

# AMAGANSETT SCHOOL NEWS

MAY 2009

SPECIAL BUDGET ISSUE

## SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

On Tuesday, May 19, 2009 from 2:00-8:00 P.M. residents of the Amagansett School District will have the opportunity to vote on the proposed 2009-2010 school budget. This brochure contains detailed information about the school budget, a ballot proposition, the Amagansett Free Library budget request and the annual School Board election.

As we constructed the proposed school budget, we focused on the challenges faced by taxpayers this year. Our goals were to preserve high-quality programs and hold the line on non-mandated expenditures within our control.

In this budget, contractual obligations account for 50% of the projected school budget increase. Tuition payments for students attending East Hampton Middle and High Schools and special BOCES programs account for another 40% of the projected budget increase. We will enter the second year of a five-year tuition agreement with East Hampton. The tuition formula is standardized and established by the NY State Education Department.

The proposed budget holds the estimated increase in the school property tax levy to 3.84%. To place this figure in context, an average household with assessed valuation of \$7,000 would experience an annual increase in school taxes of approximately \$62 per year, based on current New York State School Tax Relief Program (STAR) exemptions. Up-to-date information about STAR can be found at <http://www.orps.state.ny.us/> The budget-to-budget school tax rate increase is estimated at 2.22%.

We believe the budget supports a well-rounded school program for students in Pre K through 6<sup>th</sup> grade at Amagansett School and is designed to prepare students to succeed in our changing global society. A proposition is being presented for voter approval to allow expenditure of funds for technology from a reserve that was previously set aside for this purpose. We believe this is a fiscally responsible way to maintain and manage support for technology integration in educational programs. The budget includes early intervention support services to assist all students in achieving proficiency levels in

academic areas. It will meet requirements of "No Child Left Behind" federal mandates and the increasing demands of New York State testing and fiscal accountability laws.

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 "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. If you have questions about the proposed budget, please feel free to contact me at 267-3572 or [etritt@amagansettsschool.org](mailto:etritt@amagansettsschool.org).

Thank you in advance for your careful consideration of the proposed budget.

Very truly yours,  
*Eleanor Tritt*

## WHAT'S INSIDE

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

**VOTER  
REGISTRATION**  
Wednesday, May 13, 2009  
9:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.  
Amagansett School

**BUDGET VOTE**  
Tuesday, May 19, 2009  
2:00 - 8:00 P.M.  
Amagansett School Gym

**SCHOOL BUDGET**  
Authorization for  
expenditures of  
\$7,961,717

**BOARD ELECTIONS**  
Term of Office  
One Seat Available:  
7/1/2009 - 6/30/2012  
Candidate:  
Mary Lownes

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

**LIBRARY BUDGET**  
Authorization for  
expenditures of  
\$813,147

**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 19, 2009.
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 19, 2009.
2. Related to whether you pay property taxes in the school district.

**PROPERTY TAX REPORT CARD**

	2008-2009	2009-2010	CHANGE
Total Spending	7,448,339	7,961,717	6.89%
Total Estimated School Tax Levy	6,801,631	7,062,718	3.84%
Public School Enrollment	111	117	5.41%
Consumer Price Index			3.80%
<b>ESTIMATED ASSESSED VALUATION</b>	<b>\$29,032,763</b>	<b>\$29,487,687</b>	<b>\$454,924</b>
<b>ESTIMATED SCHOOL TAX RATE</b>	<b>23.43/100</b>	<b>23.95/100</b>	<b>.52/100 (2.22%)</b>

