

Averill Park

CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Committed to the Pursuit of Life-Long Learning

Budget Summary

- ▶ Proposed Budget 2011-2012
\$55,116,818
- ▶ Budget Decrease .58%
- ▶ Estimated Tax Levy Percent
Increase 5.1%

Voters to decide two separate ballot issues

Residents will consider two ballot propositions

- ▶ Whether the proposed \$55,116,818 budget should be adopted.
- ▶ Which candidates should be elected to fill two (2) three-year seats on the Board of Education.

The candidates are in ballot order:

Pam Tatar
Cheryl Glanton
Dori Salisbury
Jennie Glasser

What's Inside

- ▶ Board of Education Candidates
- ▶ Budget Information
- ▶ Wizard of Oz at APHS



Spending Decreases for 2nd Year

Budget is Reduced by \$320,851

On Tuesday, May 17, Averill Park school district residents will vote on a proposed \$55,116,818 for the 2011-2012 school year. This represents a .58% spending decrease from the current year. The budget continues to support Averill Park's core educational programs despite a projected \$4.2 million cut in state aid to the district for the upcoming year.

To help identify areas for cuts and for creative solutions, community members provided guidance about what they value in about their schools during a series of budget roundtable meetings. "I want to thank everyone who helped us with this budget process," said Superintendent Jo Moccia. "Our community's input was critical in this process."

The District maintains a full-day Kindergarten, K-8 literacy programs, instrumental music, foreign language instruction, advanced placement courses, middle school modified sports, Junior Varsity and Varsity athletic programs and many extracurricular activities. We have worked diligently to minimize the overall tax levy impacts to 2.57%, 0%, and 1.96% over the past three years, and an estimated increase of 5.1% for the 2011-2012 year. The Board of Education presents a spending plan that maintains a per pupil cost that is significantly below the NYS average. Please review all of the information presented in this newsletter and be sure to vote on May 17th. If you have questions or need additional information visit our website at www.averillpark.k12.ny.us

Running a Business to Benefit Others!



Students at Miller-Hill/Sand Lake Elementary School are running a business and selling popcorn to their fellow classmates. Students learn to pop the corn, prepare the product for sale and then sell the popcorn daily to each grade level for 25 cents a cup full. The money is then collected and the class makes a decision as a group who should benefit from their proceeds. The money has been donated to various charities includ-

ing the Make-A-Wish® Foundation of Northeast NY, American Red Cross, American Heart Association, Albany Medical Center Children's Hospital, The Hudson River Mohawk Humane Society, and The Ronald McDonald House. Great Job!

What happens if residents vote no on the budget?

If Averill Park's proposed budget is defeated, the district can hold another vote and offer residents either the same or a revised budget, or it can adopt a contingency budget that would limit how much spending could increase.

If the budget is defeated twice, the district must adopt a contingency budget. Should the proposed budget not receive voter approval, a contingent budget would require reduction of non-contingent expenses such as non-essential equipment totaling \$12,500 and administrative expenses totaling \$60,000 to comply with the statutory administrative budget cap.

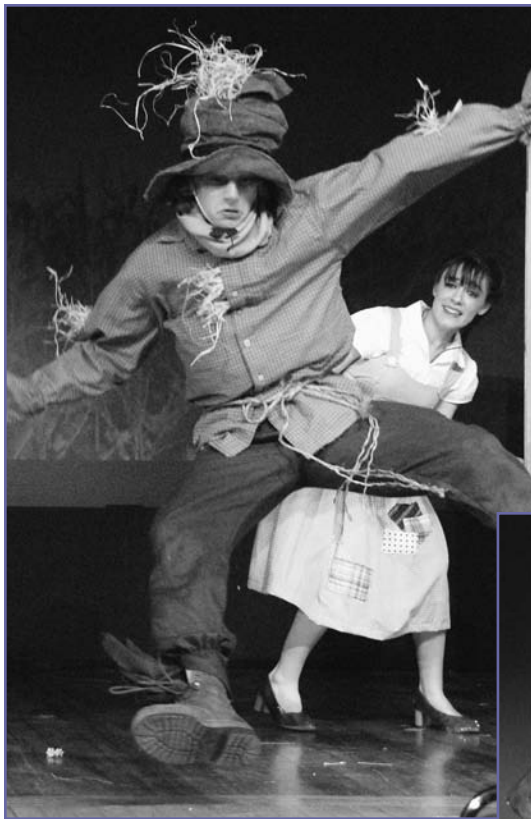
Wizard of Oz at APHS Breaks All Records!

