

# AMAGANSETT SCHOOL NEWS

MAY 2010

SPECIAL BUDGET ISSUE

## SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

On Tuesday, May 18th, 2010 from 2-8:00 PM the residents of the Amagansett School District will have the opportunity to vote on the proposed 2010/11 school budget. This brochure contains detailed information about the budget and a ballot proposition, along with information about the Amagansett Free Library budget request and the annual Amagansett School Board election.

The ongoing impacts of the financial downturn were foremost in our minds as we developed the proposed school budget for 2010/11. As a result, we believe this proposal recognizes the needs of all taxpayers, with particular concern for those on limited and fixed incomes. Aside from mandated or contractual expenses, the Board of Education reduced or held the line on each budget item in order to control expenditures wherever possible. We have, to every extent possible, optimized the financial resources generously provided by our residents. Because we are a small school district with one class per grade and whose cost center is largely our professional staff, any attempt to further reduce costs would require the elimination of instructional services and educational programs that have been well-supported by our community.

We can say with confidence that the proposed school budget maintains a high

quality, well-rounded school program for students in Pre-K through 6<sup>th</sup> Grade in Amagansett School – one that is designed to prepare students to succeed in this ever-changing global society. The budget preserves successful programs and services, including support for technology integration in all school programs and early intervention support services to assist all students to achieve proficiency levels in academic areas required by increasing State accountability laws. Our after-school and summer programs extend the school day and year to ensure students receive additional academic support and maintain knowledge. Arts and physical education programs support important community values and traditions.

In 2010/11, the expenditure increase of 4.26% is due largely to negotiated contractual salaries, health insurance premiums, pension contributions and other mandated benefit increases. Tuition rates for secondary students attending East Hampton Schools will increase by 8.5% over the prior year for each regular education student and by 20.3% for each special education student (who spends at least 20% of the day out of the regular classroom). In addition, Amagansett will pay retroactive tuition costs of \$286,108 in accordance with the terms of a five year contract with the East Hampton School District. On the revenue side of

the budget, we anticipate a loss of state aid due to the state's ongoing fiscal crisis.

Approval of the proposed budget means an average household with assessed valuation of \$7,000 would experience an annual increase in school taxes of approximately \$70, or less than \$6 per month.

To review evidence of the strength of our program please see the School Report Card produced for each district by the New York State Education Department by going to the Amagansett School website and clicking on the link to the School Report Card on the homepage.

The Board of Education, faculty, and staff truly appreciate the support from voters over the years for Amagansett School and our students. As you review the proposed budget for 2010/11, please feel free to contact me at 267-3572 or by email at [etritt@amagansettsschool.org](mailto:etritt@amagansettsschool.org) if you have questions. Thank you for your careful consideration of the proposed budget.

Sincerely,

*Mrs. Eleanor Tritt*

### WHAT'S INSIDE

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# AMAGANSETT U.F.S.D. VOTING FACTS

**VOTER  
REGISTRATION**  
Wednesday, May 12, 2010  
9:00 AM - 5:00 PM  
Amagansett School

**BUDGET VOTE**  
Tuesday, May 18, 2010  
2:00 - 8:00 PM  
Amagansett School Gym

**SCHOOL BUDGET**  
Authorization for  
expenditures of  
\$8,300,650

**BOARD ELECTIONS**  
Term of Office  
Two Seats Available:  
7/1/2010 - 6/30/2013  
Candidates:  
Victoria Smudzinski  
John Hossenlopp

**BALLOT  
PROPOSITION**  
Authorizing Expendi-  
ture of Funds from the  
“Energy and Technology  
Capital  
Reserve Fund”

**LIBRARY BUDGET**  
Authorization for  
expenditures of  
\$860,932

**ABSENTEE BALLOTS  
AVAILABLE**

## VOTER QUALIFICATIONS

### *A VOTER MUST BE:*

1. 18 years of age.
2. A U.S. citizen.
3. A district resident for at least 30 days prior to May 18, 2010.
4. A registered voter.

### *TO VOTE YOU:*

1. Do not have to own property.
2. Do not have to be a parent or have children in the school.

### *PROOF OF RESIDENCY:*

1. The physical address on your:
  - a. NYS driver's license.
  - b. NYS income tax forms.
  - c. Current utility bill.
  - d. Current lease.
  - e. Current paycheck stub.
  - f. Public assistance documentation.
  - g. Voter registration card.

### *LEGAL RESIDENCY IS NOT:*

1. A temporary address even if you have lived there 30 or more consecutive days before May 18, 2010.
2. Related to whether you pay property taxes in the school district.

