



Enlarged City School District of Troy BOE Workshop

2015 – 2016 Budget Report

presented

February 25, 2015



TROY CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT MISSION STATEMENT

The Troy City School District will provide a strong educational and social foundation to graduate all students college and career ready.

Budget Goal

- We need to develop a budget that is fiscally responsible and educationally sound.
- It is becoming increasingly more difficult to accomplish this.

Budget Goal

(continued)

- We have had to cut over 140 positions over the last five years. This represents an 18% reduction in staff.
 - For the first time in five years, last year's budget included no cuts to staff or programs.
- Our enrollment levels have stayed fairly consistent, increasing 1.6% since 2009-2010.
- More importantly, elementary enrollment has increased over 9% since last year, requiring staff additions

Summary of Requests from Administration

- **32 additional positions requested at this time**
 - **23.5 Teachers**
 - **6 Teaching Assistants**
 - **2.5 CSEA members**

Governor's Executive Budget

- Proposed State Aid increase in Executive Budget is \$1.06 Billion
- This increase is contingent upon the legislature adopting the Governor's progressive education reform agenda

Governor's Reform Agenda

- APPR
 - Teacher evaluations, outside evaluators
 - Composite score percentages
- 3020-a
- Tenure
- School Accountability
- Charter schools

Governor's Executive Budget: Reactions

- Significantly less than recommended and requested by the Board of Regents, the Educational Conference Board, and the 83 legislators who put forward a recommendation
- Rick Timbs of the Statewide School Finance Consortium
“...no restoration of GEA...no increase in foundation aid... continues inequitable distribution of state aid...continues to underfund school districts by formula...fails to fulfill constitutional obligation regarding public school funding”
- Senator Flanagan, chairman of the Senate Education Committee
“I am very confident that the \$1.1 Billion is the floor--we will add money”

Governor's Executive Budget: What Does It Mean For Us

Timeline

- State Aid runs not released – no baseline
- Won't be released until April 1st
- Makes it difficult for districts to plan
- The distribution of the \$1.06 Billion increase is unknown at this time
- Need to push back the dates of our budget calendar

Governor's Executive Budget: What Does It Mean For Us

- If there is no agreement on the reform agenda, the governor has stated there will be no increase in state aid.
- This will be devastating to us
- Will actually result in less state aid for the Troy CSD
 - Building aid has decreased
 - Charter school transition aid has decreased
- **It would mean that our budget gap is \$8.6 Million**

Tax Cap

- 2.75% Maximum allowable tax levy
 - Includes a capital levy exclusion
 - No Exclusions for ERS/TRS

Tax Rebates

- The Tax Freeze Credit is still in effect for Taxpayers who are eligible for the School Tax Relief (STAR) property tax exemption
- Savings must be at least 1% of the tax levy
 - Maximum allowable tax levy is \$36,202,329
 - 1% is \$362,023

Draft 1

- 2015-2016 \$112,959,916
- Areas of savings to be included in Draft 2:

Charter School Supplemental Tuition	\$1,448,145
BOCES OPEB	\$ 405,000
Refinance of 2008 Bonds	\$ 60,000
Ed Data Cooperative	\$ 100,000
Phone Line Carrier Conversion	\$ 27,000
NERIC Bandwidth	\$ 27,000
Retirement Incentive Savings	\$ TBA
TOTAL (not including retirement incentive):	\$2,067,145

Savings Ideas: Looking beyond 2015-2016

- Solar Project
- Increasing Property and Casualty Insurance Deductibles

Advocacy – Next Steps

- Save our Schools: Quality Opportunities for Public School Children
Thursday, February 26th at Colonie Central High School, 7pm
- NYSCOSS Lobby Day March 10th
- Small City School District Annual Budget Seminar
- Maintaining regular communication with the Legislators throughout the budget process
- Continue thorough, comprehensive review/analysis of budget to search for cost saving ideas that will have the least negative impact on students and learning



**TODAY'S
STUDENTS.**

**TOMORROW'S
LEADERS.**

TROY CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT