

Special Budget Issue 2010-2011

Lenape Students Learn about Japanese Culture and History

Award-Winning Storyteller Weaves Tales of Ancient Lore

“Ohayo (oh-ha-YO),” said Motoko, a native of Osaka, Japan as she greeted students in Mrs. Elaine Thomas’ third grade classroom. The youngsters responded in unison, “Ohayo,” which means good morning in Japanese. It was the fifth and last day of Motoko’s residency at Lenape Elementary School and the children were happy to see her again.

“Motoko is fun,” one of the 8-year-olds said. “We like her!” And it was easy to see why.

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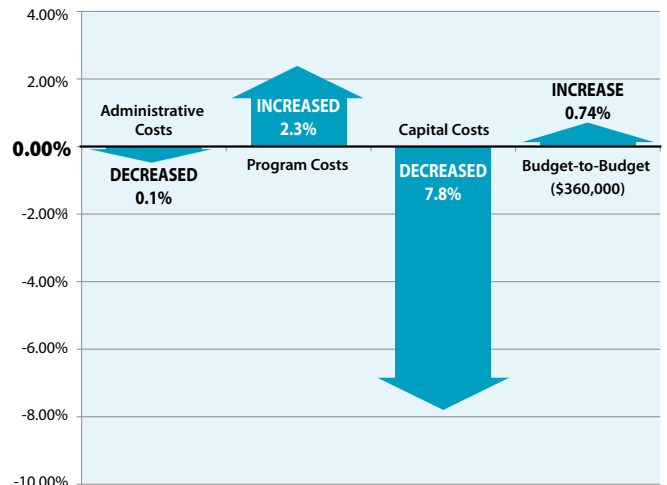
Students learned about Japanese customs and cultures from storyteller Motoko.

Board of Education Presents Proposed Budget with 0.74 Percent Increase

For the second year in a row, the Board of Education has adopted a School Budget that contains a budget-to-budget increase of less than one percent. This year’s increase is 0.74 percent and results in a tax levy increase of 2.95 percent. Achieving this was possible

only after months of public meetings and hearing from many, many residents. In addition, many of the District’s employees presented the Board with offers to reduce or defer contractually agreed upon compensation.

Full details of the budget are explained inside on pages 5 through 8 of this newsletter. Additional information can also be found on the District’s website. Please contact Richard Linden, the assistant superintendent for business, at 845.256.4010 if you have any questions.



VOTE May 18 • 12PM-9PM
New Paltz High School



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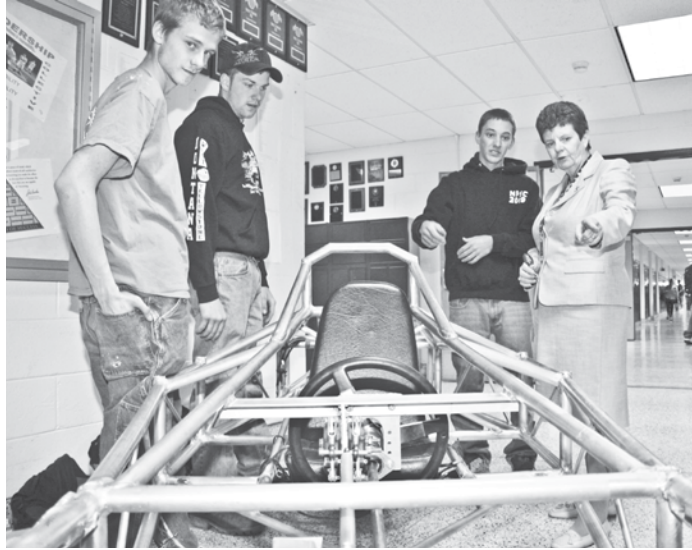
Daniel Torres

Engineering Day at New Paltz High School

At the recent Engineering Day at New Paltz High School (NPHS), students displayed and explained a wide variety of scientific and engineering projects they are involved in. NPHS students (who participate in a half-day Ulster BOCES Career & Technical Center program) Sean Landolf, Will Dietz, and Joe Ridgeway gave a fascinating presentation to the school about how they helped to fabricate the framework, weld the chassis, and create the suspension of the SUNY New Paltz solar car.

When the vehicle is completed, the SUNY New Paltz Solar Racing Team (coached by Engineering Professor Michael Otis) will enter the 2010 American Solar Challenge this summer. The Challenge is a competition to design, build, and drive solar-powered cars in a cross-country time/distance rally event. Teams will compete in an 1100-mile drive from Tulsa, Oklahoma to Chicago, Illinois.

“We wanted to expose our students to the world of Engineering,” observes Principal Clinton in explaining the impetus for the day. “An event like this helps to demystify the subject, and it excites the students to think, ‘I can do that!’ While focusing on the solar



Sean Landolf, Will Dietz, and Joe Ridgeway explain the solar car they helped to fabricate to Principal Barbara Clinton. The students built the car at the Ulster BOCES Career & Technical Center, where they attend classes for half the day and learn hands-on skills.

car project, we also wanted to feature all of the Engineering and Science classes we offer, including those that are part of Project Lead the Way.”

Project Lead The Way (PLTW) is a not-for-profit organization that promotes pre-engineering courses for middle and high school students. The organization exists to address a critical shortage of engineers entering the field at a time when technology is reinventing itself every few years. Students at NPHS qualify for college credit for taking the courses that are part of the PLTW program.

District Explores NYPA Solar Photovoltaic Initiative

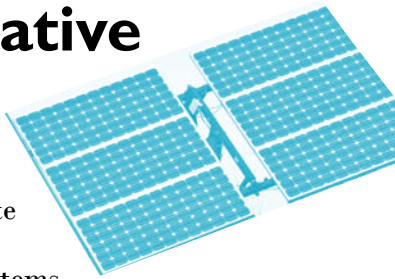
The District has applied for a Solar Photovoltaic Initiative offered by the New York Power Authority (NYPA). The initiative is a public-private partnership for the installation of up to 100 megawatts of solar photovoltaic systems (including roof-mounted and ground-mounted photovoltaic arrays) at municipal facilities, public and private schools, and government buildings throughout the State.

“The panels would be installed at no cost to the District and provide fixed-price electrical energy for 20 years,” says Richard Linden, assistant superintendent. “The District has submitted an application to the New York Power Authority to explore the possibility of becoming a host site.”

