Saturday, May 18, 2019 by appointment only.

Any qualified voter may file a written challenge of the qualifications of a voter whose name appears on such list, stating a voter whose name appears on such list and the reason for the challenge.

The Vote

If approved by a simple majority (50% + 1) of the voters on May 21st, this proposed budget will continue to provide high quality educational and extracurricular experiences for the community's children. If the vote is not approved, the Board has the option, by law, either to submit a reduced budget or to submit the same budget for a second vote. The failure of a second budget vote to pass will result in a contingency budget which would drive a .31% budget-to-budget decrease and a 0.0% tax levy increase. In order to operate within the limits of a contingency budget, staff reductions, along with related reductions in programs, and/or services, would inevitably be required.

All qualified, registered voters are encouraged to exercise their right and responsibility to participate in the school budget vote and Board of Education member election, which will be held in the Bulkeley Middle School cafeteria from 2:00 to 9:00 p.m. on Tuesday, May 21st. Please feel free to contact your School Board members or District administrators with any questions you might have. The Board of Education and District leaders thank you for your interest in, and your ongoing support of, the Rhinebeck schools.

BOE Members

Laura Schulkind, **President**
876-8253
Laura.Schulkind@rhinebeckcsd.org

Diane Lyons, **Vice-President**
266-8861
Diane.Lyons@rhinebeckcsd.org

Mark Fleischhauer, **Trustee**
876-5311
Mark.Fleischhauer@rhinebeckcsd.org

Stephen Jenkins, **Trustee**
876-0758
Stephen.Jenkins@rhinebeckcsd.org

Elizabeth Raum, **Trustee**
663-4787
Elizabeth.Raum@rhinebeckcsd.org

Lisa Rosenthal, **Trustee**
876-1086
Lisa.Rosenthal@rhinebeckcsd.org

Jaclyn Savolainen, **Trustee**
876-7334
Jaclyn.Savolainen@rhinebeckcsd.org

At their meeting on April 9, 2019, the Rhinebeck Board of Education adopted a proposed budget of \$35,005,961 for the 2019-20 school year. The proposed expenditure plan represents a budget-to-budget increase of 3.2% over the current year's budget.

The proposed 2019-20 budget will increase the tax levy by 3.63%, an increase that is within the requirements of New York State's tax levy cap legislation. According to the State's tax levy cap legislation, a simple majority (50% + 1) is required for passage.

Technology Integration

We believe that technology is a tool for learning that expands our instructional repertoire to maximize the capacity of all teachers and learners. By using technological tools, students can be engaged in a stimulating academic environment with a challenging curriculum that is student-centered and focused on inquiry-based learning.

Specifically, we envision that technology is available and effectively supported for **all** students and staff:

- To provide global access to information
- To refine critical thinking skills and foster creativity
- To collect, assess, and share performance information

- To meet the curricular needs of all learners
- To provide a medium for expression and communication
- To provide skills and proficiencies necessary for the workforce

VOTER PROPOSITIONS

Proposition #1: Shall the Board of Education of the Rhinebeck Central School District be authorized to expend the sums of money which will be required for School District purposes for the 2019-2020 school year, in the amount of \$35,005,961 and to levy the necessary tax therefor?

Proposition #2: To elect three (3) members to the Board of Education, for a three-year term, commencing July 1, 2019 and expiring on June 30, 2022.

Vote for Three (3)

Steve Jenkins

Matthew Van Wormer

Jacqueline Raccuia

Board of Education Candidates

Regarding Board of Education member representation, incumbent Steve Jenkins and community members Matthew Van Wormer and Jacqueline Raccuia have submitted duly executed petitions for election to the three (3) Board seats that are open this year, each for a three-year term. These choices will be included on the May 21st ballot, along with the 2019-20 school budget proposal.

STEVE JENKINS

14 year resident Spouse-Kathy, 2 Children-Madison, 17; Shae, 14.

Financial advisor and business owner.

BS degree in Computer Science; Master's degree in Finance.

Currently serve as a member of the Rhinebeck School Board.

Chair the Village of Rhinebeck Assessment Review Committee. Board member and volunteer of the Rhinebeck Manta Ray Swim Team.