Theatre Arts in Averill Park have become central to the district's mission to "maximize individual potential in the pursuit of life-long learning," and this spring's production to *The Wizard of Oz* was no exception. The production engaged over two hundred students, teachers, and community members in award-winning performances to capacity crowds.

The show required over a year of planning and preparation and played for two weekends this March at APHS. The monumental cast included students from all district schools, featuring third graders from each elementary school as the Munchkins, middle-school and high school students in the chorus, and high schoolers (and even two teachers!) in the principal cast. The APHS pit band, under the able direction of music teacher Gerry Zaffuts, turned in stunning performances for all six shows of the run, and dozens of students spent labor intensive months planning, building, and painting sets. Thanks to a grant from the Averill Park Education Foundation the auditorium had a full complement of lighting devices for the first time since the long unrenovated space was opened in 1958.

Oz was the largest production in district history, the first to integrate live video, the first to run for six performances, and the first to play to sell-out crowds for the entire second weekend. It was also an award winner! The show was adjudicated by TANYS, the Theatre Association of New York State and recognized in multiple categories, including Directing & Special Effects Design, Vocal Direction, Set & Costume Design, Video Production, Choreography, and the Ensemble Work of the Cast, Crew & Orchestra.

The Wizard of Oz showed that the learning doesn't end with the last school bell in Averill Park. The cast and crew worked tirelessly, braving winter weather of epic proportions, to create the greatest stage event in district history. As we traveled down the Yellow Brick Road our young people grew in ways they never thought possible. Beyond the costumes, scenery, music, and acting, they demonstrated 21st Century skills of teamwork, collaboration, creative thinking, initiative, and commitment.



REVENUES: Where money comes from to pay for Averill Park's schools

State aid

State aid for both operating and capital expenses combined provide 41 percent of Averill Park's revenues.

Local taxes

Local taxes provide about 47 percent of the district's revenues.

| Source of Revenue | Actual 2010-11 | Proposed 2011-12 | Dollar Change |
|----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| State Aid Operating: | \$18,112,971* | \$16,510,254** | (1,602,717) |
| Local School Tax: | 24,518,568 | 25,784,263 | 1,265,695 |
| State Aid Capital: | 6,316,028 | 6,162,847 | (153,181) |
| Miscellaneous: | 2,127,733 | 1,890,733 | (237,000) |
| Fund Balance: | 3,712,369 | 1,591,614 | (2,120,755) |
| Reserves: | 650,000 | 3,177,107 | 2,527,107 |
| Total: | \$55,437,669 | \$55,116,818 | (320,851) |

*Includes GAP Elimination State Aid reduction of \$2,589,982 **Includes GAP Elimination State Aid reduction of \$4,244,152

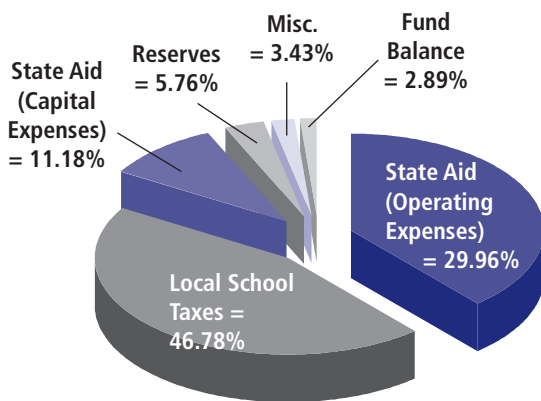
Averill Park's Class Of 2010

► 89% of graduates earned Regents diplomas, 49% of those students earned Regents diplomas with advanced designation by completing additional requirements in science, math, and foreign languages

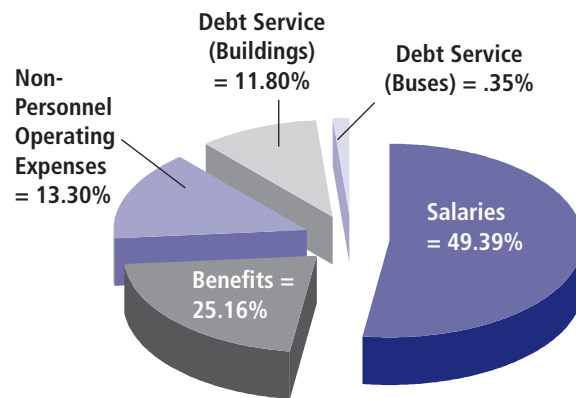
► 2 students achieved a CTE (Career Technical Education) endorsement on their diploma through Questar III coursework.

