

the
great
plains

Shenendehowa

Central Schools

The \$166 million spending plan for 2016-17...

Putting the educational journey as the priority

"The goal of this budget is to promote student curiosity, engagement & passion; embrace the integration of instructional technology; support quality pedagogy; and monitor student learning through balanced and authentic assessments."

Superintendent Dr. L. Oliver Robinson

2016-17 BUDGET VOTE

May 17, 2016 • 7 a.m.-9 p.m. • Gowana Gym

Total budget:	\$166,308,680
Spending increase:	2.10%
Tax levy limit cap	0.78%
Total tax LEVY increase:	0.74%
Proj. true value tax RATE increase:	0.24%

A property valued at \$250,000 would see a property tax bill increase of \$10.

BUS PURCHASE PROPOSITION

Purchase 21 buses to replace aging buses

Total Cost:	\$2,158,700
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CAPITAL PROJECT

Capital improvements outlined in the five-year facilities study as well as modernization of the High School library, campus signage and playground improvements.

Total Cost:	\$16,616,000
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Due to the declining debt service each year and approximately 67.7 percent NYS building aid, it is estimated that this project will have no increase on the tax levy.

CAPITAL RESERVE FUND

Maximum of \$12 million for a 20-year term, funded by unappropriated fund balance, budgetary appropriations and state aid

SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION

Three seats on the board are up for election

Go to www.shenet.org for more information

Shenendehowa residents will vote on May 17 on a proposed \$166 million budget for 2016-17 that includes a spending increase of 2.10 percent (\$ 3,415,857). The tax levy increase of 0.74 percent is under the tax cap and includes the lowest tax levy increase in 11 years.

The true value tax rate would increase an estimated 0.24 percent. For a property with a market value of \$250,000, the increase would be approximately \$10 in the school tax bill.

The proposed 2016-17 budget preserves current programs and services and allows for some key program enhancements and support the academic success of student K-12.

Program enhancements

The 2016-17 budget provides the following program enhancements:

- Additional teachers at the middle and high school to stabilize class sizes due to enrollment; address AIS needs; and address dis-enrollment from elective offerings.
- Additional investment in mobile devices, initiating 1:1 (one device to one student) program starting at grade 6 and phasing up in subsequent years.
- Continue elementary literacy coaching focused on supporting the Journey's textbook series and balanced literacy.
- Additional support for the high school art program to purchase art supplies required to complete the program.
- Assume the cost of review books that are required for many high school courses.
- Expand mental health service provisions to address growing student needs.
- Expand secondary counseling support to compliment efforts for college/career opportunities.
- Expand summer programs to help bridge academic gaps for identified students in grades 9-10.
- Summer Regents review for all Regents exams.
- A pilot program to jump start the school year for the more challenging Regents courses.
- Expand security and surveillance capabilities across the district.
- Address modified coaching capacity and maintenance of athletic fields.

\$16.6 million Capital Improvement Project will have no increase on the tax levy

Project to address health/safety repairs and strategic enhancements

On May 17 residents will be asked to vote on a \$16.6 million capital improvement proposition.

Due to the declining debt service each year and approximately 67.7 percent NYS building aid, it is estimated that this project will have no increase on the tax levy.

The capital project will address priority items identified in the 5-year facilities study as well as modernization of the High School library, campus signage and playground improvements.

- **Address five-year facilities maintenance plan:** replace original water pipes and fittings; boilers; windows/sealants; damaged roofs; upgrade and expand electrical capacity; abate floor tiles and replace with non-asbestos containing materials; and ensure ADA compliance with accessible doorways and bathrooms.
- **Modernize the High School East Library:** enhance layout, maximize space, improve lighting, improve capacity for emerging technology, and upgrade furniture and equipment.
- **Install district-wide wayfinding signs** including directional, external and internal building and field identifiers. Make it easier for visitors,

students, parents and faculty to successfully navigate the Shenendehowa Main Campus. Improve the flow of traffic and campus safety.

- **Upgrade playground equipment and surfaces** where needed and provide ADA compliant equipment.

Establishment of a Capital Reserve Fund

Residents will also vote to establish a Capital Reserve Fund. This is a separate account to cover in-whole or in-part the cost of bonds issued for capital debt (construction, reconstruction and improvement of buildings).

It is established and spent only with voter approval for specific purpose for which it was established.

It is funded by unappropriated fund balance (budgetary savings), budgetary appropriations and state aid.

The term of Capital Reserve is 20 years with a maximum funding of \$12 million. There is no additional cost to taxpayers to establish and fund the capital reserve.

When/where is the vote?

Tuesday, May 17, 2016

7 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Gowana Middle School Gym

What's on the ballot?

Proposition 1 - A \$166 million budget for 2016-17 that includes a spending increase of 2.10 percent (\$ 3,415,857). The tax levy increase of 0.74 percent is under the tax cap and includes the lowest tax levy increase in 11 years. The true value tax rate would increase an estimated 0.24 percent.

Proposition 2 - \$2.16 million to buy 21 school buses. State aid will reimburse approximately 60 percent and the impact on the tax rate would be 0.17 percent over five years beginning in year 2017-18.

Proposition 3 - A \$16.6 million capital project to address priorities identified in the five-year facilities study as well as modernization of the High School library, campus signage and playground improvements. Due to the declining debt service each year and approximately 67.7 percent NYS building aid, it is estimated that this project will have no increase on the tax levy.

Proposition 4 - Establishment of a capital reserve fund with a 20-year term for a maximum of \$12 million funded through fund balance, budgetary appropriations and state aid. There is no additional cost to taxpayers to establish and fund the capital reserve.

Proposition 5 - Three seats on the seven-member Board of Education are up for election. Members serve a three-year term without pay. Petitions are due by April 18.

Who can vote?

You are eligible to vote if you are a U.S. citizen, 18 years or older and have been a Shenendehowa district resident for at least 30 days prior to the vote. No preregistration is required. Official personal identification with photo is required. It is a crime to falsify votes (i.e., voting twice, false identification).

Can't get to the polls?

Absentee ballots may be used by any resident who will not be available to come to the campus to vote. They are available at the district office, 5 Chelsea Place, Clifton Park. For information, call the district clerk at 881-0623. By law, absentee ballots are mailed to any resident who is disabled. If you are disabled and did not receive one, please call the district clerk's office. Ballots must be returned to the district clerk no later than 5 p.m. on May 17.