What motivates you to want to become a school board member?

I am seeking re-election for a second term because I am committed to this board's long-range planning goal of building upon Rhinebeck's tradition of educational excellence. In addition to that goal I want to ensure we are supporting critical thinking, problem solving, and creativity skillsets in our students to prepare them for the 21st century workforce. Social-emotional well-being and resiliency are also areas that I think the board needs to address.

What is your vision for education in our community?

We are a community with diverse and far-ranging skills and talents, and I would like to support programs that utilize our community's talents and resources to provide real life and hands on opportunities for our students.

What is the biggest challenge facing our schools and what should be the top two priorities for the Board in 2019-20 and beyond?

The top two priorities are budget constraints and declining enrollment. My goal is to continue to provide a robust education, teams, and social/emotional experience to the students in a district with declining student enrollment and limited state education funding. My top priority for 2019-20 is to start implementation the long range plan that I have been working on with my board colleagues.

What experience do you have that will make you an effective leader as a member of the school board?

My experience working with the Rhinebeck Science Foundation and the Rhinebeck Village and Town has provided me with multiple opportunities to listen to diverse and varied opinions, problem solve, and collaborate as a group to find solutions. I am committed to public education and specifically to continuing to support the tradition of innovative programming at Rhinebeck. My background in financial planning will be an asset to the community as we continue to face challenging budget cycles.

MATTHEW VAN WORMER

Lived in Rhinebeck from 1982 to 1995 before returning to the community in 2016. Spouse-Rachel, 3 children- Rowan, 12; Ben, 11; Quinn,6.

Lawyer/Partner at Sullivan & Worcester

Education: Georgetown University ('99) Fordham Law School ('02)

What motivates you to want to become a school board member?

With children who will be attending Rhinebeck schools over the next decade, I am heavily invested in the Rhinebeck school system for the long-term. I have personally benefitted from my own education in the Rhinebeck school system, and believe that by serving on the Board, I can give something back to the community. By serving on the Board, I believe that I can help others enjoy the same great education that I was fortunate to receive. A school board member is elected to serve as an advocate for the needs and desires of the community, and I look forward to an open dialogue at Board meetings with the community.

What is your vision for education in our community?

To create an environment in which learning is a top priority and encouraged for all students of various abilities.

What is the biggest challenge facing our schools and what should be the top two priorities for the Board in 2019-20 and beyond?

The current budget constraints along with declining enrollment are the biggest problems facing the School District. While there are no easy answers, I believe that a fresh set of eyes can help effectively deploy a limited set of resources where they are needed most. Apart from addressing budget challenges, school safety is the other equally important priority. The community entrusts the school district with the safety of its children and the school district must continually evaluate safety in an effort to be vigilant while maintaining a welcoming learning environment.

What experience do you have that will make you an effective leader as a member of the school board?

As someone with deep roots to Rhinebeck, I believe that I understand and share the values of the community. I also work with other boards of directors and understand how an effective board works.

JACQUELINE RACCUIA

2 year resident Spouse- Salvatore, 3 children- Elena, 10th grade; Matthew, 9th grade; Josephine, 8th grade.

Masters degree in Speech Language Pathology Volunteer in the Parent Association of children's former school.

American Cancer Society volunteer in former community.

What motivates you to want to become a school board member?

I am motivated to become a school board member by my desire to become an active member of the community and assist in the continued success of the school district. Maintaining viability and sustainability for future generation is of the utmost importance and pushes me to become involved.

What is your vision for education in our community?

My vision for education in the Rhinebeck community to continue to support the administrators and teachers towards their quest to provide the highest standard of education. To ensure that all students receive superior services to achieve success in the future.

What is the biggest challenge facing our schools and what should be the top two priorities for the Board in 2019-20 and beyond?

Sustainability due to decreasing enrollment and financial viability are, in my opinion, the biggest challenges facing the school board. The Board of Education needs to continue to work to provide the highest level of education for all its students in a manner that is affordable and reasonable for the district. The Board also would benefit from recruitment of families into the area through promoting special programs and services that may not be offered in area school districts.

What experience do you have that will make you an effective leader as a member of the school board?