► 87% of the Class of 2009 continued their formal education. Colleges included: Bucknell University, Clarkson University, Duke University, Holy Cross College, New Hampshire Institute of Art, NYU, RPI, St. Lawrence University, Skidmore College, Syracuse University, Temple University, and various New York State (SUNY) Colleges.

REVENUES



EXPENSES



EXPENSES: How money is spent for Averill Park's schools

| Expenses | Actual 2010-11 | Proposed 2011-12 | Dollar Change |
|---------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| Operating Expenses | | | |
| Personnel - Salaries | \$28,867,779 | \$27,224,303 | (1,643,476) |
| Personnel - Benefits | 12,381,932 | 13,869,541 | 1,487,609 |
| Non-Personnel Items | 7,456,190 | 7,330,889 | (125,301) |
| Total Operating Expenses | \$48,705,901 | \$48,424,733 | (281,168) |
| Capital Expenses | | | |
| Debt Service Buildings | \$6,536,888 | \$6,503,701 | (33,187) |
| Debt Service Buses | 194,880 | 188,384 | (6,496) |
| Total Capital Expenses | \$6,731,768 | \$6,692,085 | (39,683) |
| Total | \$55,437,669 | \$55,116,818 | (320,851) |

Accomplishments at a Glance:

- ▶ Robert Bornhorst, Kit Collins, James Kruegler and Matthew McFadden named Commended Students in the 2011 National Merit Scholarship Program.
- ▶ Alison Schaefer named semifinalist in the National Merit Scholarship Program
- ▶ Kyle Gicewicz received Congressional nomination to attend West Point
- ▶ Madeline Morizio selected for the 2011 High School Honors Performance Series at Carnegie Hall and also selected to participate in the All State Band to perform at Eastman College.
- ▶ Bridget Carney, Brianna LaRegina, Jenna Anthony, Vanessa Sanborn, Laura Daigle Sophie Gallo, Shannon Wagner, Katie Vogel, Kristina Melius, Megan Keeler, Jennifer Engwer, Anthony Crognale, and Katie Goodermote are sculpture students that were honored at the highly competitive 2011 "Art in Three Dimensions" Student Exhibition.
- ▶ Brooke Ryan, Emily Rosenberg, Kristina Melius and Sarah Goldberg, APHS Art Students were selected to participate in the 22nd Annual Questar III invitational student art show.

Opportunities in the Real World

Averill Park provides many opportunities for students with special needs to access curriculum throughout their school age years with a specific focus on transition to college and/or careers as adults. Among these opportunities at the high school level are community based work sites. Students involved in this initiative spend a portion of their school day working in some of our local community businesses, including Rosewood Gardens, Samaritan Hospital and the Children's Museum of Science and Technology. Our district is appreciative of the commitment made by these establishments to insure our students gain experience during these important years.