According to the NYPA, the solar array installation would supply electricity to the facility throughout the year; and when not needed, excess solar power would flow to the surrounding community through local utility lines. The local utility will deduct this excess energy from the facilities’ electric bill, making the initiative a win-win situation for both the facility and the community.

As an additional benefit, the solar array would offer exciting educational opportunities in a variety of subject areas, as students and community members learn about the importance of clean, renewable energy alternatives.

Schools that are selected to participate will be required to enter into a Host Site Agreement that leases the space needed for the solar panels. The NYPA would set the price the school pays for solar power for 20 years. According to the NYPA, in the first year, the school would typically pay the same price for electricity as it did before the installation. Solar power is generally more expensive than conventional electric generation, but the NYPA is working to access funds to minimize this price premium while offering clean, renewable solar power that is competitive with conventional fossil-fuel based generation.



District Approves Energy Performance Contractor

With energy usage a growing concern – environmentally and economically – school districts everywhere are especially aware of the impact it can have on the planet, as well as taxpayers’ pocketbooks. With hundreds of thousands of square feet to heat, cool, and power, the potential savings that can be realized through improvements to energy performance is great.

With this in mind, the District has contracted with Ameresco, Inc., an energy solutions company, to implement an energy performance audit that pinpointed areas where savings can be made.

“The company has looked at each of the District’s buildings in detail to determine what can be done to reduce energy consumption,” says Richard Linden, assistant superintendent for business. “An Energy Performance Contract will help the District be more energy efficient in terms of both cost and consumption.”

Ameresco has offered strategies in 21 different energy conservation measures such as energy efficient lighting, and weatherization to windows and doors, to more intensive improvements such as upgrades and improvements to heating and cooling control systems. Overall, the project is designed to reduce operating expenses, stabilize energy costs, improve student and staff comfort levels, increase energy reliability, and ultimately enhance the overall environment.

Duzine and SUNY NP Partner in Teaching Assistantship Program

In a partnership between Duzine Elementary School and SUNY New Paltz this spring, 28 students in the College’s art education program have been learning firsthand the finer details of teaching from experts in the field.

“It’s basically an opportunity to get our feet wet, to learn what it’s like to be in the classroom environment,” explained Matt Destefano, a junior in the SUNY New Paltz art education program. The program required students to complete at least 35 hours in their Duzine classrooms, create lesson plans that integrated their area of study into classroom curriculum, and generally serve as part of Duzine’s educational team.

“It’s a good way for them to gain confidence in the classroom,” said Ellen Makow, kindergarten teacher at Duzine, who has been working with Matt, as well as Kaileigh Osarczuk, also a junior in the SUNY New Paltz art education program. “They’re naturals; they’ve been amazing.”

Art education student Colleen McGowan’s lesson plan focused on Earth Day and the importance of recycling. She and students in Kathryn Gulitti’s second grade classroom made “litterbugs” out of recycled materials to demonstrate how things can be reused in different ways. “You just have to be creative,” she told students.

Later, Colleen said she had learned many things from the experience. “Probably the most important thing I learned is not to underestimate second



Matt Destefano and Kaileigh Osarczuk, juniors at SUNY New Paltz majoring in art education, were well received by students in Ellen Makow’s kindergarten classroom.



graders,” she said. “They can do so much more than I anticipated! I also learned a lot about classroom management and how important is it to have materials ready. It’s been a great experience!”

Lenape Students Learn about Japanese Culture and History

...continued from page 1

Motoko, a Parents’ Choice Award-winning storyteller, led the students as they sang the ABC Song and counted in Japanese. She enchanted the students with her weaving of ancient lore of Samurai warriors and Emperors and their families, while imparting a fascinating lesson on Japan’s history.

She also shared a Japanese folktale that explained the origin of the Asian zodiac system, which uses names of 12 animals for indicating the year. The 8-year-old students in the classroom were excited to learn they were born during the year of the snake and the 9-year-olds during the year of the dragon. Motoko ended her time with the students with a fun game from her childhood called Lucky Smile, a Japanese version of Pin the Tail on the Donkey.

Motoko’s program, designed to enrich Language Arts and Social Studies curricula, is specifically



Motoko shared a game from her childhood with the students.

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developed for Grades K-4. Her stories are humorous and wise, and impart cultural lessons and morals. Students learn songs and games, create artwork relevant to a particular season or festival in Japan, and receive language and cultural lessons. On the fifth day the residency culminates in “A Year in Japan” exhibition and performance where the students share what they have learned with the rest of the school.

Election of Board of Education Members

You may vote for any two (2) of the six (6) candidates listed or write-in the name of another person(s) in the spaces provided.

Julliet O. Coxum

Program Manager at New York State Center for School Safety



Julliet O. Coxum, a New Paltz resident since 2000, earned her master's degree in health education at SUNY Cortland and a bachelor's degree in communication, with minors in psychology

and black studies, from SUNY New Paltz. She has been a health and safety trainer with the New York State Center for School Safety since 2005. Prior to that, she was assistant director of Residence Life at SUNY New Paltz. She is certified as a NYS teacher, an Olweus Bullying Prevention Program trainer, and a NYS mediator. She is a member of the Governor's Summit Statewide Organizations Group on Drop-Out Prevention, the NYS After School Network Quality Assurance Committee, Mid-Hudson Multicultural Committee, Concerned Parents of New Paltz, and the New Paltz Parent Teacher Association. She serves on the SUNY New Paltz Alumni Association Board of Directors and is a member and advisor for Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc. She has two children in the District, one at the Middle School and one at the High School. "Truly, our children are our future, and we have a responsibility to prepare them for it. We also have to be fiscally responsible, so that New Paltz remains a wonderful place in which to live, work, and play."

Michael S. Swigart

Supervisor of Parking Department at Stewart Airport



A 20-year resident of New Paltz, Michael S. Swigart was a Board trustee from 2005-2008 when he served as chairperson of the Audit Committee and was a member of the Facilities Committee. He

continued to serve as a community representative on the Board's Audit Committee during the 2008-2009 school year. He holds an undergraduate degree in British literature from Rutgers University and a master's in finance from Fairleigh Dickinson University. He is the father of three children, all graduates of New Paltz Central School District. He is active in the Boy Scouts of America and is a former scoutmaster and assistant scoutmaster with Troop 172 in New Paltz. Mr. Swigart says his main focus as a Board member would be a commitment to the students and what is in their best interest. "The demands of the world are changing and we need to continue giving our students the edge they need to succeed," he says. He believes his educational background as well as his previous experience on the Board would be a valuable asset to the District. "The times demand that we focus on the best utilization of School District resources."

