

Manhasset School District Budget Highlights

By ELIZABETH JOHNSON

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On Wednesday, April 9, Manhasset Board of Education approved a preliminary working budget proposal totaling \$87,933,150. The preliminary budget increase is at Manhasset's tax levy cap of 1.84 percent.

The Board of Education invites residents to a public hearing to comment or ask questions about the proposed budget on Thursday, May 8 at 8 p.m. in the Secondary School Board Room.

Many great programs were saved or restored. On the plus side:

- Most elementary classes kept within class size guidelines
- More moderate class sizes in most secondary school core instructional programs
- Additional sections offered in certain high school electives across core subject areas
- Restoration of fourth grade band and orchestra programs, as well as elementary jazz ensemble and chamber chorus
- The high school inclusion model

for special education students

- Partial restoration of Middle School clubs
- Additional 1.0 FTE Social Worker
- Assistant Varsity and JV coaches
- Full time Athletic Director

But saving those components does not come without a cost. The areas in which the board found savings include:

- Collective bargaining agreements negotiated with the teachers and support staff
- Retirement incentives for teachers and staff

- Low percentage increase in healthcare premiums for 2014
- Adoption of New York State Pension Stabilization program
- Lower Special Education costs
- Efficiencies in Transportation costs

This year's annual vote on the budget and trustees will be held on Tuesday, May 20 from 6:30 a.m.-10 p.m. in the high school gym. Trustee Pat Aitken is running for re-election, currently unopposed.

As always, stay informed: ask questions and get the facts.

S.T.O.P. Sunday Eliminates Waste

After a long winter season and spring finally arriving, North Hempstead residents have the perfect opportunity to clean out their homes and dispose of hazardous waste responsibly. The Town of North Hempstead would like to remind residents to clean out their garages, basements, attics and medicine chests, and take advantage of the Stop Throwing Out Pollutants (S.T.O.P.) program scheduled to take place on Sunday, May 4 at North Hempstead Beach Park, located at 175 West Shore Road in Port Washington. This is the second of five S.T.O.P. programs slated for this year.

"North Hempstead recognizes the potential threats to the environment caused by the improper disposal of household hazardous products," said Town Supervisor Judi Bosworth. "To address these concerns, North Hempstead offers residents this environmentally friendly and convenient way to dispose of hazardous waste."

Residents can return items such as aerosols, household chemicals, pesticides, disinfectants, fertilizers, bulbs, thermostats, rechargeable and lithium batteries, TV's, and



computers. Please bring oil-based paints only. Latex and water-based paints, once dried out (usually 24-36 hours after the lid is removed) can be placed in a trash bag and thrown out with your regular household garbage. Latex and water-based paints will not be accepted at the S.T.O.P. collection site. Oil-based paints, on the other hand, are considered hazardous, and will be accepted at any S.T.O.P. Collection Day program.

In addition, in partnership with the

Nassau County Police Department, the Town will be accepting prescription and over-the-counter drugs. The Town of North Hempstead is proud to have been the first town in Nassau County to offer a Pharmaceutical Collection Event. By bringing this service to each community, North Hempstead strives to keep its children and environment safe.

During the May 4 S.T.O.P. event, North Hempstead residents can also safely shred and dispose of personal documents, thereby minimizing the

opportunity for identity theft, while at the same time making an invaluable contribution to the protection of the environment.

Residents are invited to shred any paper documents and credit cards free of charge. Residents are reminded there is a limit of 6 boxes or bags of paper per car, per event. Once the documents are shredded, they will be placed into containers and sent directly to pulping mills across the country. Every 2,000 pounds of paper the Town recycles equates to one tree saved.

The Town of North Hempstead has once again partnered with Big Brothers Big Sisters to have a truck at the S.T.O.P. event. Big Brothers Big Sisters will be accepting gently used and working clothes, stuffed animals, electronics, toys, sporting equipment, shoes, books, small area rugs, bikes, scooters, luggage, picture frames, table lamps, bolts of fabric, silverware, glassware, dishes, and cosmetics. Each resident will receive a receipt for their donation for income tax purposes.

For more information on the S.T.O.P. program, please call 311 or e-mail recycle@northhempsteadny.gov.

— Submitted by
Town of North Hempstead

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NEWS BRIEF

Manhasset School Board Candidates Forum

The League of Women Voters (LWV) of Port Washington-Manhasset is hosting a candidates forum for the two candidates vying for the one opening seat on the Manhasset School Board Wednesday, April 30, at 7 p.m. in the Community Room at the Manhasset Public Library.

Come hear the candidates stance on the tough issues that are facing Manhasset schools and how they plan

to work with the administration to benefit the community.

The new candidate, Marirose Merola, and the present incumbent, Patricia Aitken, will debate on topics and explain why she is the best choice.

They will answer pertinent questions to help you decide.

The event is free. Manhasset Public Library at 30 Onderdonk Ave., off of Northern Boulevard.