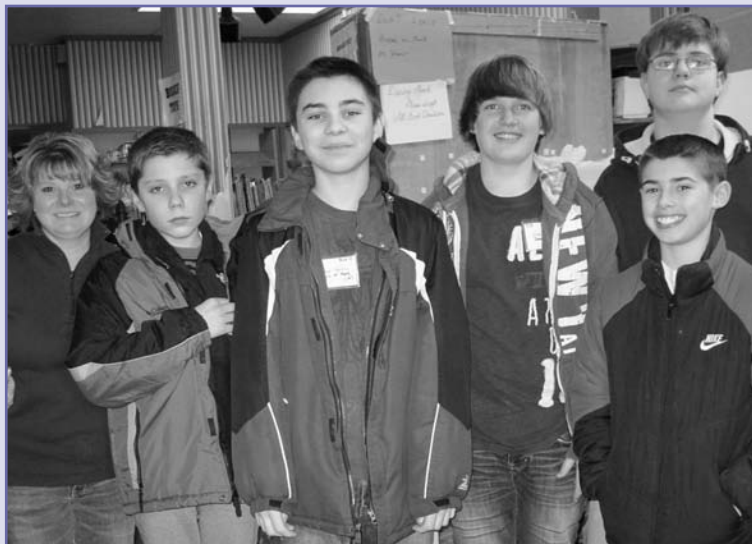
SENIOR CITIZEN DISCOUNTS

| Annual income range | Exemption |
|---------------------------|-----------|
| \$0 - \$27,000 | 50% |
| \$27,001 - 28,000 | 45% |
| \$28,001 - \$29,000 | 40% |
| \$29,001 - \$30,000 | 35% |
| \$30,001 - \$30,900 | 30% |
| \$30,901 - \$31,800 | 25% |
| \$31,801 - \$32,700 | 20% |
| \$32,701 - \$33,600 | 15% |
| \$33,601 - \$34,500 | 10% |
| \$34,501 - \$35,400 | 5% |

The Board of Education discounts school taxes for residents who are over age 65 and meet income guidelines. These discounts must be applied for annually at the town assessor's office.

Seventh Graders at Algonquin Have Something to Boast About!

The whole seventh grade class participated in B.O.A.S.T. Day. BOAST stands for Branch Out, Accept, and Serve Together. Students served as Agency Helpers (at Doors of Hope, Hope 7, Unity House, NE Regional Food Bank), Pre-School Helpers, (at local pre-schools and Head Start locations) Teacher Assistants (at our elementary schools and the SL Art Center), or Elderly Companions (at Evergreen Commons and Van Rensselaer Manor). Teachers facilitated pre and post reflection activities to enhance the service learning experience.

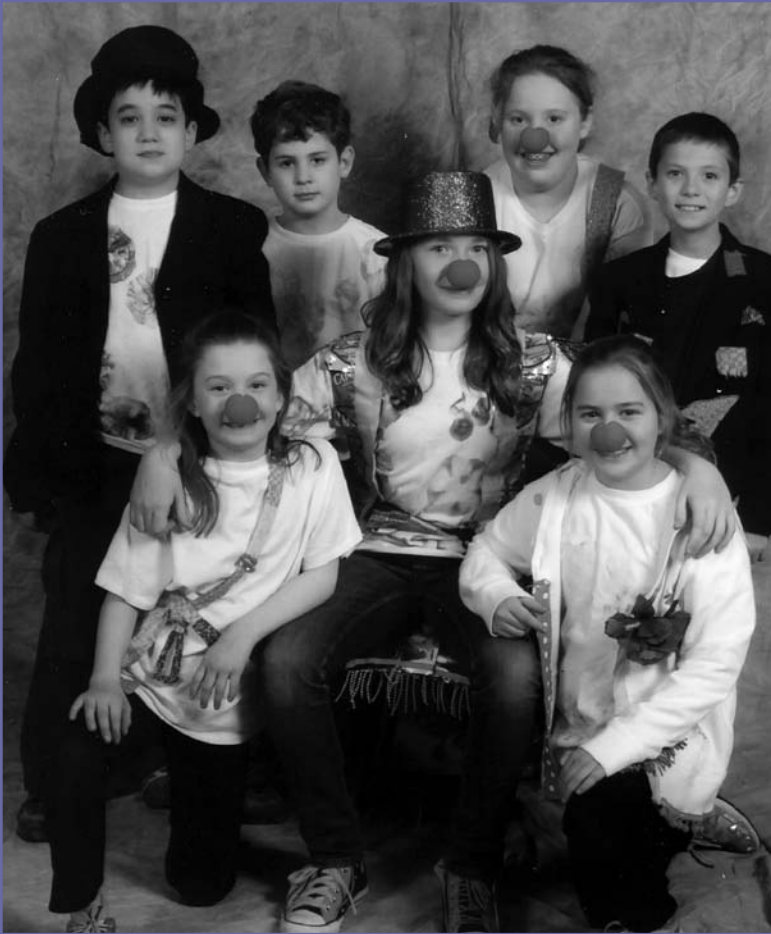


Congressional Nomination

Senior Kyle Gicewicz received a Congressional Nomination from Congressman Scott Murphy to attend West Point in the fall. Kyle is the Senior Class Vice President, Student Government President and is also on the Varsity Baseball Team. As part of the duties of the Student Government President, Kyle served as the Student Ex-Officio for the Board of Education. Kyle's admittance to West Point was based on his excellent academics, personal character and extra-curricular involvement.