Dominick Profaci

Financial Advisor with Edward Jones



A resident of Gardiner, Dominick Profaci has been a financial advisor with Edward Jones for the past seven years. Prior to that, he was a professional engineer for 15 years. He has three children attending

the New Paltz Central School District, one in High School and two in the Middle School. Dominick has earned undergraduate and master's degrees in engineering from Manhattan College. He is very active in the Boy Scouts of America and served as committee chairperson for three years with Troop 272 in New Paltz. He believes the largest asset he would bring to the Board of Education is his problem-solving skills. He believes maintaining the high standards that the District is known for should be a priority, although doing so may require making the difficult choice to increase taxes necessary to support the educational programs. Seeing the challenge of providing funding for the District's programs as one that must be met, Dominick believes that there are solutions waiting to be found. "There are many cost-cutting measures that could be utilized that would streamline the system," he says. "My major focus would always be to maintain the school system we currently have."

Robert Rich

Attorney at Feldman, Kleidman, & Coffey



A resident since 1991, Robert Rich previously served on the Board from 1997-2002 as vice president for one year and president for two years. He is a graduate of SUNY Albany and Albany Law School

at Union University. He has been an attorney at Feldman, Kleidman, & Coffey for 20 years. Prior to that, he was a law clerk for the New York State Supreme Court. His daughter graduated from the High School in 2009 and he has a daughter in the seventh grade at the Middle School. He serves on the Board of Trustees at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of the Catskills, where he is on the Finance Committee. He was heavily involved in both the Hasbrouck Park and Duzine Playground Projects and has served on the Board of Trustees for the Kingston Hospital and the Foxhall Ambulatory Surgical Center. Robert feels his experience working with budgets would help the District in its financial planning during these tough economic times. "There seems to be a growing idea that the school is spending irresponsibly, but that's wrong. We have an outstanding team of leaders – the problem is that much of what they have to do is out of their control," he says. "We need people on the Board who understand that."

MaryAnn Tozzi

Cashier at New Paltz High School Cafeteria



A New Paltz resident for 42 years, MaryAnn Tozzi's life has provided her with a unique view of the School District. She is not only a parent of both a current student and a graduate, but she is

also an alumna. In addition, for the past three years she has worked as a cashier in the New Paltz High School cafeteria (she plans to retire from the position should she be elected). After graduating from New Paltz High School, MaryAnn attended Ulster County Community College and SUNY Empire State College. She is also a licensed nail technician. Her daughter is a 2006 graduate of New Paltz High School, and her eleven-year-old son is in the sixth grade at the Middle School. As a Board Member, MaryAnn says she would work hard to maintain an open mind on the many issues and challenges that come before the Board. "I think there should be more focus on engaging and empowering students. I also don't think people in the community are being heard and understood by the current Board," she says. "I would strive to be more of a voice for the majority of the community."

Dr. Edgar Rodriguez

Retired Professor of Education/Community Activist



Edgar Rodriguez, a 37-year resident of New Paltz, has served on the New Paltz Board of Education for the past three years. He is now a member of the Board's Audit and Finance Committee and

past chairperson of the Board's Policy Committee. Edgar says he asks hard questions and demands in-depth answers resulting in better decision making for the students and community. As a Board member, he says he would vote no to school debt, support school repairs now, advocate for common sense decisions including the community, and promote programs to end drug/alcohol abuse. "In continuing to pursue and support a decision-making policy that incorporates the collective wisdom of the community, I will pay particular attention to the area of facility repairs and maintenance. We have great professional building expertise in our community that is available to us." He would like to "promote responsible school spending and limit school tax levy increases and debt. We need to seek a less expensive educational model that still provides high quality education." As a life-long volunteer, Edgar says, "Community service is an important societal value; I like to lead by example."

Quick Facts About the Budget

Current Budget	\$ 48,470,000
Proposed 2010-2011 Budget.....	\$48,830,000
Budget-to-Budget Increase	0.74 percent
Contingency Budget Increase	0.17 percent
Difference in Proposed and Contingency	\$276,000
Tax Levy Increase Under Proposed Budget.....	2.95 percent
Tax Levy Increase Under Contingency	2.08 percent
State & Federal Aid Eliminated	(\$1,285,000)
District True Tax Rate per Thousand	\$15.20
County Median True Tax Rate per Thousand	\$16.02

Cost Shifts in Governor's Aid Proposal

Although New York State has not yet adopted a State Budget (which was due April 1), the District is required to provide an anticipated tax levy for the budget. Since State Aid accounts for more than 25 percent of the revenues to support the budget, reductions in the State's contribution have a significant impact. Without a passed State Budget, the District conservatively estimated the anticipated State Aid from the Governor's proposal. The District anticipates a loss of:

- ▶ \$428,000 in Foundation Aid
- ▶ \$950,000 in ARRA (American Recovery and Reinvestment Act) funding

VOTE!

May 18

12PM-9PM

New Paltz High School

Board of Education Adopts Proposed Budget

Over the past several months, the Board of Education has worked with the District's administration and the community to carefully evaluate its education program and prioritize spending.

At the various community forums, the Board of Education heard passionate comments from both a segment of the community concerned about limiting the cost of education and another segment requesting that an investment be made to limit cuts and preserve the academic excellence that the New Paltz Central School District is known for providing.

As a Board of Education, we have a responsibility to meet both the needs of the taxpayers and those of the education system. This is a challenging task because the current educational funding system is set up to serve one group at the expense of the other. The budget being presented to voters on May 18 was developed with the intention of limiting costs while preserving as much program as possible. We have worked earnestly to do so, while adhering to legal obligations and listening to the community, parents, teachers, administrators, students, and our consciences. The budget the Board ultimately adopted includes many compromises to achieve a balance between cost and offerings.

A number of reductions—including job eliminations and cost savings strategies—were implemented to offset the annual rise of fixed costs that occurs for mandated and legally binding obligations (such as contractual increases and contributions to State Retirement Systems, to name just a few).

Contract concessions were made by the Superintendent, all administrators, and the District Office staff (including clerical, technology, dispatcher, head cook, LPN/teacher aides, and behavior intervention specialist), as well as members of the New Paltz Educational Support Staff union, which allowed a music position to be restored to the budget and saved current music program levels.

In total, the budget is 0.74 percent (a total of \$360,000) above the current budget, and includes the elimination of 18.8 positions. The disproportionate 2.95 percent increase in the tax levy compared to the budget increase is the result of an anticipated \$1.28 million reduction in State and Federal Aid which has created a shift from the government level directly onto the backs of the local communities, where schools are funded through the archaic practice of property taxation. With a very small commercial tax base to share in the costs, the tax levy is funded primarily by individual homeowners.