## PROPERTY TAX REPORT CARD

	2009-2010	2010-2011	CHANGE
Total Spending	7,961,717	8,300,650	4.26%
Total Estimated School Tax Levy	7,062,718	7,408,662	4.90%
Public School Enrollment	117	121	3.42%
Consumer Price Index			-0.40%
ESTIMATED ASSESSED VALUATION	\$29,487,687	\$29,702,836	\$215,149
ESTIMATED SCHOOL TAX RATE	23.95/100	24.95/100	1.00/100 4.16%

### EXPENDITURES

	2009-2010	2010-2011
<b>Administration</b>		
Board of Education	23,991	24,442
Central Administration	346,016	341,082
Financial	171,772	179,158
Staff, Central Services & Special Items	221,450	265,050
Employee Benefits	136,937	146,489
<b>Total Administration</b>	<b>\$900,166</b>	<b>\$956,221</b>
<b>Program</b>		
Teaching Regular School	4,078,244	4,121,541
Special Education	581,333	625,057
Special School	44,500	43,500
Pupil Services	252,518	269,083
Instructional Media	102,202	119,227
Transportation	120,447	123,504
Employee Benefits	926,213	1,079,205
<b>Total Program</b>	<b>\$6,105,457</b>	<b>\$6,381,117</b>
<b>Capital</b>		
Building & Grounds	470,630	471,337
Employee Benefits	48,350	54,805
Undistributed Expenses	437,114	437,169
<b>Total Capital</b>	<b>\$956,094</b>	<b>\$963,311</b>
<b>TOTAL BUDGET</b>	<b>\$7,961,717</b>	<b>\$8,300,650</b>

### REVENUES

Building Aid	19,510	19,510
State Aid	268,516	241,883
Textbooks, Software & Library Aid	8,973	8,595
Fund Balance	572,000	572,000
Miscellaneous	30,000	50,000
Tax Levy	7,062,718	7,408,662
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>\$7,961,717</b>	<b>\$8,300,650</b>

# PROPOSED 2010-2011 BUDGET

	2009-2010	2010-2011	Change
Board of Education			
Board Expenses	8,000	8,000	0
District Clerk	14,216	14,667	451
District Meeting	1,775	1,775	0
Total Board of Education	23,991	24,442	451

Includes supplies/materials for board meetings, board member conferences, the annual district meeting, and District Clerk salary and expenses.

Central Administration			
Salaries	304,516	305,082	566
Equipment & Supplies	20,500	15,000	-5,500
Contractual & Other	21,000	21,000	0
Total Central Administration	346,016	341,082	-4,934

Includes salaries for the Superintendent and secretaries, supplies/equipment, district copier expenses, workshops & meetings, conference expenses and central office membership dues.

Finance			
Salaries	76,292	69,258	-7,034
Equipment & Supplies	14,350	11,850	-2,500
Contractual & Other	141,980	164,000	22,020
Total Finance	232,622	245,108	12,486

Salaries, supplies/equipment for the Treasurer, Claims Auditor and Independent Auditor's fees, postage, BOCES services, school attorney's fees, and publishing costs for newsletters, budget brochures, etc.

Central Services			
Salaries	137,630	143,837	6,207
Equipment & Supplies	85,000	77,000	-8,000
Contractual & Other	253,000	262,500	9,500
Total Central Services	475,630	483,337	7,707

Operation of the physical plant including custodians: utility bills, supplies/equipment to maintain the building and grounds, health and safety, routine maintenance projects, and central data processing services.

## PROPOSED 2010-2011 BUDGET CONTINUED

	2009-2010	2010-2011	Change
Special Items			
Insurance*	45,000	45,000	0
Dues	9,000	9,000	0
MTA Tax	0	11,500	11,500
BOCES Administrative Costs	100,000	103,000	3,000
Total Special Items	154,000	168,500	14,500

Includes the district's insurance coverage and mandated BOCES administrative charges. MTA Tax is a new mandate.

\*Note: Does not include health and dental insurance premiums.

Instruction/Teaching			
Salaries	1,919,262	2,062,661	143,399
Equipment & Supplies	85,000	83,000	-2,000
Textbooks	35,000	30,000	-5,000
Contractual & Other	117,600	134,600	17,000
Tuition	1,942,982	1,849,880	-93,102
Total Instruction/Teaching	4,099,844	4,160,141	60,297

Provides for expenses related to teaching and instruction for the PreK-6th grade program including teacher salaries, supplies, equipment, textbooks, curriculum development and supervision, staff development, participation in instructional programs, tuition, BOCES services, conference attendance, field trips, and salaries for substitute teachers.

Special Programs			
Salaries	627,951	671,290	43,339
Equipment & Supplies	93,300	90,800	-2,500
Textbooks	15,000	14,000	-1,000
Contractual & Other	157,800	164,300	6,500
Tuition	66,000	95,950	29,950
Total Special Programs	960,051	1,036,340	76,289

Provides for BOCES tuition, all services for students with disabilities (local and BOCES), remedial programs, mandated academic intervention services, summer school, School Library Media and computer programs, hardware and software, attendance, school nurse, doctor for the health programs, counselor, psychological services, after school programs and co-curricular activities.

