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VOTE

Tuesday
May 21, 2019

12 p.m. – 9 p.m.

Walter B. Howard
Elementary School Gymnasium

2019-2020 BUDGET SUMMARY

Proposed Budget:

\$12,480,879

Budget-to-Budget Decrease:

-\$38,215 -0.31%

Estimated Tax Levy Increase:

0%

School Board Election

This year there are two people running for three open Board of Education seats. The third Board of Education seat will be filled by a write-in candidate. John Kalisz and Timothy Lambert have declared their candidacy. Each seat is a three-year, non-paid term

Candidate information is available at: www.newlebanoncsd.org/district/budget/



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2019-2020 SCHOOL BUDGET:

Preserves programs, keeps tax levy increase at 0% for seventh consecutive year

On Tuesday, May 21 the New Lebanon Community will vote on a \$12,480,879 proposed budget for the 2019-20 school year.

The plan represents a decrease in spending over the current year's budget. In addition to staying below the calculated tax levy limit, the proposed budget represents a 0% tax levy increase for the seventh consecutive year. This year, as in years past, the district has budgeted well below their allowable tax levy limit of 4.17%. The district has been able to keep the levy increase at zero because of long-term financial planning and ongoing evaluation of all programs for efficiencies and cost savings.

"The proposed budget preserves all existing programs, which contribute to maintaining the quality education we aim to provide all of our students from pre-kindergarten through high school, while being mindful of the financial impact on our taxpayers," said Superintendent Leslie Whitcomb.

This budget funds the addition of one elementary teacher position, needed due to increased enrollment. The proposed budget will continue to fund the services and programs that the community has come to expect from a New Lebanon education: a half-day Pre-K program, small class sizes, clubs, sports, recreational opportunities, and individual planning for higher education and careers. The budget supports our comprehensive program including extensive electives: computer science, art, music and health courses beginning at the elementary level and continuing through grade 12. The budget also provides for college credit courses in math, science, social studies, art, business, English and technology.



This spring, students in the Walter B. Howard Elementary School Drama Club presented the musical "Madagascar Jr."

Continuing Opportunities for Students

WALTER B. HOWARD ELEMENTARY

- Small class sizes to allow individualized instruction
- Reading and support staff focused on primary grades to ensure a strong academic start
- Reading and writing curricula provide research-based literacy instruction
- More than one hour of reading time daily at all grades keeps focus on literacy development
- Special area classes enrich learning in health, computer science, physical education, art, music and library
- Students in grades K-6 participate in physical education daily
- Distance learning allows every classroom virtual field trips throughout the year
- All students participate in music performance beginning in grade 4; the district supports instrumental participation for students who cannot afford an instrument
- Swim instruction in grades 4-6 promotes water safety
- After school activities encourage participation of all students in areas of interest: athletics, games, programming, drama and music
- Science instruction in a dedicated lab uses standard lab equipment to conduct experiments and to engage in observational science
- Field trips for students during the year include Nature's Classroom for grade 5, Medieval Times and a science museum in New Jersey for grade 6 and more at each grade level

JR/SR HIGH SCHOOL

- Small class sizes allow for individualized instruction
- A full range of elective offerings minimizes study halls and increases instructional opportunities
- Counseling support allows each student to develop and annually revise their high school plan – individualizing their course selections to meet their post-graduate goals
- Dedicated faculty continually develop electives to ensure that our students have engaging opportunities to explore forensics, business, humanities, engineering and coding throughout their high school careers
- Students have access to three fixed computer labs, several mobile labs and mini classroom labs
- Participation in our high-quality music program exceeds 70%, with many students performing in regional festivals and competitions
- 12 college-level courses with dual credits available from Columbia-Greene Community College, Hudson Valley Community College, SUNY Oswego and SUNY Albany
- Students receive daily structured recreational opportunities during their lunch period
- Extracurricular offerings are designed to include all interests. Opportunities include: Drama Club, Tech Club, Environmental Club, Intramural Swimming, Fitness Club, Minecraft® Club, SADD, Spanish Club, Spirit Club, Student Council, Travel Club, Tech Club, Archery Club, Maker Space and Yearbook