Despite the reductions, the budget maintains many current educational opportunities for students, including small class sizes, a pre-kindergarten program, Advanced Placement classes, sports, and the majority of clubs. We are fortunate to have an exceptional instructional staff in all four of our schools. These resourceful professionals are committed to our children and to offering them the best education possible.

The Board of Education would like to thank everyone who participated in the budget process and for sharing their thoughts about the funding priorities for the school system. The Board is filled with committed individuals who take their responsibilities to the New Paltz community very seriously. The decisions made to build this budget were all done with the best intentions. We now encourage each eligible resident to continue the participation by voting on May 18 from 12 Noon to 9 PM at the New Paltz High School.

Sincerely,

David Dukler
David Dukler
Board President

Maria C. Rice
Maria C. Rice
Superintendent of Schools

As a Board of Education, we have a responsibility to meet both the needs of the taxpayers and those of the education system.

Budget Reductions

The Budget includes the reduction of 18.8 positions. To align staffing with actual program needs, six (6) of these positions would have been eliminated regardless of budget conditions.

Total Reductions	
2	Administrative Positions
13.6	Teaching Positions
3.2	Support Positions

Closing the Funding Gap: Budget Reductions

- Reduce Supplies
- Reduce Staff Development/Consultants
- Reduce the Number of Newsletters and Other Publications
- Reduce Board Member State Conference Attendance
- Eliminate BOCES Records Management Service
- Reduce Custodial Overtime and Substitutes for Clerical Staff
- Eliminate Architect/Construction Management Funds
- Eliminate Fast Forward (Intervention Computer Program)
- Decrease Special Education Hearing Officers
- Reduce Librarian-HS Summer Work
- Reduce PSAT/SAT/ACT Proctoring
- Reduce Alternative Education Seats (based on projected enrollment)
- Reduce After School Paid Academic Intervention Services at HS & MS
- Reduce Summer Guidance Services
- Reduce Clubs by 15% (approximately 9 Clubs from Grades 5-12)
- Eliminate Fees for Athletic Tournaments & Invitational Meets
- Reduce Athletic Uniform Budget
- Eliminate Night Athletic Events Where Field Lights Are Necessary
- Eliminate Assistant Gymnastics Coach, Modified Gymnastics Coach, and Intramural Volleyball Coach (all presently unfilled)
- Reduce Transportation Costs
 - ▶ Reconfigure Late Bus Run Assignments
 - ▶ Eliminate BOCES Bus Driver Training (Do In-House)
 - ▶ Remove Replacement Buses & Vehicles from Budget
 - ▶ Change Transportation Limits to Maximum Allowed by District Policy (Fuel Savings)
 - Elementary Students (K) – no change
 - Elementary Students (Grades 1-5) – 0.3 miles
 - Secondary Students (Grades 6-12) – 1.0 miles
 - Depending on walk-zone safety

Proposition 2: School Bus Replacement

The District tries to replace school buses strategically on a cycle designed to keep the fleet's vehicles from becoming too aged or unreliable, since mid-year emergency repairs can be costly. Old or poorly conditioned vehicles also consume more fuel and contribute to pollution.

Proposition 2 would allow the purchase of two 65-passenger and five 20-passenger school buses, as well as the replacement of one operations and maintenance vehicle, all of which are aged and have high mileage. The vehicles were identified because of their age and high mileage as part of a strategic vehicle replacement program that phases in replacements a few at a time to reduce large-scale impacts on the budget. Ordinarily, school bus replacement would be included in the regular school budget proposition, but was separated this year in order to give the community greater flexibility in its voting decisions.

Unemployment Insurance Reserve Fund

The Board of Education voted to create and fund an Unemployment Reserve Fund with \$200,000. By doing this, the District reduced the unemployment line by \$100,000. By creating a reserve, the District is now allowed to transfer funds to cover these costs. This is a fiscally sound approach to funding necessary costs.

Did You Know...



Compared to the other eight Ulster County School

Districts, New Paltz is the only one with both a budget increase under one percent

AND a tax levy increase under

three percent. In terms of true tax rate,

the \$15.20 per thousand in New Paltz is also below the Ulster County median of \$16.02.



According to the annual Mid-Hudson School

Study Council Report for 2009-2010, the District has the median cost per pupil in Ulster County of

\$21,156 and is just under the average \$21,225. Although

there are school districts that spend more per pupil,

New Paltz is consistently known for having one of the finest school districts in Ulster County. The richness of

the educational programs offered in New Paltz address a wide range of interests and academic abilities, which

include over 18 Advanced Placement courses, scientific inquiry, and a variety of exceptional Pre-kindergarten -12

programs. New Paltz offers a comprehensive program

designed to address the social, emotional, athletic,

and academic needs of its students. By offering a

comprehensive and integrated program, our students

are continually recognized for various academic, athletic,

and artistic achievements.

Sample Ballot

Proposition #1 YES * NO *

Shall the Board of Education of the New Paltz Central School District be authorized to expend \$48,830,000 which will be required for school district purposes for the year July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2011 (The Budget), and to levy the necessary tax therefor?

Proposition #2 YES * NO *

Shall the Board of Education of the New Paltz Central School District, Ulster County, New York, be authorized to purchase two 65-passenger or larger school buses at a maximum estimated cost of \$205,000; five 20-passenger or larger school buses at a maximum estimated cost of \$215,000; and one operations and maintenance vehicle at a maximum estimated cost of \$60,000; for an aggregate maximum estimated cost of \$480,000; and that the maximum sum of \$480,000 shall be raised by the levy of a tax upon the taxable property of said School District and, in anticipation of such tax, obligations of the District shall be issued.