**EXPENDITURES**

	2008-2009	2009-2010
<b>Administration</b>		
Board of Education	23,561	23,991
Central Administration	359,733	346,016
Financial	162,454	171,772
Staff, Central Services & Special Items	214,100	221,450
Employee Benefits	135,849	136,937
<b>Total Administration</b>	<b>\$895,567</b>	<b>\$900,166</b>
<b>Program</b>		
Teaching Regular School	3,784,964	4,078,244
Special Education	490,536	581,333
Special School	44,500	44,500
Pupil Services	235,501	252,518
Instructional Media	98,678	102,202
Transportation	104,513	120,447
Employee Benefits	886,120	926,213
<b>Total Program</b>	<b>\$5,644,812</b>	<b>\$6,105,457</b>
<b>Capital</b>		
Building & Grounds	420,220	470,630
Employee Benefits	46,031	48,350
Undistributed Expenses	441,579	437,114
<b>Total Capital</b>	<b>\$907,830</b>	<b>\$956,094</b>
<b>TOTAL BUDGET</b>	<b>\$7,448,339</b>	<b>\$7,961,717</b>

**REVENUES**

Building Aid	19,510	19,510
State Aid	268,516	268,516
Textbooks, Software & Library Aid	8,682	8,973
Fund Balance	300,000	572,000
Miscellaneous	50,000	30,000
Tax Levy	6,801,631	7,062,718
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>\$7,448,339</b>	<b>\$7,961,717</b>

# PROPOSED 2009-2010 BUDGET

	2008-2009	2009-2010	Change
Board of Education			
Board Expenses	8,000	8,000	0
District Clerk	13,786	14,216	430
District Meeting	1,775	1,775	0
Total Board of Education	23,561	23,991	430

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

Central Administration			
Salaries	296,733	304,516	7,783
Equipment & Supplies	21,000	20,500	-500
Contractual & Other	42,000	21,000	-21,000
Total Central Administration	359,733	346,016	-13,717

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

Finance			
Salaries	72,469	76,292	3,823
Equipment & Supplies	14,000	14,350	350
Contractual & Other	131,485	141,980	10,495
Total Finance	217,954	232,622	14,668

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

Central Services			
Salaries	128,220	137,630	9,410
Equipment & Supplies	84,000	85,000	1,000
Contractual & Other	212,000	253,000	41,000
Total Central Services	424,220	475,630	51,410

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 2009-2010 BUDGET CONTINUED

	2008-2009	2009-2010	Change
Special Items			
Insurance*	45,000	45,000	0
Dues	9,000	9,000	0
BOCES Administrative Costs	100,000	100,000	0
Total Special Items	154,000	154,000	0

Includes the district's insurance coverage and mandated BOCES administrative charges.

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

Instruction/Teaching			
Salaries	1,795,297	1,919,262	123,965
Equipment & Supplies	75,000	85,000	10,000
Textbooks	30,000	35,000	5,000
Contractual & Other	101,600	117,600	16,000
Tuition	1,803,667	1,942,982	139,315
Total Instruction/Teaching	3,805,564	4,099,844	294,280

Provides for expenses related to teaching and instruction for the PreK-6th grade program (i.e. 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	595,637	627,951	32,314
Equipment & Supplies	91,800	93,300	1,500
Textbooks	15,000	15,000	0
Contractual & Other	146,300	157,800	11,500
Tuition	0	66,000	66,000
Total Special Programs	848,737	960,051	111,314

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	74,998	90,347	15,349
Equipment & Supplies	11,000	11,000	0
Contractual & Other	18,515	19,100	585
Total Transportation	104,513	120,447	15,934

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 2009-2010 BUDGET CONTINUED

	2008-2009	2009-2010	Change
Community Services			
Salaries	478	502	24
Equipment & Supplies	0	0	0
Total Community Services	478	502	24

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

Employee Benefits			
Teachers' Retirement	198,000	198,000	0
Employees' Retirement	56,000	56,000	0
Social Security	227,000	240,000	13,000
Workers' Comp.	17,000	17,000	0
Unemployment & Disability Ins.	25,000	25,000	0
Health & Dental Ins.	545,000	575,500	30,500
Total Employee Benefits	1,068,000	1,111,500	43,500

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

Debt Service			
BAN Principal	185,000	195,000	10,000
BAN Interest	77,579	68,114	-9,465
Tax Anticipation Note	15,000	15,000	0
Total Debt Service	277,579	278,114	535