As a speech language pathologists, I have worked in public schools with teachers, administrators and families. I have an understanding of the education system, experience with curriculums, specials education, and speaking and dealing with students' families. The board will benefit from having an individual with experience working within a school.

PART 1 Administrative Budget	Adopted Budget for 2018-19	Proposed Budget for 2019-20	Amount of Inc/Dec for 2019-20	% of Change
Board of Education	\$44,385	\$48,100	\$3,715	
Central Administration	\$270,560	\$290,800	\$20,240	
Finance	\$585,058	\$565,875	\$-19,183	
Personnel.....	\$31,500	\$37,000	\$5,500	
Legal	\$40,000	\$40,000	\$0	
Records Management	\$850	\$1,000	\$150	
Central Services	\$215,000	\$227,450	\$12,450	
Special Items	\$264,050	\$267,550	\$3,500	
Curriculum Development & Supervision	\$319,743	\$341,743	\$22,000	
Supervision - Regular School	\$1,032,496	\$1,052,296	\$19,800	
Supervision - Handicapped.....	\$192,260	\$167,260	\$-25,000	
Supervision - Employee Benefits.....	\$1,457,068	\$1,475,707	\$18,639	
Subtotal-Administrative.....	\$4,452,970.....	\$4,514,781	\$61,810	1.39%

PART 2 Program Budget	Adopted Budget for 2018-19	Proposed Budget for 2019-20	Amount of Inc/Dec for 2019-20	% of Change
Inservice Training	\$99,100	\$106,000.....	\$6,900	
Teaching-Regular School	\$8,758,596	\$8,982,332.....	\$223,736	
Programs for Students with Disabilities	\$3,556,900	\$3,740,900.....	\$184,000	
Occupational Education	\$279,500	\$312,650.....	\$33,150	
School Library & Audio Visual	\$324,850	\$339,745.....	\$14,895	
Computer Assisted Instruction	\$536,855	\$562,905.....	\$26,050	
Attendance	\$89,000	\$94,500.....	\$5,500	
Guidance	\$519,250	\$544,650.....	\$25,400	
Health Services	\$257,845	\$286,850.....	\$29,005	
Psychological Services	\$159,000	\$170,100.....	\$11,100	
Social Work Services	\$126,700	\$134,500.....	\$7,800	
Co-Curricular Activities.....	\$65,950	\$65,900.....	\$-50	
Interscholastic Athletics.....	\$333,172	\$358,080.....	\$24,908	
Pupil Transportation	\$1,856,639	\$1,931,320.....	\$74,681	
Community Services.....	\$3,000	\$3,000.....	\$0	
Instruction-Employee Benefits	\$7,886,393	\$7,932,251.....	\$45,858	
Interfund Transfers	\$53,000	\$72,000.....	\$19,000	
Subtotal-Program	\$24,905,750.....	\$25,637,683	\$731,993	2.94%

PART 3 Capital Budget	Adopted Budget for 2018-19	Proposed Budget for 2019-20	Amount of Inc/Dec for 2019-20	% of Change
Operation of Plant	\$1,302,210	\$1,401,825	\$99,615	
Maintenance of Plant	\$539,969	\$528,050	\$-11,919	
Capital-Employee Benefits	\$679,683	\$691,542	\$11,859	
Debt Service	\$2,039,577	\$2,232,080	\$192,503	
Subtotal-Capital	\$4,561,439	\$4,853,497	\$292,058	6.40%

TOTAL BUDGET **\$33,920,159.....** **\$35,005,961** **\$1,085,801** **3.20%**

CLS adopted the Big Ideas Math program to improve student comprehension of mathematical concepts. This adoption complements the middle school program already in place. CLS also has focused on the physical, social, and emotional well-being of our students, starting in Kindergarten, with programs entitled Second Step and The Great Body Shop.

BMS and RHS are working with the Teaching Empathy Institute to enhance student social and emotional learning in support of one of the Board's goals for the 2018-19 school year.

The RHS newspaper Rhinebeck Reality has gone online to reach a wider audience and to provide students with an online journalistic experience.