West Sand Lake Odyssey of the Mind to Compete at World Competition!



Odyssey of the Mind is an international educational program that provides creative problem-solving opportunities for students from kindergarten through college. Students apply their creativity to solve problems that range from building mechanical devices to presenting their own interpretations of literary classics.

After achieving first place in the regional Odyssey of the Mind competition and then again in the State Competition in Binghamton, a team from West Sand Lake Elementary School advances to the Odyssey of the Mind World Competition to be held at the University of Maryland. Way to go!

Accomplishments at a Glance:

- ▶ Caroline Casey, Sarah Davis, Ryan Newhouse, Gabriella Malo, Chelsea Miessner, Kelly Beliveau, Morgan Kunz, Kit Collins, Kelly Moak, Caitlyn St.Germain, Amber Clark, Madeline Roy, Melissa Roff, and Madeline Worden were all selected to display their artwork at the 2011 High School Regional Exhibition, a competitive art show for Capital Area Suburban Council schools
- ▶ Kelly Moak, Olivia Downs, Peter Keller, Casey Madsen, Alison Schaefer, Matt McFadden, Holly Jansen, Cailin Hughes, Katie Gilligan, Caroline Casey, Andrew Kowal, Morgan Kunz, Sarah Goldberg, John Lantz, James Kruegler, Sara Seney, Zach Dunn, Charles Cardish, Madeline Morizio, Nick Galinski, Stephanie Horon, & Marissa Macintyre, all seniors were recognized by the Theatre Association of New York for Ensemble Work of the Cast, Crew & Orchestra in our production of the Wizard of Oz
- ▶ Averill Park awarded 2011 School Safety Excellence Award from Utica National Insurance Group
- ▶ Jean Seaver, Elementary Teacher, Awarded Champion of Character Award

Making Strides in Energy Savings

In 2004, the district began working with Energy Education Incorporated (EEI), a company that creates and helps implement customized, comprehensive people-driven energy conservation programs. Since then, the district has achieved over \$2.3 million of energy savings. This September we will be starting our eighth year of this highly successful participation-oriented program.

A participation-oriented approach means the district was not required to invest thousands of dollars in new equipment to achieve energy savings, rather the program relies on staff driven energy conservation measures, some as simple as ensuring equipment and lights are turned off when not in use. The Maintenance Department also plays an important role in this savings by efficiently managing energy usage via the Direct Digital Control (DDC) energy management system. This system allows for remote scheduling and real-time

adjustment of energy systems, including boilers, lights and heating and ventilation units, throughout the district.

The district's Energy Manager Aaron Heffner coordinates the entire program; he performs ongoing energy audits and he broadcasts a weekly EEI reminder message designed to change human behavior. These efforts have resulted in the majority of our district facilities being awarded Energy Star labels from the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) for demonstrating significant decreases in energy consumption.

Recently, the district obtained a \$291,000 grant from NYSERDA. This grant will enable the district to install a 50,000 Kwh Photovoltaic System on the High School gym roof beginning June 2011. This is just one of the numerous projects that the district has accomplished in our energy conservation quest.

APHS Athletic Accomplishments at a Glance

- ▶ **Averill Park Varsity Girls' Basketball:** Section II "Class A" Champions, Regional "Class A" Champions, New York State "Class A" Finalists, Finished Ranked 4th in New York State Class "A"
- ▶ **Jimmy Sullivan (Golf):** Section II Medalist, Member of Section II Golf Team to compete at Cornell in June 2011
- ▶ **Brooke O'Shea (Basketball):** Section II "Class A" All Tournament Team, Section II "Class A" MVP, New York State "Class A" All Tournament Team, 7th Team All State Tournament Selection
- ▶ **Bridget Carney (Basketball):** Section II "Class A" All Tournament Team
- ▶ **Claire Everett (Basketball):** "Class A" Girls' Basketball Sportsmanship Recipient
- ▶ **Rudy Winkler (Indoor Track):** National Champion Weight Throw, Section II Record Holder in the Weight Throw, Section II Division II Sectional Champion & Suburban Council Champion in the Weight Throw, First Team Times Union in the Weight Throw

