

Support Education in These Difficult Times...Remember to vote May 18

The rising costs of health insurance, state-mandated retirement contributions, salaries and central services are driving up the preliminary \$38.06 million Scotia-Glenville school budget for 2004-05.

2004-05 budget costs up by \$2.6 million

The budget, being reviewed by the Board of Education until mid-April, projects a spending increase of \$2.6 million or 7.5%. The majority of the proposed increases in the 2004-05 budget are in three areas:

- ▶ **Employee benefits** (state-required retirement contributions, health and dental insurance, Social Security and workers' compensation insurance), an increase of \$1.114 million or **18.8%**.
- ▶ **Instruction** (staff development, instructional salaries, three proposed special education/skills classes, technology and special education), an increase of \$1.01 million or **4.6%**. The classes would keep students here instead of sending them to more expensive private or BOCES programs.
- ▶ **Central services** (equipment, utilities, maintenance and buildings/grounds), an increase of \$383,260 or **13.7%**.

With no increase in aid or town assessments, taxes would rise as much as 12.4%.

BOE has directed administration to cut proposed tax hike in half by cutting \$1 million

Assuming no increase in state aid (*the governor proposed a \$54,436 cut to Scotia-Glenville; this year, S-G's aid was cut by \$400,000*) and flat town property assessments, taxes would rise by 12.4%. The Board of Education has directed the administration to reduce this increase by at least 6%. The \$1 million reductions needed to do this will be discussed at the community forums March 22, 29 and April 5.

Budget details are available at ScotiaGlenvilleSchools.org under the 2004-05 budget link on the left.

The Board of Education is also planning a bus and large vehicle purchase proposal. Details of that plan are still being worked out. This would be funded in future years and not have an affect on the 2004-05 tax rate.

Share your opinions with the Board of Education on March 22, 29 and April 5

The Board of Education will sponsor several community forums on the proposed budget. They are scheduled for 7 p.m. at the Middle School auditorium on Mondays **March 22, 29 and April 5**. The board expects to adopt a budget April 19. The formal hearing on the budget is set for Wednesday, **May 5**, at 7 p.m. at the Middle School. Voting will be held from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m. at the Senior High School gym on **Tuesday, May 18**.

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**PLEASE ATTEND
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ON March 22, 29
and April 5**

BOARD OF ED.

Kurt W. Ahnert, *President*
Margaret Smith,
Vice President
Karen Bradley
Pamela S. Carbone
John A. Carpenter
Benjamin A. Conlon
Daniel Magruder

DISTRICT ADMIN.

Michael J. Marcelle
Superintendent
Joseph F. Kavanaugh
*Director of
Curriculum and Instruction*
Dorothy B. Nolie
Business Administrator

- 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 5 and 19 at the Middle School auditorium. Final budget adoption is expected April 19.
 - Call Superintendent Michael J. Marcelle at 382-1215.
 - Leave a message at 386-4343 after hours.
 - Send the webmaster an email at ScotiaGlenvilleSchools.org
 - Contact any Board of Education member.
 - The *Tartan Report* and ScotiaGlenvilleSchools.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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