

Burnt Hills-Ballston Lake Board of Education

# *Finance Committee Meeting*

February 1, 2012

O'Rourke Middle School Library

## **AGENDA**

7:00 – 8:00 Overview of the Preliminary 2012-13 Budget

1. Finance Committee Chair Patre Kuziak:
  - Introduction & budget development timeline
  
2. Assistant Superintendent Jackie St. Onge:
  - Overview of budget development binders
  - 2012-13 state aid projections
  
3. Superintendent Jim Schultz:
  - Areas of greatest increase
  - Strategies for addressing the budget deficit
  - Impact of new tax levy cap law

8:00 – 9:00 Proposals for new programs

1. Strategizing re World Languages delivery
2. Colleen Kane, Middle School Response to Intervention
3. Ralph Rothacker, Elementary Response to Intervention
4. Bob McGuire, 3<sup>rd</sup> level of lacrosse teams
5. Mike Danis, Middle School music education lab
6. Maryellen Symer, High school digital Response to Intervention  
Early college high school program
7. Rie Posillico, Summer school health class

9:00 – 9:30 February 9 forum planning

# 2012-13 Budget Development & Communications Plan

## 2012-13 Budget Objectives

In developing the 2012-13 budget, the Board of Education will:

1. Work to balance the community's desire for both excellent school programs and reasonable taxes by critically evaluating current practices, proposed expenditures, and revenue sources other than taxes.
2. Ensure that BH-BL graduates have the skills, knowledge and attitudes outlined in the district's 21st Century Framework for Learning document so that they can compete in a demanding and technologically sophisticated global marketplace. The desired attributes listed in this detailed document range from high literacy skills to understanding of global and environmental issues.
3. Support the development of new strategies to compensate for the loss of state aid and still deliver a comprehensive education program at a lower cost. Also, look for more opportunities where a short term cost can reap long term benefits and/or savings.
4. Engage the community to share their perspectives and values on school programs they wish to support with their tax dollars.
5. Actively lobby state legislators to reform the mandates outside of school districts' control that currently drive up costs in the areas of instruction, personnel, and construction.

## Context for Developing the 2012-13 Budget

New York State's economic problems continue, and Burnt Hills-Ballston Lake taxpayers are feeling the impact. The ongoing recession and uncertainty regarding the State's 2012 budget will make developing the upcoming school budget especially difficult.

Below are some factors that will impact development of the BH-BL budget.

*To help gauge the impact of the following factors, 1% of the BH-BL property tax levy is roughly \$343,000. Hence every \$343,000 in additional expense — or lost revenue — that is not ultimately balanced by new revenue or reductions elsewhere in the budget results in roughly a 1% tax levy increase. This is the rough equivalent of seven full-time staff positions.*

1. Since June 2009 the district has cut 4 percent of teaching positions, 11 percent of administrative positions, and 12 percent of support staff and support supervisory positions. Further reductions will be difficult to make without serious impacts on our students.
2. New state regulations on the tax levy "cap" and contingent budgets could significantly impact the BH-BL budget. Many people misunderstand what these changes mean. We need to inform residents and staff about the regulations and continue to monitor them as more details are announced by the state.
3. BH-BL is fortunate that our residents by and large support high quality school programs when balanced by reasonable taxes, as is evidenced by the 62 percent passing rate on the May 2011 budget proposition.
4. After three years of this unprecedented bad economy, many district families are stretched financially. US Census Bureau data shows that the percent of BH-BL families with school-age children living in poverty rose from 3 percent in 2007 to 10 percent in 2010.
5. Unlike many Suburban Council school districts, BH-BL has very little commercial development, and our tax base is 85 - 90% residential.
6. New York State is facing a budget deficit of \$3 billion or more, and the federal stimulus money that the state previously used to help pay school operating aid has ended. Knowing this would happen, BH-BL intentionally set aside the final \$684,000 in federal stimulus money we received during 2010-11 and held it for use in 2011-12. The current inequitable state funding formula for rural and urban districts makes it likely that BH-BL will receive flat or reduced aid when the Governor makes his budget proposals in January.