Board of Education Candidates

There are four candidates for two (2) three (3) year seats on the Board of Education. The following biographies are written by the candidates and the candidates are listed in ballot order:

For more candidate information, please visit the district website: www.averillpark.k12.ny.us



Pam Tatar

Pam Tatar

Pam Tatar has lived in Averill Park for 15 years with her husband and three sons, and has served on the APCSD Board for six years. She has been an active participant in training opportunities offered by the New York State School Board Association (NYSSBA). Pam's investment in NYSBBA has allowed her to improve her knowledge and skills in the area of school board governance; in June 2010, NYSBBA presented her with its Board Mastery Award, acknowledging her expertise. Pam is eager to continue her work with the community as it strives to maintain the District's strengths in challenging times.



Cheryl Glanton

Cheryl Glanton

My name is Cheryl Glanton; I have five Averill Park students from Kindergarten to ninth grade. My family moved to this district eight years ago because of the great schools. I have a degree in mechanical engineering and a MBA. Currently I work as a project manager for NYSERDA; previously I was a full time mom after a 17 year career as a manager for GE. I am active in the MHSL PTA, where I currently serve as treasurer. I am a lector and a catechist for St. Henry's Church and a member of the APCSD Long Range Planning Committee.



Dori Salisbury

Dori Salisbury

As a lifelong member of the Averill Park community, I have been a soccer mom and served on the Twin Town Board of Directors. I've been a member of "Save our Schools" in the 1990s and a founder of the Averill Park Educational Foundation. Now I would like to be YOUR representative on the AP Board of Education. I feel that my 20+ years of financial management experience, focusing on healthcare and benefits administration, and independent nature have prepared me well to be fair and accountable to the community. For more information, please contact me at www.doriforapboe.blogspot.com.

Thank you for your consideration.



Jennie Glasser

Jennie Glasser

My name is Jennie Glasser and I'm seeking re-election to the Averill Park Board of Education. A long-time resident of the district, I'm married to Albert and have two children, Shelby and Marcianna. I bring over 11 years of district experience as well as a large amount of varied volunteer public service. My experience, both in and outside of the Board will provide a balance which is desperately needed to operate this district for the benefit of ALL. Voting for me ensures a voice for balanced, affordable education that we can ALL be proud of!

The New York State School Report Card Fiscal Accountability Supplement for Averill Park Central School District

New York State Education Law and the Commissioner's Regulations require the attachment of the NYS School Report Card to the public school district budget proposal. The regulations require that certain expenditure ratios for general education and special education students be reported and compared with ratios for similar districts and all public schools. The required ratios for this district are reported below.

| 2008-2009 School Year | | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| | General Education | Special Education | |
| This School District | Instructional Expenditures | \$27,721,364 | \$10,983,027 |
| | Pupils | 3,461 | 542 |
| | Instructional Expenditures Per Pupil | \$8,010 | \$20,264 |
| Similar District Group | Instructional Expenditures | \$7,988,861,195 | \$2,951,989,735 |
| | Pupils | 828,326 | 115,502 |
| | Instructional Expenditures Per Pupil | \$9,645 | \$25,558 |
| All Public Schools | Instructional Expenditures | \$29,417,505,672 | \$10,926,323,899 |
| | Pupils | 2,705,290 | 411,516 |
| | Instructional Expenditures Per Pupil | \$10,874 | \$26,551 |