THREE PART BUDGET SUMMARY: Comparison of 2018-19 and Proposed 2019-20

Adopted Budget for 2018-19

Description	Amount	% Budget
Administrative	\$4,452,970	12.85%
Program	\$24,905,750	73.94%
Capital	\$4,561,439	13.21%
Total	\$33,920,159	100.00%

Proposed Budget for 2019-20

Description	Amount	% Budget
Administrative	\$4,514,781	12.90%
Program	\$25,637,683	73.24%
Capital	\$4,853,497	13.86%
Total	\$35,005,961	100.00%

Administrative Component

Includes expenses related to Central Administration, Central Services, Special Items (such as insurance), School Supervision, Curriculum Development, Board of Education and all Employee Benefits related to these areas.

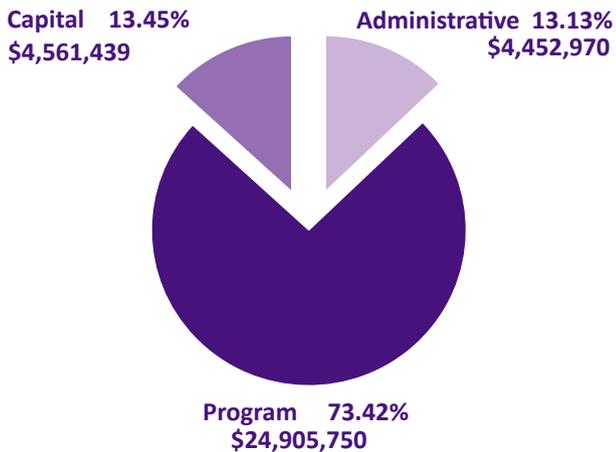
Program Component

Includes expenses related to Instruction, Computer Assisted Instruction, Library Services, Pupil Services such as Health, Guidance, Attendance, Interscholastic Athletics, Co-Curricular Activities, Transportation, Interfund Transfer to Special Aid Fund and all Employee Benefits related to these areas.

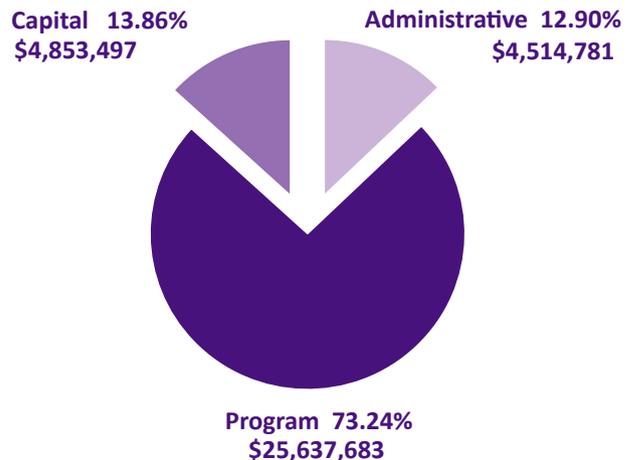
Capital Component

Includes all expenses related to Operations and Maintenance, Debt Service, Interfund Transfer to Capital Fund and all Employee Benefits related to these areas.

Current Budget for 2018-19



Proposed Budget for 2019-20



Estimated Revenues for the School Year 2019-20

Property Tax	\$29,860,484	85.30%
State Aid	\$3,760,529	10.74%
Fund Balance	\$850,000	2.43%
Other	\$534,948	1.53%
Total	\$35,005,961	100.00%

Estimated Tax Rates for the School Year 2019-2020

Based on current (2018-19) town-determined assessed values and State-established equalization rates

TOWN	Taxable Assessed Value	Tax Levy Amount	Actual 2018-19 Tax Rate/\$1,000	Estimated 2019-20 Tax Rate/\$1,000	Inc./Dec. Amt/\$1,000
RHINEBECK	\$1,422,298,124	\$22,251,227	17.0050.....	17.6231	0.6181
CLINTON	\$272,712,996	\$4,266,475	15.6446	16.2132.....	0.5686
HYDE PARK.....	\$19,792,567	\$309,646	27.4466.....	28.4442	0.9976
MILAN.....	\$72,394,159	\$1,132,575	16.6446.....	16.2132.....	0.5686
RED HOOK	\$14,493,714	\$226,748	15.6446.....	16.2132	0.5686
STANFORD.....	\$40,049,622.....	\$626,559.....	15.6446.....	16.2132.....	0.5686
TOTALS	\$1,841,741,182	\$28,813,230			

