



# Maintaining Good Schools in the Worst Economy since the Great Depression

*A Community Forum on the nearly complete BH-BL school budget for 2010-11*

**Public Budget Forum**  
**7:30 pm**  
**Thursday, March 25**  
in the  
**O'Rourke**  
**Middle School**  
**Cafetorium,**  
**173 Lakehill Rd.**

*Parents, residents, & staff are encouraged to participate in either of **2 ways**:*

- 1. Join us in person at the Middle School, or*
- 2. Join us online via your computer & high-speed internet access.*

**W**hat will the probable loss of \$1.6 million in state funding next year mean for Burnt Hills-Ballston Lake school programs? What services and staffing are currently slated to be cut? What could this mean for school taxes? What could this mean for our children?

Members of the Burnt Hills-Ballston Lake Board of Education have been collecting input from the public and refining 2010-11 budget proposals for the past six weeks. Very soon they need to make a decision on the budget that will go before BH-BL voters in May.

Given the economic pain that local residents are suffering, Board members have agreed that dramatic spending reductions must be made. This cannot be a “business as usual” year. The Superintendent’s recommended budget now under consideration would cut the equivalent of 24.6 full time staffing positions. It would result in a 2010-11 spending plan only 0.07 percent higher than the current year’s budget and a possible tax levy increase next September of 2.2 percent.

How these cuts will be accomplished and what they will mean for the five BH-BL schools are the subjects of Thursday’s forum.

All residents and staff are invited to learn about the dilemmas facing BH-BL and to share their opinion of current budget proposals with the Board of Education.

Go to [www.bhbl.org](http://www.bhbl.org) to:

- ▶ *Read about BH-BL’s budget challenges and see the most recent list (March 16 version) of proposed staffing & program reductions for 2010-11.*
- ▶ *Learn how you can participate in the forum online if you prefer.*

ALSO: Did you complete your Federal Census form yet?? If not, please do so. This data helps school districts receive their fair share of federal funding.