Budget Summary

Expenditure Budget	2009-2010 Budget	\$ Change from 2009-2010	2010-2011 Proposed Budget	Comments
Board of Education	\$104,300	-\$25,500	\$78,800	Shift of employees between BOE and Supt Office
Superintendent's Office	\$259,400	\$25,800	\$285,200	Shift of employees between BOE and Supt Office
Business Office	\$488,600	-\$2,600	\$486,000	
Personnel, Legal, Printing, Postage	\$496,000	-\$42,300	\$453,700	Elimination of Records Management Service, Reduction in Newsletters
Insurance, BOCES Admin Fees	\$447,000	-\$100	\$446,900	
Curriculum & Staff Development	\$438,200	-\$34,800	\$403,400	Reduction of 0.2 in BOCES Services, Staff Development
Principals' Offices	\$1,265,000	-\$12,300	\$1,252,700	Reduction in Supplies
Special Education	\$118,000	\$2,300	\$120,300	
Employee Benefits	\$1,116,500	\$83,500	\$1,200,000	Includes portion of \$640K increase in retirement costs
TOTAL - Administration	\$4,733,000	-\$6,000	\$4,727,000	(0.1% decrease)
Regular Instruction, AIS, OCC Ed., Summer School	\$14,383,500	\$355,600	\$14,739,100	Elimination of 7.8 positions from budget Reduction in Alternative School, reduction in supplies
Special Education	\$6,658,000	-\$300,100	\$6,357,900	Reduction of 5.0 positions from budget, reduction of Special Ed reserve
Libraries & Ed TV	\$448,000	\$12,700	\$460,700	
Computer Assisted Instruction	\$1,201,400	-\$52,900	\$1,148,500	Elimination of 2.0 Positions from Budget
Guidance, Health, Psychologists	\$1,597,800	\$89,700	\$1,687,500	Reduction in summer guidance services
Extracurricular and Sports	\$418,500	-\$20,800	\$397,700	Reductions in clubs & athletics budget
Transportation	\$3,016,300	\$68,300	\$3,084,600	Includes longer walking distances (to BOE maximum)
Employee Benefits	\$9,586,500	\$719,500	\$10,306,000	Includes portion of \$640K increase in retirement costs
Interfund Transfers	\$60,000	-\$10,000	\$50,000	
TOTAL - Program	\$37,370,000	\$862,000	\$38,232,000	2.3% increase
Facilities & Operations	\$2,826,500	-\$30,700	\$2,795,800	Elimination of 1.0 Position from Budget, Reduction in OT
Judgments & Claims	\$10,000	-\$4,000	\$6,000	
School Buses	\$425,000	-\$425,000	\$0	Elimination of Buses from Budget (Separate Proposition)
Employee Benefits	\$476,500	\$29,500	\$506,000	Includes portion of \$640K increase in retirement costs
Debt Service	\$2,629,000	-\$65,800	\$2,563,200	Includes all principal and interest payments for current debt
Interfund Transfers	\$0	\$0	\$0	
TOTAL - Capital	\$6,367,000	-\$496,000	\$5,871,000	(7.8% decrease)
Total Budget	\$48,470,000	\$360,000	\$48,830,000	0.74% increase
Revenue Budget	2009-2010	\$ Change	2010-2011	Comments
Tax Levy including STAR	\$31,680,000	\$935,000	\$32,615,000	2.95% increase
Other Revenue (BOCES refund, interest, charges to other districts, rentals, donations, admissions)	\$1,140,000	\$210,000	\$1,350,000	Less conservative estimates based on recent history and audit committee recommendations
State Aid	\$13,100,000	-\$744,000	\$12,356,000	Number from state aid runs from executive proposal
Federal Aid	\$1,250,000	-\$541,000	\$709,000	ARRA monies
Total Revenues	\$47,170,000	-\$140,000	\$47,030,000	
Appropriated Fund Balance	\$1,300,000	\$500,000	\$1,800,000	Increase to hold down tax levy
Revenues and Fund Balance	\$48,470,000	\$360,000	\$48,830,000	0.74% increase

What Does Contingency Mean?

If the proposed budget is defeated, the District has two options. It can decide to place another proposition (either the same proposition or a modified one) before the community one additional time, or it can decide to automatically adopt a Contingency Budget. If the second proposition does not receive community approval, however, a Contingency Budget is mandated. In addition to making further reductions of \$276,000 to reach the State calculation for contingency level, New York State dictates what types of items the budget can include. All

legal contractual obligations (salaries, insurances, debt payments, etc.) are preserved under a Contingency Budget, but items such as equipment purchases, free public use of buildings, and non-essential building maintenance (except if posing a health and safety risk) are forbidden by law. This leaves a limited number of areas where cuts can be made. Reductions would be made to non-mandated programs, supplies, equipment, and instructional staff and include the elimination of an additional 3.9 positions, as well as all musical instruments, and equipment purchases.

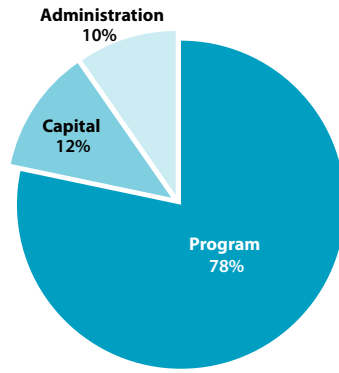
How Will the Proposed and Contingency Budgets Impact the Tax Levy

The following tax levy increases are based upon the District's median single family home with a value of \$297,700. These figures do not include STAR exemptions.

Proposed	Contingency	Difference
\$133.48 a year	\$94.11 a year	\$39.37 a year
\$11.12 a month	\$7.84 a month	\$3.28 a month
\$0.37 a day	\$0.26 a day	\$0.11 a day

The Three-Part Budget

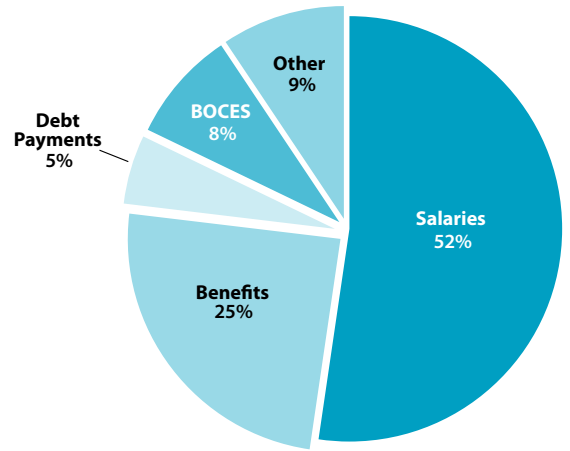
Administration Budget: This section includes school building offices and central administration, along with clerical support, salaries and benefits of all school administrators, Board of Education expenses for planning, and other administrative activities.