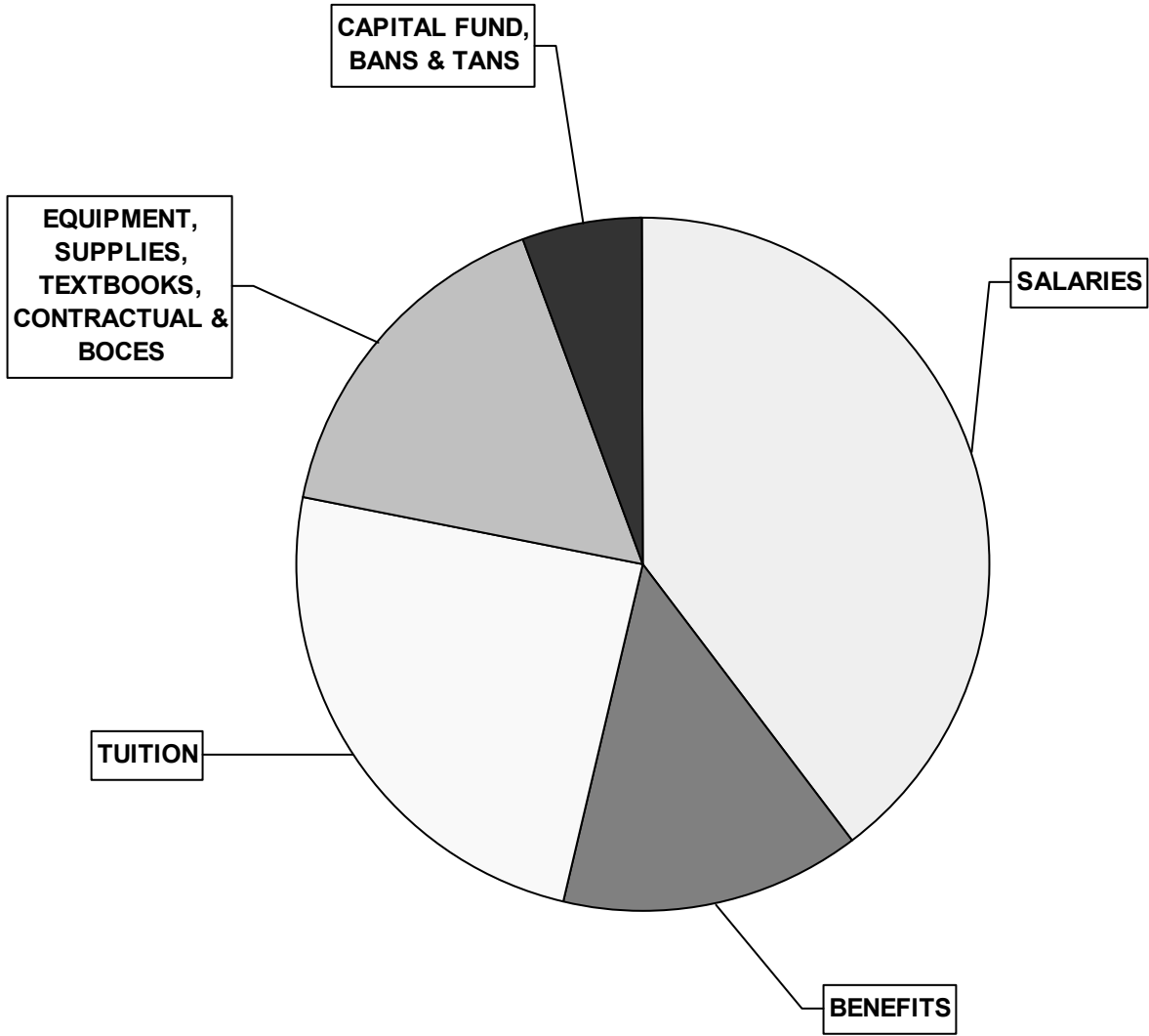
Includes interest for borrowing in anticipation of the receipt of taxes and the principal and interest payments for the school addition.

Interfund Transfer			
Transfer to Capital Fund	164,000	159,000	-5,000
Total Interfund Transfer	164,500	159,000	-5,000

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

Total General Fund	7,448,339	7,961,717	513,378
<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS</b>	<b>7,448,339</b>	<b>7,961,717</b>	<b>513,378</b>

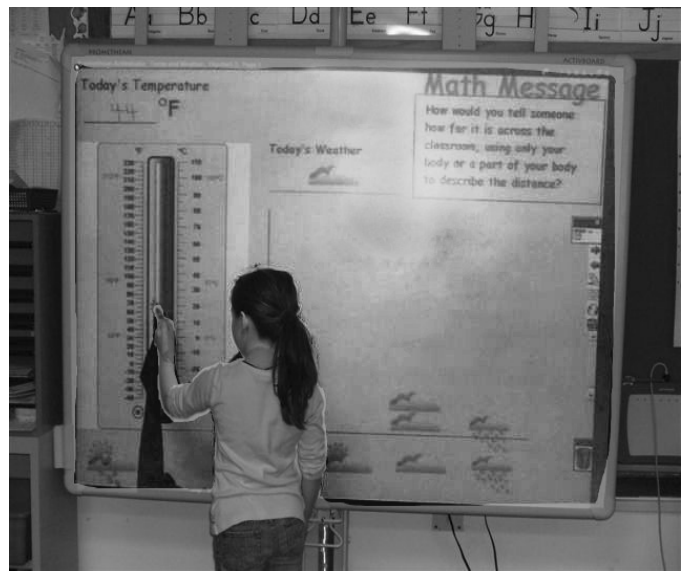
**GRAPH OF MAJOR ITEMS OF PROPOSED 2009-2010 BUDGET**



## 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 \$75,000 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 19, 2009 from 2:00-8:00 PM is as follows:

**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 seventy-five thousand (\$75,000) dollars from the previously established “Energy and Technology Capital Reserve Fund” for the purpose of the purchase and installation of upgraded (Cat 5e with gigabit capacity) building-wide computer wiring, an additional IBM server, a “smart board”, a video camera and related equipment and supplies, approximately twenty two Apple laptop computers together with Microsoft “Office” license(s) and necessary set up and integration into the District network, approximately fifteen desktop printers, a wireless microphone system for the gym/auditorium including necessary microphones, receivers, cabling, conduit and accessories, video-on-demand service under BOCES contract, off-site data back-up services for both financial and administrative data, and initial acquisition and first year’s maintenance of email archiving services.



## 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 limitation, computers for instructional and administrative use and associated software, networking and cabling. The computers with associated software and licenses, printers, video camera, “smart board” with supporting devices and on-demand educational video technology will provide enhanced support for classroom instruction to better provide students with opportunities to develop 21<sup>st</sup> century technology skills. A wireless microphone system will provide improved acoustics for public performances and events. Infrastructure upgrades, including a server and upgraded cabling throughout the building, will allow for off site disaster recovery back-ups of financial and administrative data and provide for regulatory compliance.

### **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 \$75,000.

### **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. An amount of \$363,972 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 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?**

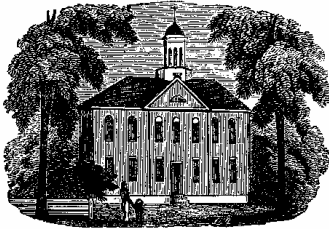
Voter authorization is required both for the establishment of the reserve fund and to allow payments from the fund. Therefore, a majority of voters would have to approve specific expenditures from the fund for technology.

### **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

P. O. Box 7062  
Amagansett, NY 11930-7062



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*Special Issue:*

## PROPOSED ANNUAL BUDGET 2009-2010