



# Pine Plains

CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

## 2021-2022 Budget Newsletter

### Dear School District Resident:

This newsletter describes the proposed 2021-2022 Pine Plains Central School District Budget. The school budget vote will be on Tuesday, May 18th in the cafeteria of the Stissing Mountain Junior-Senior High School between the hours of 7 am and 9 pm. In addition to the budget, there will be a proposition for a capital improvement project, a proposed capital reserve fund and the election of three members of the Board of Education.

Please note that there is no proposition for bus purchases this year. The pandemic has resulted in fewer miles being driven by our buses making the purchase of replacement vehicles unnecessary at this time.

The development of this budget has once more been made very difficult by the ongoing costs of the pandemic. The district has spent more than \$160,000 this year in expenses made necessary by COVID-19. In addition, while we have received information on our state aid allocation, the revenue that we will receive from the federal government remains unclear. The 21-22 budget increase of 1.94% and the resulting tax levy increase of 2.15% represent our best estimate of what we will need to operate the school district in the coming school year.

You should have received a separate newsletter describing the proposed capital project in more detail. For the purpose of the budget outline, I can point out that the capital project, if approved, will have no impact on the coming school year's budget or tax levy.

We realize that this has been a difficult year for everyone. We continue to work hard to provide a quality education for our students with the least possible cost impact. We ask for your consideration of these efforts as you review the 21-22 budget and vote on May 18th.

**Dr. Martin D. Handler**

**Superintendent**

2021-2022 Proposed  
Budget Increase

**1.94%**

2021-2022 Proposed  
Tax Levy Increase\*

**2.15%**

\*Within the 2021-22 Tax Levy Limit

- BUDGET VOTE
- CAPITAL RESERVE
- CAPITAL PROJECT
- ELECT THREE (3) BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS

**VOTE**

**May 18, 2021**

**7:00 am - 9:00 pm**

**ONE Voting Location:  
Stissing Mt Jr/Sr HS**

### IF YOU NEED AN ABSENTEE BALLOT

If you need an Absentee Ballot, you can:

- ◆ Pick up an application in the District Office located in the Stissing Mountain Jr / Sr High School, **or**
- ◆ Download the application on the District website, **or**
- ◆ Call the District Clerk at (518) 398-7181 Ext. 1408

Completed Absentee Ballot applications must be received by the District Clerk not more than thirty (30) and not less than seven (7) days prior to the election and vote, if the ballot is to be mailed to the voter; or up to the day before the election and vote if the ballot is to be personally picked up by the voter or the voter's designated agent as set forth on the application.

**Completed Absentee Ballots must be received by the District Clerk no later than 5:00 p.m. on the day of the election and vote, May 18, 2021.**

**VOTE • MAY 18, 2021 • 7:00 AM - 9:00 PM • VOTE**

The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2021-2022 by the qualified voters of the Pine Plains Central School District, Dutchess and Columbia Counties, New York, will be held on Tuesday, May 18, 2021 between the hours of 7:00 AM and 9:00 PM prevailing time.

<b>Budget Summary</b>	<b>2020-2021 BUDGET</b>	<b>2021-2022 PROPOSED BUDGET</b>	<b>INCREASE/ (DECREASE)</b>
<b>ADMINISTRATIVE BUDGET</b>	<b>3,793,556</b>	<b>3,945,711</b>	<b>152,155</b>
General Support	1,296,168	1,369,457	73,289
Building Administration	1,511,969	1,595,795	83,826
Employee Benefits	985,419	980,459	(4,960)
<b>PROGRAM BUDGET</b>	<b>26,661,577</b>	<b>27,075,382</b>	<b>413,805</b>
Teaching, Regular School	7,513,431	7,689,372	175,941
Academic Intervention	687,805	698,602	10,797
Special Education	4,068,311	3,790,775	(277,536)
Occupational Education	358,000	433,825	75,825
Summer School	60,000	71,100	11,100
School Library, A/V, Computer Assisted Instruction	1,105,180	1,206,585	101,405
Pupil Services	1,072,869	1,157,980	85,111
Interscholastic Athletics and Co-curricular Activities	476,006	485,406	9,400
Pupil Transportation	1,873,538	2,063,350	189,812
Interfund Transfers	42,000	42,000	-
Employee Benefits	9,404,437	9,436,387	31,950
<b>CAPITAL BUDGET</b>	<b>3,070,317</b>	<b>3,155,582</b>	<b>85,265</b>
Operations and Maintenance	1,857,743	1,912,983	55,240
Judgments/Claims, Assessments, Tax Refunds	35,000	35,000	-
Interfund Transfers	210,000	210,000	-
Employee Benefits	967,574	997,599	30,025
<b>TOTAL BUDGET</b>	<b>33,525,450</b>	<b>34,176,675</b>	<b>651,225</b>

**VOTERS WILL BE ASKED TO VOTE ON THE FOLLOWING:**

**PROPOSITION #1: 2021-2022 BUDGET**

Shall the Budget for the 2021-2022 school year be approved?

