



"Together we teach and inspire excellence for all learners."

Gates Chili Schools

Special Budget Edition - May 2017

Annual School Budget Vote

Dear District Residents,

The Board of Education, along with our Administrative team that includes our Associate Superintendent, Carol Stehm; our Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources and Labor Relations, Michaela Perrotto; and our Interim Superintendent for Business, James Fichera have looked carefully at our budget process. This year the 2017-2018 Annual Budget is presented a bit differently to be more transparent and meaningful for our Gates Chili Central School District Learning Community. We hope that you will find these changes, this "relentless search" for a better way, more informative and educational for our district residents preparing to cast your vote at the voting polls on Tuesday, May 16, 2017. The Property Tax Cap Levy continues to change the way districts across New York State develop a budget that is fiscally responsible, yet one that focuses on what is best for the students. In the Gates Chili Central School District, we are looking at a 1.99% Tax Cap Levy limit.

This year was the first year in a long time that the New York State Budget was not approved by April 1, making it especially difficult to balance a budget, and likewise present it. The Board of Education approved this budget with tentative state aid numbers following a late budget approval on April 7, 2017. Our local Senators and Assemblymen continue to advocate for additional state aid funds to support education throughout New York State. We are truly grateful for their support of public education in our region. Additional aid, mainly in the form of Foundation Aid, was approved. This allowed for us to offset the budget gap with this additional/anticipated aid, along with the use of additional appropriated reserves.

On behalf of the Board of Education we present the proposed budget for the 2017-2018 academic school year. We are committed, dedicated, and determined to create an annual budget that sustains our fiscal health for many years to come, while maintaining school programs that meet the needs of ALL students, district wide.

We continue to use our reserves appropriately and strategically, to balance the budget. These reserves are created to cover liability costs that are often the largest of expenditures in the budget. Reserves can only be used as they are designated, and once we allocate funds from these reserves they are gone. Thus, we continue to look at our long-range plans for the use of reserves well into the future.

This year you will find four (4) propositions on the ballot...our Annual Budget, the purchase of buses, a Capital Project referendum, and the election of Board members. The Board of Education has reviewed the work of a dedicated Capital Project Planning Committee, over the last 18 months, and approved a resolution for district wide capital project improvements in the amount of \$68,324,000.

Please accept my sincere appreciation for the continual support of our community residents to ensure that every child is college and/or career ready upon graduation. We are committed to improving academically, while keeping fiscal responsibility at the forefront of all that we do. Our budget, our buses, and our buildings will provide the opportunity to be "GRREAT!"

Kimberle A. Ward, Superintendent

VOTE
Tuesday, May 16, 2017

6:00 AM - 9:00 PM
Gates Chili High School
Field House
1 Spartan Way

Three-Part Budget Information Proposed Budget 17-18

Program Component \$ 79,435,603 or 76.36% of budget

The Program Component represents the largest portion of expenditures. This component maintains all current programs and services and supports the District's mission and vision. This component provides funding for instruction and educational support services for all students. Transportation, health, library, co-curricular activities, and athletics are also included in this component.

Function or Account	2016-17	2017-18	Increase/ Decrease
Instruction	\$51,442,086	\$53,519,295	4.04%
District Transportation	\$4,010,700	\$4,664,291	16.30%
Community Services	\$192,991	\$170,187	-11.82%
Employee Benefits	\$20,832,244	\$21,081,830	1.20%
Total	\$76,478,021	\$79,435,603	3.87%

Capital Component \$ 14,830,597 or 14.26% of budget

The Capital Component includes cost associated with the operation and maintenance of the District facilities, including utilities, building and equipment repairs and grounds maintenance. Funds area also included for principal and interest payments on capital projects.

Function or Account	2016-17	2017-18	Increase/ Decrease
Operation of Plant & Maintenance of Plant	\$5,066,389	\$5,144,208	1.54%
Employee Benefits	\$1,647,887	\$1,667,630	1.20%
Debt Service	\$8,196,239	\$8,018,759	-2.17%
Total	\$14,910,515	\$14,830,597	-0.54%

Administrative Component \$ 9,757,765 or 9.38% of budget

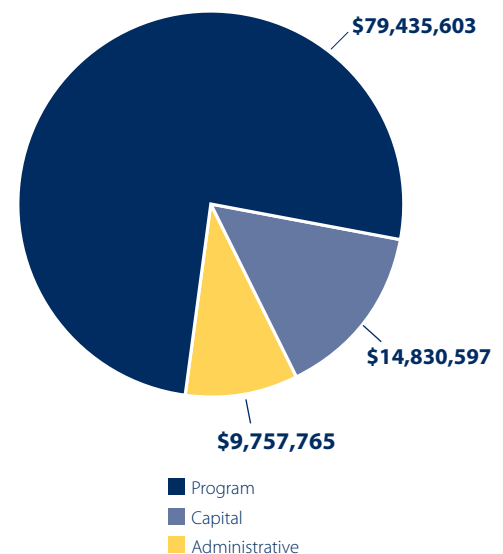
The Administrative Component provides for the general support and management of the school buildings and the District.

