Voting Information

- You are eligible to vote if you are a U.S. citizen, at least 18 years old, a resident of the school district for at least 30 days prior to the vote, and have not been convicted of a felony.
- You must be pre-registered to vote. Bring proof of identity to the polls, such as a driver's license or non-driver's ID card. For information on pre-registering, call the business office at 629-3203.
- Absentee ballots. Residents interested in voting by absentee ballot may pick up an application at the district office. Details about absentee ballots can be found on the district website: www.watervlietcityschools.org.

Polling sites for Tuesday, May 16 vote

For the school budget vote and Board of Education election on May 16, eligible voters will cast their ballots at one of two sites:
- District 1 – the Watervliet Elks Lodge, 501 4th Avenue
- District 2 – Watervliet Elementary School, 2557 Tenth Avenue

Also on the ballot:
- Board of Education election: Voters will elect two candidates to serve three-year terms on the Board of Education. Visit www.watervlietcityschools.org for more information.

Watervliet High School top scholars

Valedictorian

Evan Tambolleo is graduating with a 98.9 grade point average and plans to study industrial engineering at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (RPI) in the fall. Salutatorian Brianna Johnson earned a grade point average of 96.5 and plans to study bio-medical engineering/pre-med at Johns Hopkins University.

Congratulations Class of 2017 top scholars! Read more about the top scholars on page 4, or visit www.watervlietcityschools.org to learn more about Watervliet High School's top 10 graduating seniors.

On Tuesday, May 16, residents of the Watervliet City School District will vote on a proposed $26,692,000 budget for the 2017-18 school year. The vote will take place from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. at two polling locations in the city: Watervliet Elementary School and the Watervliet Elks Lodge (see page 4 for more information).

The proposed budget increases overall spending by 2.0 percent, or $530,000 more than the current-year budget. It maintains all academic programs and provides additional support in targeted areas to meet student needs.

The proposal carries a tax levy increase of 0.7 percent, which is slightly below the district’s limit as determined by the state’s tax “cap” formula. As a result, school budget approval will require a simple majority vote (50 percent plus one vote).

Under the proposed budget, district officials estimate school taxes would increase $28 more per $100,000 of assessed property value in the City of Watervliet, and $41 more per $100,000 of assessed property value in Mannsville.

These tax estimates are based on current information. School tax rates are set after the district receives the final tax assessment roll from the city in August.

Watervliet will receive a net increase of $276,000 in state aid next year, a 1.5 percent increase. That is less than the $334,000 in aid originally projected because of a $58,000 decrease in expense-driven aids for BOCES services and transportation after these costs came in under budget during this current school year.

Superintendent of Schools Dr. Lori S. Caplan said the net funding increase, along with a reduction in pension costs and savings due to retirements and lower transportation costs, will allow the district to maintain all current programs and services, while providing a few additional teachers to support struggling learners and special education students at both schools.
How Watervliet’s education dollars are spent

### 2017-18 Revenue Sources

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source of Revenue</th>
<th>2016-17 Budget</th>
<th>Proposed 2017-18 Budget</th>
<th>$ Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Payments in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT)</td>
<td>$90,000</td>
<td>$182,000</td>
<td>$92,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest and Penalties on Taxes</td>
<td>30,000</td>
<td>31,000</td>
<td>1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consumer Utility Tax</td>
<td>355,000</td>
<td>325,000</td>
<td>(30,000)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charges for Services</td>
<td>38,000</td>
<td>48,000</td>
<td>10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest and Earnings</td>
<td>30,000</td>
<td>33,000</td>
<td>3,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
<td>180,000</td>
<td>210,000</td>
<td>30,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total State Aid</td>
<td>18,346,000</td>
<td>18,622,000</td>
<td>276,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Federal Sources</td>
<td>308,000</td>
<td>301,000</td>
<td>(7,000)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interfund Transfers</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Taxes</td>
<td>6,785,000</td>
<td>6,790,000</td>
<td>5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appropriated Fund Balance</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>150,000</td>
<td>150,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$26,162,000</td>
<td>$26,692,000</td>
<td>$530,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Visit watervlietcityschools.org for a glossary of budget terms, as well as more information about the proposed 2017-18 school budget.

PROPOSITION 2: 5-YEAR BUS LEASE

On May 16, voters will also decide:

- Five-year bus lease: the district’s current lease on its three buses expires June 30. This proposition would allow the district to bid for lease of new buses to continue to provide the current level of transportation services for students.

**PROPOSITION 3: PUBLIC LIBRARY**

Also on the May 16 ballot:

- A separate proposition to support the Watervliet Public Library through a separate library tax in the amount of $150,000. The Watervliet Public Library proposition authorizes the school district to levy the tax to support the library’s programs and services.

NOTE: As a separate proposition, this is NOT part of the school district’s budget. The proposed library tax is voted on separately and does not benefit the school budget.

### 2017-18 Budget, from page 1

“...As a district, we are slowly trying to rebuild programs and provide the opportunities that our students need and deserve,” said Dr. Lori Caplan. “That includes reinstituting some programs, like modified sports, that had been eliminated in recent years to reduce costs.”

The program and staffing increases proposed in the 2017-18 school budget include the following:

- **Staffing**
  - Add full-time classroom teacher, WES
  - Increase two part-time reading teachers (1 at WES, 1 at WJSHS) to full-time
  - Add full-time English as a New Language teacher, WJSHS
  - Add full-time special education teacher (WCSD)

- **Athletics**
  - Reinstate modified sports including: football, boys/girls soccer, boys/girls basketball, boys/girls cross country, wrestling, baseball, softball & boys/girls outdoor track

- **Academic programs**
  - Purchase textbooks to fully implement “Go Math” K-8 curriculum
  - Summer “K-8 Enrichment Academy” through EXTRA grant
  - Increase the number of slots available to attend BOCES Career & Technical Education program from 8 to 12 students

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### Where Watervliet’s education dollars come from

- **Proposed Source 2016-17**
- **Proposed Source 2017-18**
- **$ Change**

For more information, visit watervlietcityschools.org.