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Pine Plains Central School District be authorized to expend the sum of \$34,176,675 for School District purposes for the 2021-2022 school year and to levy the necessary tax therefor?

**PROPOSITION #2: CAPITAL RESERVE**

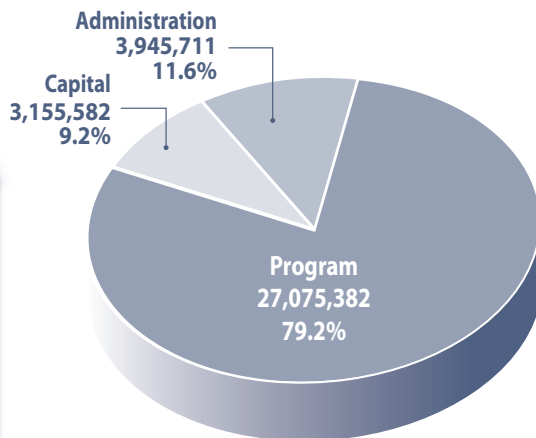
SHALL the Pine Plains Central School District establish a capital reserve fund to be known as the "District-wide Renovations, Reconstruction and Construction Reserve Fund - 2021", which shall be for the purpose of paying for all or part of the renovation, reconstruction and construction of District buildings, including planning costs, site work, renovation, reconstruction and construction costs and associated costs; the ultimate amount of such fund shall be \$5,000,000, to be transferred from unassigned appropriations in the general fund to the "District-wide Renovations, Reconstruction and Construction Reserve Fund" over a period of five (5) years?

**PROPOSITION #3: CAPITAL PROJECT - DISTRICT-WIDE REPAIRS AND IMPROVEMENTS**

Shall the Board of Education of the Pine Plains Central School District be authorized to (A) construct improvements to and reconstruct various School District buildings, facilities and sites, acquire original furnishings, equipment, machinery or apparatus required for the purpose for which such buildings, facilities and sites are to be used and pay costs incidental thereto, at a maximum aggregate cost of not to exceed \$7,727,992; (B) expend such sum for such purpose, including the expenditure of \$3,506,434 from the 2016 and 2019 Capital Reserve Funds; (C) levy the necessary tax therefore, to be levied and collected in annual installments in such years and in such amounts as may be determined by the Board of Education in accordance with Section 416 of the Education Law taking into account state aid and the amount expended from the 2016 and 2019 Capital Reserve Funds; and (D) in anticipation of the collection of such tax, issue bonds and notes of the District at one time or from time to time in the principal amount not to exceed \$4,221,558 and levy a tax to pay the interest on said obligations when due?

**ELECTION OF BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS**

To elect three (3) Board of Education members for three-year terms commencing July 1, 2021 and ending on June 30, 2024. Three candidates are running for the three seats on the Board of Education this year: Joseph Kiernan, Anne K. Arent and Jean Stapf. You may vote for up to three (3) candidates.



**Questions?**  
Residents may call or email Superintendent Dr. Martin D. Handler at 518-398-7181 ext. 1401 m.handler@ppcsd.org

**ONE VOTING LOCATION FOR ALL DISTRICT RESIDENTS** All district residents vote at the Stissing Mountain Junior/Senior High School Cafeteria, 2829 Church Street, Pine Plains, NY, from 7:00 am to 9:00 pm.

# Budget Notice

	Budget Adopted for the 2020-2021 School Year	Budget Proposed for the 2021-2022 School Year	Contingency Budget for the 2021-2022 School Year*
Total Budgeted Amount, Not Including Separate Propositions	33,525,450	34,176,675	33,656,308
Increase/Decrease for 2021-2022 School Year		651,225	130,858
Percentage Increase/Decrease in Proposed Budget		1.94%	0.39%
Change in the Consumer Price Index		1.23%	
<b>A. Proposed Tax Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount</b>	24,189,676	24,710,043	
<b>B. Levy to Support Library Debt, if Applicable</b>	0	0	
<b>C. Levy for Non-Excludable Propositions, if Applicable **</b>	0	0	
<b>D. Total Tax Cap Reserve Amount Used to Reduce Current Year Levy</b>	0	0	
<b>E. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy (A + B + C - D)</b>	24,189,676	24,710,043	24,189,676
<b>F. Permissible Exclusions to the School Tax Levy Limit</b>	0	0	
<b>G. School Tax Levy Limit, Excluding Levy for Permissible Exclusions</b>	24,189,676	24,710,043	
<b>H. Total Proposed Tax Levy for School Purposes, Excluding Permissible Exclusions and Levy for Library Debt, Plus Prior Year Tax Cap Reserve (E - B - F + D)</b>	24,189,676	24,710,043	
<b>I. Difference: (G - H); (Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval - See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions) **</b>	0	0	
<b>BUDGET COMPONENTS:</b>			
<b>Administrative</b>	3,793,556	3,945,711	3,703,167
<b>Program</b>	26,661,577	27,075,382	413,805
<b>Capital</b>	3,070,317	3,155,582	85,265