Function or Account	2016-17	2017-18	Increase/ Decrease
Board of Education	\$19,523	\$19,400	-0.63%
Central Administration	\$286,713	\$286,722	0.00%
Finance	\$772,800	\$798,562	3.33%
Staff	\$604,391	\$604,582	0.03%
Central Services	\$546,373	\$538,684	-1.41%
Specialty Items	\$1,395,139	\$1,469,047	5.30%
Instructional Administration & Staff Development	\$775,629	\$1,178,709	51.97%
Supervision (Regular & Special School)	\$2,443,043	\$2,433,961	-0.37%
Supervision Students with Special Needs	\$497,949	\$287,558	-42.25%
Employee Benefits	\$2,115,198	\$2,140,540	1.20%
Total	\$9,456,758	\$9,757,765	3.18%

Total Three-Part Budget	\$100,845,294	\$104,023,965	3.15%
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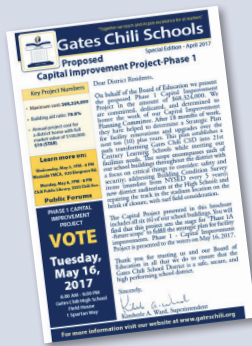


17-18 Use of Educational Funding



Proposed Phase 1 Capital Improvement Project

A Proposed Capital Project newsletter was sent to all residents in April. A copy is here at: www.gateschili.org/community.cfm?subpage=66643
If you did not receive one contact us at communications@gateschili.org or 247-5050 ext. 12214 for a copy.



2017-2018 Bus Purchase Proposition

- Will not impact the tax levy
- Will generate approximately \$1,141,530 in State Aid
- The cost of each bus after State Aid is approximately \$6,380
- Includes financing costs of approximately \$60,000



Capital Project

Average Annual Tax Rate Impact per Household

Project Referendum Amount	\$68,324,000
Senior Star	\$9
Star	\$19
No Star	\$27

The estimated tax impact is based on a home assessed at \$100,000.

Proposition 1 General Fund Budget

SHALL the Board of Education of the Gates Chili Central School District be authorized to spend for school purposes during the 2017-2018 fiscal year \$104,023,965 and to levy the necessary tax therefore?

Proposition 2 Bus Purchase Proposition

SHALL the Board of Education of the Gates Chili Central School District be authorized to undertake the acquisition of fifteen (15) school buses, at an estimated maximum aggregate cost of \$1,874,000, before trade-in for a net aggregate cost of \$1,620,000 and that such costs, or so much thereof as may be necessary, shall be raised by the levy of a tax to be collected in annual installments; and, in anticipation of such tax, debt obligations of the school district as may be necessary not to exceed such estimated maximum aggregate cost shall be issued, or the school district may enter into an installment purchase contract if the Board of Education determines that it is in the best interest of the school district to finance the purchase in that method?

Proposition 3 Capital Project

To authorize addition to, construction, reconstruction and equipping of, school buildings and facilities, including various site and other incidental improvements, all at an estimated maximum aggregate cost of \$68,324,000 with the expenditure of \$5,000,000 from the existing capital reserve fund for such costs, the issuance of not to exceed \$63,324,000 of debt obligations of the School District therefor, and the levy of a tax in annual installments therefor, all as more fully described in said notice, be approved?

Proposition 4 Board of Education Candidates

Three (3) candidates will be elected to serve a three-year term from July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2020.

One (1) candidate will be elected to serve a two-year term from May 17, 2017 to June 30, 2019.

Vote for any four (4).

Program Updates

Smart Schools

- One of the first districts in the area to be approved for funding
- 1:1 computing opportunities
- Over 40 classrooms equipped with 1:1 devices
- Technology integration is fostering student-centered learning
- 2017-2018 Grades 4-8, 18 plus classrooms at the High School with a 1:1 computing experience
- To learn more about Technology Integration go to www.gateschili.org/info.cfm?subpage=65007

ARTS

- Partners with RBTL
- Over 2,500 students received instruction and curriculum related to the arts
- These same students attended an evening performance of a Broadway show at RBTL
- Shows included: Curious Incident, Finding Neverland and Wicked
- Guest artists have come into our schools to share their experiences
- The partnership will continue in 2017-2018

Hillside

- Provides mentoring and enrichment to 65 High School students
- Identified those most at-risk of academic failure or dropping out
- Milestones and goals are set to address attendance, academics, and behaviors
- Participation will help ensure college and career readiness

UPK

- Our program continues to grow
- For 2017-2018 150 plus families and students will participate
- Program offers four-year-olds the opportunity to learn readiness skills for kindergarten
- The focus is on play to learn
- Coming in 2018 – additional cohort space in partnership with the Gates Public Library



RELAY FOR LIFE EVENT!

May 12, 2017
5-10 PM

Gates Chili Field House

Relay for Life brings together communities to raise awareness and much needed funds to save lives and create a world with less cancer and more birthdays.



FREE Summer Meals Program

July 5 - August 18

The Gates Chili CSD is hosting the USDA funded Summer Meals Program. All children in the community under the age of 18 are welcome for breakfast and lunch. There is no income requirement or registration necessary. The meals will be served at Gates Chili High School, 1 Spartan Way, enter door 50. For more information call School Nutrition 247-7213.

The Gates Chili Education Foundation provided three teacher grants and five student scholarships in 2016-2017.

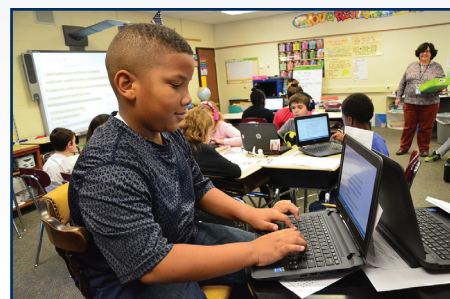
To contribute to the education foundation, go to www.gceducationfoundation.org



Spartan Pride

- The Gates Chili Chapter of the National Honor Society inducted 37 new members. To be awarded the honor of membership to the National Honor Society, students must exhibit the following traits: excellent character, leadership skills, and a commitment of service to the community, as well as outstanding academics.
- The High School Music Department invited The Saakumu Dance Troupe from Ghana, West Africa to visit to give a traditional West African music and dance presentation to 9-12 band and chorus students.
- Ten fourth- and fifth-grade students participated in the second Paul Road School Geography Bee. Students were given challenging questions about the United States and World Geography.
- Jayson Bakshi earned first place in the Middle School National Geography Bee and qualified to compete in the New York State Geography Bee.
- Several winter athletes qualified for states. Congratulations to our student athletes, their parents and coaches.
- Three eighth-graders placed third in the Finger Lakes Region Day of Service for their poster and presentation. The title of their poster was "Powering our Future: Water Turbines as a Source for Renewable Energy".
- Fifty-two Gates Chili High School students earned an Academic Varsity Letter in recognition of the academic achievement of earning sixty-five quarterly grades of 95 or better throughout their high school career. Thank you to Advisors Jeanine Agnello and Carroll Wetherby.
- Congratulations to Arts Integration TOSA Holly Valentine and Neil Armstrong teacher Vincent Schiano who each received a Golden Apple Award from TV8. The Golden Apple Award recognizes teachers making a difference in their community. Typically, only one award is presented by TV 8 to a school district in a given year.
- Twenty community groups and individuals participated in the Spartans on Parade community Art Project in celebration of the 60th anniversary.
- The Early Childhood Committee hosted their third summer Reading Caravan Event for incoming UPK and Kindergarten students with Gates Chili staff members serving as guest readers and with special guest Froggy from the book, *Froggy Goes to School*.
- Disney and Neil Armstrong Elementary school fifth grade essay contest winners each read their winning essay in honor of Veterans, at the Town of Gates Veterans Day celebration.
- Brasser Day of Caring, a five-year tradition, in which students perform songs for those attending the Chili Senior Center and then enjoy lunch and conversation with senior citizens.
- The Middle School seventh and eighth grade Girl's Treble Choir performed in a Choral Honors Chorus Concert this spring with high school and college student groups under the leadership of music teacher Julie Ciarvella.
- High School teachers offered Bridging Home and School - Empowering Parents Sessions a series of free evening classes regarding Growing Successful Kids.
- The Gates Chili Cross Country team had 45 students participate in their Run Mondays afterschool program for 4th, 5th and 6th grade students to learn about running.
- 2016 graduate Allison Kunz, a student of Nancy Swanson's, created the 60th Anniversary logo.
- Personalized brick pavers in celebration of the 60th Anniversary will create a new walkway at the stadium.