Similar District Group Description: Average Need/Resource Capacity

APHS Athletic Accomplishments at a Glance

- ▶ **Chris Miller (Indoor Track):** Section II Division II Champion in 55m Dash, Ranked 17th all time 55m dash in Section II, First Team Times Union In the 55m Dash, Suburban Council Champion 55m Dash
- ▶ **Sean Mullen (Indoor Track):** Dartmouth Relays- Triple Jump Champion, Second Team Times Union in the Triple Jump
- ▶ **Nick Cioffi (Baseball):** Signed National Letter of Intent to play Baseball at Towson State University
- ▶ **Cody Mosley (Wrestling)** State Tournament Qualifier at 119 lbs
- ▶ **Catherine Bell (Girls' Bowling)** Medalist Suburban Council Tournament, Second Team Suburban Council All Stars
- ▶ The following teams have been recognized by the New York State Public High School Athletic Association for achieving a team wide grade point average of 90 or higher: Boys' Cross Country, Girls' Cross Country, Boys' Football, Boys' Golf, Boys' Soccer, Girls' Soccer, Girls' Tennis, Girls' Volleyball, Boys' Basketball, Girls' Basketball, Boys' Bowling, Girls' Bowling, Boys' Indoor Track, Girls' Indoor Track.

Poestenkill Jump Rope for Heart



Poestenkill Elementary School had 170 jumpers from grades 3, 4, and 5 who raised \$15,500 to help fight heart disease and stroke in our area. This was the 19th year as host of a JRFH event at PES. The event has grown from 36 participants in the first year, raising just \$3000 to today's participation by 70% of students. It is a great vehicle for students to feel that they can make a difference. All the money raised goes to help people in our area of New York State.



School districts are required by state law to mail this information to all households within the district.

If you would like additional information about the proposed budget, please call the Superintendent's Office at (518) 674-7066.

Averill Park Central School District SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET NOTICE

| Overall budget proposal | Budget adopted for the 2010-11 school year | Budget proposed for the 2011-12 school year | Contingency budget for the 2011-12 school year |
|---|--|---|--|
| Total budgeted amount | \$ 55,437,669 | \$ 55,116,818 | \$ 55,044,318 |
| Decrease for the 2011-12 school year | | \$ (320,851) | \$ (393,351) |
| Percentage decrease in each proposed budget | | -0.58% | -0.71% |
| Change in the Consumer Price Index | | 1.60% | |
| Resulting estimated property tax levy for the 2011-12 school year | | \$ 25,784,263 | \$ 25,711,763 |
| Administrative component | \$ 4,265,690 | \$ 4,276,444 | \$ 4,216,444 |
| Program component | \$ 40,883,132 | \$ 40,394,035 | \$ 40,390,035 |
| Capital component | \$ 10,288,847 | \$ 10,446,339 | \$ 10,437,839 |

Should the proposed budget not receive voter approval, a contingent budget would require reduction of non-contingent expenses such as non-essential equipment totalling \$12,500 and administrative expenses totalling \$60,000 to comply with the statutory administrative budget cap.

Basic STAR exemption impact

Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings:

Budget proposed for the 2011-12 school year

| | |
|------------------------|--------|
| Basic STAR tax savings | \$ 474 |
|------------------------|--------|

The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2011-12 by the qualified voters of the Averill Park Central School District in Rensselaer County, New York, will be held at Averill Park High School Auxiliary Gym, in said district on Tuesday, May 17, 2011, between the hours of 7 a.m. and 9 p.m., prevailing time in the Averill Park High School, at which time the polls will be opened to vote by voting ballot machine.

Who may vote?

In order to vote, you must be at least 18 years old, a U.S. citizen, and a resident of the Averill Park CSD for at least 30 days prior to May 17. Advance registration is NOT required however, you will be asked to show proof of residency. Such forms may include a driver's license, a non-driver identification card, a utility bill, or a voter registration card.

How Can I Vote by Absentee Ballot?

Qualified district residents who are unable to go to the polls on May 17 can cast their votes by absentee ballot. For an application, call the district office at 674-7066. All completed ballots must be received by the district clerk no later than 5 p.m. on May 17.

When and Where do we vote?

Tuesday May 17, 2011

Averill Park High School auxiliary gym

Polls are open from 7 a.m.- 9 p.m.

Still have questions?

Visit the school district website

▶ www.averillpark.k12.ny.us

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Neil Bonesteel, *President*
 Pam Tatar, *Vice President*
 Chris Foster
 Jennie Glasser
 William Reinhardt
 Peter Schaefer
 Jessica Zweig

ADMINISTRATION

Josephine P. Moccia, Ed.D
Superintendent of Schools
 Sharon Lawrence
Assistant Superintendent
 Michael Ouimet
Assistant Superintendent for Business

For more information,
 please call the district at
(518) 674-7066



Averill Park

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