\*Statement of assumptions made in projecting a contingency budget for the 2021-2022 school year, should the proposed budget be defeated: Over \$520,000 in additional reductions. Elimination of all equipment purchases except for those necessary for health and safety, with board approval. Elimination of free public use of school buildings. Elimination of annual transfer to capital for state-aidable projects. Possible cutbacks / program elimination of interscholastic athletics. Possible elimination of field trips and extracurricular activities. Potential personnel reductions in regular and special subject elementary teachers, teacher aides; junior/senior high school science, social studies, family and consumer sciences, guidance; high school electives in science, art, foreign language, social studies, agriculture, mathematics and/or health.

**List Separate Propositions that are not included in the Total Budgeted Amount: (Tax Levy associated with propositions not eligible for exclusion may affect property tax levy limit and voter approval requirements.)	Description	Amount
	District-Wide Capital Improvement Project	7,727,992

### Estimated Basic STAR Tax Savings

1. The basic school tax relief (STAR) exemption is authorized by section 425 of the Real Property Tax Law.

Under the Budget Proposed  
for the 2021-2022 School Year  
477

## PROPOSITION #3: CAPITAL PROJECT - DISTRICT-WIDE REPAIRS AND IMPROVEMENTS

On May 18th 2021, District voters will have the opportunity to consider approval of a capital construction project that will address a number of health, safety and maintenance issues in all three of our school buildings. The total cost of the project is \$7,727,992. By utilizing existing reserves totaling more than \$3.5 million, as well as appropriating a significant portion of 20-21 year-end fund balance, the need for borrowing will be minimized. A detailed newsletter describing the project has been mailed to all district residents. If you have not received a copy, and would like one mailed to you, please contact District Clerk, Julia W. Tomaine at 518-398-7181 ext. 1408, or [j.tomaine@ppcsd.org](mailto:j.tomaine@ppcsd.org). You can also find more information, including a video describing the work that will be done, on the District website: [www.ppcsd.org/Page/2856](http://www.ppcsd.org/Page/2856)

**Voter approval of the proposed capital project will have no tax impact in the 2021-2022 budget year.**

Postal Patron

<h1>VOTE</h1> <p>7:00 am - 9:00 pm</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BUDGET VOTE</li> <li>• CAPITAL RESERVE</li> <li>• CAPITAL PROJECT</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ELECT THREE (3) BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS</li> </ul>	2021-2022 Proposed Budget Increase	2021-2022 Proposed Tax Levy Increase*
			<b>1.94%</b>	<b>2.15%</b>
<small>*Within the 2021-22 Tax Levy Limit</small>				

**May 18, 2021 • ONE Voting Location: Stissing Mt Jr/Sr HS**

Dear Fellow Members of the Pine Plains School District Community,

It is, again, that time of year where we put forth for your review our budgetary plans for the next school year. The uncertainties of the past year have made our annual process difficult, at best, with reductions to education aid in the State Budget along with unexpected COVID-related expenses. In that environment, the District Staff has been brilliant in trying to keep our children focused and engaged in learning.

Our facilities require some attention and we have put that plan forward for your review in a separate proposal. To delay these needs will only make them more expensive, as leaky roofs and questionable heating systems only get worse.

Before the pandemic, our District was on an academic trajectory to put it in the top tier of schools in Dutchess County. We expect to be back on that path in the coming year. More than anything, we want to return to the normal, well-rounded educational experience for our children that we have come to expect at Pine Plains Central School District. We believe this budget can accomplish that. Thank you for your consideration.

**Chip Couse**  
President, Pine Plains Board of Education

PINE PLAINS  
CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
(518) 398-7181

**BOARD of EDUCATION**  
Fred "Chip" Couse President  
Anne K. Arent, Vice President  
Amie Fredericks  
James Griffin  
Heidi Johnson  
Joseph Kiernan  
Jean Stapf

**SUPERINTENDENT of SCHOOLS**  
Dr. Martin D. Handler, x1401

**Assistant Superintendent for Business and Finance**  
Michael Goldbeck, x1410

**District Clerk**  
Julia W. Tomaine, x1408

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**MORE INFORMATION ON THE BUDGET  
and PROPOSED CAPITAL PROJECT MAY BE FOUND  
ON THE DISTRICT WEBSITE: [www.ppcsd.org/page/2856](http://www.ppcsd.org/page/2856)**