*Continued over*



**Burnt Hills-Ballston Lake Central Schools**

*Ensuring opportunities for learning, personal growth & social responsibility*

## Calendar of Budget & Election Activities

- |                      |   |
|----------------------|---|
| Nov. 22 • Tu         | Approve budget development dates at regular Board of Education meeting, 7:30 Middle School                            |
| Nov. 30 • W          | Finance Committee on tax levy cap & budget objectives, 7:00 Middle School library                                     |
| Dec. 9 • F           | Schools & managers submit budget requests   |
| Dec. 13 • Tu         | Approve budget context & objectives at regular Board meeting, 7:30 High School library                                |
| Jan. - Feb.          | Board members discuss budget & process at PTA meetings  |
| Jan. 20 • F          | Compiled budget requests & reference materials distributed to Board members   |
| Jan. 31 • Tu         | Deadline for announcement of Governor's budget proposals  |
| Feb. 1 • W           | Finance Committee on Governor's proposals & Board budget binders, 7:00 Middle School library                          |
| Feb. 9 • Th          | Public Forum on 2012-13 Budget Issues, 7:30 O'Rourke Middle School cafeteria — <i>also broadcast live online</i>      |
| March 1 • Th         | Deadline for school districts to submit tax levy limit information to the state comptroller                           |
| March 1 • Th         | Public Forum on the Preliminary Budget, 7:30 O'Rourke Middle School cafeteria — <i>also broadcast live online</i>     |
| March 6 • Tu         | Finance Committee to review input & give direction to the superintendent, 7:00 Middle School library                  |
| March 9 • F          | Superintendent's recommendations to Board members   |
| March 13 • Tu        | Approve any referenda & notice of the annual meeting at regular Board meeting, 7:30 Middle School library             |
| Mar. 21 • W          | Public Forum on the Nearly Complete Budget, 7:30 O'Rourke Middle School cafeteria — <i>also broadcast live online</i> |
| March 30 • F         | Board members receive draft budget newsletter   |
| April 3 • Tu         | Adoption of the Proposed 2012-13 Budget at regular Board meeting, 7:30 Middle School library                          |
| mid-April to mid-May | Reach out to school & community groups about the budget   |
| April 16 • M         | Board of Education candidates' filing deadline  |
| April 17 • Tu        | Budget Hearing as part of regular Board of Education meeting, 7:30 High School  |
| April 18 • W         | Budget newsletter goes to printer   |
| April 26 • Th        | Budget newsletter mailed to residents   |
| May 2 • W            | Meet the Candidates night, 7:30 High School library ( <i>tentative</i> )  |
| May 8 • Tu           | Budget Hearing as part of regular Board of Education meeting, 7:30 Middle School                                      |
| May 9 • W            | Elementary Walkabouts, 7:00 at all three schools  |
| May 15 • Tu          | Public Budget Vote, 7:00 am - 9:00 pm, High School gymnasium  |

## Context for Developing the 2012-13 Budget

### *Continued*

7. We can expect no increase in non-tax revenues such as interest on investments. Medicaid reimbursements are expected to continue declining due to state and federal regulatory changes.
8. Required employer pension contributions are expected to rise each year for the next several years.
9. Additional factors in developing this budget are negotiations to create successor contracts with the BH-BL Teachers Association and the BH-BL Administrators Association, plus new APPR (Annual Professional Performance Review) regulations currently being finalized by the State Education Department.
10. The strategy of increasing the amount of fund balance / reserve funds applied to the operating budget each year is not sustainable.
11. BH-BL has been able to lock in competitive rates for electricity and natural gas by participating in multi-year, multi-district consortium contracts with more than 140 school districts. We continue to cut our energy costs with renovations. As we have seen occur at our other schools, energy consumption should now decline at Stevens School due to installation of a new, high-efficiency heating system there in the summer of 2011. Other 2011 projects that will create significant energy savings are the new high school gymnasium lights, replacement windows, and pool dehumidification unit.