Additional Spartan Pride moments are on the District website at <http://www.gateschili.org/info.cfm?subpage=64453>



Voter Eligibility

Anyone who is at least 18 years old, a US Citizen, and a resident of the Gates Chili Central School District for at least 30 days prior to the May 16, 2017 vote is eligible. You do not need to be registered to vote, but you must bring identification and proof of residency.

Absentee Ballots

Absentee ballots are available to residents who will be out of town or unable to vote in person due to illness or disability. To receive a ballot you must first submit an absentee ballot application. For an application, contact the District Clerk's office by calling 585-247-5050 ext. 12101. Complete absentee ballots must be received no later than 5:00 PM on Tuesday, May 16, 2017.

Exit Poll

Please consider completing the exit poll. High School students will help to facilitate.

All other Residents with BASIC STAR benefits		Residents 65 and older with Enhanced STAR benefits	
Assessed Value	Est. yr/yr tax increase	Assessed Value	Est. yr/yr tax increase
\$100,000	\$35	\$100,000	\$17

Estimated Comparison of Taxes				
	2016-17	2017-18	Change	
Tax Rates On Assessed Value:		Estimate	Amount	%
Gates Assessed Value (\$1,302,766,230)	\$26.12	\$26.61	\$0.49	1.88%
Chili Assessed Value (\$635,625,393)	\$26.12	\$26.61	\$0.49	1.88%
Tax Rates on True Value (\$1,938,401,623)	\$26.12	\$26.61	\$0.49	1.88%

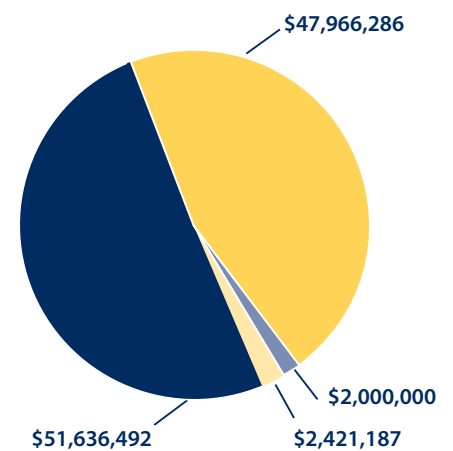
Calculations are based on the following assumptions:

1. Assessment values in the Town of Gates will increase
2. Assessed values in the Town of Chili will increase
3. Equalization rated of 100% in the Towns of Gates and Chili were used to compute tax rates
4. The budgeted tax levy is \$51,636,492

Budget Proposition

Proposed Budget	\$104,023,965
Budget to Budget Increase	3.15%
Estimated Tax Rate Increase	1.88%
Tax Levy Increase	1.99%

Sources of Education Funding



- Total Revenues Other Than Real Property Taxes (Excluding Tax Levy)
- Appropriate Fund Balance to reduce taxes
- Appropriated Reserves
- Total Real Property Tax Levy



Board of Education Candidates

Three (3) candidates will be elected to serve a three-year term from July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2020. One (1) candidate will be elected to serve a two-year term from May 17, 2017 to June 30, 2019. Vote for any four (4).



Marvin Stepherson: Previously worked for the Rochester Police Department as a patrol sergeant, retiring in 2014 after twenty-five years of service. Currently adjuncts at both M.C.C. & Roberts Wesleyan Colleges and teaches a CTE program with the Rochester City School District. Marvin earned both an undergrad and graduate degree from Roberts Wesleyan College: Bachelor degree in Public Safety Administration, and a Masters of Science Degree in Strategic Leadership. A retired veteran of twenty-seven (27) years, having served with both the U.S. Marine Corp and U.S. Coast Guard and has resided in the district for approximately eleven years (11). Married to Lena Pride-Stepherson, they have three children. Blake, a 2015 Spartan graduate; Shelby, a Spartan Junior; and Carmen, a Spartan 6th grader. Most recently served on The Gates-Chili Capital Project Committee. One of my all-time favorite paraphrased quote: "The paradox of education is precisely this: that as one begins to become conscious one begins to examine the society in which he is being educated." James Baldwin



Catherine Coffee: Excited for the opportunity to run for the Board of Education with the Gates Chili CSD. As a young mother and public school teacher, the concerns and well-being of all students within the district are a very real part of her daily life. Her son has grown into an avid reader, self-advocate, and dedicated learner thanks to the dedication of his teachers and staff in this district. Her experience as a Special Education Teacher provides her with insight and advocacy skills to help our community continue to shape responsible and compassionate learners.