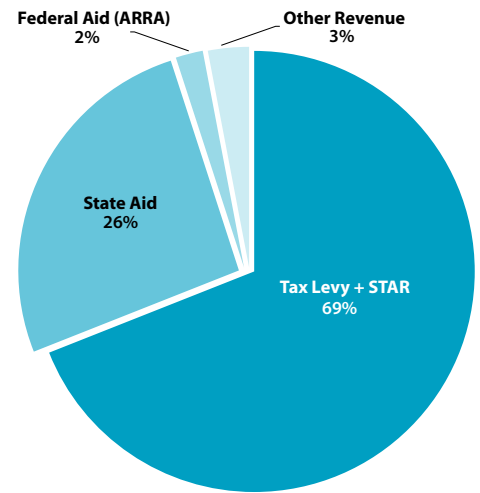
Capital Budget: This area refers to all facilities costs such as custodial salaries and benefits, maintenance salaries and benefits, service contracts, custodial and maintenance supplies, utility costs for heating, electricity, communication, water, and annual capital project debt service.

Program Budget: This portion covers classroom supplies and equipment, teacher salaries and benefits, all related education costs, and costs for student transportation services. This program area makes up the largest portion of the budget.

Expenditures



Revenues



STAR Exemption Program Continues

In 2009 the Middle Class STAR, which came in the form of a rebate check sent directly to the taxpayer, was eliminated and has not been restored in the currently proposed New York State budget. However, the School Tax Relief (STAR) Program that was passed by the Legislature in 1997 to provide Basic and Enhanced school tax relief for owner-occupied, primary residences will continue.

The Basic STAR exemption is offered to all property owners on their owner-occupied primary residences, and is provided in the form of an actual reduction in the homeowner's property tax bill. Owners who are aged 65 or older who meet income criteria are eligible for even greater tax savings through the Enhanced STAR exemption. Seniors must apply for enhanced STAR each year. Contact your local assessor for more information.

	Actual 2009-2010	Estimated 2010-2011
Reserved Fund Balance	\$1,971,066	\$2,170,000
Appropriated Fund Balance	\$1,300,000	\$1,800,000
Unappropriated Fund Balance	\$1,606,172	\$1,115,000
Unappropriated Fund Balance as a %	3.31%	2.28%

Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings

	Budget Proposed 2010-2011
Basic STAR Savings	\$628

Property Tax Report Card	Budgeted 2009-2010	Proposed 2010-2011	% Change
Total Spending	\$48,470,000	\$48,830,000	0.74%
Total Estimated School Tax Levy	\$31,680,000	\$32,615,000	2.95%
Public School Enrollment	2,291	2,270	-0.92%
Consumer Price Index			-0.40%

School District Budget Notice	Overall Budget Proposal	Budget Adopted for 2009-2010	Budget Proposed for 2010-2011	Contingency Budget for 2010-2011
Assumptions used for projecting a contingency budget:	TOTAL BUDGET AMOUNT	\$48,470,000	\$48,830,000	\$48,554,000
	Increase for the 2010-2011 school year		\$360,000	\$84,000
1 Eliminate all musical instruments and equipment purchases	Percentage increase in proposed budget		0.74%	0.17%
	Change in consumer price index		-0.40%	
2 Eliminate 2.4 Teachers, 1.0 Teacher Aide, 0.5 Support Staff	Resulting Est. Property Tax Levy for 2010		\$32,615,000	\$32,339,000
	Administrative component	\$4,733,000	\$4,727,000	\$4,727,000
	Program component	\$37,370,000	\$38,232,000	\$37,961,000
	Capital component	\$6,367,000	\$5,871,000	\$5,866,000

The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2010-2011 by the qualified voters of the New Paltz Central School District, Ulster County, New York, will be held at New Paltz High School on Tuesday, May 18, 2010 between the hours of 12:00 noon and 9:00 pm prevailing time, at which time the polls will be open to voting by voting machine or ballot.

celebrating Academic Excellence

Top of the Class

Allison LaRussa is New Paltz High School's Class of 2010 Valedictorian. Allie not only excelled academically during her time at NPHS, earning a cumulative weighted percent GPA of 99.575, she also managed to squeeze extracurricular activities and community service into her busy schedule. She loves theatre and has been involved in all of the musicals and dramas at the High School since freshman year. She writes for the New Paltz Times every week and is a member of both French Club and Amnesty International Club. Allie loves New Paltz, but knows that a change of pace will be good, so will be going to college at McGill University in Montreal in the fall. She is undecided about a major, but is interested in studying Cognitive Science. Says Allie, "I'm really excited to live in a different country, as well as a bilingual city, and I'm really looking forward to college." Allie is the daughter of Terri and Matt LaRussa.



Colleen Maney earned this year's Salutatorian honor with a cumulative weighted percent GPA of 99.567. A National Merit Scholarship winner (see below), Colleen is president of the senior class, captain of the Mock Trial team, and a member of Student Government, International Club, French Club, National Honor Society, and the Varsity Swim Team. She is also a certified lifeguard and works at both Moriello Pool and Ignite Fitness during the summer. She sings with her church choir two days a week. Colleen has been accepted into the Honors

Program at Northeastern University in Boston, where she plans to work toward a degree in law. Although it may seem as though Colleen's schedule is impossibly full, she has learned to prioritize and balance all of her responsibilities. "It's so easy to get caught up in pressure and stress," she says, "but it's just as important to let loose every once in a while." Colleen is the daughter of Arlene and Terence Maney.

Presidential Scholar Honor for New Paltz High School Senior

Adrien Deschamps, a senior at New Paltz Central High School, has been recognized as one of this year's candidates for the United States Presidential Scholars Program, one of the nation's highest honors for high school students. The Presidential Scholars Program was established in 1964 by President Lyndon Johnson to recognize and honor some of the nation's most distinguished graduating seniors.



Adrien, the son of Judith Mohns and Francois Deschamps, has a grade point average of 98.563, and a class rank of 3 out of 193. This spring, he has been studying French in Paris at a language immersion school called EF (Education First). His extracurricular activities include Model United Nations, swimming, cross-country running, track, and band. In the fall, he played clarinet with the 2009 Area All-State Band.

He looks forward to a bright academic future, having been accepted to Brown, Cornell, Tulane, McGill, and Rochester University.

Adrien credits his high school teachers with playing an important role in his academic success. "The best part of New Paltz is without a doubt the teachers," he declares, singling out for particular praise the entire math department, as well as English teacher Lisa St. John, Chemistry teacher Ron Bonagura, and History teacher Don Bartlett.