Some NLHS athletic teams merge with Berlin High School

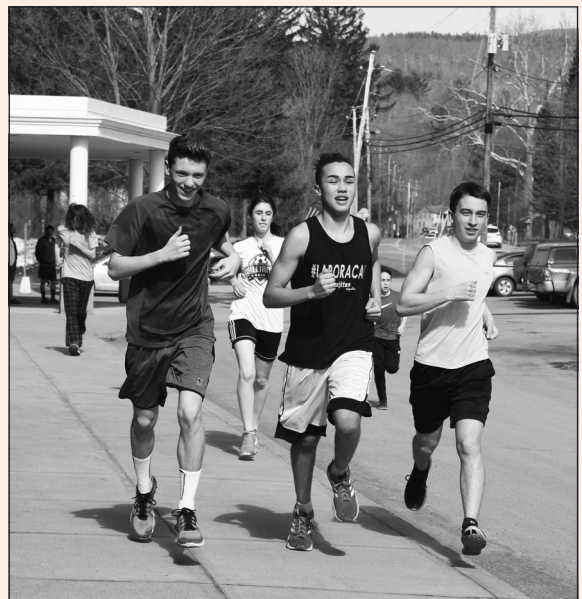
This spring, the New Lebanon Board of Education approved the merger of the track teams as well as JV and Varsity baseball, softball and basketball teams with Berlin High School.

Declining participation rates at both schools has made it difficult to field teams. Beginning this spring, the combined teams will compete in the Wasaren League which Berlin joined two years ago. The merger will strengthen the teams' ability to compete.

"Athletics is a key component to the educational program; by merging, we are ensuring that the quality of play remains high while continuing to give those opportunities to kids that otherwise might not have had the opportunity to play," said Superintendent Leslie Whitcomb.

Another added benefit, says Whitcomb, is the social aspect. The combining of the teams gives student athletes a chance to make friends outside of their normal school circles.

New Lebanon and Berlin have combined wrestling and swim teams since the 90's, so merging more teams was not a huge stretch. The teams are currently competing as Berlin-New Lebanon without the use of a mascot.



2019–20 New Lebanon CSD Budget

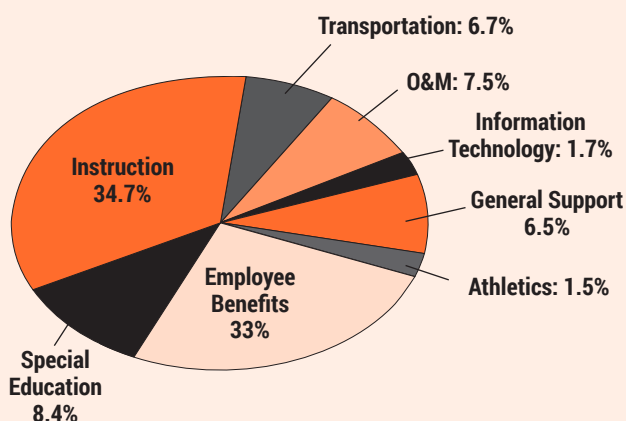
EXPENDITURES

Category	2018-19	Proposed Budget 2019-20	Change from 2018-19
General Support	\$794,228	\$810,811	\$16,583
Operations	\$534,350	\$554,500	\$20,150
Maintenance	\$379,864	\$386,500	\$6,636
Instruction	\$4,219,945	\$4,327,810	\$107,865
Special Education	\$902,184	\$1,045,459	\$143,275
Athletics	\$169,200	\$189,400	\$20,200
Information Technology	\$212,176	\$207,450	-\$4,726
Transportation	\$863,258	\$836,380	-\$26,878
Employee Benefits	\$4,443,889	\$4,122,569	-\$321,321
Total Expenditures	\$12,519,094	\$12,480,879	-\$38,215

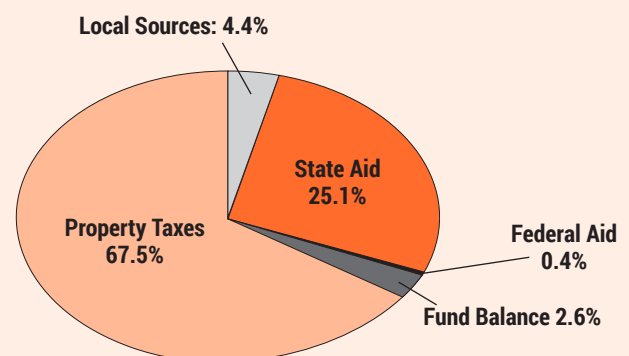
REVENUES

Category	2018-19	Proposed Budget 2019-20	Change from 2018-19
Local Sources	\$457,000	\$552,000	\$95,000
State Aid	\$3,589,505	\$3,131,072	-\$458,433
Federal Aid	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$0
Fund Balance	\$0	\$325,218	\$325,218
Property Taxes	\$8,422,589	\$8,422,589	\$0
Total	\$12,519,094	\$12,480,879	-\$38,215

EXPENDITURES



REVENUES



Valedictorian: Nathaniel Austin

Nathaniel Austin, son of Timothy and Jennifer Austin of Stephentown, has been named New Lebanon High School's Class of 2019 Valedictorian.