TAX LEVY:		FULL VALUE TAX RATE:	
TAX AMOUNT 18-19	\$28,813,229.....	FULL VALUE TAX RATE 18-19:.....	\$15.6446
TAX AMOUNT 19-20	\$29,860,484.....	FULL VALUE TAX RATE 19-20:	\$16.2132
DOLLAR INCREASE	\$1,047,255	FULL VALUE INCREASE	\$0.5686
PERCENT INCREASE	3.63%	PERCENT INCREASE	3.63%

Tax Cap Legislation - The Mythical 2%

As written and adopted by the Legislature and signed by the Governor, §2023-a of the Education Law sets forth the formula that school districts must use to calculate their respective tax levy limits.

Contrary to the term used in numerous media reports, the “2% tax cap”, which is actually the “allowable tax levy limit,” as defined in the law, is the product of a complex formula that includes some of the following factors and the associated percentage or dollar increase/decrease to the RCSD tax levy limit, such as:

- Inflation Factor (2.44% this year), capped at 2%
- Tax base growth factor (0.89% in RCSD)
- Change in Payments in Lieu of Taxes (-\$1,242)
- Capital Local Expenditures (\$237,368)

Given these variables, the allowable tax levy limit will differ from one school district to another and, in many cases, may exceed the 2% touted in press reports.

For the Rhinebeck Central School District, the allowable tax levy limit for the 2019-20 school year is 3.64%, based on the formula set forth in the provisions of §2023-a. The Rhinebeck Central School District Board of Education is proposing a 3.63% tax levy increase, which is less than our allowable tax levy limit.

More information about the various components involved in the calculation of the allowable tax levy limit is available at: <http://www.osc.state.ny.us/localgov/real-prop/index.htm>.

Facilities Improvements at Rhinebeck

The District is implementing a capital project this spring, approved by the voters in December of 2016, to address the much needed physical improvements to our buildings, which include many energy saving measures. Energy efficient windows and LED lighting throughout the District will save on energy costs for years to come. Other much needed improvements are being made, with roof repairs and new floors slated for areas in the high school. Students will also enjoy an improved athletic field with a new irrigation system, and a solar demonstration panel to study solar power. Another power-related initiative will be to install a generator on our main campus to ensure that basic power can be provided for the school and community in the event of an extended power outage.

School District Budget Notice

This form is a requirement of NYS Education Law and must be sent to all voters of the District

RHINEBECK CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

	Budget Adopted for 2018-19 School Year (A)	Proposed Budget for 2019-20 School Year (B)	Contingency Budget 2019-20 School Year (C)
Total Budgeted Amount, not including Separate Propositions..	\$33,920,159	\$35,005,961	\$33,958,706
Increase/Decrease for the 2019-20 School Year.....		\$1,085,802	\$38,547
% Increase/Decrease in Proposed Budget.....		3.20%	0.11%
Change in Consumer Price Index.....		2.44%	
A. Proposed Tax Levy to Support Total Budgeted Amt.....	\$28,813,229	\$29,860,484	
B. Levy to Support Library Debt.....	\$0	\$0	
C. Levy for Non-excludable Propositions.....	\$0	\$0	
D. Total Tax Cap Reserve Amt. Used to Reduce Current Yr. Levy.....	\$0	\$0	
E. Total Proposed School Yr. Tax Levy (A+B+C-D).....	\$28,813,229	\$29,860,484	\$28,813,229
F. Permissible Exclusions to the School Tax Levy Limit.....	\$1,215,231	\$1,452,599	
G. School Tax Levy Excluding Levy for Permissible Exclusions.....	\$27,597,998	\$29,863,295	
H. Total Proposed Tax Levy for School Purposes, Excluding Permissible Exclusions & Levy for Library Debt, Plus Prior Year Tax Cap Reserve (E-B-F+D).....	\$28,813,229	\$29,860,484	\$28,813,229
I. Difference: (G-H); (Negative value Requires 60% Voter Approval-See Note Below Regarding Separate Provisions)		\$0	\$2,811
ADMINISTRATIVE COMPONENT.....	\$4,452,970	\$4,514,781	\$4,379,715
PROGRAM COMPONENT.....	\$24,905,750	\$25,637,683	\$24,870,694
CAPITAL COMPONENT.....	\$4,561,439	\$4,853,497	\$4,708,297