NPHS Student Named National Merit Scholarship Finalist

Colleen Maney has been named a National Merit Scholarship Corporation finalist, and a winner of the National Merit Snap-on Incorporated Scholarship in the



amount of \$8,000, or \$2,000 each year for four years. Colleen was chosen for the corporate-sponsored Merit Scholarship from a pool of about 15,000 National Merit finalists across the United States. And, as a NMSC finalist, Colleen is also eligible to win one of 2,500 National Merit \$2,500 Scholarships awarded each May to students who scored well on the Preliminary SAT National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Examination (PSNMSQT) and maintain a record of high academic performance.

Northeastern University has recognized Colleen's exemplary achievement in the NMSC competition and her strong secondary school record by offering her their own full-tuition National Merit Scholarship, which she plans to accept by attending Northeastern this fall. Congratulations, Colleen!

Spotlight ON OUR ATHLETES

A Winning Combination: Athletics & Academics

Congratulations to **Sarah Cook** and **Alex Angstrom** who were chosen as recipients of the Mid-Hudson Athletic League Senior Scholar Athlete award.



The **Boys' Nordic Ski** team also received the New York State Public High School Athletic Association (NYSPHSAA) Team Scholar Athlete Award, which is given by sport to the team with the highest GPA of the season throughout the entire State. With its 96.242% combined GPA, the New Paltz team rose to the top of the 42 teams throughout the State.

Nordic Ski Freezes Out the Competition

Congratulations to the **Boys' and Girls' Nordic Ski** teams who each won the Section IX Championship titles. Special congratulations to **Gabby Mancuso**, Section IX Girls' Nordic Ski champ, and to **Mairead Fogarty** and **Jordan Stern** who came in second and third, taking a New Paltz medal sweep.



What a Showing!

Four **New Paltz** wrestlers outperformed their competition to become Section IX Division II Wrestling champions! Freshman **Eric Januszkiewicz** (96 lb weight class), sophomore **Cory Necketopolous** (112 lb weight class), junior **John Ferrante** (130 lb weight class), and junior **Peter Ferrante** (140 lb weight class) went on to represent NPHS and its Section IX division at the State wrestling finals at the Times Union Center in Albany.



Making a Huge Splash!

Swimming took a team second at the State meet. **Eric Culver** took a third place in the 500 freestyle and a fourth in the 200 free. **Hunter Bartlett** placed fourth in the 100 breaststroke and 14th in the 200 individual medley (IM). The 200 freestyle relay team of **Culver, Luke Strothenke, Logan Peterson, and Steve Delarede** placed fourth, and the 400 free



relay team of **Culver, Peterson, Bartlett, and Delarede** placed fifth. **Peterson** also placed seventh in the 50 freestyle, and **Strothenke** placed 16th in the 100 free and 19th in the 50 free. **Delarede** placed 10th in the 100 breaststroke.



Kudos to **Eric Culver** who has signed to swim for the Division I-A program at the University at Buffalo.

Calling all Fall 2010 Athletes!

It is time to see the School Nurse about your physicals if you are planning or considering participating in Fall Sports! All athletes must have a current physical and permission slip to participate. School physicals will be conducted in May and June, with a "Last Chance" date of August 3 from 6-8 PM. Personal physicians may perform physicals as they are licensed to practice medicine in New York State and complete the proper physical form, which is available in the Nurse's office or on our website.

Varsity and JV permission slips are due AFTER July 16 and BEFORE August 15. Modified slips must be returned between August 9 and September 2. Slips can be returned in person at the Athletic Office at the High School or mailed to New Paltz Central School District, Athletic Office, 196 Main Street, New Paltz, NY 12561.

The New York State Selection Classification Policy for New Paltz has changed. Please see the website for full details. Students entering ninth grade may try out for the JV or Varsity level of any of the following sports:

The following Fall Sports will be offered:

- Varsity, JV, Modified Football
- Varsity, JV, Modified Girls' Soccer
- Varsity, JV, Modified Boys' Soccer
- Varsity, JV, Modified Volleyball
- Varsity Girls' Tennis
- Varsity Girls' Swimming
- Varsity Boys' Golf
- Varsity Cross Country
- Varsity, JV, Modified Cross Country

Football will begin August 16, 2010; all other Varsity and JV sports begin August 23.

Middle School sports (modified) practice will begin September 8, 2010.

New Paltz Athletes Succeed in the Classroom!

The following Varsity Sports teams earned the New York State Scholar-Athlete Team Award. This award is given to teams with the required number of athletes who maintained a cumulative GPA of 90% or higher while in season.

Varsity Boys' Nordic Ski - 96.242%	Varsity Girls' Golf - 93.049%
Varsity Boys' Cross Country - 95.595%	Varsity Girls' Cross Country - 92.841%
Varsity Girls' Swimming- 95.462%	Varsity Boys' Swimming - 91.672%
Varsity Girls' Tennis - 95.124%	Varsity Boys' Tennis- 91.567%
Varsity Girls' Track - 95.015%	Varsity Girls' Lacrosse - 90.761%
Varsity Boys' Track - 94.785%	Varsity Boys' Soccer - 90.74%
Varsity Girls' Nordic Ski - 94.418%	



Congratulations to our MHAL Scholar Athletes Award Winners!

This award is given for individual Athletes who maintained a 90% or higher GPA during the season.

Girls' Cross Country

Emily Beecher
Naomi Bouchard-Gordon
Gabby Mancuso
Jordan Stern
Gisele Trivino

Boys' Cross Country

Brian Busby
David Busby
Adrien Deschamps
Alfredo Mazzuca
Ben Nadareski
Davis Natzle
Anton Peterle
Jeff Rizza
Charleton Tsai

Football

John Ferrante
Christopher Seger
Garrett Wadsworth
Alex Wilson
Erik Simonson

Boys' Golf

Ryan Higgins
Seung (Greg) Lee
Seth Roberts
Kyle Smith

Boys' Varsity Soccer

Aaron Getman-Pickering
Sean Tucker
Kyle Bower
Tucker Stern
Alex Angstrom
Aodhan Fogarty
Mark Schwartzberg
Andrew Barry

Girls' Varsity Soccer

Kelly Skinner
Jessica Robb
Abby King
Kathleen Capulli
Elizabeth Dressel
Sarah Dukler
Cora Butler

Girls' Swimming

Jordan Berger
Quinn Berger
Julia Beveridge
Charlotte Bloom
Madison Carroll
Kelly Downes
Mairead Fogarty
Madeline Harrington
Lucy Keehn
Sylvie Lagodka
Colleen Maney
Melissa Samaroo