Nathaniel has taken Advanced Placement and college level courses including: University Biology, Spanish IV and V, Physics, English and Advanced Placement Calculus and Chemistry. He will graduate with a Regents Diploma with Advanced Designation, with Honors and an Annotation of Mastery in Science.



Nathaniel is the recipient of the Clarkson University High School Leadership Award, George Eastman Young Leaders Award, St. Michael's College Book Award and the State of New York Office of the Attorney General Triple "C" Award.

In addition to excelling in academics, he has been a member of varsity track and soccer, drama club, National Honor Society and was elected as the Class of 2019 President. Outside of school, Nathaniel works at Zema's Nursery. In his free time, he enjoys running, woodworking and 3D design using modeling software.

Nathaniel remains undecided about where he will attend college in the fall. He attributes his success to the support he received from his family and teachers at New Lebanon CSD.

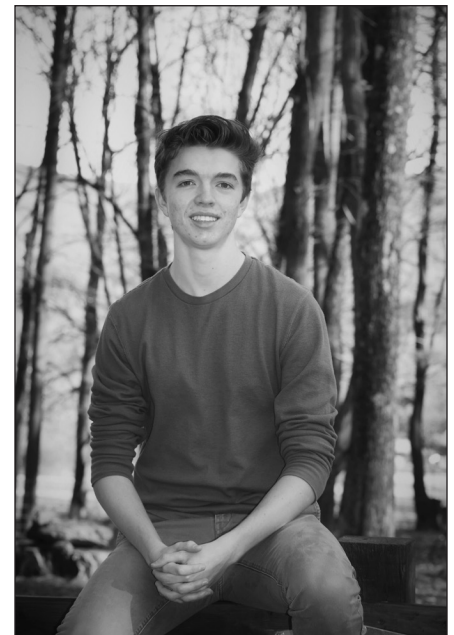
Salutarian: Keagan Carson

Keagan Carson, son of Scott and Kristin Carson of New Lebanon, has been named New Lebanon High School's Class of 2019 Salutarian.

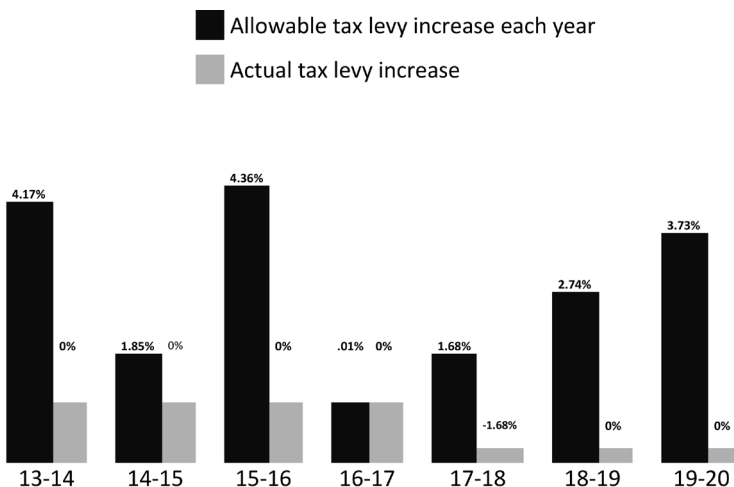
Keagan has taken Advanced Placement and college level courses including: University Business, Spanish IV and V, Physics, English, History, PreCalculus and Advanced Placement Computer Science and Calculus. He will graduate with a Regents Diploma with Advanced Designation, with Honors and an Annotation of Mastery in Science.

Keagan is the recipient of the Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership Award and Iron Scholar Award. In addition to excelling in academics, he has been a member of 4-H, varsity soccer, National Honor Society and is President of Student Council.

Keagan will be attending Northeastern in the fall. He plans to major in Mechanical Engineering. He attributes his success to the support he received from his sister, parents and teachers at New Lebanon CSD.



A History of Fiscal Responsibility



Over the course of the last seven years, the district has remained at 0 percent, always budgeting for what we need rather than seeing the cap as what we can spend.

