



CLIFFSIDE PARK SCHOOL DISTRICT

**Support
Your
Schools!
VOTE!**

VOTE, Tuesday, April 16th 2pm-8pm

A SPECIAL BUDGET MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

The Cliffside Park School District's Annual Budget for the 2019-20 school year reflects the Board of Education's continued commitment to our PreK-12 academic, co-curricular, and athletic programs. The proposed budget addresses increased costs related to our growing student population and services throughout the district while staying within the 2% mandated cap.

The proposed budget allows for; additional staffing in our elementary, middle and high schools that will address our population growth, additional funding for tuition and services for students with special needs and early language learners, new textbooks in social studies, technology equipment (every 7th-12th grade student will continue to receive a Chrome Book vital for today's instruction), software, general instructional supplies and the addition of 12 modular classrooms at School 3. These costs are essential for preparing our students for NJSLA testing and our future graduates for college and careers in the 21st Century as well as maintaining our facilities.

Despite rising costs in medical premiums (projected at 12%-15%), special education tuitions for out-of-district students and the need to provide additional classroom space, we have managed to develop a budget that addresses our current needs and is mindful of our taxpayers.

YOUR SUPPORT IS IMPORTANT TO OUR STUDENTS!

Your vote will make a tremendous difference in the operation of our school programs on a daily basis. For example, as a result of your approval of the 2018-19 budget, we were able to maintain all of our existing programs while adding additional staff and new textbooks across grade levels. We continued to maintain and upgrade our technology services which included the purchasing of additional Chrome Books for our one-to-one program for grades 7-12 and while upgrading the infrastructure throughout the district.

In addition, we were able to continue our 5-year maintenance plan by improving and upgrading our schools; the addition of classroom space and furniture, remodeling of bathrooms and flooring, new roof and boiler at School 6

and other projects throughout the district that are needed to provide for a safe, working environment for our staff and students. Special thanks to our Mayor and Council for sharing the cost of our armed security guards for each of our schools. This was essential as the security of your children is our utmost priority.

YOUR SUPPORT LAST YEAR MADE THESE CHANGES POSSIBLE! THANK YOU!!

The Board and administration will continue to find alternative sources of income to offset many local expenditures. This includes pursuing all grant opportunities as well as continuing to increase revenue from transportation services we provide to other school districts. This past year we generated over \$800,000 in transportation revenue.

During this school year, we were once again the recipients of the 21st Century Community Learning Grant for \$525,000 per year for the next 5-years. Monies from this grant are used to offset local costs for professional development, staff salaries for after school and summer programs as well as vital counseling and support services for students in need.

In total, the proposed 2019-20 Annual Budget reflects a 3.06% tax levy increase which remains **within state guidelines** due to allowable increases for healthcare costs. This equates to an increase of approximately **\$26** for a house assessed at \$361,300 or **about \$2.16 per month.**

As always, this budget reflects the Board of Education's deep commitment to giving our students and staff the tools and resources they need in order to provide our students with a world class education, all while presenting a budget that is fiscally responsible.

Thank you for your ongoing support!

Michael J. Romagnino

Please click on the link "User Friendly Budget" for more information.