Girls' Tennis

Gina Abrams
Julianna Apuzzo
Johanna Cohen
Julia Cohen
Nicole Kurek
Tifani Ramic
Fiona Robins
Emma Snook
Jessica Staub
Megan Thomas
Giovanna Varuzza

Boys' Varsity Basketball

Bryan Krebs
Erik Simonson
Colin Glaser

Girls' Varsity Basketball

Kelly Skinner
Mackenzie Quick

Varsity Gymnastics

Doaa Khalifa
Ashley Mazzei
Rebecca Pfirman

Varsity Boys' & Girls' Nordic Ski

Alex Angstrom
Charlotte Bloom
Naomi Bouchard-Gordon
Brian Busby
David Busby
Alana Colucci
Sarah Dukler
Camilla Ferguson
Mairead Fogarty
Aaron Getman-Pickering
Gaspar Lobato
Gabby Mancuso
Chris Mazzei
Alfredo Mazzuca
Anton Peterle
Melissa Phelan
Jeff Rizza
Jordan Stern
Gisele Trivino
Charlton Tsai
Nick Zapotoski

Varsity Boys' Swim

Adrien Deschamps
Dylan Hodgkiss
Thomas Plitsch
John Slingerland
Whitman Oehler-Marx
Aodhan Fogarty
Mitchell Rifkind

Varsity Wrestling

Eric Januszkiewicz
Kevin Mannix

Varsity Baseball

Brian Krebs
Chris Mazzei
Alex Wilson

Girls' Varsity Golf

Julianna Apuzzo
Johanna Cohen
Alanna Colucci
Amy Kane
Abby King
Julia Robinson

Boys' Varsity Lacrosse

Sal DeQuarto
Aodhan Fogarty
Andrei Shatalov

Girls' Varsity Lacrosse

Jordan Berger
Quinn Berger
Charlotte Bloom
Alexa Hartmayer
Jenny Rich
Amanda Rose

Varsity Softball

Mackenzie Quick
Melissa Samaroo

Varsity Tennis

Aaron Getman-Pickering
Tucker Osarczuk
Tom Plitsch
John Slingerland
Mike Stivers

Varsity Boys' Track

Alex Angstrom
Hunter Bartlett
Brian Busby
David Busby
Matt Hasbrouck
Lincoln Kelly
Kevin Mannix
Al Mazzuca
Ben Morrison
Chris Renus
Erik Simonson
Anthony Tantillo
Charlton Tsai

Varsity Girls' Track

Gina Abrams
Emily Beecher
Naomi Bouchard-Gordon
Cora Butler
Sarah Cook
Sarah Dukler
Deirdre Kenney
Gabby Mancuso
Melissa Phelan
Fiona Robins
Anna Sturgis
Gisele Trivino



MS Students Taking Healthy Steps to Good Nutrition and Exercise

Middle School students took some great steps to get healthy when they participated in New York State First Lady Michelle Paterson's health and wellness awareness campaign this spring. About 140 sixth, seventh, and eighth grade students – many of whom are also participants in the Middle School's Morning Movers program – competed against middle schools across the State in the First Lady's Healthy Steps to Albany program.



"It was very interesting for students to track their exercise in the contest's online database," says school counselor Joanne Metzger. She, along with fellow counselor Katie Magarity and physical education teachers Erin O'Sullivan and Sam Phelps, coordinated the program. "It reinforced our focus on the importance of eating healthy and exercising and also encouraged students to eat healthy at home and to share what they learned about nutrition and fitness with their families."

The State's First Lady challenged participants to increase their physical activity and consumption of healthy foods over a six week time period between March 1 and April 11. Students were responsible for keeping track of their daily activities and used an online activity conversion calculator to convert minutes of activity into steps. Every week a school captain tallied the team's total and entered it into the online database. Students could access the site to see how their steps compared to other schools in the State.

The students broke into smaller teams with about 15 members each and selected their team names, which represented various healthy foods and activities.

In the Hudson Valley Region, the New Paltz Middle School's Team Broccoli finished in second place with 202,375 steps and Team Orange finished fourth with 201,670 steps.

Each team completing the challenge will receive a certificate of recognition signed by the First Lady.

About three years ago students at the Middle School began a morning exercise program called Morning Movers where the students gather under the supervision of teachers and staff every morning before school for 20 minutes of exercise. They walk or jog around the track, or play basketball. During inclement weather, they play games in the gymnasium. The program has been very successful, growing from an initial five students to the current enrollment of 140.

"It wakes us up," a group of students reported recently on an early morning walk around the quarter-mile track. "It's a good way to start the day."

Healthy Steps to Albany Contest Results

Team Broccoli	202,375 steps
Team Orange	201,670 steps
Team Bananas	167,477 steps
Team Carrots	134,746 steps
Team Apple	124,085 steps
Team Grapes	110,546 steps
Team Fitness Fanatics	80,686 steps
Team Green Beans	75,342 steps
Team Cauliflower	69,391 steps

RFP Issued for Facilities Study: Assessment of Educational Facilities Moving Forward

The District is seeking a firm to conduct a comprehensive facilities study, a crucial component of the District's Educational Master Plan. The study will complete the five-year State-mandated Building Conditions Survey and Plan, as well as reach out to stakeholders – students, faculty, administration, Board of Education, parents, residents, business owners – for their input regarding all of the District's facilities. To begin the process, the District issued a required "Request for Proposals" (RFP) on April 5, with a submittal deadline of May 3.

"The proposals will be reviewed by the Facilities Committee during May, with interviews of firms and consultants completed by mid-May and recommendations going to the Board of Education by May 19," reports Richard Linden, assistant superintendent. He anticipates that a contract will be finalized in June, and a 10- to 12-month study process will begin.

The Educational Facilities Plan is an in-depth assessment of facilities and grounds. It will provide a basis for annual maintenance, operations plans,

capital budgets, and long-range renovation projects. It utilizes and integrates the District's existing studies, assessments, and analyses into a context for strategic long-range decision-making. During the process, the study will be evaluated and screened from a budgetary perspective to produce a plan that is both educationally and fiscally responsive to the needs of the stakeholders.

"It cannot be completed without the voice of all stakeholders; therefore a community engagement process is imperative for the plan to be a successful working document," says Maria Rice, superintendent of the New Paltz Central School District. An effective educational facilities plan rests upon a foundation formed by the District's educational mission and vision, an understanding of community values, and a thorough grasp of the changing nature and needs of its student body. "This foundation supports the District's education program, which defines the extent, nature, and sequence of learning experiences provided to each student," she adds.