STATE REQUIRED BUDGET NOTICE

Overall Budget Proposal	Budget Adopted for the 2018-19 School Year	Budget Proposed for the 2019-20 School Year	Contingency Budget for the 2019-20 School Year *										
Total Budgeted Amount, Not Including Separate Propositions	\$ 12,519,094	\$12,480,879	\$12,287,529										
Increase/Decrease for the 2019-20 School Year		\$-38,215	\$-231,565										
Percentage Increase/Decrease in Proposed Budget		-0.31 %	-1.8%										
Change in the Consumer Price Index		2.44%											
A. Proposed Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount	\$8,422,589	\$8,422,589											
B. Levy to Support Library Debt, if Applicable	N/A	N/A											
C. Levy for Non-Excludable Propositions, if Applicable **	N/A	N/A											
D. Total Tax Cap Reserve Amount Used to Reduce Current Year Levy	\$0	\$0											
E. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy (A + B + C - D)	\$8,422,589	\$8,422,589	8,191,024										
F. Total Permissible Exclusions	\$409,071	\$522,587											
G. School Tax Levy Limit, <u>Excluding</u> Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$8,169,011	\$8,251,108											
H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, <u>Excluding</u> Levy to Support Library Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions (E - B - F + D)	\$8,013,518	\$7,900,002											
I. Difference: G - H (Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval - See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions) **	\$155,493	\$351,106											
Administrative Component	\$1,281,049	\$1,321,325	\$1,312,725										
Program Component	\$9,267,001	\$9,300,554	\$9,260,804										
Capital Component	\$1,971,044	\$1,859,000	\$1,714,000										
<p>* Provide a statement of assumptions made in projecting a contingency budget for the 2019-20 school year, should the proposed budget be defeated pursuant to Section 2023 of the Education Law.</p> <p>The allowable tax levy increase for a contingent budget is 0.00%. The proposed 2018-19 tax levy increase of 0.00% is within the tax levy limit allowed for contingent budgets. To calculate the contingent budget, required reductions totaling \$231,565 for bus purchases, equipment, administrative expenses, and capital improvements were removed for the proposed budget.</p>													
<p>** List Separate Propositions that are not included in the Total Budgeted Amount: (Tax Levy associated with educational or transportation services propositions are not eligible for exclusion and may affect voter approval requirements)</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Description</th> <th>Amount</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td> </td><td> </td></tr> <tr><td> </td><td> </td></tr> <tr><td> </td><td> </td></tr> <tr><td> </td><td> </td></tr> </tbody> </table>				Description	Amount								
Description	Amount												

NOTE: Please submit an electronic version (Word or PDF) of this completed form to: emscmgt@nysed.gov

Under the Budget Proposed for the 2019-20 School Year

Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings¹

\$ 403

The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2019-20 by the qualified voters of the New Lebanon Central school district, Columbia County, New York, will be held at Walter B. Howard school in said district on Tuesday May 2, 2019 between the hours of 12:00pm and 9:00pm, prevailing time in the gymnasium, at which time the polls will be opened to vote by voting ballot or machine.

1. The basic school tax relief (STAR) exemption is authorized by section 425 of the Real Property Tax Law.

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14665 State Route 22
New Lebanon, NY 12125

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Timothy Lambert, *President*
Michael Brutsch, *Vice President*
Michael Bienes Jr.
William Buckenroth
Raymona Griffin
Sharon Putnam
Richard Sime

*Board meetings are held at 7 p.m.
Please visit our website for specific dates.*

www.newlebanoncsd.org

SUPERINTENDENT

Leslie Whitcomb

Produced by Questar III Communications Service

POSTAL PATRON

BUDGET VOTE & BOARD ELECTION

**Tuesday, May 21, 2019
12–9 p.m.**

Walter B. Howard Elementary
School Gymnasium

OUR PROGRAM BY THE NUMBERS

- 51: The number of college credits available to students through dual credit courses
- 90% High School graduation rate in 2018 (state average is 80%)
- 40% of class of 2018 graduated with a regents degree with advanced designation (state average is 33%)
- 60% of students participate in a sports team
- 80% of students participate in the arts
- 89% of seniors will graduate with credits in engineering and computer science courses
- 100% of students Pre-K to grade 12 have daily recess
- 60% of students enroll in classes that can lead to college credits earned in high school
- 100% of students grades 4-8 participate in performance music program
- 71% of High School students participate in performance music
- 100% of students grades 9-12 have a 4-year high school to graduation plan

Voting Information

Voter Eligibility: You are eligible to vote if you are a U.S. citizen, 18 years old or older and a resident of the school district for at least 30 days prior to the vote.

Absentee Ballots: Qualified district residents who are unable to go to the polls on May 21 can cast their votes by absentee ballot. For an application, call the district office at 794-7600. All completed ballots must be received by the district clerk no later than 5:00 p.m. on May 21.

Copies of the itemized budget are available online, in your Town Library or in the school main offices.

