

Thank you for your ongoing support and engagement with the Ithaca City School District.

We have developed a spending plan for the 2020-2021 school year that funds quality programs and services for our students, meets the needs of our teachers and staff, allows us to maintain our facilities, and has a minimal tax impact on our community.

Our school district continues to face fiscal challenges, which have been exacerbated by the current public health crisis. Challenges to the fiscal health of the school budget include reduced New York State Foundation Aid and numerous unfunded mandates. Despite these fiscal challenges, the Board of Education and staff have worked carefully to minimize the impact on instructional programs and our taxpayers.



We are proposing a 2020-2021 budget totaling \$136,842,648, which is an increase of 3.7 percent from last year. Although our proposed budget includes a levy increase of 2.81 percent, we anticipate a decrease to the tax rate for the fifth year in a row.

The proposed 2020-2021 budget protects the significant educational experiences afforded by the Ithaca City School District and allows our schools to continue to meet high expectations for all students.

As always, your input and collaboration are appreciated. Please continue to reach out to us directly and/or provide suggestions and feedback via the Let's Talk! portal on our website, www.ithacacityschools.org.

Remember to return your absentee ballots by mail or in person to the Office of the District Clerk, 400 Lake Street. Completed ballots must be received by 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, June 9, 2020 in order to be canvassed.

Dr. Luvelle C. Brown



Superintendent of Schools

Robert Ainslie



Board of Education President

Sean Eversley Bradwell



Board of Education Vice President



School District Budget Notice

Overall Budget Proposal	Budget Adopted for the 2019-20 School Year	Budget Proposed for the 2020-21 School Year	Contingency Budget for the 2020-21 School Year *
Total Budgeted Amount, Not Including Separate Propositions	\$ 131,954,987	\$ 136,842,648	\$ 134,303,710
Increase/Decrease for the 2020-21 School Year		\$ 4,887,661	-\$ 2,538,939
Percentage Increase/Decrease in Proposed Budget		3.70 %	-1.86 %
Change in the Consumer Price Index		1.81%	
A. Proposed Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount	\$ 90,238,884	\$ 92,777,822	
B. Levy to Support Library Debt, if Applicable	\$ 0	\$ 0	
C. Levy for Non-Excludable Propositions, if Applicable **	\$ 0	\$ 0	
D. Total Tax Cap Reserve Amount Used to Reduce Current Year Levy	\$ 0	\$ 0	
E. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy (A + B + C - D)	\$ 90,238,884	\$ 92,777,822	\$ 90,238,884
F. Total Permissible Exclusions	\$ 4,205,701	\$ 4,103,820	
G. School Tax Levy Limit, <u>Excluding</u> Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$ 86,033,183	\$ 88,674,002	
H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, <u>Excluding</u> Levy to Support Library Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions (E – B – F + D)	\$ 86,033,183	\$ 88,674,002	
I. Difference: G – H (Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval – See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions) **	\$ 0	\$ 0	
Administrative Component	\$ 17,363,479	\$ 16,621,935	\$ 16,316,285
Program Component	\$ 96,818,754	\$ 102,343,128	\$ 100,461,211
Capital Component	\$ 17,772,754	\$ 17,877,586	\$ 17,526,214

* Provide a statement of assumptions made in projecting a contingency budget for the 2020-21 school year, should the proposed budget be defeated pursuant to Section 2023 of the Education Law.

Description	Amount
Vehicle Purchases and capital Projects from 2018 Capital Reserve	\$ 799,126

** List Separate Propositions that are not included in the Total Budgeted Amount: (Tax Levy associated with educational or transportation services propositions are not eligible for exclusion and may affect voter approval requirements)

NOTE: Please submit an electronic version (Word or PDF) of this completed form to: emscmgts@nysed.gov