Transportation			
Salaries	90,347	95,004	4,657
Equipment & Supplies	11,000	9,000	-2,000
Contractual & Other	19,100	19,500	400
Total Transportation	120,447	123,504	3,057

Includes all cost of transportation for students K-12. Items included are bus drivers' salaries, operation and maintenance costs of buses, and transportation contracts with private contractors for transportation to BOCES classes and non-public schools.

## PROPOSED 2010-2011 BUDGET CONTINUED

	2009-2010	2010-2011	Change
Community Services			
Salaries	502	527	25
Equipment & Supplies	0	0	0
Total Community Services	502	527	25

Includes costs for the state mandated census of all children in the district.

Employee Benefits			
Teachers' Retirement	198,000	232,000	34,000
Employees' Retirement	56,000	69,000	13,000
Social Security	240,000	260,000	20,000
Workers' Comp.	17,000	17,000	0
Unemployment & Disability Ins.	25,000	26,500	1,500
Health & Dental Ins.	575,500	676,000	100,500
Total Employee Benefits	1,111,500	1,280,500	169,000

Includes health and dental insurance, workers' compensation, disability insurance, social security and retirement costs for all district employees.

Debt Service			
BAN Principal	195,000	205,000	10,000
BAN Interest	68,114	58,169	-9,945
Tax Anticipation Note	15,000	15,000	0
Total Debt Service	278,114	278,169	55

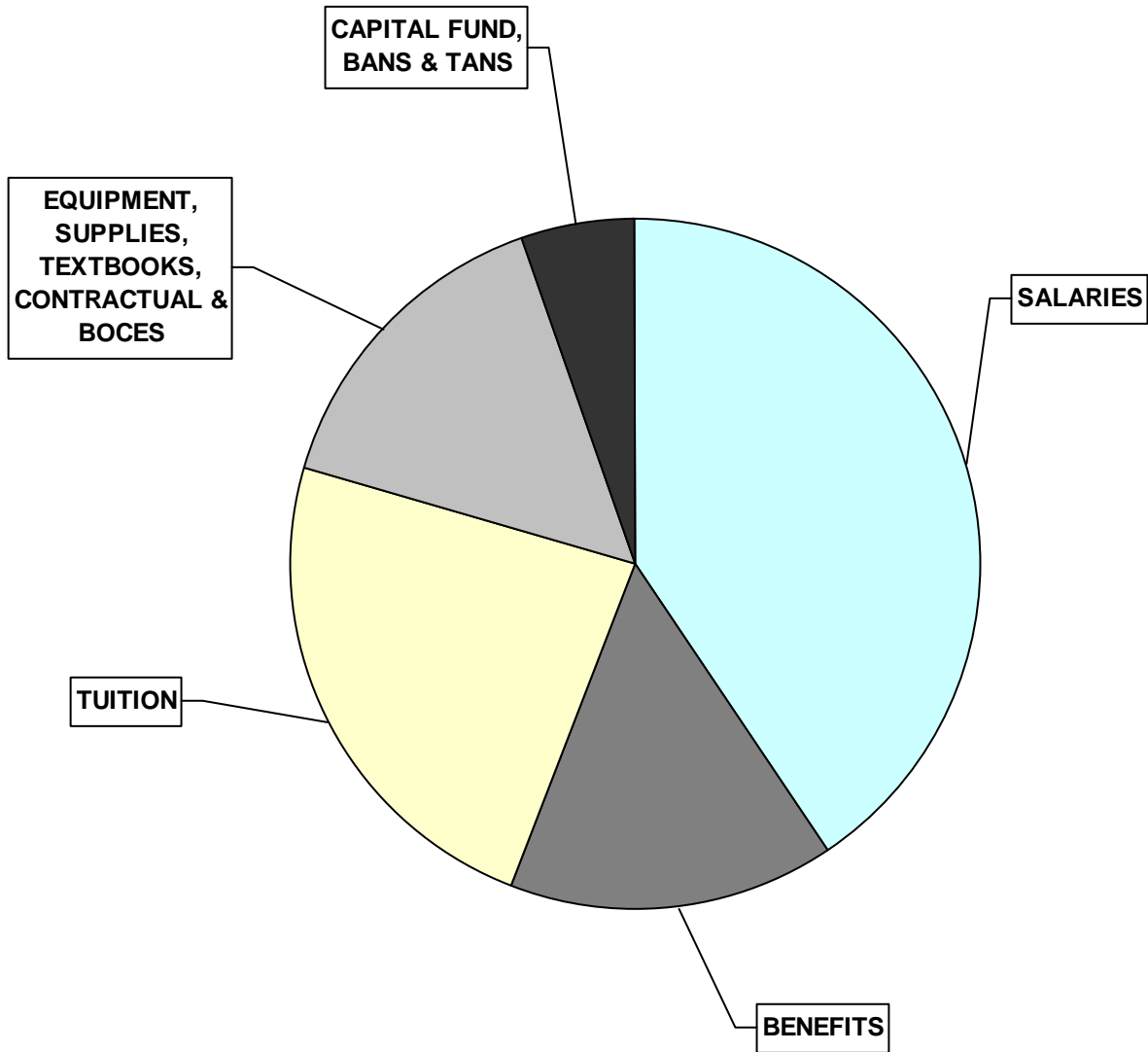
Includes interest for borrowing in anticipation of the receipt of taxes and the principal and interest payments for the school addition.