John (Jack) Curran: A retired Post Office Supervisor who has served the Gates Chili Board of Education for more than 20 years, last contributing in 2010. He and his wife Arlene have been District residents for over 50 years. He currently volunteers as a member of the District Improvement Team (DIT) and has been a part of the 60th Anniversary Committee during the 2016 - 2017 school year. Jack is an avid bowler and enjoys being with his family. He believes that students come first, then taxpayers; maintaining programs needed for a great education at the lowest cost to the taxpayer.



Michael A. Bailey: Has served on the Gates Chili Board of Education for approximately four (4) years. He has two sons, both of which attend Gates Chili Schools; Justin Bailey attends the High School, and is in 10th grade and Logan Bailey attends the Middle School and is in 6th grade. Michael has four (4) siblings; one (1) sister and three (3) brothers who live in the Rochester area. He has previously sat on and chaired multiple committees such as Finance, Ad-Hoc, and the Information Exchange. Michael also attended both the State and National School Board Conventions. Being on the board for the past four years, he has contributed in making Gates Chili a better school district for students, families, and the community. He looks forward to the opportunity to continue to do so again.



James Crider: Has been on the Board of Education since May of 2010. James has been a resident of the Gates Chili Central School district since April of 2003, and has two (2) children attending the district. James has been serving as the Vice President on the Board of Education since July of 2015, while also serving on the Facility Finance Committee and the Education Foundation. He enjoys boating and spending time with his family in the Thousand (1000) Islands during the summer months. James also enjoys technology and finding ways to make lives better using new technology.



Gates Chili Central School District
3 Spartan Way
Rochester, NY 14624
585.247.5050

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Jeffrey Pettenski
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Andrea Hinchey Unson

Superintendent of Schools

Kimberle Ward

Editor

Jackie Finn, *Public Information Specialist*

Graphic Design

Karen Slayton

2017-2018 BUDGET NOTICE

Overall Budget Proposal	Budget Adopted for 2016-17 School Year	Budget Adopted for 2017-18 School Year	Contingency Budget for 2017-18 School Year*						
Total Budgeted Amount, Not Including Separate Propositions	\$100,845,294	\$104,023,965	\$103,014,032						
Increase/Decrease for the 2017-18 School Year		\$3,178,671	\$2,168,738						
Percentage Increase/Decrease in Proposed Budget		3.15%	2.15%						
Change in the Consumer Price Index		1.26%							
A. Proposed Tax Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount	\$50,626,559	\$51,636,492							
B. Levy to Support Library Debt, if Applicable	0	0							
C. Levy for Non-Excludable Propositions, if Applicable **	0	0							
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)	\$50,626,559	\$51,636,492	\$50,626,559						
F. Permissible Exclusions to the School Tax Levy Limit	\$2,758,082	\$2,797,090							
G. School Tax Levy Limit, <u>Excluding</u> Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$47,868,477	\$48,839,402							
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)	\$47,868,477	\$48,839,402							
I. Difference: (G – H); ((Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval – See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions) **	\$0	\$0							
Administrative Component	\$9,456,758	\$9,757,765	\$9,663,033						
Program Component	\$76,478,021	\$79,435,603	\$78,664,418						
Capital Component	\$14,910,515	\$14,830,597	\$14,686,581						
* If a contingent budget is required the Board of Education will review all areas of the budget to develop a contingency budget for the 2017-18 school year, pursuant to Section 2023 of the Education Law.									
		<table><tr><th>Description</th><th>Amount</th></tr><tr><td>Proposition #2 Bus Purchases</td><td>\$1,874,000</td></tr><tr><td>Proposition #3 Capital Project</td><td>\$68,324,000</td></tr></table>		Description	Amount	Proposition #2 Bus Purchases	\$1,874,000	Proposition #3 Capital Project	\$68,324,000
Description	Amount								
Proposition #2 Bus Purchases	\$1,874,000								
Proposition #3 Capital Project	\$68,324,000								

**Under the Budget Proposed
for the 2017-18 School Year**

Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings ¹	\$798
The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2017-18 by the qualified voters of the Gates Chili Central School District, Monroe County, New York, will be held at Gates Chili High School in said district on Tuesday, May 16, 2017, between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m. prevailing time in the Gates Chili High School Field House, 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. Maximum STAR savings amount is determined by NYS Department of Taxation and Finance.	