Under the Budget Proposed for the 2020-21 School Year

Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings¹

\$ 505

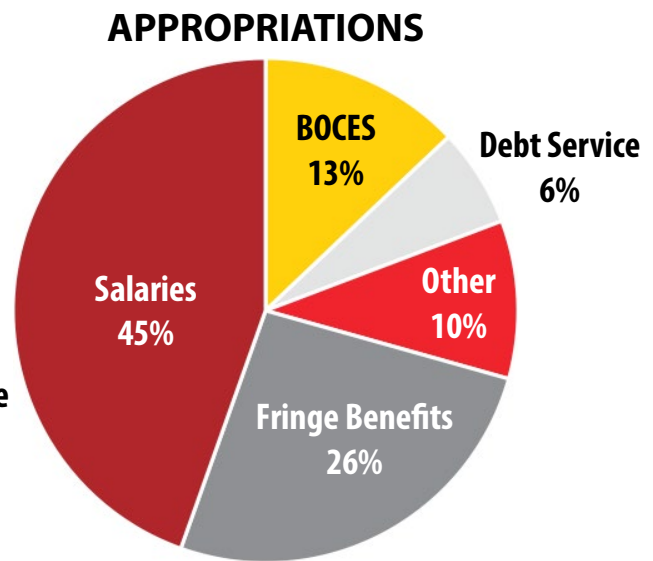
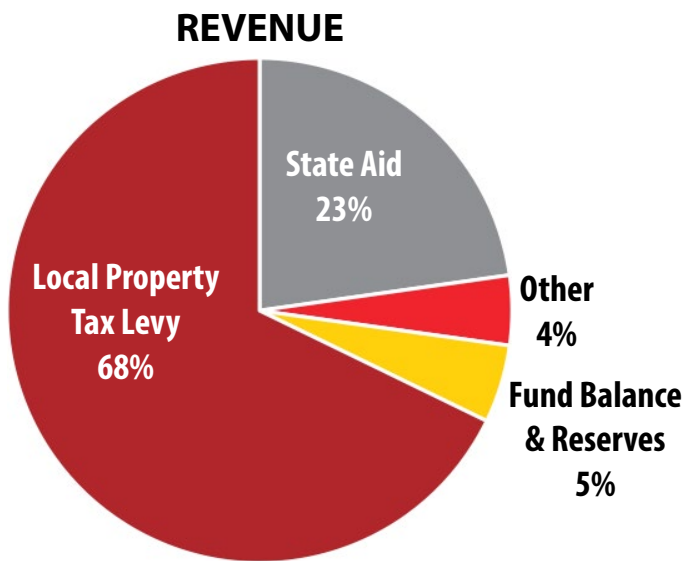
In accordance with Governor Cuomo's Executive Order 202.26, the annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2020-21 will take place on Tuesday, June 9, 2020 by the qualified voters of the Ithaca City School District, Tompkins County, New York. All voting shall take place remotely and qualified voters shall vote in such Election only by absentee ballot, to be provided to all qualified voters by the District. All absentee ballots must be received in the office of the District Clerk no later than 5:00 p.m. on the day of the Election.

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



BUDGET SUMMARY

REVENUE	2019-20 BUDGET	2020-21 PROPOSED	\$ CHANGE	% CHANGE
State Aid	\$31,958,249	\$31,134,573	(\$823,676)	(-2.58%)
Other Revenue	\$4,653,290	\$6,105,308	\$1,452,018	31.20%
Fund Balance & Reserves	5,104,564	\$6,824,945	\$1,720,381	33.70%
Local Property Tax Levy	\$90,238,884	\$92,777,822	\$2,538,938	2.81%
TOTAL REVENUE	\$131,954,987	\$136,842,648	\$4,887,661	3.70%
APPROPRIATIONS	2019-20 BUDGET	2020-21 PROPOSED	\$ CHANGE	% CHANGE
Salaries	\$59,576,440	\$61,161,414	\$1,584,974	2.66%
Fringe Benefits	\$33,694,466	\$35,713,228	\$2,018,762	5.99%
BOCES	\$17,210,675	\$17,679,614	\$468,939	2.72%
Debt Service	\$8,492,527	\$8,629,511	\$136,984	1.61%
Other	\$12,980,879	\$13,658,881	\$678,002	5.22%
TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS	\$131,954,987	\$136,842,648	\$4,887,661	3.70%



For a detailed look at the proposed 2020-2021 budget, visit www.ithacacityschools.org/budget.

PROPOSITIONS ON THE BALLOT

Proposition No. 1 Shall the Board of Education of the Ithaca City School District be authorized to expend an amount not to exceed \$136,842,648 to meet the District’s estimated expenditures during the 2020-2021 school year, and to levy the necessary tax therefor?

Proposition No. 2 Shall the Board of Education of the Ithaca City School District (the “District”) be authorized to appropriate funds from the District’s “2018 Capital Reserve Fund” in the maximum amount of \$799,126.00 and to expend these funds for the following purposes: (1) Bus Purchases: six (6) full size gasoline buses; and (2) Van Purchase: three (3) transit vans?



ANNUAL BUDGET VOTE AND SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION

Tuesday, June 9, 2020 • By Absentee Ballot ONLY

ABSENTEE BALLOTS

Every registered voter in the district will be mailed an absentee ballot and a return envelope with paid postage. Completed ballots can be returned by mail or in person to the Office of the District Clerk, located at 400 Lake Street.

Absentee ballots must be received by the District Clerk no later than 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, June 9, 2020 in order to be canvassed.

VOTER QUALIFICATIONS

To vote in a Budget Vote and School Board Election, you must be a registered voter and:

- a citizen of the United States;
- 18 years of age or older;
- a resident within the district for a period of 30 days preceding the date of the vote; and
- not otherwise prohibited from voting under Election Law.

SCHOOL BOARD CANDIDATES

The candidates for the three open seats on the School Board are (in alphabetical order by last name):

1. **Sabrina Draffen**
2. **Sean Eversley Bradwell**
3. **Sophia Lux**
4. **Christopher Malcolm**
5. **Elizabeth Minor**
6. **Patricia Wasyliw**

POLLING LOCATIONS

You will need to write your polling location on your absentee ballot return envelope. To look up your polling location for school district elections, visit www.ithacacityschools.org/vote.

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| 1. Lehman Alternative Community School | 5. South Hill Elementary School | 9. Cayuga Heights Elementary School |
| 2. Beverly J. Martin Elementary School | 6. Franziska Racker Center | 10. Caroline Elementary School |
| 3. Belle Sherman Elementary Annex | 7. Enfield Elementary School | 11. Northeast Elementary School |
| 4. Fall Creek Elementary School | 8. Danby Fire Station | 12. Varna Community Center |