Interfund Transfer			
Transfer to Capital Fund	159,000	159,000	0
Total Interfund Transfer	159,500	159,000	0

Includes purchase of buses, renovation and other repair/improvement projects for the buildings.

Total General Fund	7,961,717	8,300,650	338,933
<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS</b>	<b>7,961,717</b>	<b>8,300,650</b>	<b>338,933</b>

**GRAPH OF MAJOR ITEMS OF PROPOSED 2010-2011 BUDGET**



**Ballot Proposition for Authorizing  
Expenditure of Funds from the  
“Energy and Technology Capital Reserve Fund”  
To Purchase and Install Technology Systems  
at the Amagansett School**

This year the Amagansett Board of Education seeks voter approval to authorize the district to appropriate an amount not to exceed \$210,000 from the “Energy and Technology Capital Reserve Fund” to purchase and install technology systems at Amagansett School. The proposition as it will appear on the voting machine on Tuesday, May 18, 2010 from 2-8:00 PM is as follows:

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**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education be and hereby is authorized, pursuant to Section 3651 of the Education Law to appropriate an amount not to exceed two hundred and ten thousand (\$210,000) dollars from the previously established “Energy and Technology Capital Reserve Fund” for the purpose of purchasing and installing 42 computers for student use within classrooms, 12 computers to control interactive whiteboards within classrooms and the library, 25 computers for student use in the computer lab, 32 laptops for student use throughout the school, and 31 computers for teacher, clerical and administrative use, and necessary set up and integration into the District network (the foregoing counts being approximate); and the purchase, installation, training, and 3 year maintenance agreement of new school-wide telephone and communication systems, including 4 switches, phones, speakers, clocks, cabling, licenses, and associated equipment.

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## Voter Information and Background on the Proposition

### **What technology does the District plan to purchase and install?**

The District plans to purchase and install new technology systems including, without limitations, computers for instructional and administrative use and associated software, networking and cabling; upgraded switches; and a telephone system. The computers will replace current equipment whose useful life-cycle will expire prior to the end of the school year. Replacement of this equipment will enable us to enhance capacity to stay current with today's technology for an anticipated period of four (4) years from the date of purchase. New switches will increase and upgrade our internal data network infrastructure. The new switches will also provide the necessary platform to replace our ten (10) year old analog telephone system with a new digital system. The new telephone system will eliminate the static which impedes our current system, will interconnect with new speakers and clocks throughout the building, and provide increased functionality.

### **What is the anticipated technology equipment, software and installation cost?**

The District plans to purchase and install the above outlined computer hardware, software, networking and technology systems in an amount not to exceed \$210,000.

### **Where will the money come from?**

No new appropriations will be needed. In 2007, voters approved the creation of an "Energy and Technology Capital Reserve Fund." This is a separate account in which the District may accumulate funds over a period of time to pay for designated capital improvement projects and which may be used only for those purposes. An amount of \$342,742 is currently in this fund. A portion of this money will be allocated to cover the cost of the technology systems, upon voter approval. Approval of this proposition will NOT impact the tax levy or rate, as the money is already set aside by the district.

### **If the money is in the "Energy and Technology Capital Reserve Fund" why is a proposition necessary?**

Voter authorization is required both for the establishment of the reserve fund and to allow payments from the fund. Therefore, a majority of voters would have to approve specific expenditures from the fund for technology.

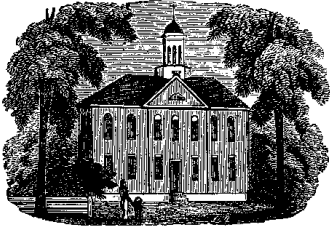
### **Questions?**

Please contact Eleanor Tritt with any questions about the proposition at 631-267-3572 or at [etritt@amagansettsschool.org](mailto:etritt@amagansettsschool.org)

# AMAGANSETT SCHOOL NEWS

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Boxholder  
Amagansett, NY  
11930

*Special Issue:*

## PROPOSED ANNUAL BUDGET 2010-2011