January 31, 2012

**Burnt Hills- Ballston Lake Central School District**

**Budget Development**

**2012 – 2013**

**Total Request Budget 2012-13: \$57,018,454**

**Dollar Increase from 2011-12 to 2012-13: \$2,248,512**

**Percent of Budget Increase: 4.11%**

**Estimated Tax Levy Increase Based Upon  
Governor's Executive Proposal: 6%**

**New Program Proposals Received: 7**

**Estimated Cost of New Program Proposals: \$334,177**  
*\*These costs are not included in the 2012-13 Request Budget Totals*

STATE OF NEW YORK  
2012-13 EXECUTIVE BUDGET PROPOSAL

RUN NO. BT121-3

01/17/12

Note: The amounts do not include \$250 million in performance and management efficiency grants that will be distributed to school districts through a competitive process.

RUN NO: BT121-3

## 2012-13 EXECUTIVE BUDGET PROPOSAL

2011-12 AND 2012-13 AIDS PAYABLE  
UNDER SECTION 3609 PLUS OTHER AIDS

DISTRICT CODE: 520101  
DISTRICT NAME: BURNT HILLS

SEE NOTE BELOW

NA

## 2011-12 BASE YEAR AIDS:

FOUNDATION AID	12,584,566
FULL DAY K CONVERSION	0
UNIVERSAL PREKINDERGARTEN	0
BOCES + SPECIAL SERVICES	1,074,347
HIGH COST EXCESS COST	227,818
PRIVATE EXCESS COST	316,025
HARDWARE & TECHNOLOGY	51,400
SOFTWARE, LIBRARY, TEXTBOOK	272,306
TRANSPORTATION INCL SUMMER	2,252,178
OPERATING REORG INCENTIVE	0
CHARTER SCHOOL TRANSITIONAL	0
ACADEMIC ENHANCEMENT	0
HIGH TAX AID	0
SUPPLEMENTAL PUB EXCESS COST	45,884
GAP ELIMINATION ADJUSTMENT	-2,905,486
BUILDING + BLDG REORG INCENT	2,951,614
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>16,870,652</b>

## 2012-13 ESTIMATED AIDS:

FOUNDATION AID	12,584,566
FULL DAY K CONVERSION	0
UNIVERSAL PREKINDERGARTEN	0
BOCES + SPECIAL SERVICES	1,119,384
HIGH COST EXCESS COST	392,302
PRIVATE EXCESS COST	305,542
HARDWARE & TECHNOLOGY	49,903
SOFTWARE, LIBRARY, TEXTBOOK	271,272
TRANSPORTATION INCL SUMMER	2,229,404
OPERATING REORG INCENTIVE	0
CHARTER SCHOOL TRANSITIONAL	0
ACADEMIC ENHANCEMENT	0
HIGH TAX AID	0
SUPPLEMENTAL PUB EXCESS COST	45,884
GAP ELIMINATION ADJUSTMENT	-2,747,568
BUILDING + BLDG REORG INCENT	3,533,788
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>17,784,477</b>

\$ CHG 12-13 MINUS 11-12	913,825
% CHG TOTAL AID	5.42

\$ CHG W/O BLDG, REORG BLDG AID	331,651
% CHG W/O BLDG, REORG BLDG AID	2.38

NOTE: STATE AID ESTABLISHED BY EXECUTIVE BUDGET FOR 6 DISTRICTS

WITH INCOMPLETE DATA.

[NYS ED HOME PAGE](#) | [STATE AID HOME PAGE](#) | [DISTRICT HOME PAGE](#)

**Table 2: Percent Change in Budget, Tax Levy, and Aid**