A contingent budget for the Rhinebeck CSD reflects additional reductions from the proposed 2019-20 budget in the amount of \$1,047,255 which includes: the elimination of all equipment items (less \$10,000 for potential Health & Safety equipment); community use of facilities; certain pupil supplies; certain non-contractual salary increases, as required by law; additional teaching and non-teaching positions; and student program and service reductions.

BASIC STAR EXEMPTION IMPACT (This example is required by law.)

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). **Under the Budget Proposed for the 2019-2020 School Year, the estimated Basic-STAR tax savings would be \$651.00.**

Voter Information

Eligible voters must meet the following criteria:

- Must be a citizen of the United States; and
- Must be at least 18 years of age; and
- Must be a resident* within the school district for a period of at least thirty days immediately preceding the election/vote at which such person desires to vote; and
- Must be qualified to vote at any election in accordance with the provisions of § 5-106 of the election Law; and
- Must be registered to vote with the County Board of Elections or personally registered to vote with the School District.

Ownership of property, such as a weekend home, does not confer upon the property owner the right to vote in school district elections/votes.

**RESIDENCY: For purposes of § 2012 of the Education Law, an individual may have only one legal residence or domicile and that is where the individual intends to have his/her permanent residence.*

Voters must be registered by doing one of the following:

Residents not registered with the Dutchess County Board of Elections, but who wish to vote in Rhinebeck CSD elections and votes may register at the Rhinebeck CSD District Clerk Office at 45 North Park Road, Rhinebeck, between 9:00 am and 4:00 pm on days when school is in session. The deadline for registration directly with the District is May 16, 2019 in order to be eligible to vote in the May 21, 2019, Budget Vote and Election.

Proof of residency is required to register, which may include one or more of the following items, at the District's discretion: driver's license with picture, non-driver identification card with picture, passport, lease agreement, deed plus utility bill, and/or redacted copy of income tax return.

For further information, contact Ms. Whitney Druker District Clerk (845)871-5520, extension 5522.

Rhinebeck Central School District
45 North Park Road
P.O. Box 351
Rhinebeck, New York 12572

Non-Profit Org. U.S. Postage PAID Kingston, NY Permit No. 1050
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RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMER

Tax Relief Programs

THE STAR PROGRAM

All homeowners are eligible for the School Tax Relief (STAR) program, which helps reduce school property taxes. All owner occupants of their one-, two-, and three-family primary residences, regardless of age and with incomes under \$500,000, are eligible. Unlike other exemptions, the STAR exemption does not shift the property tax burden to other property owners. NYS reimburses the Rhinebeck Central School District the amount of STAR directly to the school district for the entire amount of the STAR savings generated by this program.

Beginning with the 2011-2012 school year, the income limit for Basic STAR is \$500,000. Eligibility is based on the combined incomes of: a) owners who reside at the property, and b) any owner's spouse who resides at the property. Wherever possible, the New York State Tax Department determines whether STAR recipients are income-qualified. If you are not qualified, or if you are required to provide income information, you will be notified in writing by your local tax assessor.

Other Exemptions Available:

Aged Exemption - used for residential purposes only and is based on income levels and the corresponding increased exemption percentages. If any child resides on the property for which an exemption is sought and attends any public schools grades K-12, no exemption for school taxes may be granted.

Increase Disability School Tax Exemption - similar in structure to the aged exemption. Property owner must have a serious disability and receive either Social Security Disability, SSI, disability benefits under the Federal Railroad Act, or possess a certificate from the State Commission of the Blind which states the person is legally blind.

Veterans Exemption - new school district exemption took effect during the 2015-16 school year. Veterans may receive exemptions up to the following amounts: Basic (\$12,000); Combat Zone (\$8,000); and Disabled (\$40,000).

Please contact your local assessor's office for additional information.