


Let's Not Turn Our Backs on Education Now ... Remember to vote May 20

The Scotia-Glenville community will be hearing a lot in the media about Gov. Pataki's proposed cuts to public school education (\$1.2 billion statewide and \$1 million at Scotia-Glenville alone).

In addition to state cutbacks, there are many other fiscal pressures on schools these days that, if drastic cuts are made, threaten to reverse or destroy the educational progress built in small steps over the past decade.

New York state has imposed a 1.9% spending increase cap on school districts if their school budgets are defeated twice at the polls. At Scotia-Glenville, such a limit would allow a spending increase of \$582,663 and require a \$2.1 million cut in the preliminary budget. That deep a cut would *still* mean a **tax increase of 3% to 8%**, depending on whether state aid is restored. See how the state's cap compares with the rising costs of doing business in public education today:

Largest categories of growth in the budget	\$ increase	% increase
Instructional salaries (296 employees: administrators, teachers, teaching assistants and staff hired since Sept.)	\$702,076	4.8%
Non-instructional salaries (217 employees: building and grounds, aides, monitors, clerical, transportation and staff hired since Sept.) . .	\$238,705	6.3%
Health insurance costs (337 current employees, 289 retirees)	\$446,671	13.0%
State-mandated contribution to the Employee Retirement System (ERS)	\$291,000	24.0%
Outside special education costs (BOCES, private placement)	\$513,014	23.0%



These rising costs would have to be squeezed into a 1.9% spending cap. Even with such deep cuts, taxes would rise 3% to 8%.

Decisions on the budget will be made in the coming weeks. Stay informed by attending school board meetings (see back), contacting board members and joining your neighbors at Community Forums on March 10, 17, 24 and 31 at the Middle School.


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**DURING THIS
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YEAR, LET YOUR
VOICES BE HEARD.**

**PLEASE ATTEND
COMMUNITY FORUMS
ON MARCH 10, 17, 24
AND 31.**

BOARD OF ED.

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Margaret Smith,
Vice President
Karen Bradley
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DISTRICT ADMIN.

Michael J. Marcelle
Superintendent
Carol Hodgins
*Interim Director of
Curriculum and Instruction*
Dorothy B. Nolie
District Treasurer

There are several ways to contact us and receive information about the budget:

- Community comment is welcomed at any Board of Education meeting. During budget review, meetings are held at 7 p.m. every Monday in March and April 7 and 14 at the Middle School. Final budget adoption is expected April 14. **Community Forums are being held March 10, 17, 24 and March 31. All are at 7 p.m.** The preliminary budget public hearing is also set for March 24.
- Call Superintendent Michael J. Marcelle at 382-1215.
- Leave a message at 386-4343 after hours.
- Send the webmaster an email at www.sgcsd.neric.org
- Contact any Board of Education member.
- The *Tartan Report* and www.sgcsd.neric.org will have budget information.

Scotia-Glenville

CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

900 Preddice Parkway, Scotia, NY 12302
Superintendent's Office: (518) 382-1215



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